

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 17, 2000/Sravana 26, 1922 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM PALESTINE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Quri'e (Abu Ala), Speaker of Palestine Legislative Council. Mrs. Abu Ala and other hon. Members of the delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The delegation arrived in Delhi today, Thursday, 17 August, 2000. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to H.E. Yasir Arafat, President of the State of Palestine, the Palestine Legislative Council and the friendly people of Palestine.

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Cut on Establishment Expenditure of Defence Production Units

*341. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to effect a cut on the establishment expenditure of the defence production units;

(b) if so, whether the vacant posts are also likely to be abolished;

(c) whether the unserviceable stocks of the defence production units is to be sold;

(d) whether the ratio between the labourers and officers is tilted towards the latter in these units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

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

Statement

In order to improve quality, handle more sophisticated defence technology, improve efficiency and cost effectiveness and push exports, Ordnance factories and all the Defence Public Sector Undertakings have in consultation with the users formulated their Perspective Plans for modernisation and induction of new items/technology up to the end of X Plan period. This does involve some rationalisation of workforce due to higher level of skills required to exploit higher technology and for operation of high-tech machines. An Annexure showing the strength of the officers and workers is enclosed which does reflect that the ratio of officers to workers have increased during the past 5 years.

Disposal of unserviceable surplus stock is a regular and continuous process for all the units.

Annexure

Ratio between Officers and Workers Ordnance Factories

Year	Officer (excluding supervisory staff) (a)	Industrial Employees (including supervisory staff) (b)	Total	Ratio (a):b)	Officers+ Supervisory Staff (c)	Industrial Employees (excluding Sup. Staff) (d)	Ratio (c):(d)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1995-96	3286	159506	162792	1:48	20650	142142	1:6.88
1996-97	3390	155982	159372	1:46	20199	139173	1:6.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1997-98	3457	151131	154588	1:46	19671	134917	1:6.86
1998-99	4042	145899	149941	1:36	19809	130132	1:6.57
1999-2000	4043	142027	146070	1:35	20188	125882	1:6.23

Defence Public Sector Undertakings

Year	Executives (including supervisory staff)	Non-Executives	Total	Ratio
1995-96	15445	78364	93809	1:5
1996-97	15356	75940	91305	1:5
1997-98	15416	74643	90059	1:5
1998-99	16068	74421	90489	1:5
1999-2000	16680	71747	88427	1:4

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing, except what Smt. Jayashree Banerjee is saying, would go on record.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of my question....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is being done everyday. It is improper.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, what is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of my question....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Akhilesh, please understand, you may make speech after the question hour is over.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the desired reply of part (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of the question has not been given. My question is that....(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you not know the rules. You may raise the issue after the question hour is over.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important question. It is concerning border areas....(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir,...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Akhilesh, I am on my legs. You may please resume your seat. You need not give sermons in the house. Please resume your seat.

[*English*]

Shri Akhilesh, what is this?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have given a comprehensive reply of part (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of the question. Hence we are not able to understand as to whether the Government propose to manufacture defence related products indigenously which are at present being imported. Secondly, whether the Government propose to seek technological assistance from abroad to bring qualitative improvement in our defence production units? Thirdly, why the number of workers engaged in rationalisation has been reduced whereas we have four fully equipped factories related to it in Jabalpur and these workers can be engaged in those factories. Keeping in view the activities on our borders it is necessary to increase production in these factories. Now what the Government is contemplating for these factories?...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you again.

[*Translation*]

Please take your seat. Your may raise your point after the question hour is over.

[*English*]

Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, this is too much.

*Not recorded.

[*Translation*]

Does not any rule apply to you?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You may raise your point later on. What are you doing? Is there no rule for you?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Please be silent. You may raise your point later on....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much; I am appealing to the leaders also. What is this?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you.

[*Translation*]

You may take your seat. What is this? I will give you an opportunity during the Zero-hour.

[*English*]

It is Question Hour. Please sit down. What is this? How can you stop the House proceedings forcibly? Do you want to stop the House proceedings forcibly? What is this?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, your behaviour is not good. You are always disturbing the House proceedings. Please take your seat. What is this?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: It is a very important question. It is concerning the security of the country. Keeping in view the threat perception of our country today, efficiency in all the factories at Jabalpur should be improved....(*Interruptions*) My question has not

*Not recorded.

been properly replied....*(Interruptions)* Public is agitated over there. Production should be increased in factories at Jabalpur. It has been stated in the reply that the number of workers in Jabalpur factories have decreased whereas the number of officers has increased.*(Interruptions)* Number of workers should be increased. Therefore, whether the Government is trying to increase the number of workers?...*(Interruptions)* Further, whether the Government are trying to expand those factories?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You sit down. You will be given the opportunity.

....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is a procedure in the House. If you want to raise any important matter, you can do so after the 'Question Hour', that is, during 'Zero Hour'.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

....*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I will take action against you. What is this? I will take action against you. Please go back to your seat.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

....*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise the issue when you get the opportunity to speak.

11.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri C.N. Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Stop the telecast.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: I have raised the question. Mr. Minister kindly reply....*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, my first question has come after a long wait. The reply of my question should be provided....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to you in zero hour. I have told you that first you go to your seat, you cannot speak from here.

[English]

Please go to your seats.

[Translation]

11.11 hrs.

At this stage Shri C. N. Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. What is this? Shri Athawale, I will take action against you.

[Translation]

You don't follow any rule.

[English]

How can you speak without the permission of the Chair?

....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, please take your seat. I am on my legs. What are you doing?

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Its not a rule. I have told you that I will listen to you in zero hour i.e. after question hour.

....*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, please take your seat. Your behaviour in the House is not good. What is this?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, the reply of my question is not satisfactory. It's need of the hour to develop the defence installations of the country....(Interruptions) Workers are not getting employment whereas the number of officers is increasing. My question is whether the number of workers will be increased....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a rule.

[English]

I appeal to you.

[Translation]

I will listen to you in zero hour. You know that this is question hour.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the rule I have told you that I will listen to you in zero hour.

[English]

Please understand.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, I appeal to you not to disturb the House.

[Translation]

Please understand this and be seated. I will listen to you in zero hour.

*Not recorded.

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is very important, the way defence installations in the country are operating today this is the need of hour to increase the number of workers for their development. There are 4 factories in Jabalpur and 2 in Katni. My question is not answered properly....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have wasted 15 minutes of the House. Please understand.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from hon. Minister that the reduction in the number of workers and addition in the number of officers has taken place, then what is the rational number of workers. My question is whether your Government will help for the progress of our friends there for the security and development of our country.

MR. SPEAKER: Live telecast should be resumed.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it's true that the number of employees in ordnance factories has reduced. The process of reduction started in 1984 when the Ministry of Finance put a ban on fresh recruitment. Further a review was undertaken regarding the number of employees in ordnance factories on the basis of which it was decided that the two lakh thirty thousand employees working in these factories should be restricted to one lakh ninety two thousand. After that when the process of modernization started the new machinery was purchased and a gradual yet special modernization started in the production of security weapons etc. this regulated in the decision of another reduction in the number of employees. According to that decision, when these people will retire only 50% new appointments will be made against them and that's why only one lakh fifty thousand employees are left in these ordnance factories. It's true that the number of officers has increased but the reason behind this is modernization and change in technology. We believe that this number of officers is necessary and it has not put any adverse affect on the number of employees.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has spoken in terms of the development of defence installations as well as to increase the employment opportunities. The job of defence installations is to manufacture. Weapons and the kind and number of weapons needed keep on changing. New weapons replace the old ones and the old weapons became redundant. In this regard I don't think it is possible to match the number of employees with the production of the weapons. Actually here, I am not talking about any further possibility of deduction in this number of labourers working in our defence factories but about the report which was prepared earlier on the basis of the number of employees which says it should possibly be reduced.

*Not recorded.

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Minister has said it is obvious that with a new technology the number of officers will increase and employees will decrease. But, is it appropriate that a good number of labourer and employees are rendered jobless by adopting new technology. After considering this fact whether the Government will take any action in this regard? There are four ordnance factories in Jabalpur and two in Katni which are continuously producing defence equipment for the country. The family members of the employees of these factories are not getting the facility of recruiting persons on compassionate ground in the hour of need and the people who are trained technically by them are also not being considered for the recruitments. What action the Government are going to take in this situation. I would humbly like to ask the Government how far it is justified to import foreign goods and render our people jobless.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I don't understand the accusation made by the hon. Member in regard to adopt new technology for developing weapons for the security of the country. We have to face our enemies. We will definitely like to keep such weapons which will help us in defeating our enemies. That's why adopting latest technology is the need of the hour and if because of this we have to reduce the number of employees working in these factories, then this hardly matters in view of the security of our nation. I believe that the hon. Member and the House will also agree with me.

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: New technology is all right but you are bringing Jabalpur factory on the verge of closure. My question is whether the factory will keep on running or not. The new technology should not be responsible for the closer of that factory that's why I would like to know that what action Government and hon. Minister are going to take? We have four factories in Jabalpur and two in Katni.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: What hon. Member has spoken regarding the factories of her constituency, is right that there is one factory in which the production is almost nil. Last year the production of that factory was worth 9.5 crore rupees and almost 2400 employees are working there. Now this change is taking place. Much more change is yet to come in the field of ordnance and in such circumstances we will try that in this process of reducing employees no body will be retrenched....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: The Ordnance Factory headquarters is in Calcutta. I want to raise a question.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, we are being told here that to make defence producing units more efficient, deduction in the number of workers and the use of new technology is necessary. We have been also told that a perspective plan has been drafted and will be implemented accordingly. My question is that how much emphasis is being given to reduce the number of workers as well as in adapting the new technology is this regard. If the emphasis is being given only in reducing the number of workers then I am afraid it will not be in favour of our production and ultimately it will not fulfil our requirement. Developing the technology and its usage is equally necessary as to import the technology for using in our units. Otherwise our efficient production capacity, will decrease.

I would like to ask the Government whether any policy has been prepared in this regard and if so the details thereof and if not, whether Government have any plans that, when a new technology is imported and used in our units and in the mean time another improved technology is developed, some contract is made by the Government and the supplier that our technologies would work in their units on drawing board level and the technologists of the supplier keep on working in our production units as the result of it the continuity of the supply of the technology can be maintained.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the suggestion given by the hon. Member during his question is really remarkable but how effective our decision will prove, will a lot depend on the country from which we are going to import the technology. It will depend on what grounds they are willing to transfer the technology. There are certain technologies where we can implement the suggestion of the hon. Member, and I am sure we will be able to succeed in some of these areas. But till date our experience is not favourable while bringing in the new technology for any weapon no technologists were present to guide us from the drawing board stage to the final outcome. But I think we will keep on working in this direction and as I said earlier I am sure we will succeed in some areas.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: The Headquarters of the Director-General of Ordnance Factory is in the city of Calcutta. In West Bengal, there are two major Rifle Factories—one is Cassipore Gun and Shell Factory and the second is Ichapur Gun and Shell Factory.

Recently, Shri Harin Pathak, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence visited both the Factories. He

met the Director-General of Ordnance Factory and he also met different trade union officials along with the trade apprentices. What we are concerned about the fate of those trade apprentices who have completed their training courses long ago. They have no certainty of getting jobs in different Gun and Shell Factories. When the proposals for modernisation and for further renovation and such other projects to develop the Gun and Shell Factories are under consideration, may I know what is the fate of those unemployed youths who are now passing their days with great difficulty, who have completed their training courses successfully and who are finding no light of getting jobs from you? What is the thinking of the Government and of the Defence Minister to provide jobs to those trade apprentices in the Gun and Shell Factories?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this trend is in practice for quite sometime that on one hand the trade apprentices are trained and on the other hand the scheme of reducing the employees is being carried out. Reducing does not mean retrenchment but when an employee retires nobody is recruited in his place and thus these vacancies are left unfilled. In this situation it is not possible for me to comment that by what time present trade apprentices will be provided jobs. But I will definitely try that the apprentices who have completed their trainings in ordnance factories will be provided with jobs whenever possible.

[English]

International Price of Crude Oil

*343. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saudi Arabia has increased the output of crude oil since July, 2000 which has affected the price of crude oil in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it has affected the international price; and

(c) the impact of it on the Oil Pool Account?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) OPEC had declared on 21st June, 2000 to increase their combined production by 7,08,000 barrels per day over the then existing production of 2.47 crore

barrels per day. There is no confirmed information about Saudi Arabia increasing its production over and above this.

(c) The oil pool account position depends on materialisation of consumption of controlled products against estimated demand, fluctuations in the international prices of crude oil and petroleum products, compensation payable to indigenous crude oil producers, variations in the exchange rate and domestic prices of controlled petroleum products, etc. It is not possible to establish a direct relationship between the oil production level of any country and our oil pool account.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply it has been stated that the OPEC countries have decided to increase the existing production of 7,08,000 barrel per day. In this regard I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the production has been increased or whether the price in international market which was 26.90 dollar a barrel, reached the last ten years highest of 32.80 dollar a barrel on August 15 of this year? Further, what will be the impact on India of this price rise and the strategy of the Government to handle this situation.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the prices are rapidly rising. You will be surprised to know that the price at Dubai on August 15, was 27 dollars a barrel i.e. rupees 8912 per ton.

[English]

This is nearly 159 per cent higher than the January-March, 1999 prices. I would say this is the highest rate in the last ten years. OPEC had said that they would increase the production in the month of June. Now, it has to be seen how far they would bring their decision into practice.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the impact on our oil pool account of the price rise? Secondly I would like to know whether during his recent visit to Saudi Arabia the hon. Minister has requested them to put in place any special system on lower price for developing countries? If so, the outcome thereof and the position of the outstanding deficit of Rs. 6 thousand crores in our oil pool account and whether the prices of petroleum products will be increased in India due to the impact on oil pool account?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that I tried for reduction of the prices but it is also a fact that these prices can be reduced only by increasing the production of OPEC countries. This year I wrote to all the prominent political leaders of OPEC countries regarding the problems faced by the developing countries due to the increase in prices of oil products and requested them that they should consider it favourably. A large conference of petroleum producing countries of the world took place in Kargeli city of Canada where the Secretary General Dr. Vinman Lukman was also present.

[English]

I had a bilateral meeting also with him. I requested him to have a dual pricing system. One pricing system for the developing countries and another pricing system for the developed countries. Developed countries can sustain any shock, and for the developing countries it is a little difficult to sustain such shock. I must say that prices are still going up. I am actually reviewing to see as to how the prices are moving. The market has become extremely volatile. When the situation stabilises to some extent, we will consider what steps can be taken.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will you take that much time till the Parliament Session is over so that you can increase the prices appropriately?

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on one hand the prices of petrol are rising continuously and on the other the incidents of adulteration and underweight are becoming common. The direct effect of this is falling on the consumer. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister of Petroleum whether some agreement were entered into with private companies for the outlets of petroleum products and if so, the names of the companies and whether these companies have started opening outlets? According to my information some private companies have started opening outlets in Rajasthan etc. and if so, please give the time by which such outlets will be started in Uttar Pradesh?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a supplementary. The original question is about the international price of petrol and you are asking the supplementary about outlet.

[English]

This is not supplementary. This question is disallowed.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will try to directly

contact oil producing countries other than OPEC for procuring oil for reducing the deficit of oil pool. For example the prices of crude oil in Iraq are lower than international market and now the U.N. control has also been lifted i.e. U.N. have allowed the selling of crude oil. We are already purchasing oil from Columbia and Venezuela and we should also try to purchase oil from Iraq at lower prices. I request the hon. Minister to consider this and will talk with them?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, we are in regular touch at political and trade level with all the nations of OPEC countries. As far as Iraq is concerned, any transaction will have to be done under the U.S. sanctions. That's why we are not in a position to directly manipulate things in this regard.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, U.N. has imposed sanctions. 8 million dollars were given by the U.N....(Interruptions) Why we are unable to talk directly?... (Interruptions) This could save foreign exchange worth crores of rupees. If we can save it then why we are not saving it....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: May be the hon. Members are unable to comprehend the meaning of sanction. The meaning of U.N. sanctions is embargo. With embargo....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Rawale, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the embargo has been lifted....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down first.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker the Hon. Minister is teaching us. I would like to tell him....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister is replying. So you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You please make him interact with Saddam Hussain....(Interruptions) You please take some decision.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I don't see any reason to say so. I am explaining the situation. We try to purchase oil at reasonable prices from all sources. I have explained the hinderances faced in purchasing oil from Iraq.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: You kindly allow....(Interruptions) I am explaining. It will save foreign exchange worth crores of rupees.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 344—Shri Ramsheth Thakur not present.

Updating of Ordnance Factories

345. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research and Development Wing of the ordnance units of the country is very poor and outdated;

(b) whether due to inefficient R&D of ordnance units, country had to import vital ammunitions at a very heavy cost during 1992-93 to 1997-98; and

(c) if so, whether the Government are taking adequate steps to clear this bottleneck without any further delay?

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

Statement

The Research & Development (R&D) activity of Ordnance Factories is restricted to product and process improvement only. The Research & Development (R&D) in the sphere of arms, ammunition and equipment is the responsibility of the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO). Fifteen types of ammunition developed by DRDO since 1992-93 have been productionised by Ordnance Factories. In addition, Ordnance Factories also obtain technology from abroad along with induction of new ammunition. Once productionised, these ammunitions are not normally imported. Imports take place during induction into service of new generation ammunition not produced indigenously or for surge requirement in excess of Ordnance Factories' capacity. The total quantum of imports of ammunition by the Army during 1992-93 to 1997-98 was approximately 11% of Army's total off take.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, there is not much information in the statement. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the total production capacity of the basic howitzer ammunition produced in the country's ordnance factories for one which is used by the artillery in our country. I would also like to know whether capacity utilisation is there by the ordnance factories for the production of howitzer ammunition. Why are these ordnance factories unable to supply the same as ordered by the Armed Forces? The Government is importing it and spending foreign exchange.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I shall need a separate notice for this question. The ordnance factory produces several items. It produces arms; it produces ammunition; and it produces a whole lot of items. You are asking me how much is the production of a particular item. I shall need notice for that.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. Now, second supplementary.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, in the reply the Minister has mentioned the functioning of DRDO. I want to know about the functioning of DRDO. Sir, you know the importance of Pilotless Target Aircraft (PTA) today for our country. The DRDO was supposed to have developed engines in the PTA for the last 20 years. What is the Government doing to make this programme a success so that the Government could provide this important aircraft to the Army?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, again I am in the same situation. The hon. Member's question which I have answered is about research and development of the ordnance factories. The ordnance factories do not have any research and development wing *per se*. The total amount of money that the ordnance factories spend on research is a pittance, pittance in the sense that it varies between Rs. 5 crore and Rs. 7 crore a year.

It is not more than that for the simple reason that the Ordnance Factories are production units. They are not units that are equipped to go in for research and development. Their research and development, whatever they may be, is confined only to seeing that the production processes are taken care of.

This Question has been admitted in so far as the research and development activity of Ordnance Factories. This is not about the DRDO. The DRDO is a research and development organisation which has a very large budget. Therefore, I shall need a notice for the second supplementary asked by the hon. Member.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Sir, in Visakhapatnam, there is a Research Laboratory, NSTL, which relates to this question. It is a Defence Laboratory.

MR. SPEAKER: This Question is about upgradation of Ordnance Factories.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: This is a research and development wing of the Ordnance Factories. What is meant by research and development? The research laboratories will produce the necessary technologies to the Factories. Of late, research work has been neglected and imports to the country are increasing. In reply to the

first Question today, the hon. Minister said that he wanted to have a push in exports. I would like to know from him the export component of Defence products from India for the last three years and the research development that is taking place in these laboratories. There has been no recruitment in these laboratories for the last five years. In such a situation, how will research work go on? So, obviously, there is reduction in the manufacturing activity in the country. The country is relying more and more on imports and self-reliance is neglected which is a dangerous trend. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how he is going to protect the research activities in the laboratories.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I think the hon. Member is not well-informed in so far as our import and export are concerned. Export-wise, we hardly have any export worth mentioning. It runs into about Rs. 200 crore a year. But in so far as the import is concerned, the point made by the hon. Member that we are not producing enough or that we do not have the requisite technology or research and development and so on and so forth is not correct. I would like to give the hon. Member and the House the value of our indigenous production for the last six years. In 1992-93, the value of our production was Rs. 700.33 crore and the value of our import was Rs. 48.84 crore. In 1993-94, our indigenous production was worth Rs. 700.44 crore and the value of our import was Rs. 30.77 crore. In 1995-96, our production was worth Rs. 590.20 crore and our import was worth Rs. 48.37 crore. In 1995-96 and 1996-97, there had been a substantial increase in import and this import was primarily because certain new technologies were acquired and certain items had to be brought in along with those technologies for starting production here. Therefore, in 1995-96, the value of our import was Rs. 218.79 crore whereas the overall production was worth Rs. 1037.48 crore. In 1996-97, our import was to the value of Rs. 327.38 crore. In this case, there was transfer of technology for production 155 mm shells and 30 mm ammunition. So, there was an additional outflow in terms of Rs. 327.38 crore while our production was worth Rs. 1175.09 crore. And, in 1997-98, for which the hon. Member has asked for figures, the production was to the value of Rs. 1398.06 crore and our import was worth Rs. 30.92 crore. Therefore, it is not correct to say that we are not producing enough or that we are relying on imports. Our imports have averaged to about 11 per cent of our ammunition needs and they are in those areas where we suddenly get into a situation like, for instance, that of Kargil situation where we have to quickly go in for additional purchase to make up for war wastage reserve or such items whose production within the country will not be cost-effective or will be very-very expensive.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: What about strengthening of Research and Development activities of DRDO?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, we have the best Research and Development establishment that one can ask for.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the first time I find a very alert Defence Minister. He is trying to fumble on the floor of the House on this question which Shri Hannan Mollah has raised. In reply to the question, the Defence Minister has stated that 15 types of ammunition developed by DRDO since 1992-93 have been productionised by Ordnance Factories and at the end, he says that the total quantum of imports of ammunition by Army from 1992-93 to 1997-98 was approximately 11 per cent of Army's total off take. I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister whether, in the Defence Perspective Plan, at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan, he forces any indigenous capabilities, as import substitution, which are expected to be developed by DRDO and which could be advised to the Ordnance Factories to productionise any thereby further bring down the import off take from the present level of 11 per cent. If that is answered categorically, the House can understand the position, the link of DRDO and their advice to Ordnance Factories, in that order.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the hon. Member has asked a question which will call for a full-fledged answer. So, I will need a notice for that kind of a question. However, since the hon. Member wanted to know whether, by the end of the Tenth Plan, we shall be in a position to productionise something more and to that extent reduce the dependence on imports and so on, I think, one of the things that is now in the process of being productionised is the Arjun Tank. At the end of the Tenth Plan we should be able to get the Arjun Tank into serial production. The orders have been placed and we should be having it. By the same token, there are other items also which are getting productionised. The 15 items that have been mentioned in the reply are confined to the period up to 1997-98. There have been subsequent research and development in the DRDO and I can assure the House that it is getting productionised.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, once upon a time there were good research facilities in Ichapur, just near Calcutta. The Chief Inspectorate of Metals, the Chief Inspectorate of Small Arms and the Small Arms Ordnance Factory are there. Ichapur Rifle was one of the best rifles which was used by the Army. Now it is getting obsolete. This rifle was invented there itself. The Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory had been shifted to Hyderabad in the late 1950s, but the Chief Inspectorate of Small Arms is still there.

Sir, Ichapur has earned a good name in the production of small arms. So, I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister whether research facilities can be installed in Ichapur for the production of small arms. I would also like to know whether it is possible to expand the activities of the Small Arms Factory situated in Ichapur.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, in so far as Ichapur Rifle is concerned, that rifle is still being produced in Ichapur and in so far as his question whether we can go in for expanding the scope of that factory to produce small arms is concerned, that is something which would be considered.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the defence production facilities in this country not only produce small arms and ammunition, but they are also producing and taking up some very large and important defence projects like LCA, Aircraft Carrier, Nuclear Submarines etc.

My question is whether the Research and Development Establishment of the Ministry of Defence have sufficient back-up to support the production of these major projects. To what extent are we dependent upon import of important components from various other countries to complete these projects? Why are these projects getting over delayed? Is it because of lack of Research and Development back-up?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, it will depend from product to product. We are producing submarines. We are producing warships. Now, we are yet to reach the stage of producing the Light Combat Aircraft. But we have produced the Advanced Light Helicopter. It will all depend from product to product in the first place.

In most of these cases, there is an imported component. It could be the engine. It could be the sensor. It could be some other item. But in each of these cases, there are imports except in products of our Ordnance Factories where in the production of ammunition, for instance, we do not fall back on anybody. We are capable and we have been producing the rifle that the hon. Member earlier mentioned. Well, it is an India-designed rifle. That is now much admired all over the world. So, there are areas where it is pure Research and Development of Indian scientists and technicians. There are areas where we have to fall-back on imports.

Introduction of Silk Yarn Bank Scheme

*346. *SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI SUBODH RAY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced a Silk Yarn Bank Scheme on pilot basis for the States which are major consumers of silk yarn in the Handloom;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided thereunder since its inception, State-wise;

(c) the details of other schemes being implemented for development of silk industries and assistance provided thereunder since their inception, till date, State-wise and Scheme-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to assist the sick silk industries; and

(e) if so, the details of sick silk mills and assistance provided for their revival, State-wise and mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Government introduced the Silk Yarn Bank Scheme during 1993-94 and operated till 1995-96. The Scheme was discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.1996.

(b) Under the Scheme, the Central Government provided financial assistance in the form of equity on the differential value of yarn purchased by the agency, over the previous period. The implementing agency was required to meet the balance expenditure either by raising loan from the commercial banks or from other sources. The State-wise/year-wise financial assistance provided under the scheme since its inception is given at Annexure-I.

(c) A statement is attached at Annexure-II, indicating details of schemes implemented by the Ministry of Textiles through Central Silk Board (CSB) for development of Silk Industry and the assistance provided during the 9th Plan period from 1997-98 to 1999-2000.

(d) and (e) Although, there is no specific scheme to assist the sick silk industries, the Board for Industrial and

Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) is entrusted with the responsibility to rehabilitate such industries.

Annexure-I

The details of Financial Assistance Sanctioned under the National Silk Yam Bank Scheme

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of State	Financial Assistance Sanctioned/Released			Total Amount
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27.00	—	—	27.00
2.	Assam	13.50	33.83	13.00	60.33
3.	Gujarat	—	4.25	—	4.25
4.	Karnataka	—	42.00	1.75	43.75
5.	Kerala	—	24.245	6.62	30.865
6.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	11.00	11.00
7.	Maharashtra	—	23.33	—	23.33
8.	Manipur	—	1.225	—	1.225
9.	Orissa	50.30	53.71	5.60	109.61
10.	Tamil Nadu	25.00	56.00	36.49	117.49
11.	Uttar Pradesh	54.00	16.20	—	70.20
12.	West Bengal	24.875	25.21	25.54	75.625
13.	N.H.D.C.	13.50	—	—	13.50
Grand Total		208.175	280.00	100.00	588.175

Annexure-II

Catalytic Developmental Schemes being Implemented by CSB during IX plan (1997-98 to 2001-2002)

Scheme-wise and State-wise break-up of Expenditure from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (Cumulative)-Status of Utilisation Certificates received & Status of funding

Find. Achvmt. Till 31/3/2000 (Provisional)
Rs. in Lakhs

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme/Project Programme	Traditional States (5#)					Non-Traditional States other than North Eastern States (12#)				
		Karnataka	T. Nadu	J&K	Andhra P	W. Bengal	Maha.	M.P.	Orissa	Bihar	U.P.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I. Catalytic Developmental Assistance to Industry											
1.	Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multibend reeling units	158.25	70.83	38.87	29.89	—	1.00	5.64	—	—	7.69

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		**	**	**	**		**	**			**
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	—	NP	—	—	NP	NP	—
2 Installation of Common Facility Centre for handloom silk processing	10.10	41.62	—	36.69	—	—	—	8.73	14.92	—	2.81
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		**	**	**	**			**	**		**
(b) Status of funding		—	—	\$\$	—	NP	NP	—	—	aa	—
3 Enterprise Developmental Programme	9.71	3.29	1.20	1.67	1.18	0.34	2.77	0.25	—	—	—
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificate received		**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	—	—
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	NP	NP
4 Creation of Growth Centres for production of quality silk	9.01	20.97	17.73	8.60	—	—	—	—	—	—	18.43
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		**	**	**	**						**
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	—	NI	NP	NI	NP	NP	—
5 Support to Reeling Units \$	*30.98*	*4.75*	*31.95*	—	—	—	—	*1.33*	*1.75*	—	*15.26*
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		**	**	10.36	—	—	—	**	0.59**	—	2.88**
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	\$\$	NP	NP	—	—	NP	—
S-This is a self balancing scheme and no budget support is required											
6 Promotion of Resource conservation Technology through Economic Ovens	3.25	0.16	—	0.60	2.24	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		@@	###	—	@@	###					
(b) Status of funding		—	—	NP	—	—	NP	\$\$	NP	NP	RR
7 By-product use development projects	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.50	4.60	—	—
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		—	—	—	—	—	—	@@	@@		
(b) Status of funding		NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	—	NP	NP
8 Assistance to ISEPC for the project on silk fashion garments	—	—	—	—	32.36	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		—	—	—	—	**		**			
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	—	—		—			
Total for Catalytic Development Assistance to Industry	190.32	136.87	66.16	79.45	3.42	33.70	18.64	20.36	0.00	31.81	
MULBERRY											
9 Creation of improved mulberry variety banks in States	1.57	0.30	0.15	0.41	25.09	0.22	1.55	0.94	0.15	—	—
(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received		—	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	—
(b) Status of funding		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	NP
10 On farm training and supply of start up tools to new Mulberry sericulturists	—	22.40	30.00	17.60	32.06	43.30	1.68	27.33	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
19	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-operative Societies) for upgradation and popularisation of improved En spinning devices	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sub-Total for En	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MUGA											
21	Augmentation of Muga Food Plants	—	—	—	—	1.42	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation of Certificates received	—	—	—	—	●●	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	Providing training and start up tools to farmers to practice muga culture	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	a. Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-operative Societies) for popularisation of improved reeling/spinning devices for Muga	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	Crop insurance support for muga	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	●●	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sub-total for Muga	—	—	—	—	1.14	—	—	—	—	—
GENERAL											
26	Support for institutionalising supply to quality disinfecting materials.	7.50	10.00	—	20.00	5.00	—	10	6.75	1.20	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	●●	##	—	●●	##	—	●	##	●●	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	MP	—	—	MP	—	—	—	\$\$
27	Support for installation of quality linked cocoon purchase systems in non-traditional States	—	—	—	—	—	2.50	20.00	20.00	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	@@	##	###	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	NP	SS
28	Support for installation of quality linked yarn purchase systems	—	30.00	—	30.00	—	—	15.00	8.00	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	###	—	@@	—	—	###	###	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	—	NP	—	NI	NP	—	—	NP	NP
29	Support for pre-reeling productivity improved measures of a demonstrative kind adopted by States	22.48	17.14	9.00	6.05	6.25	5.12	15.19	8.00	3.7	9.00
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	@@	##	@@	##	—	@@	@@	@@	@@	@@
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	Support for studies, consultancies and surveys	0.12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NI	NP	SS	SS	NP	aa	aa	SS	NP	SS
31	Support for data base development										
	(i) MIS	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	2.19	4.00	—	—
	(ii) Remote Sensing Survey	3.05	2.16	3.08	3.06	1.62	3.92	4.20	1.33	2.27	0.44
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	@@	@@	##	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32	Support for preparation of extension & publicity material in local languages	—	1.25	—	1.00	3.00	5.00	—	1.25	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	@@	—	@@	@@	@@	—	###	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	RR	—	NP	—	—	—	SS	—	NP	NP
33	Support for product development diversification and buyer awareness Programmes	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.00	5.00	—	—
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	@@	@@	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NI	NP	NP	NP	SS	NP	—	—	NP	RR
Sub-Total for General		33.15	60.55	12.08	60.11	15.87	21.54	81.58	49.33	7.26	9.44
Total for Catalytic Developmental Assistance to States		85.34	148.10	42.31	100.57	77.67	97.93	118.52	92.47	11.30	11.46
Total for C D S for Industry & State		275.66	284.97	110.47	180.02	81.09	131.63	137.16	112.83	11.30	43.27

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Joint Project											
*** Project for development of sericulture in eastern U.P.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*** Action Plan for sericulture in N.E. States		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*** Development of nature grown tasar, cocoons in Madhya Pradesh		—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	—	—	—
*** Conservation of wild tasar eco-races in Simlipal biosphere Mayurbhanj of Orissa		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.13	—	—
Total		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/Project Programme	Non-traditional States other than North-eastern States (12%)														Total
		Kerala	Gujarat	Punjab	Haryana	H.P.	Rajasthan	Sikkim	Assam	Ar. Prd.	Manipur	Megha	Mizoram	Nagaland	Tripura	
1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27

I. Catalytic Developmental Assistance to Industry

1.	Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multiend reeling units	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	312.17
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NI	NP	NP	—
2.	Installation of Common Facility Centre for handloom silk processing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.16	—	—	—	—	—	—	128.03
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	\$\$	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	\$\$	—
3.	Enterprise Developmental Programme	0.31	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.92	—	—	0.27	—	—	—	21.91
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificate received	**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	NP	NP	—	NP	NP	NP	—
4.	Creation of Growth Centres for production of quality silk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74.74
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP*	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—
5.	Support to be Reeling Units \$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*86.02*
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13.83
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—

\$-This is a self balancing scheme and no budget support is required

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
6	Promotion of Resource conservation Technology through Economic Ovens	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.25
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—
7	By-product use development projects.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.50	7.60
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	###	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	—
8	Assistance to ISEPC for the project on silk fashion garments	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32.36
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total for Catalytic Development Assistance of Industry	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.08	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.00	1.50	596.89
MULBERRY																
9	Creation of improved mulberry variety banks in States	0.15	0.24	—	—	—	—	0.16	—	—	—	—	0.26	—	0.25	31.44
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificate received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	\$\$	\$\$	NP	NP	—	\$\$	\$\$	NP	\$\$	—	NP	—	—
10.	On farm training and supply of start up tools to new Mulberry sericulturists	15.26	—	—	—	—	—	1.40	—	—	—	—	11.55	—	9.59	212.07
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	@@	—	—	—	—	—	###	—	—	—	—	###	—	##	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	NP	\$\$	\$\$	NP	NP	—	\$\$	NP	NP	RR	—	\$\$	—	—
11	Support for equipment upgradation of existing State/Parastatal/Co-operative infrastructure in seed and reeling in non traditional Certificates	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	—	2.41	34.91
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	###	—	@@	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	RR	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	—
12.	Promotion of resource conservation technologies through Drip Irrigation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	149.22
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	@@	NP	RR	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—
13	Master Reeler assistance to States.	0.72	—	—	—	—	0.14	—	1.71	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	9.85
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	—	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	NP	—	NP	NP	NP	—	NP	NP	—

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31.	Support for data base development															
	(i) MIS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.16	—	—	13.35
	(ii) Remote Sensing Survey	0.75	2.55	0.58	0.75	1.05	3.24	0.16	1.40	0.90	—	0.45	0.45	0.60	0.32	38.33
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received															
	(b) Status of funding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Support for preparation of extension & publicity material in local languages	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	1.00	—	—	5.00	1.25	1.52	21.27
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00	00	—	—	##	##	00	—
	(b) Status of funding	\$\$	NP	NP	\$\$	NP	NP	00	—	—	NP	RR	—	—	—	—
33.	Support for product development diversification and buyer awareness Programmes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	—	—	20.00
	(a) Status of Utilisation Certificates received	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00	—	—	—
	(b) Status of funding	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	—	NP	NP	—
	Sub-Total for General	0.75	2.55	0.58	0.75	1.05	3.24	1.22	2.40	1.90	—	0.45	37.61	1.85	1.84	407.10
	Total for Catalytic Developmental Assistance to States	16.08	2.79	0.58	0.75	1.05	3.38	2.78	105.37	5.05	1.68	10.18	84.16	26.15	14.09	1060.56
	Total for C D S for Industry & State	17.18	2.79	0.58	0.75	1.05	3.38	2.78	117.45	5.05	1.68	10.45	84.16	26.15	15.59	1657.45
Joint Project																
###	Project for development of sericulture in eastern U.P.	74.63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74.63
###	Action Plan for sericulture in N.E. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	98.93	27.24	###	NIL	32.35	24.24	31.80	230.25
###	Development of nature grown tasar, cocoons in Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00
###	Conservation of wild tasar eco-races in Similpal biosphere Mayurbhanj of Orissa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.13
	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	324.01

Note:- the total expenditure during the year 1997-2000 for the CDS is of Rs. 1657.45 lakhs and for the Joint Project it is 324.01 lakh and the total comes about Rs. 1981.46 lakhs.

- ### — Utilisation Certificate received for the entire amount.
 @ @ — Utilisation Certificate awarded.
 ## — Utilisation Certificate received for partial amount.
 & & — Utilisation Certificate awarded from ISRO Bangalore.
 .. — Direct Expenditure by CSB.
 aa — Proposal received from the State and is under scrutiny.
 RR — Returned for Revision.
 \$\$ — Specific Proposal awaited from the State.
 ' — Additional detail/clarification sought.
 NP — Not proposed by the state.
 NI — State is not interested to implement the scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon'ble Minister is not clear. Even the figures provided in the written answer laid on the table of the House are not clear. It seems that hand written statement has been got cyclostyled. My question was whether Silk Yarn Bank Scheme started in 1993-94 and was discontinued in 1996 and what were the objectives of this scheme; and whether it could achieve its objectives or it was discontinued because it could not achieve its objectives? Alongwith it, I would like to know the basis of providing financial aid to the States and the reason behind providing a meagre amount of only Rs. 11 lakhs to Government of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Why was it closed? That is the first part.

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, financial assistance is being given on the basis of viable proposals from the State Governments. Now, the State Governments are not providing funds for these schemes. Hence, these schemes were closed.

We were giving 27 per cent for these schemes to the agencies. After studying carefully the workability and viability of these schemes, the Sub-Group on Handlooms for the Ninth Plan had also reviewed these schemes. They recommended that it should be discontinued. After that, it was discontinued.

Now, we are giving some financial support from other schemes.

MR. SPEAKER : It has been closed, since the States are not coming forward.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wanted to know from the hon'ble Minister the number of Sick Yarn Mills also the number of the mills which have been closed. But no clear cut reply has been given. Regarding revival of such mills the hon'ble Minister has stated that these have been referred to BIFR. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the number of sick silk mills which have been referred to BIFR and out of these, how many mills BIFR has recommended for revival and how many of them are still closed?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, eight mills out of all sick Silk Mills are closed. Some of them are closed since 1992-93. The mill recently closed is Flora International Ltd. These are not closed because of non-availability of raw material. The Government have tried to make silk waste

available to the mills which manufacture sponge silk from silk waste. In addition to it, the Government have also taken several other steps. Thereby, the price of waste-silk....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is whether any assistance is given to the silk industry.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: 36 schemes are still in vogue for providing assistance to silk industry.

[English]

Sir, 36 schemes have been implemented till now.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that smuggled silk yarn is reaching India through Nepal and Bangladesh on a large scale from abroad and in the backdrop when will the silk yarn Bank scheme will be restarted? At the same time, why Bihar has not been given even a single penny as assistance. And this Bhagalpur....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It has already been stated that they have started another scheme for that.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY: I want to know whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide maximum benefits to weavers by starting silk yarn Bank and its depots?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: The hon'ble Member has asked regarding import of silk yarn from abroad. I would like to inform that our domestic silk requirement is around 24000-25000 metric ton whereas production is 16000 metric ton. To provide raw material to the mills and for carpet manufacturing we have formulated a scheme to import silk so that smuggling of silk into India can be checked. As far as silk yarn is concerned, silk yarn Bank Scheme has been discontinued and Mill Gate Price Scheme is still in operation. Bank Scheme was discontinued on 1.4.96 and immediately thereafter, Mill Gate Price Scheme is being implemented be it Bihar or any other State....(Interruptions)

SHRI SUBODH ROY: The mill which was closed in our area has not been revived so far.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the assistance provided to the Government of Maharashtra so far? How much fund has been provided? My second question is what the Government is doing to meet additional silk yarn requirement of 9000 metric tons as the hon'ble Minister has just now said that our domestic requirement is to the tune of 25000 Metric tons, whereas we produce only 16000 metric tons. Further, whether the Government is formulating any special scheme in this regard?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Since silk production in some of the States is on decline so we are trying to increase its production through sericulture in some of the States. Not only this, we have even formulated a scheme for North-East where by Moonga and Seri two types of silk can be produced. Efforts are being made in this regard in several States through Central Silk Board. If soil is congenial for production of silk over there and we receive any proposal from any of the concerned State Government then we would formulate a scheme for silk production over there.

[English]

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Sir, is it a fact that some of the State-owned factories in Karnataka are suffering because of lack of raw silk? If such is the case, then what action the Government has taken to run those factories?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Sir, some days ago, I called to meeting of reelers and farmers.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can send the reply to the hon. Member later.

Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Investment by Foreign Companies for Supply of LPG

*342. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from foreign companies for investment for supply of LPG to various States of the country;

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

(c) the percentage of total supply proposed to be met by these foreign companies; and

(d) the number of agreements signed by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Consequent upon the liberalization in the Petroleum Sector, Government have received proposals from various foreign companies for investment in Oil Sector including Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has approved 37 cases of foreign companies with a proposed foreign investment of about Rs. 2,739 crores in the projects relating to LPG in the country upto 30th June, 2000. Private/foreign companies can import and sell LPG with their own distribution network under parallel marketing scheme (PMS).

(c) Foreign companies/private companies under PMS are free to import and supply LPG as per their own market assessment and requirement.

(d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have entered into agreements with the following foreign companies:—

- (i) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in joint venture with Petronas, Malaysia has formed a Joint Venture (JV) company for setting up an LPG import terminal of capacity 600 Thousand Metric Tonnes Per Annum (TMTPA) at Haldia in West Bengal.
- (ii) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has formed a JV with Shell and have set up a LPG import terminal of 90 TMTPA capacity at Pipavav in Gujarat.
- (iii) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has formed a JV with TotalFina S.A., France for construction of LPG cavern storage of 60 TMT for receipt of LPG at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

[English]

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

*344. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: With the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the victims of 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy are unable to get compensation even after 15 years and hence they decided to knock the door of Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the reasons for not paying the compensation to the victims till date;

(c) whether the tribunals have rejected about 2 lakh claims after making amendments in the Bhopal Gas Leakage Disaster (Registration and Processing) Act;

(d) if so, the rationale behind it;

(e) whether the victims have challenged these amendments;

(f) if so, whether Government propose to direct the concerned authorities to clear all the pending claims; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) No, Sir. A total of 10,15,246 claim cases out of the total of 10,29,431 cases stood decided till July 31, 2000 in accordance with the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985. In all, 5,42,470 claimants have been awarded compensation, with Rs. 1,418.65 crore disbursed as such.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

(e) to (g) The Government is in receipt of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 415 of 2000 filed by the Bhopal Gas Peedith Mahila Udyog Sangathan in the Supreme Court. The Government will abide by the decision of the Supreme Court.

Procurement of Jute

*347. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government purchase jute at remunerative price from jute growers of the country particularly from Bihar through Jute Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether the Government have issued any directions to the Corporation in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to procure good quality jute at right time and at remunerative price?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes, Sir. Jute Corporation of India (JCI) purchases raw jute directly from the farmers at the

Minimum Support Price (MSP), fixed by the Government whenever the ruling price goes below the MSP level. Jute Corporation of India runs 171 Centres for procurement of jute out of which 20 Centres are situated in Bihar.

(b) and (c) Government has directed JCI to purchase raw jute at the MSP, whenever, the prices go below the MSP. JCI monitors the jute market on day to day basis. Apart from this, the State Governments have also been requested by the Jute Commissioner to keep a vigil on jute prices, arrange linking of their Cooperative/Agricultural Produce Market Committees with JCI Centres as to enlarge the reach of the MSP operations.

Legislation Against State Bandhs

*348. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intend to bring a legislation proclaiming State *bandhs* as unconstitutional in view of the decision of the Kerala High Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps, the Government propose to take to protect the freedom of the people who suffer mostly because of frequent *bandhs*?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Government has no intention to bring a legislation proclaiming State *bandhs* as unconstitutional. The judgement of the Kerala High Court in Bharat Kumar vs. State of Kerala has been already upheld by the Supreme Court of India. Further, the distinction made by the Kerala High Court between the expression '*bandh*' and the call for general strike or '*hartal*' has been upheld by the Supreme Court stating that there cannot be any right to call or enforce a '*bandh*' which interferes with the exercise of the freedoms of other citizens. A call given for '*bandh*' as the Kerala High Court noticed, may completely halt locomotion and as a result, involve danger to life and property particularly of those, who attempt to go against the call for the '*bandh*'. This is primarily a matter of law and order/public order and would normally fall within the jurisdiction of the States. It would be for the States and all others concerned to comply with ratio of the judgement of the Kerala High Court as confirmed by the Supreme Court of India. Suitable assistance such as paramilitary forces and sharing of intelligence can be and is, however, provided by the Central Government as per requirements of the State Government.

Madhya Pradesh's Share in Rihand

*349. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh is having 15 percent share in the power generated from Rihand hydro power station located in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the power is not being fully supplied to Madhya Pradesh by Uttar Pradesh as per its share;

(c) whether there is any agreement between the two States that the financial compensation at the fixed rate will be provided in case Madhya Pradesh is not getting its share;

(d) if so, whether the above financial compensation is being paid;

(e) if not, the amount of compensation outstanding against Uttar Pradesh; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (f) Madhya Pradesh has 15% share in power generated from Rihand Hydro Electric Power Station (250 MW) but Uttar Pradesh is not supplying this power. In the event of non-supply of MP's share of power, the compensation is payable to MPEB by UPSEB (now Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd.) (UPPCL) as per agreed formula. According to MPEB, the loss is not being compensated by UPPCL (erstwhile UPSEB) and the total outstanding amount payable by UPPCL as on July, 2000 is Rs. 93.51 crores (provisional) including Rs. 20.62 crores of interest charges. However, the outstanding financial compensation payable according to UPPCL upto September, 1998 is Rs. 33.92 crores. The matter is to be resolved by bilateral discussion between the two State Governments.

[*Transiation*]

Subsidy on LPG and Kerosene

*350. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have to pay subsidy on L.P.G. and Kerosene oil at the rate of Rs. 143 per cylinder and Rs. 5 per litre respectively;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the total amount given in the form of subsidy by the Government every year on an average on L.P.G. and Kerosene oil in the last few years;

(d) whether subsidy is given on other items also in addition to L.P.G. and Kerosene oil; and

(e) if so, the names of those items and the annual subsidy given thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The subsidy on domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene is extra-budgetary and met from the Oil Pool Account. Presently, the estimated subsidy on domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene is about Rs. 125 per cylinder and Rs. 5.26 per litre, respectively.

(c) The subsidy on these products during last three financial years is given in the attached statement.

(d) and (e) The pricing of diesel is required to be fixed at the import parity level. Currently, the import parity based ex-storage point price of diesel works out to be higher than the domestic ex-storage point price. Annual subsidy would depend on the consumption of diesel and the prevailing product prices in the international market during the remaining part of the year.

Statement**Estimated Subsidy on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG**

		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
		(Prov.)	(Prov.)	
PDS Kerosene	Rs./Crs.	5,820	5,770	8,040
	Rs./Ltr.	4.62	4.26	5.97
Domestic LPG	Rs./Crs.	1,660	2,600	4,790
	Rs./Cyl.	55.33	79.34	121.83

[*English*]

Privatisation of Catering Services

*351. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to privatise the catering services at the railway stations and in trains;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure reasonable prices as well as better and efficient services by private caterers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) The existing catering policy, which was formulated in the year 1992, called for privatisation of certain activities including catering services on Indian Railways. The policy lays emphasis on induction of professional caterers of repute and having required expertise to ensure proper quality of catering services to the passengers. At present, private licensees are managing catering services on 3050 railway stations and in 124 pairs of trains. In addition to this, railways manage the catering services departmentally at 68 railway stations and in 49 pairs of trains. Besides, catering services are managed both by departmental units and licensees at 32 railway stations.

The catering licensees are governed under an agreement which defines the terms and conditions of the responsibilities and duties of the licensees and also the system of monitoring of their services. Licensees sell the items on the rates prescribed by railways. In order to maintain the standard of services to the customers, railways have prescribed the scale of services in case of both mobile and static units as well as the use of standard packing material and improved presentation. Regular checks are exercised at various levels besides taking passengers opinion polls from time to time. Menu boards, containing rates and quantity of food items, are displayed in refreshment rooms, stalls and in pantry cars. Menu cards are also available with the bearers in trains. Detailed information on railway catering including rates of catering items is also published in public timetable for the information of rail users.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme for Oil Sector Public Undertakings

*352. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been introduced in the Oil Sector Public Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it may affect the profitability of each of the Oil Sector Public Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Voluntary Retirement Scheme

(VRS) is presently in operation in Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Engineers India Limited (EIL), Biecco Lawrie Limited and Oil India Limited (OIL).

(b) Details of VRS being implemented by IOCL, EIL Biecco Lawrie Limited and OIL are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The profitability of the above oil companies would not be adversely affected on account of VRS. In fact, it is expected to marginally increase the profitability of the companies.

Statement

Salient Features of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Operation in IOCL, EIL, Biecco Lawrie and OIL

1. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)

Main benefits available to the employees opting for Voluntary Retirement under the Scheme are as follows:—

- (i) Ex-gratia payment equivalent to 11/2 month's emoluments for each completed year of service or the monthly emoluments at the time of retirement multiplied by the balance months of service left before normal date of retirement on superannuation, whichever is less.
- (ii) Post Retirement Medical Attendance Facility from the date of separation if the employees separate on completing 50 years of age. Other retiral benefits are also available to the employees opting for voluntary retirement under the Scheme.
- (iii) Under the liberalized Scheme for a limited period from May 3 to June 30, 2000, the following additional benefits were extended to the employees opting for voluntary retirement during the period:—

Age	% age of Basic pay
Age 58 years	105%
Above 54 years and upto 58 years of age	100%
Above 50 years and upto 54 years of age	95%
50 years of age and below	90%

2. Engineers India Limited (EIL)

- (i) Ex-gratia payment equivalent to 11/2 month's emoluments for each completed year of service

or the monthly emoluments at the time of retirement multiplied by the balance months of service left before normal date of retirement on superannuation, whichever, is less.

- (ii) Coverage under the Post Retirement Medical Coverage Scheme, as in force, if the age at the time of acceptance of early separation is 55 years or above or where the age is less than 55 years on attainment of 55 years of age.
- (iii) The Scheme shall be applicable only in respect of such employees as have attained the age of 40 years and have served the company for a minimum period of 10 years.

3. **Biecco Lawrie Co. Ltd.**

- (i) Ex-gratia payment equivalent to 1 & 1/2 months' emoluments for each completed year of service or the monthly emoluments at the time of retirement multiplied by the balance months of service left before normal date of retirement on superannuation, whichever is less.
- (ii) The Scheme shall be applicable only in respect of such employees as have attained the age of 40 years and have served the company for a minimum period of 10 years.
- (iii) Cash equivalent to applicable notice pay as per service conditions.

4. **Oil India Limited (OIL)**

- (i) Employees who have attained 40 years of age and have completed 15 years of continuous service in the permanent rolls of the Company shall be eligible to opt for voluntary retirement, as and when notified by the Company.
- (ii) Two months basic pay plus DA at the time of VRS for each completed year of service or basic pay plus DA at the time of VRS for each month of service left, whichever is less.
- (iii) Ex-gratia payment upto Rs. 2 lakh over and above the real benefits may be considered as an additional incentive to employees of BEP (Bay Exploration Project), where there is no operation, to opt for voluntary retirement.

Untapped Hydro-Electric Power

*353. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantum of untapped hydroelectric power in the country, State-wise as on June 30, 2000;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to exploit the above power source during each of the last three years particularly in Himachal Pradesh and J&K;

(c) whether any projects have been chalked out in Himachal Pradesh and J&K;

(d) whether the Central Government has received any proposal from Haryana to tap hydroelectric power in H.P. recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) State-wise position as on 30.6.2000 with regard to assessed hydro potential, potential developed and under development is indicated in the statement-I enclosed.

With a view to develop the untapped hydro-electric potential in the country, Government announced a Policy on Hydro Power Development in August, 1998. Various steps have been taken during these years on the measures envisaged in the Policy e.g. tariff for hydel projects has been rationalised, procedures for transfer of techno-economic clearance have been simplified, the ceiling for techno-economic clearance by CEA for hydro power projects on MOU route has been enhanced and notified, a mechanism to cover geological risks has been evolved and small hydro projects upto 25 MW capacity have been transferred to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

A list of 60 HE Projects of an aggregate capacity of 15736 MW which are presently under execution in the country is given in statement-II enclosed. A massive thrust is proposed to be given for hydro development by starting work on preparing Detailed Project Reports in respect of hydro projects involving capacity of about 25000 MW in the next 5 years.

In Himachal Pradesh, HE Projects totalling 2048.5 MW are presently under execution. These include Nathpa Jhakri (1500 MW); Chamara Stage-II (300 MW); Ghanvi (22.5 MW); Larji (126 MW); and Uhi-III (100 MW). The Government of India has initiated the development of projects in the Parbati Basin (2051 MW) in a phased manner through NHPC. NTPC has also entered into an agreement with Government of Himachal Pradesh for execution of Kol Dam Project (800 MW). Advance action has also been initiated on Rampur (439 MW) by NJPC.

Government of Himachal Pradesh has also planned execution of a number of hydroelectric projects under private sector namely Baspa (300 MW), Mallana (86 MW), Dhamwari Sunda (70 MW), Karchan Wangtoo (1000 MW), Allain Duhangan (192 MW). In addition, the State Government proposes to execute Renuka (40 MW), Budhil (70 MW) and Kuther (260 MW) HE Projects as State Sector projects.

In J&K, HE Projects totalling 841.5 MW are under development. These include 451.5 MW under State Sector and Dulhasti Project (390 MW) under Central Sector by NHPC. The State Government will be executing Baglihar (450 MW) and Sawalkot (600 MW) and have agreed to transfer 7 HEPs of a total capacity of 2798 MW, namely K'ishanganga (330 MW), Sewa-II (120 MW), Bursar (1020 MW), Pakal Dul (1000 MW), Nimmo Bazgo (30 MW), Uri-II (280 MW), Chutak (18 MW) in the Central Sector to be executed by NHPC.

Advance action has also been taken on fresh starts under Central Sector, as a result of which a number of new hydro projects in other States aggregating to 1060 MW have been approved namely Tuiral (60 MW) Mizoram; Teesta-V (510 MW); Loktak Downstream (90 MW) Manipur; Koteshwar (400 MW) U.P. Simultaneously, advance action has been initiated on a number of other hydro-electric projects of a total capacity of 23930 MW, namely, Dihang (13400 MW), Subansiri (7300 MW) and

Kameng (600 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh; Tuivai (210 MW) Mizoram; Tipaimukh (1500 MW) Manipur; Pala Maneri (400 MW) and Lohari Nagpala (520 MW) U.P.

Government is also committed to complete hydroelectric projects languishing for a number of years for want of funds. An MOU has been signed with the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the execution of a capacity of 724 MW consisting of Maneri Bhali Stage-II (304 MW) by THDC and Lakhwar Vyasi (420 MW) through a Joint Venture between NHPC and U.P. Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited. MoU has also been signed with Government of Madhya Pradesh for the execution of a capacity of 1520 MW consisting of Omkareshwar MPP (520 MW) and Indirasagar MPP (1000 MW) by NHPC.

Efforts are also being made to arrive at a consensus amongst basin States regarding location of power projects locked up due to inter-state disputes, namely, Shivasamudram 270 MW, Mekedatu 550 MW; Rasimanal 200 MW and Hogenakkal 120 MW in Cauvery basin aggregating to 1140 MW. Similarly, Renuka Dam Project 60 MW (H.P.) and Kishau Multipurpose Project 600 MW (HP/UP), are also being pursued for an early execution.

No proposal has been received from Haryana to tap hydroelectric power in Himachal Pradesh. However, power to be generated from Allain Duhangan (2 x 96 MW) in private sector and Dhamwari Sunda (2x35 MW) in Himachal Pradesh may be utilised in Haryana.

Statement I

Status of Hydro Electric Potential Development (State-wise)—As on 30.6.2000

Region/State	Potential assessed at 60% L.F. (MW)	Potential developed at 60% L.F. (MW)	% developed	Potential under development at 60% L.F. (MW)	% under development	% of Potential developed +under development	CEA Cleared potential at 60% L.F. (MW)	% CEA cleared schemes	% of total Potential development+ Under development+ CEA cleared
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NORTHERN									
Jammu & Kashmir	7487.00	501.83	6.70	385.50	5.15	11.85	503.17	6.72	18.57
Himachal Pradesh	11647.00	2007.07	17.23	637.17	5.47	22.70	495.25	4.25	26.96
Punjab	922.00	454.67	49.31	375.00	40.67	89.99	39.33	4.27	94.25
Haryana	64.00	51.67	80.73	11.67	18.23	98.96	0.00	0.00	98.96
Rajasthan	291.00	192.67	66.21	8.00	2.75	68.96	0.00	0.00	68.96
Uttar Pradesh	9744.00	1145.33	11.75	1334.00	13.69	25.44	171.00	1.75	27.20
Sub Total (NR)	30155.00	4353.23	14.44	2751.33	9.12	23.56	1208.75	4.01	27.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
WESTERN									
Madhya Pradesh	2774.00	587.83	21.19	1202.72	43.36	64.55	234.45	8.45	73.0
Gujarat	409.00	138.67	33.90	110.67	27.06	60.96	0.00	0.00	60.96
Maharashtra	2460.00	1118.83	45.48	186.83	7.59	53.08	0.00	0.00	53.08
Goa	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub Total (WR)	5679.00	1845.33	32.49	1500.22	26.42	58.91	234.45	4.13	63.04
SOUTHERN									
Andhra Pradesh	2909.00	1402.25	48.20	34.37	1.18	49.39	36.23	1.25	50.63
Karnataka	4347.00	2204.50	50.71	425.33	9.78	60.50	4.83	0.11	60.61
Kerala	2301.00	1125.50	48.91	219.30	9.53	58.44	41.50	1.80	60.25
Tamil Nadu	1206.00	946.50	78.48	67.50	5.60	84.08	11.33	0.94	85.02
Sub Total (SR)	10763.00	5678.75	52.76	746.50	6.94	59.70	93.90	0.87	60.57
EASTERN									
Bihar	538.00	119.95	22.30	211.00	39.22	61.51	0.00	0.00	61.51
Orissa	1983.00	1100.50	55.50	8.95	0.45	55.95	0.00	0.00	55.95
West Bengal	1786.00	91.33	5.11	9.83	0.55	5.66	101.67	5.69	11.36
Sikkim	1283.00	57.50	4.48	109.00	8.50	12.98	251.67	19.62	32.59
Sub Total (ER)	5590.00	1369.28	24.50	338.78	6.06	30.56	353.33	6.32	36.88
NORTH EASTERN									
Meghalaya	1070.00	121.67	11.37	0.00	0.00	11.37	23.58	2.20	13.57
Tripura	9.00	8.50	94.44	0.00	0.00	94.44	0.00	0.00	94.44
Manipur	1176.00	73.17	6.22	47.83	4.07	10.29	0.00	0.00	10.29
Assam	351.00	111.67	31.81	90.83	25.88	57.69	0.00	0.00	57.69
Nagaland	1040.00	56.00	5.38	25.88	2.49	7.87	0.00	0.00	7.87
Arunachal Pradesh	26756.00	16.50	0.06	108.33	0.40	0.47	251.67	0.94	1.41
Mizoram	1455.00	1.00	0.07	36.83	2.53	2.60	102.50	7.04	9.64
Sub Total (NER)	31857.00	388.50	1.22	309.72	0.97	2.19	377.75	1.19	3.38
ALL INDIA	84044.00	3635.10	16.22	5648.55	6.72	22.94	2268.18	2.70	25.64

Statement II**Sanctioned/Ongoing Hydroelectric Schemes**

Sl.No.	Name of Project	State	Capacity		Commissioning Schedule	Remarks
			[No. x MW]	[MW]		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
CENTRAL SECTOR						
1.	Nathpa Jhakri [NJPC]	H.P.	6x250	1500	2001-2002	
2.	Dulhasti [NHPC]	J&K	3x130	390	2001-2002	
3.	Chamera St. II [NHPC]	H.P.	3x100	300	2004-2005	
4.	Tehri St. I [THDC]	U.P.	4x250	1000	2001-2003	
5.	Koteshwar [THDC]	U.P.	4x100	400	2005-2006	
6.	Dhauliganga [NHPC]	U.P.	4x70	280	2004-05	
7.	Koel Karo [NHPC]	Bihar	4x172.5+1x20	710	8 yrs. from the date of sanction	
8.	Ranganadi [NEEPCO]	Ar.Pr.	3x135	405	2000-2002	
9.	Tuirial [NEEPCO]	Mizoram	2x30	60	2005-2007	
10.	Kopili St. II [NEECPO]	Assam	1x25	25	2003-2004	
11.	Loktak D/S [NHPC]	Manipur	3x30	90	2006-2007	
12.	Teesta St. V [NHPC]	Sikkim	3x170	510	2006-2007	
	Total [Central]:			5670		
STATE SECTOR						
NORTHERN REGION						
13.	Dadupur	Haryana	4x1.5	6	Beyond 9th Plan	
14.	WYC	Haryana	2x7	14	Beyond 9th Plan	
15.	Ghanvi	H.P.	2x11.25	23	2000-2001 Unit-2 (R)	
16.	Larji	H.P.	3x42	126	Beyond 9th Plan	
17.	Uhl-III	H.P.	2x50	100	10th Plan	
18a.	Upper Singh-II	J&K	2x35	70	1999-2001 Unit-1 (R)	
18b.	Upper Singh-II Extn.	J&K	1x35	35	2000-2001 Extn	
19.	Kishanganga	J&K	3x110	330	Beyond 9th Plan	
20.	Sewa St. III	J&K	3x3	9	2000-2001	
21.	Chennai St. III	J&K	3x2.5	8	1999-2001	
22.	Ranjit Sagar	Punjab	4x150	600	2000-2001 Unit-1, 2&3 (R)	
23.	Shahpurkandi	Punjab	2x40+2x40+1x8	168	Beyond 9th Plan	

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Lakhwar Vyasi	U.P.	3x1200+2x60	420	Beyond 9th Plan
25.	Maneri Bhali-II	U.P.	4x76	304	2003-2004
26.	Katapathar	U.P.	2x9.5	19	2005-2006
27.	Jakhm	Rajasthan	2x2.5	5	10th Plan
Total [Northern Region]:				2236	
WESTERN REGION					
28.	Sardar Sarovar	Guj/MP/Mah	6x200+5x50	1450	2001-2004
29.	Bansagar Tons PH II & III	M.P.	2x15+3x20	90	2001-2002
30.	Bansagar Tons PH IV	M.P.	2x10	20	2001-2002 (Critical)
31.	Indira Sagar	M.P.	8x125	1000	10th Plan
32.	Ghatghar PSS	Mah.	2x125	250	2004-2005
33.	Bhivpuri PSS	Mah.	1x90	90	Beyond 9th Plan
Total [Western Region]:				2900	
SOUTHERN REGION					
34.	Srisaillam LBPH	A.P.	6x150	900	2000-2002
35.	Brindavan	Ktk.	2x6	12	2001-2002 (Critical)
36.	Sarpadi	Ktk.	3x30	90	2002-2003
37.	Sharavathi Tail Race	Ktk.	4x.60	240	2001-2002 Unit-1 (R)
38.	Malankara	Kerala	2x3.5	10.50	2002-2003
39.	Kutiyadi Tail Race	Kerala	3x1.25	3.75	10th Plan
40.	Kutiyadi Extn.	Kerala	1x50	50	2001-2002
41.	Pykara Ultimate	T.N.	3x50	150	10th Plan
42.	Kalpong	A&N	5.2	5.20	2001-2002 (Critical)
Total [Southern Region]:				1461.45	
EASTERN REGION					
43.	Chandil	Bihar	2x4	8	2001-2002
44.	North Koel	Bihar	2x12	24	2001-2002
45.	Upper Indravati	Orissa	4x150	600	1999-2001 Unit-1&2 (R)

1	2	3	4	5	6
46.	Potteru	Orissa	1x3+1x3	6	2001-2002
47.	Balimela Extn.	Orissa	2x75	150	2004-2005
48.	Balimela Dam Toe PH	Orissa	2x30	60	10th Plan
49.	Rammam St. I	W.B.	3x12	36	10th Plan
50.	Purulia PSS	W.B.	4x225	900	2004-2006
51.	Rolep-I	Sikkim	2x4.5	9	2003-2004
Total [Eastern Region]:				1793.00	
NORTH-EASTERN REGION					
52.	Karbi Langapi [Lower Borpani]	Assam	2x50	100	2003-2004
53.	Dhansiri	Assam	5x3x1.33	20	2002-2003
54.	Likim-Ro	Nagaland	3x8	24	2001-2002
Total [North Eastern Region]:				144	
Total [State Sector]:				8534.45	
PRIVATE SECTOR					
55.	Baspa St. II	H.P.	3x100	300	2001-2002
56.	Malana	H.P.	2x43	86	10th Plan
57.	Vishnu Prayag	U.P.	4x100	400	10th Plan
58.	Srinagar	U.P.	5x66	330	2005-2006
59.	Maheshwar	M.P.	10x40	400	2003-2005
60.	Boothathankettu	Kerala	16	16	2001-2002 (Critical)
Total [Private Sector]:				1532	
Total [All India]:				15736.45	
Hydro Capacity already spun/commsioned:				856.25	
Net Hydro Capacity under execution:				14880.20	

Promotion of NCES in N.E. Region

*354. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to promote Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the North Eastern Region and Sikkim during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of fund made available for Non-Conventional Energy Sources during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) whether there is huge amount with the State Governments that has not been spent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for improving utilisation of fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been implementing various programmes of non-conventional energy sources such as biogas improved chulhas, small hydro power, biomass gasifiers, solar energy programmes, integrated rural energy programme and energy parks in the North Eastern States including Sikkim. The Ministry has initiated a Special Action Plan for development of the North Eastern Region including Sikkim and earmarked 10% of its plan budgetary support for this purpose from the year 1997-98 onwards. The details of achievements made under various programmes of non-conventional energy sources, during the last three years, State-wise for the North Eastern States including Sikkim, are given in statement-I.

(c) The details of State-wise funds released under various programmes of non-conventional energy sources,

during the last three years, for North Eastern States including Sikkim, are given in Statement-II.

(d) and (e) A total amount of Rs. 63.72 crores has been released for promotion of non-conventional energy schemes/programmes in North-East States and Sikkim during last three years, out of which a total amount of Rs. 58.04 crores has been utilized by these States. The Ministry is constantly reviewing the progress to improve the utilization of funds. Care is being taken to adjust the unspent amount available with these States while releasing subsequent funds. Further, for improving utilization of funds, the Ministry is providing financial assistance for setting up/strengthening of State Nodal Agencies for effective implementation, monitoring and utilization of funds for Non-Conventional Energy programmes in the North Eastern States including Sikkim.

Statement I

State-wise achievements made during last three years under various programmes of the Ministry in North Eastern States & Sikkim

Sl. No.	States	Biogas (Nos.)	CBP/IBP/ NBP (Nos.)	Improved Chulha (Nos.)	Small Hydro (MW)	Solar Photovoltaic			IREP SLS (Nos.)	SADP (Nos.)
						Power (Nos.)	SI (Nos.)	HLS (Nos.)		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	436	—	2085	—	2919	598	18	10	4
2.	Assam	18471	2	5986	0.2	300	902	—	21	9
3.	Manipur	573	4	5070	—	2633	50	19	19	10
4.	Meghalaya	830	2	—	0.1	1045	90	5	16	—
5.	Mizoram	647	—	13766	6.4	2979	385	82	11	6
6.	Nagaland	439	10	19095	0.7	—	—	—	25	5
7.	Sikkim	687	—	16030	0.15	124	129	34	4	—
8.	Tripura	488	—	26621	—	6657	680	92	6	?
9.	Other*	—	—	165699	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		22571	18	254352	7.55	16657	2834	250	112	36

CBP/IBP/NBP= Community/Institutional/Night soil based biogas programmes; IREP=Integrated Rural Energy Programme SAPD= Special Area Demonstration Programme; SNA-NE=State Nodal Agencies for North East

SL=Solar Lantems; HLS=Home Lighting Systems; SLS=Street Lighting Systems; MW=Mega watt.

*= Improved Chulhas installed by Khadi & Village Industries Commission in North East States.

Statement II

State-wise funds allocated/released during last three years under various programmes of the Ministry in North Eastern States & Sikkim

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	States	Biogas	CBP/IBP/ NBP	Improved Chulha Power	Small Hydro	Biomass Gasifier	Solar Photo- voltaic	Solar Thermal	IREP	SADP	SNA-NE	Others**
1	Arunachal Pradesh	0.217	0.014	0.076	6.600	—	0.642	0.009	0.210	0.032	0.715	0.082
2	Assam	0.560	0.229	0.623	1.800	0.095	1.149	0.033	0.369	0.119	—	0.051
3	Manipur	0.520	0.014	0.150	1.270	0.000	0.741	0.014	0.606	0.102	0.662	—
4	Meghalaya	0.170	0.055	0.143	0.140	0.000	0.345	0.000	0.542	0.000	—	0.056
5	Mizoram	0.650	—	0.140	14.000	0.020	0.476	0.014	0.388	0.067	0.520	—
6	Nagaland	0.370	0.301	0.194	0.270	0.000	0.125	0.145	0.269	0.040	0.520	0.099
7	Sikkim	0.510	0.014	0.149	8.640	0.000	0.101	0.000	0.126	0.000	0.590	0.099
8	Tripura	0.240	—	0.245	0.000	0.100	1.752	0.036	0.142	0.038	0.782	0.076
9	Others*	10.320	0.384	1.406	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.220
Total		13.557	1.011	3.126	32.720	0.215	5.331	0.251	2.652	0.398	3.789	0.680

CBP/IBP/NBP= Community/Institutional/Night soil based biogas programmes; IREP=Integrated Rural Energy Programme

SADP=Special Area Demonstration Programme; SNA-NE=State Nodal Agencies for North East

*=Funds released to Khadi & Village Industries Commission for biogas and for Improved Chulhas and to Sulabh International for CBP/IBP/NBP programmes for North East.

**= Others includes funds released under biomass and wind resource assessment studies.

Technology Parks in Chemical Sector

*355. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish technology parks in the chemical sector;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof;

(c) the number of such parks likely to be set up and the funds provided for the purpose, State-wise;

(d) whether FDI is likely to be permitted for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to encourage the Indian units in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (e) While there is no proposal before the Government to establish technology parks in the Chemical Sector, the need to set up Mega Chemical Industrial Estates, in collaboration with State Governments, has been identified. No final decision regarding the location has been taken.

It is expected that the establishment of Mega Chemical Industrial Estates would lead to further development of integrated infrastructural facilities for the chemical industry. Domestic as well as foreign companies could invest in such estates.

[Translation]

Difference in Prices of Imported and Domestic Oil Products

*356. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI J.S. BRAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a difference between the prices of domestic and imported products of Naphtha and Furnace Oil;

(b) the prices of above items when imported *vis-a-vis* the indigenously produced items;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for difference in the prices of above items;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the percentage of above items being imported to meet the demand in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Pursuant to Government decision taken in November 1997, the prices of Naphtha and Furnace Oil (FO) have been de-controlled w.e.f. 1.4.1998. Presently, Oil Marketing companies fix the selling prices of these products at the import parity level in a manner that the ex-storage selling price to the consumers matches the price that a consumer would have to pay if the decontrolled products were imported. The pricing methodology has the following components in the selling price:

- i. Monthly average of FOB price of decontrolled products.
- ii. Shipping costs.
- iii. Landing charges.
- iv. Insurance, Ocean loss, Bank charges.
- v. Customs duty.
- vi. Marketing margins.

The final sale price to the consumer is arrived at by adding to the ex-storage point price the duties of excise, inland freight, sales tax and local levies. The sales tax and local levies are administered by the State Governments and these are as high as 20% in some States. In addition some States levy on petroleum products turn over tax also. Further the levy of sales tax, turn over tax etc., being *advalorem*, the same has cascading impact on consumer prices at high international product prices. It is mainly due to these taxes that the prices of domestic and imported Naphtha and Furnace Oil differ.

(e) During 1999-2000 the import of Naphtha and FO was about 17.8% and 8.6% respectively of their domestic consumption.

[English]

Setting up of New Plants Using By-Products and Residue of Oil Refineries

*357. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals were received by the Government with regard to the setting up of new plants using the by-products and residue of oil refineries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) The petroleum refining sector has already been delicensed and setting up of new plants does not require Government approval. As per available information there are no proposals from the Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) refineries for setting up of new plants using on the by products. However, some of the PSU refineries have proposed to set up residue based power generation projects. Details of these proposals are given below:—

PSU Refinery	Proposed Power Generation Capacity
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Gujarat	500 Megawatt
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Panipat	301 Megawatt
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Chennai	250 Megawatt
Kochi Refineries Ltd., Kochi	500 Megawatt
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Visakhapatnam	500 Megawatt

Formation of Railway Telecommunication Corporation

*358. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have submitted a proposal to the Government for formation of a Railway Telecommunication Corporation with an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore;

(b) if so, whether Corporation will initially be wholly owned by the Indian Railways with the provision of disinvestment at a later stage;

(c) if so, whether the Government have since given its approval; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Railways had submitted a proposal for formation of broad band telecom and multimedia corporation of Indian Railways with an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crores.

(b) The Corporation will initially be wholly owned by the Railways. In case, major restructuring or formation of a joint venture is required to be undertaken, the matter will be considered at the appropriate time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Corporation is expected to be set up within three months.

Meeting of Power Ministers of States

*359. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Power Ministers of Southern States was held recently at Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details of the points discussed in the meeting and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided to take penal action against the officials if they violate the standard laid down for sharing of power among States;

(d) if so, the details of such cases detected so far and action taken thereon; and

(e) the extent to which the power problem in Southern States is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) A meeting of the Power Ministers of Southern States was held on 10th July, 2000 at Bangalore with Union Minister of Power.

(b) The details of the points discussed in the meeting and the decisions taken are given below:—

- (i) **OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF OPERATION OF SOUTHERN REGION GRID AND STEPS TO IMPROVE FREQUENCY PROFILE:** It was decided that all constituents should endeavour to maintain frequency at 48.6 Hz and above. SRLDC will observe and record the violations for one month and issue notices alongwith necessary directions to the defaulting constituent(s). If corrective action is not taken on the notices, SRLDC will initiate appropriate legal action against the defaulting constituent(s) in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 and the Indian Electricity Grid Code.
- (ii) **LOW VOLTAGE AND INSTALLATION OF SHUNT CAPACITORS:** It was decided that 3614 MVAR capacity shunt capacitors will be commissioned by the Southern States during 2000-2001 comprising 870, 1128, 5000 and 1116 MVAR by Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu respectively.
- (iii) **MAXIMISATION OF IMPORTS FROM NEIGHBORING REGIONS AND AUGMENTATION OF TRANSMISSION LINKS:** Transmission systems for maximisation of imports from neighbouring regions were identified and a programme for their completion was finalised.
- (iv) **GENERATING CAPACITY ADDITION:** The capacity addition programme in Southern Region was reviewed. After discussions, it emerged that 1684.3 MW and 2274 MW capacity was likely to be added in the Southern Region during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2000, respectively.
- (v) **RENOVATION, MODERNISATION AND UPRATING (RM&U) OF GENERATING UNITS:** It was noted that an additional benefit of 317.5 MW during 2000-01 and 135.5 MW during 2001-02 would be available in Southern Region through implementation of RM&U schemes by the constituents.
- (vi) **OUTSTANDING DUES PAYABLE TO CPSUs:** It was emphasised that tariff notifications issued by the Government of India before 15.5.1999 must be honoured by SEBs, State Governments and they should make full payments to the concerned CPSUs.

(vii) HVDC LINE BETWEEN MAHARASHTRA (KOLHAPUR) AND KARNATAKA: Karnataka requested for a HVDC link between Maharashtra (Kolhapur) and Karnataka. It was decided that CEA and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. will examine the matter in consultation with the Maharashtra Government.

(viii) EXPANSION OF KAYAMKULAM PROJECT IN KERALA: It was decided that expansion could be considered only after ascertaining the States willingness to avail power, sign the PPAs including payment safeguards with NTPC.

(c) It has been decided to take action as mentioned in Sub. Para (i) of reply to part (b) above.

(d) SRLDC has been regularly issuing notices and directions to the defaulting constituents.

(e) With the implementation of decisions taken as mentioned in reply to part (b) above by all the constituents/power utilities, the power supply position in Southern Region is likely to improve to some extent.

Computerisation of Courts

*360. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of courts in the country which have been totally computerised;

(b) whether there is a proposal to computerise all the courts in the country; and

(c) if so, the time by which all the courts are likely to be computerised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Supreme Court of India, 18 High Courts and 430 District Courts have been computerised.

(b) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has informed that there is no proposal to computerise courts other than those mentioned at (a) above at present.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the development of infrastructural facilities for the Judiciary, an amount of Rs. 208.28 lakhs has been released by the Government during the year 2000-2001 to various States/UTs for implementation of computerisation in courts.

(c) In view of (b) above, time schedule can not be specified for computerisation of other courts in the country.

Closure of Cases

3782. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has held that prosecution's case will be treated as closed, if the investigating agency failed to produce evidence within two years of framing of charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the number of cases that have been closed so far;

(e) whether there is also a proposal to discharge the trial cases where the cases have been filed long after their occurrence; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in Raj Deo Sharma Vs. State of Bihar reported in (1998) 7 Supreme Court cases 507, has *inter alia* directed that "in cases where the trial is for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a period not exceeding seven years, whether the accused is in jail or not, the court shall close the prosecution evidence on completion of a period of two years from the date of recording the plea of the accused on the charges framed whether the prosecution has examined all the witnesses or not within the said period and the court can proceed to the next step provided by law for the trial of the case."

(c) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Inventory Held by ONGC

3783. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the huge inventory, running into thousands of crores of rupees, is being held by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC);

(b) if so, the value of inventory held by ONGC on the last day of each of the last three financial years and at each of the business centre of ONGC;

(c) whether there have been any reports of losses of mismanagement during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any independent body has ever carried out a physical verification of the inventory;

(f) if so, the results thereof; and

(g) if not, whether the Government propose to get this done now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The inventory of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) stands at Rs. 1564.88 crores as on 31.3.2000 which is the lowest in last three years. The value of the Regional Business Centre-wise inventory held by ONGC on the last day of each of the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) There has not been any report of losses due to mismanagement during the last three years.

(e) to (g) The Executive Committee of ONGC has decided to carry out physical stock verification of the inventory through an independent outside agency.

Statement

Value of Inventory

(As at 31st March/Rs. in crores)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Mumbai Regional Business Centre	752.98	643.26	690.59
Southern Regional Business Centre	185.59	155.49	145.57
Western Regional Business Centre	386.44	343.92	340.07
Eastern Regional Business Centre	384.84	314.08	272.18
Central Regional Business Centre	87.59	77.47	74.48
Northern Regional Business Centre	15.29	13.93	14.07
Headquarters & Others	65.81	23.60	27.92
Total	1878.65	1571.75	1564.88

[Translation]

Encroachment in Nasirabad Cantonment

3784. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Cantonment Land Administrative Rules, 1937, there is a provision to submit

a statement regarding a certificate to the effect of inspection of Class 'B' and Class 'C' land, authenticated information of encroachments and unplanned construction of buildings and the action taken thereon by the Executive Officer, Nasirabad to the Union Government in April and July every year;

(b) if so, the details of the certificates since September, 1987 submitted till date; and

(c) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As per the provisions in the Cantonment Land Administrative Rules, 1937, an annual Inspection certificate is required to be submitted by the Defence Estates Officers in respect of Class 'A' land. Class 'B' and 'C' lands are managed by the Cantonment Boards for which separate executive instructions have been issued for Cantonment Executive Officers to send periodical reports containing details of unauthorised constructions and encroachments. These reports are sent by the Cantonment Executive Officers to the concerned Principal Directors/Directors, Defence Estates. The Cantonment Executive Officer, Nasirabad, has similarly been submitted such reports to Principal Director, Defence Estates, Southern Command, Pune.

[English]

Free Baggage Allowance in Samjhauta Express

3785. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have slashed the 'Free Baggage Allowance' from Rs. 12000 to Rs. 3000 per passenger travelling on Samjhauta Express between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has with effect from 9th August, 2000 reduced the duty free allowance from Rs. 12000/- to Rs. 3000/- for the passengers and tourists coming from Pakistan by land route.

Export of Handicrafts

3786. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of handicraft products exported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the name of the countries, product-wise and country-wise;

(b) the target set for export of handicraft products during each of the last three years and the current year, product-wise;

(c) the names of handicrafts products which have achieved higher percentage of export during 1999-2000: and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to boost further export of handicraft products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Quantity-wise exports data is not maintained. Commodity-wise export data for the last three years and for the current financial year is as per statement-I enclosed. The country-wise export data which is based on the published data of the DGCIS, Calcutta is available for the last three years only and not for the current year and is given in statement-II attached.

(b) Product-wise targets are not fixed. Targets set for exports for the last three years and the current year in respect of carpet and handicrafts are as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Target		Total
		Carpet	Handicraft	
1.	1997-98	2200.00	4300.00	6500.00
2.	1998-99	2527.20	5248.80	7776.00
3.	1999-2000	2230.00	6050.00	8280.00
4.	2000-2001	2530.00	6950.00	9480.00

(c) Embroidery and Crocheted goods, wood-ware, shawl art-ware, silk carpets, artmetal-ware, zari and zari goods etc. have achieved higher percentage of export during the year 1999-2000, as compared to the export during the year 1998-99.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to boost the export of handicrafts from the country include sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; participation in international fairs and exhibitions; organisation of buyer-seller's meets; overseas publicity and publication of catalogues; conducting of seminars and workshop and holding of Indian International Gift Fair and India Carpet Expo as an annual feature.

Statement I*Commodity-wise exports of handicrafts for 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-2001 (April-June).*

(Rs. in crores)

Item	1997-98 (Prov.)	1998-99 (Prov.)	1999-2000 (Prov.)	2000-2001 (April-June) (Prov.)
A. CARPET & OTHER FLOOR COVERINGS				
(a) Woollen	1495.32	1783.33	1888.45	447.32
(b) Silk	109.62	136.45	153.93	30.71
(c) Synthetic	56.64	94.16	93.65	19.37
Total (A)	1661.58	2013.94	2136.03	497.40
B. OTHER HANDICRAFTS				
1. Art Metal-ware	1214.60	1324.16	1497.18	420.26
2. Wood-wares	221.82	286.04	348.95	59.62
3. Hand Printed Textiles & Scarves	838.24	1033.98	1158.05	263.74
4. Embroidered & Crocheted Goods	990.75	1159.42	1584.36	346.85
5. Shawl as artware	17.08	18.18	21.50	8.65
6. Zari & Zari goods	70.34	74.95	83.52	21.28
7. Imitation Jewellery	98.03	104.10	113.64	28.48
8. Misc. Handicrafts	902.32	1057.57	1116.40	275.80
Total (B)	4353.18	5058.40	5923.60	1424.68
Grand Total (A+B)	6019.76	7072.34	8059.63	1922.08

Statement II*Country-wise exports of handicrafts for 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000*

(Rs. in crores)

Country	1997-98 (Prov.)	1998-99 (Prov.)	1999-2000 (Prov.)
1	2	3	4
Australia	68.81	78.94	90.89
Canada	150.80	177.30	203.33
France	205.41	234.90	268.93
Germany	465.56	536.14	623.65
Italy	163.89	189.98	218.74
Japan	171.06	195.47	219.99

1	2	3	4
Netherlands	116.83	135.11	158.66
Saudi Arabia	108.12	122.30	142.11
Switzerland	56.64	68.18	85.38
U.S.A.	1438.99	1642.37	1862.87
U.K.	453.33	538.97	643.22
Others	953.74	1138.74	1405.83
Total (A)	4353.18	5058.40	5923.60

Country-wise exports of Carpets for 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000

Australia	23.05	25.10	26.70
Canada	30.21	32.28	34.17
France	49.52	59.72	63.44
Germany	568.26	558.48	619.45
Italy	40.71	41.84	44.43
Japan	35.72	39.39	41.87
Netherlands	25.75	28.81	30.55
Saudi Arabia	—	—	—
Switzerland	34.06	22.91	24.35
U.S.A.	561.55	824.93	847.79
U.K.	64.97	74.62	79.03
Others	227.78	305.86	324.25
Total (B)	1661.58	2013.94	2136.03
Grand Total (A+B)	6019.76	7072.34	8059.63

ACP Scheme in Defence Ministry

3787. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5903 on May 4, 2000 regarding implementation of ACP Scheme and state:

(a) whether the clarification/advice of Department of Personnel and Training has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Private Secretaries working in Armed Forces Headquarters have since been granted second financial upgradation under the Assured Career Promotion (ACP) Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the date on which they were granted second financial upgradation;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(f) the time by which the necessary orders are likely to be issued?

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

(b) DOP&T have clarified that the ACP Scheme may be extended to those members of AFHQ Stenographers' Service who fulfil the conditions for ACP Scheme but are not covered by In-Situ promotions.

(c) to (f) The cases of eligible Private Secretaries of AFHQ Stenographers' Service are under consideration. Decisions on all cases are expected to be completed by September, 2000.

Vacancy Based Rosters

3788. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vacancy based rosters can operate only till such time the representation of persons belonging to the reserved categories reached the prescribed percentage of reservation;

(b) if so, the categories of Class I, II, III and IV where post rosters have been introduced in place of vacancy based rosters under your Ministry and its undertaking; and

(c) the reasons for introducing post based rosters in place of vacancy based rosters?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Post-based rosters in all categories of Class-I, II, III & IV have been introduced from July, 1997 in Government as well as in Public Sector Undertakings on instructions of Department of Personnel & Training vide their O.M. dated 2.7.1997 which have been issued based on the Supreme Court judgement in the case of R.K. Sabharwal V/s State of Punjab as well as J.C. Mallick V/s Ministry of Railways.

Power Generation

3789. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a super critical boiler instead of the conventional sub-critical

type to improve the yield efficiency of the power generation in thermal power stations to meet the power shortage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. The efficiency of power generation can be increased by about 1.5% by adopting environment friendly super critical technology instead of conventional sub-critical type technology.

(b) Sipat St-I (3x660 MW) proposed by NTPC with super critical technology has already been accorded. Techno-Economic Clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The following additional projects have also been received in CEA involving the use of super critical boiler technology for clearance:

1. Sipat St-II (1x660 MW) by NTPC.
2. Kahalgaon STPP St-II (2x600 MW) by NTPC
3. Barh TPX (3x660 MW) by NTPC.

Vishakapatnam Refinery of HPCL

3790. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for setting up of a Standing Committee for monitoring the Vishakapatnam Refinery Expansion Project II of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation; and

(b) if so, the progress made in its constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The issue of fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns in respect of the project is being examined by the Standing Committee, headed by Additional Secretary in this Ministry.

Appointment/Posting of SC/ST in Posts of Chief Executives

3791. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to Appint/post persons belonging to the SCs/STs in posts such as Chief Executives, Functional Directors, Part-Time Chairman and Official/Non-Official Members of the Board of Management of PSUs and Enterprises under Government of India;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the above referred posts in various Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises, Autonomous, Statutory Bodies and Attached Officers falling under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas during the last three years; and

› (d) the number of persons belonging to the SCs/STs among them as compared to the total number of posts referred to above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The policy of the Government has been to select Directors from amongst persons with proven ability and good record in the fields of Industry, Commerce, Administration, Finance, etc. At the same time, claims of suitable SC/ST candidates who are otherwise competent and have the necessary background in Industry, Commerce, Administration, Finance, etc. for Board level appointments in the Central PSEs are always being considered. These are tenure appointments for a specific period which may be terminated even during that period by either side on three months' notice or on payment of 3 months' salary in lieu thereof. There is no reservation for SCs and STs in Board level appointments. Appointments to Board level posts are made on the basis of suitability of individual candidates to the specific post.

(c) 105.

(d) In view of the answer to parts (a) & (b) above, category wise records are not being maintained.

[*Translation*]

Subsidy on Power

3792. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of subsidy being given in the field of power sector for agricultural and domestic use is increasing for the last few years in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of the subsidy given during the years 1990-91 and that of the year during 1999-2000; and

(c) the estimated financial loss incurred on average per unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The amount of subsidy as provided in the accounts of 17 State Electricity Boards (SEBs) for the year 1990-91 was Rs. 2735.07 crores. The subsidy provided during the year 1999-2000 for agriculture and domestic use was Rs. 21609 crores and Rs. 808.26 crores respectively.

The figure for the average cost of supply/unit and realisation/unit during the year 1998-99 for agriculture and domestic sectors respectively are given below:

Cost of Supply/Unit	Realisation for	
	Domestic Sector	Agriculture Sector
246.543 paise	138.89 paise	22.41 paise.

[*English*]

Status of Tanur-Guruvayur Rail Line

3793. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made and the present position with regard to the Tanur-Guruvayur new rail line in Kerala;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far and allocation made during 2000-2001; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The work of Kuttipuram-Guruvayur was sanctioned as a doubling project to serve as second line for Kuttipuram-Shoranur section of Mangalore-Shoranur line. Now the scope of sanctioned works of Kuttipuram-Calicut-Mangalore doubling has been extended to cover Kuttipuram-Shoranur also. As a result, Kuttipuram-Guruvayur project now becomes a new line project requiring the requisite clearances. The survey report which envisages take off from Tanur for Guruvayur, has accordingly been updated and is being finalised, after which action would be taken to obtain the requisite clearances.

(b) The expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 4.5 lakhs on survey and allocation made for the work during 2000-2001 is Rs. 10 lakhs.

(c) Target date has not yet been fixed.

Freight Charges

3794. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway board is taking 100 K.M. freight charge in lieu of 24 K.M. distance from Vizag port to Vizag Steel Plant (R.I.N.L.); and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to Goods Tariff No. 41 Pt. I Vol. I, the goods traffic is charged for the actual distance subject to a minimum distance for charge of 100 Kms. The subject traffic is accordingly charged for 100 Kms. However, this traffic enjoys 25% concession in freight charges which is available to traffic with lead of 50 Kms. and less.

Defence related Issues of Andhra Pradesh

3795. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of defence related issues submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh are pending for a long time;

(b) if so, the dates of their pendency, issue-wise alongwith the reasons for delay; and

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

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

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) The terms of the transfer/exchange of Defence lands are under negotiations between the Government of India and the State Government. Accordingly, no time frame can be fixed for these cases to be cleared.

Statement

Sl. No.	Cases	Present Status
1	2	3
(i)	Defence land measuring 32.45 acres in exchange of State Government land at Jawaharnagar, Secunderbad.	The cases at Sl. No. (i) to (v) have been initiated in 1996 and the latest offer of the State Government has since been received. A decision will be taken as per the existing defence land policy of the Government.
(ii)	Defence land measuring 103.617 acres known as Old Cantonment Garden at Golconda in exchange with 104 acres of State Government land at Jawaharnagar.	
(iii)	Defence land measuring 16 acres at Mohamaddi Lines and 15 acres at Asif Nagar Lines in exchange of 31 acres of State Government land at Jawaharnagar.	
(iv)	-6 acres of Defence land GLR Survey No. 360 (pt) described as Kowkooor Pumping Station and reservoir in exchange of 6 acres of State Government land at Jawaharnagar.	
(v)	Defence land measuring 10 acres and 29 Guntas in exchange of equal extent of land at Jawaharnagar (Development of Babu Ghat Memorial).	
(vi)	Defence land 1.725 acres Survey No. 39/1 at Mehidipatnam in exchange of 2.5 acres of State Government land at Siddique Nagar (Rythu Bazar Case).	

1	2	3
(vii)	Request from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for long lease in respect of 50 acres of defence land in GLR Survey No. 708 and 712 for construction of Main Stadium for National games, 2002.	Pending since March, 2000.
(viii)	Transfer of defence land to State Government of Andhra Pradesh in connection with completion of Hyderabad Karim Nagar Ramagundam Road funded by the Asian Development Bank.	Pending since 8.8.1996. Response of the State Government is awaited.
(ix)	Construction of baffle range at Jawahar Nagar, Shamirpet Mandal, Hyderabad/ relocating Lake Line Rifle Range at Jawahar Nagar.	Pending since 1998. The matter is under examination in consultation with the Service Headquarters.

Financial Assistance by REC

3796. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial assistance provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation to Assam, Sikkim, Bihar and Meghalaya was nil or negligible during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance given to these and other States for rural electrification during these years; and

(c) the number of villages electrified in these and other States during these years, indicating the villages so far remaining unelectrified therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The details of financial assistance provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to the SEBs of Assam, Sikkim, Bihar and Meghalaya during the last three years is given below:

States	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1999-2000 Disbursement	1998-1999 Disbursement	1997-98 Disbursement
Assam	296	82	0
Sikkim	15	0	0
Bihar	261	0	147
Meghalaya	44	0	0

The State-wise details of financial assistance provided by Rural Electrification Corporation during the last three years is given in the Statement-I.

(c) The State-wise details of number of village electrified including Assam, Sikkim, Bihar and

Meghalaya during the last three years is given in the statement II enclosed. The State-wise details of unelectrified villages as on March 2000, is given in statement-III.

Statement I*Financial Assistance Provided by REC during last three years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States	1999-2000 Disbursement	1998-99 Disbursement	1997-98 Disbursement
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30091	24866	6094
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1540	662	1174
3.	Assam	296	82	0
4.	Bihar	261	0	147
5.	Goa	243	361	386
6.	Gujarat	36190	31296	3931
7.	Haryana	3418	2357	836
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2771	3041	2060
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1637	3178	2187
10.	Karnataka	27613	29486	8655
11.	Kerala	24176	13703	5200
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9071	13461	6826
13.	Maharashtra	40245	23991	26976
14.	Manipur	1761	1326	1359
15.	Meghalaya	44	0	0
16.	Mizoram	625	444	256
17.	Nagaland	1256	333	173
18.	Orissa	8473	8841	3612
19.	Punjab	33231	3614	3314
20.	Rajasthan	34729	22872	12009
21.	Sikkim	15	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	21078	16433	11476
23.	Tripura	1129	753	323
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15110	13719	9011
25.	West Bengal	139	29	322
26.	Delhi	0	0	0
27.	NEEPCO	10,000	0	0
Sub Total		305142	214848	106327
Others*		##	5412	3054
Total		305142	220260	109381

* RE Cooperatives & SPDGS and grant for KJP DCP etc.

included in respective States.

Statement II*Year-wise and State-wise Progress of Village Electrification During Last Three Years (1991 Census)*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1997-98 Achieve- ment	1998-99 Achieve- ment	1999-2000 Achieve- ment (Prov.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	@	@	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38	48	Nil (a)
3.	Assam	20	Nil	Nil (b)
4.	Bihar	5	8	17 (c)
5.	Goa	\$	\$	\$
6.	Gujarat	9	4	@
7.	Haryana	@	@	@
8.	Himachal Pradesh	139	45	25
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	NA	NA
10.	Karnataka	Nil	13	6 (a)
11.	Kerala	@	@	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	463	300	86
13.	Maharashtra	\$	\$	\$
14.	Manipur	52	50	11
15.	Meghalaya	43	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	12	3	4
17.	Nagaland	Nil	10	Nil (b)
18.	Orissa	800	817	737
19.	Punjab	@	@	@
20.	Rajasthan	698	685	540
21.	Sikkim	\$	\$	\$
22.	Tamil Nadu	@	@	@
23.	Tripura	15	3	4
24.	Uttar Pradesh	851	711	476
25.	West Bengal	48	83	172 (a)
Total (States)		3207	2780	2078
Total UTs		@	@	@
Total (All India)		3207	2780	2078

@ Cent percent villages electrified.

\$ Cent percent villages electrified as per 1981 census.

NA—Not available.

(a) Progress reported upto end of 2/2000

(b) Progress reported upto end of 11/99

(c) Progress reported upto end of 12/99

Source: (CEA)

Statement III*Statement showing Villages Unelectrified As on 1.3.2000*

Sl. No.	States	Total inhabited villages (1991 census)	Inhabited villages yet to be electrified as on 1.3.2000	
1	2	3	4	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26586	Nil	Balance villages declared non-feasible for electrification.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3649	1502	
3.	Assam	24685	5666	
4.	Bihar	67513	19651	
5.	Goa	360	Nil	
6.	Gujarat	18028	Nil	Balance villages declared non-feasible for electrification.
7.	Haryana	6759	Nil	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	171	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	162	
10.	Karnataka	27066	98	Balance 287 villages declared non-feasible for electrification.
11.	Kerala	1384	Nil	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71526	3213	
13.	Maharashtra	40412	Nil	
14.	Manipur	2182	181	
15.	Meghalaya	5484	2974	
16.	Mizoram	698	7	
17.	Nagaland	1216	53	
18.	Orissa	46989	11864	
19.	Punjab	12428	Nil	
20.	Rajasthan	37889	2717	
21.	Sikkim	477	Nil	Balance 42 villages non-feasible for electrification.
22.	Tamil Nadu	15822	Nil	

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Tripura	855	45	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112803	23765	
25.	West Bengal	37910	8347	
	Total (States)	586165	80416	Balance villages are declared non-feasible for electrification
	Total (UTs)	1093	Nil	Balance villages declared non-feasible for electrification
	Total (All India)	587258	80416	-do-

Survey for Thalassery-Mysore Rail Line

3797. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken expeditious steps for the completion of survey work of Thalassery-Mysore rail line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position including the funds allocated and spent during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A survey for construction of a new line from Tellicherry to Mysore was conducted in 1997. The survey report revealed that the route length of the proposed line via Coorg would be 298 km including 138 km in Ghat section and the cost of the work would be Rs. 860 cr. while the alternative via Wayanad would be 247.5 km long and would cost Rs. 754.28 cr. Both the alternatives were having negative rates of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the project and acute constraint of resources it has not been found possible to consider taking up the project for the present.

[Translation]

Subsidy to Handloom Units

3798. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy is being provided to handloom units, which are facing crisis and are on the verge of closure in the country;

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

(c) if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to save these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) On the basis of viable proposals received from State Government, financial assistance is extended under various developmental and welfare schemes for the benefit of handloom weavers. The thrust of these schemes is to improve productivity and there by incomes of weavers. During the last 3 years, Central Assistance of Rs. 317.36 crores was released under these schemes to the State Governments on receipt of viable proposals.

[English]

Posting of SCs/STs for foreign Assignments under UNO

3799. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding posting of persons from SCs and STs category in foreign assignments under UNO/its affiliated organisations and other organisations;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of persons from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and affiliated. Organisations deputed to UNO, its affiliated Organisations/Other Organisations to the above assignments as on January 1, 1996 in different grades and persons belonging to the SCs and STs among them during each of the last three years; and

(d) the reasons if no satisfactory action taken on the above demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) One belonging to General Category.

(d) Does not arise.

Backlog of Vacancies Reserved for SCs/STs

3800. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended to fill the backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the year 1993;

Gr. A (Class I)		Gr. B (Class II)		Gr. C (Class III)		Gr. D (Class IV)	
SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	984	1212	626	1698

(e) The backlog vacancies of SCs/STs as on 29.8.1997 are not available. However, the backlog vacancies as on 1.7.1997 in recruitment categories are available, which are given below:-

Gr. A (Class I)		Gr. B (Class II)		Gr. C (Class III)		Gr. D (Class IV)	
SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	777	447	568	662

Summer Special Trains

3801. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the performance in terms of returns anticipated and actually received from running of Summer Special Trains;

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

(c) whether the revenue earned from Summer Special Trains was much below the expected level;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon since 1993 by the Ministry of Railways in respect of backlog vacancies and results achieved thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes lying vacant as on January 1, 1993 in Class I, II, III and IV category under her Ministry and its autonomous/statutory/attached offices; and

(e) the details of backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Class I, II, III and IV categories as on August 29, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Figures of shortfall vacancies of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as on 1.1.1993 are not available. However, shortfall vacancies of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in recruitment categories of Group A, B, C & D as on 1.4.1993 are available which are as under:

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for realistic assessment of summer traffic in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e) Level of occupancy and not earning is the criteria for assessing the performance of special trains arranged during summer. Accordingly, the running of summer specials is planned every year by analyzing the occupancy of summer specials run during the previous year and also the waiting list position in the regular trains. In those sectors where

the summer specials were not patronized during the previous year, the services are either curtailed to the extent required or withdrawn as the case may be. However, from the available figures, it has been observed that during the current year, the total earnings from the passenger traffic for the months of April-June 2000, was higher as compared to that of the previous year.

Regularisation of Contract Employees by Oil Companies

3802. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and India Oil Corporation have regularised the services of contract employees;

(b) the criteria adopted in the process of regularisation of their services;

(c) whether the contract employees were subjected to written tests/interviews after put in of their services for more than two years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Indian Oil Corporation have so far regularised the services of 521, 130, 827 and 132 labourers etc., employed by contractors respectively on the basis of different court orders as per the conditions stipulated therein.

Backlog of Reserved Posts in Defence

3803. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended to fill the backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the year 1993;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Ministry of Defence thereon since 1993 and results achieved thereof;

(c) the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes were lying vacant as on January 1, 1993 in Class I, II, III and IV category under his Ministry and its autonomous/statutory/attached offices; and

(d) the details of backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Class I, II, III and IV categories as on August 29, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of 25 World Class Retail Outlets

3804. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Public Sector Oil companies propose to invest \$ 10 million in Mauritius to set up 25 world class retail outlets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the terms and conditions of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) proposes to invest approximately US \$ 12 million in Mauritius to set up the following facilities:

- (i) An Oil Terminal at Mer Rouge including tankage, auxiliary facilities and bunkering facilities.
- (ii) Aviation set up at the SSR International Airport with product tankage for aviation fuel and provision of into-plane refuelling facilities.
- (iii) LPG storage, bottling and distribution.
- (iv) 25 world class retail stations and marketing of Servo lubes.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into between the Government of Mauritius (GOM) and the Government of India (GOI) on 18th July, 2000. The MOU records the intent of GOM to work and collaborate with GOI through the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. in the hydrocarbon sector in Mauritius.

[Translation]

Allotment of Kerosene Depots in Ambala

3805. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of kerosene depots proposed to be allotted at Ambala (Haryana) during the current year, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): During the current year, there is a no proposal for setting up any Kerosene dealership at Ambala (Haryana).

Loan from Power Finance Corporation

3806. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sent any proposal for seeking loan from Power Finance Corporation to complete the parts of Indira Sagar and Omkareshwar Project on Narmada river related to power generation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Narmada Valley Development Authority, had approached Power Finance Corporation for loan for power projects. However, a formal loan application is yet to be received.

[English]

Export of Unbleached Cotton Grey Fabrics

3807. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of unbleached cotton grey fabrics exported during each of the last three years and target set for the current year, country-wise;

(b) whether exports are likely to increase due to dropping of a 'definitive' anti-dumping duty by European Union; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A

target of US\$2400 million has been fixed for cotton fabrics and made-ups (including unbleached cotton grey fabrics) for export to all countries during 2000-2001. The quantity and value of unbleached cotton grey fabrics exported from India during the last three years and current year is given below:—

Year	Quantity		Value (crore Rs.)
	Kgs.	Sq. mtrs.	
1997-98	120.74	1,074.26	15,74.48
1998-99	119.93	1,289.13	16,83.57
1999-2000	115.09	1,121.19	14,35.45
2000-2001 (April-July)	42.73	417.02	5,44.55

(b) and (c) Definitive anti-dumping duties were not imposed by the EC on import of unbleached cotton grey fabrics from India.

Construction of Chandigarh-Ludhiana Rail Line

3808. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land for the construction of Chandigarh-Ludhiana rail line have been made available;

(b) if so, the time by which the rail line would become operational; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) (1) Union Territory Area of Chandigarh

Union Territory Administration has issued allotment letter for transfer of 113.93 acres of Govt. land to Railways on lease hold basis, while Railways have asked for transfer of said land on permanent ownership basis for laying the rail line. For transfer of 3.93 acres of forest land, Railways have been asked to transfer equal areas of land to Forest Department. The matter is under examination by the Railways. The award for 8.53 acres of private land is yet to be made by Union Territory Administration

(2) Punjab Area

Approximately 332 acres of land is to be acquired. Land plans for 19 villages have been submitted to State Govt. for acquisition. Land acquisition process has not yet been completed by the State Govt.

[*Translation*]

Excess Charge for a LPG Cylinder from Consumers at Darbhanga (Bihar)

3809. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that LPG agencies are charging Rs. 215 to 225 for a gas cylinder from consumers in Darbhanga (Bihar);

(b) if so, whether any complaint has been received in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is marketing LPG through its four distributors in Darbhanga district of Bihar. A complaint of overcharging by LPG distributors of Darbhanga district was received from Shanti Jan Kalyan Sansthanam, Darbhanga (Bihar). This complaint was investigated by IOC officers on random basis and it was found that the correct retail selling price is being charged by the LPG distributors of Darbhanga.

Maintenance of Rail Bridges in Nagpur

3810. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rail bridges located in Nagpur have been inspected by the Railways recently;

(b) if so, whether any bridge has been found weak due to lack of maintenance; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon and the details of various expenditure incurred on the maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Cases of Senior Citizens

3811. SHRI RASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of senior citizens pending in various courts in the country;

(b) whether the Supreme Court/High Courts had issued orders to take up long pending cases of senior citizens/pensioners/retired Government servants etc. on a priority basis;

(c) if so, details thereof indicating the number of cases taken up/admitted for early hearing during the last one year, State-wise;

(d) whether apart from such cases permitted for early hearings still a large number are awaiting early hearings;

(e) if so, the number thereof, State-wise;

(f) whether in several cases even though the cases have been advanced for hearing, but are again being posted late for hearing defeating the intention of the Courts' orders; and

(g) if so, the steps taken by the Government for early disposal of cases of senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Diesel

3812. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power plants are importing diesel from abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the diesel imported by power projects during the last three years;

(d) whether the indigenous diesel is not sufficient to cater the demands of power plants;

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

(f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Diesel is a canalised product. No party other than M/s Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is allowed to import Diesel as per the current Government Policy.

(d) to (f) As per estimates for the current year, no import of diesel is expected during the current year as the country has become self sufficient in the production of diesel.

Danger of Fire in Ordnance Depot, Shakurbasti

3813 SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ordnance depot in Shakurbasti, which caters mainly clothing items and stores a limited number of arms and ammunition, has caused fears among the residents of the area since it is located near the heavily populated colonies and shares the boundary wall with several storage units of gas, oil and petrol factories; and

(b) if so, the precautionary steps taken or proposed to be taken for the safety of that depot and the population residing around it from any untoward incident like Bharatpur fire?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ordnance Depot, Shakurbasti holds different types of stores, including general stores, armaments, clothing, electronic and transport stores. No ammunition is stored in the Depot. Oil, gas etc. are stored by various Petroleum Companies at locations about 1 Km. away from the Depot storage area.

(b) All necessary precautions have been taken by the Depot to prevent any fire hazards within the Depot. The Depot has a fire brigade which is manning 3 fire stations inside the Depot. Its perimeter is guarded round the clock to check unauthorised entry. Day and night patrolling is carried out within the Depot. Precautionary measures to prevent fire are taken regularly through cutting of grass and keeping the area clean.

Dealers' Commission

3814. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of MS and HSD has been taken into consideration while fixing dealers' Commission to make the petrol pump economically viable;

(b) the average fixed investment incurred by Oil Corporations at present for the development of 'A' site petrol pump;

(c) the date on which the volume distance norms were framed and the objectives thereof;

(d) the cost of investment of fixed assets per kilolitre is calculated as per volume distance norms and the mode of recovery; and

(e) the utility of roster/marketing plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The average fixed investment for "A" site petrol pump would vary from Rs. 40 lakhs to Rs. 60 lakhs.

(c) After detailed discussions with the Oil Industry, the Volume-Distance norms were finalized and issued in March, 1978. These norms were revised in August, 1980 in order to ensure the planned growth and spreading of retail outlets to remote areas etc.

(d) The average fixed assets was arrived on the basis of the sample survey carried out with respect to retail outlets spread all over the country. This element has been included in the dealers' commission and subsequently recovered as License Fee Recovery (LFR) from the dealers depending upon the level of investment. Where company's investment is maximum, the LFR is highest, the company's investment is low, *i.e.* at dealer controlled sites, such recovery is lower.

(e) The objective of Marketing Plan is the planned development of retail outlets in the country by the oil companies ensuring that (i) there is no duplication of locations/facilities thereby preventing national waste, (ii) the retail outlets do not become unviable and (iii) retail outlets are developed in rural areas/remote corners of the country.

The objective of the Roster is to ensure allotment of dealership to each category like SC/ST, Open etc. in accordance with the specified percentage of reservation for that category.

Cost of Naphtha and LNG based Urea

3815. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of feed stock per million BTU for urea manufactured using Naphtha and Liquefied Natural Gas;

(b) the average cost of feed stock per million BTU for urea manufactured in the fertilizer exporting countries;

(c) the reasons for difference in the above, if any; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make available feed stock at globally competitive rates to domestic manufacturers?

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

(a) to (d) While average cost of feed stock per million BTU for urea manufactured in fertilizer exporting countries differs from country to country and the pricing details are not available, the energy cost in India for production of fertilizers is higher than that in the fertilizer exporting countries. It is estimated that energy cost in countries exporting fertilizer to India is around US\$ 1 or even less per million BTU, which in India is as high as US\$ 7 to 8 in case of naphtha based indigenous production while it is two to three times more in case of indigenous gas based units. The prices of feed stock will vary from country to country depending upon various factors including demand supply gap of these products, cost of production etc. While natural gas is a non-tradable commodity in international market, naphtha, which is another major feed stock for the fertilizer sector, can be imported freely. Public sector oil companies under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas as well as private sector companies are taking steps to set up projects with a view to promote availability of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in the country which is expected to be a cheaper and preferred feed stock in comparison to naphtha. The core group of fertilizer sector companies has also been directed to work on a detailed feasibility report for setting up of an integrated chain of LNG in the country.

Capital cost of Indo-Oman Urea Project

3816. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the current estimated capital cost of the Indo-Oman Urea Project;

(b) the estimated landed cost of Urea from the Project, at current rates of exchange; and

(c) the weighted average retention price of domestic gas-based urea manufacturers?

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

(a) The estimated capital cost of the revised and restructured Oman India Fertilizer Project is US\$ 969 million.

(b) The 15 year average long term price at which GOI will be purchasing urea from the Oman Project is US\$ 113.7 per MT. Estimated freight, handling, bagging etc. charges are around US\$ 34 per MT. The landed price at an exchange rate of Rs. 45 per US\$ works out to Rs. 6647 per MT.

(c) The weighted average retention price of gas based units as on 1.4.2000 was Rs. 6270 per MT of urea.

Saving in Subsidy

3817. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of urea subsidy that could be saved if all the domestic units were modernised to achieve the level of energy efficiency that is currently being achieved by the latest urea manufacturing units; and

(b) the details thereof both in the public and private sector units?

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

(a) and (b) The quantum of likely savings in urea subsidy is itself dependent on likely achievement of energy efficiency level of the latest urea manufacturing units which, in turn, is dependent on heavy investments to be made for achieving that energy efficiency level which will further vary depending on the feedstock used. The issue will further depend on the economic return and the bankability of such investment proposals, apart from willingness of the urea units to undertake such an

investment depending on their resources. For these reasons, it may not be possible to project the likely savings in subsidy.

Setting up of Retail Outlets in Rural Areas

3818. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector Oil Companies do not want to open more retail outlets in small towns, villages and on State roads;

(b) if so, whether some alternate marketing methods are proposed to be adopted by the Government to encourage the people to serve the neglected areas;

(c) whether private refineries are being asked to fulfil this role; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies conduct periodic surveys in all areas including 'E' class markets (remote areas not covered by National/State Highways and pockets of agricultural concentration having no retail outlets within 10-km radius) and 'D' class markets (National/State Highways) to identify locations which are feasible based on the Volume-Distance Norms. Such feasible locations are included in the Marketing Plans of the Oil Industry.

(c) and (d) Marketing rights have not yet been granted to the private refineries.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Railway Land

3819. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of unutilised land with the railways zone-wise and particularly in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to launch any development work through the West Bengal Government on said land; and

(c) if so, the reasons for raising objections on the development work on the unutilised land in Siligudi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The information is not compiled State-wise. Railway-wise details are as under:

Zone	Area of land Unutilised (In hectares)
Central	146
Eastern	2680
Northern	1828
North Eastern	4560
Northeast Frontier	2610
Southern	2040
South Central	8670
South Eastern	501
Western	1890
Total	24845

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Inquiry into requirements of Defence Purchases

3820. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Defence is making purchases without assessing its actual requirement as brought out in the report by CAG for the year ending March 31, 1996; and

(b) if so, whether the Government enquired into the matter and taken measures to check the recurrence of the same and to proceed against the officials responsible for reckless purchases?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The purchase of equipment and stores in the three Services is a continuous process and is based on requirements as approved in the Annual Provision Review. A well-defined procedure exists in the Ministry of Defence for dealing with the urgent, operational requirements of the Armed Forces. In order to further streamline the procedures, a Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Vice Chief of Army Staff to

examine the existing Defence Procurement Procedures in their entirety with a view to suggest specific measures for speedier processing of procurement cases. No case of any unnecessary purchase has been noticed or reported to the Ministry. All the purchases are being made in accordance with the prescribed rules/regulations/procedures and procurements are finalized after getting due approval of the competent authorities.

Textiles Export to European Union

3821. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether France has been preventing Indian textiles export to European Union;

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

(c) the measures taken to resolve the matter to boost export of textiles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Government have requested European Commission (EC) to grant exceptional flexibilities as per Clause 6 of the India-EU MoU, which was signed in December, 1994. As it was learnt that some EU members were opposing grant of exceptional flexibilities, the matter was taken with all EU members including France through our Mission in EU Member Countries. EU has now decided to release exceptional flexibilities partially amounting to 3500 tonnes subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

[Translation]

Import of Spare Parts of ONGC

3822. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some spare parts are being imported by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation for repair of its ship (DAG) as per the terms and conditions mentioned in tender for maintenance/repair of the ship;

(b) if so, the details of spare parts imported by contractors during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to conduct an inquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) regarding the non-receipt of spare parts;

(d) if so, the time by which CBI enquiry is proposed to be ordered; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) ONGC have no ship (DAG). However, further details in this regard are being obtained from ONGC and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Status of MIG-29

3823. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the performance of MIG-29 does not match with the requirement of IAF;

(b) whether the Russian manufacturers of MIG-29 have also accepted certain deficiency in the design of the aircraft; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) MIG-29 is meeting the requirements of Indian Air force.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

General Meeting of Nasirabad Cantonment Board

3824. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for convening general meeting of the Cantonment Board once in a month as per section 37 of the Cantonment Act;

(b) if so, the number of general meetings of the Cantonment Nasirabad organised since September, 1997 till date; and

(c) the persons found responsible for not convening compulsory general meeting every month as per the above provision and the action taken against them?

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

(b) and (c) Between September, 1997 and July, 2000, nine (one ordinary and eight special) meetings were held.

The schedule of holding one meeting every month has not been possible to follow due to the President Cantonment Board, who is also the Station/Brigade Commander, being preoccupied with military commitments, and being frequently away from the duty Station.

[English]

Export of Textiles

3825. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Union has agreed to restore the full quota of Textiles export from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to boost Indian small and medium scale enterprises in regard to the export of textiles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) EU has decided to release exceptional flexibilities partially amounting to 3500 tonnes subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

(c) The release of exceptional flexibilities would result in better utilisation of certain quotas and thereby increased exports.

Global Marketing Cover for Kashmir Handicrafts

3826. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Jammu and Kashmir had recently urged the Union Government for global marketing cover to Kashmir handicrafts;

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to set up an urban haat in Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any effective measures have been taken to develop and increase the handicraft and handlooms exports of Jammu and Kashmir besides the carpet exports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of J&K has been seeking support for participation in international fairs for global marketing of Kashmir handicrafts. The schemes of the Government do not envisage any direct assistance to the State Governments. However, assistance is provided to the State Corporation. During the year 1999-2000 and till date financial assistance was provided for participation in international fairs to Dubai, Tel Aviv (Israel) and Memphis (U.S.A.).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government has accorded sanction for setting up a Urban Haat at Jammu with an approved budget of Rs. 136.85 lakhs out of which Rs. 23.00 lakhs has already been released during 1999-2000.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. A statement is attached.

Statement

The measures taken to develop and increase the exports of handicrafts, handlooms and carpets of J&K, are as under:

Assistance has been provided to J&K State Handloom Corporation Limited for:

- (1) Development of Pashmina Industry in Jammu.
- (2) Revival of Sambha Print.
- (3) Development of finer tweed in Jammu.
- (4) Revival of Kani Shawl.
- (5) Participation in Exhibition in Royal Kashmiri Pashmina Shawl at Paris (14.01.2000 to 20.01.2000) and in New York, USA (to be held from 9.9.2000 to 26.09.2000).
- (6) Participation in Indian Exhibition at Dubai, Tel Aviv (Israel) and road shows at Memphis (U.S.A.).
- (7) Engaging the services of an international expert on handloom tweed for developing exportable woollen tweed from J&K.

Processing of Mixed Cotton Knitted Fabrics

3827. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Government from the processing of mixed cotton knitted fabrics and 100% knitted polyester sector separately during each of last three years, till date; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to promote above sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No separate revenue figures are collected or available in respect of processing of mixed cotton knitted fabric and 100% knitted polyester sectors.

(b) All knitted fabrics processed without the aid of power or steam, as well as the processed knitted fabrics with over 50% cotton content, are exempt from excise duty. As regards other knitted fabrics, they attract an excise duty of 16% ad valorem, which includes the basic excise duty levied under the Central Excise Act, 1944 and the additional duty of excise (in lieu of sales tax) levied under the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957.

The knitted fabrics, when exported, are eligible for refund, rebate and drawback of the customs and central excise duties paid either on the inputs contained in them or on the exported final products.

Appointment of Teachers in Schools of Delhi Cantonment Board

3828. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an examination was held on January 16, 2000 by the Delhi Cantonment Board, Delhi Cantt., for the appointment of Assistant Teachers in the Board's schools;

(b) if so, whether the result of the examination is yet to be declared by the Board; and

(c) if so, the time by which the result of the examination is likely to be declared since the current academic year already begun?

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

(b) and (c) Based on the performance in the written examination, candidates have been called for interview scheduled in the second week of August, 2000. The recruitment process will be completed thereafter expeditiously.

[*Translation*]

Uniform Civil Code

3829. YOGI ADITYA NATH:
DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court had asked the Government to implement the uniform civil code in the country;

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

(c) the time by which it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 10.5.99 in Smt. Sarala Mudgal Vs. Union of India and Ors (Civil W.P. No. 1079 of 1989) had *inter alia* asked the Government of India to give a fresh look at article 44 of the Constitution of India and "endeavour to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India".

The Union of India has filed two affidavits in the Supreme Court explaining the steps taken by the Government in this regard. It has been the consistent policy of the Central Government not to interfere in the personal laws of the minority communities unless the necessary initiative comes from the concerned communities themselves. Hence, it is not possible to lay down any time frame in this regard.

Tehri Dam

3830. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are endangering the piousness of the river Ganga on the process of constructing the Tehri Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question do not arise.

[English]

COCO Pumps

3831. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation and H.P.C.L. allotted COCO Pump temporarily in each State/UT particularly in the district of Ratlam (M.P.);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the allottees had fulfilled the need of the company according to the policy of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the regular services being provided to the customers by the allottees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Company Owned and Company Operated (COCO) retail outlets are not allotted to any persons, but operated by the oil companies through job contractors. The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has 342 COCO outlets in the country, out of which 2 fall in district Ratlam of Madhya Pradesh. The Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have 87 COCO retail outlets all over India, of which none is in the district of Ratlam. However, the HPCL has one Jubilee Retail Outlet in Ratlam district which is operated on COCO basis.

(c) The job contractors are appointed for the COCO retail outlets as per the procedure.

(d) The following main services, *inter-alia*, are provided to the customers:

- (1) Free Air and Radiator Water.
- (2) Toilet
- (3) Drinking Water
- (4) First Aid Box
- (5) Telephone.

[Translation]

Disposal of Outdated Aircraft

3832. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy in regard to disposal of outdated fighter and passenger aircraft of the Air Force;

(b) the number of such aircraft with IAF as on date;

(c) whether the Government propose to take effective steps for strengthening the Indian Air Force by the money earned from selling these aircraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Once any aircraft is declared obsolete, the same is first offered for sale to friendly countries, failing which it is sold as scrap as per laid down procedure. However, before resorting to disposal of these aircraft as scrap, 25% of the discarded aircraft (after retrieval of usable parts and secret installations) could be gifted to the State Governments/Union Territories if they want the airframes for display purposes or to Official Museums, Municipal Bodies and Engineering institutes, which would include colleges awarding diploma and above and any other school/college of some public importance and standing where display of such aircraft would be useful.

(b) Presently there are five aircrafts available for disposal.

(c) and (d) The money earned from selling outdated aircraft is very meager and the same is deposited with the Government. However, adequate budget allocations are made as per plan projections for strengthening the IAF.

LPG Connections

3833. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons figured in the wait-list for LPG connection in the country;

(b) the number of persons out of them are of Delhi that are in the wait-list;

(c) the time by which the gas connection are likely to be provided to all of them;

(d) whether the Government have announced to clear the wait list in near future;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is a proposal to supply LPG through pipelines in Delhi; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The total waiting list registered with LPG distributors of the Public Sector Oil Companies in the country as on 1.4.2000 was about 63 lakhs.

(b) to (e) LPG connections are available across the counter in Delhi.

(f) and (g) At present, there is no proposal to supply LPG through pipeline in Delhi.

[English]

Allocation for New Lines

3834. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations made for laying of new lines during each of the last three years in Orissa and actual expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the number of times the estimates of on-going projects have so far been revised and the reasons for cost escalation: and

(c) the steps being undertaken to complete the on-going projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Construction of Firing Range

3835. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed 'firing range' at Chatara, Bihar, is delayed due to the agitation of displaced people from there;

(b) whether the Government have taken a decision to shift the above firing range in Rajauli (Nawada) in Bihar itself as the landlords of the Rajauli area have offered their land for the same;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) At present there is no proposal to establish a field firing range at Chhatra in Bihar. The nearest field firing range is at Deuri Dumri, which is approximately 5 kms. away from Chhatra. However, due to resentment against firing being conducted at Deuri Dumri by the local population for the last few years, the State Government of Bihar who had been approached has offered an alternative site at Palamu located 6 kms west of Chhatra for the field firing range.

[English]

LNG as a Replacement of Naphtha

3836. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to allow Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as replacement of naphtha in existing plants, as additional feed back for existing gas based plants, as replacement of fuel oil in existing plants and as feed back for the proposed new fertilizer plants;

(b) if so, whether the Government have carried out any feasibility study on it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total requirement of LNG for the above and the Government's plans to meet the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) In the context of dwindling supply of natural gas, which is the preferred feed stock for production of nitrogenous fertilizers and increase in the price of naphtha based on import parity prices, Government is exploring use of alternative feedstock line LNG. Government have, therefore, re-activated the Core Group of fertilizer companies on 26.5.2000 to prepare a detailed feasibility report for import of LNG for fertilizer production. The Core Group has been asked to submit its report within a period of six months. As per the pre-feasibility report prepared by the Core Group, additional gas requirement of various fertilizer plants has been estimated at 25 MMSCMD.

Grants for Hydrel/Thermal Energy

3837. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned Central grants separately for Hydrel and Thermal Energy to all the States; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned during the last three years and for the current financial year, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) At present there is no scheme to sanction grants for Hydrel and Thermal Energy to the States.

(b) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of an Oil Refinery in Bihar

3838. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an other oil refinery in Bihar;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up any new grassroot oil refinery in Bihar. However, Indian Oil Corporation Limited is expanding the capacity of its Barauni Refinery.

[English]

Amendments in Hindu Succession Act

3839. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

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

(a) whether the Law Commission in its report submitted to the Government recently has suggested

amendments in the Hindu Succession Act (HSA), 1956 so that women may get an equal share in the ancestral property;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Law Commission of India in its 17th Report on 'Property rights of women: proposed reforms under the Hindu Law', presented to the Government in May, 2000 has recommended certain amendments to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 so as to make daughters as coparceners like sons in the Mitakshara coparcenary property of a Hindu undivided family so that they may become entitled to and get their shares on partition or on the death of a male coparcener and to hold thereafter as tenants in common as also to seek partition of dwelling house like male counterparts.

(c) The Government has written to the various State Governments/Union territory Administrations for ascertaining their views in the matter.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Handloom Units

3840. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to modernize the handloom units in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes implemented for the development of handloom units and financial provision made thereunder during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise and Plan-wise;

(c) the number of handloom units likely to be modernized therefrom;

(d) the number of proposals received from various State Governments for the promotion of handloom sector and amount allocated during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(e) the amount utilized by each State Government on such schemes during the above period?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19.	Rajasthan	120.50	—	92.24	2.50	34.05	92.99	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	—	—	1.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	110.06	248.72	199.92	419.03	252.53	121.38	116.07	—	290.09	110.16	71.96	83.07	180.00	244.34	241.15
21.	Tnpura	14.05	—	—	9.50	11.25	88.75	—	—	—	10.58	40.41	—	0.23	—	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	—	20.00	—	419.27	610.96	644.51	19.69	—	12.19	—	50.00	—	1.14	—	—
23.	West Bengal	96.25	—	—	55.80	56.74	150.52	6.80	—	—	—	—	5.00	27.00	—	—
24.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25.	Meghalaya	—	5.53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.03	1.96	—	—	—
26.	Sikkim	—	100.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.80	—	18.80	—	—	—
Total		1302.00	1259.00	1245.00	3942.76	3722.33	3097.72	968.47	0.00	396.19	281.09	332.35	273.11	390.47	352.56	348.98

Releases made under various schemes to different States during last three years

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S. No	Name of State	Group insurance Scheme			New Insurance Scheme			MDA Scheme			Janata Cloth Scheme		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	—	16.80	16.00	32.98	12.28	15.19	37.57	66.27	450.30	0.76	—	—
3.	Assam	—	1.50	1.50	—	—	0.25	81.76	33.04	50.22	400.55	247.84	14.60
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	2.34	3.59	—	14.29	5.76	40.08	5.54	9.90
5.	Gujarat	—	—	0.97	—	2.79	2.63	63.81	103.27	21.04	34.70	6.54	—
6.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.84	43.47	116.58	—	0.88	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.81	58.01	42.14	—	—	—
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	183.84	47.96	34.94	27.72	3.04	—
9.	Karnataka	—	—	20.00	—	—	—	244.08	40.00	102.52	609.23	144.38	—
10.	Kerala	—	—	—	3.00	—	—	319.46	761.06	308.49	—	—	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2.92	0.50	—	—	2.55	1.83	278.25	81.30	99.59	36.76	45.64	—
12.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50.45	—	170.17	65.44	—
13.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.74	—	—	—
14.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.77	—	—	—	—
16.	Orissa	—	—	—	—	18.00	—	209.90	78.93	223.47	—	73.44	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.76	28.53	57.80	—	—	5.90
18.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	35.22	—	—	—	142.79	—
19.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	1.68	1.36	60.34	8.02	11.99	19.28	2.27	6.93
20.	Tamil Nadu	33.69	37.44	36.67	—	0.36	—	788.00	1294.20	700.00	974.71	200.63	—
21.	Trnpura	—	—	—	—	—	0.14	18.10	5.94	18.02	10.96	1.91	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	0.29	—	—	319.50	107.29	125.66	—	0.16	1.63
23.	West Bengal	3.00	2.63	2.77	—	—	—	365.92	411.73	400.00	134.28	34.84	97.29
24.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	123.24	71.47	135.09	—	—	—
25.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	39.61	58.87	77.91	36.27	40.00	24.99	3193.40	3306.00	2904.36	2459.20	975.34	135.35

*Releases made Under Various Handloom Development Schemes to
different States during the Current Financial Year 2000-2001*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	Health Package	Thrift Fund	DEPM	New Insurance	MDA/ Rebate	Exhibition	HDC/QDU	Workshed -cum- Housing	Group Insurance Scheme
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	33.59	30.82	3.91	—	—
2.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	36.00	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	—	—	—	0.36	—	1.94	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.95
5.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	6.00	—	—	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	9.25	—	7.20	10.39	—	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	0.34	8.89	—	—	—
8.	Kerala	37.22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	—	1.03	—	0.67	—	20.29	—	—	0.63
10.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	46.97	38.93	—	—	—
11.	Manipur	12.88	—	—	—	—	9.34	—	—	—
12.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	0.08	—	—	—
13.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	3.00	37.27	—	—
14.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	30.00	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	21.62	—	—	—	—
16.	Orissa	—	—	—	18.00	—	—	—	45.00	—
17.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	—	—	—
18.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	4.00	—	—	—
19.	Tamila Nadu	—	—	—	—	348.78	29.15	—	—	—
20.	Tripura	29.82	—	—	0.60	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	8.75	—	—	3.00	—	—	—
22.	West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.47

[English]

Karnataka Rail Development Corporation

3841. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had requested the Union Government to participate in the equity of proposed Karnataka Rail Development Corporation for expeditious completion of railway projects in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) the details of implication of ownership of lines on which the trains would be run; and

(e) the investment proposed to be made by the railways on the State Government owned Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Karnataka has proposed to enter into an MOU with Ministry of Railways to form a company with limited liability to expedite project development by resource mobilisation of certain identified rail projects. It is proposed to have 26% equity each by Government of Karnataka and Ministry of Railways and the remaining equity is proposed to be given to financial institutions, banks and others.

(c) Ministry of Railways is finalising the MOU in consultation with the Government of Karnataka.

(d) The ownership of the lines will remain with the Ministry of Railways.

(e) It is proposed to have authorised capital as Rs. 60 crores. Ministry of Railways proposed to take 26% equity.

Fraud Ticket Checkers

3842. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Beware of fraud ticket checkers on trains" appearing in the *Times of India* dated July 24, 2000;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to the notice of the Government during the last three months along with the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the *modus operandi* adopted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Nine incidents have been detected during the last 3 months *i.e.* May to July, 2000 and cases registered with the police. In order to prevent recurrence of such incidents, the Railway staff have been advised to be on the look out for any person masquerading as TTE. Checks are also conducted by the railway staff at platforms to detect imposters indulging in such malpractices. Announcements are also made on the public

address system advising the passengers to beware of such persons.

[*Translation*]

Crisis in Bhagalpur Silk Industry

3843. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the world famous Bhagalpur Silk Industry is suffering from financial crisis and negligence;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government for revival of above industry;

(c) the details of the trade of Bhagalpur Silk Industry during the last three years;

(d) the details of sick/closed/running in losses silk mills during the last three years, till date, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken and amount spent for their revival, mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Bihar Spun Silk Mills has been lying closed since 1992 due to lack of funds. Bihar Spun Silk Mills approached Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for rehabilitation of the mill which has not been agreed to by them.

(c) As the Bihar Spun Silk Mills has been lying closed for the last 8 years, no trade has been carried out by the said mills during the last 3 years.

(d) As per information made available from BIFR, the list of sick/potentially sick units is not maintained commodity wise. However, a total of 445 textile units were registered with BIFR on 30.4.2000.

(e) The Government has no specific scheme for revival of sick and closed silk mills. However the Govt. has set up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985, under which the Board has been entrusted with the responsibility of rehabilitation of the sick industrial companies.

Placement of Orders for Supply of Loco wheels to Romanian Firms

3844. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has placed orders to Romanian firms for supply of BG and MG loco wheels during September, 1996 to August, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether these firms had supplied inferior/defective wheels resulting into loss of crores of rupees;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the loss suffered thereby; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of orders placed on Romanian firms during September, 1996 to August, 1997 are as under:

(i) Order no. 97/RS (WTA)-349/Wheels/874/VII dtd. 26.6.97 for 19989 BG loco wheels on M/s Mecanoexportimport, Romania (Manufacturer SMR, BALS) at a total FOB value of US\$ 8675226.

(ii) Order no 96/RS (WTA)-149/Tender/351 dtd. 19.05.1997 for 1447 MG loco wheels on M/s Mecanoexportimport, Romania (Manufacturer SMR, BALS) at a total FOB value of US\$ 536359.

(c) to (e) Two Romanian firms viz. M/s Di Apollo and M/s Mecanoexportimport (with the same manufacturer i.e. SMR, Bals) had supplied large number of wheels (around 70,000 wheels) prior to placement of order indicated in reply to part (b) without any quality problem.

It was only for the first time in September, 1997 that defects were noticed during assembly in 4 MG locomotive wheels received from Romanian firms. Immediately thereafter, all the wheels supplied by the Romanian firms against various orders, were re-inspected in the Indian Railways Workshops. After re-inspection, 1099 nos. both MG & BG loco wheels (about 3% of total supply) received from 1996 onwards had been rejected.

No Loss has been suffered as action has already been taken to recover the landed cost of such rejected wheels through available bank guarantees.

No order for loco wheels has been placed on Romanian firms after September, 1997.

[English]

Clearance of Mangalore Power Plant

3845. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of Mangalore Power Plant proposed by Hong Kong based multinational China Light and Power was pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the steps if any taken by the Government to rework the counter guarantee arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) So far as the Government of India (GOI) is concerned, the Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) to the 1013.2 MW Mangalore Power Project promoted as a joint venture by M/s CLP-Power International Ltd., has already been accorded. The decision to issue GOI counter guarantee to the project as per the revised procedure, taken by Government in May, 1998, has already been conveyed to the Government of Karnataka. The issue of counter guarantee would depend upon the various conditions prescribed under the revised counter guarantee procedure being fulfilled by the Government to Karnataka.

Setting up a Petronet LNG Project

3846. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a petronet LNG gas project in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above LNG gas project is proposed to be set up in collaboration with a foreign company; and

(d) if so, the location, installed capacity and the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Growth Rate in Capacity Addition

3847. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of wind energy in terms of capacity addition has come down during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the growth of wind energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The progress in the first three years of the Ninth Plan has been slow on account of the following factors: economic and industrial scenario; introduction of Minimum Alternative Tax (MAT); impact of reduction of Corporate Tax Rate on the extent of benefit from accelerated depreciation; inadequate power evacuation facilities in major potential areas; and, delays in land allotment, forestry clearance and other approvals in certain States.

(c) 192 potential sites in 13 States/UTs have been identified for wind power projects. Fiscal and promotional incentives are available for commercial projects. Attractive policies have been announced by the State Governments for wheeling, banking and buy-back of electricity generated from wind power projects. Soft loans are also available from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) for wind power projects.

Coordination among Defence Branches

3848. SHRI D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive quantity of ammunition is reportedly manufactured due to lack of coordination among the various branches of the defence forces causing storage problems and loss of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to bring about proper coordination amongst the different branches of defence forces;

(c) whether a large quantity of shell bodies, rifles, cartridges and other ammunitions are rejected during the inspection; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to check the wasteful expenditure in this behalf and to improve and tone up the working of ordnance factories?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ordnance Factories are manufacturing items for the defence forces as per mutually agreed targets fixed in the Annual Target Fixation meeting by officers of the Army Headquarters and Defence Ministry. After the fire accident at Ammunition Depot Bharatpur, the Raksha Mantri had directed the preparation of an action plan to provide proper storage for all ammunition. This plan has since been prepared and Rs. 283 crores have been earmarked for this purpose.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Each item is manufactured as per laid down schedule in which Unavoidable Rejection (UAR) is specified. Rejection in most cases remain within the Unavoidable Rejection Limit. When it exceeds the specified rejection limit, it is investigated and remedial measures are taken.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Line between Ghat and Maunath Bhanjan

3849. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the feasibilities of laying a new railway line between Ghat Station and Maunath Bhanjan in Ghazipur district of U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on the said survey report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A survey for construction of new line from Mau to Ghazipur City was conducted in 1992. The survey report revealed that the cost of the 41 km long line would be Rs. 39.24 cr. with negative rate of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the project and acute constraint of resources, it has not been found possible to consider taking up the project for the present. Ghazipur Ghat (Halt)

is connected to Ghazipur City by BG line on Ghazipur-Chhapra section.

(d) Does not arise.

Supply of Gas through Pipeline in Maharashtra

3850. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of LPG is being made in certain areas of Maharashtra through pipeline;

(b) if so, the number of consumers both domestic and industrial were benefited during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the supply of LPG to more areas of Maharashtra during the current and the next financial year;

(d) if so, whether participation of GAIL is proposed to be taken in the project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved and the target fixed for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir. However, Mahanagar Gas Ltd. (MGL), a joint venture company of Gas Authority of India Ltd. and M/s British Gas, is supplying natural gas through pipelines for domestic, industrial and commercial use and also to automobile sector running on CNG in certain areas in the city of Mumbai.

(b) MGL has connected 35000 domestic, 20 industrial and 266 commercial establishments with piped natural gas in addition to 14000 automobiles running on CNG in Mumbai.

(c) to (e) MGL has plans to expand, by next year, the existing natural gas pipeline network covering Chembur, Ghatkopar, Chunabatti, Deonar, Andheri East, Vile Parle and Bandra East and the areas of Goregaon, Malad, Kandivili and Andheri (West). GAIL is already associated with the project through its partnership in the joint venture. The project for providing 6,26,000 connections for supplying natural gas through pipelines in the entire city of Mumbai is expected to be completed in 2008-09 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1064.66 crore.

*[Translation]***Loss Suffered by Oil Sector PSUs**

3851. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether owing to getting loan at high rate and investing their funds at low rate the Oil Companies of the Public Sector have suffered loss of crores of rupees during 1993-94 to 1997-98;

(b) if so, whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the adverse impact on the economic condition of these companies due to flawed controlling measures and inadequate working capital;

(c) whether the IOC has suffered loss in the form of late fee for its failure to meet the demands of oil companies involved in refining and marketing;

(d) whether IOC had to spend more than the estimate due to unexpected increase in expenditure in its headquarters;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the concrete action to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per oil companies, they have not suffered loss. Oil PSUs have generally no long term surplus funds available with them. The temporary surplus funds available with Oil PSUs are utilised by them for their various ongoing projects or short term deposits in Banks etc. as per guidelines laid down by Deptt. of Public Enterprises.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. In fact there is no provision for any late fee payment to meet the demand of other oil companies in the country which are involved in refining and marketing.

(d) The Head Quarter expenses of IOC were within the estimates/budgets and no extra expenses were incurred by them except for the impact of pay revision etc. during 1995-96.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

*[English]***Exploration by OIL in Orissa**

3852. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which the Oil India Ltd. (OIL) has stopped its exploration activities in Orissa inspite of large reserves;

(b) whether the OIL is proposing to resume full scale operations in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Oil India Ltd. (OIL) had carried out extensive surveys in the Mahanadi offshore and onshore areas and in North-East Coast (NEC) offshore area. A total of fifteen exploratory wells had been drilled in these areas and no commercial hydrocarbons discovery was made. However, five offshore blocks in the first round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) have been awarded to various parties for carrying out further exploration in Mahanadi and NEC areas.

Gliding Training to Cadets

3853. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of air wing NCC (Flying) units in the country and the type of training imparted by them to the cadets;

(b) whether many of these flying units are holding life-expired gliders for a number of years and as such no gliding training is given to the cadets; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to provide gliders to these units?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There are 47 Air Wing Sqns (Flying) in NCC. Apart from general NCC training common to all Wings of NCC (Navy, Army and Air), Air wing (Flying) NCC cadets are taught aero-modelling and are graduated onto gliding.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

Out of total of 47 Flying Sqns 34 Flying Sqns have their own gliding facility. The remaining 13 Sqns are dependent on State and civilian clubs for flying training.

A total of 61 obsolete and life expired gliders are in the process of being phased out. 40 gliders are available for imparting training and 8 more are in the process of procurement. It is proposed to procure state of the art, powered gliders, instead of wooden gliders that have been in use so far. The specifications for these are presently being finalised in consultation with the Air Force. Additionally sixty (60) micro light aircraft are being procured for the propose of training activity for the NCC Air Wing Cadets.

[*Translation*]

Development work in Nasirabad Cantonment

3854. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the development works undertaken and completed in the Nasirabad Cantonment area of the Ajmer district during the last one year;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of these construction works separately;

(c) whether the construction works are in compliance with all the rules of the contract;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether complaints/representations from the people's representatives and various organisations of Nasirabad have been received in this regard;

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

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

(h) if so, the findings thereof; and

(i) the action taken against the persons found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The details of amount spent for

development of Nasirabad Cantonment during the last one year *i.e.* 1999-2000 is as under:—

(Rupees in lakhs)	
Item	1999-2000
Buildings	26.30
Roads	28.12
Drains	05.58
Miscellaneous Public Improvement	36.67

The above works have been executed in accordance with the provisions of the Cantonments Act 1924 and the Cantonment Account Code 1924.

(e) to (i) Some complaints in respect of the works executed were received from some organisations/people's representatives. These have been inquired into and found to be devoid of any substance.

Corruption In Goods Booking Offices

3855. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant corruption is prevailing in goods booking offices in Railways;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported during the last two years and current year so far, zone/division-wise;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the number of officers found guilty and the action taken against them till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, occasional complaints/information about irregularities in the working of goods offices are received. During this period, 724 cases came to notice. Zone-wise position is given in attached statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As a result of enquiries, 359 officials found at fault were taken up under departmental action.

Statement*Zone-wise position of the cases*

Zonal Railways	No. of Cases
Central	94
Eastern	22
Northern	161
North-Eastern	22
North Frontier	8
Southern	1
South-Central	143
South-Eastern	40
Western	233
Total	724

Subsidy for Sericulture

3856. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any requests from the State Governments, particularly from Bihar regarding enhancement of subsidy for sericulture;

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

(c) the steps taken to promote silk export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No Sir, none of the States including Bihar have requested for enhancement of subsidy for sericulture.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to increase the exports of silk products, the Government is facilitating the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs; organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs; publicity in foreign trade magazines; publication of magazine and colour forecast card for benefit of domestic silk manufacturers; dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.

Besides, the Government has taken several measures to boost silk exports such as rationalization of value addition/Input-output norms; the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme; import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products; etc. Besides, technological upgradation of silk units, including units engaged in export, may avail of loan at 5% point less than applicable rate under the Technological Upgradation Fund Scheme for the Textile Sector.

Construction of Ajanta-Ellora New Rail Line

3857. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide new rail line to Ajanta and Ellora caves in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a survey for Gauge Conversion of Pachora to Jamner with extension of line from Pahur to Ajanta caves was conducted recently. Due to constraint of resources and unremunerative nature of the line, it has not been found possible to consider taking up the project for the present.

Use of H.S.D. for Power Generation

3858. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared the use of indigenous high speed diesel (HSD) for power generation;

(b) the advantages of use of HSD for power generation;

(c) the applications that are pending for allotment of HSD for power generation;

(d) whether the demand of diesel is likely to increase as a result thereof; and

(e) if so, the estimated annual demand of diesel has been increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) With the commissioning of additional refining capacity in the country during the year 1999-2000, country has become self sufficient to meet the demand of diesel. It has, therefore, been decided to permit the use of diesel as fuel for power generation. Additional demand of diesel for this purpose has not yet been finalised.

Reservation Policy for Backward Classes

3859. SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide 27 per cent reservation to backward classes in the allotment of dealership of gas agencies and petrol pumps;

(b) if so, the number of gas agencies and petrol pumps allotted since 1993 and the number out of them to backward classes: and

(c) if so, the reasons for its non-implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) There is no reservation for backward classes in the allotment of retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Extension of Railway over Bridge upto Purana Bazar

3860. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to extend the Railway over bridge upto Purana Bazar at Dhanbad station in Eastern Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) A proposal for development of South side of Dhanbad Station which includes extension of existing foot over bridge upto Purana Bazar is under consideration of Eastern Railway for inclusion in Works Programme 2001-2002 subject to availability of funds and other relative priorities.

[Translation]

Outstanding Dues against Railways

3861. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount outstanding to be paid to different State Governments on account of expenditure incurred on Government railway police at present, State-wise;

(b) the total amount paid by railways to States on this service during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that railways take a lot of time to clear the bills on this account;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(e) the total bills pending at present with the railways of different States for audit clearance, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a), (b) and (e) A statement is attached.

(c) and (d) Bills complete in all respect are cleared expeditiously by the Railway administration. However, in some cases, bills are not accompanied by certificate of Accountant General of State Govts. and thus these bills are held up till such time as the certificate is received.

Statement

(Fig. in crores. of Rs.)

State	Outstanding as on 31.7.2000	Payment made during last three years	Outstanding for want of AG's certificate
Andhra Pradesh	3.36	14.34	3.10
Assam	0	3.97	0
Bihar	5.28	7.29	5.28
Delhi	0	3.93	0
Gujarat	1.22	15.07	1.22
Haryana	0.37	22.83	0.37
Himachal Pradesh	0	1.15	0
Karnataka	9.76	6.01	7.20
Kerala	2.43	9.36	2.39
Maharashtra	1.70	57.54	1.69
Madhya Pradesh	5.73	25.66	5.20
Orissa	2.92	1.26	2.92
Punjab	0	18.38	0
Rajasthan	0.02	16.41	0.01
Tamilnadu	5.65	12.80	5.65
Uttar Pradesh	0.54	75.92	0.33
West Bengal	3.26	28.36	3.26
Total	42.24	320.28	38.62

[English]

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

Losses to Railways due to Defective Computers

(d) the action taken thereon?

3862. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss suffered by Railways due to defective computers particularly on account of Ticket Booking during the last two years, year-wise/division-wise;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted to pin point the responsibility;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Occasional interruptions do take place in the computerised passenger reservation ticket booking service due to the defects in various related systems/equipments. While this results in delay in the service to the passengers, they can still book the tickets as and when the system is restored. If the system failure is localized at one place, the service is still available across the entire network of Indian Railways covering 547 locations. As such, so monetary losses on this account accrues to the Railway.

(b) to (d) Adequate machinery exists to identify the causes and rectify the defects. To maintain a satisfactory level of service, system hardware, application software, telecom and electrical infrastructure are upgraded from time to time. Replacement of old equipments is done regularly to minimise failures. All such cases are duly investigated and remedial action taken. Annual maintenance contracts take care of preventive and failure maintenance management.

Revaluation of Assets of IPCL, HOCL and HIL

3863. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the assets of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited and Hindustan Insecticides Limited have since been revalued;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the revaluation of assets is essential before a unit is put for disinvestment or sale;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The shares of a PSU are disinvested by a bidding process. The best price is determined by the market forces. However, the Government values shares by different methods to ensure that the sale process fetches the best value. Whenever necessary even the assets will be valued on a case to case basis.

Expansion of Thermal Power Plants

3864. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of Thermal Power Plants proposed to be expanded during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Thermal Power Plants at Talcher is also proposed to be expanded; and

(c) if so, the total MW of power expected to be added by that Thermal Power Plant after expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The details of thermal power plants to be expanded during Ninth Plan are given below:—

S. No.	Name of Project	Expansion of Capacity during 9th Plan	State	Sector
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Panipat U-6	210 MW	Haryana	State Sector
2.	Rokhia Ph. II U-1	8 MW	Tripura	State Sector
3.	Tand U-4	110 MW	U.P.	State Sector
4.	Gandhinagar U-5	210 MW	Gujarat	State Sector
5.	Kutch Lignite U-3	75 MW	Gujarat	State Sector
6.	Wanakbori U-7	210 MW	Gujarat	State Sector
7.	Birsingpur Extn.	420. MW	M.P.	State Sector
8.	Chandrapur U-7	500 MW	Maharashtra	State Sector
9.	Kothagudam-IV	250 MW	A.P.	State Sector
10.	Raichur U-5 & 6	420 MW	Karnataka	State Sector
11.	Unchahar-II	420 MW	U.P.	Central Sector

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Vindhyachal-II	1000 MW	M.P.	Central Sector
13.	Neyveli FST Extn.	210 MW	T.N.	Central Sector
14.	Dabhol-II	1444 MW	Maharashtra	Central Sector
15.	Anta-II	650 MW	Rajasthan	Central Sector
16.	Auraiya-II	650 MW	U.P.	Central Sector
17.	Kawas-II	650 MW	Gujarat	Central Sector
18.	Gandhar-II	650 MW	Gujarat	Central Sector

Talcher Thermal Power Project of NTPC will have a total installed capacity of 3000 MW after expansion. The project will be commissioned progressively in the Tenth Plan. Similarly four gas based expansion projects of Anta, Auraiya, Kawas and Gandhar with total capacity of 2600 MW will start during the Ninth Plan but are likely to be completed during the Tenth Plan. Besides these projects and also Panipat Unit-6, Neyveli Ext. and Dabhol-II, all the others have already been commissioned.

Increase in Quota of Kerosene Oil

3865. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from State Governments for increase in the quota of kerosene oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Requests are received for additional allocation of kerosene from time to time. Kerosene is a deficit product in the country, and on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy, the distribution has to be judicious.

[Translation]

Cases of Minor crimes

3866. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has constituted a Four Members Advocate Committee to review the cases of minor crimes under trials, which would be considered for release the persons concerned on bails as per the directions of the Chief Justice of India; and

(b) if so, the follow-up action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Registrar of Delhi High Court and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Efficiency of Urea Units

3867. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to initiate any action in improving the efficiency of the gas-based and Naptha-based urea units; and

(b) if so, the line of action proposed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Government policy encourages indigenous

urea manufacturers to implement energy reduction measures such as purge gas recovery unit, synthesis convector retrofit, on line optimizor and selectoxo process for ammonia plants. The investment made on such energy saving schemes is recognized immediately for fixation of retention price but the benefits accruing on this account are allowed to be retained by the units for three years, after which they are mopped up for pricing purposes.

Closure of Retail Outlets

3868. SHRI ANANDA MOHAN BISWAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of retail outlets (company-wise) on National Highway No. 59 between Dahod and Khangela in Dahod Distt. of Gujarat;

(b) the number out of these, which have been closed down due to severe irregularities including adulteration and other activities of the dealers leading to criminal cases;

(c) the cases in which the Government of Gujarat has withdrawn the licences and have recommended termination of the agencies; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take in commissioning the outlets through some other agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) There is only one retail outlet dealership of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) in operation on NH-59 between Dahod and Kangala in Dahod district of Gujarat. The retail outlet was closed in October, 1998 by the Civil Supplies Department, Government of Gujarat on account of adulteration. Subsequently, the retail selling licence was cancelled in July, 1999, by the Director Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Gujarat. At present, appeal filed by the dealer is pending in the High Court of Gujarat and the matter is *sub-judice*. Further action towards commissioning of the dealership depends on the outcome of the above-mentioned appeal.

Encroachment on Defence Land in Kanpur

3869. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land adjacent to the Air Force Station, Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh owned by Air Force itself has reportedly been encroached upon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government now propose to regularise the said encroachments; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Approximately 125.25 acres of Air Force land in some pockets/villages adjacent to the Air Force Station, Kanpur has been encroached upon. Government have no plan to regularise the said encroachment.

Electrification upto Bahadurgarh

3870. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Capital Region Planning Board has suggested to extend the EMU services upto NCR towns;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to extend the electrification upto Bahadurgarh so as to extend the EMU services; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The statutory Functional Plan of Transport sector of National Capital Region (NCR) suggested a Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) having dedicated dual track connecting all NCR towns including Bahadurgarh. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC), which is executing the Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System (Phase-1), has included the section from Shahdara to Nangloi. Bahadurgarh is about 13 kms. away from Nangloi. RITES, who were commissioned to carry out a survey for identification of Rail projects for commuter traffic in National Capital Region and Delhi, have also suggested strengthening and electrification of Nangloi-Bahadurgarh section in their Report. The National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) has written to the beneficiary States to agree to the partial funding of the projects proposed in the Survey Report. Further action will be possible on receipt of feedback from the concerned State Governments.

[*Translation*]

Vacant Posts of Judges in High Courts

3871. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

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

(a) the number of posts of Judges are lying vacant in various High Courts in the country, State-wise;

(b) the time by which these are likely to be filled;

(c) whether the number of posts of Judges in the High Courts are likely to be increased, particularly in Rajasthan and Delhi High Courts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these posts are likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement. The filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the vacancies expeditiously, it is not possible to indicate a time-frame by which these vacancies could be filled up.

(c) to (e) The Government has agreed to the creation of 52 new posts in various High Courts, other than Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madras, Rajasthan and Sikkim, which would be formally sanctioned at the time of filling them up. The 52 new posts include two in Delhi High Court.

Statement

Position as on 14.08.2000

Sl. No.	High Court	Vacancies in the sanctioned strength
1	2	3
1.	Allahabad	19
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12
3.	Bombay	16
4.	Calcutta	15
5.	Delhi	5
6.	Gauhati	6
7.	Gujarat	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5

	1	2	3
10.	Karnataka		6
11.	Kerala		5
12.	Madhya Pradesh		8
13.	Madras		11
14.	Orissa		3
15.	Patna		10
16.	Punjab & Haryana		7
17.	Rajasthan		12
18.	Sikkim		1
	Total		145

[English]

Economic Viability of Indo-Oman Urea Project

3872. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Indo-Oman urea project though economically unviable and the international financiers having walked out of the project is being pushed through by the Government for execution; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) After considering all aspects of the Oman India Fertilizer project and the benefits accruing therefrom such as supply of urea at a fixed price based on low cost preferred feedstock (Natural Gas) for a long term of 15 years, Government have approved investment of IFFCO and KRIBHCO in the revised and restructured Project. The approval is however, subject to early resolution of certain outstanding issues.

Collection of Security Money by NCCF and Super Bazar

3873. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ 803 dated July 27, 2000 regarding collection of security by NCCF and Super Bazar and state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the investigation report submitted by the DGIR;

(b) if so, the findings of the report; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTP Commission), which is a quasi-judicial body, has informed that the investigation report submitted by the Director General of Investigation & Registration (DGIR) came up before it on 4th August, 2000.

The MRTP Commission took cognizance of the provisions of Section 102 of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984, which provides that the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 are not applicable to multi-state co-operative society. The Commission, therefore, ruled that a notice of enquiry was not required to be issued in this case and that the complaint be filed.

Export of Silk Waste

3874. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirements and production of silk waste in the country;

(b) whether the export of silk waste has been increasing for the last few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether due to this export policy, the availability of silk waste has come down to a low level resulting in closure of mills and rendering the workforce idle; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ban on export of silk waste to save the silk waste processing industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a)

During the year 1999-2000 the production of silk waste was estimated about 4400 tons. The installed capacity for consumption of silk waste, which may be taken as an indicator of requirement was 6914 tons.

(b) and (c) The quantity of silk waste exported during the last three years is as under:

	(Qty. In tons)
Year	Quantity
1997-98	2069
1998-99	1841
1999-2000	2097

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta.

(d) This Ministry has received representations from Spun Silk Mills stating that the availability of silk waste has come down & their problems due to this position.

(e) No such steps have been taken.

Construction of Railway Bridges in Karnataka

3875. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for construction of railway bridge near Byadarahalli on Bangalore-Mysore section and seven bridges on railway crossing under Tumkur branch canal and its distributaries etc. have been pending with railways for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government several times in this regard; and

(d) if so, the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) The present status of eight canal crossings/bridges proposed by the Karnataka Government is as under:

S.No.	Name of Work	Status
1.	Railway bridge at 9th km. of link canal of Vishweshwaraya Canal near Badarahalli in Mandya District of Bangalore-Mysore Board Gauge section at Railway Km. -110/3-4.	Work completed in October, 1999.
2.	Railway bridge at Km. 71/8-9 between Tumkur and Mallasandra stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of T. Subramanya canal at CH. 131.557 km.	Work completed in December, 1998.
3.	Railway Bridge at Km. 89/14-15 between Gubbi and Nittur stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of Distributory No. 15 at CH. 10345 m.	Work is in progress and targeted for completion by 31.03.2000
4.	Railway Bridge at Km. 92/1-2 between Gubbi and Nittur stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of sub distributory No. 2 of Distributory No. 15 Under Tumkur Branch Canal Ch. 3450 in 4th km.	Work is in progress and targeted for completion by 31.12.2000.
5.	Railway Bridge at Km. 84/14-15 between Mallasandra and Gubbi stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of Distributory No. 16 at Ch. 2175 m.	Karnataka Government have not yet deposited the estimated cost with Railways. Target date of completion can be fixed after the State Government deposits the full money.
6.	Railway Bridge at Km. 87/7-8 between Gubbi and Nittur stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of Distributory No. 16 at CH. 1653 m.	Karnataka Government have not yet deposited the estimated cost with Railways. Target date of completion can be fixed after full amount is deposited by the State Government.
7.	Railway Bridge at Km. 115/2-3 between Banasandra and Ammasandra stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of Distributory No. 9-A at CH. 391m.	Karnataka Government have not yet deposited the estimated cost with Railways. Target date of completion can be fixed after full amount is deposited by the State Government.
8.	Railway Bridge at Km. 85/14-15 between Gubbi and Mallasandra stations of Tumkur-Arsikere section for the crossing of Distributory No. 16 at CH. 18,081 m.	Centage charges have since been remitted by the State Government. Drawings are under preparation after which estimated cost will be advised to State Government. Target date will be fixed after deposit of cost.

[Translation]

Dahod Railway Workshop

3876. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dahod railway workshop has been closed for some time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of employees rendered jobless and transferred as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to restart this workshop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Laying of Third Track

3877. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view of heavy traffic on the north bound trains from Mumbai and inadequate track capacity, laying of third track was sanctioned;

(b) if so, the details and progress made so far regarding providing the third track; and

(c) the time by which third track is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Laying of a third line between Surat and Kosamba has been included in the Budget 2000-2001 as Phase-I of Virar-Ahmedabad third line work. This work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Headquarters of ONGC

3878. MAJ. GEN (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to shift headquarters of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation from Dehradun; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Defence Land to MMC, Mumbai

3879. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any request from Mumbai Municipal Corporation, the State Government and the local MP regarding transfer of a piece of defence land for widening of Golibar Road Ghatkopar (West); and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No proposal for transfer of Defence land for widening of Golibar Road has been received either from the State Government or Mumbai Municipal Corporation. A request has, however, been received recently from Shri Kirit Somaiya, M.P. (Lok Sabha) in this regard.

(b) Army Headquarters/Director General Defence Estates have been directed to examine the request in consultation with the State Government/Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

[*Translation*]

Setting-up of Textile Mills

3880. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills set up in the country, particularly in Assam during the last three years, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more textile mills in the country, particularly in Assam during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Statements giving the number of SSI & Non-SSI spinning and composite Textile Mills set-up in the different States of the country during the last three years are appended as per statement I and II, respectively. No new textile mill has been set up in the State of Assam in this period.

(b) No Sir, there is no such proposal under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement I**State-wise SSI spinning Textile Mills set up during last three years**

State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	2	2	0	0
Haryana	4	6	2	0
Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0
Gujarat	5	4	1	0
Karnataka	0	1	0	0
Kerala	0	1	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0	0
Maharashtra	0	1	0	0
Punjab	4	6	1	1
Rajasthan	2	0	0	0
Tamilnadu	45	36	17	0
Uttar Pradesh	2	2	1	0
Orissa	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	0	0	0	0
Pondichery	1	0	0	0
Total	67	59	22	1

Statement II**State-wise non-SSI spinning & composite textile mills set up during last three years**

State	1997-98		1998-99			1999-2000			2000-2001		
	Comp.	Total	SPG	Comp.	Total	SPG	Comp.	Total	SPG	Comp.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haryana	0	3	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maharashtra	2	10	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Punjab	0	7	6	1	7	2	0	2	0	0	0
Rajasthan	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tamilnadu	0	30	6	0	6	4	0	4	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
West Bengal	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Total	3	63	22	2	24	10	1	11	0	0	0

[English]

Extension of Rail Line from M.T.P.S. to Bankura

3881. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to extend rail line from M.T.P.S. to Bankura;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) As of now, there is no proposal pending before the Indian Railways for extension of Rail Line from MTPS to Bankura. However, if any such proposal is received, it will be considered on merits.

Requests from Government of Andhra Pradesh

3882. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of petroleum and natural gas related issues viz. interest free loan advance of Rs. 30 crores from ONGC for improving roads used by ONGC, allocation of sufficient gas for the Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Limited, request for Rs. 50 crores contribution from ONGC for Yanam Yedurulanka bridge and request to review pricing formula for Naptha for power projects etc. have been submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Requests were received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for (i) interest free loan advance of Rs. 30 crores from Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), (ii) allocation of sufficient gas for the Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Limited (APGPCL), (iii) Contribution of Rs. 50 crores from ONGC for Yanam Yedurulanka bridge and (iv) Review of pricing formula for Naptha for power projects etc.

(b) and (c) The request of Andhra Pradesh Government for interest free loan of Rs. 30 crores for taking up repairs and maintenance of roads could not be acceded to on account of certain constraints of ONGC. Regarding allocation of gas for the APGPCL, over and above the existing allocation of 0.50 Million Standard Cubic Meters of gas per Day (MMSCMD), an additional allocation of 0.82 MMSCMD of gas was made by the Government in favour of APGPCL. Regarding contribution for the bridge between Yanam and Yedurulanka, ONGC had agreed to contribute a sum of Rs. 10.00 crores in four installments of which the first installment of Rs. 2.50 crores has been released so far. Release of the second, third and final installment will be made on receipt of a certificate from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh that 40%, 70% and 100% of the construction work respectively has been completed. As regards, review of pricing formula for power project, pursuant to Government decision of November, 1997 on the phased dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), the prices of Naptha have been decontrolled with effect from 1.4.1998.

Oil companies fix the prices of these products based on market considerations.

Power Crisis in Assam

3883. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Government had sought Central intervention to help to resolve the power crisis in Assam in the face of threat from the North-East Electric Power Corporation of disconnection of power supplies to Assam;

(b) if so, the precise nature and magnitude of the crisis and the extent of default in payments of dues by Assam Government; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to intervene and help to resolve the issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The North Eastern Electric Corporation (NEEPCO) had issued notices to all beneficiary States in the North Eastern region including Assam for regulation of power supply with effect from 1.6.2000, if the outstanding dues are not settled by them. NEEPCO has taken this action because all efforts made by it to persuade States/SEBs in the region to liquidate arrears did not yield any result. As on 31.7.2000, a sum of Rs. 67.58 crores is outstanding against Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB).

Subsequently, as a result of a Public Interest Litigation, the Guwahati High Court passed an order dated 1.6.2000 restraining NEEPCO from regulating power. The Court vide its further Order dated 16.6.2000 directed the Assam Government and the ASEB to pay Rs. 50.00 crores to NEEPCO within a period of one month and to also file affidavit with the Court as to the liquidation of its dues in phased manner including opening of a Letter of Credit. The High Court has further asked Assam to consider the feasibility of taking up with the Central Government the issue of increase in the percentage of Central education to be directly paid to NEEPCO against the outstanding dues. No proposal in this regard has been received in the Ministry of Power from State Government of Assam/ASEB.

On further hearing before the Hon'ble High Court on 26.7.2000 the parties concerned had made a suggestion that NEEPCO, ASEB and the State Government of Assam would sit together and formulate a scheme for the purpose of liquidation of the arrears as well as for the payment of current dues. High Court accordingly *vide* its Order

dated 26.7.2000 allowed the above parties to chalk out a schemes within a period of two months. The matter is expected to be heard by the High Court after two months.

Pre-Trial Bargain

3884. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to USQ. 1710 on March 6, 2000 regarding pre-trial bargain and state:

(a) whether the recommendations have since been examined;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reason for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Law Commission in its 154th Report has recommended to introduce the concept of Plea-Bargaining. The Report is being processed in consultation with State Governments and UT Administrations.

Notification of Garment and Knitwear

3885. SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued a notification of garment and knitwear against non-transferable quota as illegal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government, instead of promoting exports and helping exporters to meet challenges of post-quota regime, are creating hurdles;

(d) whether number of cases of such violations have been detected through random check during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) Government have issued a Gazette Notification dated 13th June 2000 to the effect that the third party shipments are not permissible against non-transferable quotas. A copy of the Notification is attached as statement.

The Government always strives to simplify export procedures in consultation with the exporters. The Notification dated 13th June 2000 has been issued after holding Open House discussions with the exporters.

Under the Garments and Knitwear Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy, there is an Enforcement Committee to look into the cases of quota malpractices. Some cases of transfer of quotas which were prima-facie non-transferable are noticed from time to time, and the Enforcement Committee constituted under the Export Entitlement Policy takes suitable action on these cases as per Policy.

Statement

To be published in Part-1 Section-1 of the Gazette of India Extraordinary

Ministry of Textiles

Notification

New Delhi, the 13th June, 2000

Subject: Garment and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy (2000-2004), in respect of countries where such exports are covered by restraints under the provisions of the Agreement of Textiles and Clothing.

No.1/68/2000-Exports-I. 1. Attention is invited to Notification No. 1/128/99 Exports-I dated 12th November, 1999, which was amended subsequently by Notifications of even number dated 10th December, 1999 and 7th February, 2000 on the above mentioned subject. It has been decided to further amend the Notification as follows:

2. Para 5 (iii) shall be substituted by the following:—

"Available levels will be allotted pro-rata on the realised value of exports till 31st August of the succeeding year against the exports made during the base year by the applicants in each country-category. These will also include the value of exports made in the years prior to the base year realised till the above date, but would exclude the value for which the entitlement has already been obtained in previous years. Realised value of exports shall be supported by an affidavit prescribed for this purpose. Allotments, however, will be restricted to the average annual export performance of India in the country-category during the base year."

3. Sub para (xi) after sub para (x) of para 5 is introduced as follows:—

"The term transfer shall also include the third party transactions/negotiations in which the

export proceeds are credited to an account other than that of entitlement holder. However, export proceeds realised in case of such third party transactions/negotiations during the period transfers are allowed, shall be deemed to be realised by the entitlement holder."

Consequently, the earlier sub para (xi) and (xii) will be renumbered as sub para (xii) and (xiii) respectively.

4. Para 7 (iv) shall be substituted by the following:—

"Entitlements under this system will be calculated and allotted by the Quota Administering Authority on the basis of realised value of admissible exports till 31st August of the succeeding year against the exports made during the base year. These will also include the value of exports made in the years prior to the base year realised till the above date, but would exclude the value for which the entitlement has already been obtained in previous years. Realised value of exports shall be supported by an affidavit prescribed for this purpose. The exports of quota garments, which are covered under this Allotment Policy, to non-quota countries will, however, be given double weightage for the purpose of determining entitlements. The levels available will be distributed pro-rata on the basis of the value of exports of individual applicants."

5. The following may be added after Sub-para 17 (iii) (d):—

"(e) Transfer of quotas which are not allowed"

6. Sub-para 17 (v) may be substituted by the following:—

"In cases where the Committee finds the exporters guilty of fraud or other irregularities, which are violative of any of the above provisions, after examining his explanation and giving a personal hearing, the exporter may be given one or many of the penalties by way of: (a) forfeiture of EMD/BG amount; (b) confiscation of quota; and (c) defarment from obtaining entitlements and participating in the Export Entitlement Distribution Scheme for a specified period."

7. After Sub-para 17 (x), the following Sub-para may be added:—

"(xi) The Enforcement Committee shall normally dispose of all appeals within a period of six months.

(xii) The Enforcement Appellate Committee shall normally dispose of all appeals within a period of three months."

8. All other terms and conditions of the Notification mentioned in Para 1 above will remain unchanged.

Sd/-

(Atul Chaturvedi)

Joint Secretary of the Government of India.

[Translation]

Pay Package for Armed Forces

3886. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:
DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the armed forces and the Union Government have locked horns over the long pending pay and allowances package for the personnel of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, whether the Group of Ministers of whom this matter was referred to have not been able to hold their meeting since February 26, 2000; and

(c) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present and the steps being taken to resolve the issue expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A High Level Committee (HLC) under the Chairmanship of Defence Secretary was constituted specifically to consider the anomalies in the pay and allowances arising out of the implementation of the V CPC recommendations for the Armed Forces personnel. A Group of Officers under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary further deliberated on the various recommendations of the HLC and submitted its report to the Government. While orders on most of the issues relating to pay and allowances of the Defence Service personnel towards implementing the recommendations of the HLC have been issued by the Government on 29.2.2000, there are, however, two important issues *i.e.* Pay Scales of Personnel below Officer Ranks and of Lt. General and equivalent, on which the Government are yet to take a decision because of their wider implications. These two issues have been referred to a Group of Ministers for consideration. The Group of Ministers have considered the above issues in meetings held from time to time. The last meeting of the Group of Ministers was held on 27.7.2000. The matter is under active consideration and is likely to be resolved soon.

[English]

Reviewing of Performance of Oil Refineries

3887. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performance of oil refineries in respect of oil exploration and petroleum refining during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of fresh investment proposed to be made in oil exploration and refining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) (i) The performance of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the oil sector is reviewed through the system of Quarterly Performance Reviews. In addition, every year, Government enters into Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the PSUs of the oil sector for setting their Annual Performance targets and on completion of the year, targets are compared with the actual achievements and accordingly performance ratings are worked out.

(ii) The performance of Private/JV sector in exploration is reviewed in the management committee set up under various Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), where Government is represented by Director General of Hydrocarbons and other officials of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons.

(iii) There is no system of review of performance of the Private and Joint venture refineries.

(b) As a result of exploration activities, the estimated reserves of oil and gas added by Oil and Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and the private sector is given below:—

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Oil+Oil Equivalent of Gas (MMTOE)*	29.59	85.20	63.40

PSU Refineries

The actual crude throughput of PSU refineries as compared to their MOU targets for the last three years are given as under:—

	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Crude Throughput (MMTPA)**	59.450	61.314	63.705	64.466	67.815	68.835

(c) Expenditure during 2000-2001 in exploration blocks contracted to private/JV companies prior to NELP rounds is estimated at about US\$ 82 Million. In addition, expenditure in exploration blocks awarded under NELP'99 for phase-I of the work programme has been estimated at US\$ 246 Million.

The Fresh Investment in PSU Refinery Projects and Joint Venture Refinery Projects is estimated at Rs. 17,475 crores and Rs. 23,353 crores respectively.

Indo-German Cooperation Fund

3888. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of experts from Lahmeyer International, Germany visited the Vijayawada Thermal Power Plant on April 26, 2000 to study feasibility of undertaking stage IV expansion of the 500 MW power plant;

(b) if so, whether the KFW of Germany has come forward to finance the project under the Indo-German Cooperation Fund Programme;

(c) if so, the extent to which the KFW of Germany has agreed to provide financial aid in helping the above plant;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. According to the State Government agency, KFW of Germany came forward with an offer of DM 400 million financial credit for the Vijayawada Thermal Power Plant from Indo-German Cooperation Fund Programme. It was further indicated that a soft loan of DM 1497 million, in addition, may also be made available.

(d) and (e) The consulting contract for DM 819465 has been signed between the Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited, and M/s Lahmeyer International, Germany for the feasibility study for the proposed extension of Vijayawada Thermal Power Plant. This feasibility study is to be financed with grant assistance from Germany.

Tourist Trains

3889. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sectors where the tourist trains are running at present in the country alongwith the name of the party to whom the sectors have been awarded;

(b) the total turnover of these parties running the tourist trains;

(c) the percentage being paid to Indian Railways on turnover by these operators;

(d) whether these operators are paying haulage charges to Indian Railways;

(e) if so, the total amount so far paid to Indian Railways since the allotment of sectors to those parties on this account;

(f) whether Government are considering to award some more sectors as tourist train sector; and

(g) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) At present, there are two sectors on which luxury tourist trains are running. The parties operating these trains are Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) and Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited (TCGL).

(b) and (c) The net reported earnings of RTDC and TCGL during 1998-99 from these trains was Rs. 1502.68 Lakhs and Rs. 101.50 Lakhs respectively. Provisional

payment is made by RTDC and TCGL to Railways. The exact percentage of revenue sharing has not been finalised.

(d) and (e) No separate haulage charges are paid.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for operating a luxury tourist train in the Maharashtra region.

[Translation]

Control over Private Petroleum Companies

3890. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any control over the private petroleum companies operating in the country;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that these companies neither give dealership nor do they return the security money to the persons concerned; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by the Government to get the security amount refunded from such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Private companies are free to import and sell LPG/SKO through their own distribution network under parallel marketing scheme (PMS) introduced by Government since 1993. The parallel marketeers are required to obtain rating certificate from approved agencies of the Government before launching their activities in terms of the provisions of LPG (Regulation of supply and distribution) Order, 2000 and Kerosene (Restriction on use and fixation of ceiling price) Order, 1993 and its subsequent amendments in 1995 and 1998.

Acquisition/Purchase of land by BPCL at Ratlam and Mandsaur

3891. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Ratlam and Mandsaur districts of Madhya Pradesh where the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited acquired land during the last three years along with the area of the land;

(b) whether the administrative norms have been followed in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited have not acquired any land in Ratlam and Mandsaur districts of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years.

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

[English]

Backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs/STs

3892. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended to fill the backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the year 1993;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers thereon since 1993 and results achieved thereof;

(c) the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes were lying vacant as on January 1, 1993 in Class I, II, III and IV category under his Ministry and its autonomous/statutory/attached offices; and

(d) the details of backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Class I, II, III and IV categories as on August 29, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manpower Status Report of EIL

3893. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Engineers India Ltd. (E.I.L.) are regularly compiling "Manpower Status Report" for technical employees/contract engineers hired or recruited through various sources including private manpower recruitment agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of technical/non-technical employees that have been working at various project sites, project-wise and agency-wise; and

(c) the number of these employees have been recruited through private placement agencies as per this report and the number that have been posted in "design" Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given in the statement attached.

(c) Engineers India Limited has not recruited any personnel through placement agencies.

Statement

The details of technical/non-technical employees deployed at various project sites, project-wise and service provider-wise

(As on 30.06.2000)

Site description	Contract employees*			M/s. Engicon India Ltd.		M/s. Development Inspection Services	
	Technical	Non-technical	Planning	Technical	Non-technical	Technical	Non-technical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(a) Running Jobs							
Digboi	7	—	1	1	—	1	—
BRPL, Bongaigaon	5	—	—	1	—	1	—
FCC Haldia	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barauni Refinery Exp.	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Guwahati Refinery	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
NRL Marketing Term.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
NALCO Zeolite Project	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utkal Alumina Project	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NALCO Smelter, Angul	5	1	—	1	—	—	—
BPCL, Mumbai	4	—	—	2	—	1	—
IPCL, Vadodra	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
ONGC, Hazira	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
ONGC, Uran	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
CPF, Gandhar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OED, Mumbai	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
JNTP, Mumbai	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
GAIL, Gandhar	4	1	—	2	—	2	—
INSITU Combustion	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dahej Vadodara P/L	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
CPT, Dahej	12	1	—	—	—	—	—
SWIL	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat Refi., Vadodara	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MSPF/IOCL, Mathura	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mathura Refinery	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
IOCL, Haldia	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
LPG, Guna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LPG, Uran	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Misc. Blgs, New Delhi	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
HPCL, Vizag	12	—	2	—	—	—	—
MRL Expn. Project	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagapattinam Project	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
KG Basin P/L	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
KRL, Cochin	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Cochin-Karur P/L	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) DHDS Project							
HPCL, Mumbai	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
DHDS, HPCL, Mumbai	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
DHDS, Vadodara	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
DHDS, Cochin	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Mega Projects							
HPL, Haldia	6	1	—	1	—	—	—
Numaligarh Refinery	25	1	2	—	—	—	—
NALCO, Damanjodi	18	1	1	3	—	—	—
HPL, PSC	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern India Refinery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GPC, Dahej	14	—	—	1	—	—	—
Essar Oil Refinery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
UPPC, Auraiya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Panipat Refinery	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
GREP (HBJ-II)	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
Jamnagar-Loni Pipeline	57	2	—	2	—	5	—
MRPL Phase-II	10	—	1	—	—	—	—
(d) Construction Co-ordination							
HO, New Delhi	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
ZO, Calcutta	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Misc. staff							
Unauthorised/long leave	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	241	11	7	26	—	16	—

Note*- Contract employees of EIL.

- 241 technical personnel includes 225 contract Engineers & 16 Ware House personnel.
- 11 non-technical personnel are Field Accountants & Field Assistance (P & A).
- 7 Planning Engineers.

Indian Peace Keepers in Sierra Leone

3894. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rebel forces in Sierra Leone took about 255 U.N. peace keepers, including 245 Indian soldiers, captive and there was little sympathy from the world community and the Indian Government too was down playing the seriousness of the situation;

(b) whether the western press has charged that the Indians, Bangladeshis and Nepalese troops were there to make some extra money and implicitly, walked in this adventure; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Twenty one personnel including two officers of the Indian battalion who were taken hostage by the Revolutionary United Force (RUF) viz. the rebel forces in Sierra Leone in the first week of May, 2000 were released on 29th June 2000 in Liberia. These personnel have since returned to Freetown (Sierra Leone) and are in good health. The release of the hostages came about in a peaceful manner following diplomatic initiatives by India and the U.N. with the neighbouring African countries.

An Indian Infantry Battalion Group was deployed in the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone as part of the UNAMSIL Mission. Two companies of this battalion composed of 221 personnel and 11 Military Observers of different nationalities (including one Indian) were located at Kailahun, approximately 70 kms. away from the Battalion Headquarters at Daru. A situation of stand off between the RUF and the Indian troops had been continuing since 03 May 2000, and from that date the movement of the Indian troops were not being permitted. When all diplomatic efforts made at the highest level, both at the UN and national level to end the impasse at Kailahun failed, the UN Secretary General authorised the exercise of Military option to extricate the besieged UN peace keepers. As a result of an operation which was successfully launched by UNAMSIL, supported by UK forces, all the UN peacekeepers and Military Observers were extricated from Kailahun on 16th July 2000 and have reached Daru and Freetown.

All throughout the hostage crisis and the stand off at Kailahun, Government had been putting extensive diplomatic pressure on the UN, the USA and key African countries to bear upon the RUF for an early and peaceful settlement of the situation, and there was all round sympathy and cooperation for India on the issue from the world community. Government had also deputed a high level composite team from the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs and the Service Hqrs to Sierra Leone, UK and the USA to negotiate an early settlement of the hostage crisis.

Government is committed to the peace keeping activities of the UN, particularly in Africa, and cannot pay heed to malignant reports in the western press about peace keepers from the Indian sub continent.

Consumption of Energy by Urea Manufacturing Units

3895. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the average energy consumed (in million kilo calories) per tonne by urea manufacturing units that went on stream since 1985; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the pre-1985 units to achieve the levels of energy efficiency being achieved by the post-1985 units?

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

(a) and (b) The average energy consumption for urea manufacturing units commissioned since 1985 was 6.16 million kilo calories per tonne urea during 1999-2000 as against 8.10 million kilo calories per tonne of urea for pre-1985.

Government policy encourages indigenous urea manufacturers to implement energy reduction measures such as purge gas recovery unit, synthesis converter retrofit, online optimizer and selectoxo process for ammonia plants. The investment made on such energy saving schemes is recognized immediately for fixation of retention price but the benefits accruing on this account are allowed to be retained by the units for three years, after which they are mopped up for pricing purposes.

Funds for Opening of Petrol Pumps

3896. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds spent by Public Sector oil companies on re-building petrol outlets during 1999-2000;

(b) the funds earmarked for this purpose by Oil PSUs for the year 2000-2001; and

(c) the funds spent and proposed to be spent by Public Sector oil companies during the remaining part of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies spent Rs. 366.81 crores (approx.) on the re-building/renovation of retail outlets during the year 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) These companies have earmarked Rs. 382.25 crores (approx.) for the re-building/renovation of retail outlets during the current financial year 2000-2001. They have spent Rs. 81.75 crores (approx.) so far during the year and propose to spend Rs. 300.50 crores (approx.) during the remaining part of the year.

Complaints from Investors

3897. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to dispose of the complaints of investors and the public within 30 days of their receipt;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In pursuance of directions from Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Department of Company Affairs has framed its Citizens' Charter to implement the policies and procedures of the Department for the benefit of public and investors. It lays a time frame for expeditious resolution of complaints from the investors. The complaints regarding delay in issue of allotment letters, share/debenture certificates, refund of application money, delay in transfer of shares and non payment of dividend/interest on shares/debentures/ fixed deposits etc. are required to be settled within a time frame of 30 days and they are being attended into within this time frame.

The Citizens' Charter was adopted in August 1999. The Regional Directors and Registrar of Companies of the Department have been asked to ensure adherence to this time schedule.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Tindhare Railway Workshop

3898. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise the Tindhare Railway workshop;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of vacant posts in the above workshop, category-wise; and

(d) the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no proposals as of now for modernisation of the workshop. The existing facilities are considered adequate to meet the requirements.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The vacancies, at present, are as under:

Group 'C'-41 and

Group 'D'-04

(d) The filing up of vacancies in Workshops is a continuous process which is undertaken from time to time

based on arising of workload, changes in pattern of workload and productivity norms of the workshop.

[*English*]

Construction of Flyovers in Haryana

3899. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new flyovers over the railway lines in the big cities of Haryana during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is attached.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Work & Location	Status
1	2	3

Approved Works

1.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 32/B at Mandi-Dabwali	Work of State Govt. (PWD) not yet sanctioned by MOST. Work pended by State Govt. for the present.
2.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 71/B at Kamal on Kamal-Katchua Road	Haryana Govt. has dropped this work for the present.
3.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 575/A at Ballabgarh	70% work on bridge proper and 50% on approaches have been completed. State Govt. has not yet accepted revised estimate which is pending with them.
4.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 577/A at Faridabad	This work is being executed on BOT basis and is in advance stage of completion.
5.	ROB at Baval near Rewari at Km. 13/6-7 in lieu of Level crossing No. 68 on Jaipur-Rewari section.	Work is being executed under BOT scheme. Work is in progress and is in advanced stage of completion.
6.	Widening of ROB On Ambala-Saharanpur line at Km. 261/9-10	Work completed.

1	2	3
7.	New ROB. on Ambala-Kalka line at Km. 203/1-2	Work in progress and likely to be completed during current financial year subject to depositing of balance amount of Rs. 4.5 crores by Haryana Govt.
8.	New ROB in lieu of Level crossing on Ambala-Kalka line at Km. 203/3-04	Work completed.

Works in Planning stage

1.	ROB in lieu of crossing No. 89-B Near Hissar in Rewari-Hissar Section at Km. 137/3-4	Work feasible on cost sharing basis. State Govt. has been asked to fulfil the pre-requisites required under extant rules.
2.	Connection of Military bridge from NH-1 with existing ROB at Ambala Cantt. At Km. 200.6 in connection with 4 lanning of NH-1.	Proposed as a deposit work of PWD/Haryana Revised General Arrangement Drawing being prepared.
3.	RUB near level crossing No. 98-A C at Km. 179/19-21 on Delhi-Ambala Section. (Near Markanda River)	Proposal has been found feasible on deposit terms. State Govt has not yet furnished firm proposal.
4.	Additional 2 lane ROB along the existing ROB at Kurukshetra	Work planned under BOT scheme. Profile sketch and abstract estimate have been sent to State Govt. for acceptance.
5.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 58/A on Delhi-Jaipur section at Rewari	Work planned under BOT scheme. Profile sketch and abstract estimate have been sent to State Govt. for acceptance.
6.	ROB at Allavatpur near Patwal in lieu of Level crossing No. 565/B	State Govt. has proposed taking up this work under BOT scheme. They have been asked to deposit centage charges.

[Translation]

Misuse of Funds in Nasirabad Cantonment Board

3900. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accommodation and office buildings of the Executive Officer, Cantonment Board are the property of the CPWD;

(b) if so, the details of the rent deed alongwith the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether heavy repair work and construction of a boundary wall in these premises has been carried out involving the cost of 5-6 lakhs of rupees without obtaining the permission of the CPWD authorities; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the erring cantonment officer for misuse of the public funds?

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

(b) Since no formal agreement exists on record, no rent is being paid.

(c) and (d) The CPWD has not undertaken any maintenance/repair of the building over a period of time. Hence routine maintenance and repair work of the same is done out of Cantonment Fund to keep it in usable condition. The boundary wall has also been repaired/reconstructed at a cost of Rs. 1,54,800 during the financial year 1999-2000 in the interest of security of the building and the inhabitants.

Ongoing Railway Projects

3901. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH:
SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the on-going railway projects along with expenditure incurred thereon so far and allocation made therefor during 2000-2001, zone-wise;

(b) the details of the projects approved during each of the last three years and current year so far along with the present status thereof;

(c) the details of the projects pending for clearance/ approval along with the reasons for their pendency, zone-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their timely completion/clearance/approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) Present status of the ongoing Railway Projects (New Line, Doubling, Gauge Conversion, MTP & Electrification) along with expenditure incurred thereon so far and allocation made therefor during 2000-2001, zone-wise; including the details of the projects approved during each of the last three years and current year so far along with their present status, the details of the sanctioned projects pending for clearance/approval along with the reasons for their pendency and the steps taken in respect of each of the projects are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement*On-going Railway Projects*

S. No.	Project	Year of Appvl.	Cost	Exp. up to March 2000	Budget Outlay 2000-2001	Status of Work
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Central Railway**New Lines**

1.	Agra-Etawah via Fatehabad and Bah	1999-2000	108.00	0.19	10.00	Final location Survey has been completed. Preparation of Plans and estimates has been taken up. Papers for acquisition for land is being processed.
2.	Ahmednagar-Beedi-Parli Vajjnath	1995-96	353.08	0.44	3.00	Final location survey has been completed for 15 km from Ahmednagar end. Land acquisition plans & papers have been submitted to the State Govt. for 15 km from Ahmednagar end. The work would be progressed once the land becomes available. Station building at Beed is under progress.
3.	Amravati Nakher	1992-93	175.30	34.27	6.00	70% of the land has been acquired. Earthwork and bridges for 18 section out of 27 has been taken up and work is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						Contracts for 9 major bridges have been awarded. Work is being progressed as per availability of resources.
4.	Baramati-Lonad	1997-98	75.00	0.10	0.10	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey has been taken up and expected to be completed by March 2001.
5.	Guna-Etawah	1985-86	337.32	246.58	25.00	Guna-Gwalior and Gwalior Nonera sections have already been completed. The next phase work of Gauge Conversion between Nonera and Bhind is in progress and expected to be completed in 2000-2001. The last phase of this project from Behind to Etawah involves construction of 3 major bridges on the rivers Chambal, Kunwari and Yamuna. The work in Yamuna Bridge has already been taken up for construction of foundation of Yamuna bridge and sinking of 10 wells is in progress. The work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
6.	Lalitpur-Satna & Rewa-Singrauli	1997-98	925.00	0.51	5.00	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey for 75 km from Lalitpur end and 60 km from Mahoba end and 22 km from Rewa has been completed and FLS for balance section is in progress. Papers for land acquisition are under preparation.
7.	Panvel-Karjat	1995-96	106.89	18.03	14.00	All land except 9.6 hect. forest land has been acquired. Land acquisition process for forest land is in progress. Work in 7 sections out of 9 and work on all bridges and the 2.7 km long tunnel is in good progress where 1.49 km tunnel have been completed.
8.	Puntamba-Shirdi	1997-98	30.22	0.00	1.00	Necessary clearance has been received. Final location survey has been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Miraj-Latur	1993-94	314.02	93.99	15.00	The work is being progressed in phases. In the first phase, work from Kurduwadi to Pandhapur has been completed and CRS inspection is being arranged. On Latur Road-Latur (42 km) earthwork and bridges are nearing completion. Work between Kurduwadi-Latur (143 km) will be taken up after work of Latur-Latur Road has been completed.
Doubling						
1.	Daund-Bigwan	1995-96	40.00	35.00	5.00	The work has been completed.
2.	Divā Kalyan doubling of 5-6 line	1999-2000	47.70	0.50	13.00	This is a new work of 1999-2000 and work on Earthwork and Bridges taken up.
3.	Divā-Panvel	1995-96	63.00	59.60	3.40	Work has been completed.
4.	Divā-Vasai	1995-96	133.99	100.70	20.00	In phase-I, 11 km from Vasai Rd. to Kaman has been commissioned and 17 km from Kaman to Bhiwandi has been completed and ready for CRS inspection. Bhiwandi to Divā is targetted for March 2001.
5.	Hatempur-Gher-single line	1990-91	44.00	43.00	1.00	Work completed.
6.	Manikpur-Cheonki PH-I Dougling of Manikpur Katayadandi	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey has been completed. Preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up.
7.	Mathura-Bhuteshwar	1999-2000	4.25	0.50	3.50	This is a new work of 1999-2000. The detailed estimate has been sanctioned. Tenders invited for earthwork. The work will be completed in 2000-2001.
8.	Nishatpura A&D Cabin	1995-96	3.97	3.87	0.10	The work has been completed and commissioned.
9.	Panvel-Jasai-JNPT	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	1.00	This is a new work of 2000-2001. Detailed planning has been taken up.
10.	Panvel-Roha-Land acquisition	1996-97	4.10	2.68	1.41	Land acquisition is expected to be completed by March 2001.
11.	Sewagram Chitoda	1996-97	12.60	11.40	1.20	Work completed and ready for CRS inspection.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Metropolitan Transport Project						
1.	Belapur-Panvel Doubling	1996-97	280.31	77.05	7.00	Double line has been commissioned and opened for commuter traffic on 14-4-2000. Balance works to be executed by CIDCO are in progress.
2.	Kurla-Thane 5th & 6th line (phase-I)	1995-96	97.39	54.19	14.00	Work of earthwork, supply of Ballast, Track linking, Major Bridges, Foundation and erection of OHE structures and other works are in progress in stretches which are free from encroachments.
3.	Kurla-Thane 5th and 6th line (Bhandup to Thane) ph-II	1997-98	58.30	15.50	10.00	Earthwork, supply of Ballast, Bridges and 22 kV aerial feeder obstructing 5th by underground cable between Bhandup-Mulund and Mulund-Thane section is in progress.
4.	Seawood Uran electrified line	1996-97	495.44	9.50	12.00	Work of important bridge on Panvel creek, construction of minor bridges, sub way of Seawood and work at Sanpada carshed are in progress. Due to financial crunch being faced by CIDCO, execution of the project has been divided in two phases. Under first phase single line will be laid in the section.
5.	Thane Turbhe Nerul/Vashi part of corridor no. 2 in Navi Mumbai	1995-96	403.39	83.17	7.60	Civil works for second line are nearing completion. Electrification and signalling works are in progress.
6.	Thane-Mumbra 5th and 6th line	2000-2001	49.34	0.00	0.01	New work has been included in the Works Programme of 2000-2001 subject to the condition that expenditure on the project will be incurred only after taking necessary clearances.
Eastern Railway						
New Line						
1.	Ara-Sasaram	1997-98	120.00	12.54	6.00	Final Location survey has been completed for 50 km length. Land acquisition papers for stretch between Sasaram and Nokha have been submitted to State Government. Part land falling in 7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						villages have been acquired. In the remaining portion, final location survey is in progress. Work has been started at both ends wherever land is available.
2.	Bongaon-Petrapole	1997-98	6.70	3.70	1.00	The work has been completed. Work for station yard and electrification of Bongaon and Petrpole has been proposed to be taken up as material modification to main work.
3.	Deogarh-Dumka	1998-99	180.00	2.00	1.00	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey has been completed. Proposal of land acquisition for 10 km has been submitted. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
4.	Deogarh-Sultanganj	2000-2001	282.00	0.00	6.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey has been taken up.
5.	Fatua-Islampur Resotration	1998-99	49.50	15.00	12.10	Earthwork has been completed for 16 km length between Islampur & Hilsa. Work of bridges have been taken up between Islampur and Hilsa. For the rest of the section land acquisition is in process and work would be taken up as soon as the land becomes available.
6.	Giridih-Koderma	1997-98	145.00	4.00	5.00	The requisite clearances has since been obtained. Final location survey has been completed. Paper for land acquisition of first 20 km have been submitted to State Govt. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
7.	Koderma-Ranchi	1998-99	491.20	14.00	25.00	The requisite clearances has since been obtained. Final location survey has been completed up to Hazaribag (83 km). Paper for Land acquisition has been submitted for 37.5 km Work will be taken up once land is made available by the State Government.
8.	Laxmikantapur-Namkhana	1987-88	105.92	56.21	15.00	The work is in progress in phases, first phase being Laxmikantapur to Kakdweep. The section from Laxmikantapur to Kashinagar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						(31 km) has already been opened to traffic. The work is in progress between Kashinagar and Kakdweep (3.5 km). However 0.78 acre land is yet to be handed over by the State Govt. The Phase-I work will be completed by December 2000. The land acquisition for Phase-II from Kakdweep to Namkhana has been taken up and likely to be taken over by Dec. 2000.
9.	Mandrahill-Rampurhat via Dumka	1995-96	170.47	4.46	4.00	Final location survey has been completed. Preparation of land acquisition plan & papers is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 23 km stretch from Mandarhill side have been submitted to State Government. The work would be started once the land is made available by the State Govt.
10.	Monghyr-Rail Bridge on Ganga	1997-98	600.00	0.50	2.00	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained. Surveys and detailed investigations have been taken up through M/s RITES.
11.	Patna-Ganga bridge	1997-98	600.00	1.00	5.00	The detailed investigation & final location survey has been taken up by RITES. CCEA clearance is yet to be obtained. Model studies are being done by Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee and are likely to be completed by Nov. 2000 after which the alignment and configuration of the bridge will get finalised. Once the design and alignment of the bridge is finalised, the cost estimates shall be firmed up and the proposal will be processed for obtaining requisite clearances. Proposal for approach alignment on Patna side is under approval of State Govt.
12.	Raigir-Hisura-Tilaya	1998-99	49.50	14.16	2.00	Final Location Survey has been completed and land acquisition papers for 20 kms. stretch covering 70 hectares of land have been submitted to State Govt. Work will be done by IRCON. The alignment

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						in Rajgir area is under re-consideration due to restrictions around archaeological monuments.
13.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur	2000-2001	260.00	0.00	22.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey has been taken up.
Doubling						
1.	Barasat-Hasanabad doubling with electrification PH. I (Barasat-Sondalia)	2000-2001	27.00	0.00	5.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
2.	Baruipur-Lakshmikantpur PH-I (Baruipur-Dakshni Barasat)	2000-2001	49.00	0.00	5.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
3.	Bolpur-Ahmedpur	2000-2001	49.00	0.00	1.80	New work included in the Budget 2000-01. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
4.	Budge Budge-Akra PH-I	1995-96	10.37	5.37	5.00	Akra-Nungi-Budge Budge section has been completed.
5.	Chandanpur-Gurup 3rd line	1994-95	23.82	13.82	10.00	Work is in progress and Cheragram-Gurap (5km) has been commissioned. Chandanpur-Belmuri section is targetted to be completed by December 2000. The work is targetted for completion by June 2001 subject to availability of resources.
6.	Gurup-Shaktigarh 3rd line	1996-97	41.53	4.10	10.00	The plans have been finalised. Tenders are being invited.
7.	Guskara-Bolpur PH-III	1995-96	28.02	20.25	7.00	The work is in progress. The section from Guskara to Pitchkuridhal (5.5 km) has been completed & work in the rest of the two sections will be completed by 28.2.2000.
8.	Jhapataradal-Guskara PH-II	1993-94	11.46	10.46	0.33	Work has been completed.
9.	Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar	2000-2001	40.00	0.00	5.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
10.	Khana-Santhia Phase-I	1992-93	12.07	11.07	1.00	This work was earlier held up first due to court case and contractual problems and then due to release of excess water by DVC leading

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						to flooding of area. The work is now expected to be completed by Dec. 2000 including the fly over at Khana.
		n-l 1996-97	16.17	2.00	10.00	The plans have been finalised. Tender are under finalisation.
12.	Parsa Bazar-Punpun (Patna-Gaya, Phase-II)	1997-98	7.00	0.60	2.80	Plans and estimates have been prepared. The work is being taken up.
13.	Patna-Parsa Bazar (Patna-Gaya, Phase-I)	1996-97	9.97	7.97	2.00	Earthwork, bridges and Track linking completed. Ballasting is in progress. Work is targeted to be completed by Dec-2000.
14.	Punpun-Taregna (Patna-Gaya, Phase-III)	1999-2000	42.53	5.00	1.00	New work included in the budget 1999-2000. Plans and estimates have been taken up.
15.	Sahibganj-New Farakka-Malda	1986-87	62.35	61.35	1.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
16.	Sonarpur Canning PH-1 (Sonapur Ghutiari Sharif)	2000-2001	36.00	0.00	6.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
17.	Sonenagar-Mugalsaari	1992-93	241.00	202.00	38.00	This project is partially funded out of ADB loan. Work is progressing well. Out of 16 block sections, 8 have been commissioned 46 kms. The entire work will be completed by Dec. 2000.
18.	Tarakeshwar-Sheoraphulli PH-I (Sheoraphulli-Nalikul)	2000-2001	41.00	.00	2.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of Plans and estimate is under progress.
Metropolitan Transport Project						
1.	Circular Railway including Dum- Dum-Tala electrification	1984-85	192.90	48.94	45.00	Line upto Princepghat opened on 17.6.1990. Extension from Princepghat to Majerhat has been taken up as a material modification of the onging project. Detailed Engg. survey work already commenced. Military authorities have agreed to hand over the land provided land of equal value is handed over to them. Railway is persuing the matter with State Govt. Interim payment of Rs. 11 crs. have been made to CPT for 15 acres of land. Alignment plans

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						from Dum Dum-NSC Bose Airport section are under submission to Airport authorities and Ministry of Railways Jessop & Co.
2.	Dum-Dum-Garia Design and construction of Rapid Transit System	1972-73	2401.69	1699.00	150.00	Metro Railway from Dum Dum to Tollygunj has been completed and commissioned. Extension of Metro from Tollygunj to Garia has been sanctioned as a material modification to the original work. Work has commenced on this section also.
3.	Electrification-Hasanabad to Barasat	1998-99	37.70	4.50	25.00	Contracts for OHE and TSS works already awarded. Casting of in progress.
4.	Ranaghat-Bangaon Electrification	1997-98	14.78	9.01	5.00	Physical progress is 20%. Foundation, mast erection and other auxiliary works are in progress simultaneously.
5.	Ranaghat-Gede Electrification	1997-98	32.35	16.29	15.00	Physical progress is 60%. Mast erection and cantilever assembly work is in final stage.
Railway Electrification						
1.	Bandel-Katwa	1992-93	49.26	44.43	2.54	Work completed. Residual jobs in hand.
2.	Krishnanagar-Lalgola	2000-2001	72.12	0.00	7.20	New work included in the Budget.
3.	Kusunda-Katrasgarh-Jamuniatanda	1997-98	16.42	7.01	2.00	The work is targeted for completion by March, 2001.
4.	Patna-Gaya	1999-2000	41.23	0.10	0.10	The project proposal has been sent to Planning Commission for clearance.
5.	Sitarampur-Danapur-Mugalsarai	1999-02	363.36	321.13	40.20	389 RKM since energised till Mar 2000. The progress has been slow due to law and order problem and failure to contractor. Work is now targeted for completion by March, 2002.
North Eastern Railway						
New Lines						
1.	Bagaha-Chhitani-MG	1974-75	93.56	93.46	0.10	Work of GC has been completed and commissioned. Work of Railcum-Road Bridge across river Gandak (14 spans of 200 ft) has

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						been entrusted to M/s. lines IRCON which is in progress. The work will be completed in about 2 years time.
	ganj	1997-98	3.57	0.34	0.10	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
3.	Katra-Faizabad	1994-95	71.53	26.58	10.00	116 acrs of land, out of total 142.49 acres has been acquired. Earthwork 6.64 lakh cum has been completed out of 7.06 lakh cum. The work on the Suryu bridge has been taken up and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
4.	Khagaria-Kusheshwarsthan	1996-97	78.00	1.11	0.10	Final Location survey has been completed & preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. The land acquisition proposals for 20.63 km length have been submitted to State Govt. Earthwork in Khagaria yard has been completed. The work would be taken up once the land is made available by State Govt.
5.	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	1997-98	100.00	1.11	0.10	Final Location survey for 60 km has been completed and balance will be completed by December 2000. Preparation of land plans & papers & other preliminary works are in progress. Earthwork in Sitamarhi Yard for one km length has been completed. The work would be taken up once the land is made available by State Govt. Papers for acquisition of 67.55 acres of land have been submitted to State Govt.
6.	Rampur-Lalkuan Kathgodam ROB on NH	1995-96	10.77	0.04	1.00	The revised plans has been sent to MOST for approval. Railways portion of work will start as soon as State Govt. start their portion.
7.	Sakri-Hassanpur	1996-97	89.70	18.05	0.10	Land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Govt. for the entire length and 893 acre land has been acquired. Earthwork from Sakri to Jagdishpur is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Chhapra-Aunrihar	1989-90	167.69	167.69	0.10	Work completed and Commissioned.
2.	Gonda-Bahraich-Sitapur-Lucknow PH-I	1997-98	48.00	0.00	0.10	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
3.	Gonda-Gorakhpur Loop with Anand nagar Nautanwa	1997-98	250.00	0.00	0.10	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearance have been obtained.
4.	Hajipur-Bachwara	1996-97	72.46	69.46	3.00	Work completed & commissioned.
5.	Indara-Phephana	1997-98	35.00	33.36	0.10	The work has been completed and commissioned.
6.	Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj	1997-98	233.00	3.55	8.00	Jayanagar-Dharbanga is to be done in first phase. Work is in progress. Earthwork for 3 km completed.
7.	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura	1997-98	514.04	38.15	26.00	9.01 lac cum out of 12.2 lac cum of earthwork completed. 135 minor bridges out of 460 completed. The work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
8.	Kaptanganj-Thave-Sivan-Chhapra	1999-2000	268.00	0.00	0.10	New work of 1999-2000. The work will be taken up after necessary clearances have been obtained.
9.	Kashipur-Lalkuan	1974-75	51.88	41.90	9.98	The work has been completed.
10.	Khadda-Gorakhpur	1995-96	91.30	80.98	1.00	The work has been completed.
11.	Mansi-Saharsa-Forbesganj PH-I	1996-97	64.50	20.51	3.00	Work is in progress. Earthwork has been completed in 23 km. 9 out of 13 minor bridges completed. 1 major bridges out of 10 completed. 2 bridges on Bagmati river are in progress. Tender for 3 major bridges are under finalisation. Completion of these bridges would take 2-3 years period.
12.	Mathura-Achnera	1995-96	33.67	0.10	1.00	It is planned to do this work alongwith Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura & completed in coming years.
13.	Mau-Shahganj	1994-95	56.00	55.90	0.10	The work has been completed and commissioned.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Muzaffarpur-Faxaul	1992-93	96.71	94.71	2.00	The work has been completed and commissioned. The work for Birgunj to Raxaul which is sanctioned as a material modification is in progress and will be completed in 2000-2001.
15.	Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar	1994-95	59.00	55.84	3.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
16.	Sagauli-Narkatiaganj		64.22	56.52	0.10	Work is completed.
17.	Samastipur-Darbhanga		41.54	35.65	0.10	Work is completed.
18.	Samastipur-Khagaria	1997-98	70.00	0.00	0.10	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
Doubling						
1.	Chhapra-Hajipur	1999-2000	49.64	1.00	0.10	New work of 1999-2000 and will be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
2.	Gonda-Jarwal Road	1995-96	60.69	19.57	15.00	The work is progress. 85% earthwork and all 33 minor bridges have been completed. Work on 2 out of 8 major bridges have been completed and work is progress in other 4. Gonda-Maizapur (18 km) has been completed in May 2000. Remaining portion from Maijapur to Jarwal Road is expected to be completed in 2000-01.
3.	Gorakhpur-Sahajanva	1996-97	61.51	0.01	0.10	Due to lower operational priority of this work and constraint of resources, the work is not being taken for the present.
4.	Jarwal Road-Burhwal (Patch Doubling)	2000-01	23.80	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-01. Preparation of plans and Estimate is in progress.
5.	Karpurigram-Siho	1999-2000	32.67	1.43	0.10	New work of 1999-2000. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
Northeast Frontier Railway						
New Lines						
1.	Bogibeel bridge	1997-98	1000.00	5.00	5.00	The detailed investigation & final location survey has been taken up by RITES. CCEA's clearance in

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						principle has also been obtained. As it is a rail-cum-road bridge, sharing of cost is to be tied up. RITES have completed the field survey, geo-technical investigations, seismic studies etc. Studies in respect of hydraulic model, traffic, design of bridge, protection works etc. are in progress. The report is expected later this year. Work will be started once the survey including model studies is completed and alignment is fixed and land becomes available and final clearances of CCEA is obtained.
2.	Diphu-Karong PH I	1997-98	1600.00	10.29	15.00	The CCEA has since cleared this work. The tender for final location survey is in process. Once FLS is completed it will be followed by land acquisition. Work will be started once the land becomes available by the State Govt. Government of Manipur has proposed to have Jiribam-Imphal as a alternative alignment to this work, which is under consideration of Board.
3.	Dudhnoi-Depa	1992-93	22.33	3.70	0.10	This work was sanctioned in 1992-93. However, Meghalaya gov. has not made available the land so far for this project due to resistance from local people. There is no problem in acquiring the land for the portion of the line falling in Assam and land acquisition will be pursued after the land in Meghalaya is handed over. Work on this project would be taken up only after the land becomes available.
4.	Eklakhi-Balurghat	1984-85	128.00	46.90	50.00	Earthwork and bridge work have been completed in the first block section from Eklakhi to Gazol (14 km). This section is targeted for completion by 31.3.2001. Land for 11 km from Gazol to Buniadpur (km 14 to 28) has been received on patches and the rest of the land is expected to be received soon.

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						Earthwork and bridge work is in progress. Proposal for land acquisition from 28 Kms to 45 Kms have been submitted. 16 Kms land has been acquired. Tenders for earthwork and bridges are under finalisation. Railway has submitted plans and papers of land acquisition from 45 Kms to 87 Kms. 10 Kms of land has been acquired in this stretch. Tenders for earth work and bridges are under finalisation.
5.	Harmuti-Itanagar	1996-97	156.00	10.23	10.00	Final location survey has been completed and preparation of land acquisition plans and papers is in progress. Work will be started once land becomes available.
6.	Jogighopa-Guwahati	1983-84	637.00	469.72	15.00	The Brahmaputra bridge and line from Jogighopa to Golpara completed and commissioned. The work from Golpara to Kamakhya has been completed.
7.	Kumarghat-Agartala	1996-97	825.00	63.71	40.00	Land acquisition is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 1205 acres of land has been submitted to the State Govt. out of which 950 acres has been handed over so far. The work for construction of staff quarters at Agartala is in progress. Earthwork and minor bridges in a stretch of 40 km from Agartala and 20 km from Kumarghat is in progress. Since the line has now to be constructed as BG, a fresh final location survey has been taken up by RITES in the ghat sections and the report is expected by December 2000. Work will be started on the rest of the section after the alignment is finalised and land becomes available.
8.	New Maynaguri-Jogigopa	2000-2001	733.00	0.00	6.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey has been taken up. Preparation of plan and estimate is in progress.

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Gauge Conversion						
1.	Katakhal-Bairabhi	1997-98	200.00	2.00	0.10	Requisite clearances have since been received. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
2.	Katihar-Jogbani (including Katihar-Radhikapur)	1997-98	257.00	0.00	10.00	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained. The gauge conversion of Katihar-Radhikapur will be taken up as a material modification to main work.
3.	Lumding-Dibrugarh with linked figures	1993-94	634.83	660.72	10.00	The work of main line from Lumding to Dibrugarh, Tinsukhia-Lekhapani and branch lines from Furkating to Mariani and Simalguri-Moranhat has been completed. Gauge Conversion work on Makum-Dangari and Amguri-Tuli sections is in progress and will be completed by March, 2001.
4.	Lumding-Silchar	1996-97	648.00	45.75	40.00	Final location survey for diversions in the ghat section to suit the requirement of BG and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. RITES have already completed the paper alignment for entire length and staking of the alignment has been completed in 150 km thus leaving balance length to be staked only 20 km. Earthwork and bridges are now in progress between Lumding and Silchar in 90 km length (40 km from Lumding end and 50 km from Silchar etc). Work of Silchar-Jiribam gauge conversion is being carried out as a material modification of this work.
5.	New Guwahati Lumding	1992-93	194.00	194.00	0.20	Work has been completed and commissioned.
6.	New Jalpaiguri- Siliguri-New Bongaigaon	1997-98	535.88	48.00	80.00	Requisite clearances have since been received. Contract for earthwork and bridge over 210 kms has been awarded and work is in progress. The tenders for another 70 km stretch are under finalisation. For fabrication of steel girders, orders have been placed on Engineering Workshops of Central, Western and Eastern Railways.

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Doubling						
	1. Kishangaj	1989-90	49.30	44.30	5.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
2.	Kishanganj-Dalkolha	1990-91	43.73	28.73	15.00	The block sections Kishanganj-Hatwar-Kanki (14 kms) have been commissioned and rest will be completed by Dec. 2000.
Northern Railway						
New Lines						
1	Abohar-Fazilka	1997-98	72.00	0.00	0.10	The proposal has been sent to Planning Commission. The work can be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
2.	Beas to Dera Baba Jaimal Singh	1997-98	4.78	1.57	0.10	The work would be taken up after the agreement is signed and land is made available by the Dera authorities.
3.	Chandigarh-Ludhiana	1997-98	248.40	10.17	30.00	Final Location Survey has been completed for the first phase between Chandigarh to Morinda. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available. The land for first 7 kms, falling in the Chandigarh Union Territory has already been earmarked for this line and is expected to be transferred to the Railways by December 2000. Rs. 1.14 cr. has been deposited with State Government for land acquisition in UT. Another Rs. 3.5 cr. has been paid to Punjab Govt. towards part cost of private land and this land is expected to be acquired by October 2000.
4.	Etawah-Mainpuri	1997-98	120.00	0.00	0.10	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
5.	Jammu Tawi-Udhampur	1981-82	407.74	305.21	30.00	Earthwork of 78 lac cum out of 85 lac cum completed. 24 out of 30 major bridges have been completed. Work is in progress on 6 major bridges. 107 minor bridges out of 122 have been completed and work is in progress in balance

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						15 bridges. The procurement of ballast is being arranged and all the tenders have been finalised. The work is making good progress. Target Date of completion of Dec. 2001.
6.	Kalka-Parvanoo	1997-98	23.00	2.00	4.00	The requisite clearances have been obtained. FLS and preparation of plans and papers for land acquisition has been taken up. State Govt. have asked for exhorbitant land cost and matter is being taken up with State Govt.
7.	Nangal Dam-Talwara & Taking over siding of Mukerian Talwara	1981-82	210.00	38.39	8.00	The first phase from Nangal Dam to Una has been commissioned. Work on the remaining portion is planned in phases and Una-Churaru Takrala (16 km) has now been taken up on the Govt. land (26 hectares) made available. Balance 300 hecatres of project land is likely to become available in 6 months time. The work is at present in progress on two major bridges.
8.	Taran Taran-Goindwal	1997-98	37.15	4.75	1.30	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey and other preliminary works have been completed. Land plans are under submission to State Govt.
9.	Udhampur-Srinagar Baramula	1994-95	3230.00	215.09	100.00	This important National Project is to be funded outside the Railways Plan. Udhampur-Katra-Almost entire land has become available. Earthwork contracts for entire reach have been finalised. 13 lac cum out of 40 lac cum has been completed. Out of 8 major bridges work is in progress in 6 bridges. Construction of tunnel no. 4 and 5 has commenced. Tenders have also been finalised for tunnel no 1,2 and 3 and for tunnel no. 0 and 7 are under Srinagar-Baramula finalisation. Quazigund-Baramula:- Final location survey has been completed. Land has become available for Shrinagar station building and all arrangements have

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						been made to start work on Shrinagar station building. It is proposed to take up work on 15 km on either side of station building as soon as land becomes available. Land has also been acquired for Pampore and Kakapore stations.
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Luni-Barmer-Munabao	1997-98	240.00	36.41	25.00	The work is in progress on earthwork and bridges on the entire section and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
2.	Luni-Marwar & Jodhpur-Luni	1995-96	111.13	110.14	0.10	The work has been completed.
3.	Phulera-Jodhpur-Papar Road-Bilara	1993-94	45.66	0.85	0.10	The work from Phulera-Jodhpur has been completed and commissioned. The rest of section from Pipar Road to Bilara has been sanctioned as a Material Modification. Due to low operational priority and very light traffic on Pipar Road-Bilara section work will be progressed as per availability of resources.
4.	Rewari-Sadulpur	1997-98	197.76	0.00	0.10	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
5.	Srigangangar-Sarupsar	1997-98	68.71	0.00	0.10	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
6.	Viramgam-Jodhpur, Bhildi-Samdri	1990-91	185.00	4.35	5.50	This work is sanctioned as a part of Kandla-Bhatinda rail link in 90-91. The work has now being taken up.
Doubling						
1.	Amroha-Kankather	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
2.	Amroha-Moradabad	1999-2000	49.00	1.00	5.00	New work of 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimates is in progress.
3.	Dayabasti-Grade separator	1999-2000	25.48	0.50	5.00	New work of 1999-2000. Detailed planning has been taken up.

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4.	Ghaziabad-(Hapur) Moradabad Phase-I	1995-96	69.66	32.35	18.00	The first block section Ghaziabad-Mehrauli (7 km) has been completed and commissioned. On remaining section earthwork and minor bridge have been completed. Out of 5 major bridges, 4 have been completed and work is in progress in remaining one. The work is expected to be completed by Dec. 2000.
5.	Jalandhar-Pathankot- Jammu Tawi	1997-98	486.00	5.00	5.10	The work would be taken up after requisite clearances have been obtained.
6.	Kanpur-Pankni 3rd line	1995-96	34.03	15.85	10.00	Earthwork is in progress. 76.2 m. girders for fly over are being manufactured at Manmad Workshop.
7.	Muradnagar-Meerut	1995-96	62.48	31.00	15.00	Earthwork and minor bridges have been completed. Out of 2 major bridge one has been completed and other is in progress. Out of 80,000 cum of ballast, 35,000 cum of ballast has been provided. The work is expected to be completed by Jan. 2001.
8.	New Delhi-Tilak Bridge 5th and 6th line	1998-99	36.00	2.00	10.00	Preparatory works have been taken up.
9.	Tundla-Yamuna Br.	1995-96	35.95	23.70	7.00	The work on Tundla-Etmadpur and on the fly over is in progress. The earthwork and minor bridges have been completed. The work of Tundla-Etmadpur including flyover is expected to be completed in current financial year.
10.	Utralia-Chandrauli and Sultanpur-Bandhua Kalan	1998-99	47.12	5.09	10.00	Final location survey has been completed. Plans are under finalisation. Work is being taken up.
11.	Zafrabad-Utertia PH-II (Zafrabad- Srikrishnnagar)	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.

Railway Electrification

1.	Ambala-Moradabad	1992-93	152.21	83.30	15.05	The work from Ambala to Saharanpur has been completed. Section from Saharanpur to Moradabad which was frozen earlier has since been defrozen in Nov. 1998 and entire section targetted by Mar. 2003.
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2.	Delhi-Ambalacantt-Ludhiana Ludhiana	1991-92	296.66	239.08	20.20	Main line work from Delhi to has been completed. Branch lines Ambala-Kalka completed. Work on Sirhind-Nagaldam is in progress and targeted for March 2001.
3.	Kanpur-Lucknow	1997-98	47.87	32.00	10.30	Works completed and residual jobs is in hand.
4.	Khurja-Meerut-Saharanpur	1996-97	89.21	0.00	0.00	The work has been pending for the present due to lower operational priority.
5.	Ludhiana-Amritsar	1997-98	93.06	1.80	10.25	The detailed estiamte has since been sanctioned. Target for completion is March, 2004.
6.	Mughalsarai-Zafrabad	1999-2000	49.96	0.10	5.05	Proposal has been sent to Planning Commission for clearance.

South Central Railway**New Lines**

1.	Gadwal-Raichur	1998-99	100.41	4.22	5.00	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey, land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
2.	Gulbarga-Bidar	1997-98	242.42	1.70	2.10	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey, land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
3.	Hubli-Anokla	1996-97	991.91	6.42	6.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans for 128 km length have been submitted to the State Govt. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available. Earthwork and minor bridges is in progress in 1.8 km length where no land acquisition is involved.
4.	Kakinada-Kotapalli	1995-96	50.89	0.00	1.00	Necessary clearances are yet to be obtained. State Govt. has to handover the land free of cost in lieu of the land released by dismantled line which has been heavily built upon by them.

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5.	Kakinada-Pithapuram	1999-2000	41.66	0.00	0.10	Final location survey is in progress. The work will be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
6.	Kotapalli-Narsapur	2000-2001	330.00	0.00	0.10	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey is being taken up.
7.	Macherla-Nalgonda	1997-98	125.09	1.70	0.10	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey and land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
8.	Munirabad-Mehboobnagar	1997-98	438.96	4.36	4.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans for 26 km have been submitted to State Govt. Tenders for earthwork and minor bridges for doubling portion are under finalisation. Work will be taken up once the land becomes available.
9.	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	1996-97	164.36	2.87	2.00	Final location survey has been completed & preparation of land acquisition plans and papers for first 46 km has been submitted to State Govt. The work would be started once the land becomes available. Soil investigations of Pennar Bridge (38x18.3 m) have been completed and tenders for construction of bridges are being invited.
10.	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	1993-94	264.14	39.24	20.00	The work is being done in two phases. In the first phase Peddapally to Karimnagar has been completed. Work on phase-II has been taken up where land acquisition between Karimnagar and Nizamabad is in progress.
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Akola-Puma	2000-2001	228.00	0.00	10.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Arrangements are being made to take up earthwork and bridges.
2.	Dharmavaram-Pakala	1997-98	251.22	0.00	0.10	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

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3.	Guntur-Guntakal & Guntakal-Kalluru	1992-93	460.97	438.28	10.50	Guntur to Guntakal completed. In Guntakal-Kalluru modification to alignment and gradients are being worked out. Now with the sanction of Dharmavaram-Pakala, for which CCEA clearance is yet to be obtained, gauge conversion of Guntakal-Pakala would be done in one phase. Work is in good progress on new line portion from Pendekallu-Goody and work will be completed subject to availability of resources.
4.	Hospet-Hubli-Goa	1992-93	569.46	528.44	1.00	The work has been completed.
5.	Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati	1992-93	173.50	25.14	12.00	Out of 19 major bridges, 15 have been completed and 4 are in progress. Earthwork and ballast supply is also in progress (58%) in the entire section. Work is proceeding well and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
6.	Mudkhed-Adilabad	1984-85	117.96	7.75	2.00	The work is in progress under BOLT. The work is expected to be completed in about a year's time subject to HUDCO providing the agreed funds to BOLT party.
7.	Secunderabad-Dronachellam	1992-93	343.73	332.59	5.00	The work has been completed.
8.	Secunderabad-Mudkhed & Jankhampet-Bodhan	1997-98	287.83	17.52	20.00	The work has been taken up in first phase from Mudkhed-Nizamabad (96 km). Earthwork, ballast procurement and minor bridges are in progress. This phase will be completed in coming years subject to availability of resources.
9.	Solapur-Gadag	1993-94	265.77	120.09	10.00	The work is being done in phases. The work Solapur-Hotgi to Bijapur has been completed. Work is in progress on rest of section which will be completed in the coming years depending upon availability of resources.

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Doubling						
1.	Gooty-Renigunta Sec. Doubling of Balapalle-Pullampet sec.	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up.
2.	Gudur-Renigunta	1997-98	142.55	15.60	17.00	Tenders for earthwork, minor bridges for 4 block sections, two from Gudur and two from Renigunta end are under finalisation. Work will be taken up shortly. 2 block section on Gudur end and one block section Renigunta end are targetted for completed in 2000-2001.
3.	Hospet-Guntakal	1996-97	154.14	17.58	1.00	Final location survey has been completed. Tenders for Earth work, minor (Gauge-Conv). bridges and ballast are under finalisation. Work will be taken up shortly. Target date not yet fixed.
4.	Vijayawada-Krishna Canal 3rd line	1996-97	44.31	17.43	14.00	The third line is proposed between Krishna Canal and Vijayawada by providing a second track on the substructure over Krishna for which superstructure tender have been finalised. Tenders for earthwork and other major bridges are under finalisation.
5.	Vikarabad-Tandur (Wadi Secunderabad Section)	1987-88	90.56	82.18	1.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
Railway Electrification						
1.	Renigunta-Guntakal	1992-93	168.39	4.26	20.34	This work frozen earlier has been defrozen in Nov. 1998. Preliminary works have been taken up. TD Mar., 2004.
South Eastern Railway						
1.	Angul-Sukinda Road	1997-98	144.00	37.42	23.00	FLS has been taken up and has been completed for 30 km. Balance is expected to be completed by November 2000. Further action will be taken after completion of Final Location Survey and land acquisition. Soil exploration for 13 major bridges has been completed and is in progress for another one major bridge.

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2.	Bishrampur-Ambikapur	1997-98	58.30	5.30	5.00	Necessary clearances have been obtained. The final location survey and land acquisition has been completed. Work is being taken up. Possession of full private land has been obtained. Tender for earthwork and bridges have been invited.
3.	Daitari-Banspani	1992-93	587.12	216.40	39.50	Land is available for whole section except from km 140-142.2 and km 147-147.47. This is an important ongoing project. Earthwork and bridges is in progress from km 0 to 140 from Banspani end. In this stretch about 109 km of the formation is ready in patches. 200 out of 361 minor bridges have been completed and work on 16 major bridges have been taken up. 1.48 lakhs cum of ballast out of 1.75 lac cum required from km 0 to 58 has so far been collected. The line is targeted for completion by Dec. 2003 to match the requirement of Steel Plants coming up in the area. The first section from Banspani to Joruri (11 km) is expected to be completed in this financial year.
4.	Dallirajahara-Jagdapur	1995-96	369.00	0.13	1.00	This work is included in the railway budget since 95-96. However, this line is to be taken up on a cost sharing basis with Ministry of Steel & MP Govt., the cost of the first phase work from Dallirajahara to Rowghat being borne entirely by the Ministry of Steel. For the rest of the line SAIL is providing finances to the tune of Rs. 75 crs at 7% interest to be adjusted through freight concessions. M.P. Govt. will be providing land free of cost worth Rs. 25 cr and rest of the money is to be given by the Railway. An MOU has been signed and estimate sanctioned. SAIL has been requested to deposit Rs. 50 crore with Railways for taking the work in Dallirajahara-Rowghat section. Final location survey for

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						Jagdalpur to Rawghat, 130 km out of 140 km has been completed and likely to be completed later this year.
5.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	1996-97	301.63	16.51	1.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and are with the State Govt. An amount of Rs. 5 crs. has been paid to the State Govt. for land acquisition. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available.
6.	Howrah-Amta	1974-75	120.00	37.42	17.00	After completing the work from Howrah to Bargachia (24 km), the work was frozen. Owing to strong demands from Hon'ble Members, the work was defrozen in 95-96 for the segment from Bargachia to Munshirhat (8 km). The work on this 8 km long section is in good progress and expected to be completed shortly.
7.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	1994-95	700.00	9.77	14.50	The work of final location survey is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 23 km length has been submitted to State Government. Tender for earthwork and minor bridge for first two km on Railway land have been finalised. Work would be taken up once land is handed over by State Govt.
8.	Koraput-Rayagada	1982-83	475.00	467.00	8.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
9.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	1993-94	105.08	13.39	2.00	Land acquisition is completed except for forest land for which stage I approval has been obtained. Earthwork and bridge work has been taken up in the first block section Langigarh to Bhavanipatna.
10.	Talcher-Sambalpur	1984-85	443.93	426.85	8.00	The project has been completed and commissioned.
11.	Tamluk-Digha	1984-85	225.00	50.79	100.00	Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress. Land has been acquired for entire length. Fabrication of girders is in progress. Substructure of Haldi bridge has been completed. The work is targeted to be completed during by Dec. 2000.

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Gauge Conversion						
1.	Bankura-Damodar River Project	1998-99	100.00	3.00	40.00	5 tenders for earthwork and minor bridges have been invited. The work is in progress and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
2.	Gondia-Chandafort	1992-93	234.23	232.97	1.26	The work has been completed. Financial adjustments are being made.
3.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi	1996-97	391.28	5.04	16.80	Final location survey from Gondia to Balaghat including Balaghat-Katangi has been completed including geo-technical investigations of major bridges. The survey between Balaghat-Jabalpur is in progress. Land has been acquired upto Balaghat. Formation work, bridge work and ballast supply are in progress between Gondia and Balaghat.
4.	Naupada-Gunupur	1997-98	66.35	0.04	5.10	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
5.	Ranchi-Lohardaga with extension to Tori	1996-97	193.19	19.45	3.00	The earthwork and minor bridges have been taken up on the Phase-I Ranchi-Lohardaga section. Work of 14 arch bridges and casting RCC Box is in progress.
6.	Rupsa-Bangariposi	1996-97	80.00	15.87	1.00	Earthwork and bridges are in progress on the entire length.
Doubling						
1.	Akaltara-Champa	1994-95	53.60	51.20	1.00	Akaltara-Nalia (16 km) completed. Nalia-Hasdeo (7 km) completed, except the Hasdeo bridge which will be completed by Dec, 2001.
2.	Bilaspur-Urkura	1997-98	151.52	5.22	14.00	Final location survey for Bilaspur to Bhatapara has been completed. Work from Dōdkapara-Dagori (16 km) is in progress.

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3.	Champa-Saragbundia	1997-98	56.55	31.76	3.00	Three block sections covering 15 km section from Sarabgundia-Kathari road-Bolpur (15 km) have been completed work on flyover bridge on Bolpur-Champa section is being taken up.
4.	Gajapatnagaram Vijayanagaram	1993-94	41.92	40.92	1.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
5.	Goelkera-Manoharour 3rd line (Chakradharpur- Bondamounda Section)	1997-98	186.91	2.67	10.00	Final location survey and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. 74 hect. of land is to be acquired for which paper have been submitted to State Govt. Work in railway land at Manoharpur has been taken up. Work on other sections will be taken up when once the land is made available by the State Govt.
6.	Khurda Road-Puri PH-I (Khurda Road- Delang)	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	5.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001.
7.	Korba-Gevra Road	1998-99	29.39	0.03	10.00	Work of bridges and formation has commenced.
8.	Korba-Saragbundia	1996-97	32.13	28.93	1.00	Project completed and commissioned. Residual work is in progress.
9.	Nergundi-Cuttack- Raghunathpur	1997-98	119.83	40.28	30.00	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. FLS has been completed for Nergundi-Cuttack section. Bridge work and earth work has been taken up in Kendrapara Road yard. Tenders for other sections are under finalisation. Doubling for Nergundi-Kereparapodi (8 Kms) is targetted for completion by Dec. 2000.
10.	Panskura-Haldia PH-I (Panskura-Rajgoda)	2000-2001	48.00	0.00	2.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up.
11.	Raghunathpur-Rahama	1995-96	72.93	55.80	9.00	Project completed and commissioned. Residual work is in progress and expected to be completed by June 2001.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Rahama-Paradeep	1997-98	41.84	17.16	24.00	The preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up. Land acquisition has been processed and for 5 villages land acquisition papers has been submitted to the State Government. Earthwork and bridge have been taken up for 29 villages out of 30 villages. Work will be taken up once the land is made available.
13.	Rajatgarh-Barang	1999-2000	166.16	0.01	0.10	New work included in Budget 1999-2000 & will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.
14.	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	1995-96	72.67	58.29	1.00	The section from Rajatgarh to Salegaon has been completed. The remaining section of 6 km has a fly over and would be ready by Feb. 2001.
15.	Sarona-Bhillai 3rd line	1997-98	47.68	13.51	10.00	Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress. Site investigation for important major bridge Kharum has been taken up.
16.	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Brides on Mahanadi & Birupa)	1996-97	104.15	12.38	10.00	Soil investigation and detailed design on Birupa bridge has been completed and drawings are under preparation. Prequalification tender has been called for execution of bridge and M/s IRCON has been prequalified for Birupa bridge. For Mahanadi, consultant has been fixed for design and drawing and the detailed design is in progress. Tenders for bridge will be invited once the design is finalised.
17.	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	1997-98	112.65	17.16	15.00	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. Tenders have been finalised for earthwork in three sections and for 1 major bridge.
18.	Urkura-Raipur-Sarona	1995-96	31.05	26.05	5.00	Work completed and commissioned.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Railway Electrification						
1.	Adra-Midnapur	1993-94	84.41	70.24	10.00	Work completed and residual job is in hand.
2.	Bhubaneswar-Kottavalasa	1997-98	293.96	147.40	40.89	Work in progress and targeted for completion by March 2003. 260 RKMs since energised upto Mar 2000.
3.	Bokarao Steel City-Muri-Hatia-Bondamunda-Bimlagarh-Kiriburu/Barsuan incl. Purulia-Kotshila	1991-92	269.40	202.59	25.00	221 RKMs energised till Mar., 2000. An entire section targetted for completion by Mar 2002. The project has been delayed due to bad law and order problem and failure of OHE contractor and delay in release of 132 kv supply of DVC/BSEB.
4.	Chandil-Muri-Barkakana	1992-93	45.06	37.03	8.03	Work has been completed. Residual jobs in hand.
5.	Kharagpur Bhubaneswar incl. Talcher-Paradeep	1995-96	323.48	115.45	40.05	This work has earlier planned under BOLT. However, owing to high rates and unacceptable conditions, it has been decided in Feb., 97 to take up the work with railway funds. 56 RKMs energised upto 31.3.2000. This work is now targetted for completion by March, 2003.
Southern Railway						
New Lines						
1.	Angamali-Sabarimala	1997-98	550.00	5.00	1.00	Clearances have been obtained. Final Location Survey have been taken up and will be completed by December 2000. Papers for land acquisition are under preparation.
2.	Bangalore-Satyamanglam	1997-98	225.00	2.00	0.10	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey would be completed shortly. Land acquisition plans can be prepared once FLS is over and alignment has been firmed up.
3.	Dharmavaram-Penukonda via Puttaparthi	1997-98	124.22	15.20	20.00	Work is in good progress on Phase-I from Penukonda to Puttaparthi which is targetted for completion this year. Work in Phase-II is also being progressed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Hassan-Bangalore	1996-97	408.56	45.56	9.00	Land is available between Hasan and Shrawanbelgola (40 km) and Bangalore to Neelamangala (16 km). Earthwork and bridges are in progress.
5.	Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakleshpur	1996-97	157.00	9.69	2.90	80 hectares of land has been acquired. Work is in progress in 2 reaches and 90% work has been completed.
6.	Karur-Salem	1996-97	225.51	35.18	10.00	30% of land has been taken over and work is in progress over 45 km. Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress in 10 reaches major bridges over Kaveri river is also in progress.
7.	Kottayam-Erumeli	1997-98	200.00	0.01	0.10	Work will be taken up once necessary clearances have been obtained.
8.	Kottur-Harihar	1995-96	120.29	0.17	1.00	Final location survey has been completed and preparation of land acquisition plans & papers has been taken up.
9.	Kuttipuram-Guruvayoor	1994-95	90.00	0.45	0.10	Work transferred from Doubling Plan Head to New Line Plan Head. Work will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances as new line work.
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore	1994-95	217.82	129.79	26.00	Arsikere-Hassan-Sakleshpur has been completed & commissioned. Earthwork bridges, ballast collection on the rest of the section are in progress.
2.	Bangalore-Hubli-Birur-Shimoga	1992-93	450.90	397.26	2.00	The work on the line from Bangalore-Hubli & between Birur & Shimoga has been completed. Work is in progress on Shimoga-Talguppa. Earthwork has been taken up from Shimoga-Kamsi (25 km) and Sagara-Talguppa (15 km) where progress is 90%.
3.	Chennai Beach-Tiruchchirappali and Arakonnam-Chengalpattu	1992-93	722.99	607.18	35.50	Work has been completed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Cuddalore-Salem via Vriddhachalam	1999-2000	198.68	0.01	1.00	The work would be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
5.	Dindigul-Trichy	1992-93	132.13	110.04	5.50	The work has been completed and commissioned.
6.	Madurai-Rameswaram	1997-98	240.00	5.00	5.00	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Earthwork and bridges has been taken up. No target date has been fixed.
7.	Mysore-Chamarajanagar	1997-98	175.00	0.00	0.10	This work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
8.	Mysore-Hassan	1995-96	212.11	193.72	10.00	The work has been completed except on Lakshan Tirtha bridge, which is being built on a diversion. The bridge will be completed by March 2001.
9.	Quilon-Tirunelveli Trichendur & Tenkasi-Virudhanagar	1997-98	280.00	10.00	15.00	Final location survey has been taken up. Work is in progress and would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources. In Virudhanagar-Tenkasi and Tirunelveli Tiruchendur, work on bridges and earthwork has been taken up.
10.	Thanjavur-Vilupuram main line	1998-99	223.00	10.01	10.00	The work would be taken up after requisite clearances.
11.	Tiruchchirappali-Nagore-Karaikal	1995-96	138.11	81.15	3.00	The section from Trichy to Thanjavur (50 km) has been completed and commissioned. Work on rest of the section is in progress. No target date has been fixed. Nagpattinam-Velankani has been sanctioned as a material modification to this work.
12.	Trichy-Manmadurai	2000-2001	175.00	0.00	7.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up.
13.	Villupuram-Katpadi	2000-2001	175.00	0.00	5.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up.
14.	Villupuram-Pondicherry	1997-98	30.00	0.01	1.00	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Yashwantpur-Salem	1995-96	183.38	175.78	0.10	Work has been completed. Work is not getting commissioned for want of demand of ROB at Hebbal and Lingrayapuram from Public. State Govt. is being approached for its early commissioning.
16.	Yelahanka Chickballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet	1994-95	64.69	58.66	0.10	The work as sanctioned has been completed and commissioned.
Doubling						
1.	Attipattu-Korukkupettai	1999-2000	40.00	0.50	10.00	Work included in the Budget 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimates is in progress. Tender for construction of a important bridge across Ennore Creeck has been awarded.
2.	Bangalore City-Krishnarajpuram	1997-98	85.00	0.00	0.10	Work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
3.	Bangalore-Kengeri with Elect.	1995-96	20.72	0.69	0.10	Due to low operational priority, the work is not being taken up for the present.
4.	Calicut-Mangalore	1995-96	454.95	213.74	97.10	Doubling of the section from Mangalore to Kuttipuram is a sanctioned project. It has also been decided to extend the doubling from Kuttipuram to Shoranur, based on the representations received. Work is in good progress. 6 sections have been completed. Another 11 sections (65 Kms) will be completed in 2000-2001. The work is expected to be completed in 3-4 years time subject to availability of resources.
5.	Ernakulam-Ernakulam maryard.	1999-2000	3.16	0.50	2.66	The work included in the Budget 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimate has been taken up.
6.	Irugur-Coimbatore	1996-97	25.10	1.61	1.00	Land acquisition for the project has been taken up. The detailed planning of the facilities to be provided is also on hand. The work as required would be taken up and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Kengeri-Ramnagaram	1997-98	45.00	0.07	0.10	Due to low operational priority, the work is not being taken up for the present.
8.	Kuttipuram-Calicut	1994-95	63.28	33.26	25.00	Remarks same as given for Calicut-Mangalore below.
9.	Quilon-Trivandrum	1990-91	145.17	119.08	12.00	This work has been completed.
10.	Whitefield-Kuppam	1992-93	104.93	75.23	4.00	The work is in progress & the first phase from Whitefield to Bangarapet has been completed and commissioned. From Bangarapet to Kuppam work is not being taken up for the present.
11.	Yeshwantpur-Tumkur	1997-98	80.00	2.00	5.00	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Preliminary arrangements are being made for taking up the work including acquisition of land.
Metropolitan Transport Project						
1.	Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu Gauge Conversion	1998-99	455.22	10.80	20.00	The work is in progress and part detailed estimate is under process for sanction.
2.	Chennai Beach-Luz (now Thirumali) Ph. I Rapid Tamsit System	1983-84	268.87	259.82	5.00	Line opened for traffic on 19.10.97. Work on additional station is in progress.
3.	MRTS PH II from Thirumali to Velacherry	1996-97	705.50	98.65	35.00	The substructure works for the entire elevated section from Tirumalai to Taramani has been completed. Further progress is being affected due to infringing hutments in Reach-1 and land acquisition in Reach-V. State Govt. has been requested for assistance.
Railway Electrification						
1.	Emakulam-Trivandrum	1999-2000	147.87	0.10	10.00	This work has been included in the Railway Budget, 1999-2000 subject to necessary clearances. The proposal has been sent to CCEA for approval.
2.	Erode-Palghat-Emakulam	1992-93	222.21	199.64	18.00	The work has been physically completed. Residual job is in hand.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Tambaram-Villupuram & Chengalpattu-Arakonam	1999-2000	34.20	0.10	15.00	Estimate has been sanctioned. Preliminary works have been taken up.
Western Railway						
New Lines						
1.	Ajmer-Pushker	2000-2001	67.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey is being taken up.
2.	Dausa-Gangapur	1996-97	217.93	0.21	0.10	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition papers for first block section covering 34 hectares for first section Dausa-Bamaniya submitted to State Govt.
3.	Gandhinagar-Adrej Moti-Kalol	2000-2001	52.00	0.00	2.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey has been completed. Preparation of plans and estimate is in progress.
4.	Godhra-Indore Dewas-Maksi	1989-90	597.00	21.09	10.00	This work is being executed in phases. The first phase work between Dewas & Maksi is now in progress. Work is in progress on 2 major bridges remaining 6 major bridges have been completed. Work on all 49 minor bridges have been completed. The other items like earth work and ballast supply are also in progress. This section is expected to be completed in the IX-Plan period, subject to availability of resources.
5.	Kapadvanj-Modasa	1978-79	62.74	50.00	10.00	This work though sanctioned in 78-79 remained frozen for several years. The Gauge conversion work between Nadiad & Kapadvanj which was a part of the sanctioned project was completed in 92-93. The new line portion was defrozen in 94-95. Work is now in progress and is expected to be completed by Dec. 2000.
6.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal	2000-2001	425.00	0.00	1.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Final location survey is being taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Agra-Bandikui	1995-96	169.30	4.51	9.00	Earthwork and bridges are in progress. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. No TD has yet been fixed.
2.	Ajmer-Udaipur-Chittaurgarh	1996-97	445.38	9.97	10.00	The work is in progress between Udaipur and Chittaurgarh in first phase. No Chittaurgarh target date has yet been fixed.
3.	Bhildi-Viramgam	1991-92	64.88	11.43	6.90	Earthwork, minor & major bridges are in progress and would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources. The target for completion of this work has not yet been fixed.
4.	Dharangadhara-Kuḍa siding	1997-98	13.27	3.09	0.10	This work is being done on 1/3 cost sharing basis with the Gujarat Government and the Ministry of Industry. Earthwork has been completed and full ballast supply has been taken up. The work is in progress and will be completed in 2000-2001 subject to the co-shares plying the balance amount.
5.	Gandhidham-Palanpur	1998-99	337.79	10.00	3.00	Work would be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.
6.	Gandhidham-Bhuj	1995-96	52.00	8.30	20.00	The work is in good progress and is targetted for completion in 2000-2001.
7.	Neemuch-Ratlam	1993-94	116.74	9.01	5.00	Work on long lead items has been taken up. 8 substructure works on 31 bridges out of 32 have been completed. Works of substructure on 97 out of 130 minor bridges have been completed. The work will be programmed and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Phulera-Marwar-Ahmedabad	—	—	0.00	15.00	Work has been completed and commissioned. Residual works are in progress.
9.	Rajkot-Veraval	1994-95	153.36	18.19	10.00	Earthwork, minor bridges and strengthening of major bridges have been taken up and are in progress. The work is expected to be completed during the coming years depending upon availability of resources.
10.	Surendernagar-Bhavnagar	1996-97	536.11	15.01	53.00	The formation and bridge work is in good progress. Track, Signalling etc. are to be done by an SPV, Ministry of Railways and GPPL. MOU has been signed. Further follow up action is taken. Target date is March 2002.
11.	Wankaner-Malia Miyana	1995-96	82.48	19.42	30.00	The work is in good progress. The first phase from Morbi to Maliya Miyana and Dahinsara-Navlakhi has been completed. The rest of the section is targeted for completion in 2000-2001.
Doubling						
1.	Bolai-Kalisindh-Kisoni-Bercha	1992-93	49.28	28.29	16.00	The work is in progress on 4 block sections and Maksi-Pirumrod and Bolai-Kalisindh completed. Target date of completion is 28.2.2001.
2.	Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal	1990-91	53.00	0.80	0.10	This work is not being taken up for the present owing to low operational priority and constraint of resources.
3.	Kota-Gurla Chambal bridge	1995-96	11.70	11.60	0.10	The work has been completed and commissioned.
4.	Surat-Kosamba PH-I of 3rd line between Vadodara and Virar	2000-2001	49.00	0.00	10.00	New work included in the Budget 2000-2001. Preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Metropolitan Transport Project						
1.	Autoblock signalling of Virar-Dahanu Road	1997-98	27.19	12.06	6.99	Construction of Relay Huts and laying of cables & erection of signals for Saphalke-Palghar is in progress.
2.	Quadrupling between Borivali and Virar	1995-96	401.66	43.04	30.00	Work for earth work, major & minor bridges yard remodelling and quarters is in progress.
3.	Santacruz-Borivali 5th line	1995-96	82.42	61.46	12.00	Work on all minor and major bridges have been completed. Work is held up at certain locations due to delay in removal of encroachment.
4.	Virar Dahanu Road- Development of facilities for introduction of EMUs and terminal facilities	2000-2001	25.82	0.00	0.01	Work has been included in the budget of 2000-2001 subject to necessary clearances.
Railway Electrification						
1.	Udhna-Jalgaon	1997-98	138.12	14.98	25.20	11 RKM has been energised till March 2000. The work is progressing as per schedule. Target is March 2003.

Demand and Supply of Fertilizers

3902. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that Urea output has fallen short of target as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated April 19, 2000;

(b) if so, the extent to which the Urea output has been short of target as on January, 2000;

(c) the main reasons for such shortfall;

(d) the demand and actual supply of fertilizers to each district of States during the current year, till date, product-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the production target of urea and to bridge the gap of demand and supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):
(a) to (c) Urea production in January 2000 was 16.81 lakh Ms against the target of 18.37 lakh MTs. The shortfall of 1.56 lakh MTs was on account of Officers strike in ONGC/GAIL, which led to complete stoppage of supply of gas. The production of urea in the corresponding month

of last year was 16.25 lakh MTs. The cumulative production of urea from April 1999 to January 2000 was higher than the target by 0.6 per cent and that of corresponding period of last year by 3.6 per cent.

(d) Urea is the only fertiliser which is under price, distribution and movement control of Government of India. The supply of urea is made to the State on aggregate basis as per allocation to the State. Intra-State movements are monitored and regulated by the State Governments. The demand and supply of decontrolled fertilisers is managed by the States in consultation with the manufacturers and suppliers operating within the parameters of the Concession Scheme administered by the Government of India. District-wise demand and supply of neither controlled fertiliser *i.e.* urea nor of decontrolled fertilisers is made.

(e) There was no shortfall in cumulative production of urea from April, 1999 to January, 2000. However, if there is gap between demand and supply of urea, the same is met through imports.

Wait List of LPG Connections in Rajasthan

3903. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in waiting list for LPG connections in Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the strategy adopted by the Government to provide gas connections to the persons in the wait-list;

(c) the number of LPG agencies working in the State, district-wise and the quota of gas connections for each agency; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to provide LPG gas connections to the persons in wait-list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (d) The total waiting list registered with LPG distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in the State of Rajasthan as on 1.12.1999 was about 5.84 lakhs. This waiting list would be liquidated by the end of year 2000.

(c) The total number of LPG agencies operating in the State of Rajasthan as on 1.7.2000 was 263 and the total customer holding with these distributor as on 1.7.2000 was about 19.67 lakhs.

Construction of Road over Bridges

3904. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of requests received from Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for the construction of road over bridges and rail over bridges during the last three years, State-wise;

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

(c) the details of projects completed, work in progress and work yet to be started, separately, during the above period;

(d) the details of proposals from these States rejected by the Union Government and reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to complete the on going projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

(d) All the proposals, sponsored by the State Governments duly fulfilling preliminary conditions for works to be taken on cost sharing basis, have been approved.

(e) Railways make every effort to complete the work of bridge proper simultaneously with the work of approaches being done by State Govts. and accordingly allotment of funds have been increased during the year.

Statement

Requests for construction of Road Over/Under Bridges at various places in the country are received frequently, but only those proposals are considered which are sponsored by the State Govts. duly fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites. The proposals found feasible in all respects and qualifying on cost sharing basis, are included in the Railway's Works Programme.

In all, a total of 13 bridges *i.e.* 8 in Andhra Pradesh and 5 in Uttar Pradesh were completed during the last 3 years.

Statement showing the status of ongoing works indicating proposals received in the last three years, works in progress and yet to be started, is given below:

Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Name of work & locations	Status
1	2	3
1.	ROB at Timmapur-Shadnagar in lieu of L.C. No. 23-A.	Work in Progress
2.	ROB at Palakollu-Gorintada in lieu of 'B' class level crossing	Work likely to be started soon tenders invited and under process.
3.	ROB at Fatehnagar in lieu of LC No. 23	Work completed.
4.	ROB at Jamia Osmania in lieu of L.C. No. 2-E.	Yet to be started.
5.	ROB at Ghatkesar in lieu of L.C. No. 16	Work almost completed likely to be opened to traffic early.
6.	ROB at Kazipet Yard in lieu of level crossing No. 59-A at Km. 324/1-2	Yet to be started.
7.	ROB at Chirala in lieu of L.C. No. 244.	Work in Progress.
8.	ROB at Zaheerabad in lieu of L.C. No. 30-B.	Yet to be started.
9.	ROB at Ramakrishnapuram Gate in lieu of L.C. No. 252.	Work in Progress
10.	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 1 near Sitafalmandi.	Yet to be started.
11.*	ROB in lieu of existing L.C. No. 101 at Km. 251/13-14 at Kuppam of Jolarpettai-Bangalore city section.	Yet to be started.
12.*	ROB at Elamanchili-Narsingapalli in lieu of L.C. No. 475.	Yet to be started.
13.*	ROB at Guntur-Tenali in lieu of L.C. No. 250.	Yet to be started.
14.*	ROB at Pithapuram in lieu of L.C. No. 429.	Yet to be started.
15.*	ROB at Khammam in lieu of L.C. No. 104.	Yet to be started.
16.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 105 at Km. 92/9-10 between Tirpuathi town on Tirupathi-Renigunta section.	Yet to be started.
17.*	ROB at Mahboobabad in lieu of L.C. No. 82.	Yet to be started.
18.*	ROB at Bayyavaram in lieu of L.C. No. 480.	Yet to be started.
19.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 487 on Anakapalli-Tadi	Yet to be started.
20.	ROB at Haripuram Km. 664/5-7 on NH-5 on Mandesa Road-Sumandevi Road.	Yet to be started.
21.	ROB near Palavalasa between Baruva-Mandaso on NH-5 at Km. 635/6-9.	Yet to be started.
22.	ROB at Km. 664/6-7 on NH-5 between Baruva-Sompeta	Yet to be started.
23.	Widening of Road Under Bridge No. 251 at Rail Nilayam and Station yard at Secunderabad.	Work in Progress.
24.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 122 at Km. 528/32-34 near Madhira station	Yet to be started.
25.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 306 at KM. 10/8-9 near Perecherla station	Yet to be started.

1	2	3
26.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 285 at KM. 630/6-7 near Nasarapet station.	Yet to be started.
27.*	Road Under Bridge in lieu of L.C. No. 18/KK at KM. 54/8-10 at Bhadrachalam road yard.	Yet to be started.
28.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 62 at Km. 237/8-10 near Bellampalli station.	Yet to be started.
29.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 26 at Km. 165/13-14 near Hafizpet station	Yet to be started.
30.*	ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 99/A at Km. 135/2-4 between Gudur-Oduru stations & L.C. No. 99/B at Km. 0/3-4 between Gudur-Kondagunta stations.	Yet to be started.
UTTAR PRADESH		
1*	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 430/A at Iradatganj	Yet to be started.
2.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 34-B on Sultanpur-Jaffarabad section	Work completed
3.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 12 spl at Subdearganj	Railway portion completed approaches in progress
4.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 279-B/3 on Bilraya-Panwari section	Railway portion completed, approaches in progress.
5.	RUB in lieu of Level crossing No. 29 at Etawah	Railway portion completed approaches in progress.
6.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 21-A at Partapur	Work in progress.
7.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 109-A at Ramghat-Aligarh	Work completed
8.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 40-B on Delhi-Saharanpur section at Sakoti	Work in progress.
9.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 95-A at Hathras	Railway portion work stopped as approaches have not been started by State Government.
10.	RUB in lieu of level crossing No. 154-C at Ghaziabad	Railway portion completed approaches in progress.
11.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 79-D at G.T. Road near Kanpur	Work yet to be started.
12.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 25-B/3 T. near Meja Road	Work yet to be started.
13.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 356 spl and 250-A at Chaupala	-do-
14.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 403-A near Rampur	-do-
15.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 180-A at Barabanki	-do-
16.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 50 alongwith subway at Fatehpur	Still at planning stage.
17 *	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 129 between Deoria sadar-Nunkhar	State Govt. has not yet decided location

1	2	3
18.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 6 between Daliganj Mahibullahpur in Lucknow	-do-
19.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 7/ML between Daliganj & Badshahnagar	Yet to be started.
20.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 1 spl at Rampur	In planning stage
21.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 6 near Eye Hospital at Kanpur	Work not yet started.
22.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 10 at Mahibullahpur station yard in Lucknow	Work yet to be started.
23.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 3/ML at Lucknow	Work likely to be completed soon
24.*	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 24-A between Ghazipur city-Ghazipur ghat.	Work in planning stage

*The proposals received during last 3 years.

Appointment of Teachers in Defence Schools

3905. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether primary and senior secondary schools under his Ministry are also being run in the precincts of ordnance factories; and

(b) if so, the procedure adopted for the appointment of teachers in these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procedure for appointment of teachers is prescribed by Rules, the salient features of which are as follows:-

(1) *For Primary Teachers:*

100% by Direct Recruitment. Qualification, experience etc. as per rules.

(2) *For High School and Higher Secondary Teachers:*

50% of vacancies are filled by direct recruitment based on the requisite qualification and experience and 50% by promotion (failing which by direct recruitment) by constituting a DPC as per rules.

(3) *For Group 'B' (Gazetted) post of Head Master High School:*

50% by direct recruitment and 50% by promotion, failing which by direct recruitment. For direct recruitment requisition is sent to UPSC for selection.

(4) *For Group 'A' Post/Principal/HSS:*

100% by Direct Recruitment through UPSC.

Vacant post of SCs/STs/OBCs

3906. SHRI RAMASHAKAL:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether many posts reserved for SCs/STs/OBC in various categories are lying vacant in the Departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

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

(c) whether his Ministry has recently started filling up of vacant posts for SCs/STs/OBCs after the 90th Constitutional amendment passed by the Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Category wise vacancy position of reserved

posts in the Ministry & undertaking as below in respect of SC/ST/OBC.

	Group A			Group B			Group C			Group D		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Min. & Att./Sub. offices	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	7	18	3	1	5
PSUs	157	75	15	159	102	10	541	504	84	85	127	36
Total	157	75	16	159	102	12	546	511	102	88	128	41

(c) and (d) The Attached/Subordinate Offices/PSUs under the control of this Ministry have been directed to adhere to the instructions in this regard issued by DOP&T.

Cost price of LPG and Kerosene

3907. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have calculated the cost price of LPG and Kerosene;

(b) if so, whether the production cost as well as the expenditure being incurred on the maintenance, transportation, taxes and other administrative expenses have also been taken into consideration while calculating the cost;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the difference in average cost price of indigenous as well as the imported items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Cost of any petroleum product can not be identified separately since all the products are produced jointly. The cost would include cost of crude oil, processing charges, marketing cost, filling charges, freight, distributors' commission, taxes other duties etc.

International as well as domestic prices of petroleum products are reviewed regularly which is a continuous process.

Home Delivery of LPG Cylinders to Villagers

3908. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Panchayats in Hamirpur and Mahoba district of Uttar Pradesh which are being supplied LPG for distribution;

(b) the number of these villages which are at the distance of 100-500 yards from the main road;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide home delivery of gas cylinders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of LPG agencies proposed to be opened in Hamirpur and Mahoba districts during 2000-2001 alongwith the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) At present, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has one LPG distributorship in Mahoba district and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) has one LPG distributorship in Hamirpur district of Uttar Pradesh. These distributors are making home delivery of cylinders in municipal limits of these districts are per their trading area of operation. However, supply to villages is made on cash and carry basis.

(e) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have plans to set up LPG distributorships in both the districts under various marketing plans on the following locations.

District	Location
Hamirpur	Somerpur
-do-	Kulpahar
-do-	Charkhari
-do-	Mudaha
-do-	Gohand
-do-	Kurapa
-do-	Sareela
-do-	Hamirpur
Mahoba	Kabrai
-do-	Kharela

[*English*]

Lead free Petrol

3909. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for providing Lead Free Petrol in metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Lead Free Petrol is being supplied to the entire country, including Metropolitan cities, since 1.2.2000.

[*Translation*]

Counter Guarantee to the Investor in Power Distribution Network

3910. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give a Counter Guarantee to the investor in power distribution new work; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b)

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for extending Counter Guarantee to investors investing in the power distribution net-work.

[*English*]

Scheme for Revival of Textiles Industry

3911. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any scheme from the State Governments, particularly from Government of Kerala for the revival of Textile Industry in their States;

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

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Government has taken a number of steps to tackle the problems faced by textile industry in the country including Kerala. Some of these are as follows:

- (i) In order to improve the production of cotton textiles in the country, the Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) to improve the production, productivity and quality of cotton, ensuring the availability of quality cotton to the textile mills.
- (ii) For modernisation of textile and jute industries the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been launched w.e.f., 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years.
- (iii) A chain of textile testing laboratories have been set up to help industry in assessing the quality of textiles.
- (iv) For import of capital goods, the Export Promotion of Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme has been simplified.
- (v) Import of cotton is also under OGL to help industry to import requisite quality of raw cotton.

Apart from the above, The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (special provisions) Act, SICA, 1985 and established the Board of Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be

taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies, change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

Visit of Army Chief to France

3912. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army Chief has visited France during December, 1999 to explore the possibility of acquiring varied military hardware;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Army Chief also visited Poland and other European countries; and

(d) if so, the details of agreements signed, if any, for purchase of defence material from these countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) At the invitation of the Chiefs of General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, the Czech Armed Forces and Chief of Staff of the French Armed Forces, our Chief of the Army Staff, General V.P. Malik, undertook goodwill visits to Poland during May 11-15, 1999, the Czech Republic during May 16-19, 1999 and to France during December 6-10, 1999.

The visits of Service Chiefs to foreign countries at the invitation of their counterparts are undertaken primarily to generate goodwill with friendly foreign countries in the context of our overall national defence policy.

During the visits to the above countries, no agreement was signed by the Chief of the Army Staff.

[Translation]

Committee on International Trade of Textile

3913. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Textile Secretary to study the challenges after abolishing the quota system in trade of textile;

(b) if so, details thereof along with area of study of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee will study keeping in view the collective transport, labour relations, quality of textile, banking business, welfare of labourers and the problems of workers;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make Indian Textile Industry competitive in international market; and

(e) if so, the details of provisions, efforts suggested by the Committee to increase the export of textile?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPCC) has set up "Apparel Millennium Committee" and Secretary (Textiles) has consented to the request of the Council to chair the same.

The terms and reference of the Committee drawn up by AEPCC are as follows:—

- (i) To ascertain and to suggest formation of policies for creation of a data Bank in the area of fabric manufacturing, fabric processing in India which are fit for readymade garment exports industry.
- (ii) To suggest policies and to ascertain quantum, the type and process of fabrics imported in the country meant for re-exports as garments; and to ascertain indigenous production and process of these fabrics in India.
- (iii) To suggest policies to create a Data Bank of the available stitching capacities and to suggest modernisation index for textile processing and fabric production; to suggest modernisation index of the garment industry and for those industries which are backwardly integrated.
- (iv) To understand and incorporate policies being followed by leading competing countries in the area of imports and exports, manufacturing, custom procedures, market techniques and to suggest short term as well as long term measures to overcome the problems.
- (v) To suggest relevant policies changes in labour laws relevant to garment manufacturers for a smooth and homogenous working atmosphere; to understand the prevalent in competing countries; their labour laws; minimum wages; perquisite and issues related to labour productivity, etc.

Government have been taking several steps from time to time to make Indian Textile Industry competitive in

international market. Some of the important initiatives taken specifically in respect of the textile sector are as under:

- (1) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has been made operational with effect from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernization and Upgradation of this sector.
- (2) The current Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy for the period 2000-2004 is expected to provide stability with continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
- (3) Non-Quota Entitlement (NQE) System for encouraging non-quota exports to quota and non-quota countries has been retained to boost exports in apparel sector-value added segment of Indian textiles.
- (4) The facility to import capital goods under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% concessional rate of duty.
- (5) Exports of cotton yarn by Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/Export Promotion Zone (EPZ)/EPCG units has been liberalised.
- (6) Zero Duty import of certain categories of trimmings & embellishments has been allowed.

Availability of Drugs

3914. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government to ensure easy availability of quality drugs at cheaper rates in the country;

(b) the measures being taken by the Government to check the heavy profit being earned by drugs manufacturing companies by producing spurious drugs;

(c) whether there is any proposal to bring the drugs under the purview of the Patent Law;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith its effect on the prices of drugs;

(e) whether the Government are keeping a close watch on the pharmaceutical companies to manufacture

life saving and other drugs indigenously and to maintain their quality; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The Drug Policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices.

(b), (e) and (f) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the Rules thereunder, the enforcement of quality control of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals is regulated by the respective States.

(c) and (d) Drugs stand covered by the Patents Act, 1970.

[English]

Companies Registered in North Eastern Region

3915. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies registered in the North Eastern Region and Sikkim during the last three years and the quantum of authorised capital of each company, State-wise; and

(b) the types of business in which such companies are engaged State-wise and business-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Companies registered in the North Eastern Region, during the last three years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, are 354, 333 and 385 respectively. Since the Companies Act 1956 is not applicable to the State of Sikkim, the required information for Sikkim is not available in the Department. The authorised capital of each company, State-wise, is given in statement-I enclosed.

(b) State-wise and Industrial activity-wise distribution of companies are placed in statement-II enclosed.

Statement I*List of Companies Registered During 1997-2000*State Name: **ASSAM** (Value in Rs. Thousands)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Authorised Capital
1	2	3
1.	A.B. Bonded Warehouse Pvt. Ltd.	5000
2.	A.B. Securities Pvt. Ltd.	1000
3.	A.D. Commercial India Pvt. Ltd.	2000
4.	A.R. Trade-in Private Limited	2500
5.	A.T. Private Limited	2000
6.	Aahar Processor Private Limited	2000
7.	Aajir Patrika Publications Pvt. Ltd.	10000
8.	AAV Key Associates Pvt. Ltd.	600
9.	AB Tea Holdings Private Limited	1000
10.	Abhishek Motors Pvt. Ltd.	5000
11.	ABPH Garments Pvt. Ltd.	100
12.	Accolade Software Private Limited	2500
13.	ADD International Pvt. Ltd.	5000
14.	Agarwal Automobiles Pvt. Ltd.	5000
15.	Agri Development Centre Pvt. Ltd.	1000
16.	Ajoli Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
17.	Akash Publications and Press Pvt. Ltd.	100
18.	Alliance Distributors Private Limited	1000
19.	Alock Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
20.	Alpine Hospital & Research Centre Private Limited	5000
21.	Alpine Tea Co. Ltd.	500
22.	Alps Textiles Private Limited	2500
23.	Amar Infotech Private Limited	1000
24.	Amarnath Fragrances Private Limited	1000
25.	Ambika Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	4000
26.	Ammbee Briquettes Private Limited	1500
27.	Amrit Supply Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500

1	2	3
28.	Ananta Construction Pvt. Ltd.	2500
29.	Angshuman Builders Private Limited	1500
30.	Anjena Agro Firm Private Limited	1000
31.	Anmol (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
32.	Anmol Housing Private Limited	1000
33.	Antique India Private Limited	10000
34.	Anukriti Boutiques Private Limited	2500
35.	Anup Trade Transport Pvt Ltd.	10000
36.	Apama Apartments Private Limited	1000
37.	Apex Network Limited.	2500
38.	Apex Yarn Ltd.	5000
39.	Apsara Finance Pvt. Ltd.	2500
40.	Arahuti Valley Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	500
41.	Archnirman Pvt. Ltd.	2500
42.	Aries (Assam) Private Limited	10000
43.	Arin Tea Private Limited	1500
44.	Arjun Chandra Thakuria Properties Pvt. Ltd.	1500
45.	Arkashish Entrade Pvt. Ltd.	5000
46.	Arohan Tea Co Pvt. Ltd.	1500
47.	Arunachal Pradesh Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.	500
48.	Arunachi Carriers Pvt. Ltd.	2500
49.	Arunodoy Tea Estates Private Limited	2000
50.	Ashba Agrotech Ltd.	500
51.	Ashiana Real Estates Pvt. Ltd.	200
52.	Ashirwad Limited	4000
53.	Ashish Tobacco Company Private Limited	500
54.	Ashoka Road Link Pvt. Ltd.	2000

1	2	3	1	2	3
55.	Ashoka Weaving Ltd.	2500	87.	Baba Bholenath Cement (India) Pvt. Ltd.	12500
56.	Ashwin Equipments Pvt. Ltd.	100	88.	Bader Sons Pvt. Ltd.	2500
57.	Asomi Agro Forest Pvt. Ltd.	500	89.	Bagla Securities Private Limited	2500
58.	Assam Apple Valley Tea Private Limited	100	90.	Bajrang Bali Sales (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
59.	Assam Aqua Treat Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	100	91.	Balajee Roofings Private Limited	7500
60.	Assam Bulk Carriers Private Limited	5000	92.	Banu Steels Pvt. Ltd.	2500
61.	Assam Cigarette Company Private Limited	500	93.	Barak Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd.	4000
62.	Assam Cloth Industry Pvt. Ltd.	2500	94.	Barak Agencies and Services Private Limited	100
63.	Assam Cosmetics Private Limited	1000	95.	Barak Developers Pvt. Ltd.	2000
64.	Assam Engineer's Company Pvt. Ltd.	500	96.	Barak Valley Cements Limited	50000
65.	Assam Fine Blend Industries Pvt. Ltd.	2500	97.	Barman Food Products Pvt. Ltd.	1000
66.	Assam Network Private Limited	500	98.	Barua and Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
67.	Assam Petroleum Pvt. Ltd.	1000	99.	Barua Liquor Pvt. Ltd.	500
68.	Assam Premium Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	3000	100.	Barua Paints Industries Private Limited	1000
69.	Assam Retreads Private Limited	1500	101.	Baruah Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	1000
70.	Assam Telelink Limited	1000	102.	Baruah Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	100
71.	Assam Tobacco Private Limited	1000	103.	Basantibari Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
72.	Assam Warehousing & Storage Limited	20000	104.	Beltola Holdings and Properties Pvt. Ltd.	3000
73.	Associated India Private Limited	10000	105.	Benison Home Finance Limited	1000
74.	Associated Manufacturers Private Limited	1000	106.	Berial Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	5000
75.	ATCO Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	3000	107.	Bhabani Offset and Imaging Systems Pvt. Ltd.	1000
76.	Atlanta Modular Ltd.	2500	108.	Bhagawati Plantations and Industries Pvt. Ltd.	2500
77.	Austric Drilling Services and Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	900	109.	Bhagobaty Agro Products Private Limited	1000
78.	Avantika Project and Finance Pvt. Ltd.	2500	110.	Bhanu Fish Co Pvt. Ltd.	500
79.	Avinandan Apartments Pvt. Ltd.	1000	111.	Bharadwaj Apartments Pvt. Ltd.	500
80.	AVM Tobacco Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000	112.	Bhartia Associates Private Limited	500
81.	Azury Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	200	113.	Bhaskar Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
82.	B. and B Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1000	114.	Bhawani Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	1500
83.	B. Dibakar and Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500	115.	Bhuyan Industries Pvt. Ltd.	10000
84.	B. K. Bansal Services Private Limited	1000			
85.	B.L. Agarwala Udyog Pvt. Ltd.	10000			
86.	B.M. Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	2500			

1	2	3	1	2	3
116.	Bhuyankhat Estates Pvt. Ltd.	1000	144.	Buds Plantations Private Limited	500
117.	Big Bid Consstruction Pvt. Ltd.	300	145.	Builders Guild Limited	2000
118.	Bihuland Trade Private Limited	2500	146.	Builderite Construction Pvt. Ltd.	4000
119.	Bijulee Tea Pvt. Ltd.	2000	147.	Busybee Roadlines Pvt. Ltd.	500
120.	Bilashiram Bhuramal and Company Private Limited	1000	148.	C.K. Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	2000
121.	Bipin Industries Private Limited	10000	149.	Camellia Plantation Private Limited	500
122.	Biswajit Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	500	150.	Care Clinic and Research Pvt. Ltd.	500
123.	Biva Food Products Private Limited	2500	151.	Carewel Polyclinic & Diagnostic Centre Pvt. Ltd.	500
124.	Biz Net Express Pvt. Ltd.	100	152.	Cataract and IOL Hospital Pvt. Ltd.	1000
125.	Bloomington Enterprises Private Limited	5000	153.	Centurion Developers Pvt. Ltd.	1500
126.	BANS Pvt. Ltd.	2500	154.	Cha-Indica Private Limited	2500
127.	Bohagi Tea Compnay Pvt. Ltd.	5000	155.	Chaliha Warehousing Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
128.	Bohniman Systems Pvt. Ltd.	200	156.	Charu Technology Private Limited	750
129.	Bohniman Tea Pvt. Ltd.	500	157.	Chowdhury Electricals Pvt. Ltd.	300
130.	Boraco Commercial Private Limited	2500	158.	Chungibarie Tea Estates Private Limited	2500
131.	Borgang Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1200	159.	Circinate Enegineering Pvt. Ltd.	1000
132.	Boruah and Company Pvt. Ltd.	4000	160.	Citron Commercial Pvt. Ltd.	1000
133.	Bose Infosys Education Pvt. Ltd.	1000	161.	City Associates Private Limited	2500
134.	Brahmaputra Commercial and Builders Pvt. Ltd.	2500	162.	City Maternity Centre Pvt. Ltd.	500
135.	Brahmaputra Automobiles Pvt. Ltd.	1500	163.	Classic Techno Trade Pvt. Ltd.	5000
136.	Brahmaputra Petrochemicals Pvt. Ltd.	5000	164.	CMJ Holdings Private Limited	2500
137.	Brahmaputra River Valley Trading Private Limited	100	165.	Colour Musing Private Limited	1000
138.	Brahmaputra International Private Limited	10000	166.	Comptech Systems & Services Private Limited	2500
139.	Brahmaputra Breweries and Distilleries Private Limited	2500	167.	Compushoppe Pvt. Ltd.	1000
140.	Brahmaputra Infotech Private Limited	5000	168.	Critical Care Diagnostics & Hospitals Private Limited	500
141.	Brahmaputra Tobacco Company Private Limited	1000	169.	Daffodil Infotech Pvt. Ltd.	1000
142.	Brooklyn Enterprises Private Limited	1000	170.	Debendra Tea and Company Private Limited	2500
143.	Buds Creation Pvt. Ltd.	1500	171.	Debsons Jute Co Pvt. Ltd.	2000
			172.	Delight Construction Pvt. Ltd.	2000

1	2	3	1	2	3
173.	Delta Classic Pvt. Ltd.	500	201.	Energy (India) Development Consortium Private Limited	2000
174.	Demoja Associates Pvt. Ltd.	1000	202.	Epica Holdings Private Limited	2500
175.	Deodarshan Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	2500	203.	Escom Forms Pvt. Ltd.	1500
176.	Destination North East Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd.	200	204.	Ess Ess Pharma Private Limited	2500
177.	Dev Tea Estates (India) Pvt. Ltd.	500	205.	Ess Kay Entrade Pvt. Ltd.	5000
178.	Devdoot Finance and Investment (India) Pvt. Ltd.	500	206.	Everassam Tea Pvt. Ltd.	5000
179.	Dhio Artz Shown Pvt. Ltd.	500	207.	Evergreen Traders Pvt. Ltd.	100
180.	Dhonesh Savings and Finance Pvt. Ltd.	500	208.	Ex-Servicemen Consortium Pvt. Ltd.	100
181.	Dhubri Diagnostic Center Private Limited	2500	209.	Excel Infosolution (India) Private Limited	500
182.	Digi Forms Private Limited	2000	210.	Exclusive Advertising Pvt. Ltd.	1000
183.	Digital Infosystems Private Limited	500	211.	Exel Construction Private Limited	500
184.	Dilip Properties Pvt. Ltd.	1000	212.	Fanap Trading India Private Limited	500
185.	DNB Finance and Investment Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	2500	213.	Faneng Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	500
186.	Dr. Binoy's Hygiene Promotion Private Limited	500	214.	Fantasy World Private Limited	10000
187.	Dreamland Real Estates Pvt. Ltd.	500	215.	Famaaz Tea Pvt. Ltd.	2500
188.	Dutta Trading Company Private Limited	2500	216.	Feroz Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
189.	Dynasty Construction and Developer Pvt. Ltd.	500	217.	Florance Tea and Agro Products Pvt. Ltd.	3000
190.	Dynasty Motors Private Limited	1000	218.	FMS Leasing and Finance Ltd.	20000
191.	Earl Grey Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500	219.	Fortune Towers India Private Limited	500
192.	East end Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd.	500	220.	Friend Land Enterprise Pvt. Ltd.	2500
193.	East Zone India Security Pvt. Ltd.	100	221.	G.R. Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	5000
194.	Eastern Business Pvt. Ltd.	2500	222.	G.S. Coal Traders Pvt. Ltd.	500
195.	Eastern Concrete Pvt. Ltd.	5000	223.	Gagansumi Real Estate & Designers Pvt. Ltd.	500
196.	Eastern Jute Mill Pvt. Ltd.	2000	224.	Galaxy Strips Pvt. Ltd.	500
197.	Eden Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd.	500	225.	Ganamukti Printers and Publishers Private Limited	500
198.	Elite Computers & Communications Private Limited	500	226.	Ganapati Construction Pvt. Ltd.	500
199.	Elmech India Company Pvt. Ltd.	500	227.	Gangabari Tea Company Private Limited	1000
200.	Endocarp Builders Private Limited	1000	228.	Ganagotri Tea & Industries Pvt. Ltd.	10000
			229.	Gangwal Engineering & Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500

1	2	3
230.	Garden Fresh (Assam) Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	100
231.	Garge Motors Limited	10000
232.	Gargya Motors Private Limited	2500
233.	Gateway Paradise (Assam) Private Limited	2000
234.	Gaurav Tea Industries Private Limited	5000
235.	Gautam Tea Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	1500
236.	Gayatri Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	2500
237.	Gee Jay Combines Pvt. Ltd.	10000
238.	Gemini Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.	2500
239.	GF (Assam) Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	100
240.	GGD Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	500
241.	Ghosh Borthers Electronics Private Limited	2500
242.	Ghukani Cold Storage Private Limited	1000
243.	GM Trans Pak Private Limited	1000
244.	GNRC Engineering and Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	2500
245.	GNRC Plastics Pvt. Ltd.	1000
246.	Goenka Trade Centre Pvt. Ltd.	5000
247.	Gogoi Tea Company Private Limited	5000
248.	Golaghat Tea (Assam) Pvt. Ltd.	1500
249.	Gold Link Trading and Services Private Limited	500
250.	Golden Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	1000
251.	Goodmens India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
252.	Gopal Bhoroli Tea Company Private Limited	1000
253.	Gorompani Agro Industries Private Limited	10000
254.	Govindam Motors Pvt. Ltd.	2000
255.	Great Himallaya Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000
256.	Green Assam Company Pvt. Ltd.	5000
257.	Green Assam Pvt. Ltd.	5000

1	2	3
258.	Green Finley Marketing Co. Pvt. Ltd.	2500
259.	Green Hills Trade and Motors Pvt. Ltd.	200
260.	Gupta Exports Private Limited	1000
261.	Gurukripa Tea Company Private Limited	500
262.	Guttu and Company Private Limited	10000
263.	Guwahati Trading Private Limited	5000
264.	Guwahati Television Private Limited	500
265.	H.M. Sales Pvt. Ltd.	2500
266.	Halos Trade and Services Limited	500
267.	Hansaria Chemicals Private Limited	1500
268.	Hanuman Foods Pvt. Ltd.	1500
269.	Harsh Exim Private Limited	1000
270.	Harshit Tradefin Pvt. Ltd.	2500
271.	Hazarika Entrepreneur Pvt. Ltd.	5000
272.	Health Care Diagnostic Centre Pvt. Ltd.	1000
273.	Healthcare Pvt. Ltd.	1000
274.	Helix India Plantations and Pvt. Ltd.	500
275.	Herbal Specialities Private Limited	1000
276.	Herbo Foundation Private Limited	2500
277.	Highland Resorts and Agro Farms Pvt. Ltd.	1000
278.	Hill view Bonded Warehouse Pvt. Ltd.	5000
279.	Hillmen International Pvt. Ltd.	10000
280.	Hira Traders Pvt. Ltd.	2500
281.	HM Tobacco Private Limited	500
282.	Home Needs Pvt. Ltd.	1000
283.	Honey Bread Private Limited	4000
284.	Hypertech Communications Private Limited	1000
285.	I.T. Systems Private Limited	100
286.	Ibsons India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
287.	Indoma Marine Private Limited	2500
288.	Indrani Air Travels Pvt. Ltd.	1000

1	2	3
289.	Indus Force Bureau Private Limited	100
290.	Info-tech Consultancy (I) Pvt. Ltd.	1500
291.	Infoed Pvt. Ltd.	2000
292.	Innovative Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	1000
293.	Insat Pharmaceuticals Private Limited	1000
294.	Institute of Medical Science and Research Pvt. Ltd.	2500
295.	Integrated Processing and Packaging Pvt. Ltd.	1000
296.	ISM Studio Private Limited	2500
297.	Itrik Import Export Pvt. Ltd.	2100
298.	J.B. Motor Finance Pvt. Ltd.	5000
299.	J.D. Entrade Private Limited	1000
300.	J.M. and Sons Automobile Works Pvt. Ltd.	2500
301.	Jagannath Builders and Developers Pvt. Ltd.	1500
302.	Jagannath Travels & Tour Pvt. Ltd.	2500
303.	Jai Hanuman Tea Company Private Limited	2500
304.	Jain Bijay and Company Pvt. Ltd.	5000
305.	Jajodia Real Estates Private Limited	1000
306.	Jajodia Tradeinvest Pvt. Ltd.	2500
307.	Jaju Real Estates Private Limited	1000
308.	Jal Dispo Products Private Limited	1000
309.	Jan Priya Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	5000
310.	Janaseva Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	3000
311.	Janasuraksha Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	2500
312.	Janata Product & Marketing Private Limited	2500
313.	Jarmin Transport Private Limited	2500
314.	Jasmine Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500
315.	Jay Bee Auto Agencies Pvt. Ltd.	1500

1	2	3
316.	Jayshree Umbrella Manufacturing Company Private Limited	2500
317.	JC Construction Private Limited	1000
318.	Jineshwar Pvt. Ltd.	7500
319.	Jineshwar Hire Purchase Private Limited	5000
320.	Jivan Jyoti Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	2500
321.	Joyshree India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
322.	Jumbo Farm Pvt. Ltd.	1000
323.	Jupiter N.E. Marketing Private Limited	3000
324.	Jute Diversified Appliances Compound Ltd.	500
325.	Jyoti Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1500
326.	Jyotsna Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	3000
327.	K.K.B. Enterprises Private Limited	5000
328.	K.M. Builders Private Limited	200
329.	Kako Tea Private Limited	5200
330.	Kakopathar Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	3500
331.	Kalita Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	1000
332.	Kalyani (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
333.	Kamakhya Beverage Pvt. Ltd.	1000
334.	Kamakhya Photo Lab Pvt. Ltd.	2500
335.	Kamakhya Promoters Private Limited	5000
336.	Kamdhenu Company Pvt. Ltd.	3000
337.	Kamrup Developers Pvt. Ltd.	500
338.	Kamrup Exports Private Limited	1000
339.	Kamrup Kamakhya Business Pvt. Ltd.	2500
340.	Kamrup Packaging Private Limited	1000
341.	Kamrup Tobacco Company Private Limited	1000
342.	Kamrup Trade and Services Private Limited	100
343.	Kamrupa Finance and Investment Company Pvt. Ltd.	500

1	2	3
344.	Kanark Enterprises Private Limited	1000
345.	Kanchenjunga Press Pvt. Ltd.	200
346.	Kapilee Finance and Investment Limited.	2500
347.	Kapili Properties Pvt. Ltd.	2500
348.	Karbi Tea Plantation Private Limited	1000
349.	Karimganj Sarawgi Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd.	5000
350.	Karnak Breweries Limited	10000
351.	Karnak Distillery Pvt. Ltd.	5000
352.	Kay Pee Trade and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	200
353.	Kaziranga Products Limited	1000
354.	Kazziranga Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	4000
355.	KCI Business and Commercial Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000
356.	KCL Estates Pvt. Ltd.	3000
357.	KDP Business and Finance Limited	2500
358.	Kefai India Private Limited	2500
359.	Keshava Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	2500
360.	Khaitan Info Tech Pvt. Ltd.	500
361.	KK Auto Agency Pvt. Ltd.	2500
362.	Kollong Valley Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	5000
363.	Korangani Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
364.	Kreesna Industries (I) Pvt. Ltd.	20000
365.	KRSNA Apartments Private Limited	5000
366.	Kuber Fragrance Private Limited	10000
367.	Kuber Products Private Limited	10000
368.	Kumudinee Builders Pvt. Ltd.	2500
369.	Kushan Polypack Private Limited	10000
370.	Kusum Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
371.	L.K. Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
372.	Lahdoi Tea Manufacturing Company Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1200
373.	Lakhimpur Food Processors Pvt. Ltd.	3000
374.	Lal Pahar Tea Estate Private Limited	1000

1	2	3
375.	Lalit Heavy Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	1000
376.	Land-Steward Builders & Associated Services Pvt. Ltd.	500
377.	Lao Jan Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000
378.	Laxasha Enterprises Limited	1000
379.	Laxmi Tea Processors Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500
380.	Laxmi Tobacco and Industries Private Limited	10000
381.	Leela Commercial Pvt. Ltd.	100
382.	Lekhapani Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
383.	Life Entertainment Private Limited	500
384.	Life Guard Distributors Private Limited	7500
385.	Lifeline Mercantiles and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	1000
386.	Limbuguri Tea Estate Private Limited	500
387.	Lip Sip Company Pvt. Ltd.	2000
388.	Little (India) Private Limited	2500
389.	Livin Builders Pvt. Ltd.	500
390.	Living Nirman Pvt. Ltd.	5000
391.	Logistic Transport of India Private Limited	1000
392.	Lohia Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	2500
393.	Lohit Construction Pvt. Ltd.	10000
394.	Lohit Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	1000
395.	Lohit Glass Pvt. Ltd.	7500
396.	Lohit Securities Pvt. Ltd.	500
397.	Lohit Trade & Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	2500
398.	Lohit Valley Business Company Private Limited	1000
399.	Lokenath Housing Development (India) Limited	5000
400.	Luhit Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	4000
401.	Luit Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.	2500
402.	Luitpar Builders & Developers Private Limited	500

1	2	3
403.	Lulu Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.	500
404.	Lundia Oil Pvt. Ltd.	500
405.	M.B. Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	1000
406.	M.R. Company Private Limited	2500
407.	M.D. Hasija Pvt. Ltd.	5000
408.	M.P. Textile Pvt. Ltd.	1500
409.	M.R. Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500
410.	M.S. Concrete Private Limited	1000
411.	M.S. Indochem Private Limited	500
412.	Maa Bhawani Tea Private Limited	300
413.	Maa Kamakhya Agro (India) Pvt. Ltd.	5000
414.	Maa Shakti Tea and Agrofarms Pvt. Ltd.	1000
415.	Macro Medicine India Pvt. Ltd.	1500
416.	Madhabi Biscuit Pvt. Ltd.	12500
417.	Mahabahu Traders Private Limited	5000
418.	Mahabir Cold Storage Private Limited	15000
419.	Mahalaxmi Overseas Pvt. Ltd.	2500
420.	Mahalaxmi Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500
421.	Mahalaxmi India Private Limited	2500
422.	Mahaveer Construction Pvt. Ltd.	2500
423.	Maheshwara Cold Storage and Ice Factory Pvt. Ltd.	2500
424.	Malpani Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	5000
425.	Manas Energy Services Pvt. Ltd.	300
426.	Manas Housing Pvt. Ltd.	1000
427.	Manas Tea Private Limited	1000
428.	Manas Textile Pvt. Ltd.	2000
429.	Manglam International Private Limited	30000
430.	Manik Chand and Sons (J) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
431.	Manisha Build and Trade Pvt. Ltd.	1500
432.	Mansoon Polymers Private Limited	5000
433.	Maruti Herbs Pvt. Ltd.	2500
434.	Massa Omnitech Private Limited	1000

1	2	3
435.	Matrix Inc. Private Limited	1000
436.	Maxworth India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
437.	Mayur Roller Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd.	500
438.	Mechfield Trade & Industries Private Limited	5000
439.	Medi Trade (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
440.	Megaprint and Technology Pvt. Ltd.	500
441.	Megasoft Computers Pvt. Ltd.	300
442.	Mercantile Corps (NE) Pvt. Ltd.	400
443.	Micro Lab Radio Diagnostic Centre Private Limited	300
444.	Micro Tech Pvt. Ltd.	2000
445.	Midas Tea and Farms Pvt. Ltd.	100
446.	Millenium Prograssive Private Limited	500
447.	Millenium India Private Limited	10000
448.	Millennium Marketing & Medical Services Private Limited	500
449.	Minakshi Techno Pvt. Ltd.	2500
450.	Minerals House India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
451.	MKJ Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500
452.	Modi Cane and Handicrafts Pvt. Ltd.	1000
453.	Mohini Plantations Private Limited	5000
454.	Montech Software Private Limited	2500
455.	Moonland Agro Tech (India) Pvt. Ltd.	500
456.	Momer Tea (India) Pvt. Ltd.	1000
457.	Mother Industries Private Limited	10000
458.	MRB Enterprises Private Limited	5000
459.	MRB Petropool Private Limited	5000
460.	Mrityujay Trading Pvt. Ltd.	100
461.	Mubinu Enterprise India Pvt. Ltd.	1500
462.	Muktabari Tea Estate Private Limited	5000
463.	Multiplex Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	20
464.	Music Assam Private Limited	2500

1	2	3	1	2	3
465.	Muttock Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	200	493.	New Relight Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	1000
466.	N.E. Projects Ltd.	500	494.	New Tech Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	800
467.	N.E. Agro Inputs Pvt. Ltd.	2000	495.	New Tech Tele Products Pvt. Ltd.	1000
468.	N.E. Impex & Consultancy Private Limited	100	496.	Newzone India Private Limited	5000
469.	N.R. Products Pvt. Ltd.	5000	497.	Newgone Marketing & Medical Servies Private Limited	500
470.	Nalini Tea Manufacturing Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000	498.	Newzone Minerals Pvt. Ltd.	2500
471.	Nam Dao Phi International Pvt. Ltd.	5000	499.	Newzone Paints Limited	5000
472.	Namsim Developers Pvt. Ltd.	200	500.	Newzone Polypack Pvt. Ltd.	1000
473.	Nanak Singh Sujan Singh Sadana Private Limited	5000	501.	Newzone Strips Limited	10000
474.	Nanesh Commercial Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000	502.	Newzone Techno India Pvt. Ltd.	2500
475.	Nanesh Tradefin Pvt. Ltd.	2500	503.	Nikita Agrotech Private Limited	2500
476.	Nanesh Trading Private Limited	5000	504.	Nilachal Associates Private Limited	2500
477.	NAP Agencies Pvt. Ltd.	5000	505.	Nilachal Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	5000
478.	Navin Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.	100	506.	NNV Marketing Co. Pvt. Ltd.	7500
479.	Ne Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.	100	507.	North East Pure Drinks Pvt. Ltd.	25000
480.	Nebisco Industries Pvt. Ltd.	10000	508.	North East Graphic Products Pvt. Ltd.	1250
481.	Neel Kanth (India) Pvt. Ltd.	1000	509.	North East Herbal Products Pvt. Ltd.	2500
482.	Neelachal Estate Pvt. Ltd.	500	510.	North East Jute Mill Pvt. Ltd.	1500
483.	Neelachal Properties Pvt. Ltd.	500	511.	North Eastern Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	1000
484.	NEFA Udyog Company Pvt. Ltd.	10000	512.	North East Eco Tourism Pvt. Ltd.	1500
485.	NEFFS (India) Private Limited	2000	513.	North East Abasan Finance and Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	3000
486.	Neha Century Finance Pvt. Ltd.	2500	514.	North East Food Products Pvt. Ltd.	2000
487.	Nest Video Editing Private Limited	2500	515.	North East Chamber of Commerce & Industry	0
488.	Network Tourism & Hospitalitys Private Limited	1500	516.	North East Distilleries Pvt. Ltd.	1000
489.	New Frontier Marketing & Medical Services Private Limited	500	517.	North East Web Services Private Limited	200
490.	New Hapjan Tea Company Private Limited	500	518.	North East State Trading Private Limited	500
491.	New Rajabheta Tea Company Private Limited	5000	519.	North Eastern Silk Private Limited	2500
492.	New Rangali Tea Plantation Private Limited	1500	520.	North East Hatcheries Pvt. Ltd.	500
			521.	North East Shahara India Plantation Limited	500
			522.	North East Coir Foam Private Limited	2500

1	2	3	1	2	3
523.	North East Upstream Exploration Company Private Limited	2500	552.	Patkai Coal Products Pvt. Ltd.	7500
524.	North East Surgicare Private Limited	2000	553.	Patkai Tea Company Private Limited	5000
525.	Northex Estates Limited.	20000	554.	Patwa Cold Storage Private Limited	5000
526.	NU Foods Pvt. Ltd.	2500	555.	Pawan Tours and Agencies Private Limited	2500
527.	Oberon Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	200	556.	Peace Housing and Finance Co. Limited	500
528.	Oiron Real Estates Private Limited	300	557.	Peacock India P. Ltd.	5000
529.	Om Tea Growers Agro Products Private Limited	2500	558.	Perennial Agro Tech (India) Limited	1000
530.	Oman Construction Pvt. Ltd.	5000	559.	Pintu Polymer Private Limited	1500
531.	Omessa Softcom Private Limited	500	560.	Pizza Palace Private Limited	500
532.	Omni India Commercial Private Limited	1000	561.	PJN Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.	2500
533.	Oriental Crafts Manufacturing Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500	562.	Plast India Enterprises Private Limited	5000
534.	Orion Packers Private Limited	300	563.	Ploycon Industries Pvt. Ltd.	2500
535.	Orion Supermarket Private Limited	300	564.	Plutus Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	500
536.	Orthodox Tea Private Limited	5000	565.	Pooja Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	5000
537.	Oswin Securitan Pvt. Ltd.	500	566.	Pooja Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	5000
538.	Oswin Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	1000	567.	Power Carbons Pvt. Ltd.	500
539.	Ottis Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500	568.	Prabhat Horticulture and Plantation Limited	1000
540.	P.G. Steel Pvt. Ltd.	3000	569.	Pradip Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
541.	P. Gogoi and Associates Private Limited	2400	570.	Pragati Alums Pvt. Ltd.	2500
542.	P.T. Traders Private Limited	1000	571.	Pragati Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd.	5000
543.	Pacific Enterprise Pvt. Ltd	2500	572.	Pragati Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd.	7500
544.	Padma Bhawani Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.	500	573.	Praghyoti Prefumers Private Limited	500
545.	Padmini Tea & Manufacturing Company Private Limited	1000	574.	Pragjyotis Builders and Consultant Private Limited	500
546.	Pallavi Motors Private Limited	20000	575.	Praktan Sainik Punarvas Pvt. Ltd.	200
547.	Paradiese Intrade Pvt. Ltd.	2500	576.	Premiere Trade Links Private Limited	300
548.	Paragon Offset Private Limited	1000	577.	Preronna Transport and Carrying Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1500
549.	Pari Bhuyan Associates Private Limited	2500	578.	Primal Housing Pvt. Ltd.	500
550.	Pasupati Publishing House Pvt. Ltd.	1500	579.	Prime Cereals Private Limited	2500
551.	Patkai Builders Pvt. Ltd.	500	580.	Prime Properties Pvt. Ltd.	5000
			581.	Primepower Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	1000

1	2	3	1	2	3
582.	Probhakor Tea Private Limited	1000	611.	Regnant Pharmaceuticals Private Limited	1000
583.	Progressive Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd.	5000	612.	Remium Real Estatem Pvt. Ltd.	2000
584.	Projjal Management and Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	200	613.	Rengma Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
585.	Protech Services Pvt. Ltd.	500	614.	Repose Foods Pvt. Ltd.	2000
586.	Punit Hire Purchase Pvt. Ltd.	5000	615.	Reproduction Research Centre Pvt. Ltd.	2500
587.	Purba Bharati Prakashan Private Limited	2500	616.	Rhine Food Products Pvt. Ltd.	1000
588.	Purbajyoti Private Limited	3500	617.	Rhino Industrial Equipments Private Limited	5000
589.	Purbanchal Banijya Vikash Pvt. Ltd.	1000	618.	Rhino Tea and Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1100
590.	Purvashi Oil and Gas Pvt. Ltd.	1000	619.	Rhino Travels Pvt. Ltd.	2500
591.	Pushp Deep Business Company Pvt. Ltd.	5000	620.	Richie Tea & Farms Pvt. Ltd.	200
592.	Quality Foods Private Limited	500	621.	Rishi Innovators Private Limited	2500
593.	Quality Healthcare Private Limited	500	622.	Rongpi Beverages Private Limited	1000
594.	Quality Services Private Limited	1000	623.	Rongpur Auto Pvt. Ltd.	1000
595.	R.B. Brothers Plantation Pvt. Ltd.	1000	624.	Rongpur Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	5000
596.	R.N. Classic Enterprise Pvt. Ltd.	3000	625.	Royal (India) Finance Private Limited	5000
597.	R.P. Trade Private Limited	5000	626.	Royal Eastern Marketing Private Limited	2500
598.	Radhe Shyam Finance and Construction Pvt. Ltd.	500	627.	Royal Mission Garments Pvt. Ltd.	2500
599.	Raj (Assam) Agro & Tea Pvt. Ltd.	1000	628.	Royal Palace (India) Pvt. Ltd.	10000
600.	Raj Lakshmi Storage Pvt. Ltd.	1000	629.	Royale India Private Limited	2500
601.	Rajratan Mercantiles Limited	5000	630.	RP Associates Pvt. Ltd.	5000
602.	Rama Tea Tech Pvt. Ltd.	5000	631.	RTO Carriers Pvt. Ltd.	5000
603.	Ramdhenu Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.	1000	632.	Rudra Transporting and Ware Housing Pvt. Ltd.	500
604.	Rang Ghar Builders Private Limited	2500	633.	Rukmini Computer Peripherals Pvt. Ltd.	2500
605.	Rangpur Trading Company Private Limited	2500	634.	Rumai Gabharu Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	2000
606.	Rara Brothers Pvt. Ltd.	2000	635.	Rungta Enterprises Private Limited	2500
607.	Ratnagiri (India) Transport Private Limited	2500	636.	Rupa Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000
608.	Rausheena Udyog Limited	10000	637.	Rupam Finance Pvt. Ltd.	500
609.	RC Tobacco Private Limited	500	638.	Rupani and Sons Pvt. Ltd.	5000
610.	RCL Cements Pvt. Ltd.	20000	639.	S.S.E. Pvt. Ltd.	5000
			640.	S.A. Traders Pvt. Ltd.	2500
			641.	S.B. Bonded Warehouse Pvt. Ltd.	500

1	2	3	1	2	3
642.	S.D. Mercantiles Private Limited	2500	674.	SBS Credit Capital Pvt. Ltd.	3000
643.	S.D.S. Properties Pvt. Ltd.	2000	675.	Scoria Marline Steels Private Limited	4000
644.	S.D. Services Pvt. Ltd.	200	676.	SDR Commercials Pvt. Ltd.	2500
645.	S.F. Commercials Pvt. Ltd.	1000	677.	Seagulls Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	500
646.	S.M. Cokes Limited	5000	678.	Sekhor Tea and Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	500
647.	S.N. Electronics Private Limited	5000	679.	Sengajan Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
648.	S.N. Tyres Pvt. Ltd.	2000	680.	Sentosa Business Private Limited	2500
649.	S.R. Entrade Private Limited	1000	681.	Sentro Builders Private Limited	500
650.	S.R. Builders (Assam) Private Limited	500	682.	Servwel Engineers Private Limited	500
651.	Sachet Pets Pvt. Ltd.	1500	683.	Sethia Foods Private Limited	500
652.	Sagar (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500	684.	Shantipur Tea Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	500
653.	Sagar Roofings Private Limited	5000	685.	Sharhad Pvt. Ltd.	1500
654.	Samani Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd.	1000	686.	Shewa Agrofarms Private Limited	1000
655.	Sanitary Emporium Pvt. Ltd.	1000	687.	Shibangi Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	2000
656.	Sankardev Commercila Pvt. Ltd.	500	688.	Shiv Shakti Associates Private Limited	1000
657.	Santana Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	3500	689.	Shiv Shanker (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
658.	Saraf Porojects Pvt. Ltd.	2500	690.	Shiv Steel Rollers Pvt. Ltd.	2500
659.	Saraighat Food Products Pvt. Ltd.	2500	691.	Shivam Associates Pvt. Ltd.	1000
660.	Saraighat Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.	2000	692.	Shivam Polymers Pvt. Ltd.	1500
661.	Saraighat Builders Pvt. Ltd.	2500	693.	Shivam Tea Pvt. Ltd.	2000
662.	Sarawgi Polymers Private Limited	5000	694.	Shivam Transcom Pvt. Ltd.	2500
663.	Sarawagi Traders Private Limited	500	695.	Shivani Aviates Private Limited	2500
664.	Sarda Marketing and Services Limited	1000	696.	Shree Balaji Enterprise Private Limited	5000
665.	Sardarmall Bagaria Industries Pvt. Ltd.	10000	697.	Shree Bharat Builders Pvt. Ltd.	2500
666.	Sarojini Real Con Pvt. Ltd.	1000	698.	Shree Gautam Construction Company Private Limited	25000
667.	SAS International Pvt. Ltd.	5000	699.	Shree Kiran Builders Private Limited	1500
668.	Sashimax Agro Tea Private Limited	5000	700.	Shree Mahamaya Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	2500
669.	Saswata Agro Farms India Pvt. Ltd.	500	701.	Shree Neelanchal Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
670.	Satyam Private Limited	1500	702.	Shree Sai Parivahan Private Limited	2500
671.	Satyanarayan Traders Pvt. Ltd.	1000	703.	Shree Sai Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	2500
672.	Savitri Seuj Tea Pvt. Ltd.	1000	704.	Shree Shyam Fivest Pvt. Ltd.	3000
673.	SB Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	1000			

1	2	3
705.	Shreyans Vinimay & Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	2500
706.	Shri Guru Kirpa Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500
707.	Shri Shyam Business Pvt. Ltd.	2500
708.	Shrivatspur Tea Company Private Limited	2500
709.	Shuvam Pvt. Ltd.	7500
710.	Sibsagar Medicare Pvt. Ltd.	5000
711.	Sibsagar Trading Company Private Limited	2500
712.	Siddharth Nirman Private Limited	200
713.	Sidhsri Parshwanath Services Private Limited	2500
714.	Silchar Heart Care Private Limited	2500
715.	Silver Drop Foods and Beverages Private Limited	2500
716.	Singrimari Tea Cot. Pvt. Ltd.	2000
717.	Sinha Security Services Pvt. Ltd.	100
718.	Siotia Castings Pvt. Ltd.	1000
719.	Siroy Hotels India Private Limited	5000
720.	SMB Computers Private Limited	1000
721.	Snehlata Tea Private Limited	2000
722.	Softline Travels Pvt. Ltd.	1000
723.	Sohum Shppe Limited	100
724.	Solace Hospital and Research Centre Pvt. Ltd.	1000
725.	Solemn Impex Pvt. Ltd.	1000
726.	Somros India Pvt. Ltd.	1000
727.	Soni Fashions Private Limited	1000
728.	Sonitpur Biscuits Pvt. Ltd.	3000
729.	Sookerating Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
730.	South Point School Private Limited	2500
731.	Special Green Tea Export Enterprises Limited	2500
732.	Spectrum Merchandise India Pvt. Ltd.	500

1	2	3
733.	SPN Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2500
734.	Sree Radha Krishna Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd.	5000
735.	Sree Surya Commercial Pvt. Ltd.	1000
736.	Sri Balaji Cements Pvt. Ltd.	5000
737.	Sri Durga Tea Company Private Limited	3000
738.	Srilaxmi Tea and Industries Pvt. Ltd.	1000
739.	Srinath Builders and Housing Company Pvt. Ltd.	4000
740.	Srishti Trade and Construction Private Limited	2500
741.	SSK Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	500
742.	SSR Services Pvt. Ltd.	1000
743.	Star Movers Private Limited	2500
744.	Stock Plus Pvt. Ltd.	500
745.	Subham Food Products Private Limited	1000
746.	Subham Products Private Limited	1000
747.	Subharata Commercial Pvt. Ltd.	1000
748.	Subhshree Securities Private Limited	2000
749.	Subodh Securities Pvt. Ltd.	5000
750.	Suman Auto Finance Pvt. Ltd.	5000
751.	Sun Records Private Limited	500
752.	Sunayana Associates and Hire Purchase Private Limited	500
753.	Sunflag Enterprises Private Limited	5000
754.	Sunit Agro Fuels Pvt. Ltd.	1000
755.	Sunrise Trading & Manufacturing (India) Private Limited	5000
756.	Super India Food Products Private Limited	3000
757.	Supreme Tea Plantations Private Limited	5000
758.	Suraj (Assam) Tea Manufacturing Company Private Limited	2500
759.	Surana Essentials Pvt. Ltd.	5000
760.	Surendra Steels Pvt. Ltd.	30000

1	2	3	1	2	3
761.	Surge Assam Pvt. Ltd.	1000	791.	Tirumala Tea Agro Private Limited	10000
762.	Suswani Trading Company Private Limited	2500	792.	Tirupati Tobacco Private Limited	2500
763.	Swagat Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.	5000	793.	Titbit Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500
764.	Swaraj Beverages Private Limited	2000	794.	Toostee Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	500
765.	Swaranam Creators Pvt. Ltd.	5000	795.	Torsa Machines Limited	1000
766.	Swastik Entrade Pvt. Ltd.	100	796.	Touchline Merchantile Pvt. Ltd.	2500
767.	Swastika Gift Services and Trading Private Limited	100	797.	Trade and Tea Plantation (India) Private Limited	5000
768.	Swati Polymers Pvt. Ltd.	1000	798.	Tribeni Construction Private Limited	5000
769.	Swati Vinimay & Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	2500	799.	Trimurti Contractors & Builders Private Limited	5000
770.	Sweety Real Estates Pvt. Ltd.	1000	800.	Trimurti India Pvt. Ltd.	5000
771.	Sweta Properties Pvt. Ltd.	2000	801.	Trinity Security Services and Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	500
772.	Sweta Steels Pvt. Ltd.	1000	802.	Tsangpo Drilling Co. Pvt. Ltd.	5000
773.	Swift Computer Forms Private Limited	500	803.	Twenty-first Century Developers Pvt. Ltd.	500
774.	Swing BRI India (Pvt.) Ltd.	2500	804.	Ujjala Associates Private Limited	2500
775.	T. Chetia & Company Private Limited	2500	805.	Uniplan Estates Private Limited	1000
776.	T.C.G. Construction Company Private Limited	2500	806.	Unique (Assam) Pvt. Ltd.	1000
777.	Tansy Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.	5000	807.	Unique Planations Limited	2500
778.	Tea Leaf Growers and Manufacturing Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000	808.	Unique Properties Pvt. Ltd.	2500
779.	Tea Top (India) Private Limited	5000	809.	Unique Tea Company Private Limited	2500
780.	Teak Tea and Allied Plantations Pvt. Ltd.	500	810.	Upasana Builders Private Limited	500
781.	Teamans Warehouse Pvt. Ltd.	1000	811.	Upper Assam (India) Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500
782.	Techno Build Construction Pvt. Ltd.	1000	812.	Vairavi Tea Company Private Limited	1000
783.	Technoview Housing Private Limited	500	813.	Vaishno Devi Traders Pvt. Ltd.	5000
784.	TGB Pvt. Ltd.	2500	814.	Vardhaman Trading Company Private Limited	1000
785.	Thesaurus Comsat Private Limited	2500	815.	Vee Gee Audio Private Limited	2400
786.	Third Eye Infosys Pvt. Ltd.	2500	816.	Vee Gee Credit Capital Private Limited	3000
787.	Third Wave Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	1500	817.	Veekay Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	2500
788.	Times Cargo Carriers Pvt. Ltd.	500	818.	Vertex Commerce Private Limited	4000
789.	Timtech India Pvt. Ltd.	5000	819.	Vibgyor Auto Centre Pvt. Ltd.	1500
790.	Tinsukia Distributors Private Limited	2500			

1	2	3	1	2	3
820.	Vidisha Institute of Management Studies Private Limited	200	12.	J.S. Tyre Service Private Limited	2000
821.	Vimal Syntex Pvt. Ltd.	1000	13.	Jeevan Resorts Pvt. Ltd.	500
822.	Vinayak Products Pvt. Ltd.	5000	14.	Kangleipak Trading Company Limited	100
823.	Virtual Application Systems and Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	1000	15.	Kanhai Building Materials Pvt. Ltd.	1000
824.	Vision Industries Private Limited	10000	16.	Kayi Organic Products Private Limited	2500
825.	Vital Health Care Systems Pvt. Ltd.	2000	17.	Laishram Exports Limited	100
826.	Vrindavan Tea Company Private Limited	1000	18.	Laishram Finance Pvt. Ltd.	100
827.	Web. Com (India) Private Limited	1500	19.	M.R. Entrepreneur Private Limited	2000
828.	West Wood Clothing Pvt. Ltd.	2500	20.	Manipur Construction and Development Pvt. Ltd.	500
829.	Worthy Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	5000	21.	Manipur Commercial and Trading Company Limited	100
830.	Xebec Marketing Private Limited	500	22.	Manipur Golden Travels Pvt. Ltd.	5000
831.	Yes Boss Hotel Private Limited	500	23.	Manipur Housing Finance Company Private Limited	2500
832.	Zenith Builders and Promoters Pvt. Ltd.	200	24.	Manipur Imports and Exports Private Limited	100
833.	Zenith Drugs and Allied Agencies Pvt. Ltd.	5000	25.	Manipur Multi Trading Co. Limited	1000
834.	Zeus Computers Pvt. Ltd.	300	26.	Manipur Rural Development Company Limited	100
State Name: Manipur			27.	Manipur Trading Development Company Limited	500
1.	Advance Multitechnologies Pvt. Ltd.	1000	28.	Ming and Ming Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	2500
2.	Allied Career Development Centre Private Limited	2500	29.	NAJ India Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	1000
3.	Canchi Concrete and Tile Works Pvt. Ltd.	2500	30.	Nest Advertising and Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	500
4.	Chil Chil Enterprise Private Limited	4000	31.	North Eastern Investments Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
5.	City Commercial Investment Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000	32.	North Eastern Trade and Commerce Limited	500
6.	Dhana Lakshmi Private Limited	2500	33.	North Eastern Trading Company Limited	100
7.	Eastern Galaxy Services and Consultant Pvt. Ltd.	100	34.	Oriental Multi Trading Company Limited	400
8.	Gune Brothers Construction Materials Pvt. Ltd.	500	35.	Oriental Trade and Commerce Limited	100
9.	Helius Marketing Private Limited	1000	36.	Oriental Women Development Company Limited	100
10.	IMA Lakshmi Finance and Investment Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000	37.	Panthoibi Commerce and Trade Limited	100
11.	Imphal Hospital and Research Centre Private Limited	5000	38.	S.R. Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd.	2500

1	2	3	1	2	3
39.	Salem Vision Pvt. Ltd.	1000	21.	JM Perfumery and Essential Oil Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000
40.	Sangai Commercial Company Private Limited	500	22.	Kargil Enterprises Limited	2000
41.	Shija Clinic Private Limited	5000	23.	King Aqua Private Limited	5000
42.	Sijamacha Enterprise Private Limited	2000	24.	L&R (India) Private Limited	1000
43.	Suryalakshmi Sales Company Limited	10000	25.	Lafarge Umiam Mining Private Limited	10000
44.	Team Marketing & Advertising Private Limited	2000	26.	Maithan Smelters Pvt. Ltd.	2500
45.	United Multi Trading Company Limited	100	27.	Megha Green Coal Field Limited	2500
46.	Zweenamei Golden Harvest Pvt. Ltd.	1000	28.	Megha Industries & Agro Products Pvt. Ltd.	5000
State Name: Meghalaya			29.	Megha Tobacco Private Limited	1000
1.	Alpha-Millennium Foods Private Limited	1000	30.	Meghalaya Ispat Ltd.	200
2.	Anderson Computers Private Limited	1000	31.	Meghalaya Carbide & Chemicals Private Limited	1000
3.	Anirudha Steel Pvt. Ltd.	500	32.	Meghalaya Cylinders Limited	1000
4.	Ashima Plantation Private Limited	1000	33.	Meghalaya Minerals & Mines Private Limited	5000
5.	Banjop Canbam Pvt. Ltd.	2000	34.	Meghalaya Mining Limited	3000
6.	Black Diamond International Pvt. Ltd.	5000	35.	Meling & Suna Pvt. Ltd.	500
7.	Burakia Steel Alloys Private Limited	1000	36.	Millennium Security Agency Private Limited	100
8.	Bymihat Ispat Pvt. Ltd.	1000	37.	Millennium Trading Private Limited	500
9.	Coal Field (India) Private Limited	3000	38.	Milliard Mercantile India Private Limited	1000
10.	Col. Shishupal Security Consultancy and Services Pvt. Ltd.	100	39.	N.E. Trading Company Limited	5000
11.	Dees Chemicals Private Limited	1000	40.	N.R. Roller Flour Mills Company Private Limited	500
12.	Elzoso Associates Pvt. Ltd.	2000	41.	Narpuh Cements Limited	20000
13.	Excellent Exim House Pvt. Ltd.	1000	42.	New North-East Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd.	3000
14.	Flagon Distilleries and Bottlers Pvt. Ltd.	2500	43.	Nezone Industries Limited	10000
15.	Hircon Associates Private Limited	1000	44.	North East Spices Traders (India) Pvt. Ltd.	500
16.	Indo Force Security Services Private Limited	100	45.	North-Eastern Health Care & Hospitality Private Limited	500
17.	Indus Cements Limited	100	46.	Pee Gee (India) Limited	5000
18.	Jaintia Traders Private Limited	2500	47.	Pioneer Carbide Private Limited	5000
19.	Jay Kamakhya Coal Private Limited	3000			
20.	Jayantia Hill Export Private Limited	3000			

1	2	3	1	2	3
48.	Polestar Finance and Investment Private Limited	2500	8.	Ezung Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	5000
49.	Purbanchal Tubes Pvt. Ltd.	2500	9.	Ground Developers (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
50.	Purbanchal Beverages Pvt. Ltd.	1000	10.	Hi Tech (V) Pvt. Ltd.	1000
51.	Regetta Foods Private Limited	3000	11.	Hills Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
52.	Renissance Institute of Ethic and Management Pvt. Ltd.	1000	12.	Hills Transport Co. Pvt. Ltd.	500
53.	S.M. Railway Sleeper and Allied Products Private Limited	1000	13.	Hongkhong Tea Private Limited	200
54.	S.M. India Ltd.	10000	14.	Jalukie Valley Products Private Limited	5000
55.	S.S. Net Com Private Limited	5000	15.	K. Kathi Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd.	1000
56.	SCL Cements Private Limited	500	16.	Kenhill Plastic Private Limited	5000
57.	Shella Trading Company Private Limited	1000	17.	Kohima Weaving and Handloom Company Private Limited	200
58.	Shivam Ispat and Alloys Pvt. Ltd.	7500	18.	L. Doulo Builders and Supplier Company Private Limited	10000
59.	Shivani Ispat & Rolling Mill Private Limited	65000	19.	Lord's Infotech Management Pvt. Ltd.	1000
60.	Shree Sai Prakash Alloys Private Limited	5000	20.	Lumokingt Agro-Tech Private Limited	1000
61.	SNGI Aqha Private Limited	1000	21.	MHA Enterprise Private Limited	2500
62.	Sunrise Tobacco Company Private Limited	500	22.	Micronet (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
63.	Timber Craft and Veneer Products (India) Private Limited	500	23.	Naga Constructions Pvt. Ltd.	5000
64.	VDPC Pvt. Ltd.	2000	24.	Nagaland Builders Pvt. Ltd.	2500
65.	Venkateshwara Carbide Private Limited	5000	25.	Nagaland Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	2500
66.	Venus Force Security Services Private Limited	100	26.	Nagaland Enterprises Growth Centre Private Limited	1000
67.	Vistaar Cements Pvt. Ltd.	50000	27.	Nagina Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.	100
68.	Zed Agency & Trading Private Limited	400	28.	North Eastern Rubber and Agro Industries Limited	100000
State Name: Nagaland			29.	R & S Design Engineers Private Limited	500
1.	Akai Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.	100	30.	R.G. Trading Company Private Limited	500
2.	Akato and Brothers Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1000	31.	Rockwater Beverages Private Limited	200
3.	ALPL Liquors Private Limited	5000	32.	S.K. & Sons Agro Private Limited	500
4.	Ayomi Trading Pvt. Ltd.	100	33.	Saramati Estates Private Limited	10000
5.	Bahubali Trading Company India Pvt. Ltd.	2500	34.	Saras Cabs Private Limited	5000
6.	Breeze Confectionery Pvt. Ltd.	2500	35.	Sato Hotel Pvt. Ltd.	3000
7.	Damayanti Exporters Private Limited	500	36.	Semkez Industries Private Limited	10000
			37.	Senli Builders Private Limited	2500

1	2	3
38.	Shakti Shoe Company Pvt. Ltd.	1500
39.	Shinse Tea Private Limited	200
40.	Siedze Finance and Investment Pvt. Ltd.	2500
41.	Solo and Naga Pvt. Ltd.	5000
42.	Sree Balaji Liquors Private Limited	5000
43.	T.A. Ngullie Fruit Products Pvt. Ltd.	2500
44.	Techno Power Enterprises Private Limited	10000
45.	Tokhina Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.	100
46.	Vrindavan Builders Private Limited	2500
47.	W. Yanath Industries Private Limited	10000
48.	Zinyu Tea Company Private Limited	200
State Name: Tripura		
1.	Agartala Hospital and Research Centre Private Limited	3000
2.	Atlantis Technology Pvt. Ltd.	1500
3.	BGC Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	1000
4.	Classic Fabrics Pvt. Ltd.	2500
5.	Disha Marketing Private Limited	1000
6.	Joyram Food Products Private Limited	4000
7.	Manik Chand and Sons (J) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
8.	Narayan Kar and Associates Pvt. Ltd.	10000
9.	Ramkrishna Food Industry Pvt. Ltd.	2500
10.	Sahachar Finvest and Trading Pvt. Ltd.	500
11.	Tripur India Pvt. Ltd.	3000
12.	Tripur Polymer Private Limited	3000
13.	Tripura Golden Goods Carrier Co. (India) Pvt. Ltd.	2500
14.	Tripura Rubber Field Private Limited	1250
15.	Tripurari Semi-Mechanised Bricks Private Limited	3500
16.	Tripureswari Delicious Products Private Limited	4000
17.	Twipra Engineers Private Limited	500

1	2	3
State Name: Arunachal		
1.	A.P. Industrial and Technical Consultancy Organisation Pvt. Ltd.	200
2.	Abotani Builders and Contractors Pvt. Ltd.	1000
3.	Abotani Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1200
4.	Ang Tea and Agro Products Private Limited	5000
5.	Arunachal Bui Allied Services Pvt. Ltd.	500
6.	Arunachal Fabrication and Construction Pvt. Ltd.	2500
7.	Arunachal Iron and Steel Co. Pvt. Ltd.	5000
8.	Arunachal Self Employed Engineers and Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	500
9.	Cyber Tech India Pvt. Ltd.	1000
10.	Dream Valley Resorts Pvt. Ltd.	1500
11.	Evershine Tea Company Private Limited	2500
12.	Fai Yai Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	1000
13.	Fekik Agro Private Limited	300
14.	Frontier Distillery Pvt. Ltd.	5000
15.	Globo Engineering and Construction Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
16.	Green Building Construction Pvt. Ltd.	1000
17.	Hopak Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
18.	Kaman Meyor Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	1000
19.	Kameng Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd.	5000
20.	Kharsang Coal Development Private Limited	2500
21.	Kheram Pani Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
22.	Kingkor Building Design & Construction Pvt. Ltd.	2000
23.	Liza World Travels Pvt. Ltd.	500
24.	Lopon Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	2500
25.	Lowangcha Tea Estate Private Limited	1000
26.	Mein Agro Private Limited	300

1	2	3
27.	Mein Tea Company Private Limited	2500
28.	Midland Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd.	300
29.	Namchic Tea Estate Private Limited	1000
30.	Namchik Mining and Engineering Company Limited	10000
31.	Namchik Minerals Private Limited	5000
32.	Nana Koo Agro Pvt. Ltd.	1000
33.	Nanda Pvt. Ltd.	500
34.	Neekum Plantations and Allied Services Pvt. Ltd.	100
35.	North Eastern Mines & Minerals Private Limited	2500
36.	Rustom Enterprise Pvt. Ltd.	500
37.	Singpho Valley Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	3000
38.	Subansiri Trade and Construction Pvt. Ltd.	1000
39.	Tai Tea Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
40.	Three Star Bonded Warehouse Pvt. Ltd.	5000
41.	Tingkhatra Plantation Private Limited	1500
42.	Tirap Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd.	2000
43.	Trans Himalayan Productions Pvt. Ltd.	1000
44.	Visionic Greens Pvt. Ltd.	1000
45.	Wallong Chemicals Private Limited	300

State Name: **Mizoram**

1.	Coates Information Technology Private Limited	500
2.	Hauva Steel Private Limited	2500
3.	Mama Cements Pvt. Ltd.	500
4.	Mizoram Agro Forest Private Limited	2500
5.	Mizoram Phamaceutical Laboratories Private Limited	1000
6.	Mizoram Resources Development Pvt. Ltd.	5000
7.	North East Bamboard Pvt. Ltd.	500
8.	T.B.C. Engineers Private Limited	2500

1	2	3
9.	Vee Cee Commercials Pvt. Ltd.	200
10.	Zahnun Vegetable Oil Company Pvt. Ltd.	1000
11.	Zoram Agricultural Trading Company Limited	5000
12.	Zoram Agrofarm Industries Limited	500
13.	Zoram Construction Company Private Limited	1000
14.	Zoram Plywood and Agrofarms Pvt. Ltd.	1000

Statement II

Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies registered during 1997-2000 in the State of Assam

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	127
2.	Mining & Quarrying	8
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	128
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	102
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	2
4.	Constructions	52
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	146
6.	Transport, Storage & Communication	48
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	185
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	36
	Total	834

Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies registered during 1997-2000 in the State of Manipur

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1	2	3
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	2
2	Mining & Quarrying	0

1	2	3
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	4
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	2
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	0
4.	Constructions	4
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	19
6.	Transport, storage & Communication	2
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	9
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	4
	Total	46

*Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies
registered during 1997-2000 in the
State of Meghalaya*

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	2
2.	Mining & Quarrying	7
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	13
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	24
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	0
4.	Constructions	0
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	14
6.	Transport, storage & Communication	0
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	6
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	2
	Total	68

*Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies
registered during 1997-2000 in the state of Nagaland*

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	10
2.	Mining & Quarrying	0
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	7
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	4
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	1
4.	Constructions	6
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	9
6.	Transport, Storage & Communication	3
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	8
	Total	48

*Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies
registered during 1997-2000 in the state of Tripura*

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	0
2.	Mining & Quarrying	0
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	4
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	8
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	0
4.	Constructions	1
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	1
6.	Transport, Storage & Communication	1
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	1
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	1
	Total	17

*Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies
registered during 1997-2000 in the
State of Arunachal Pradesh*

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	18
2.	Mining & Quarrying	4
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	3
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	3
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	0
4.	Constructions	6
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	2
6.	Transport, Storage & Communication	3
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	5
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	1
	Total	45

*Industrial Activity-wise Distribution of Companies
registered during 1997-2000 in the state of Mizoram*

S. No.	Industrial Classification	No. of Cos. Registered
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	3
2.	Mining & Quarrying	0
3.	Manufacturing	
	(a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products Leather & Products thereof	3
	(b) Metals & Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment	4
	(c) Electricity, Gas & Water	0
4.	Constructions	0
5.	Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels	1
6.	Transport, Storage & Communication	0
7.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business services	2
8.	Community, Social & Personal Services	1
	Total	14

Decontrol on Urea

3916. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to remove distribution control on urea;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government has decided to control the fixation of maximum retail price of urea for another four years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether new fertilizer policy which aims at phased decontrol of fertilizer industry bring it in line with the WTO requirements; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (f) Urea is the only fertilizer which is at present under statutory price, distribution and movement control. Keeping in tune with the policy of economic liberalization and reforms, Government intends to move towards ultimate decontrol of fertilizer sector in a phased manner after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and simultaneously making fertilizers available to the farmers at a reasonable price on the other. As per the existing policy, there is a uniform selling price for urea throughout the country.

While finalising the Long Term Policy for the fertilizer sector, the obligations under WTO would also be kept in view.

Central Grants to States for Solar Energy

3917. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned Central Grants to the States for Solar Energy; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Central Grants released to the State Agencies for implementation of Solar Energy Programmes during the last three years and the current financial year are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 as on 14/8/2000
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.27	187.39	56.52	31.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.28	31.20	22.57	2.13
3.	Assam	21.6	72.10	23.02	—
4.	Bihar	25	245.54	369.72	6.20
5.	Goa	—	0.85	1.75	80.81
6.	Gujarat	14.70	111.75	88.40	239.70
7.	Haryana	105.19	181.72	187.33	126.61
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72.50	167.23	333.32	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.75	163.12	335.94	—
10.	Karnataka	7.13	46.30	41.80	50.75
11.	Kerala	9.00	129.93	191.99	66.20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	74.18	199.42	83.72	30.07
13.	Maharashtra	25.18	22.50	23.19	29.75
14.	Manipur	0.59	30.80	44.36	—
15.	Meghalaya	7.50	31.40	8.36	8.30
16.	Mizoram	8.22	18.60	19.91	21.25
17.	Nagaland	—	5.23	21.25	8.68
18.	Orissa	54.0	278.86	302.26	31.86
19.	Punjab	68.56	304.65	408.58	54.53
20.	Rajasthan	135.04	490.44	319.31	141.93
21.	Sikkim	—	7.41	2.66	—
22.	Tamilnadu	68.56	36.71	56.15	23.00
23.	Tripura	26.19	83.55	66.65	40.80
24.	Uttar Pradesh	725.85	894.81	408.21	81.36

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	West Bengal	208.94	173.19	348.27	86.48
26.	A&N Islands	—	10.50	10.0	10.15
27.	Chandigarh	3.47	20.61	4.15	0.80
28.	Delhi	1.34	1.30	7.74	—
29.	Lakshadweep	—	55.0	116.90	164.00
30.	Pondicherry	2.59	4.50	5.02	—

[Translation]

Gas Agencies in Purnia District of Bihar

3918. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas agencies functioning in Purnia district of Bihar;

(b) whether the number of these agencies is in proportion of the increasing population;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to open new agencies in other big towns of Purnia district; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) At present there are 5 LPG distributorships in operation in Purnia district of Bihar.

As per the existing policy, the following criteria are adopted for setting up economically viable LPG distributorships in different parts of the country including small towns and villages.

- (i) All urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.
- (ii) Urban locations having population of 5,000 and above taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms radius.
- (iii) Cluster of villages within 15 Kms radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 and above.

(iv) Villages within 15 Kms radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above.

One location is pending for setting up of LPG distributorship at Gulab Bag in Purnia district of Bihar.

[English]

Setting up of Ordnance Factory in Bihar

3919. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a propellant/ordnance factory at Nalanda in Bihar for production of heavy calibre ammunitions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made in that direction so far; and

(d) the time by which the factory is likely to start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The factory is being set up to manufacture two lakh propellant Bi-Modular charges per year, required for high calibre ammunitions.

(c) A 'go ahead' sanction for setting up the factory has already been accorded by the Government on 26th February 1999. The final proposal involving an investment of Rs. 950 crores approx. based on Detailed Project Report (DPR) is presently under consideration of the Government. The process of acquisition of land for the proposed project has been initiated with the Bihar Government.

(d) The factory is likely to start production from 2004-2005.

Equity in Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL)

3920. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to offload majority equity in Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL);

(b) if so, whether some organizations and unions of HIL oppose the move of the Government at it is the only producer of DDT used for eradication of Malaria;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon with the further steps likely to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the profit/loss incurred by the HIL during each of the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):
(a) Disinvestment in HIL has been approved in principal.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Representations including from HIL employees unions have been received against disinvestment in HIL in view of its reputation and status as the monopoly manufacturers of DDT in the country and implications of the proposed disinvestment on National Health Programme and the Agriculture sector.

(d) Concerns expressed by these organizations have been noted.

(e) The losses incurred by HIL are as under:

	(Rs. in crore)
1997-98	(-) 1.97
1998-99	(-) 5.58
1999-2000 (prov.)	(-) 13.81

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Petrol Pumps on Lease

3921. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps given on lease to the private parties in the country and particularly in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Bihar; and

(b) the procedure adopted for allotting these pumps on lease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No retail outlets have been given on lease to private parties in any part of the country including Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Bihar.

[*English*]

Privatisation of SEBs

3922. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the loss making SEBs in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) It was resolved in the Power Ministers' Conference held on 26.2.2000 that reforms must be undertaken with determination, vigour and a sense of urgency. The key elements of the reforms strategy are:-

(a) Energy Audit at all levels.

(b) Time bound programme of 100% metering of all consumers by December, 2001.

(c) Reduction and finally, elimination of power theft within a specified time frame.

(d) Strengthening/upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system by taking sub-station as an unit on a priority basis.

If the above appears unattainable in the existing set up, corporatization/cooperatization/privatisation of distribution, would have to be undertaken.

Performance of Naval Dockyards

3923. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the two old Naval Dockyards *i.e.* the Mazagaon Naval Dockyard, Bombay and the Goa Shipyard at Goa are being under-utilised;

(b) if so, whether these dockyards could not achieve the targets in production of Naval Warship and refit programme;

(c) if so, the details of their performance during each of the last three years in physical and financial terms;

(d) the number of skilled and unskilled work force employed in each of the Dockyards;

(e) whether the work force is resorting to frequent strikes causing huge losses to these Dockyards; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to streamline the whole system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATAHK): (a) to (f) The capacity utilization in Goa Shipyard Limited, Vasco, Goa (GSL) and Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai (MDL), two Public Sector Undertakings under Ministry of Defence during 1999-2000 has been as follows:

	Shipbuilding	Ship Repairs (General Engineering)
GSL	100%	50%
	Shipbuilding Division	Offshore Division
MDL	82.66%	10%

Financial:

Name of the Shipyard	Year	Value of Production (Rs. in crore)	Sales (Rs. in crore)	Profit after Tax (Rs. in crore)
MDL	1997-98	994.59	1095.31	23.75
	1998-99	1701.69	253.99	16.23
	1999-2000	1055.67*	2173.61*	11.34*
GSL	1997-98	111.31	272.24	14.40
	1998-99	78.65	44.87	1.94
	1999-2000	81.75*	182.08*	3.01*

*(Unaudited figures)

The number of Skilled and Unskilled work force as on 31.3.2000 employed in these two Shipyards are as under:

	MDL	GSL
Skilled	6266	978
Unskilled	903	438

In GSL shipbuilding capacity is fully utilized. In MDL submarine building facility of Shipbuilding Division has been lying idle since 1994. MDL has since received Letter of Intent for production of two submarines from the Navy. Low utilization of Ship repair/General engineering capacity in GSL and Offshore capacity in MDL is due to lack of adequate orders.

GSL was not able to achieve the target set for delivery of ships during the last 3 years due to various problems. MDL has been able to achieve the set targets during the last 3 years for the production of Naval warships and refit programmes although the production programme of these warships had slipped over the years mainly due to disintegration of the erstwhile USSR.

The details of the performance of GSL and MDL during each of the last three financial years in physical and financial terms are given below:

Physical:

GSL—GSL has delivered 1 Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel, 2 Extra Fast Attack Crafts and 1 Sail Training Ship to the Navy.

MDL—MDL delivered 2 Destroyer class ships viz. INS Delhi and INS Mysore to the Navy.

There has been no incident of strike in MDL during the last three years. In GSL only once in the last three years workers resorted to strike in 1998 that lasted for 52 days leading to a loss of Rs. 19.00 crore. As a measure to avoid strikes a closer interaction between Management and the work force is being maintained in both the shipyards.

Backlog of Vacancies Reserved for SCs/STs

3924. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:
SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI:

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

(a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended to fill the Backlog of vacancies reserved for the SCs/STs in the year, 1993;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon since 1993 by the Law, Justice & Company Affairs in respect of Backlog vacancies and results achieved thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes laying vacant as on 01.01.1993 in Class I, II, III and IV category in Law, Justice & Company Affairs and its autonomous/statutory/attached offices; and

(e) the details of backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes in Class I, II, III and IV Categories as on 29.08.1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Museum on Judiciary

3925. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a permanent and a mobile museum on judiciary;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Government conveyed its approval in January, 1997 to the Registry of the Supreme Court of India, to set up a museum in the Supreme Court premises, where

important documents of historical value, important items used by the Hon'ble Judges together with other important exhibits like judgements delivered in cases of great importance in the life of the nation etc. would be displayed. The construction work of the museum building in the Supreme Court premises is in full swing.

Setting up of a Review Committee on Oil Production

3926. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fall in oil production has been anticipated in the current plan;

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

(c) whether the Government have set up a Review Committee to find out the reasons for short fall in the oil production;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the report is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the three years of 9th Plan Period (1997-98 to 1999-2000) the crude oil production in the country has been 98.53 million metric tonnes as against the planned projection of 106.66 million metric tonnes.

Steps being taken to increase the production are as given hereunder:—

(i) Finding new hydrocarbon reserves through intensified exploration activities such as:

- Exploration at greater depths in existing fields.
- Extending exploration activities to deep waters and frontier areas.
- Increased private participation in exploration activities through various rounds of bidding for exploration blocks and New Exploration Licensing Policy under which 22 Production Sharing Contracts were signed on 12th April, 2000.

- (ii) Faster development of new discoveries.
- (iii) Optimizing production from existing field through better reservoir management and use of advanced and cost effective technologies.

(c) to (e) Government had set up a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Narayanan in 1996; other members of the Committee being Shri J.S. Baijal, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) S.C.N. Jatar, Shri S.N. Talukdar and Dr. Avinash Chandra; to look, into the reasons for shortfall in production and to suggest remedial measures.

The terms of reference of the Committee include, inter alia, analysis of the causes of the fall in crude oil production, with particular reference to the sharp decline in production levels in the Western Offshore fields; whether the exploitation of the Western Offshore fields has been consistent with maintenance of reservoir health and maximisation of total oil recovery from these fields and to suggest measures for raising the level of crude oil production, etc.

The main recommendations of the Committee so far include:—

- (i) Management of reservoir health.
- (ii) Enhancement of oil production both in the medium term and long term basis from Bombay High.
- (iii) Undertaking of some pilot projects which may be extended to fields later on.
- (iv) Closure of certain wells with high gas oil ratio.
- (v) Organisational re-structuring of ONGC.

[Translation]

Cost of LPG Cylinder

3927. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 3381.34 crore, received from consumers by the Public Sector Undertakings during 1993-94 to 1997-98 against LPG cylinders, are required to be deposited in the Oil Pool-Account; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Construction of over Bridges in Gujarat

3928. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat and the Passenger Associations from North Gujarat have requested the Union Government for road over bridges at Siddhapur and Unjha; and

(b) if so, the steps are being taken by the Union Government to construct road over bridges are Siddhapur and Unjha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) General Arrangement Drawing has been approved for the Road Over Bridge near Sidhapur station on Mahesana-Palanpur section. State Government has deposited Rs. 78 lakhs for the work. Preparation of detailed drawings and tender papers is in progress. Reference for construction of Road Over Bridge in lieu of an existing level crossing at Unjha was received from Executive Engineer (R&B) Division, Mahesana in April 1989, who was advised to deposit centage charges for preparation of Plan & Estimate. As the traffic density is less than 1 lakh Train Vehicle Units, Railway can take up this work on deposit terms. No amount has yet been received from Local Authorities/State Govt. so far.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Calculating Land Cost of Petrol Pumps

3929. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a lot of irregularities are being committed in calculating estimates of land cost for petrol pump in complicity with the officers; and

(b) if so, the remedial action taken or propose to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Whenever the Oil Marketing Companies receive such complaints, they inquire into them and take appropriate action. The price for the purchase of site for petrol pumps is calculated taking into account the recommendations of Government— approved values who are engaged by the Oil Companies for this purpose.

Registration Fee for Companies

3930. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have raised registration fee for those Indian companies whose names start with specific words such as Global, International, Universal, Continental, Intercontinental Asiatic etc;

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

(c) whether the Government have imposed certain norms for registered companies in whose name specific key words are used as part of name; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) However, the Government has issued norms/guidelines vide Letter F. No: 27/1/87-CL-III dated 13-3-1989 to all ROCs, whereby companies have been allowed under Companies Act, 1956 to use names with certain key words like Global, International, Universal, Continental, Inter-continental, Asiatic etc. provided they have a minimum authorised capital prescribed in this behalf. These norms/guidelines are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Norms/Guidelines whereby companies have been allowed under Companies Act, 1956 to use names with certain key words

S. No:	Key Words	Required authorised capital
1.	Corporation	5 crore
2.	International, Globe, Universal, Continental, Inter-Continental, Asiatic, Asia, being the first word of the name	1 crore
3.	If any of the words at (2) above is used within the name [with or without brackets]	50 lakh
4.	Hindustan, India, Bharat, being the first word of the name	50 lakh
5.	If any of the words at (4) above is used within the name [with or without brackets]	5 lakh
6.	Industries/Udyog	1 Crore
7.	Enterprises, Products, Business, Manufacturing	10 Lakh

Bina Refinery Projects

3931. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount which Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has spent on the Bina Refinery Project till date;

(b) whether BPCL has paid for such works which were awarded but actually not executed for one reason or the other; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Rs 75.5 crore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchases from Private Suppliers

3932. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army Headquarters and Air Headquarters are making purchases of items from private suppliers who are not able to execute the orders in time;

(b) the number of purchase orders placed on these suppliers during the last three years and how many of these orders were executed properly, timely and satisfactorily;

(c) the number of suppliers black-listed and on what grounds during the last three years; and

(d) the details of purchase policy of the service headquarters and the steps being taken to ensure that it is followed scrupulously?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Army Headquarters and Air Headquarters are not making purchases of items from private suppliers who are not able to execute the orders in time. However, slippages in supply of the items may occur after placement of supply orders on private suppliers due to various factors. No supplier has been blacklisted during the last three years.

(d) The purchase of equipment and stores in the three Services is a continuous process and is based on requirements as approved in the Annual Provision Review. A well-defined procedure exists in the Ministry of Defence for dealing with the urgent and operational requirements of the Armed Forces.

Exploration of Oil and Gas by ONGC

3933. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka where exploration of oil and natural gas has been undertaken by ONGC since 1997 onwards, till date; and

(b) the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During period 1.1.1997 to 31.7.2000 Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has carried out exploration for hydrocarbons in East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Nellore districts of Andhra Pradesh and has acquired 1830 Ground Line Kilometre (GLK) of 2D and 7015 GLK of 3D seismic data and drilled seventy one exploratory wells in the State. Out of seventy one wells drilled, seven wells are oil and twenty four wells are gas bearing. During the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, ONGC accreted 14.09 MMT of inplace volume of hydrocarbons (Oil plus oil equivalent gas) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

However, no exploration activity has been carried out in the State of Karnataka in view of quite poor hydrocarbons prospectivity due to absence of proper sedimentary rocks required for hydrocarbons deposits.

Missile Threat Perception

3934. SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether while other States in India's neighbourhood had been testing ballistic missiles capable of striking Indian cities, country's slow-progressing Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) programme has done only a single IRBM test in the past five years as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 18, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the only victims of missile strikes during the past half-century have been nations without the capability to hit back in the kind; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to neutralise such threats against our country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) India's IRBM programme is progressing satisfactorily. After successful completion of technology demonstration of capability for re-entry technology, closed loop guidance and manoeuvrability required for long range missiles under programme Agni in three flights, a flight test of the longer range IRBM Agni-II was undertaken on 11th April, 1999 from a mobile launcher. Thus we have reached the point of operationalisation of longer range Agni.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government closely monitors all developments related to missile capabilities and strategic modernization programmes in the region and beyond. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the nation's security in accordance with its own assessment of threats to our security.

Offer of IOC for Purchase of Equity of IPCL

3935. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IOC had offered to buy twenty five percent of the equity of IPCL;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the offer was rejected; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Government of India have so far invited "expression of interest" in respect of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) only.

National Policy on Hydro Development

3936. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any comments/suggestions on the proposed National Policy on Hydro Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of hydro-electric power projects in the country and particularly in the State of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government has already announced a Policy on Hydro Power Development in August, 1998. The objectives of the Hyde! Policy are to ensure target capacity addition during the Ninth Plan; exploitation of vast hydro-electric potential at a faster pace; promoting small and mini hydel projects; strengthening the role of PSUs/SEBs for taking up new hydel projects; increasing private sector participation, etc.

(c) The details of sanctioned/ongoing hydro electric schemes in the country is given in the statement. In Karnataka, Brindavan [2x6 MW] and Sharavathi Tail Race [4x60 MW - Unite-I Rolled] are scheduled for commissioning in 2001-2002 and Sarpadi [3x30 MW] in 2002-2003. Efforts are being made in consultation with the Government of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to promote hydro-electric projects in the Cauvery basin which could not be taken up due to inter-state river dispute. NHPC would be prepared to execute Shivasamudram 270 MW, Mekedatu 550 MW, Rasimanal 200 MW and Hogenakkal 120 MW subject to their coming to a mutually satisfactory agreement on sharing of power from these projects. In the case of Upper Krishna HEP also involving inter-state aspects, the Supreme Court in its judgement on 25.4.2000 has allowed the dam height to be raised at 519.6 meters for the Almatti Dam. The project developer is finalising the revised Detailed Project Report.

Statement

National Policy on Hydro Development Sanctioned/Ongoing Hydroelectric Schemes

Sl. No.	Name of Project	State	Capacity		Commissioning Schedule	Remarks
			[No. x MW]	[MW]		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Central Sector						
1.	Nathpa Jhakri [NJPC]	H.P.	6x250	1500	2001-2002	
2.	Dulhasti [NHPC]	J&K	3x130	390	2001-2002	
3.	Chamera St. II [NHPC]	H.P.	3x100	300	2004-2005	
4.	Tehri St. I [THDC]	U.P.	4x250	1000	2001-2003	
5.	Koteshwar [THDC]	U.P.	4x100	400	2005-2006	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Dhauliganga [NHPC]	U.P.	4x70	280	2004-2005	
7.	Koel Karo [NHPC]	Bihar	4x172.5+1x20	710	8 Yrs from the date of sanction	
8.	Ranganadi [NEEPCO]	Ar. Pr.	3x135	405	2000-2002	
9.	Tuirial [NEEPCO]	Mizoram	2x30	60	2005-2007	
10.	Kopili St. II [NEEPCO]	Assam	1x25	25	2003-2004	
11.	Loktak D/S [NHPC]	Manipur	3x30	90	2006-2007	
12.	Teesta St. V [NHPC]	Sikkim	3x170	510	2006-2007	
	Total [Central]:		<u>5670</u>			

State Sector**NORTHERN REGION**

13.	Dadupur	Haryana	4x1.5	6	Beyond 9th Plan	
14.	WYC	Haryana	2x7	14	Beyond 9th Plan	
15.	Ghanvi	H.P.	2x11.25	23	2000-2001	Unit-2 (R)
16.	Larji	H.P.	3x42	126	Beyond 9th Plan	
17.	Uhl-III	H.P.	2x50	100	10th Plan	
18a.	Upper Singh-II	J&K	2x35	70	1999-2001	Unit-1 (R)
18b.	Upper Singh-II Extn	J&K	1x35	35	2000-2001	
19.	Kishanganga	J&K	3x110	330	Beyond 9th Plan	
20.	Sewa St. III	J&K	3x3	9	2000-2001	
21.	Chenani St. III	J&K	3x2.5	8	1999-2001	
22.	Ranjit Sagar	Punjab	4x150	600	2000-2001	Unit-1, 2&3 (R)
23.	Shahpurkandi	Punjab	2x40+2x40+1x8	168	Beyond 9th Plan	
24.	Lakhwar Vyasi	U.P.	3x100+2x60	420	Beyond 9th Plan	
25.	Maneri Bhali-II	U.P.	4x76	304	2003-2004	
26.	Katapathar	U.P.	2x9.5	19	2005-2006	
27.	Jakham	Rajasthan	2x2.5	5	10th Plan	
	Total [Northern Region]:			<u>2236</u>		

Western Region

28.	Sardar Sarovar	Guj/MP/Mah	6x200+5x50	1450	2001-2004	
29.	Bansagar Tons PH II & III	M.P.	2x15+3x20	90	2001-2002	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Bansagar Tons PH IV	M.P.	2x10	20	2001-2002 (Critical)	
31.	Indira Sagar	M.P.	8x125	1000	10th Plan	
32.	Ghatghar PSS	Mah.	2x125	250	2004-2005	
33.	Bhivpuri PSS	Mah.	1x90	90	Beyond 9th Plan	
	Total (Western Region):			<u>2900</u>		
SOUTHERN REGION						
34.	Srisailam LBPH	A.P.	6x150	900	2000-2002	
35.	Brindavan	Ktk.	2x6	12	2001-2002 (Critical)	
36.	Sarpadi	Ktk.	3x30	90	2002-2003	
37.	Sharavathi Tail Race	Ktk.	4x60	240	2001-2002	Unit-1 (R)
38.	Malankara	Kerala	2x3.5	10.50	2002-2003	
39.	Mutiyadi Tail Race	Kerala	3x1.5	3.75	10th Plan	
40.	Kutiyadi Extn.	Kerala	1x50	50	2001-2002	
41.	Pykara Ultimate	T.N.	3x50	150	10th Plan	
42.	Kalpong	A&N	5.2	5.20	2001-2002 (Critical)	
	Total (Southern Region):			<u>1461.45</u>		
EASTERN REGION						
43.	Chandil	Bihar	2x4	8	2001-2002	
44.	North Koel	Bihar	2x12	24	2001-2002	
45.	Upper Indravati	Orissa	4x150	600	1999-2001	Unit-1&2 (R)
46.	Potteru	Orissa	1x3+1x3	6	2001-2002	
47.	Balimela Extn.	Orissa	2x75	150	2004-2005	
48.	Balimela Dam Toe PH	Orissa	2x30	60	10h Plan	
49.	Rammam St. I	W.B.	3x12	36	10th Plan	
50.	Purulia PSS	W.B.	4x225	900	2004-2006	
51.	Rolep-I	Sikkim	2x4.5	9	2003-2004	
	Total (Eastern Region):			<u>1793.00</u>		
NORTH-EASTERN REGION						
52.	Ka bi Langpi (Lower Borpani)	Assam	2x50	100	2003-2004	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
53.	Dhansiri	Assam	5x3x1.33	20	2002-2003	
54.	Likim-Ro	Nagaland	3x8	24	2001-2002	
	Total (North Eastern Region):			144		
	Total (State Sector):			8534.45		
PRIVATE SECTOR						
55.	Baspa St. II	H.P.	3x100	300	2001-2002	
56.	Malana	H.P.	2x43	86	10th Plan	
57.	Vishnu Prayag	U.P.	4x100	400	10th Plan	
58.	Srinagar	U.P.	5x66	330	2005-2006	
59.	Maheshwar	M.P.	10x40	400	2003-2005	
60.	Boothathankettu	Kerala	16	16	2001-2002 (Critical)	
	Total (Private Sector):			1532		
	Total (All India):			15736.45		
	Hydro Capacity already spun/commissioned:			856.25		
	Net Hydro Capacity under execution:			14880.20		

M.E.S. Projects Running behind Schedule

3937 SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Military Engineering Service (MES) projects running behind schedule as on date;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of cost escalation, project-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to complete the projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Out of 318 MES Projects sanctioned by Ministry of Defence for all the three Defence Services, and by Department of Defence Production & Supplies for its organisations, 81 works are behind schedule.

(b) The reasons generally are:

- (i) slow progress by Contractor;
- (ii) delay in acquisition of land;
- (iii) change in scope of work;
- (iv) delay in receiving necessary clearances from local authorities, etc.

(c) Out of these 81 works, cost overruns are expected only in 8 works to the extent of approximately Rs. 20.5 crores. Out of which approximately Rs. 18 crores is on the risk and cost of the Contractors.

(d) All out efforts are being made to complete the projects in time by the ground executives. The delayed projects are being closely monitored by E-in-C's Branch, Army Headquarters and Ministry of Defence to obviate any cost & time overruns. Certain selective projects are being planned and executed as fast track projects with no escalation cost.

Loss on Rocket Production

3938. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sustained severe losses on rocket production;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of the manufacturing units;

(c) the number of such rockets manufactured so far;

(d) whether any enquiry has been held in the matter; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (e) Ordnance Factories did not sustain any loss in the production of 68mm and 84mm Rocket currently under production. Ordnance Factories also supplied approximately 6,000 Nos. 122 mm Grad BM 21 Rocket to Army between 1984-85 and 1999-91 as per specification and design of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO). However, the production of this Rocket was subsequently suspended from 1991-92 as Army desired that the specifications needed to be revised and made on par with the Russian design. This has resulted in blocked inventory with the Ordnance Factory of about Rs. 20 crore. A Task Force has been constituted with DRDO to suggest, if possible, the measures to be taken for utilisation of the blocked inventory.

Requirement of Locos

3939. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has ordered for about 134 locos to Chittaranjan Locomotive Works;

(b) whether the railways need only 84 locos;

(c) if so, the reasons for placing excess orders of locos;

(d) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on these locos; and

(e) the action proposed against the responsible officials for incurring loss to Government's exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The initial budgeted programme for production for the year 2000-2001 was for 93 Electric Locos at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works comprising of 85 conventional locos and 8 three phase high horse power locomotives. On a review of the requirement, production of 130 locos have been projected recently.

(d) The estimated expenditure likely to be incurred as per initial budgeted programme for 93 locos is Rs. 409.90 crore.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Increase in LPG Production

3940. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to issue orders to Oil Refineries for increasing LPG production to fulfil the domestic demand of LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Refineries produce maximum LPG to the extent possible because Refineries get good profits/margins for production of LPG. Hence there is no need to issue orders to Refineries for maximising LPG production.

[*English*]

Special Courts

3941. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have been given right to create Special Courts for conducting enquiries;

(b) if so, the number of special courts constituted in various States during the last three years;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on these special courts, State-wise;

(d) whether the Special Courts are spending enormous amount for handling the cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Role of BRBC Organisation for ONGC

3942. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has an organisation called Bombay Region Business Centre (BRBC);

(b) whether some of the Directors (Board level) stay at Mumbai most of the time instead of staying at their Headquarters (Dehradun);

(c) whether Residential Accommodation and Offices have been hired and/or purchased for these Directors at Mumbai; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the amount spent on purchasing accommodation and rent being paid to Hotels and other private accommodation by BRBC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. This centre is now called Mumbai Region Business Centre (MRBC).

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, a decision was taken in the 28th Meeting of the Board of Directors of ONGC held on 10.1.1996 that Directors should have the option to decide the station where they could keep their family and avail residential accommodation owned by the ONGC rather than making it compulsory for them to stay only at

Dehradun. The then Director (Operations) and the incumbent Director (Drilling) and Director (Finance) retained their allotted flats at Mumbai, owned by ONGC itself, with the approval of the competent authority. These flats had been allocated to the officers prior to their taking over charge as Directors, when they had been working at MRBC in lower posts.

Defence Land on Lease in A.P.

3943. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total defence land in acres in Andhra Pradesh at present;

(b) the land out of that given on lease to the Government or private parties;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh including some private parties, have requested the Union Government to give the waste defence land on lease or on sale for some public utility purposes such as health, education or sports activities; and

(d) if so, the details of such requests received during the last three years and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The total Defence land in Andhra Pradesh, as on 31st December, 1999, was 35,242.228 acres.

(b) Out of the above, 316.990 acres have been given on lease.

(c) and (d) There is no waste/surplus land in Andhra Pradesh. Requests from the State Government and other agencies are received from time to time for allotment of Defence land on lease for various purposes. These are examined in the Ministry in consultation with Directorate General of Defence Estate (DGDE) and Service Headquarters, as per the existing Defence Land Policy, on the merits of each case.

Power Plants Constructed by NTPC

3944. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power plants were to be constructed by NTPC in Haryana during the last three years, place-wise;

(b) the number out of them have been commissioned so far;

(c) the details of power production made by these power plants; and

(d) the share of Haryana from that power production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has constructed only one power plant viz., Faridabad Gas Power Station (430 MW) in district Faridabad in Haryana. The first and second gas turbine units of 143 MW each has been commissioned on 29th June, 1999 and 18th October, 1999 respectively. The Steam turbine unit has been synchronised on 31st July, 2000.

(c) and (d) During 1999-2000, this station has generated 1066.35 Million Units of power while during 2000-2001, for the period from April-July 2000, the power generation is 501.01 Million Units.

The entire generation from the station is allocated to Haryana.

[Translation]

Irregularities Committed by Nasirabad Cantonment Board

3945. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Executive Officers, Nasirabad Cantonment are discharging their duties as per the instructions issued vide letter Nos. 20/1/C/L-D-C/76 dated September 21, 1976 and 607/1/C/L-D-C/73 dated February 22, 1973;

(b) if not, the reasons for not following the instruction in discharging their duties during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the action taken against the erring Officers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The instructions issued under these letters are in the nature of guidelines to be followed by the Cantonment Executive Officers for better and more effective performance of their duties. The crux of the instructions is that the Cantonment Executive Officers should devote sufficient time to outdoor visits as also visits to the sub-offices such as Toll post etc. situated outside the main office complex.

These instructions are by and large followed by Cantonment Executive Officers including the Cantonment Executive Officer of Nasirabad.

[English]

Dumping of Private Sector Projects Based on Liquid Fuel

3946. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to dump all private sector projects which were based on liquid fuels;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the power generation target which was likely to be produced by these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such decision to dump private sector power projects based on liquid fuels has been taken by the Government.

(c) Wherever feasible, gas linkages to such projects are being considered and liquid fuel would act as a bridge fuel only. Further, with reforms and restructuring process being undertaken by the States, it is expected that projects would achieve Financial Closure and start construction.

Construction of Railway Bridges

3947. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand to construct an overbridges on the railway crossings near Javara, Mandasaur and Neemuch stations under Ratlam-Ajmer division of Western Railways is being made for many years in view of heavy traffic;

(b) if so, whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has also requested the railway administration in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir Demand has been raised in the past.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Level of traffic on only Javara level crossing No. 177 qualifies it for replacement with Road Over Bridge on cost sharing basis by Railway and State Govt. On other two places, traffic is low and work can be taken up on deposit terms on behalf of the sponsoring agency. Action can be taken after sponsoring agency agree to accept their share of cost and other pre-requisites.

Directions to Power Grid Corporation

3948. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any direction to Power Grid Corporation to carry out the construction of 400 KV line from Madurai to Trivandrum and 400 KV line from Bangalore to Kazhikode as part of the second stage of the Southern Region strengthening; and

(b) if so, the position thereof in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) had been directed to take up the construction of the "Madurai-Thiruvananthapuram 400 KV Transmission System" Scheme. Preliminary survey for this transmission line has been completed and the proposal for forest clearance has been submitted by PGCIL. The system is likely to be commissioned by December, 2003.

The Bangalore-Kazhikode 400 KV line has been identified by Powergrid for construction along with associated transmission systems of future projects in consultation with CEA.

Visit of Japanese Defence Team to India

3949. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Japanese Defence Team visited India during the current year;

(b) if so, the objectives and the outcome of the visit;

(c) whether any defence agreement has been signed during their visit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Japanese naval training squadron consisting of training ship *Kashima* and Destroyer *Yugiri* visited Mumbai from May 7-10, 2000.

During the visit, the Japanese Navy officials also visited NDA, Khadakwasla.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tie-Up with Indonesian Oil Company

3950. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has tied up with Indonesia's State Oil Company named "Pertamina" for cooperation in down-stream and up-stream projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Oil Corporation has gone into the antecedents and operational ability etc. of Pertamina;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the gains expected by IOC from this tie-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) on behalf of the Indian Hydrocarbon delegation which visited Indonesia, with the President Director and CEO of Pertamina, the national Oil Company of Indonesia, on July 13, 2000. The MOU envisages development of cooperation for projects identified in Indonesia and India subject to mutual agreement among the parties in the following areas:

- (1) Crude Oil Exploration & Production. To participate in each other's E&P projects.
- (2) Gas and LNG business: For import of LNG from Indonesia's LNG plants.
- (3) Refinery business.
- (4) Marketing/investment/upgrading of gas stations in Indonesia.
- (5) Information Technology.

- (6) Consultancy services, R&D cooperation and Training.
- (7) Other areas of business opportunities as may be mutually agreed.

(c) to (f) Pertamina, the national oil company of Indonesia is involved in the entire hydrocarbon value chain in Indonesia. The image of Pertamina in Indonesia is very good owing to its contributions to foreign exchange earning for Indonesia.

The above MOU is expected to open-up prospects of sustained cooperation between India and Indonesia. Indonesia, as such holds vast reserve of gas, which could be considered to be profitably converted to LNG or DME for bringing to India. An alternate opportunity exists for sourcing of LNG from Indonesia vis-a-vis Middle East countries on competitive terms. In addition, adequate expertise available with the Indian hydrocarbon companies, who participated in the visit viz. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), IOC, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) and Engineers India Limited (EIL) can be offered to Pertamina for improvement of their hydrocarbon sector, resulting, inter-alia, in income through consultancy services.

[Translation]

Operational Cost of Electric Trains

3951. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated operational costs of the electric and diesel trains;

(b) if so, the operational cost per kilometre, separately; and

(c) the average quantum of power and diesel required daily by the Railways for operating such trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The operational cost is worked out in terms of line haul cost which is computed as cost in Rupees per 1000 gross tonne kilometre (GTKM) i.e. cost of carrying 1000 tonne per kilometre for freight and passenger trains (excluding EMUs) separately. The latest figures published

gauge-wise for electric and diesel trains for 1998-99 are:

Electric (In Rs. per 1000 GTKM)

	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge
Passenger	137.20	183.47
Goods	76.04	281.88

Diesel (In Rs. per 1000 GTKM)

	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge
Passenger	129.78	213.22
Goods	76.98	242.73

(c) The average quantity of power (Electrical Energy) and diesel fuel required per day for running trains on Indian Railways for the year 1998-99 are:

Electrical Energy (million kilowatt hours) per day

	BG	MG	NG	Total
Passenger	6.916	0.029	Nil	6.945
Goods	9.121	0.001	Nil	9.122
Total	16.037	0.030	Nil	16.067

Diesel Fuel (million litres per day)

Passenger	2.09	0.30	0.018	2.408
Goods	2.13	0.11	0.003	2.243
Total	4.22	0.41	0.021	4.651

[English]

Introduction of Trains

3952. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the trains proposed to be started during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 have started plying;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Trains

announced in the Budget speech are introduced during the course of the financial year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All the trains proposed for 1999-2000 have been introduced except the following:—

1. Pune-Ernakulam Express (Bi-weekly) which is awaiting clearance from Karnataka Government for commissioning of Baiyappanahalli-Yeshwantpur section.
2. Chennai-Tirupati Shatabdi Express for want of commercial viability.
3. Kamakhya-New Bongaigaon Passenger will be introduced after commissioning of Golpara-Kamakhya new line for passenger services.

The trains proposed for 2000-2001 are being gradually introduced on availability of rolling stock and other required infrastructure.

Fees Paid to Lawyers

3953. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI RAMASAGAR RAWAT:

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

(a) the number of cases pending in the lower courts in Delhi in which the Government are the petitioner or defendant and the period of pendency;

(b) the reasons for the delay in the finalisation of the cases;

(c) whether the fees paid to lawyers defending the Government cases is far too low consequence to which they do not always accord priority to defend the cases resulting into inordinate delay in the cases;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to revise the rates of fees paid to the Government counsels;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) 9,041 cases are pending as on 9th August, 2000 in

the lower courts of Delhi. There are various factors for the delay in the finalisation of pendency, but the main reason for the delay is pendency of large number of cases in the courts and not the payment of lower fees to the counsels.

(c) to (f) The Government has recently revised the fee payable to Standing/Additional Standing Government Counsels in the District and Subordinate Courts with effect from 1.10.1999. The revised fee structure is now reasonable.

Appointment of Notary Public

3954. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) the criteria adopted for appointing a Notary Public and the period for which he is appointed;

(b) the number of new notaries appointed in the last one year, State-wise;

(c) the number of applications for notary public still pending for approval at present; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for early disposal of pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The criteria for appointing a Notary Public and the period for which he is appointed are laid down under the Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956. Under Section 3 of the said Act, the Central Government as well as the State Governments are empowered to appoint Notaries. The Central Government has power to appoint Notaries for the whole or any part of India, whereas a State Government is empowered to appoint Notaries for whole or any part of the State concerned.

Under Rule 3 of the Notaries Rules, a person from amongst legal practitioners may apply for appointment as a notary if he has been practising as such for 10 years. In case the applicant for notary ship is a person belonging either to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes or a woman, then the condition for eligibility for appointment as a notary is 7 years of legal practice. A person is also eligible for appointment as a notary if he has been a member of Indian Legal

Service under the Central Government; or, if he has been for ten years, a member of Judicial Service; or held an office under the Central Government or State Government requiring special knowledge of law after enrolment as an Advocate; or held an office in the Department of Judge Advocate General or in the legal department of the Armed Forces. The eligible persons may apply for appointment as notary on a prescribed form *i.e.*, Memorial, which has to be countersigned by a Magistrate, a Bank Manager, a Merchant and two prominent local residents. The Competent Authority appointed by the Central Government thereafter examines the Memorial and calls for comments/objections from the State Bar Council where the memorialist is enrolled as an advocate. The applicant also requested to submit an affidavit deposing that he is neither a notary already appointed by any State Government nor his application for appointment as notary is pending with the concerned State Government. After considering the objections and the various facts mentioned in Rule 7 of Notaries Rules, a decision to recommend appointment or rejection of the applicant is taken by the Competent Authority.

On the basis of recommendations of the Competent Authority a decision is taken by the Central Government to appoint or not to appoint the applicant as notary. A letter is then issued to the applicant recommended for appoint to deposit a demand draft of Rs. 1,000/- as fee for appointment of notary whereafter a Certificate of Practice as Notary for a period of 5 years is issued to the applicant.

(b) The number of new notaries appointed in the last one year. State-wise—from January, 1999 to December, 1999 is 159. State-wise list is as follows:—

State	No. of Notaries Appointed
Haryana	14
Uttar Pradesh	59
Punjab	28
Delhi	21
Karnataka	9
Maharashtra	8
Gujarat	8
Rajasthan	6
Andhra Pradesh	1
Chandigarh	5

(c) The number of applications for notary public still pending for consideration is 1350.

(d) The steps taken for early disposal of pending applications include (i) creation of a separate 'Notary Cell' (ii) Dispensing with holding of interviews of the applicants for notaryship.

[Translation]

Secondary Freight Rates of Urea

3955. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intends/proposes to review the secondary freight rates of urea;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) The revision of secondary freight is linked to the comprehensive 7th Pricing Policy review for urea, for which proposal is made. The implementation of the new rates will be based on the approval given by the Government.

[English]

Speed of Nizamuddin Vishakhapatanam Express

3956. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Nizamuddin-Vishakhapatanam Express into a Super Fast Express;

(b) if so, the proposed schedule of this train;

(c) the extent to which the present journey time be reduced; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) 2803/2804 (erstwhile 8553/8554) Visakhapatanam-Nizamuddin Express (Bi-weekly) has been made superfast train from 26.01.1999. There is no proposal to convert the other two trains running on the Visakhapatanam-Nizamuddin sector into superfast category.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Defence Delegation to China

3957. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Defence delegation visited China in the recent past and resumed military to military ties between both the countries;

(b) the main topics discussed during the visit;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached with China over the border dispute;

(d) whether both the countries have agreed to co-operate in the field of defence; and

(e) if so, the salient features thereof?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Power Projects Functioning in Andhra Pradesh

3958. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) number of mega, medium and small power projects presently functioning in the Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the generating capacity of these power projects;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal for increasing the existing generation capacity of these projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) There are 29 power stations with the total installed capacity of 2671.94 MW Hydro and 3606.90 MW Thermal presently functioning in Andhra Pradesh. The station-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(c) to (e) For capacity improvement through renovation and modernisation of existing thermal power plants, APGENCO have planned for the refurbishment of Kothagudam Thermal, Units-5, 6, 7 & 8 from 105/110

MW to 120 MW capacity at an estimated cost of Rs. 372 crores.

NTPC has also proposed to enhance the capacity of the existing Ramagundam STPS (2100 MW) by another 500 MW under third stage at an estimated cost of Rs. 1818.00 crores.

Statement

Installed Generating Capacity of Andhra Pradesh as on 31-7-2000.

Hydro

A. Under State Govt. Deptt.		Installed Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
1.	Mauchkund	80.33
2.	TB Dam & Hampi	57.60
Sub Total		137.93
B. Under S.E.B.		
1.	Nizamsagar	10.00
2.	Kabatiya Canal	3.01
3.	Pochampad	27.00
4.	Donkarji Canal	25.00
5.	Nagarjuna Sagar (RC)	90.00
6.	Upper Sileru	240.00
7.	Nagarjuna LC	60.00
8.	Srisaillam	770.00
9.	Lower Sileru	460.00
10.	Nagarjuna Sagar	810.00
11.	Chetapeta	1.00
12.	Paleru	2.00
13.	Penna Ahobilam	20.00
14.	Kakatiya	1.00
15.	Singur	15.00
Sub Total		2534.01
Total (A) & (B) Hydro		2671.94

1	2
C. Steam under SEB	
1. Nelore	30.00
2. Ramagundam B	62.50
3. Kothagudam C	220.00
4. Kothagudam B	220.00
5. Kothagudam A	240.00
6. Kothagudam D	500.00
7. Vijaywada TPS	1260.00
8. Rayal Seema	420.00
Sub Total	2952.50
D. Gas	
1. Vijeswaram CCGT, AGP Corpn. (Govt. Deptt.)	99.00
2. Godavari CCGT (Spectrum Power Generation Co. Ltd.)	208.00
3. Jegrupadhu CCGT (GVK Industries Ltd.) (PVT)	235.40
4. Lanco Kondapali Power Ltd. Kondapali CCGT	112.00
Sub Total	654.40
E. Central Sector	
(i) Ramagundam STPS	2100 MW
F. Share from Central Sector Power Projects.	
1. Ramagundam STPS	580.00
2. Madras Atomic Power Station	29.00
3. Neyveli-II (Stage-I)	97.00

1	2
4. Neyveli-II (Stage-II)	180.00
5. Kaiga Nuclear Power Station	115.00
Total from Central Projects	1001.00

Theft of Stores

3959. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of theft in electrical and mechanical stores during the last two years and current year, so far;

(b) the details of vigilance enquiries going on in regard to loss/theft of electrical and mechanical equipments during the above period, zone-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon and the time by which the vigilance enquiries are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Statement-I showing the cases of theft & mechanical and electrical fittings over Indian Railways during the period 1998, 1999 and 2000 (January to June) is enclosed.

(b) Five such enquiries are going on. Out of these, two are emanating from Eastern Railway and one each from South Eastern Railway, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan and Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi. Details of such cases indicating zone and division are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(c) Two cases out of the five mentioned above have been handed over to CBI since outsider were also involved, while for others, detailed investigation by Railway vigilance is in progress.

No time limit for completion of the cases being investigated by CBI can be given. However, enquiries going on with the Railway Vigilance are likely to be completed within six months.

Statement I

Details of Cases of Theft of Mechanical & Electrical Fittings Over Indian Railways During the Period 1998, 1999 and 2000 (January to June).

Rlys.	Period	Mechanical				Electrical			
		No. of cases		Value of Property		No. of cases		Value of Property	
		Reg	Det	Stolen (In. Rs.)	Recovered (In. Rs.)	Reg	Det	Stolen (In. Rs.)	Recovered (In. Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CR	1998	481	126	755056	566363	101	19	213231	34538
	1999	279	103	392873	518703	141	8	153393	18354
	Jan-June 2K	138	28	214013	23070	59	4	113635	27850

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
ER	1998	4968	253	5293522	758051	12287	662	2716012	546734
	1999	3936	282	4867070	782794	2708	580	801689	494367
	Jan-June 2K	1393	123	1679130	533973	943	341	374503	217876
NR	1998	683	597	1602272	1183949	274	62	297575	137167
	1999	675	588	1016209	642726	119	31	127601	50910
	Jan-June 2K	364	324	594105	452807	39	15	43206	17640
NER	1998	164	129	1009044	214331	130	95	454112	180286
	1999	52	40	68776	28495	35	36	31505	13274
	Jan-June 2K	20	27	9020	13402	18	29	4129	22699
NFR	1998	59	55	213680	206330	19	17	28750	22950
	1999	41	37	121390	112850	10	9	4950	4350
	Jan-June 2K	14	12	159604	22100	4	4	5060	5060
SR	1998	623	44	568804	76425	100	58	279548	178554
	1999	522	56	385535	66970	96	54	203676	86300
	Jan-June 2K	268	23	247480	29320	57	31	114763	63023
SCR	1998	32	25	91545	94015	24	20	28180	23805
	1999	57	22	45126	17050	17	14	99107	77735
	Jan-June 2K	97	40	134379	48330	73	56	28714	40293
SER	1998	75	48	145882	88672	48	15	35973	12410
	1999	45	27	33443	12940	9	8	6910	1960
	Jan-June 2K	14	14	2017	1887	4	4	4330	4330
WR	1998	280	112	149364	80390	62	27	380335	322055
	1999	240	93	132982	82650	49	7	70610	20250
	Jan-June 2K	89	45	54081	16763	51	6	74110	13900
Total	1998	7365	1389	9829169	3268526	13045	975	4433716	1458499
	1999	5847	1248	7063404	2265178	3184	747	1499441	767500
	Jan-June 2K	2397	636	3093829	1141652	1248	490	762450	412671

Statement II

Zone	Remarks	Action Taken
1	2	3
Eastern	1. One case of stolen condemned mechanical items loaded in a truck which was in process of being taken	1. Investigation under process by CBI/Calcutta.

1	2	3
	away from workshop premises in Liliuah intercepted by Vigilance and CBI team and theft averted.	
	2. A case of theft of condemned wagon along with mechanical components such as Wheels sets at Mughalsarai registered in April, 1999.	2. Handed over to CBI/Lucknow for further investigations.
Northern	Gas used in AC Coaches found pilfered to the tune of approx. 2 crores. Case registered on 14th July, 2000.	Investigation is in progress by the Zonal Vigilance.
South Eastern	Mechanical items used as consumables in the printing press found misappropriated tantamounting to goods getting stolen.	Investigation by Vigilance in progress.
CLW	Copper segments in coppers slitting section worth approx. 5.15 lakhs found missing in August 1999.	Investigation in progress by CLW Vigilance.
DLW	Loss of part of a bearing unearthed based on source information issued to Golden Rock Workshops of Southern Railway.	Investigation in progress by Board Vigilance.
Rest of the Zones	Nil	Nil

Allocation of Gas to Pipavav Power Project

3960. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has drawn to the news item captioned "Pipavav Project to get gas from Tapti Fields" appearing in the 'Times of India' (Ahmedabad Edition) dated May 27, 2000;

(b) if so, whether impasse between the Union Government and the State Government on allocation of gas has been resolved; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An "in principle" allocation to the extent of 2.25 Million Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD) of natural gas from Tapti fields effective from 2003 has

been made for the gas based power project proposed to be set up at Pipavav in Gujarat. The above allocation is subject to the investment decision to be taken by the Management Committee of the Tapti field for the additional development of the field.

Import of Armaments during Kargil Operation

3961. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of armaments worth several crores of rupees were purchased from Russia during the Kargil conflict;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of items and their value;

(c) whether a major portion of these armaments have become rusted and are not usable;

(d) if so, the details thereof with expected loss involved therein;

(e) whether the Government have taken up the matter with Russian Government; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) A Statement is enclosed.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Six contracts valued at over Rs. 600 crores were signed with Russian firms for procurement of ammunition of armaments for the Army in the context of OP Vijay. The items included Sniper rifles, RPO-A Flame Thrower, Automatic Grenade Launchers, a variety of ammunition, Karsnopol Projectiles and Laser Designators.

No rusted Defence stores have been received from Russia. A consignment of 930 rounds out of 15,000 rounds of 130 mm ammunition supplied was found to be affected by sea water during inspection in June 2000 and has been declared unserviceable for which a claim is being raised. The estimated value of the unserviceable ammunition is Rs. 0.85 crores.

Refinery at Ambala

3962. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open a new oil refinery in Ambala Division (Haryana);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up a new oil refinery in Ambala Division (Haryana).

[Translation]

Production of DMU/EMU

3963. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of D.M.U./E.M.U. in the country commensurates with their requirement;

(b) if so, the availability of DMU/EMU during each of the last three years and current year so far, zone-wise; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient number of DMU/EMU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The availability of DMU/EMU in the country commensurates with the requirement.

(b) The availability of DMUs and EMUs zone-wise during each of the last three years has been as under:—

DMUs

Railway	Number of coaches as on			
	1.4.98	1.4.99	1.4.2000	1.7.2000
Broad Gauge				
Central	15	15	15	15
Eastern	—	18	27	27
Northern	57	60	99	99
Southern	06	12	24	24
Southern Central	48	63	78	78
Western	18	18	36	36
Konkan	09	09	06	06
Metre Gauge				
Western	—	3	3	3

EMUs

Railway	Number of coaches as on			
	1.4.98	1.4.99	1.4.2000	1.7.2000
Broad Gauge				
Central	1058	1081	1113	1122
Eastern	1142	1142	1212	1227
Northern	191	196	203	203
Southern	307	362	366	369
South Central	286	294	304	306
Western	730	737	746	749
Metro	144	144	144	144
Metre Gauge				
Southern	230	230	230	230

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Twelve Coaches Trains in Mumbai

3964. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the action plan to convert all nine coaches suburban trains of Mumbai into twelve coaches train;

(b) if so, whether the length of all the platforms have been increased;

(c) whether proper financial provision to convert all these trains and other ancillary project works have been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. It is planned to progressively convert nine coaches suburban trains in Mumbai into twelve coaches trains in Main Corridors except Harbour line of Mumbai.

(b) The length of the platforms on fast corridors has been increased while the work of extension of platforms on slow corridors is in progress.

(c) The work is planned to be completed in phases and adequate funds are made available depending upon the progress of works and availability of resources.

(d) The details of funds allotted for various works during the year 2000-2001 are as under:-

Name of work	Funds allotment
Extension of platforms	Rs. 1.5 crore
Conversion of DC to AC traction system and installation of DC sub-station.	Rs. 34.21 crore
Manufacturing retrofitment of dual voltage rakes.	Rs. 37 crore

(e) The work is targeted to be completed by 31st March 2008 in phases depending upon the availability of resources.

Agitation by daily passengers

3965. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that daily passengers made an agitation at Gaziabad Railway Station on June 2, 2000 as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated June 3, 2000; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason for the agitation by daily passengers was late running of Train No. GNS-1 EMU passenger train. Railway Administration is taking all necessary steps to run the trains at right time and also to check the incidents of disruption of Railway traffic due to agitation by passengers. Punctuality of the trains is being monitored at Railway Board, Zonal and Divisional levels.

Power Projects in Tamil Nadu

3966. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the various power projects in Tamil Nadu with regards to the power generated from wastages and domestic discards, solar, wind, cow dung and industrial fibre residues etc.;

(b) the details of funds allocated for the implementation of these projects by both Union and State Governments;

(c) the details of private participation in some of these projects;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to initiate new Non-conventional energy generating power projects in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M.

KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) Wind power projects of 775 MW aggregate capacity; bagasse cogeneration projects of 81 MW capacity; and, solar power projects of 237 KW capacity, have been set up in Tamil Nadu. These have mainly been set up as commercial projects through private sector participation.

For the demonstration projects in the Government sector, Central Financial Assistance of over Rs. 20 crores has been provided for wind farm projects; about Rs. 2 crores for bagasse cogeneration projects; and Rs. 1.3 crores for solar power projects. Balance funding for the demonstration projects has been provided by the State Agencies/beneficiaries.

(d) and (e) A 1.2 MW power project based on poultry wastes is under execution at Nammakal in Tamil Nadu for which Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 3.51 crores has been provided.

Penalties Imposed on Storage of Solvents and Naptha

3967. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the penalties imposed upon those who store solvents and naphtha-unauthorisedly;

(b) whether the system to check adulteration of naphtha or solvent is not effective; and

(c) if so, the stringent-measures proposed to be taken to make availability of petrol and diesel adulteration free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Under the Naphtha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 and the Solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 action can be taken as per the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 against those who store Solvents and Naphtha unauthorisedly. These orders have been issued by the Government to check the adulteration of automobile fuels viz. Motor Spirit (MS) and High Speed Diesel (HSD) by adulterants like Naphtha, Solvent, Raffinate and Slop.

Further to check the adulteration and malpractices, the oil marketing companies carry out regular/surprise checks of retail outlets, to control various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. To prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (PDS), furfural doping, filter paper test, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories etc. are taken by oil companies.

[*Translation*]

**Unauthorised Constructions by Nasirabad
Cantonment Board**

3968. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Executive Officers of Nasirabad Cantonment have committed large scale irregularities in carrying out construction work in violation of Rules 17-A, 18 and 19 framed in this regard;

(b) whether an elected member of the Cantonment Board had submitted a complaint to him on April 22, 2000 in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. The works carried out were only in the nature of maintenance/repair/alteration of which Rules 17 to 19 of the Cantonment Account Code, 1924 are not applicable.

(b) and (c) A complaint dated April 22, 2000 was received from Shri Vishnu Chaukariwal, an elected Member of the Board, which was examined and not found to be based on facts. As such the question of any action against the CEO does not arise.

[*English*]

**Joint Venture for Production of Muriate
of Potash (MOP)**

3969. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether the country does not produce Muriate of Potash (MOP) and is totally dependent on its import;

(b) if so, the quantum of MOP being imported annually and the expenditure being incurred thereon;

(c) whether the Government have decided to set up joint ventures in the country or abroad for manufacture of MOP;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There being no commercially exploitable reserves of Muriate of Potash (MOP) in the country, the entire requirement is met from imports. MOP has been decontrolled since 25.8.1992 and its imports decanalised with effect from 17.6.1993. The imports of MOP and other potassic fertilizers are made freely on private trade account. The Department of Fertilizers does not maintain information regarding sources, prices and expenditure incurred on them except in case of MOP procured under soft loan from Germany. The quantity and expenditure incurred on MOP imports under the German soft loan have been as under:

Year	Quantity (in lakh MTs)	Total Expenditure (in million US \$)
1997-98	1.27	14.78
1998-99	2.53	28.83
1999-2000	1.65	19.35

(c) to (e) No Sir, there is no such proposal at present. However, the Department of Fertilizers has constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Fertilizers to finalize the long term policy for setting up of joint ventures of fertilizer sector abroad.

Import of Special Coaches

3970. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways have imported 24 All Metal Light Weight High Speed coaches from German base Alstom LHB and is planning to run it as the Super Shatabdi Express;

(b) if so, whether three coaches of this speciality designed train have already been shipped to India;

(c) whether the Railways is in the process of identifying short and economically viable routes for operating this chair car train;

(d) if so, the main features of this new luxury train with German technology; and

(e) the extent to which it has been found suitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) A contract was placed in October 1995 for import of 24 All Metal Light Weight High Speed coaches from ALSTOM-LHB, Germany. These coaches are suitable for running Shatabdi trains. There is no train named as Super Shatabdi.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three coaches, which were shipped in December 1999, have already been received in India in February 2000. Remaining 21 coaches are yet to be shipped.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main features of these German coaches are as under:

The coaches would be lighter in weight, would have better riding comfort, aesthetically superior interiors, eco-friendly toilet system with speed controlled discharge facility and more seating capacity. The coaches would also have higher speed potential and would be safer due to modern design of vestibule, anti-climbing feature to prevent climbing of coaches in case of collision improved brake system, use of fire-retardant materials, etc.

(e) Three coaches received have been put to initial trials and have been found suitable.

Bullet-Proof Jackets for Army

3971. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our soldiers were provided with bullet-proof jackets during the Kargil conflict with Pakistan last year;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether our soldiers are equipped with bullet-proof jackets presently;

(d) the category of Defence personnel and the situation in which they are provided with bullet-proof jackets; and

(e) the origin of such jackets?

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

(b) Not applicable in view of the answer at (a).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Bullet Proof Jackets are provided to the Defence personnel who are deployed on the line of control and in Counter-Insurgency Operations.

(e) Bullet Proof Jackets have been procured in the past from the following sources:—

(i) Defence Research and Development Organisation;

(ii) M/s Tata Advanced Materials Limited, Bangalore;

(iii) M/s SGI Mehler, Chennai;

(iv) M/s RBR International Ltd., London, England.

Dereservation of Garment Sector

3972. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to dereserve the garment sector from the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its likely impact on textile exports and also employment in the sector;

(c) whether the Government have made any impact study on the eventual consequence of such a move;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether views of the small scale sector has been taken in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Study Group for Assessing LNG and CNG at Vidharbha

3973. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a core study group to assess the demand of natural gas/condensed natural gas in Vidharbha, Vasim district of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said group is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No. Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Popularisation of NCES

3974. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage the Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the country particularly in hilly region of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are satisfied with the achievements made in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government make evaluation in this regard from time to time; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the results of last evaluation made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has taken various steps to encourage promotion and development of various Non-Conventional Energy Sources throughout the country, including the hilly region of Uttar Pradesh. Various fiscal, financial and promotional incentives are provided by the Ministry throughout the country. Higher rates of subsidies/incentives are being provided under biogas, improved chulha and small hydro power programmes in hilly regions including those of Uttar Pradesh. The State-wise funds released during each of the last three years under various programmes of the Ministry, are given in the statement enclosed

(c) to (e) The Ministry has been undertaking periodic review of the various programmes/projects implemented by State Nodal Agencies and other organizations and necessary corrective measures are taken for successful and timely implementation of the various programmes/schemes. The evaluation studies carried out under Biogas and Improved Chulha Programmes by an independent organization, have indicated a functionality of about 87.5% and 70% respectively for these programmes in the country.

Statement

State-wise details of funds released during last three years under various programmes of the Ministry

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Funds Released		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.51	9.89	14.18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.79	0.72	0.37
3.	Assam	1.05	1.17	2.34
4.	Bihar	0.72	2.78	3.93
5.	Goa	0.12	0.58	0.11
6.	Gujarat	6.11	7.65	4.45
7.	Haryana	2.21	2.95	3.57

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.33	4.03	5.89
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.01	1.97	3.49
10.	Karnataka	7.56	10.33	9.37
11.	Kerala	1.04	2.71	4.58
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.01	9.58	11.72
13.	Maharashtra	6.72	8.20	16.09
14.	Manipur	0.40	1.85	1.19
15.	Meghalaya	0.32	0.63	0.41
16.	Mizoram	9.52	3.33	2.93
17.	Nagaland	0.23	0.66	0.51
18.	Orissa	3.44	7.19	10.79
19.	Punjab	3.16	6.59	10.06
20.	Rajasthan	2.12	6.11	7.65
21.	Sikkim	1.59	4.09	3.86
22.	Tamilnadu	3.99	3.65	6.41
23.	Tripura	0.47	1.13	0.95
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11.85	14.87	9.44
25.	West Bengal	6.29	9.08	15.82
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.04	0.13	0.18
27.	Chandigarh	0.05	0.25	0.08
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.03	0.01
29.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.02	0.01
30.	Delhi	0.47	0.22	0.52
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.57	1.19
32.	Pondicherry	0.08	0.40	0.12
33.	Others*	28.32	23.53	27.18
Total		126.51	146.90	179.39

*= Funds released to other agencies for installation of Biogas plants, Improved Chulha, Solar photovoltaic & wind power programmes.

French Defence Minister's Visit to India

3975. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Minister of France visited India during the month of May, 2000:

(b) the objectives of the visit;

(c) whether India had initially decided to buy old Mirage aircraft from France;

(d) whether these aircrafts were originally sold to Jordan in 1998;

(e) if so, the main reasons for purchasing these old Mirage; and

(f) the details of other issues discussed during the visit of French Defence Minister?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a), (b) and (f) At the invitation of Raksha Mantri, Mr. Alain Richard, French Defence Minister visited India on May, 18-20, 2000. During the visit matters related to bilateral Defence Cooperation, and regional and global security issues were discussed. In will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details of the discussions held.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Government has no authentic information on this aspect.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Purchase of Fighter Aircraft

3976. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fighter aircraft purchased by Indian Air Force during each of the last three years and the country of their origin;

(b) the number of usable and unusable fighter aircraft of Indian Air Force at present;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make the unusable aircrafts operational;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be involved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Eighteen (18) fighter aircraft have been purchased by Indian Air Force from Russia during the last three years as under:

Year	Quantity
1997-98	08
1998-99	Nil
1999-2000	10

(b) All aircraft of IAF are usable. However, some of the aircraft, though usable, remain on ground due to:

(i) Scheduled servicing at base or at overhaul agency.

(ii) Aircraft undergoing rectification.

(iii) Aircraft undergoing major repairs.

(iv) Aircraft awaiting spares from Indigenous sources or from abroad.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Notice for Eviction of Tenants

3977. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the properties of the NTC in Mumbai are occupied by unauthorized occupants/tenants;

(b) whether many of them are staying there before the existence of Public Premises Act;

(c) whether NTC have served notices against tenants/ unauthorized occupants of various buildings in Mumbai;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the public representatives have requested the Government to reconsider the legal position of NTC on this issue; and

(f) if so, the steps NTC has planned to safeguard the interest of tenants/occupants of these buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hike in Urea Prices

3978. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to have a periodic hike in urea prices;

(b) if so, whether this will be both long term and short term measures of the fertilizer policy which aims at decontrol of the industry in a phased manner;

(c) if so, whether the Government have given the responsibility of determining the demand and supply situation of urea in the long term to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent of rationalisation of NPK usage, promotion of bio-fertilizers and usage of eco-friendly fertilisers have been given a long term policy?

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

(a) and (b) While the Government has not taken any decision regarding periodic hike in urea prices, Government intends to move towards a deregulatory regime in fertilizer sector in a phased manner after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and making available fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices on the other.

(c) and (d) Government have assigned a study to the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) on "Fertilizer Response Ratio of different crops in India". The study would aim to:

- (i) To devise suitable statistical procedures for obtaining the fertilizer response ratios of various crops in different agro-climatic regions of the country; and
- (ii) To obtain fertilizer response ratios for different regions in the country based on farmers field trials/SAU/ICAR experimentation

(e) In order to maintain fertility of the soils, the concept of balanced fertilization and integrated nutrient use is being advocated, which envisages conjunctive use of bio-fertilizers, compost, farmyard manure and chemical fertilizers.

Double Shift in Courts

3979. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAOTALA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce double shift in courts keeping in view the large number of pending cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Yes, the proposal to introduce double shift in courts is receiving consideration alongwith many others to reduce delays in the legal system. Views of all the High Courts/ State Governments were sought. None of the fourteen High Courts/State Governments, who have replied so far, have supported the proposal. In view of the responses, no time frame can be specified.

Production of Fertilizer through Liquefied Natural Gas

3980. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of fertilizer is dependent on the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as a feedstock;

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

(c) whether the Government have anticipated a shortage of a Natural gas supply to the fertilizer sector in the near future;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and its impact on the domestic production of fertilizers;

(e) whether any alternative arrangements of feedstock have been made; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) At present fertilizer production is not based on LNG.

(c) to (f) The Hydro Carbon Vision 2025 prepared by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas stipulates that the demand for natural gas will increase from 110 million standard cubic meters per day in 1999-2000 to 313 million standard cubic meters per day in 2011-2012. As against this requirement, the present domestic gas supply is 65 cubic standard cubic meters per day. Gas based fertilizer plants are equipped with dual fuel/feedstock facility to face the eventuality of any shortfall in the supply of gas.

To address to the issue relating to possible decline in the supply of natural gas in the coming years, Government have directed the core group of fertilizer sector companies to prepare a detailed feasibility report for setting up of an integrated chain of LNG supply in the country. Further, Department of Fertilizers has also constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers) to explore the feasibility of adopting coal based technology for the manufacture of fertilizers.

Private Participation in Power Sector

3981. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some power projects of Karnataka are being executed with the help of private participation, and

(b) if so, the details of such power projects along with the names of private companies executing the same in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per available information, a list of private sector projects proposed in the State of Karnataka which have been given techno-economic clearance (TEC) in principle clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), is given in the Statement-I. A list of liquid fuel based private sector power projects in that State which do not require the TEC of CEA and which were given fuel linkage by the Government of India, is given in the Statement-II.

Statement I

S.N.	Project's Name	Capacity in MW	Whether TEC accorded	Name of promoters
1.	Almatti N. Thanmakal	1107	IPC	Tapco, USA; GE (Hydro), UK; Asia Power, New Zealand.
2.	Bangalore	500	IPC	NRI Capital Corp, USA; Pulakeshi Power Corp.
3.	Bijapur (Telgi)	350	IPC	KEI Energy Ltd., Hyderabad; KLT Power Cons, Kansas City, USA.
4.	Dharwar	500	IPC	Wesco Power Generation Ltd.
5.	Hassan	189	IPC	Karnataka Breweries; L&T India Power Fund, USA
6.	Kaniminke	100	TEC	Peenya Power Company Ltd, Coastal Power Co. USA
7.	Mangalore	1013.2	TEC	China Light & Power & GE Power, Mauritius
8.	Nagarjuna	1015	TEC	Nagarjuna Fertilisers & Chemicals; Fire Seed Ltd. Hong Kong.
9.	Nanjanguda	110	IPC	Thermo Ecoteck Corp, USA
10.	Thubinakere (Mandya)	164.4	IPC	Mandya Power Partners; TNEC Engineering, Malaysia
11.	Torangallu	260	TEC	Tractabel SA, Belgium; Jindal India

Abbreviations:

IPC- In Principle Clearance (given by CEA)

TEC- Techno-economic clearance (given by CEA)

Statement II

Sl. No.	Name of the project/project developer.	Cap. (MW)	Fuel
Barge Mounted Power Plants			
1.	M/s Tanir Bavi Power Company (M/s Chicago Power Company, Inc) (Gurpur)	200	Naphtha
2.	M/s Gurpur Power Company (M/s Smith Cogeneration, Inc.) (Mangalore)	170	Naphtha
3.	M/s Euro Kapital (Mangalore)	156	Naphtha
4.	M/s Universal Water & Power Corporation (Kumta)	110	Furnace Oil (FO)/ Low Sulphur Heavy Sock (LSHS)
Land Based Plants		00	
5.	M/s Bharat Forge Ltd. Pune (Bellary)	50.8	Naphtha
6.	M/s Atria Power Corporation, Bangalore (Harihar)	103	Naphtha
7.	M/s Ballarpur Industries Ltd.* (Karwar)	30	Naphtha
8.	KPCL (Bidadi)	400	Naphtha
9.	Pulakeshi Power (Bidadi)	100	Naphtha
10.	Kalyani Steels (Gingere)	18	Naphtha
11.	Karnataka Breweries (Hassan)	200	Naphtha
12.	Ms/ Bhoruka Power Corporation Ltd. Bangalore (Wadi)	52.5	FO
13.	M/s Inox Power Ltd., New Delhi (Dharwar)	42.3	FO
14.	M/s Scintilla Power Ltd., Mumbai (White Field)	82.7	FO/LSHS
15.	M/s Tata Hydro Electric Co. Mumbai (Belgaum)	76.8	FO
16.	M/s Rayalseema Alkalies and Allied Chemicals Ltd. Bangalore (Bellary)	27.8	LSHS/FO
17.	M/s DLF Industries, (Tumkur)	32.5	LSHS/FO
18.	M/s Raunaq Group of Industries, New Delhi (Euro India) (Doddaballapur)	124	Heavy Fuel/FO
19.	Absolute Power Co. (Bangalore)	30	FO
20.	KIOCL/Globe Trotters (Kudremukh)	76.8	FO

Bifurcation of State Electricity Boards

3982. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to introduce a Bill on bifurcation of State Electricity Boards to achieve functional autonomy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Bill is likely to be introduced;

(d) whether some State Governments have already bifurcated their electricity boards; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (e) The States of Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have unbundled/corporatised their SEBs. Distribution in Orissa has been fully privatised.

Conducting of Election in States

3983. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

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

(a) whether the Election Commission has suggested that the election in the States should be conducted by placing the State temporarily under President's rule;

(b) whether the Election Commission has also suggested that while appointing the governors and caretaker Governments, the opposition parties should be taken into confidence; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (c) According to the Election Commission of India, the Chief Election Commissioner has on some occasions proposed for public debate, the idea that, if necessary, by suitable legal changes, an arrangement should be brought out, whereby once elections are announced, the State administration should be under the neutral control of the Governor to ensure a level playing field for various political parties. The Election Commission has, however, not sent any such proposal to the Government in this regard.

(b) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received by the Government.

[*Translation*]

Electricity Generated through Bio Compact Manure

3984. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether electricity is being generated through bio compact manure at Idar in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the per unit cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Electricity is being generated by using biogas produced from a cattle dung based plant at Idar Pinjarapole Gaushala in Gujarat State.

(b) It is estimated to be Rs. 3.37 per kWh.

[*English*]

Anti Defection Law

3985. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Anti Defection Law to meet the present political situation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Government is aware of shortcomings in the Anti-defection Law. Proposals relating to amendment of the law were accordingly included in the agenda for the meeting of political parties held on the 22nd May, 1998 but the discussion on the issue was deferred. In case, a consensus emerges amongst political parties on amendments to be made in the law, the Government would consider bringing a Bill for giving effect to the proposals.

Chemical Accidents Rules, 1996

3986. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chemicals Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 prescribe multi-tiered crisis response groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to set up Emergency Response Centres in densely industrialised pockets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning Preparedness and Response Rules, 1996, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for management of Chemical Accidents. The Rules provide for a statutory back up for setting up of four-tier Crisis Group at the Centre, State, District and Local levels for management of accidents. The Government also provides financial assistance on a cost sharing basis between the Centre. The State and the industry, for setting up of Emergency Response Centre. So far financial assistance has been provided for setting up four Centres.

**Dispute between Railways and
Delhi Metro Rail Corporation**

3987. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether disputes are arising between the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and the Railway Ministry regarding the track of Delhi Metro Rail;

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

(c) the steps taken to settle the issues arising out of this confrontation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there was a difference of opinion between the Ministry of Railways and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) on the question of Gauge for Delhi MRTS (Phase-I). The issue has since been resolved with the final decision having been taken by the Government in favour of Broad Gauge.

Micro Hydro Power Generation

3988. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey for Micro Hydro Power Generation;

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

(c) whether there is any Plan for the exploitation of the existing potential; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) 3349 sites aggregating to a potential of about 2852 MW have been identified for the development of micro/mini/small hydro projects up to 3 MW station capacity. State wise details are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A target of 140 MW from small hydro power projects has been fixed for the 9th Plan period. Against this target, projects aggregating to 72.61 MW have already been installed in the first three years of the 9th Plan.

Statement

State wise details of identified small Hydel Projects up to 3 MW Capacity

Sl. No.	Name of State	Identified Sites up to 3 MW	Project capacity up to 3 MW
1	2	3	4
1.	Haryana	21	24.05
2.	Himachal Pradesh	166	216.03
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	106	145.52
4.	Punjab	78	65.26
5.	Rajasthan	49	27.26
6.	Uttar Pradesh	310	326.63
7.	Gujarat	283	113.33
8.	Madhya Pradesh	99	74.63
9.	Maharashtra	183	123.57
10.	Andhra Pradesh	271	114.88
11.	Karnataka	181	166.11
12.	Kerala	167	199.10
13.	Tamilnadu	131	141.92
14.	Bihar	158	199.37
15.	Orissa	152	88.76

1	2	3	4
16.	Sikkim:	52	56.25
17.	West Bengal	141	153.87
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	433	382.31
19.	Assam	38	50.00
20.	Manipur	91	59.75
21.	Meghalaya	83	41.00
22.	Mizoram	73	43.32
23.	Nagaland	67	26.89
24.	Tripura	8	9.85
25.	A&N Island	5	1.15
26.	Goa	3	2.60
Total		3349	2852.41

Amendments in Divorce Acts

3989. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended amendments to the Divorce Acts to bring about equality of status for women with men in different sectors of society;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Law Commission of India has given a number of Reports on Indian Divorce Act, 1869, the last report being 164th Report given in November, 1998.

(b) The Law Commission has recommended, amendment of section 10 to remove discrimination against Christian women who may be seeking divorce as well as amendment of sections 17 and 20 of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869, which respectively require confirmation of

decrees of divorce/nullify of marriage by the concerned High Courts.

(c) The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

Defence Tie with Gulf Countries

3990. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to extend its military presence in Gulf countries;

(b) if so, whether a number of Gulf countries have offered to develop defence ties with India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether India and Oman have formulated defence ties which are developing quite rapidly;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to help other countries like Saudi Arabia, and the other richer States in the area of defence development?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) At present, defence cooperation exists in the field of training and goodwill visits with some of the Gulf countries. The Indian Navy, as all other Navies of the world, has been undertaking Goodwill Visits to countries around the world, including the Gulf countries, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Iran and Qatar.

During the visit of Mr. Yusuf Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman to India from July 17-19, 2000, it was agreed by both sides to set up a Indo-Oman Strategic Consultative Group, to be headed at the level of Secretary in the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs. This Group would be responsible for coordinating all aspects of Indo-Oman relations, political, economic, cultural, science and technology and defence on a continuing basis.

Low Cost Fertilizers

3991. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Phosphate Research and Development Centre (PRDC) in Udaipur (Rajasthan) had developed a low cost fertilizer by using high grade rock phosphate with Farmyard Manure which will prove to be an effective substitute for DAP and MOP;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Studies and experiments were conducted to use beneficiated rockphosphate with Farm Yard Manure. Result of the experiments conducted are encouraging.

(c) In view of the near total dependency on import of raw material for phosphatic fertilizer, Government would encourage research and development in such areas.

Hijacking of Italian Ship

3992. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the hijacked Italian Ship M.V. Medstar had headed towards Mumbai on June 11, 2000, escorted by two Guard Vessels;

(b) if so, the details of the incident;

(c) whether further negotiations were concluded there to decide the fate of the 10 Iranian and 4 Iraqi Stowaways on board; and

(d) if so, the full facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Coast Guard Regional Headquarters, Mumbai had received information from the Chairman, Kandla Port Trust on 9.6.2000 that Merchant vessel Medstar registered at Kings Town has reportedly

been hijacked by 14 stowaways who had boarded the vessel at Port Bander Abbas, Iran. The stowaways comprising of 9 (nine) Iranians and 5 (five) Iraqis claimed to have bomb with them and threatened to blow the ship if their instructions were not followed. The ship after loading 312 MT of granite at Bandar Abbas was scheduled to arrive at Kandla Port on 11.6.2000.

2. After conclusion of negotiations between the stowaways and the owners to bring the vessel to Mumbai, the vessel was escorted to Mumbai by the Coast Guard on 13th June, 2000. The master of the vessel informed the Coast Guard that the stowaways were not in possession of bomb. A joint investigation team comprising of representatives from Coast Guard, Navy, Customs, CBI and IB carried out the investigation on Board ship. Representatives from Protectors Indemnity & Insurance Club (P&I Club), Bremen, Germany who had arrived at Mumbai along with an interpreter from Germany negotiated with the stowaways. Subsequently the Iranian stowaways were issued with travel documents by the Iranian Embassy to travel by air and they left on 23.6.2000 while the Iraqi stowaways left for Bandar Abbas under escort of private security agency hired by the owners of the vessel.

[Translation]

Filling of Posts in IAF

3993. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of fighter wing pilots, maintenance personnel and engineers filled up during the last three years;

(b) the number of these posts still lying vacant; and

(c) the time by which all these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) *Officers*: The number of **officers** commissioned during last three years in Flying and Technical branches are as follows:—

Year	Flying Branch	Tech Branch
1997	146	201
1998	155	149
1999	128	98

Airmen: The number of airmen recruited during the last three years in technical trades who are involved in the maintenance of aircraft are as follows:—

1997-98	2785
1998-99	1871
1999-2000	451

(b) *Officers:* There are no shortages of fighter pilots in the IAF. However, there is a shortage of 200 officers in the Technical branch.

Airmen: There is no backlog of vacancies at present.

(c) The shortages of officers may continue for some time in Tech branch as not many youth are opting to join IAF in the changed socio-economic environment.

[English]

Alternative Dispute Resolution

3994. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any institution funded by the Government for arbitration and alternative dispute resolution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria for selection of the Chairman and other Members of the Institution;

(d) the funds provided by the Government to such institution and the criteria for providing grants;

(e) whether the grants are being properly utilized to achieve the objectives;

(f) if so, the number of cases being conducted every month in this Institution; and

(g) the manner in which the Government are monitoring the functioning of this Institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a), (d) and

(d) The International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR) was set up in 1995 as a private body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. During the year 1995-96, the Committee on Non-plan Expenditure (CNE) had approved a proposal to give financial assistance, to the tune of Rs. 11.06 Crores to the ICADR. In pursuance of CNE's approval, the Government have so far released a sum of Rs. 5.84 Crores to the Centre during 1995-96 (Corpus Fund-Rs. 3 Crores; purchase of land, registration charges thereof and part construction cost of the Centre's building-Rs. 2.84 Crores). The balance amount of Rs. 5.22 Crores was to be released to the ICADR in subsequent years after the Centre commences construction of the building. No further Grant-in-aid has been released to the ICADR since 1996-97.

(c) The Rules & Regulations of the ICADR provide that the Chairperson of the Centre will be elected by Members of its Governing Council. As regards the Members of the Society, besides the Foundation Members, the ICADR's Rules & Regulations provide for (i) Associate Members, (ii) Ordinary Members & (iii) Honorary Members.

Any association, society, organization, company or firm, interested in the aims and objects of the Society shall be eligible to be an Associate Member and may be admitted on payment of either a lumpsum fee of Rs. 1,00,000/- or an annual fee of Rs. 10,000.

Any individual, having experience of and/or interested in matters relating to alternative dispute resolution shall be eligible to be an ordinary member. An ordinary member may be admitted on payment of either a lumpsum fee of Rs. 10,000/- or an annual fee of Rs. 1,000/-.

Honorary Members shall be those individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of alternative dispute resolution and who are interested in the promotion of the aims and objects of the Society and are co-opted as members of the Society by the Governing Council. Honorary members shall be exempted from the payment of any membership fee.

(e) The ICADR has deposited the Corpus Grant of Rs. 3 crores in a Fixed Deposit with a nationalized Bank and the monthly expenditure on staff and running of the office, etc., is met out of the interest income accruing on the Fixed Deposit. Besides, the Centre has also purchased land for constructing the Centre's building, with the Grant sanctioned by the Government for the purpose.

(f) The ICADR has so far received five arbitration cases and two cases for conciliation, out of which two arbitration cases and two cases for conciliation have been resolved.

(g) The ICADR is a private body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The ICADR is totally independent and is merely a grantee institution under the Ministry of Law, Justice & Co. Affairs. Its affairs are managed by its Governing Council.

Defence Minister's Visit to Foreign Countries

3995. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited a number of countries during the month of May and June, 2000 to discuss the defence ties with these countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any defence agreements with these countries have been reached and signed with particular reference to Russia and U.K.;

(c) if so, the details of each of the agreements so reached and the extent to which these agreements are likely to help India to build-up the defence forces and also the arms and ammunitions to be obtained from these countries;

(d) the extent to which the Indian defence system is likely to be strengthened by those agreements; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) I visited the United Kingdom from June 13-17, 2000 and the Russian Federation from June 26-30, 2000. During these visits, inter alia matters relating to bilateral defence cooperation, regional and international security issues, international terrorism and religious extremism, were discussed.

No defence agreements were signed during these visits. However, at the end of my visit to Russia, a Protocol on the results of the visit, was signed by both sides. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose details of the discussion held with these two countries.

These visits have further strengthened the existing bilateral relations, specifically in the field of defence, with the United Kingdom and the Russian Federation.

Investments by FIIs in HPCL, IOC and IBP

3996. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the increasing investment of Foreign Institutional Investors and also Mauritius based Foreign Institutional Investors in four major oil sector PSUs viz. HPCL, BPCL, IOC, IBP;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Financial Institutions like UTI, IDBI have sold major chunk of oil sector PSUs during the last two years;

(c) if so, whether the equity from the share holders register this equity directly or indirectly has gone in the hands of Foreign Institutional Investors;

(d) if so, whether it may affect the disinvestment process of PSUs mentioned above; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Buying and selling of shares by FIIs (within the law and regulations of the land) is a normal and day to day activity and the level of investments by them is constantly changing. Hence, it is not feasible to study the increase and decrease in level of their holdings (both direct and indirect) which are within the permissible limits as per law and regulations of the land.

(d) Disinvestment in oil PSUs is based on the Government Policy on disinvestment, whereas, percentage of shares held by a particular investors or a group of investors in a particular company is governed under the guidelines/regulations of RBI/SEBI.

(e) The level and percentage of holding of shares by an entity is governed by RBI/SEBI regulations and law of the land.

[English]

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Railways (Opening for Public Carriage of Passengers)

Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 625 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2000, under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2220/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2221/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151 (1) of the Constitution:-

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 5 of 2000) Scientific Departments for the year ended the 31st March, 1999.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2222/2000]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 12 of 2000) (Direct Taxes) for the year ended the 31st March, 1999.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2223/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

- (i) The Naphtha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobile) Order, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 518 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 577 (E) dated the 30th June, 2000.

- (ii) The Solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 519 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 576 (E) dated the 30th June, 2000.

- (iii) G.S.R. 578 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2000 notifying the Form in which application for issue of Solvent, Raffinate and Slop license shall be made and Format in which the license shall be issued by the State Government or the District Magistrate or the Officer authorised by the Centre or State Government.

- (iv) G.S.R. 579 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2000 notifying the form in which application for issue of Naphtha license shall be made and Format in which the license shall be issued by the State Government or the District Magistrate or the Officer authorised by the Centre or State Government.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2224/2000]

[English]

12.01 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS-RAILWAYS

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2225/2000]

[English]

12.02 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS-RAILWAYS

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2226/2000]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Zero Hour. Shri Ramjilal Suman.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a rally is being organised today in Etah district by Samajwadi Party against police excesses. In Democracy, when we do not get justice, we have got right to express our resentment through demonstration, dharna, satyagrah etc. More than 25 false cases have been framed against Samajwadi Party leaders and workers. These are the same police officers and police superintendent about whom Election Commission had written before panchayat election to the State Government for their removal.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sumanji, this issue was in House yesterday also.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, it is an important issue. Rally is being organised today in Etah district and administration has created curfew like situation. The whole administration is bent upon failing the rally. With a view to prevent people from taking part in the rally. They have told truck operators that if they go there they will be shot. Those who have fire arms licence. They have been told that if they take part in this rally, their licences would be cancelled. Besides this to restrict entry of people they have erected 40 barriers in adjoining districts of Etah district. All hon'ble legislators and Members of Parliament who were going to take part in this rally have been stopped. National President of Samajwadi Party, Respectable Member of the Parliament, leader of Samajwadi Parliamentary Party Shri Mulayam Singh ji was also stopped from going there. It is very serious issue. Since yesterday in Etah district all means of conveyance—tractor, motor cycle, jeep and car have been stopped and lined up by the police. It is being said that Samajwadi party people are helping criminals. More than 50 ministers in Uttar Pradesh Government are criminals.

MR. SPEAKER: How many times will you speak the same thing.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, we need your protection. We would like the Home Minister of Union Government should immediately intervene in this matter and do not put curbs on the right of opposition in democracy.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Both Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and Shri Dharm Raj Singh Patel can associate with Shri Ramji Lal Suman. You have given the notice.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajaganj, U.P.) Sir, I have also given the notice....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have given the notice, have raised in it.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, there is no law and order in Uttar Pradesh and situation like jungle raj is prevailing there. Mockery of Constitution is being made in Uttar Pradesh....(Interruptions) A jailor and health director Shri Bachi lal was murdered in broad daylight in Lucknow. Due to this incident in capital of Uttar Pradesh there is an atmosphere of fear and insecurity in the minds of people of whole State....(Interruptions) Criminals are roaming freely in Uttar Pradesh. Today 22 hardcore criminals are in cabinet of Uttar Pradesh Government. All these people are having protection from Central and State Government. Today the Government is functioning in U.P. on the instructions of criminal Ministers....(Interruptions) and atrocities are being committed on the people.

Today when hon'ble Shri Mulayam Singh was going to end regime of injustice and terror with people in the historic mass-rally, tractors tyres were punctured outside Etah and people were beaten by lathis and forcibly taken out from buses and tractors....(Interruptions) Today lakhs of people have been stopped on roads 30 kilometres outside Etah. There is resentment among people....(Interruptions) They are trying to enter into Etah district. The Administration is threatening them that if they dare go the rally venue, they would be shot dead....(Interruptions) Sir, you told 15 minutes time will be given....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Time was given to Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, today lakhs of people are standing outside Etah districts 30-35 kilometres away from the city. They are being lathicharged....(Interruptions) Sir, Mulayam Singh Yadav is obstructed to enter the place of rally in Etah district....(Interruptions) Many Lok Sabha members of Samajwadi Party were also stopped from entering into borders of Etah district. It is an issue of breach of privileges of Members of Parliament....(Interruptions) If members of Parliament are restricted from meeting people then what will happen to democracy. People will start loosing faith in democracy. Please stop murder of democracy being committed in Etah district of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, I have not called your name, please. Now, Shri Punnu Lal Mohale.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record except the submission of Shri Punnu Lal Mohale.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, in Bilaspur district of new Chhattisgarh State being carved out of Madhya Pradesh, in Sakri in Bilaspur, a colony for thousands of employees and officers have been constructed for Arpabhsa Jhal Project. Officers have been appointed and work has begun on site. But all of a sudden the work has come to a standstill. There is resentment among common people. Ten thousand acres of land of thousands of farmers is deprived of irrigation.

Therefore, I request Union Government to give permission to Arpabhsa Jhal Project without further delay so that farmers get irrigation facility....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Dr. Ram Chandra Dome.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing the other Members. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record except the submission of Dr. Ram Chandra Dome.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told that this will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not think this is your own house. How many Members want to speak on the same subject?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There seems to be no discipline in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the submission of Dr. Ram Chandra Dome.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: From your side there is no need of direction to the chair.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum): Thank you for allowing me to raise an important issue. Through you I want to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a matter of urgent public importance.

You know the IDPL, a giant public sector undertaking in the pharmaceutical industry. This undertaking has a great tradition of producing important life-saving and essential drugs to save the lives of crores of the poor people in our country. But this firm was referred to the BIFR in the year 1992 due to sickness. Several Committees suggested many revival packages. The United Front Government had accepted one proposal of a Cabinet Sub-Committee and there was also another one-Member Committee of Dr. L.K. Behl to revive it. Again, they also suggested the revival and we understand that the Ministry had recommended a two-Member Committee. We do not know what happened to the Committee Report which was to have been placed in the Cabinet by March this year. We do not know the position.

We demand that this Committee Report should be placed before the House without further delay and this unit should be revived immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pravin Rashtrapal.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Sir, I am very thankful to you. I am raising a very serious issue....(Interruptions)

What is this? My name has been called. Every time you are discussing your matters. You should allow others also to speak....(Interruptions)

Sir, I am very thankful to you. I am raising a very serious issue of self-immolation by a 35-year old youth in Gujarat....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Rashtrapal says.

12.11 hrs

At this stage Shri Dharm Raj Singh Patel and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: A 35-year old youth, by name, Bharat Hasmukh Bhai of Barot committed self-immolation in protest against corruption of the BJP-ruled Municipality in Nadiad....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. First you sit down, do not speak from there. I have allowed Shri Rashtrapal.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You Please sit down. It is not good to talk from the well. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can't say your point from here.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: First you sit on your seat. You can't speak from there.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, the untoward incident of self-immolation in Gujarat in the town of Nadiad is very shocking. The Government of Gujarat has failed to....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You disturbed the House during Question Hour also. Today 40 members have given notices.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, there are complaints of corruption against the Municipality of Nadiad in Gujarat State which is ruled by BJP....(Interruptions) Because of the rampant corruption in the Municipality, electricity bills amounting to Rs. 3 crore and other bills amounting to Rs. 12 crore are in arrears....(Interruptions) The bills are prepared and the money is taken away by the office bearers and the officials, but the State Government is not taking any action....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Rashtrapal is saying.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Similar complaints are there against other Municipalities, namely, Patan etc., where the money amounting to crores of rupees, sanctioned in the name of Vajpayee Yojana, which was meant for the slum clearance within the Municipality areas, has been used for other purposes....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You should not speak from this side. First you go back to your seat. You can not speak from the well of the House. Certain rules are there for the business of the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, the issue is very serious and shocking....(Interruptions) I want that the Minister of Urban Development, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should call for a special report from the Government of Gujarat about the entire episode and inform this House about the circumstances under which the self-immolation took place on 15th August-the Independence Day- in broad day light, and that too in the State of Gujarat where Mahatma Gandhi was born....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing except what Shri Pravin Rashtrapal is saying, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: The Government machinery in Gujarat has totally failed to save the life of the social worker, Shri Bharat Hasmukhbhai Barot. I want a reply from the Government. The Central Government should depute a special officer from the Home Ministry to inquire into the circumstances leading to the self-immolation that took place on the Independence Day and to find out why the man was not saved in spite of the advance notice given by him.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I had given you the chance to speak. Now I have called another hon'ble Member to speak. There is a procedure to run the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (*Arrah*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards an important issue....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Leaders of the parties should see how their members are behaving in the House.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a long road which passes through Rohtas, Sasaram, Karanagar, Kochas, Rajpur, Chosa, Buxar districts of Bihar and Balia district of Uttar Pradesh and touches the Nepal border. It is an important road from the strategic point of view. It is 200 km. long and is a one way highway. Trucks coming from Bengal and Koyalanchal and various other vehicles from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh use this road to reach Nepal....(*Interruptions*) Vehicles coming from Bengal also passes through this road....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: First you please sit down. You can't speak from this side....

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: As it is a one way road, many accidents take place. Many people have died in these accidents. This road gets blocked during rains....(*Interruptions*) I would request that this road be converted into a National highway. Resources should be mobilised and construction work should start there immediately to remove the hardships of the people....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How can they speak, they are in the well of the House.

12.20 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Dharm Raj Singh Patel and some other hon'ble Members went back to their seats.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Mulayam Singh and all the members of his party were prevented from attending the rally. Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present in the House, I would like him to reply in this regard.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (*Bankura*): Hon'ble Minister should respond on it.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Member Shri Ramji Lal Suman has informed the House that one of the main leaders of opposition Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav was to attend a rally in Ettah but the local administration did not allow him....(*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment, I do not have any information in this regard. I will try to get the details. I am drawing the attention of the hon'ble Home Minister towards the incident of restricting an hon'ble member to attend the rally.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (*Ajmer*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition of health services is critical in the rural areas. Attention is always paid to provide these services in Urban areas only but the same attention is not being paid to villages. Health services are inadequate in villages. State Governments neither provide medicines nor doctors in villages. The doctors who are transferred to the villages do not join their duty. There is always shortage of medical facilities, doctors and medicines in rural health centres, primary health centres and community health centres. Doctors do not like to work in villages. No arrangement is made for their accommodation. Even medicines are not supplied there in adequate quantity. Many old buildings of health centres are in a dilapidated condition due to lack of funds. Seepage occurs during rainy season. Many a times people suffering from Malaria, T.B. and viral fever die for want of medicines. Although Health is a State subject but when ever this issue is raised they complain of lack of resources.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: How can you read the printed matter during 'Zero Hour'?

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Union Government to strengthen the "Health for all 2000" programme and

provide assistance and funds to States for adequate arrangement of medicines in health centres and primary health centres.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, today, I am raising a very important issue pertaining to our international relations.

Sir, the Government of India has decided to withdraw recognition to Shaharwi Arab Democratic Republic without showing any reason. By this unjustified action, the Central Government has gone back on an important principle of India's foreign policy, that is, support to decolonisation and national liberation struggle.

Sir, the Government of India had already recognised the Shaharwi Arab Democratic Republic since its inception. I demand that the Government should immediately rescind its decision to withdraw recognition and continue to recognise Shaharwi Arab Democratic Republic.

Sir, I demand a statement from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs....(Interruptions) Since the Minister for Exgternal Affairs is not here, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs could convey this to him....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Minister, you hear internally and convey to him externally!...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this unjustified decision should be rescinded and recognition should be restored to Shaharwi Arab Democratic Republic.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I will convey this to him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards Bihar State. From population point of view, Bihar is one of the biggest States of our country. On behalf of State Government, Chief Secretary, Bihar, sent the proposal of various projects in energy sector e.g. projects relating to Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station Extension Project and other similar projects, projects relating to Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station and similar other projects, Tenughat Thermal Power station Extension project stage-II, Shankh Hydro Electric Power Project stage-II through a letter to Union Government on 30.8.1999 for providing finance. However, Union Government have not approved the proposals even after

the laps of so much time. Consequently, State Government is facing losses due to shortage of electricity. Therefore, I demand that Union Government should approve these proposals without further delay.

SHRI DINSHA PATEL (Kaira): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Nadiyad is the largest city in my parliamentary constituency. It is also the birth place of Sardar Patel. Municipality of Nadiyad is under BJP which is talking about removing corruption and hunger these days. But corruption is rampant there. Approx. 12 crore rupees are outstanding on them. 3 crore rupees are due to them as electricity bill. Electricity board has served them notice in this regard. Large scale corruption is involved in the illegal construction work going on Government land and open land of municipality. I wrote to the Collector, Chief Officer and even Chief Minister also in this regard. I and MLAs of the area also held a procession and gave them memorandum but I never got the reply.

12.28 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

A young man Bharat Hansmukhbhai Rao had given the notice with me. He wrote to the Government, Chief Minister, Collector and President, Urban Development Miniser, Administrator municipality also. But no reply has been given till date.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Patel, conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Shri Bharatbhai Rao gave the notice to the Government and all other high ranking officials on 4.8.2000 that he would immolate himself if he won't get reply till the morning of 15th August. But he did not get the same. When I did not get the reply, how can he. Bharatbhai Rao was a BJP worker but even then reply was not given to him.

On 15th August at 9.30 a.m. in the land of Sardar Patel and Gandhi ji he doused himself with petrol and while sitting on scooter he immolate himself at the famous Sanatan Mandir road. He drove the scooter about 1000 feet and fell down near the police post. He was taken to civil hospital. His condition was very serious and that's why he was shifted from Nadiyad to Ahemadabad. His dying declaration was not taken properly. It was told that after 15 minutes his dying declaration will be taken, however, nobody came for that. He died the same night. Even today the entire Nadiyad is closed. The public of

the entire district is distressed. I request the Government to conduct a judicial inquiry in the matter and suspend the Collector, Chief Officer and guilty officers of municipality. Through you, I would request the Government to provide compensation to the family of the deceased.

*SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargod): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, it has come to our notice through news reports that FCI is going to sell wheat and rice in the open market from its godowns in Punjab at the rate of Rs. 650 per quintal, which is Rs. 150/- less than the prevailing wholesale price in the State of Kerala. Central Government used to maintain uniformity in the prices of food grains in various States but this move is going to create disparity in different States. Moreover, this lowering of issue price of the open market will only help the traders and hoarders to make profits at the cost of the common man. The rationale behind this, as per the Government's version, is to dispose off the piled up surplus stock of foodgrains in FCI godowns. This crisis of piling up of foodgrains has occurred just because of the recent cut in the subsidy of wheat and rice which is being distributed through PDS. So, the only and the only one solution to this problem is to restore the subsidy. Even today, the Government of Kerala is maintaining a subsidy of Rs. 2/- per kilogram of rice, which is distributed through its PDS network. So, Sir, the need of the hour is to reconsider the lowering of issue prices and to restore the subsidy to foodgrains, for the benefit of the poor people. This will solve, forever, the problem of stock piling also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are two more names listed against the same subject. They can associate themselves with the subject.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Member on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhaura, you can just say that you associate yourself on this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA (Bhatinda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards an important issue. Recently the Government had decided that the prices of foodgrains will not be increased and this has created panic among the farmers. All the inputs have become expensive like machinery, diesel etc. Hence I request the Government to change the decision and the prices of foodgrain should be revised so that the farmers may get relief.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government and also of this House to the release of five detainees under the National Security Act after the abduction of film actor Rajkumar. The highest Constitutional functionary, His Excellency the President of India, in his Address on the eve of Independence Day has said:

"Crime and violence and the links between criminals, politicians and important people in society has become almost an unholy alliance. Criminals are being glamourised by the media and are treated as if they are the new heroes of our society."....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not provoke him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Sir, this is a very sensitive issue....(Interruptions) It is concerning the lives of thousands of people of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu....(Interruptions) He should not be allowed to raise it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has every right to speak. Whatever sensitive it may be, his name is already listed in the List of Zero Hour. The hon. Speaker had already given him the permission to raise this matter. Let him speak now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, please take your seat now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, it is a very sensitive issue. They want to politicise it....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not provoke him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the hon. President is part of the Parliament....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri P.H. Pandiyan says.

...(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, the President is part of the Parliament. He has also expressed the anguish and concern on it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, the hon. Speaker has admitted his notice and I am permitting him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, it is a very sensitive issue....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Selvaganpathi, please do not interrupt your own Member....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the way to run the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, why should they take interest to protect Veerappan? Why should they take interest to protect a murderer?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, please take your seat. Do not interrupt, Otherwise, when you speak, they may also object to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, their Government headed by Shri Karunanidhi is protecting the criminals....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, kindly control them.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri C. Kuppusami, please go to your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, in his Address to the Nation, the hon. President went on adding, and I quote:

"Today, the greater the robber, the bigger the thief and the cleverer the cheat, the more honourable, the more distinguished and the more dignified his seat."

So, they are protecting Veerappan....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.H. Pandiyan, please confine to your speech. There are others also to raise their matters.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Now, the Tamil Nadu Government headed by Shri K. Karunanidhi is helping Veerappan. He is trying to divert people's attention of his corrupt practices....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, please go to your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, the very next day after the abduction, the Karnataka Chief Minister Shri S.M. Krishna contacted the Union Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani telephonically. Shri Krishna had said that there was no response from Shri Advani. He said, 'Shri Advani cannot look into the matter.'...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Adhi Sankar, please go to your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, then, when the Union Defence Minister, Shri George Fernandes who was on a visit to Bangalore, a few days back, was asked, "look, you have to protect the lives of citizens of India.", he said, "We cannot send the Army to capture the robbers and nab these criminals."

Sir, who is to nab these criminals? He had killed 119 citizens of Tamil Nadu....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, please be brief.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Sir, as a bargain, 5 secessionists have been released who had been detained under the TADA and NSA. Is there any provision to release any criminal who is detained under TADA?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right. Now, the next Member, Dr. Saroja.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: So, Sir, the Central Government should take action against the Tamil Nadu Government which is impotent, which is not capable of protecting the people....*(Interruptions)* I request the Central Government to dismiss the Tamil Nadu Government and impose the President's Rule there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, please resume your seat now.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: You can contact Shri S.M. Krishna, the Chief Minister of Karnataka not to fall prey to Shri Karunanidhi, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I told you that I have called the name of Dr. Saroja now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Selvaganpathi, please go to your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not do that. Shri Selvaganpathi, I cannot compel the Minister. This is 'Zero Hour' and I cannot compel the Government. The Chair cannot compel the Government to respond.

...(*Interruptions*)

12.40 hrs.

At this stage, Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is 'Zero Hour'. I cannot compel the Government.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

12.40 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

At this stage, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, please go back to your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this? Shri Selvaganpathi, please go back to your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, nothing is going on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Is Dr. V. Saroja present here? Now, Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

12.41 hrs.

At this stage, Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I called Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

12.41 hrs.

At this stage, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Dr. Nitish Sengupta already.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Dr. Nitish Sengupta says.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Shri Palanimanickam, please ask your Members to go to their respective seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (*Salem*): Sir, what is the response of the Government?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Minister to respond.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kuppusami, you have to resume your seat. I have called Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, I am on my legs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, I am on my legs, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, what is this going on in the House?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will have to name some of you now. Please take note of it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, you are a member in the Panel of Chairmen.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is a limit. Shri Palanimanickam, what is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, you are the leader of your Party. You please take care of your Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I may have to name some of the Members from Tamil Nadu, sitting on both the sides. This is too much.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, you will have to take care of your Members. There are other hon. Members who have given notices. We have heard a lot from the Members of Tamil Nadu. Now, Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt now. Shri Selvaganpathi, I will have to name you. I cannot compel the Government. Now, Dr. Nitish Sengupta. Please resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Selvaganapathy, I warn you. Do not behave like this again.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to react.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Selvaganapathy, you are a new Member. You should learn that if something is mentioned during 'Zero Hour', the Government may or may not react. The Chair cannot compel the Government to react.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are many other Members to speak.

...(Interruptions)

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this House and of the Central Government to the distressed condition being faced by the growers of betel leaves of my constituency, Contai, in particular and all over Eastern India in general where pan is grown, as

*Not recorded.

a result of the steep competition given to them by the *pan masala* and *pan parag*. *Pan masala* is an injurious item and it is also a health hazard. A lot of chemicals go into it. But thanks to the electronic media which has been giving a lot of publicity to these products. People are switching their habits from proper *pan* to *pan masala*. Something should be done. First of all it should be banned. Otherwise, the excise duty should be increased so that revenue can be increased and consumption of these items can also be progressively discouraged.

The Muster Roll workmen, 492 in number, of Farakka Barrage Project under the Ministry of Water Resources are working for more than 24 years continuously but are being deprived of their legitimate right of regularisation. The Central Industrial Tribunal has given award in favour of regularisation but the Union Government is not giving effect to this award.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In 'Zero Hour' reading is not permitted. Only under Rule 377, reading is permitted.

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: I urge upon the Union Government to regularise these ill-fated workers at an earliest.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my parliamentary constituency is located HEC factory in which 15-20,000 people were earlier employed but at present only 8-9000 people are left. Now that factory is on the verge of closure due to lack of purchase orders and the workers in that factory are not getting their salaries for several months. Earlier also I had requested the officials and Ministers of the concerned Departments several times so that HEC, Ranchi may get orders atleast from Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Coal. Thousands of acres of land was acquired for setting up factory but now the management of that factory had decided to dispose it off. Therefore, there is lot of discontentment among the people. The family members of widow and displaced persons are not getting employment. Therefore, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the management should not sell the land and if at all it sells the land then it should be ensured that only factory should be set up on that land so that people may get employment otherwise anything could happen there....(Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Jaipur the capital city of Rajasthan is also known as pink city. As per the rules if population of a city increases beyond 10 lakh then metro rail service

had to be introduced there. The population of Jaipur city has become more than 25 lakh. Therefore, I urge the Government of India to assist the Government of Rajasthan in controlling population and in regulating traffic by way of introducing metro rail service in Jaipur city.

SHRI SUBODH ROY (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a long standing demand of people of my constituency for providing permanent stoppage of 3401 & 3402 Bhagalpur-Patna Inter city Express at Akbar Nagar station. Hence I would like to request that permanent stoppage of this train should be provided there.

[English]

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House one of the serious issues regarding sufferings of Indian women who are working as house maids in the Gulf countries. Their condition is worse than that of slaves. They are tortured mentally and physically. They are sexually assaulted and compelled to do all kinds of undignified jobs.

I would request the Union Government to direct the Embassy to scrutinise the recruitment papers before women are recruited to this job, make recognition of protector of emigrants compulsory for all women recruitment and maintain the details of such recruitees in Embassies and Airport Authorities and also keep regular contacts with the Embassies of the countries where house maids are working.

These poor women are not given minimum wages. Therefore, a minimum of 750 Riyal/Durham should be made mandatory for such recruitment. Finally, the recruiting agencies and others who are responsible for torturing of these innocent women should be booked immediately....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you make so much noise then I will not give you an opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All the hon. Members including Shri E. Ahamed, Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Shri P.C. Thomas, Prof. A.K. Premajam, and Shri K. Francis George associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Abdullakutty regarding house maids in the Gulf countries.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Thomas, do you want to withdraw your association on this subject? Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE (Sarangarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my parliamentary constituency there are lack of irrigation facilities due to which the local people have to face famine every year and consequently migrate to other places in search of employment. From this point of view, large number of people had migrated to Jammu and Kashmir. Among those, two of them who belong to my constituency became victim of terrorists on 1st August 2000. The victims were Shri Santosh Kumar aged 25 years r/o village Hera and Shri Narendra Kewat aged 25 years r/o village Kasanda....(Interruptions) Sir, I am drawing your attention towards a very serious issue. The terrorists have killed 11 innocent labourers of my parliamentary constituency. In that context within a minute I would like to draw your attention and the attention of the House.

The other victims were Shri Chathram aged 35 years r/o village Bhatli, Shri Chathuram aged 30 years r/o village Bhatli; Shri Firturam aged 20 years r/o village Bhothidih; Shri Pila Ram aged 40 years r/o village Bhatli; Shri Ram kisun aged 45 years r/o village Morpaar and Shri Devi Prasad aged 27 years r/o village Kasanda.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Khunte, such a long speech cannot be delivered in Zero Hour.

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am mentioning the names of deceased. Shri Putturam aged 35 years r/o village Sindhul, Shri Dhruv aged 25 years r/o village Tendubhata were killed and the injured include Shri Dujram aged 16 years r/o village Sindhul, P.S. Sivrinarayan, district Jaanighir, Shri Chaitram aged 35 years r/o village Karra, P.S. Shivrinarayan etc. Whose heads of the family were killed and so far....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shri Anadi Sahu's submission.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Central Government, and particularly the Ministry of Human Resource

Development, to the disquiet among the college teachers of Orissa. The college teachers are supposed to get the University Grants Commissions's pay scale but in Orissa, they have not got it and for the last four days, they have been demonstrating in front of the Secretariat of Orissa. The UGC has not released the funds and the Central Government has also not indicated the modalities on which the pay scales are to be fixed for them in Orissa. Sir, through you, I would request the Central Government to take action on this issue immediately.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I would also associate with Shri Anadi Sahu on this issue.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I would draw the attention of the House and the Government towards a serious problem.

There is a severe drought in western parts of Orissa, particularly in the districts of Bolangir, Sonpur and Naupara. Due to want of rain, there is no crop in *aat* land and *verma* land and paddy crops have also started drying up. Reports of starvation deaths have started coming up. Shrimati Revathi Nayak, aged 50 years, of Rengali village of Agalpur block, Bolangir has died due to starvation. People have started leaving their villages towards distant places like Raipur and Hyderabad in order to eke out their livelihood. Immediate steps must be taken on this matter. I draw the attention of the Central Government, particularly of the Minister for Agriculture, to look into this matter seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of Tharu tribe are living in my parliamentary constituency. The people are agitated over their victimisation. Some powerful persons of that area illegally confined a damsel called Munni Devi D/o Shri Ramchandra Murari and was tortured. An F.I.R, has been lodged in this connection and police have recorded the statement also. Despite this the culprits have not been arrested so far. The Human Right Commission and National Women Commission also intervened in the matter but still they are at large. The local police is not only protecting them but is also coercing that lady to withdraw the complaint. I urge the Union Government to take cognizance of the case and ensure that strict action is taken in this regard.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 2600 years ago Lord Mahaveera was born in Baapu Kund village in Muzaffarpur, Vaishali. He was the 24th Thirthankar. I would like to submit that the Department of Culture and Department of Tourism of

the Government of India should make gala arrangements for celebrating 26000th anniversary of Lord Mahaveera in the country with great fanfare. In 1956, the then President Bharat Ratna Dr. Rajendra Prasad had laid foundation stone at the birth place of Lord Mahaveera but after that the work has not progressed. I would like to request the Government that the anniversary of the noble soul should be celebrated with great fanfare who had spread the message of peace and non-violence in the world. The Government should constitute a National Committee to make arrangements for its celebration throughout the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rajo Singh, Shrimati Kanti Singh and Dr. M.P. Jaiswal also support this proposal.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would draw the attention of this august House on a matter of urgent and national importance.

Sir, intake of 50 ml. of pure coconut oil per day for six months reduces the viral load in the case of HIV positive patients.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would also like to draw the attention.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the way of drawing attention, you please sit down.

DR. V. SAROJA: This observation has been made by medical scientists, Mr. John Gabre from United State of America and Mr. Kanrad and Mr. S. Darid of Philippines after conducting a research work on 15 AIDS positive patients as a study group. There is an anti-body, monolarine, present in the coconut oil which reduces the viral load. This statement was made at Chennai in the International Coconut Growers Association Conference held on 26.7.2000 in which the hon. Minister for Agriculture was also present.

13.00 hrs.

I appeal to the medical scientists and NACO to take up research in this direction. If proved positive, it would be a boon to coconut growers as well as AIDS patients.

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the serious situation arising out of the delay in taking expeditious steps for the continued operation of Balmer and Lawrie company at Aroor in Kerala. Due to lack of timely decision to save the company, all the workers and their families are facing acute hardships. Now it is learnt that the Government of Kerala have submitted a viable project report to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, as per the decision of the Conference held at Kochi in the presence of the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Ram Naik, the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas and also the Petroleum Secretary. But no effective steps have been taken so far. The hon. Minister is present here. I had also discussed this matter with him and he has been responding positively in this matter. I hope that he would take immediate steps for the continued operation of the company and save the workers. The sentiments of the workers and the feelings of the people have to be taken into consideration and I hope immediate steps would be taken in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I had gone to Kerala and I had a detailed discussion with the Industry Minister of the Government of Kerala, Shrimati Suseela Gopalan. Thereafter, they have decided that they would submit a plan which would be workable. They have submitted a plan, but that plan is not workable. So, accordingly, I have informed the Government of Kerala that if they want to run this unit, we are agreeable to give it to them and I am awaiting their response.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the National Agricultural Policy has been approved by the Cabinet and it has been tabled in the House. The entire nation was waiting for the National Agricultural Policy for the last 53 years and it has come out now. After its tabling, the House was waiting for a detailed discussion on it, but unfortunately it has not been listed for a discussion. In our country, more than 70 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture and so, there is a need for a detailed discussion on the National Agricultural Policy in the House. So, I urge upon the Government to see that the policy is discussed and the opinion of the cross-section of the political parties in this House is elicited so that a meaningful policy can be given to the nation. I, once again, request the Government to find time to discuss it during the current Session itself.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jadhav ji, you raised the matter in the House yesterday. Therefore, it has been decided that you could not raise this today.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani): Sir, it is a different matter. It is very serious issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not different. Yeasterday you submitted that.

[English]

Need to take immediate steps to stop the atrocities on the Scheduled Tribes and the minorities in West Bengal is there. Yesterday, there was a storm in the House on this subject. Therefore it is not permitted.

[Translation]

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHANDOKER (Serampore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my constituency on 15th August when tricolour is unfurled all over the country atrocities were committed on four women of minorities. They are-Roshanara Khatun, Manila Khatun, Ansuru Khatun and Khabira Begum. CPM workers vandalise the houses of minorities and kill them too....(Interruptions) When they go to hospital there also they beat them....(Interruptions) On knowing their caste, sub caste and tribe the report is not lodged in police station....(Interruptions) bringing people from Bihar....*

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum): Please expunge it. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please resume your seats? Whatever is objectionable will be removed from the record.

...(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: No, Sir, this is very unfortunate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already called Shri Ramdas Athawale.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Seth, this is unfair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are not allowing your friend to raise an important matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this? Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Nitish Sengupta, nothing goes on record. You have already said whatever you wanted to say.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, you cannot control them. For everything, you stand up and support them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of India....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale always supports you, but Shri Ramdas is not getting support.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, some controversial issue has been raised. That is relating to a State matter....(Interruptions) You must hear other's views also....(Interruptions). This is a State subject....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given sufficient time. Now, that is over.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, do you make rules for raising the State matters?... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, no; a State matter will not be taken up.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: The State matter should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The State matter will not come.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It will not be there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Thirteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has been arrested in Etah....(Interruptions) He is not being allowed to go to the place of rally.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero-Hour is over now. The House shall now take up Matters under Rule 377

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, workers were lathicharged and prevented from taking part in the rally....(Interruptions) District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police are murdering democracy in Etah.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had already spoken in Zero-Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You raised it and the Minister response too.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down Kunwar Akhilesh Singh ji and Shri Suman ji.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, we want your protection....(Interruptions) Two hours have passed after the Statement by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. The Government should immediately clear the position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kunwar Akhilesh ji, why are you standing. First you sit down.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said he will find solution of the problem after discussing it with the Home Minister....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: First you sit down. You have already raised this point and the Minister has also given the reply.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the leader of Samajwadi Party, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav's life is in danger and life of other Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha belonging to Samajwadi party is also in danger....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said he will speak after discussing it with Home Minister. When will he speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will respond. The House is till 6 'o' clock. He will find solution of the problem. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, some hon'ble Members met me in lunch-hour and in their presence only I spoke to the hon'ble Home Minister. He is trying to contact the Government of Uttar Pradesh and in such a situation I don't know the factual position but certain political issues are being bitterly there and to raise the same here in Parliament is of no use....(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Even now hon'ble Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ji is under detention and 22 Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are also under detention....(Interruptions). Lakhs of people are eager to organise rally there and situation is very explosive.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has taken up the matter with the hon. Home Minister, and is getting

information from there. He will inform the House as soon as he gets information. Why are you wasting time of the House.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a serious issue and you have already raised it. The Hon'ble Minister has also given reply. The Hon'ble Home Minister is trying to get information from there and as soon as details are received he will come in the House. If information has not come then how he will tell. For the information to come from Lucknow it will take time. Don't panic.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, at thirty minutes past twelve the Parliamentary Affairs Minister had given a statement and had stated that after verifying ground realities he will apprise the House with the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will lay and at present the proceedings are on. You please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

14.19 Hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has contacted the Home Minister, who is trying to get information from Uttar Pradesh Government. He will come to the House after getting information. You should give time to the Government too. The information has to come from Lucknow and Lucknow is far away.

[English]

14.20 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to sanction additional Central Assistance to Gujarat Government to ensure early commissioning of the River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project**

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): The Government of Gujarat have requested the Government of India for an

"additional Central assistance" for import of equipment from Japan for River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project.

With a view to smoothen the financial constraints, it was proposed that an additional Central assistance be provided by the Government of India so that the equipment manufactured in Japan can be purchased. On this specific issue, the Ministry of Water Resources has been actively supporting the participating States. The Ministry of Water Resources has requested the Ministry of Finance that the projected requirement of Rs. 294 crore be provided as an additional Central assistance. With a view to expedite the sanction of additional Central assistance, the Gujarat Government have requested the hon. Prime Minister. It has been our experience in the past that the States are not in a position to honour their dues, as per the directives contained in the final decision of the Tribunal Award.

It is true that due to non-availability of OECF assistance, procurement of turbo-generating sets for River Bed Power House of the Sardar Sarovar Project has been delayed indefinitely. I request the Union Government to sanction additional Central assistance to ensure commissioning of the River Bed Power House of the Sardar Sarovar Project without further delay.

[Translation]

- (ii) **Need to adopt uniform policy in providing Employees Provident Fund number to local contractors undertaking work in hydro-electric projects, Himachal Pradesh**

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a new ray of hope has arisen in the lives of the local people since the laying of foundation stone last year of mega Multi purpose Parvati Hydro-Electric Project in Kulu district. Though it is a fact that Employees Provident Fund (E.P.F.) number is required to be taken by the contractors who undertake works of permanent nature but the persons who undertake works of temporary nature are not required to apply for E.P.F. Number. When the construction work of Nathpa Jhakhri Power Corporation (NJPC) began, the regional Provident Fund Commissioner at Shimla, H.P. did not raise any objection, but gave in writing to NJPC that temporary contractor as need not take E.P.F. number. So the people must not be harassed on account of this. As a result of this people continued to bag contracts and are getting even today. However, when the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation decided to award contracts for the construction of Parvati Hydro-electric Project in Kullu on the same basis, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner of H.P. started raising objections and issued a notice stating that only

those contractors should be awarded contracts who have E.P.F. numbers. When the local people approach the office of the Regional Provident Commissioner for E.P.F. number, they are turned away on the ground that as per the Government's instruction EPF number is not to be allotted to any person. Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Labour to give a directive to the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Shimla that contractors undertaking temporary works should be exempted from seeking EPF numbers and if it is so necessary to have EPF number then it should be allotted to all the contractors.

(iii) Need to expedite Gauge conversion work on Gorakhpur-Gonda Loop Line

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (Domariaganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my district Siddharth Nagar was carved out from Basti district in 1988 which is on Nepal border. Till now no industry could be set up in this district as in spite of the constant efforts since 1991 at Naugarh station which falls on Gorakhpur-Gonda loop line the gauge conversion work has not yet been started. This project was included in the Railway Budget of 1997-98. The total cost of this project was Rs. 250 crore. Since then I am regularly hearing that soon work will start after getting the approval of the Planning Commission and the Cabinet Committee on Financial Affairs. In the absence of it, the Lucknow-bound passenger of this region are required to change trains at Gonda. There is no direct train to Mumbai, Calcutta etc. Moreover Coal and fertilizers meant for this district are being off-loaded at Basti Railway Station.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to expedite the gauge conversion work of this rail line to foster the development of this region.

(iv) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to Government of Goa to Mitigate Hardship being faced by people due to Floods

SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK (Panaji): Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to sudden flood in 3-4 Assembly constituencies falling under my Parliamentary Constituency Panaji (Goa) in June about 170 houses were washed away and about 100 houses were partially damaged. The main reason for the flood was torrential rains and as a result of this the soil excavated from the mines got deposited into the river and water entered in the market and houses thereby causing extensive loss to the people. The Government of India earns foreign exchange worth Rs. 800 crore annually for the export of minerals extracted from this area but Goa does not receive anything from export.

I, therefore, request the Central Government that in view of the problem of floods in Goa it should provide

immediate Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 50 crore for desilting, cleaning of the rivers and for permanent solution of this problem.

(v) Need to review the decision for Disinvestment of Profit-Making Public Sector Enterprises Particularly Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA (Salumber): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the decision of the Central Government to disinvest major share holdings in 20 public sector enterprises worth Rs. 10,000 crore by 31 March, 2001 has created extreme depression and panic among trade unions towards their future and they have regarded it as the infringement and blow to their interest and rights. All through my life I have worked in Hindustan Zinc Ltd which is a regular profit making & debt free public sector undertaking. I am still associated with this institution. As a result of the relentless efforts of the management and the workers the company maintained an excellent record and attained dizzy heights and I am witness to this.

It is necessary that the Government should review its decision of disinvestment in Hindustan Zinc Ltd., the company that has worked to make the country self-reliant alongwith ten other companies before its implementation.

Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had nationalised the banking, industries, Mines, Oil and Textile Mills with the objective to provide employment to all the sections of the society particularly the youth of Vananchal and to strengthen the country.

On the basis of my experience as a trade unionist, I can submit that Hindustan Zinc Ltd. became the foremost undertaking and has carved out a niche for itself on account of the collective contribution, dedication honesty of the labourers and the commitment of the management. The disinvestment of such progressive enterprises can not be formed as a good decision.

I hope that the Government would reconsider the issue and take a decision for protecting the interests and rights of lakhs of workers employed in these profit making public sector enterprises particularly Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

[*Translation*]

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will reply after the fax is received. How the Government can give a statement unless the fax is received. We will make a statement in the House after receiving fax from there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seats and be silent.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Akhilesh ji, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not possible on phone. Let the fax come.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seat and speak from there.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Patel, conclude now.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Akhilesh ji you have spoken, Sumanji also has spoken. The Government have heard you. Hon'ble Minister has replied. You wait for hon'ble Home Minister, he will come here and make a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have informed the hon'ble Minister. Your demand has been forwarded to the hon'ble Home Minister. Hon'ble Home Minister will definitely give a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: First you go to your seats. The Government have no information. On receipt of an information, hon'ble Home Minister will give a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We cannot compel him to come here and give a statement. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has told that when the information is received the House will be informed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government should be given time. The House will sit upto 1800 hours. If no reply is given by 1800 hours, then you may raise your point.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to speak in silence because it is very important issue....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

It is an important issue. Let me raise it, later on I will not bother about this hue and cry....(Interruptions)

[English]

Sir, I have a very important issue....(Interruptions) I cannot shout like this...(Interruptions)

I must be allowed to make my presentation properly....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Whatever you want to say, say from your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: My matter under Rule 377 should not lapse. it should be allowed....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rest of the matters under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table.

...(Interruptions)

14.31 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

- (vi) **Need to safeguard the interests of tobacco growers particularly of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka**

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): I have to invite the attention of this august House to the alarming condition of tobacco growers and farmers all over the country especially in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. While more and more consciousness about the risks of tobacco consumption is arising and spreading, tobacco stocks have been piling up undisposed year after year. The situation is also aggravated due to large-scale import of cigarettes.

*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

The soil in Andhra Pradesh and Kamataka is specially suited for growing special quality of tobacco but the farmers are finding it worthless because they are not able to locate any buyer. There has been no research in the direction of diversification of soil for cultivation of alternative cash crops. For a few years there has been serious thinking about the research for diversification of the use of tobacco for different purposes like insecticides and medicinal uses.

I hope the Government will pay serious attention to the plight of the tobacco growers and intensify efforts in that direction including restriction of import of tobacco products and also conduct research on diversification of use of soil for other crops.

(vii) Need to provide more railway facilities at Kannur Railway station in Kerala

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the august House to the pathetic condition of Kannur Railway station. The Kannur Railway Station is located at the Centre of Kannur town. I bring to the notice of the Indian Railway Authorities that a big plot is lying vacant adjacent to the railway station which can be used for some developmental activities. Such a utilisation will benefit the railway as well as the people and the area as a whole.

It is, therefore, requested that urgent action may please be taken for the construction of Shopping Complex and some useful things.

(viii) Need to shift the Regional Office of Telecom Circle from Khamgaon to Buldana, Maharashtra

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldana): There is not even a single Regional Telecom Office (Telecom Circle) in my Parliamentary constituency. Presently, Telecom cricle is situated at Khamgaon which is outside my parliamentary constituency. District Office and other Government offices are situated at Buldhana, which is a District Headquarters (District Place). Only telecom office is not there. When District Collector conducts my fortnightly/monthly meeting then telecom officials have to travel upto Khamgaon to attend the meeting. Atleast 20-25 lakh rupees are spent on conveyance and other expesnes of these officials in a year.

Even for a small job related to telephone people have to go to Khamgaon. And in some cases, when

concerned officer is not available then one has to make 2-4 trips to Khamgaon and that proves to be quite costly affair.

Therefore, I would request the Government to transfer Regional Telecom Office at Khamgaon to Buldana city immediately.

(ix) Need to formulate a central plan to protect historical town of Dohari Ghat in Ghosi Parliamentary Constituency, U.P. from the erosion caused by the Ghaghra river.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards grave flood being caused by river "Ghaghra" which flows through district Azamgarh, Ghosi and district Nathupur Mau (M.P.) which causes great loss to the life and property of the inhabitants of that area. Most of the villages were washed away in the devastating flood of 1998. Now, because of land erosion caused by Ghagra river existance of historical city of Dohari Ghat under Ghosi constituency is in danger.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to take necessary action to formulate a national project to construct ring bandh from Hajipur (Ghusasa) of Sagari to Hajipur Bazar and Hajipur to Nainijor and from Nainijor to Ismailapur and construction of check-dams to save historical city of Dohari Ghat and villages around it from land erosion and also construction of platforms adjacent to main dam for providing temporary shelter to flood affected people of Nathupur.

(x) Need to provide more facilities on railway stations falling on Patna-Gaya Sector in Bihar.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad): The distance of Gaya from Patna under Danapur division of eastern railway is only 92 kilometers. But it takes 5-6 hours to complete it. Not a single train in this part runs on time. Due to absense of railway security force in these trains people stop trains after every kilometer by pulling chains or by cutting the vaccume. The Jahanabad region of central Bihar is totally in the influence of nexalities/terrorists and thats why the lives of passengers remain in danger at the time of any such stoppage. There are no adequate arrangements of water at any station of this Division. The handpumps at all the stations are out of order.

I would request the Central Government to deploy small battalions of Railway security force to combat this problem of Patna-Gaya rail division. Adequate arrangements for providing water be made at all the station of this division.

[English]

(xi) Need to set up a Tamil Editorial Branch and a Sales Centre of National Book Trust at Chennai

SHRI V. VETRISELVAN (Krishnagiri): The National Book Trust (NBT) of India was established with the objective of promoting books, reading habits, rendering assistance to authors and publishers of books written both in national and regional languages.

In the present set up of NBT, all the regional language editorial sections, working for the State people in book promotion and book related activities are working from NBT's headquarters at Delhi.

In order to conduct exhibitions, seminars, workshops and awareness camps, the concerned personnel from the Editorial sections are engaged in tours in the respective regions for almost four to seven months a year. Not only this adds to the heavy expenditure in the budget of NBT but also in this way the objective of NBT is realised at a snail's pace.

Presently, the Tamil Editorial Section of the Trust is in Delhi. Really speaking, Tamil people are not much aware of the Trust which is working for them. This shortfall is due to the location of the Trust's Tamil Wing in Delhi. Though there is a Regional Sales Centre at Bangalore, it is not satisfying the need of the Tamil people. However, NBT should serve for the people at the grassroot level.

In view of the above facts, I request the Minister of Human Resource Development, through you, to look into this matter and take immediate step to set up an active Tamil Editorial Branch and a Sales Centre at Chennai.

[Translation]

(xii) Need to introduce a super fast train between Siwan (Bihar) and Mumbai

MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the development of railways has taken place with great pace in the country for the last 15-20 years. The small gauge lines have been converted into broad gauge lines. The speed of many trains has been increased and Rajdhani, Shatabdhi and some other super fast trains have also been introduced for long distance. But it is a

matter of regret that what to talk of a super fast train from Siwan to Mumbai, not a single direct trains has been made available on this route. That's why on one hand the passengers of Siwan have to face the inconveniences due to travelling through Patna and Gorakhpur upto Mumbai and on the other a lot of time is wasted in all this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would specially like to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister of Railways towards this fact that the Siwan station is the highest revenue earning station of the north-east zone. That's why the development of this area is lagging behind as compared to other regions. This is a pressing demand of the people of Siwan constituency that keeping the number of passengers travelling to Mumbai in view a direct superfast train be introduced at the earliest.

Thus, through you, I would like to request hon. Minister of Railways that keeping in view the demand of the people of Siwan a direct superfast train to Mumbai should be introduced.

[English]

(xiii) Need to withhold assent to Bihar and Orissa Excise (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 2000 passed by Orissa Legislative Assembly

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): The Orissa Legislative Assembly passed the Bihar and Orissa Excise (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 2000 on 2.8.2000. This Bill seeks to set up a Corporation for carrying on wholesale trade and distribution of foreign liquor and country liquor throughout the State including the Scheduled Areas.

Part IX of the Constitution of India deals with Panchayats. Article 243 (m) excludes the application of this Part to Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas. However, Article 243 (m) (4) (b) empowers Parliament to extend the provisions of this Part to the Scheduled and Tribal Areas with exceptions and modifications specified in the law. In accordance with this provision the Parliament enacted "The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. Section 4 of this Act prohibits the State Legislature from enacting a law which is inconsistent with certain powers vested in Panchayats in Scheduled Areas *inter alia* to regulate or restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicant. The impugned Act passed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly extending its operation to the Scheduled Areas is a clear violation of this prohibition.

Under Article 254 of the Constitution if a State Law or any provision thereof is repugnant to a Central Law, the latter prevails. The Orissa Act is repugnant to the

Central Law and therefore has no validity under the Constitution.

Article 256 of the Constitution enjoins upon the State authority to ensure compliance with the laws made by Parliament. The Orissa State Executive has not followed this mandate of the Constitution by bringing such a legislative proposal before the legislature. I would request the Union Government to advise the Governor of Orissa to withhold assent to the Bill.

(xiv) Need for creation of a separate Vidarbha State

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the one hand the formation of three new States is appreciated, on the other the people of Vidarbha feel dissatisfaction and sense of injustice due to ignoring the long pending claim of restoration of State of Vidarbha which assumes special significance, as the case of Vidarbha is much stronger which was unanimously recommended by the State Reorganisation Commission 45 years back.

Sir, on the solemn assurances by then National Leaders, the people of Vidarbha joined the State of Maharashtra. They were assured that all efforts will be taken to ensure all round development and also additional weightage will be given, not only that the famous Nagpur Accord will be fully implemented. The experiment of merger with Maharashtra miserably failed as the Vidarbha continues to remain backward and neglected in spite of rich endowment of natural resources of minerals, fertile soil and water potential.

The people of Vidarbha particularly younger generations are convinced that their economic progress is possible only in separate Vidarbha. All the people's representatives from Parliament to down below Panchayat *Samitis*, have supported the demand in a democratic and peaceful manner so far.

Now, time has come that Government should take initiative to accord statehood for Vidarbha which will not be any different from these newly formed States in terms of area, population, economic potential and performance, resources and financial capacity, which will certainly be able to meet the aspirations and needs of the people of Vidarbha.

The people of Vidarbha are agitated and have already decided to launch agitation for demand of separate State of Vidarbha, as they have lost their patience for not accepting their demand.

(xv) Need to look into the recurring crashes of MIG-21 aircraft

SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA (Siddipet): The latest MIG-21 tragedy on 5.8.2000 has made the case of MIG-21 mysterious. Since 1997, aircraft have crashed and 22 precious lives of Indian Air Force Pilots have been lost. In the last six months, seven of these aircraft crashed. It is not known whether it is a case of repeated bird hits or the pilots are not fully trained or is it because, the aircraft have become patently unsafe and need technological upgradation.

It is crucial to take hard look at the operational airworthiness of these aircraft. The death of trained IAF pilots is a great loss to the nation. I hope that the Defence Ministry would take early action to ensure that last tragedy is not repeated in the history of Indian Air Force and airworthiness of the aircraft rechecked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.00 p.m.

14.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fifteen of the Clock.*

*Lok Sabha reassembled at two minutes
past fifteen of the clock*

(SMT. MARGRET ALVA in the chair)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Madam Chairperson, I would humbly like to submit that our leader Hon. Mulayam Singh has been stopped to join the rally....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If all happened in the morning. Now after lunch everything is settled. Please sit down quietly.

KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH (Aonta): Hon. Minister of parliamentary affairs should ready about it.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ji has been stopped from attending the rally to be organised in Etah....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have mentioned these facts in the morning, itself and everything is on record.

KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH: I have to say something in that context that because earlier minister of parliamentary affairs has said that Home Minister will talk to U.P. Government and now when Home Minister has spoken to U.P. Government, this House want to know about the whole discussion cause U.P. administration has stopped many parliamentarians, our leader Hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav and almost hundred MLAs....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one of you can stand. You please sit down.

KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH: The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should reply about this in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would you like to say something in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Madam Chairperson, whatever we speak in House we have to be responsible for it, if I convey any wrong information then our hon. Members will say that the House is being misguided, that's why I should be 200 per cent sure before saying anything and that's what I am doing, but about it....(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): No, only 100 percent will do.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I have talked to some people in U.P. Government and that's why I am saying this so that no body in the House can say this tomorrow. But as per the information I have received, Hon. Mulayam Singh ji was permitted to go to Shikohabad. According to that he has left for Shikohabad.

[English]

But this should be subject to correction.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH: Is it Shikohabad or Etah.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I know only this, I don't know much about geography but you are talking in terms of place. I have received only this much of information but still I say that I will again come to House after confirming this. If any discrepancy is found in this then nobody should say that I have tried to mislead the House. Whatever information I could gather in 20 minutes I am sharing with you. I request you to please let the proceedings of the House continue.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): Madam, My matter under Rule 377 was not concluded....(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Madam, in the same way, if the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs obliges regarding Tamil Nadu, we would be thankful to him....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will oblige everybody. Please do not worry.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: He should have responded about our matter also....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, while I was speaking on my matter under Rule 377, the House got adjourned abruptly. Please allow me to raise my matter under Rule 377.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The decision was taken by the Chair before the House got adjourned that all the pending matters under Rule 377 have been taken as laid on the Table of the House.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam what do they know what we want to say?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever is there, that will be taken as read.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, why this procedure is there. In that case, every day this will happen. We prepare ourselves to come with certain issues which we want to highlight. We have been robbed of our forum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was because there was so much of noise in the House.

[English]

***DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS—GENERAL
AND
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS
GRANTS—GENERAL**

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up Items 9 and 10 together.

Motions moved:

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to be President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, of certain further sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 2001 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof, against Demand Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 25, 40, 45, 54, 58, 63, 64, 68, 69, 71, 73, 78, 79, 81, 85, 87, 95 and 96."

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended 31st March, 1998 in respect of the following Demands entered in the second column thereof:-

Demand Nos. 14, 47 and 80."

Supplementary Demands for Grants First Batch (General) for 2000-2001 submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

Sl.No.	Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE			
1.	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	100000	
3.	Department of Animal Husbandary and Dairying	258000000	
4.	Department of Food Processing Industries	109400000	...
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS			
6.	Department of Fertilizers		1500000000
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY			
8.	Department of Commerce	50100000	
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS			
11.	Department of Posts	-	97800000
13.	Department of Telecom Services		100000
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS			
25.	Ministry of External Affairs	100000	
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION			
40.	Department of Consumer Affairs		30000000
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS			
45.	Ministry of Home Affairs	9500000	
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES			
54.	Department of Heavy Industry	381400000	3027100000
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS			
58.	Law and Justice	1500000000	

1	2		3	
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MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS

63.	Department of Mines		100000
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MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES

64.	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	20000000	
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MINISTRY OF PLANNING

68.	Ministry of Planning	100000	
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MINISTRY OF POWER

69.	Ministry of Power	100000	4600000000
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MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

71.	Department of Land Resources	100000	
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MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

73.	Department of Science and Technology		47500000
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MINISTRY OF STEEL

78.	Ministry of Steel	3810000000	
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MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

79.	Department of Road Transport and Highways	9900000000	
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MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

81.	Ministry of Textiles		10500000
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MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

85.	Public Works		90200000
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MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

87.	Urban Emp. and Poverty Alleviation		40000000
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DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY, THE PRESIDENT, PARLIAMENT,
UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND THE SECRETARIAT
OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

95.	Rajya Sabha	100000	
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96.	Lok Sabha	55500000	...
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	Grand Total	15862300000	9443300000
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Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1997-98 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Title of Demand	Amount of Demand submitted to the vote of the House
14.	Department of Telecommunications	356,41,02,812
47.	Transfer to Union Territory Governments	10,000
80.	Ports, Lighthouses and Shipping	13,65,98,367
Total		370,07,11,179

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Madam Chairperson, sometime we used to say that the Finance Minister belonged to our State but now Yeshwant Babu does not belong to Bihar, rather he belongs to Jharkhand now, still we are happy.

Madam Chairperson, the Hon. Minister has presented demands for supplementary grants. And these are in order. In accordance with the Article 115 of the Constitution, the permission of the President is required for the purpose and he has presented these demands for supplementary grants after obtaining the permission of the President. A total number of 27 demands have been included in the first batch amounting to Rs. 2536.66 crore. He had also mentioned in the note that 27 demands for supplementary grants have been included in the first batch for the years 2000-2001 and the approval of the Parliament is sought to authorise gross total additional expenditure of Rs. 2536.66 crore out of which proposal of total cash expenditure are to the tune of Rs. 632.99 crore and the remaining Rs. 1903.55 crore would be met by the savings of the concerned departments.

His demand No. 1 is related to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation which is very essential for farmers. A reference to state-tubewell has also been made therein to complete the incomplete work. The Bihar Government has sent a project to the Union Government. There was a three phased proposal for installing state-tubewells by the NABARD. The funds for the first phase were released, the scheme was accorded sanction and the work of that phase was completed. The farmers are reaping benefits. The remaining two projects for installing state tubewells are pending with the Union Government. I want to request the hon. Finance Minister to clear this demand. So that State tubewells could be installed in the farmers' fields and they could earn their livelihood as well.

The second demand relates to the Krishi Vigyan Kendra. These Kendras should be opened in each district of Hindustan. The Government have announced the agriculture policy wherein it has been mentioned that these kendras will be opened in each district. I want to give an example of one lmary block of my parliamentary constituency where a Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been opened. If you look at it you will find that it has been vended useless. The above Kendra as set up to develop improved seeds, improved equipments, providing facilities to farmers, organising melas and the improved seeds will yield more produce at other places also thereby paving the way for he betterment of the farmers. I think that the Minister of Agriculture is also demanding on this head and we support this demand but at the same time I request that particular attention should be paid towards the expansion of the network of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Both the Agriculture and cooperatives of the farmers have been included in this demand. The loan which the farmers used to get from the cooperatives, land Development Bank is not being advanced by the NABARD nowadays. The farmers of Bihar are facing difficulties. The Hon. Minister is requested to see that the separate grants in the budget which used to be provided for Bihar, the farmers used to get funds out of that to undertake cultivation but the same is now almost negligible. Kindly make contact with the NABARD in this connection and arrange for loans through it. The demand No. 11 relates the Department of Posts. I infer that you also contest the Lok Sabha election, you also get an opportunity to visit rural areas. Our Finance Minister hails from the Jharkhand areas and Hazaribagh district is his constituency. He knows about the post offices which have been opened in villages, how far they are located? Particularly in Chhotanagpur area the Post Office are located at a distance of 15-18 km.

Today is the age of science. All activities are carried out through the Internet. What I want to say that there is no post office even in a area having a population of 300,400 or say 500 people. How the people can send letters to their villages or relatives? If the people of the

[Shri Rajo Singh]

above village or area are working somewhere else how can their money-order reach there. You have also demanded money on this head. The Ministry of Communications had formulated a scheme. The Secretary of the above department Mr. R.U. Prasad, who happened to be from our State, had launched a communication programme, I think that it was very useful. In case you cannot open more post offices then the norms being adopted were that if the population of any village is more than 300 people then a panchayat communication centre will be set up there and the educated youth would be given Rs. 300 and they will sell postal stamps, postcards, envelopes etc. and they will also get 20 per cent of the total amount earned from the sale of above postal items. However, post offices should be opened every where but it will take time to reach this facility in villages and at the same time it also needs a huge amount. The demands for supplementary grants for telecom is the highest. I would like to request that the said system should be introduced and give instructions to the Ministry of Communications to set up more and more number of Panchayat Service centres by adopting the said norms of the population of 300 people. On the basis of the said norms those centres should be opened in Bihar, U.P. and at other places as well. As far as the demands for supplementary grants for Ministry of Planning are concerned, I would like to say that funds should be provided for the schemes which are lying incomplete. Yashwant Babu, what about Bihar, what is the position of the Gandak and Sakari projects in Bihar. All the irrigation schemes of Bihar are still lying incomplete. I had also written a letter in this regard.

The Bihar Government had sent a proposal for the construction road bridge by the NABARD which is still lying pending with you. You have not even rejected that the said proposal. The Prime Minister had made an announcement from the ramparts of the Red Fort that all the villages having a population of 1000 people would be linked with the pucca roads within three years. How this target would be achieved since the figures have been worked out on the basis of population in 1952. At some places the population was 500-600 at that time which has since been doubled. Therefore, this fact also should be taken into account. You will have to direct the State Governments if this figure has been based on the population based on the population in 1952, then as per the Government rule 20 percent more should be added to the figure for the purpose of constructing roads. I would like to request that the proposal of the Bihar Government relating to the construction of roads by the NABARD should be cleared so that the people of Bihar get the maximum benefit.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention towards the demand No. 69 which relates to the Ministry of Power to

provide subsidy to the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for the electrification of the tribal and dalit bastis. You know that the REC is entrusted with this work. But the position indicates otherwise. If there are poles there are no wires and if there are wires, there are no poles. This is not the case with the villages of Bihar only rather there is a large number of such villages in the country. I had a chance to visit Tamil Nadu, where the Minister of State for Home Affairs hails from. I was in the Committee on Public Undertakings. I had also visited Gujarat and met with the Chairman and Chief Minister as well. I had asked them for how many hours they give electricity to villagers. They told that they are given electricity for not more than four-five hours. If electricity is not given to villagers, how the tubewells would run. He wants to produce crops by installing tubewells, but if electricity is not given how he will produce crops. You are demanding money for repayment of interest. But the basic provision which has been made in the budget, attention should be paid towards that. I would like to request the Finance Minister through you that attention should be paid towards it. Sir, when the Russia got independence, Lenin was the leader of Russia at that time. All the people of villages want to meet Lenin on the occasion of Russia's Independence with a fire wood in their hand. There was no electricity at that time. Black bread is made there, there who have got a chance to visit Russia might, have seen it. The countryside farmers and labourers went to meet Lenin with bread and fire in their hands.

They said that you are becoming our representative, Prime Minister or President. You cannot live in cold that is why we give you bonfire and bread to eat. Bread becomes black if it is kept for three or four days. That is why whenever some Chief Guest visits there, black bread is served which is symbolic. It is a reminiscent of the post war days when Lenin became the President and what people used to feel at that time. This practice continues till date. I want to say that power is a momentous issue. However, you may stress on science, we cannot do without power. You talk of providing telephones in the villages, in cars and run generators when there is no power but the prices of diesel are escalating. In such a situation special attention should be paid towards the generation of power. Incidentally, our Power Minister is indisposed. I wish him a speedy recovery and wish he may join us soon, give us his guidelines. These are our best wishes for him....(Interruptions)

Madam, Demand number 7-9 is concerned with roads. What will you do with the money on this issue. Funds were sanctioned in the budget but you did not spend it. Leave the condition of the roads at other places.

If I will mention Bihar, so many people would feel offended. What is the condition of roads in Delhi. Had you watched T.V. yesterday, you would have been aware of the condition of roads. The women were wading through water holding their clothes. They were unable to cross the road. All the buses are lined up in Delhi. This is the condition of power in Delhi, I had mentioned it earlier as well. There was no electricity in our area, in Mahadev Road for eight hours....(Interruptions) I was in South Block. Our colleague from U.P. are present here and reside in nearby area. You ask them if there was no power for seven hours and there was no one to look after it. Everyone we tried to rang up passed on the responsibility to someone else....(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): There is Congress regime in Delhi....(Interruptions) Had we been in power, the condition of electricity would have been much better....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): You should be aware that the National Thermal Power....(Interruptions) Mahadev Road and South Avenue lie in this area. Electricity Board does not fall in this area, this you should know....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not discuss electricity at the moment....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH: Sir, about National Highway, I would like to say that in other States it is being constructed from a very long distance. The National Highway from Bhaktiyarpur to Farrakha was approved five-six years ago. Your Government has not given approval it was the earlier Government. Why is it not being constructed. Nitish babu, Bihar Sharif national Highway was also approved. You must have not had an occasion to go there. George Sahib belongs to Asthama which is situated on the National Highway. The condition of that highway is so bad, that you cannot travel by road. The water gets logged in the area and splashed over by the passing vehicles on the street hawkers.

Madam, it is my request that justice should be done with Bihar. The approved National Highway should be completed. You will have to link one National Highway from Bihar Sharif to Calcutta. Dumka, Shekhpura, Sikandra, Jamui, Devghar should be linked with Calcutta via Dumka....(Interruptions)

Madam, in the end I would request the Finance Minister to give a farewell gift since he is going from Bihar. The package that you intend to give to Bihar for it's development, for the development of roads and power and for ameliorating the condition of farmers may kindly

be given at your earliest. Since you are the Finance Minister of the entire country, and not of Jharkhand only. Bihar is also a part of this country. You were also sanctioning grant, which must have been given. With these words, I support this proposal. Madam, in deference to your order I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I support the demands presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister. There are demand number 14 and demand number 47 of the Urban Department of the year 1997-98. It has been mentioned in the Demand No. 47 that the Centre has given financial assistance for the rehabilitation of the slums in Delhi. Several Members of Parliament from Mumbai, various Organisations and official and unofficial partners and the State Government itself have requested the Union Government on several occasions to rehabilitate the 85 thousand slums i.e. 4.5 lakh people who are living on the land belonging to the airport. Around 1.75 lakh people are residing on the land belonging to the Railways in Mumbai. Similarly, the land belonging to Port Trust and Salt department has also been encroached upon. A total number of 52 lakh people live in slums. Out of these, 12 lakh people reside on the land belonging to the Union Government. It would be proper to provide financial assistance to rehabilitate the 12 lakh people residing on the Government land like it is being given for the rehabilitation of the slums in Delhi. But, first of all my request is, that the Government from its budget provision should provide for their minimum basic requirements like water, toilets, Sewage, roads and electricity.

Secondly, the State Government and the representatives from Mumbai have requested the Planning Commission that the Union Government should allocate Rupees One Thousand crore for the development of Mumbai. I would not like to delve more into this subject, and request the Governemnt to make arrangements for providing financial assistance and basic amenities. In Demand No. 58 Ministry of Law and Justice it has been stated.

[English]

"The Supplementary Grant required will be Rs. 150 crore. The main reason that Supplementary Grant is sought for incurring expenditure on purchase of 1,50,000 are electronic voting machines for Election Commission of India."

[Translation]

My request is that it should be incorporated in the original budget and should not be brought through

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

Supplementary Demands. In reality we have seen that wherever electronic voting machines have been used it has reduced the possibilities of rigging as well as invalid voting in rural and urban areas.

This time provision has been made for one lakh and fifty thousand electronic machines—but it seems that more attention would be paid to this subject in the ensuing budget of the year 2001. If we want to undertake total electronic reforms, for which consensus has been arrived at among all parties, I request that more attention should be paid to it.

Simultaneously, only half of the total amount earmarked for issuing the voter identity cards to voters has been spent because later on, the issue became controversial as to who would bear the expenditure in this regard—State Governments or Central Government. At some places voter identity cards have been issued to 90 percent people whereas in some places the figure has touched 60% and in some other places it has vouched for 80%.

This matter has been raised many times in the House. We should pay as much attention for issuing the identity cards as we are paying towards electronic voting machines.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is said that there should be a uniform law and system of justice in democracy. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Finance that there should be uniform law or legislation in the country but different rules and laws have been framed for Telecasting companies in our country. Most of the channels, which we watch on T.V. are foreign channels. I would like to draw your kind attention towards these foreign channels to which concessions are being given by the Government whereas it is mandatory for domestic channels to pay 38% income tax. The C.B.D.T. issued a circular No. 742 on 2.5.1996 with regard to foreign channels. I wrote a letter and received reply in which

[English]

"It has also been mentioned in the letter that the guidelines contained in the circular were made applicable till 31st March, 1998 after reasonableness of the pre-emptive tax rate of ten percent will be reviewed."

[Translation]

It has been stated in the circular that 10% will be treated as income for presumptive taxation in the taxation on Foreign Telecasting Company Guidelines. If a foreign Telecasting Company earns a profit to Rs. 100 crores,

only Rs. 10 crores would be treated as profit in India. Thereafter, Rs. 4.50 crores would be paid as tax thereon at the rate of 45%. I would like to cite an example in this regard. A programme "Kaun Banega Crorepati" is being telecast on Star T.V..

[English]

Star T.V. has registered itself as a foreign telecasting company.

[Translation]

In fact, the programmes to be telecast on Star T.V. are watched in India—but they told the Income Tax Department that their programmes were being telecast in 142 countries through satellite, how they could levy tax on them. Our department of CBDT is so innocent that it accepted the argument given by them in 1996 and told them that whatever be their income.

[English]

In India, for India, was will treat only ten percent as income.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me know who is going to watch the 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' programme in America, South Africa, Japan or Malaysia. This channel would earn a profit of Rs. 200 crores this year and out of this amount Rs. 80 crores would be spent on advertising commission etc. and there would a net profit of Rs. 120 crores. If it had been in Indian company, it would have to pay Rs. 45 crores 60 lakhs as income tax at the rate of 38% and if it had been a foreign company, it would have to pay Rs. 54 crores as tax at the rate of 45% but Income Tax Department had inserted a new section in it in 1996.

[English]

That is not an Indian Company, nor a foreign company and that they are above all foreign telecasting companies

[Translation]

and out of Rs. 120 crores, only Rs. 12 crores would be treated as income in India and out of this amount, Rs.5.40 crores would have to be paid as tax at the rate of 45%. Who is going to watch the 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' programme. I would like to give an example and you will be surprised to know that whichever channel you are watching today-

[English]

Whether it is Star, whether it is Zee or whether it is Sony, all these television channels have registered themselves as a foreign telecasting company

[Translation]

and not only this, the Languages channels also have registered themselves as Foreign Telecasting Companies. Whatever they tell our department, we accept it. It is to be seen as to who is going to watch the Telugu, Marathi or Gujarati languages channels abroad. I would like to request you that a uniform law should be formulated for Foreign Telecasting Corporation. It is not a matter of giving red carpet treatment, rather it is manipulation. This circular was issued in 1996 for one year but after two years, a temporary provision was made to this effect. I have received reply to my Unstarred Question asked by me here. Since, the Cable Television was introduced just five or six years back and our department could collect only Rs. 61 crores during the last six years.

15.37 hrs.

(SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL *in the Chair*)

How much money was collected from all these telecasting companies as tax—Rs. 61 crore only. Sir, I support the supplementary demands which have been presented in the House. I do not want to blame the Government or any minister in this regard. But I want that directions should be issued to the Department. You are watching nine channels out of ten, these are all registered. The cable channels which have been launched recently, have also registered themselves as foreign telecasting companies but they have nothing to do with uplinking and this is nothing but purely a tax saving device. This is being misused and that should be immediately stopped, this is my request to you. With these words, I support these supplementary demands for grants.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to take part in the debate on demands for grants on the general budget. I support the demands for supplementary grants on which the debate is just going on. Through demand No. 6, which relates to the Department of Fertilisers, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you towards the P.P.C.L. The P.P.C.L. has found a mention in it, but what is the position of the P.P.C.L. at present. The Trade Union people of the company met me and they have also made request to certain hon. Members. The rehabilitation scheme of the above

company is pending in the Department of Finance forwarded through the concerned Ministry. We need to save our institutions in today's era of globalisation. Therefore, the above proposal should be cleared so that the P.P.C.L. could be revived and it could function properly.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, likewise the hon. Member Mr. Rajo Singh has invited attention towards telecom sector. I also support his views and would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards telecom sector where some good works have been carried out relating to telephones. But some improvement is still needed in that sector. The post offices are generally located at a far away distance and the process for opening new post offices is very cumbersome. I have been a member of the House for quite a long time but for the last 13 months I was not a member of Parliament. I tried very hard but I could not succeed in opening a post office in my area. I was told that this proposal has been sent to the Finance Ministry for approval. It is the commitment of the Government that post offices are to be opened within a radius of 2-3 kilometres in the areas which have a population of 2000 at least. The Government should take necessary steps to open post offices in those areas by providing more funds for the purpose. I do not want to fail to raise this issue here today. The Hon. Minister hails from Bihar. Now his area comes under the new State after the recognition of the State.

Bihar and some other parts of the country were ravaged by the devastating flood recently. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister through you towards floods and urge him that there should be definitely some provision to get rid of the menace of floods. 50 years have elapsed since Independence. We have already celebrated the golden jubilee year. But the area affected by floods has gone up to the level of 40 million hectares since 1952. Property worth billions of rupees is damaged in these floods and loss of lives is also caused by them. This year too, property worth Rs. 50 thousand crores is estimated to have been damaged in the country, though floods are yet to come. In this context, there was a proposal to take up this issue with the neighbouring country. The works started by the then Minister of Water Resources, Shri K.L. Rao in the decade of 1960 are yet to be completed as a result of which we have to face the floods. We are devastated by floods every year and are compelled to spend huge amount on relief works. I think it is now high time to contemplate over the cardinal issue of floods and make all out efforts to resolve this issue after 50 years of our independence. This has got two aspects. First, this is a State subject and all the rivers in all the states need to be desilted and digged upto the level they had been 100 years ago and the

[Shri Naval Kishore Rai]

basin of one river also needed to be linked with that of the other river. The embankments of all the rivers also need to be repaired and new canals need to be dugged from these rivers for irrigation purposes and to mitigate the fury of floods. The other aspect is that high dams should be constructed in the neighbouring country Nepal to generate hydel power. The surplus waters of floods and rains should be stored in high dams there and released from these dams during summer for irrigation purposes. The floods can not be stopped altogether, however, the fury of these floods and damage to life and property can certainly be mitigated. Recently, the Prime Minister of Nepal visited India and newspaper reports say that both the Prime Ministers had deliberated on the issue of floods and some action is afoot in this direction. I feel glad over it. The representatives of the flood hit areas should also be involved in the discussions and efforts be made to resolve this issue in the current financial year itself so that the Government of India could negotiate with the Government of Nepal to construct high dams there. Thereafter, the Bihar Government should be given necessary funds to desilt and dig the rivers upto the level they had been 100 years age and for repair of embankments and connecting the basin of one river to the other thereby checking the floods in the state. Discussion on Roads have also taken place. Demands for Grants have been put for roads. Many hon'ble members have also participated in the discussion about roads. Funds have been demanded for various kind of rural development. Demands have been made under the head public works. The Government of India has announced assured employment scheme, 'Jawahar Gramin Samridhi Yojana', Indira Awas Yojana for the development of villages. Apart from that recently hon'ble Finance Minister has introduced many schemes under the Prime Minister Infrastructure development scheme for connecting the roads of villages in this year's budget.

Many States have been sanctioned funds also. It has been suggested that roads should be constructed by hot mix plants by distributing the amount collected by cess levied on petrol and diesel in the States, but the guidelines in this regard have not been formulated so far. I want to remind the hon'ble Finance Minister that the members of Parliament are given Rs. 2 crore each year under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. Inflation has gone up, prices are soaring, the value of rupee keeps on depreciating. These things should also be considered. I am from Bihar. There are six districts under my Parliamentary constituency. In each of these districts Rs. 30 to 33 lakh are spent. However, the Government of Bihar which earlier provided Rs. 50 lakh to MLAS for this very purpose later raised this amount to Rs. 1 crore and which has now been raised to Rs. 1.50 crore during the current financial year.

You can just imagine the Position of Members of Parliament in this context. No developmental work is carried out anywhere. Therefore, I would like to request you that keeping in view the present phase of price hike, the vastness of constituencies which at times include as many as six districts and also keeping in view that amount being provided to MLAs, the amount under 'MPLADS' should be raised to Rs. 5 crore or it should be stopped completely so that the problem being faced by us daily is over.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government provides funds under Employment Assurance Scheme. The fund is released from the Centre. Cess on petrol and diesel has also to be levied. I come from Bihar. The Chief Minister of Bihar has announced in the House that roads will be constructed on the recommendations of MLAs, on the contrary, no recommendation of any Member of Parliament is entertained or their suggestions considered under the Employment Assurance Scheme. Similarly, there is 'Jawahar Gramin Samridhi Yojana', but Panchayat elections have not been held in our State. In other States of the country Panchayati Raj is in force in one form or the other. Due to this suggestions of Members of Parliament are not accepted in respect of any centrally sponsored scheme in Bihar. I would like to remind you that the hon. Minister of Rural Development had given an assurance in the Rajya Sabha in December last that a Member of Parliament would be made the Chairman of DRDA. However, this has not been implemented as yet. Patwa Saheb assured as several times in this House that the matter in question is under consideration. Now the next December is due, but nothing has been done. Funds are released for the constituencies of MPs for various purposes like for installing tubewells to ensure rapid water supply, for sanitary work for Indira Awas Yojana and for constructing roads under Employment Assurance Scheme. But the suggestions of Members of Parliament are neglected. in respect of these centrally sponsored schemes. I would like to directly ask a question to the hon. I would like to directly ask a question to the hon. Finance Minister and would like him to ensure that Members of Parliament are either made free from these responsibilities and Collectors and BDOs are made heads in their places or the implementation of the suggestions of Members of Parliament should be made mandatory. As such I would like to request that the assurance given by the hon. Minister in the other House should be implemented otherwise this scheme will remain only on paper.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I think all the hon'ble Members are of the view that the Chairman of DRDA should be elected to implement the centrally sponsored schemes and the Members of the Parliament should be given

powers so that they could implement their suggestions in this regard. The amount under the MPLADS should be increased to Rs. 5 crores from Rs. 2 crores. The hon'ble Minister of Finance should make an announcement to this effect in his reply.

Besides this I would also like to mention one thing more. The State Reorganisation Bill has been passed recently. A new State of Jharkhand has been carved out from the Bihar State.

Sir, I belong to the rest of Bihar where flood is a regular phenomenon which bring sand with it and there are hardly any irrigation facilities in that area. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Finance to kindly sanction the package of Rs. one lakh 79 thousand crores which has been submitted by the Bihar Legislative Assembly otherwise the resentment prevailing in North Bihar will spread further. On the one hand justice has been dispensed with and on the other hand justice is being delayed. You have been on the various administrative posts in Bihar. You belong to Bihar and you have been a Minister in Bihar. Therefore, you should pay attention towards the possible development of the food processing industries of North Bihar. Improvement can be brought in agriculture sector in the State. There are no Krishi Vigyan Kendras at many places. If we consider the area of North Bihar the length of the National Highway is far below the national average. Therefore, it should be brought at par with the national average in the current financial year. Besides, I would also like to request that a decision should be taken early to ensure that there are no more floods in north Bihar. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the current financial year has been presented. A gross additional expenditure of Rs. 2,536.66 crore has been proposed although the net outgo would be to the tune of Rs. 632.99 crore. The rest would be made up through savings of the concerned departments by enhanced receipts or recoveries totalling Rs. 1903.55 crore.

Sir, there is a proposal of Rs. 152 crore as Budgetary support to seven PSUs. They are MAMC, NBCIL, RIC, TAFCO, Wagon India Limited, BPMEL and TCIL. There, all the support is not as a support to the revival package, but that is for the purpose of winding up these PSUs and for offering voluntary retirement packages. Although the Expert Committee has categorically stated that they never recommended winding up, they had recommended that they should be properly studied and ways can be

found out for reviving them. It is not being done. These units, with enough potential for revival, being as part of disinvestment, are being wound up.

Sir, when we were discussing the disinvestment a few days back, we had asked a question which, I think, is yet to be answered. The reform process was started during the period of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. We had asked a question then. What were they doing in the form of strategic sale? They were selling in the name of disinvestment, more than 81 per cent. It is not disinvestment, and never the Congress had—that was their argument—any such idea. Now, we find that various profit making units have been sold out.

Sir, here is a proposal that money is being provided for winding up. I am asking a question. According to the Government Reports, Rs. 1,736 crore are statutory dues in the form of due wages, salaries, Provident Fund, etc.

The dues of the Central PSUs in the form of salaries are only Rs. 386 crore. I am making a reference to some of the PSUs. These are: RIL, Cycle Corporation of India, Refractories Unit of Burn Standard, National Instrumentation and Jessop. For the last six months, they are not getting their statutory dues and many employees and workers are virtually starving. May I ask the hon. Finance Minister which this budgetary support contains this amount of money which is the statutory dues to these people. They are not being provided these dues and for the last six months they are not getting their salary. Now they are on the verge of starvation.

My second query is, how much of this amount from the budgetary support, which is being provided, is going for revival—if there is any—and if that is there, what is the quantum of that? Bharat Ophthalmic need Rs. 20 crore and there was an assurance from the Government side that the Government is seriously considering the revival of Bharat Ophthalmic. A small amount is required for this good public sector unit with a potential to survive with a little support from the Government. What is the amount being proposed as a budgetary support and is there any consideration on the Government side for the rehabilitation of this too? An amount of Rs. 150.70 has been proposed as equity support to Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. This is a good thing. But for the revival of the HMT, the sum required is more than what is being proposed. Would the Finance Minister explain in detail about their idea, about how they propose to revive this particular unit?

There is another amount which is going as support to the fertiliser units. They are: Hindustan Fertiliser, the Fertiliser Corporation of India and the Pyrites and the

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

Phosphate Chemicals Ltd (PPCL). My query is, is it for the Namrup unit under the Hindustan Fertiliser and the Sindri unit under the FCI? If that is so, what about Durgapur? I am told that there is a consideration in the Ministry that after the creation of the Jharkhand State, there is a demand that Barauni being a very important unit in the fertiliser sector, it should be helped adequately. It is a very welcome demand and I am in full support of such a thinking. But what about Durgapur? If Barauni is being considered or can be considered because of a new situation that has been created as a result of this reorganisation process, then Durgapur should also be considered because Durgapur is a very important unit, rather that is the only unit producing urea.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute, Shri Rupchand Pal. At four o'clock, we have to take up the other business. So, you can continue later on.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Okay, Sir. Thank you.

16.00 hs.

[English]

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193.

Atrocities on linguistic and religious minorities in the country

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up discussion under Rule 193, namely, atrocities on linguistic and religious minorities in the country.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (Murshidabad): Respected Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you that you have given me chance to initiate this discussion under Rule 193. Actually, we are discussing about a very sensitive issue. This is an issue which is a threat, I suppose, to our identity. This is an issue which is a threat to our traditional tolerance. This is an issue which is ultimately a threat to our secular concept.

Before going into the details of the discussion, I would like to recall from my memory that in the second half of the Budget Session, this issue had come up. One of our friends had raised the issue in Zero Hour after a brutal attack on Christian community in U.P. My friend, an hon. Member of Parliament is one of the partners in the Government of National Democratic Alliance. Then, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and other senior leaders of the House intervened. Then, the Government reacted. Our friend, the Minister for

Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pramod Mahajan had told this at that time:

"Our Government's top priority is to fully protect the minorities wherever they are. To accord protection to the minorities is a constitutional duty of the Centre and the State Governments, regardless of which Party is in power.

I would request the Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani to hold talk with the Chief Ministers of the States concerned to prevent recurrence of such trends.

I endorse Shri Scindia's proposal for a meeting of the National Integration Council to evolve a political consensus against fanatics on all sides. I would convey his suggestion to the Prime Minister."

Sir, everybody knows that it was an assurance given before the House. Not only was it give before the House, it was an assurance given to the nation. After the assurance, what is happening throughout the country? Sir, this assurance was given on 23rd or 24th April this year. I would like to mention that after this assurance, on April 25th, two nuns were hit by a scootérist in Rewari, Haryana. I am not going through the entire chronology of the incidents, but I must say that on May 2nd, masked men assaulted nuns at a Convent in Jhansi, U.P., on May 3rd, a Christian group was beaten up in Dang, Gujarat, on May 3, there was break-in at Church at Sagarpur, Delhi and on May 6th, Bajrang Dal men beat up Christians in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. It is not that these incidents took place in April or May only, these are continuously taking place in every part of the country and the minority people are attacked by the extremists who are trying to denationalise these insignificant minorities which are only 2.5 per cent or 2.6 per cent of the total population of our country.

Sir, again, I would like to mention that the All India Christian Council claimed that over 300 incidents have taken place, which have affected Christians and Christian institutions, in different parts of the country in last two years. Who in the Government are responsible for these incidents?

It is very much unfortunate, and it is an unchallengeable fact, that the number of incidents has gone up after the BJP-led NDA Government came to power in the country. In this context, I would like to say that the Government must realise its obligation, and it must be honoured in deed as well.

In the Twelfth Lok Sabha, there was a discussion under Rule 193 on the same subject. When our friend, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, raised the question, the hon. Home Minister, while replying, mentioned that no major incident had taken place in his tenure.

From the last report of his Ministry, for the year 1999-2000, I would like to quote a few lines. The same thing was mentioned there also. It says:

"There was no major onslaught on maintenance of communal harmony in the country as a whole. Tension between the Hindus and the Christians, following the incidents directed against the Christian community and their institutions, in certain areas of some States, did vitiate the law and order scenario in those parts of the country."

In this context, in this august House, I would like to refer to the reply of our Minister of State to the Starred Question on 25th July, 2000. The question referred to the 'effect on Christians and their institutions'. What was the reply of our Minister? As per the reply, the number of incidents in 1998 was 86; in 1999, it was 120, and in 2000, up to 5th June, it was 100. So far as the number of killings is concerned, in 1998, it was 3; in 1999, it was 17, and in 2000, it was 7. So far as the number of injured persons is concerned, in 1998 it was 45; in 1999, it was 91, and in 2000, up to 5th June, it was 90. Do you know who is at the top of the list? Gujarat is at the top of the list. Which was the Government which was in power in the State? Everybody knows that it was the Bharatiya Janata Party Government. They are trying to establish the so-called Hindu *Rashtra* by attacking other religions; they are impatient. I would like to ask our hon. Home Minister whether these are major incidents or not?

So far as communal incidents are concerned, the biggest State in the country, that is, Uttar Pradesh is the number one in the list. In 1998, the number of incidents was 109; the number of killings was 41, and the number of injured was 344.

The incidents of communal violence in the year 1999 was 104. Thirty-three people were killed and 346 people were injured. Till May, 2000, the number of incidents of communal violence was 43. The number of persons killed were 7 and number of persons injured were 132. Which Party is in power in the State? It is the Bhartiya Janata Party. Besides this, I would also like to mention about the incidents of communal violence in two to three other States.

First, let us take the case of Kerala. There is a sizeable population of the Christian community in that State. But these types of atrocities are not taking place there. This is according to the document supplied by the Government of India. At least we are not aware of such incidents through the media.

Let us now turn to the North-Eastern States. No such atrocities are taking place there as well. The

Christian population is dominant in most of the States of the North-Eastern region. It is, perhaps, because the Christian community there are in a majority. They, perhaps, are more organised and united and has been able to prevent these types of happenings. But I am sure, they are in fear; they are not confident about their future.

Sir, you are aware as to what happened in the Jamia Millia Islamia University. I suppose most of the hon. Members present here are aware of this University. It is a dignified, secular and traditional University in our country. This University, all the time, is promoting secular and democratic ideals of India. What happened there on the 9th of April, 2000? Today unprovoked policemen entered into the SRK hostel of that University and beat up the students indiscriminately. Sixty-six students were beaten up brutally. Out of the 66 students beaten up, 18 were left with fractured hands and wrists; and 12 were left with fractured legs. Even the *Imam* of the Mosque was not spared. The total hostel was ransacked. What was the motive behind this incident? Some people are trying to establish that the Jamia Millia Islamia is a Muslim University. It is totally a baseless and an incorrect argument. This University was established by an Act of Parliament. This has happened not only with the students of the Jamia Millia University, but such an incident of beating the students and teachers also took place with the students and teachers of the Sibli National Post-Graduate College on January 27, 2000. The same thing is also happening in the campus of the Jawahar Lal Nehru University. Why are these incidents taking place? I would like to ask the hon. Home Minister in particular and the Government of the National Democratic Alliance in general—who is ruling this country—as to why these incidents are taking place.

Sir, it is my personal belief that there are two reasons for it. First one is strategic and the second one is ideological. So far as the strategic reason is concerned, some organisations like the RSS, the *Jana Jagran Manch*, the *Bajrang Dal* and the *Vishwa Hindu Parishad* are continuously campaigning, in different ways, against the minority communities, particularly, the Christians and the Muslims. I would not like to go into the details of those things.

Sir, I would like to give a few examples before this august House as to what has been happening during the last two to three years. The RSS *Sangh Sanchalak* had declared on the every day of his coronation that India is presently engaged in yet another epic war between the Hindus and the anti-Hindus, a veritable Mahabharata.

I fail to understand the inner meaning of the word. Shiv Sena Chief too was thundering before his Sainiks in Mumbai. He said:

[Shri Moinul Hassan]

"We have tolerated the Khans of the film industry for too long. How long are we going to tolerate them?"

This was reported in the *Panchajanya*. It is a shame to the country that a Bajrang Dal Sarsangh Yojak of Broj region declared—it was reported on the front page of *The Times of India* dated 23rd June—that the Christians are now bigger enemies than the Muslims. What is the real meaning of this statement? Numerous pamphlets and booklets are being distributed throughout the country, especially in the areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I know that some of my colleagues have brought this to the attention of the Prime Minister as well as of the Home Minister. Some ex-Ministers also wrote letters to the Home Minister in this regard, including Shri Eduardo Faleiro. I would like to mention a few words from a pamphlet. It says:

"One way to prevent missionaries from working is to foist false cases on them so that they are always tied up in the court."

This type of campaigning is being made unabated throughout the country by the organisations whose names I have already mentioned. Why are they doing this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are about eight to nine Members more to speak. You have to be a little brief. Please complete your speech in about five minutes so that all others get chance to speak. There are 20 speakers in all.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: I will complete within fifteen minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 20 minutes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, it is a very important issue. Everybody should be accommodated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two hours of time has been allotted to it.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, I think that these people and organisations are inspired by the activities of the Government of India led by the Bharatiya Janata Party. The Government has dissolved ICHR not to improve the structure of that organisation. The Government did it merely to put some of its own people on that body. The Government has dissolved the ICSSR, NITPA and NCRP not to improve the working of those bodies but to put its men on those organisations. Why were manuscripts written by famous historians on the freedom movement of India withdrawn? It was done only to form a ground for the

so-called *Hindu Rashtra*. The Government has closed its eyes to the reality. It has failed to protect the interest of the minorities.

Another aspect is ideology, the ideology of promoting *Hindustan*. I was a patient listener to the reply of the Home Minister in the last Lok Sabha when he spoke about what *Hindutva* meant. I believe that it is a traditional word. *Hindutva* in the broadest sense in Indian culture and Indian civilisation. If *Hindutva* means that, I am also in favour of *Hindutva*. Everybody knows what is meant by *Hindutva*. *Hindutva* means tolerance, exchange of views, justice to everybody, accommodation and democracy. However, today it means a total violation of all these values. Nobody can be in favour of such *Hindutva*. What is the meaning of *Hindutva* today? The meaning today is to start a *Vishva Hindu Rashtra*, to damage the diversity and multifaceted identity of India. This *Hindutva* is contrary to the History of India.

This is against the multi-cultural and tolerant India. This Hinduism, as I know, is very much liberal. It is very much open-hearted. It is very much a democratic concept. But today it is nothing.

Here, I would like to quote the following two-three lines of Vivekenanda:

"I am proud to belong to religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth. I am proud to tell you that we have gathered in our bosom the purest remnant of Israelites who came to Southern India and took refuge with us in the very year in which their holy temple was shattered to pieces by Roman tyranny."

Throughout his trip across the United States, he asserted the tolerance which this country and the Hindu faith preached. But what is happening today?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, you just allow me for 40 minutes. I am the initiator of the discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please understand that there are 20 more speakers to participate in this debate. We have to accommodate them also. So, please be brief.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Within half an hour I will conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not possible to give you half an hour. There are still seven minutes to go for half an hour. Please conclude.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, what is this? Can you show any precedent for the last 20 years when the initiator under Rule 193 has not taken a minimum of half an hour to speak? What is this, Sir? It is a very important discussion. Why are you disturbing him, I do not understand....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please carry on now. Let us not waste time.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: This is the first time I am seeing that within less than 20 minutes of his speech, you are asking him to conclude. He is the initiator....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Our Constitution has given them the right. I quote article 25 of the Constitution. It says:

"Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion."

So, why are the priests and nuns being burnt? Why is the holy Bible being desecrated? Why are the attacks on churches and schools taking place? What is the population of the Christians in our country? It is merely 2.4 per cent or 2.6 per cent of the total population of India. They are electorally insignificant.

Sir, I would like to narrate one incident. After blasts in the Churches of Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka, Archbishop Alan de Lastic led a deputation to the hon. Prime Minister. What did he say after the meeting? He said:

"We are saddened by the silence of the Government to whom look for support. We do not have to prove our nationality. The onus is on the Government to investigate and book the guilty. We are only demanding routine protection."

Sir, I am quoting it because Archbishop is no more now. He is not with us. In a tragic car accident in Polland he lost his life. But his words are haunting us. I would like to refer this.

Sir, what is the opinion of high officials of the Government regarding this? Our Prime Minister, in his visit, met Pope John Paul and assured him. But before the Press men he has told:

"Attacks on Christians are isolated acts. The Government reports show that in the last two years, it is increasing in the different parts of the country."

I suppose, this word 'isolated' is not a correct word used here, by our hon. Prime Minister. I am sorry to say this. It is nothing but underplaying.

I would conclude my speech. I would not take much time.

I would like to quote here what was said by our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the *Young India* seventy years ago:

"There can be no stable equilibrium in any country so long as an attempt is made to crush a minority or force it to conform to the ways of the majority. There is no surer method of rousing the resentment of the minority and keeping it apart from the rest of the nation than to make it feel that it has not got the freedom to stick to its own ways.... It matters little whether logic is on its side or whether its own particular brand of culture is worthwhile or not. The mere fact of losing it makes it dear. Therefore we in India must make it clear to all that our policy is based on granting this freedom to the minorities and that under no circumstance will any coercion or repression of them be tolerated. ...We can also lay down as our deliberate policy that there shall be no unfair treatment of any minority. Indeed, we should go further and state that it will be the business of the State to give favoured treatment to minority and backward communities."

This was what Pandit Nehru had told *Young India* in 1930.

Lastly, these premeditated attacks are aimed not only at the rights of the minorities but also at the entire pluralistic fabric of the Indian society that is multi-religious, multi-cultural and multi-lingual, on which the unity of India's nationhood depends. Therefore, the Government should be more alert, more vigilant and more active.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, in regard to the motion moved in the House I would like to make it clear that any sort of injustice and atrocity on the linguistic or religious minorities is utterly condemnable. If anybody commits atrocities in a planned way, stern action should be taken against him. I would also like to remind that the Government of the National Democratic Alliance is determined to protect the interests of the minorities and they will be not subjected to any type of indiscrimination. But it is also true that

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

when no issue is left with the opposition parties, they start blaming the 'Sangh Parivaar'. It is not a new thing. So far as I remember during the last 53 years right from 1947 till date, there has not been a single year when one or the other incident of atrocities on minorities was not raised in this House. One or other charge has been levelled against RSS, Jansangh and later on against Bharatiya Janata Party.

It committing atrocities on minorities is comndemnable then it is also equally condemnable to fabricate false stories of atrocities on minorities and to publicize them. My hon'ble colleague made a mention of the attacks on churches in Goa, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. I think that this false propaganda will stop automatically after the facts in this regard come to light. During the last session the subject of discussion was atrocities on christians and in this session the subject has been changed to discussion on atrocities being committed against linguistic and religious minorities. Today we are having a discussion on this subject. You must have heard the Radio and TV news bulletins today according to which the Home Minister of Karnataka, who belongs to the Congress Party has gone on record to say that even a personnel of the Indian Air Force has been arrested in connection with the said Bomb blasts. Thus this shows that there is a hand of Pakistan behind these bomb blasts. The bomb blasts in all the churches were engineered by ISI of Pakistan. This news is being repeatedly telecast in the T.V. and Radio news bulletins since morning. The day on which Bombs were exploded in churches at twelve places including Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, RSS was cursed and squarely blamed for these Bomb blasts. These allegations were repeated in the print media as well as in the electronic media. Fortunately or unfortunately these allegations proved to be false when a Maruti van met with an accident and was blown up in the explosion caused by the explosive material being carried therein. In that accident out of three persons travelling in the van two persons were killed due to the impact of the explosion. Later on the deceased were identified as ISI agents affiliated to the 'Deendar Anjuman' outfit. The persons killed were Siddiqui and Zakir. The third person who survived in the accident was S.M. Ebrahim who exposed the whole conspiracy. He revealed in detail as to how they reached Pakistan, to whom they met there, how they were smuggling the explosives and how they exploded Bombs in churches at different places.

In Karnataka Congress is in power and in Andhra Pradesh the rein of administration is in the hands of TDP. The Government of Goa is headed by a Christian Chief Minister and the police of these three States has jointly exposed this conspiracy. In his statement the Home Minister of Karnataka Shri Mallikarjuna had said:

[English]

"The sole intention seems to have been to create panic among the Christians. They believe that if christians revolt against Hindus, it would be advantageous for the other minorities."

[Translation]

It is the conspiracy of Pakistan to create differences between Hindus and christians, to instigate conflicts and communal riots between them. But we are also falling prey to the evil designs of Pakistan. It is quite amazing that atleast this matter should not have been raised in this manner after this conspiracy was exposed. Syed Iqbal, the secretary of 'Deendar Anjuman' was arrested. The conspiracy was exposed after the arrest of Nizamuddin. As such the people who levelled allegations on RSS, those who get this matter published as main news of their newspapers and those who blamed BJP memebres here in the House should have apologised for their deeds. This is too much. Even after it become an established fact that it was the conspiracy of Pakistan, 'Sangh Parivaar' is being blamed for such acts.

The incidents of Uttar Pradesh were also mentioned here. Incidents of attacks on Christians took place at five places in Uttar Pradesh. Shri Mohammed Shamim is the Chairman of the minorities commission. Shri Mohammad Shamim nas been the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. In his report he has stated that he himself had visited the site. There are three members in the minorities commission, they include one Christian, one sikh and one muslim. The Chairman of this commission is a judge. These three members have visited five places in Uttar Pradesh. The first report of the commission is about Kosi in which it has been stated:

[English]

"On being asked, Father Thomas categorically stated that he was satisfied with the protection and help given by the local administration headed by DM and SSP. He also stated that there was no communal angle to the incident."

[Translation]

I am not going to read out the entire report. I am just reading out the concluding part of it.

[English]

"The Commission is satisfied with the prompt steps taken by the local administration in providing police protection to the school authorities."

He further stated:

"Father Thomas was also present at the school premises at Kosi and he was also satisfied with the security cover provided to the school authorities by the local administration. This Commission is fully satisfied that it is pure and simple case of robbery and nothing else."

[Translation]

Thereafter there is a mention of incident of Mathura.

[English]

"The Commission is of the view that the present matter is simply a law and order problem with no communal tinge, whatsoever."

About the Sacred Heart School, the conclusion was:

"The Commission found that this was a routine problem between the parents and the Principal."...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): The Christian representative in the Commission is your spokesman....(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: This is the Report of Justice Shamim. Please understand it. Kindly have some faith in a Justice also. I know what you are saying....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly address the Chair. I request you to address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You should have the patience to face the truth. You should feel proud that the allegations regarding attack on Christians have proved false. It is a false propaganda. This should be exposed but you are dragging this issue unnecessarily....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a very good decision that is going on. Kindly do not disturb the House. Prof. Malhotra, please continue.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Commission's conclusion is like this:

"The Commission found that this was a routine problem between the parents and the Principal due to the sudden hike in fees and non-promotion of 80 students who had failed in their examinations. Since the Principal had withdrawn the hike in fees, the situation had become normal."

Then comes the Agra incident in which it has said:

"In order to have an amicable solution and to maintain good relations between the local administration and church authorities, the Commission advised DM and SSP to transfer Mr. R.S. Pandey outside Agra District. The Commission is fully satisfied after having talked to the administration and church authorities that this too, like other problems referred to above, are simply a law and order problem and there is absolutely nothing communal about it."

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, it is only one side of matter....(Interruptions) He was harassed there....(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is there in the Commission's Report.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him complete his speech. You can speak on your turn.

[English]

Prof. Malhotra, please be brief as there are 18 more speakers to participate.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am taking my Party's time and my Party's time is fixed. I am not going out of my Party's time. You cannot equate a single-Member Party with that of a large Party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You take your own time but be brief.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: As regards the Rewari incident, the Commission went there also and the Report says:

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

"The Deputy Commissioner was of the view that this is a case of an accident and there were no communal overtones. The Commission is, therefore, of the view that this is a case of simple road accident and that no communal meaning be attributed to it. This was fully corroborated by Father Phillip and the two nuns who went to the extent of stating that the motive behind the publicity with regard to the above accident is not understood as the atmosphere in Rewari has all along been very peaceful. They also mentioned that some western forces were trying to give a political colour to the incident and create a wedge among the Hindus and Christians residing in the town."

[Translation]

It is the state of affairs there. Then there has been mention about Jhabua. What is the truth in that. There is Congress Government in Madhya Pradesh and an incident had happened there that 24 persons have raped some nuns. This incident was given such a wide publicity as if persons belonging to Hindu community had gone there and raped or committed atrocities against the nuns. Your Congress Government had arrested 24 persons and maintained secrecy for months about the 24 criminals which included twelve Christians and rest of the twelve Adivasis. The persons against whom the atrocities were committed were Christians and the persons who committed the atrocities were also Christians. Then where the question of committing atrocities against the Christians arises. Rape is a heinous act in itself and a in human deed but how far it is appropriate to give such a colour to this incident that there have been atrocities against the Christians and that Christians nuns have been raped.

"The Bible burnt in Kerala"; "Jhabua incident repeated in Jhajjar"; "American doctor attacked"; "Christian nun raped in Barpeta" are the news items published exaggeratingly in the newspapers. But all these were proved to be false. None of these was proved to be correct. Even the Christians leaders also admitted that all these allegations are quite false. Justice Wadhwa Commission was constituted to conduct a probe into the stains killings. I have already stated that atrocities against any person are condemnable. Eight Christians have been killed in the country from the year 1947 till date. Out of them two were killed for being Christians and in rest of the cases it was due to law and order problem whereas it is being said that minorities are being massacred here. This is being compared with Indonesia where thousands of Christians were deliberately killed by the police and army. Justice Wadhwa was appointed to conduct a probe into the Stains killings. He was appointed during your period. What is the report of that Commission. At the end of the report he has said:

[English]

"No Hindu organisation was involved in this crime."

[Translation]

16.41 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

You have been continuously talking about the Hindu organisation. You are not ready to believe even on Justice Wadhwa. He has mentioned about four more incidents and said that they are telling lie. A boy and a girl were killed in Kandamal area and it has been said that they were also killed Stains. Justice Wadhwa has said.

[English]

"Investigations reveal that the crime was committed by the relative of the victim who was also a Christian." This is what Justice Wadhwa says in his report....(Interruptions) You read the report of Justice Wadhwa.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Why was that report never circulated? Why was it quietly kept in the library?... (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: In the case of the rape of a Christian nun in a moving car in Baripada, Justice Wadhwa says: "It was a made-up story. Investigation had proved that Sister Mary's FIR was false.

[Translation]

Sir, I can mention so many other instances and cite examples as to what has happened and where that has happened. In this connection, I would like to say that here nobody is against the Christians. People are opposed to conversion only. Which Government enacted the legislation against forceful conversion and the conversion by giving allurements? First of all it was done by the Congress Government of Madhya Pradesh, then by the Congress Government of Orissa and then by the Congress Government of Arunachal Pradesh. Mahatama Gandhi ji has said that providing education is a very good thing. But if you insist on conversions in lieu of that against one's wishes or you give job allurements to anybody is certainly not good. The way the conversion is taking place, the way the efforts are being made to change the religion, that is being opposed and Mahatama Gandhi was the person who vehemently opposed it. It is another thing that you do not regard yourself as a follower of Mahatama Gandhi ji. Your leader might be Sonai Gandhi today and Mahatama Gandhi may not be your leader but Gandhiji had always opposed it....(Interruptions)

Sir, I would also like to mention that the Government of India should send a report to Pope Sahib giving details of all those cases which have proved to be wrong. He had given a statement here that incidents of atrocities are being committed against the Christians in India as are committed in Indonesia. I have told you that such vicious propaganda have been done throughout the world that there is no match of the incidents taking place in Indonesia and India.

Pope is not aware of all the facts. The Christian missionaries have been doing false propaganda against India to get more and more money from abroad. We must write to Honourable Pope Sahib about all these things.

Hon'ble Pope Sahib has said in Delhi that Christianity would be in full swing in Asia in the third millennium which earlier has happened in Europe and the whole Asia would be christianised. But if any Hindu leader says that the Hindus turned Christians would be brought back to Hindutava, then why should you object to it. If conversion is held to be justified, then why not reconversion. There is nothing to object to it. Therefore, I have to submit that whatever propaganda is being made, that is basically wrong.

Another thing that has been said is that Atrocities are being committed against the Muslims. These days three-four incidents have occurred. I have got all the figures as to how many incidents have occurred, how many communal riots took place in the past and have taken place now. The number of communal riots have reduced since formation of this Government and this fact can also be substantiated by giving the figures. What is happening is that whenever any person belonging to the Hindu community is killed then it is said that it should not be reported as it may have chain reaction. But on the other hand in the case of even a small incident in regard to persons belonging to the Muslim community, their names are given wide publicity and it is said that people are being killed, minorities are being massacred.

Do you know what has happened in Rajasthan recently....(Interruptions), Riots took place in Malpura area of Rajasthan. One person known as Kailash Mali of the Hindu community was killed. What I want to say is that the person killed in the communal riots may either be the Hindu or the Muslim but ultimately it is an Indian who is killed. But it has been mentioned in its report by the Rajasthan Government that among the persons who were killed, six were Hindu and six were Muslims. I would like to ask whether it tantamounts to massacre of the Muslims. But a distorted version of this incident was telecast on the Television. There it has been telecast that an old aged woman belonging to the Muslim

community was killed in her own house. But the four persons who were on visit to Mata Bhawani Shrine, were pulled down from the jeep and killed. Were they not the human beings?

Out of the five persons killed in Surat, three were Hindus and the other two were Muslims. So this should not have been made into a Hindu-Muslim issue. The deceased may be Hindus or the Muslims but they are all Indians. If such incidents of violence are interpreted as atrocities against the Muslims that way we will be only giving a tool of propaganda to Pakistan and other Muslim countries. This is wrong and is not fair.

Regarding the religious places Bill it was propagated in Uttar Pradesh that constructions at religious places have been banned. I would like to say that a Bill in this regard was first introduced in Madhya Pradesh during the Congress regime and then it was also introduced in West Bengal. The present Bill is perfectly identical to that Bill. When the said Bill was introduced in Uttar Pradesh Assembly, no one opposed it. It was neither opposed by Shri Mulayam Singh ji nor by anybody else, rather it was passed. There was an afterthought and subsequently a forceful debate started on it and processions were also taken out. There was a propaganda that through this Bill, Muslims have been prohibited from carrying out any construction work at their religious places. Virtually neither a temple nor a Gurudwara can be constructed in an unauthorised manner on a Government land....(Interruptions) It is a common knowledge that Madarsas are being constructed along the India-Nepal and other borders of India. A large number of Madarsa have cropped up along the border areas of the country. Those who passed out from these madrasas were Taliban. It is not an issue concerning India. Whether it was Bhutto or whether it is General Musharraf now in Pakistan they have all faced this trouble. Moreover, the Egyptian Government as well as other Muslim countries of the world are also facing the problem. I am quoting hereunder what I read in the 'Washington Post' three days back.

[English]

"About 1.75 million Pakistani youths are being trained in nearly 7000 Madarsas, religious schools across Pakistan for waging the Jihad in Kashmir and other parts of the world', according to Washington Times. 'More than 2000 such students of one particular Madarsa were on way to Kashmir,' the report said quoting Mohammad Ahmad Ajmal Kadri, Leader of the Fundamentalist Jamat-e-Ulema Islami Party, who runs the Kudumnan Madarsa. The paper said, 'about 13000 boys have passed out of the school. There are 7000 religious schools who have prepared in past because of the failure."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Have you yourself visited such Madarsas? You are referring to Pakistan but I would like to ask have you seen even a single Madarsa. You should first see one for yourself before speaking.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat): Reference to Pakistan irks you much.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: You should say what is happening in Madarsas of India. We have nothing to do with what is happening in Pakistan. You should try to find out what is happening in Madrasas in India and then only you will come to know whether children are receiving education there or agents are produced in those madarsas. Have you nothing else to say against us?...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, after going through those two news items the entire country should be concerned about them. A news has been published in reference to a meeting of Human Rights Commission of United Nations Organisation wherein it has been reported that in the said meeting Pakistan was reprimanded for supporting violence in Jammu and Kashmir in the name of religion and more over Governments of different countries of the world were given a call to pressurise the Government of Pakistan to close down all those Madarsas where allegedly terrorists are being trained. A representative of International Institute of Peace Tataina Shaumiyan and all other muslim members had also opined that such Madarsas should not come up and they should not be converted into ISI camps. We should make a distinction between ISI and Islam. There is a difference between fundamentalists who receive education under Taliban and raise slogans in the name of Jihad on the one hand and Islam on the other hand. When four Bangladeshis were deported from India, there was an uproar everywhere. There are two crore Bangladeshi infiltrators in India. Of them, four lakh are in Delhi. Two lakh Bangladeshis have been driven out from Saudi Arab and similarly they have also been driven out from the countries of the Middle East. So much so, that Pakistan is also considering to follow suit. But the secularists in India do not want any kind of check and balance. They create an uproar when four infiltrators are driven out. On the other hand four lakh Hindus being displaced from Jammu and Kashmir are living like refugees in their own country but no body thinks about them....*(Interruptions)* In India everybody espouches the cause of minorities. This aspect should also be considered.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a few points before you. If there is a massacre in a country whether people of the affected community will migrate from there or the people of that community will come to that place. Nobody is ready to consider the fact that the population of Muslims in India was 8 per cent in 1951 which has risen to 12 per cent now. Had there been massacre of muslim in India the two crore Bangladeshis would not have come over here. They come to India because they get employment here, they feel more free and they can live here more comfortably. Can any of you tell that how the population of the Hindus has come down from 85 per cent to 82 per cent? Still you people say that the minorities are being massacred here.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should ponder over it. I am asking only three four questions. Can our Muslim colleagues who are present here, tell about any country in the world be it a Muslim country which provides subsidy to its Haj pilgrim. Anybody could stand up and tell the name of such a country in the world. There are 178 countries in the world in all and out of which 60 are Muslim countries. Does even a single country out of them provide subsidy to those who go on the Haj pilgrimage? In fact, India is the only country which provides subsidy worth Rs. 200 crore to the Haj pilgrims and still it is being said that the discrimination is done against the Muslims in India. It is India where a subsidy to the tune of Rs. 200 crore is given. Tell me any country of the world which provides subsidy for the purpose....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: You are doing the same what the previous Governments had been doing.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): Why are you getting excited, Malhotraji is speaking about Pakistan....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him conclude his speech.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There are 178 or 180 countries in the world. There number could increase to 200 in future. Is there two civil laws in any country? Is there a Minorities Commission in any country in the world besides the Human Rights Commission? Is there separate financial institutions for the minorities in any country of the world? Is there a separate coaching centre for the minorities to impart them training for competitive exams like the IAS or IPS? But we have 15 points programme in India for the minorities which I can read for you. This was only my submission that the rights which the minorities enjoy in India are not enjoyed by them in any of the 200 countries of the world.

Therefore kindly don't speak in such a manner which may bring a bad name to India the world. Don't use such a language and present such figures....(Interruptions) I want to say this much only is it necessary to call a bad name to the Hindus to become a progressive or secular? Is it necessary for the secularists to malign the Hindus and the country, will it make you a progressive. In the light of these facts I would like to say that as much rights as are enjoyed by the minorities in India are not enjoyed by the minorities in India are not enjoyed by them in any country. We should feel proud about it the minorities are safest in India, they have got the most rights and nothing sort of discrimination is done against them. Every Indian should feel proud of it. Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart, as a linguistic minority from the North Eastern India, I stand to speak.

The learned speaker from the ruling Party, Prof. Malhotra tried to sell the Congress activities as the panorama of this Government's protection to the minorities. The minorities are not safe in this country. The Prime Minister of the country has to go to Pope John Paul II and bow his head, not to get his blessing but to give him an assurance that the Christians in India are safe, the atrocities on them are sporadic, and not a pattern.

I fully agree with the spirit of the Prime Minister, the man for whom your Party is standing today and not for anybody else. Mr. Chairman, Sir, Prof. Malhotra should remember that protection and right to the minorities had not been given by you or Congress. The founding father of the Constitution had given that right to the minorities considering that India is a multi-linguistic and a multi-religious country. That was the foresight of our founding father.

17.00 hrs.

This is why, still we, the linguistic and religious minorities, are surviving in this country. A Hindu is a minority in Kashmir. A Muslim is a minority in almost all parts of the country. A Christian in a minority in New Delhi. But if you go to Meghalaya, he is a majority. There a Bengali or others are minority. You try to say before us that everything has happened in the Congress rule state of the country. Whether it happened during Congress or BJP rule, all the people are Indians. All such acts are condemnable. Nobody can take a step to say that it is none of the business of the Central Government to protect the minorities. No, it is equally

the right of the Central Government to protect the minorities. Not, it is equally the right of the Central Government to rise to the occasion. What is happening today in the country? You have tried to say that so many things are being done by the Muslims and Muslim institutions.

You have said about 15-Point Programme. When this gentleman, Shri Purno A. Sangma, who is sitting here, was the Minister of State for Home he started it first at the instance of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It is good. You tried to protect it. Reservation is good. They we are not here to finger at the Government that you are responsible or not to say we are not responsible. Today here we are saying that this country is a democratic country, and the Constitution has given the rights to all sects of people. There is a situation which is going against us in the world nations. Your Government's reply is this. You have said that regarding Christians, the total incidents that took place in 1998 were 86; in 1999, it was 120; and in the year 2000, it is 100. The total number of persons killed in 1998 is 3; in 1999, 12 and in 2000, it is 7. These are the facts taken from the hon. Home Minister's reply given in the House. Then, how did you say everything is all right in this country? You are here to protect your Government, but not to give an alibi by creating another sensation in the country that Parliament, this House has not taken cognisance of what of happening in this country. I am glad the hon. Home Minister is here. I am sure he will not be one of those to say that everything is all right in this country. Never. Out of 33 incidents, a Muslim organisation is involved in three incidents. What about the balance 30? Who has done it? Just now you have said that Bajrang Dal is not involved. Somebody else has said that Shiv Sena is not involved. Somebody has said that Congress is not involved. Then who are they? Let us try to find out from the Central Government who are those people who are involved. If Bajrang Dal is not there, if Congress is not there, if Shiv Sena is not there; if the Christian organisation is not there, who are they? Incidents are happening.

You cannot say that incidents are not happening....(Interruptions) I am not saying. No organisation is owning responsibility. Find out who are those responsible. I have to say that the time has come to do it, if you want to keep India together, you have to do it.

I will mainly concentrate on the North-Eastern region. The ethos of the speech of my friend was that everything was all right in this country. A sportsman-politician, Shri Malhotra has taken the duty of Shri Venkaiah Naidu here. He was not speaking as a Member of Parliament, he was speaking as the protector of his Government. Well done, from his point of view!

[Shri Santosh Mohan Dev]

Mr. Home Minister, I am extremely grateful to you that you are here. Your Minister of State had answered in the Rajya Sabha a Question saying that there was no notice given to the Indian citizens, that there was no atrocity committed on the linguistic and religious minorities and nobody had submitted any memorandum before them.

The President of the BJP unit of Assam is a Member of Parliament., I do not know whether he is here. He is not. He want to the Governor of Assam. He came back and according to the Assam Press had given a memoranda to the Home Minister of India, Shri L.K. Advani and the Prime Minister of the country, Shri Vajpayee that in Assam he was the President and in his constituency the Hindus were being given notices by the Police on the plea that they were foreigners, and in other parts as Mulims.

I have here 52 notices served by the Assam Government, all authenticated by me, on Sabita Biswas, J. Biswas, G. Biswas, and then Shri Dutto, Shri Dutto, Shri Dutto and Shri Das etc. All are supported by their voters' list published before 1971. There are also affidavits before the court saying that they are in Government service. All these, after my speech, I will lay on the Table of the House.

Who is doing it? This is misuse of the Assam Accord. The Assam Accord said that those who had come to India before the 25th March, 1971 by saying that Accord, all had been accepted as the citizens of India, the reason being that Mujibur Rehman came to India after the liberation of Bangladesh, in the open field of Brigade Grounds he said before Indraje that he had invited, after the creation of Bangladesh, all Hindus and Muslims who had come from Bangladesh to come back to Bangladesh. Shrimati Indira Gandhi said that those who had come from Sonar Bangla and accepted our country's citizenship, shall be accepted by us as our citizens instead of being sent away. That was the Assam Accord signed here.

At present the Chief Minister, who has become a CM from zero to hero by this agitation, is saying that there are lakhs of refugees who are foreigners. Shri Advani goes to Assam. His leaders in front of him speak not a single Hindus would be deported from Assam. And now most of the notices are given to the Hindus. There is a 'D' voters' list and 3,50,000 have been identified as 'D'.

Prof. Malhotra is the champion of the Hindus and he knows that 80 per cent of the voters are Hindus, persons who have retired from the railways, Government service etc. They are given notices by the Election Commission of India. When we went to him he said that it would be

settled after the elections. Now, let us have the elections. Santosh Mohan Dev and whose forefathers were bron in India—my father was a political sufferer—all of us are treated as foreigners. What is this?

"How many ISI activists has the Government been able to find in Assam?"

The B.J.P. is saying that Assam is full of ISI. Mr. Home Minister, you, in this august House, have promised before us that you shall give a white paper. We want to know what is that white paper, blackmailing the Bengalis Hindus Muslims. You are blackmailing us. You do not know people are having sleepless nights in Assam. Police go and ask for money and those who cannot give money are put in the vehicles and taken to Bangaldesh and thrown out. You say that you do not know. If you do not know, then you must resign. Your intelligence have failed....(Interruptions) We know as to how you replied in the Rajya Sabha. Your Minister of State for Home Affairs is sitting here. I asked him a question. Who is misleading? One should not reply relying on the officers. I know that you have a blacksheep in your Ministry of Home Affairs. One of the Joint Secretaries has become a tool in the hands of some political parties and their wings. They originally go and attend meeting, take dictation, not from the Minister of Home Affairs but from some other people, who have nothing to do. These organisations are trying to run down your Government. So, you please stand firmly and give protection....(Interruptions) What have you done? You do not have the right to create a situation. People will not tolerate that. If someone in this House says that we shall revolt, then you say that are anti-State. If you do not give me the protection then should I not revolt? I left my mother country because BJP is to run a Government and consolidate its Hindu base. Shri P.A. Sangma will tolerate because he has been taken in the Constitution (Amendment) Committee. The Christians are being killed all over the country. He has to answer to his community.

Somewhere you have said about the name of the organisation who is doing the bomb blasts. You please identify the organisation and take action. We shall support you. Have we at any time told you not to take action against Pakistan? You make a propaganda in the newspapers by going to Lucknow that you have achieved something. What have you achieved? Can you tell us what have you achieved?... (Interruptions) It is stated that Pakistan is doing it. What the hell your Government is doing? Have we told your Government not to take action against Pakistan? You please find out who are these tools of Pakistan. If it is in my Party, then put them to jail to take action. The people of this country will support you.

Sir, today, in this country, disinvestment, new policy, globalisation, etc. are taking place. It is very good. We say sometimes that our policy has been hijacked by you. But our country is hijacked by some other forces. Who are those forces? I agree with you where you said that it might be Pakistan. So, we have to take care of it. In that respect, all of us should work shoulder to shoulder. The Congress Party will not shy away from this.

Sir, our delegation went to Mathura. They submitted a report. But you have said just the contrary. Our delegation also went to Gujarat. They have also submitted a report. You please collect these reports by writing to the Leader of the Opposition. You also collect your Intelligence reports. If we are wrong, then please tell us that we are wrong. Please do not try to take some tailor-made judicial inquiry. We were also Ministers. I had the opportunity of working in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Please do not trust too much on the administration. These administrators are the slaves of the system and they do whatever their bosses tell them. I do not want to say which bosses.

Sir, I have a lot of respect for Shri L.K. Advani....(Interruptions) People say that he is the Patel of India. I never used to dispute it because I had a lot of respect for him. But the answer of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Rajya Sabha has shocked me.

It has sent a wave of distrust about your Government all over Assam. When answers are given by your officers, ask them to please write down the correct answers. They mislead you. This is not your brain. This is the reply given in Rajya Sabha. I would request you, Mr. Home Minister, to enquire about it. When a memorandum was being given to you by one of your BJP Members, I told him to be present in the House. He said, he will be. But out of fear he has gone now. He is not here.

Sir, today, in the country, there are linguistic and religious minorities. As I said, some people are Hindus but they are in minority, though we are 80 per cent in this country. In my constituency—I am giving the name—there is a Paper known as *Sonar Cachar*. Rodbin Roy is the Editor of that Paper. He rose from a very low position to the position of the owner of a Press. He wrote an article against an S.P. for taking gift and money. But what happened after that? When he went to the extreme of writing with facts and figures, the S.P. sent another DSP to his house and said: "By 3 o'clock you have to declare whether you are an Indian or not, otherwise, I will arrest you and send you to Bangladesh". We have sacrificed lives to protect our language. On this issue, the Congress, the BJP and the AGP, all came together

in Barak Valley. We called a *bandh*. We told the Assam Chief Minister to either arrest Rodbin Roy and prove that he is a foreigner or remove that S.P. Thank God, next day the Assam Government transferred the SP. This is a fact. If you do not know, you verify it. Is your Intelligence giving that information to you? This is the type of things happening. In my constituency, a man who retired from Railway as a Guard, a Muslim fellow, has been asked to go to Bangladesh. He showed his pension papers. The officer said; "All right. These are your pension papers but I am not accepting them." What is this? Tell me, the Environment Minister, what am I to do. This is what is happening in the country. We are not here to say that this Government is particularly responsible. But I am here to say that you are not performing your duties. You are looking at things with a jaundiced eye. You forget your RSS, you forget your *Bajrang Dal*, you forget all your past. You are here in the judgement seat of Vikramaditya. You have to take care of both the minorities and the majority. You have to take care of the sentiments of Prof. Malhotra. If he is saying that India is in trouble, you have to convince him that you will take care of the population pattern and other things. At the same time, you have to take care of me. So, you have to take care of both of us. You have to see what is lacking today. You started well but in between I do not know why there is this derailment. What has happened in Kashmir? We were told by our leaders not to say everything that we have heard or seen. When I go to my constituency, people come and tell me what has happened. What am I to do then? I will not tell here also. If I say something, you will say I am helping Pakistan. But what steps are you taking within your party to see that Hindus are not harassed when they go on pilgrimage? Tell us. The man sitting here, Shri N.K. Sengupta, has given his report that the security line should be maintained by paramilitary forces and army. Why you became complacent this time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, by ringing the bell, one day you will say "quit India". As long as I am there, let me speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, my party has got time.

So, Sir, what I am telling is, take care. This man sitting here is also a man from agitation. So, when he

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

went to Kashmir, he spoke out. Then somebody, must be the Prime Minister obviously, said: "Array George, what are you doing?" He said: "No, I am not saying anything." But the real thing came from his mind because he is a man from the grass-root, not like many who are not from grass-root.

It is all right because he has to protect his Government and therefore, he did this. But there are some people in the party, in the Government who can still speak. you may call them and talk to them. In the North-East, we like him. His Army is doing a wonderful job. People say that they are doing well. At some point of time, there was some unhappiness. You have taken care of that and we are happy now. But I am not in favour of continuous deployment of the Army. That is a bad thing. Sometimes, Army officers tell us to do something and create another force for law and order problem. They say that we should not deploy Army all the time because they have to do something else. I agree with the Army people. So, you have started making some sort of reaction forces or something like that.

The Finance Ministry should give more money and keep the Army away. The Army goes out when there is an extreme situation; it is not only one firing there and the Army goes. When the Army goes and goes around, people say that the Army is committing atrocities. They have to do their duty, but too much deployment of Army is bad. What is happening in Tripura? We have got a Minister. Shri Sarkar. He is a nice man though he is from the CPI(M). Personally, he is an honest man, but he is helpless. He asked for forces, but the forces were not given. I tell you that I was there in Tripura for some time. He wants Assam Rifles to be given to him because the CRPF and the BSF are not active in Tripura. Every day, people are taken out from the bus, being beaten, and money is taken from them. Now, when people travel from Silchar, they keep a separate packet for the terrorists. They know that the bus will be stopped and they would be asked to give *Dakshu Maharaj, Mohan Dakshu*. So, they keep a packet which is meant for the terrorists and they give it to the terrorists. They are happy. Its rate has come down to a very reasonable one. Do you mean to say that the Government of India and the Government of Tripura does not know about it?

How will these people and the citizens honour me? They do not honour an MP now. They say that we are useless fellows and this institution, which is *Mecca* of our politics, is not honoured by the people any more. They say that we have come here to create problem in Zero Hour and then, they pass five Bills in one day. Yesterday, five Bills were passed without discussion. Had you been here, you would have been the first man to

say, 'nothing doing, I will not allow this'. But now, you are a Minister and you are happy. You have a good chair, good aircraft and every thing.

But what is happening? If I stand to speak, the Chair says 'sit down'. Why? It is because the time is short. I do not blame him because only four hours are allotted. Sir, you are right, but we have 12 speakers and we are ready to sit up to 10 o'clock. Let it be discussed. We are not trying to say something against the Government. We are trying to say to the Government that their activities are not good. I am not against Shri Advani. I go to his daughter's marriage and he comes to my daughter's marriage. That social life is there. But we want to say to Shri Advani that he has to do something to see that people do not blame all the time the government saying that they are the creator of this'. As Home Minister, he has to distant himself from his organisations which are doing it. If they are doing it, he has to tell them 'thus far no further'. If they fight for the cause of Hindus, there is nothing wrong. One can fight for the cause of Hindus. If somebody fights for the cause of Muslims, there is nothing wrong, but let us not turn it into killing one another. Let us not go to the Church and burn it. Let us not go to the Masjid and burn it. Let us not go to the Temple and make it an unholy place.

I am grateful to you Mr Chairman Sir, for giving me time. I have nothing against anybody, but I may tell that with a heavy heart, we are participating in this discussion.

With these words, with all the thanks to the Chair, I think that no other incident will happen in Assam. By giving notice as a Congressman, I would say that we are totally committed. If there is any foreigner who has come after 1971, detect him, delete his name from the voters' list and deport him. If there is any foreigner who has come-in-between 1966 and 1971, their names should be entered into a register, they should be disfranchised for 10 years. During that 10 years, they will get all the rights of a citizen of this country, including passport. They will not be able to vote during this period of ten year. We agree.

Before 1961, whoever was there, they have been accepted as citizens.

Last but not least, I do not know whether the Home Minister is happy about it, is that a new trend has emerged, which talks about protection of the indigenous people. What is all this about? It is said that the National Register of 1952 should be taken into consideration for allowing people to contest either as a Member of Parliament or as a Member of Legislative Assembly. They call it "*Khilonjhia*" Even the intellectual Assamese have not accepted this.

Then, you are trying to make a dead horse, that is, AASU, alive; AASU is no more. Now-a-days, the *bandh* call given by it is not accepted at all. The other day, they called a *bandh* in my district, but all the shops remained open.

Sir, are we not citizens of India? You have to take the total picture into consideration.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you.

I have signed all the papers, and I have authenticated everything. The documents contain voters' list, citizenship certificate and everything else. Kindly inquire into this. You need not inform me; I have faith in you. Please get yourself satisfied whether your officers are right or not.

Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I am handing over these papers to the officer at the Table.*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Respected Chairman, Sir, with heavy heart, I participate in this discussion.

Whenever the issue of attacks against the minorities was raised in this House, the response of the Government has always been that 'these are all stray incidents which are blown out of proportion'. At one point, when this issue was raised in this House, the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister contentiously dismissed it that 'these are non-issues'. But the fact is that ever since this Government came to power, the minorities in this country are living under constant threat.

The *Sangh Parivar*, which was earlier aiming at the Muslim community in India, is now pointing their guns towards the Christian community, which constitute only 2.5 per cent of the population. During the last two years, while this Government has been in power, there have been more than 300 attacks against the Christian community in this country. They have been attacked all over Northern India; their priests and nuns have been repeatedly attacked; their Churches and their schools have been vandalised; their *Bibles* have been burnt, and there has been a constant flow of 'hate literature' against the Christian community. All these are being done by mass organisations of the *Sangh Parivar* like the *Bajrang Dal* and the *Vishwa Hindu Parishad*, with the benign approval of this Government.

Papers sought to be laid on the Table were not treated as laid on the Table.

Sir, I am not going into the details of the attacks that are taking place, which have already been mentioned here. But can the Government dismiss it as 'stray incidents'? Just because in the Church blasts, which occurred in some parts of South India, some fundamental organisations are involved, can you blame it entirely on the ISI? I do agree that all incidents which are connected with the Christian community are not communal. The ISI may, of course, be playing a part in these incidents. But the most important question is, how this sort of an atmosphere conducive for the attacks against the Christians and their institutions came about in this country? Who is responsible for creating this atmosphere of hatred? This vicious atmosphere of hatred against the Christian community, I tell you, is the creation of the *Sangh Parivar*.

They are the ones who are spreading false allegations against the Christians and have made the grounds fertile for attacking the Christian community.

Sir, the Christian religion in India is as old as the religion itself. It came to the coast of Kerala, as Shri George Fernandes knows very well, some 2000 years back. This community has greatly contributed to the progress of this country. But if you choose to view every minority community as an alien to our culture and alien to our country, and patriotism as synonymous with the majority religion, then I can tell you that you are going to preside over the disintegration of this country.

Sir the duty of any Government in a multi-religious and multi-ethnic country like India is to ensure safety of the minorities. They should not have the slightest feeling of alienation. It is the duty of every Government that rules over a country like India. But what will happen to this country when organisations, that are patently pro-Government, vitiates the atmosphere with their hate campaign against the minorities' and the Government watches this as a silent spectator?

Sir, it is this Government that gives courage to these culprits who target the Christian groups and their places of worship. It is the Home Minister who gave the *Bajrang Dal* a clean certificate exonerating them from every act against the minority communities. This Government came to power by deliberately doing acts that would leave a lasting scar on our secular nation. This Government should own up responsibility for each and every incident of atrocity that has taken place against the minorities in this country.

Sir, this Government has not, till this date, come forward with an assurance that they will not permit a Ram Temple to be built in the place where the *Babri Masjid* was demolished. No responsible person in this Government has given an assurance. What does it mean? When the VHP calls a *bandh*, the very next day the

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

militants in Kashmir, aided by Pakistan, attacks the innocent people in the Valley and on that very day only people belonging to the minority communities are attacked in various parts of the country.

Sir, this terrorist menace in Kashmir has been going on for the last so many years. Is the Government going to give a communal colour to these incidents? We are head and shoulders above Pakistan not because we have defeated them in every war we have fought with them. We are superior to Pakistan because we are a democratic country. We are a secular nation. Does this Government want us to emulate Pakistan or countries like Pakistan?

Sir, so my humble request is that the Government should not communalise our conflict with Pakistan. It is a political matter. It is a political conflict. What the *Sangh Parivar* is trying to do is to give these incidents a communal colour and attack the minority communities in our country.

Sir, what lessons should we derive from the happenings in our neighbourhood? What are the reasons for the ills in Sri Lanka? It is because the Tamil minorities, with the aid of the Government, were systematically attacked.

The happenings in Sri Lanka are a natural corollary of all the incidents which happened in Sri Lanka before. What happened in Yugoslavia? These incidents develop and come to a stage which allows foreign powers to intervene in the internal affairs of the country. The hate campaign which the *Sangh Parivar* is pursuing with impunity is very dangerous for the country. It should be prevented at any cost. This great country should not be a place for anyone who treats a fellow citizen as a second-class citizen because of his religion or of his faith. This country is known for its tolerance towards all faiths and religions, as has been pointed out earlier.

If the *Sangh Parivar* wants to make India homogenous, it is making a futile attempt. It is the diversity of this country which makes this nation great, which makes this nation unique among the comity of nations in the world. It is this character of the country which is being systematically attacked by the *Sangh Parivar*. Unfortunately, here is a Government which is here to condone each and every act of violence committed against the minority community in this country. I am sorry to say that the Home Ministry is now presided over by a person none other than the man who was instrumental in the demolition of Babri Masjid. He has no moral authority to have the control of the fundamentalist elements in the country. The minority communities do not trust him.

This Government should come forward with a concrete proposal. The Government should come forward with the actions they are going to take against the criminals who are attacking the minorities in various parts of our country. On the one side the Prime Minister goes to the Holy Father and says that these are all sporadic incidents and on the other side when the Pope comes to India, his effigy is burnt by the organisation supporting this Government, and systematic hate campaign is conducted against the Christian community.

Fortunately for this Government and unfortunately for the country, there is a Minorities Commission which visits every place and gives a clean certificate to all these criminal organisations. There is a person in that Commission representing the Christian community. He is supposed to represent the Christian community but he is in the forefront of everything anti-Christian. He condones everything. From the beginning of the religion the name of Judas is associated with it. So, I think the community will bear with the actions of this man in the Minorities Commission. The Commission that is supposed to help the minorities, the Commission that is supposed to help in healing the wounds of the minority community is supporting the Government by every time giving a clean chit to the version of the Government.

The Bharatiya Janata Party is outspoken enough to say that they are against minorities. But there are certain other parties in the NDA Government which do not dare say so. My dear friend and colleague who himself raised this issue during the last Session of this House attacks the Christians now. The DMK party is represented here. Shri George Fernandes is sitting here. I think he is preparing himself to give speech exonerating everybody including Bajrang Dal and Sangh Parivar. The people of this country will not pardon them.

They should act, at least, at this juncture preventing the Government and preventing the *Sangh Parivar* against the attack they are committing on the minority communities especially the Christian community.

Sir, once again, I would request the Government to tell what concrete actions they are going to take to prevent this dastardly attacks committed against the Christian community in this country.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA (Tura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we, in our country, have the heritage of one of the oldest civilisations in the world. As has been already stated, our country is known for its tolerance, our country and our people are known for our commitment to

secularism. Unfortunately, our life at the threshold of the third millennium has been marked by atrocities against minorities, particularly, the Christians and the Muslims.

It is a fact that the atrocities on minorities, particularly, the Christians since 1998, have been much more than the attacks cumulatively from 1947 to 1998. Therefore, there is a question mark. How is it that after the BJP-led Government came into being in our country, the atrocities on Christians have gone up? It is not merely the atrocities that is worrying us.

As far as I am concerned, there are five areas of concerns which I would like to point out to the hon. Home Minister. First is a geographical spread that a systematic attack on Christian community is not confined to any particular area or region, it is spread all over the world. Some reference has already been made to the meeting of our Prime Minister with the holy father Pope John Paul-II. We do not have any official information as to what transpired between the two leaders. But I did read in the newspaper that on the 24th June, 2000 when our Prime Minister came out after meeting the Pope and when he was asked by the media, he replied that "attacks on the members of the Indian Christians are only isolated acts and there is no organised campaign against them."

But the facts are otherwise. I was going through the reported incidents that took place since 1998, and I found that there are as many as 13 States, in the North, in the South, in the West, in the East, and in the North-East where there have been attacks on minorities. Now, if the attacks are taking place in the North-East and they are taking place in the North, in the South, in the West, in the East and in the Central part of our country, how can we say that attacks are isolated? They are not.

It is taking place all over the country.

The second area of concern is the severity of violence. Every type of crime that is described as grievous crime has been committed - housebreaking, theft, robbery, illegal detention, murder, arson, rape of nuns, desecration of places of worship, burning of the Bible, etc. Therefore, the severity of the violence is such that today the minorities in our country are certainly losing their faith in the Government. There is no doubt about this.

You may defend it in any manner you like; you may speak in any manner you like; you may quote from anywhere. You may quote here any type of statistics but what is important is the feeling of the minorities. What do the minorities feel about it? You cannot overcome the feeling of the people by mere statistics. The feeling today is, as Shri Suresh Kurup has said, that we are being

treated as second class citizens in this great country of ours. Therefore, as you may try to do whatever you want to do — as the popular saying goes, 'justice not only has to be done but it should also seem to be done' — you have to bring confidence in the minds of the minority people of this country. Merely giving a good speech is not going to assuage the feelings of the minorities. Therefore, the matter is very serious.

The third area of concern is the connivance of the political parties and the connivance of political elements. Whether it is the Bajrang Dal, the VHP or the RSS, these organisations have been in existence for years and years. How is it that they did not operate in that scale before 1998? How is it that after 1998 these organisations are openly coming out and making all inflammatory statements? I have got with me all those statements. This would not have been possible had there not been a support behind the political parties, by groups that are part of the political parties. Therefore, I think, the Government of India has a very important role to play.

The fourth area of concern is the complicity of the State machinery. Whenever an incident takes place, some inquiry is made outwardly. The State machinery is not serious to find out the real culprits. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has asked that if it is not the Bajrang Dal, the RSS the VHP or the BJP, who has been doing it? Is it the ISI? I will come to the subject of the ISI later on but it is very important that we find the truth and that the machinery is geared up for that.

The fifth and the most important point that I would like to make is about the casual, technical and routine attitude in the replies of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. This matter was raised in the last Session of Parliament. This matter was discussed during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha and the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, a number of Starred and Unstarred Questions have been asked. If you look at the replies given by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, there is no difference. The same replies given during the Twelfth Lok Sabha have been given again.

The same reply has come for that. I have the latest reply. On the 25th July, hon. Home Minister, replying to Shri J.S. Brar and Shri Kamal Nath, had said that the incidence of violence against the Christians has increased to some extent. I do not know what does this 'to some extent' mean. He further said that the law and order is under the domain of the State Government and therefore, we have nothing much to say. I do not think, that is enough.

If you really take a serious note of what I had said about the geographical spread the severity of the crime

[Shri Purno A. Sangma]

and the way the State machineries are functioning, I think, the Home Minister has to take it as much more than a routine matter. The Home Minister cannot escape from the responsibility, simply by saying that law and order is a State subject. It is something more than the State subject. I was wondering as to why such a thing is happening. What is the fault? What is the crime that the Christian community in India has committed? I have not been able to find out any reason.

I can tell the hon. Home Minister and I can declare it on the floor of the House that the Christian community in this country is a very very timid community. In fact, I have been blaming the Church leadership. I have myself been blaming the Church hierarchy as to why they made us very timid. I told them that they have never taught us to even fight for our rights. I told them that they always told us that if somebody gives a slap on the right cheek, we must turn the left cheek and say "Give me one more." They said that this is how we should do and we have been trying to do that. We have not harmed anybody in this country. If that is the case, why should anybody be against us? I do not know.

As a single community, we have contributed so much to this country. We have thousands and thousands of educational institutions. We have more than ten million students studying in Christian institutions and 95 per cent of them are non-Christians.

During the 12th Lok Sabha, when this matter was being debated, I remember, the hon. Home Minister, Shri Advani stood up promptly and said, "Do you know, Shri Sangma, I am also a product of St. Patrick School." Kumari Uma Bharati also stood up and said, "Do you know, Shri Sangma, in my house, I have the picture of Christ." "Come and see that I have a picture of Christ in my house", is what Kumari Uma Bharati said. If that is the attitude, why these atrocities happen?

Dr. Malhotra has given us some hints. He said that the Pope had come here and spoke about harvesting of souls. He asked what is the meaning of harvesting of souls. I do not know whether Dr. Malhotra has read Bible or not. He feels that harvesting of souls means conversions. What is conversion after all? They are afraid of mass conversions. Where are mass conversions going on?

I do not know from where did Dr. Malhotra get the figures about Muslims, increasing from eight per cent to 12 per cent.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: They are figures given by the Government.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA: No, I am sorry. It is not. I think, you have not been given the correct picture. I have got the correct picture with me, which I have taken from the Census of India of 1991.... (*Interruptions*) You do not have to come to my rescue. I will do it myself.

This is the Census Report. According to 1961 Census, the percentage of Muslim community in India was 10.7; in 1971, it was 11.2; in 1981, it was 11.4 and in 1991, it was 11.7. This is what the Census figure is.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Kashmir was not included in that. Including Kashmir it is 12 per cent. ...(*Interruptions*) In 1951, it was eight per cent and now it is 12 per cent.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA: Come to Christianity. What is the population of Christians in India? In 1961, it was 2.4 per cent; in 1971 it was 2.6 per cent; in 1981 it was 2.4 per cent — from 2.6 per cent it has come down to 2.4 per cent; and in 1991 it is 2.3 per cent. Population of Christians are coming down and not going up. But you say mass conversion is going on. Because of this mass conversion in India to Christianity, our population has come down by 0.1 per cent.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Mass re-conversion is going on.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA: We had hundreds of years of British rule in India. We had Portugese rule in Goa. We had French rule in Pondicherry. Still we are only 2.3 per cent. How is it? Where is the fear?

Let us take up North-East. They say the whole North-East has been captured by the Christians and that the people of North-East have been converted into Christianity that they have become anti-nationals. What is the picture in the North-East? North-East has got seven States. According to the Census figures, the Christian population in Arunachal Pradesh is 10.29 per cent; in Assam it is 3.31 per cent — remember in Assam the Christian population is only 3.31 per cent — in Manipur it is 34.1 per cent; in Meghalaya it is 64 per cent; in Mizoram it is 85 per cent; in Nagaland it is 87 per cent; and in Tripura it is 1.6 per cent. Out of the seven States, only in three States, the Christians are in majority and in the remaining four States, Christians are in minority. Then, how do you say that the entire North-East has been converted into Christianity? These are all unfounded fears. I do not know whether I should speak so much. Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra mentioned about protection to minorities. I am very happy that he mentioned about it. Of course, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has said who has started this protection to minorities. What does the Constitution of India say?

When I was the Speaker of Lok Sabha, that year happened to be the 50th year of our Independence. The House would remember that we had a special Session to commemorate the 50th year of Independence. At that time, a lot of foreign visitors and research scholars came to me to find out how India could preserve Parliamentary democracy for fifty years without any interruption, whereas many developing countries could not preserve their democracy. How could India preserve its democracy without interruption? A lot of research work is still going on. Whoever had met me told me that they are impressed with one thing, namely they were convinced that democracy in India could survive for fifty years without interruption because the Constitution of India has given enough protection and safeguards to the minorities and weaker sections of the people. Do not destroy it. Do not try to distort it. Protection to minorities is the secret of our success.

18.00 hrs.

Protection and safeguard to minorities is the secret of preservation of democracy in our country.

Prof. Malhotra talked about what you call, the 15-Point Programme and Minorities Commission. The whole House knows how the 15-Point Programme is working and how much benefit the minorities are getting out of the 15-Point Programme. I do not think I need to repeat it. I only want to say one thing. The National Commission for Minorities Act was passed in 1992. It replaced a Commission which was established in 1973. I have ascertained from the Government sources as well as from the Library that so far 12 Reports of the Commission have been tabled in both the Houses of Parliament. But unfortunately none of these 12 Reports have ever been discussed. Not even one Report has been discussed. Now, who is at fault? I do not blame the Government alone. I think the Opposition is also needed to be blamed. We only talk about minorities. I do not know how many of us have got copies of those 12 Reports. Twelve Reports have been tabled and not even one report has been discussed. I would like to get an assurance from the Home Minister that if not in this Session, in the next Session of Parliament, the reports of Minorities Commission would be discussed.

I would like to make one more point. I am not very much worried about atrocities. Prof. Malhotra, if you read the history of the Church all over the world, you will find that the history of the Church is nothing but the history of persecution. I am not worried about it. What I am worried about is that it is tarnishing the name of secular India outside. The Prime Minister was trying to justify what is happening in India when he met the Pope in Rome. I may inform you, Mr. Home Minister and my

friends in the Treasury Benches that when I go abroad — and I do go abroad quite often — questions are asked to me about the atrocities committed in this country. It feel sad about it. I can inform you that as far as possible, I have been trying to defend our actions here. I have been saying that India is a secular country. What is happening is just a temporary affairs perhaps and that India will return to secularism. I have been saying so. Therefore, what kind of image we are creating for India in the rest of the world. What kind of impact is it going to have on our foreign policy? Do you want to make all the Christians of the world our enemy? Do you think India can live in isolation in this global era? It has so many other implications. It is not merely a question of burning a Church here. Do we have the statistics how many temples are there in Europe? How many Gurudwaras are there in Europe? How many temples have been constructed in Africa. How many Hindus live outside India? Do you know that it can have some impact on them? Have we thought about our brothers and sisters who are outside India? A couple of years ago I went to a country called Croatia. In Croatia, there is a small town called Split. I stayed there for a day's holiday to see the rural area. The Deputy-Speaker accompanied me. When I was walking in the street of Split town in Croatia, I found a lot of people gathering and watching something.

Out of curiosity, since I had gone there for walking, I thought let me see what is happening there. I went there. You know what was happening there! *Hare Rama Hare Krishna* was going on in that remote place of Croatia. It was so nice and so beautiful. I felt so happy and proud. Therefore, I think we should think of all these implications. If somebody feels that India can be ruled and India can survive just like that, I am afraid.

I would like to remind one more point for the benefit of the House. I would like to remind the speech of our former Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao during the debate in the Special Session on 50 years of the freedom of India. He spoke about a future Cold War on the basis of what is popularly known as Huntington's Thesis. It is written in a book called 'Clash of Civilisations' where he said that the future Cold War is not going to be between two sovereign nations. The future Cold War is going to be between two blocs — the Islamic Bloc on the one side and the Christian Bloc on the other side. God forbid that it does not happen. Suppose it happens and the world is moving towards that, then where do we stand? Where will India stand? If India is compelled by circumstances that either we have to identify with one of the blocs, either Islamic Bloc or Christian Bloc, then what is going to be our choice? It is good to keep that in our mind. It is good to keep that in mind as responsible leaders of the country.

[Shri Purno A Sangma]

I do not want to take much time of the House. There are many Members who want to speak on this subject. I had a lot of things to say. But may I, once again, request the Treasury Benches, the leadership there, to ensure that we uphold the secularism in this country. It is secularism and secularism alone which will strengthen the unity and integrity of this country.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Chairman Sir, today is indeed a day for upholding the traditions of India and its secularism. India is the land of Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi. It is known for non-violence and tolerance. Our country is the largest democracy in the world. We are surviving for the past 50 years as a democratic country because of our traditions, thinking of our forefathers and non-violence that has been preached.

1809 Hours

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Today, we are discussing about atrocities on minorities, particularly the Christian and the Muslim minorities. It is very tragic that the country is giving way for such incidents to occur.

Sir, the Southern States are always relatively calm, but recently some incidents of attacks on Christians have taken place in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa and Orissa. First, it started in Orissa which was ruled by the Congress Party, at that time. Then, the State of Karnataka is ruled by the Congress Party now, the State of Andhra Pradesh is ruled by the Telugu Desam Party and the State of Goa is ruled by a Christian Chief Minister. So, the trend is that it is not connected with any political party or they do not have any political motives. These attacks on the minorities are being carried out systematically in order to destabilise our country's democratic system and our country's faith in secularism. If we analyse the recent attacks which have taken place in Andhra Pradesh, particularly the tragic incident which took place in Guntur in Andhra Pradesh where incidents of looting and arson happened, we can find out that these things were all planned by Pakistani agents. It was found out and they have been caught. So, it is very wrong if you attribute these incidents to the RSS or any of its wings. They are not involved in any of these incidents. But without any basis, without truthfulness and without any reasoning they have been blamed by some political parties.

Sir, in certain cases, we should not load politics in our thinking. We have to live together in this country. We cannot throw away the Muslims, who constitute 12 per cent of our population, to any other country like the Pakistanis who have thrown away the Indians to other

countries. We are neither interested to throw away the Muslims nor are we interested to throw away the Christians who constitute 2.3 per cent of our population. Our forefathers, who have written the Constitution of India, have clearly stated that our country is the first and foremost country in the world which upholds tolerance. We have to live together. The faith and religion should be confined to the house hold and it should not be brought to the streets by any political party, because once a particular political party shows its strength on the basis of religion, then the other political parties will also get motivated to show their strength in the same fashion.

So, I strongly feel that to safeguard the unity of our country, we should all think about providing enough safeguards to the minorities so that they can live peacefully in this country. They should not have any feeling that India is not able to give them security. They should not feel that they are strangers in this country. They are also sons of the soil. They are also born in this country. They are living in this country since time immemorial. Now we cannot tell them that India belongs to only one community or religion.

Sir, I think, our country has provided facilities, more than any other country in the world, to the linguistic minorities or the religious minorities. They are enjoying certain facilities in this country, because, with a broad outlook and with great care, we have given them special protection in language and we have allowed them to run educational institutions of minority status.

We have provided all these things to our brethren. In no other country in the world, they provide these facilities to any minority community. We have provided these facilities to see that they also come up and prosper along with other communities in this country. So, they should also realise that because of country's policies and democratic system, they have been given some special treatment and some special package. They should also utilise this package to come up in the society as good citizens and work together in the main stream.

Now, we cannot blame because some Indians — Hindus, Muslims or Christians—are involved in one or other cases. These are all acts of the miscreants. They have been planted in India by foreign elements. The other day, most of them had been killed in Kashmir are Hindus. The Hindus were going for a religious 'yatra'. But we have never stated that they have been killed by so and so persons. They have been killed either this way or that way by the miscreants. These elements are entering into this country. We have to have a break. Our hon. Minister of Home Affairs says that this is a law and order situation confined to some of the States. It is not like that. It is

the unity and stability of the country which should not be affected. It should be safeguarded by any means. In such acts, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should think twice about how to combat the elements who are creating such unruly instances and committing atrocities particularly on minorities. If they create some chaos, if they create some such instances, there will be a disorder in the country. The people will think that this country is not stable to protect the minorities. So, I strongly feel that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should take it into consideration and deal with them with a firm hand.

The Report submitted by Justice Wadhwa is also very clear that these instances have not been hatched by any community or religion. These are only the acts of miscreants. There have been more clashes in Andhra Pradesh during the period prior to the Telugu Desam rule. But nobody has interpreted them that these are the instances created by any of the minorities or political party. There have been religious clashes between the Hindus and the Muslims several times. But the State Government fought against such elements ruthlessly and unitedly. So, we all should fight against these unruly miscreants unitedly instead of blaming one party or the other. Please do not start blaming each other, for example, the Congress Party blaming the ruling party, and the BJP blaming the Congress Party. Some of the hon. speakers have stated that there have been instances. I am not going into the past how the *Babri Masjid* was demolished. It was demolished during the Congress Party regime.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): By whom?
...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Is it not the inefficiency of the then Government?

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amrha): But you condemn it.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Everybody has to condemn it. ...(Interruptions) I am telling such instances. ...(Interruptions) Every right-thinking man has to condemn such instances. Now also, we condemn it. Every right-thinking man and every political party have to condemn it.

But we should fight unitedly. Instead of blaming each other for these incidents, we should fight together and project a united image that India is one, that India is secular and that India is a democratic country. We can fight these elements and when we are reunited, we should give such a message to the other world. Then only our country will be strong, then only our minority brethren will be safe in this country.

So, I appeal to the hon. Home Minister to take stringent action and request him not to be callous. Some of the hon. Members have stated that he has dealt with these incidents in a very casual way. I do not think, he has dealt with these incidents in a casual way. But he should show some results also. His actions should be result oriented and he should try to stop all these things, at least, in future, so that our country, instead of discussing such issues in the House, can discuss issues like developmental activities; so that we can take our country to greater heights. Lastly, I would like to say that unitedly only we can fight these things.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, this House is holding a serious discussion on the atrocities committed on religious minorities in the recent past. People of different castes and religions live in India. It is our resolution that we may belong to whichever religion but we shall never create problems for people belonging to other religions. If injustice is done or atrocity is committed against a person belonging to a particular religion, then it is definitely a matter of concern. Bomb explosions in the churches of Andhra, Karnataka and Goa, murder of father Graham and his two sons in Orissa, Anti-Sikh propaganda by the RSS through Sikh Sangat in Punjab....
(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad): Where are these incidents taking place?

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: For you, it is not a matter of concern. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Katiyar, what is this? Please resume your seat and do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You please let me complete....(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: You cannot level charges.
...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Katiyar, please do not pass running commentary.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, assault of the christians and burning of their literature in Mathura and thereafter in Agra in Uttar Pradesh is definitely a matter of concern. I think that after the demolition of Babri Masjid, in an organised manner attempts are being made to terrorise the Muslims and thereafter the christian minorities all over the country. This time it is against the christian community. Various means are being resorted to terrorise the christians. I am of the view that conduct and character of the Government of a country has a bearing on the character and conduct of the society of the country. This government is instigating the communal elements.

Sir, the activities of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal, Durgavahini, RSS and their Sister Organisation increased all the more between 1998 and 2000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, like my other hon. friends. I would also not like to quote the statistics. Even I have statistics with me. As hon. Sangma ji stated that more important than the statistics is as to what we all feel and what is the psychological effect of such things on the society? Since Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru's time if we go into the statistics, then whether it is a matter related to communal harmony or work of development, we would find that every Prime Minister has claimed that his Government is the best and no other Government can be as good as his Government.

That is why I do not want to go into the statistics. However, I would definitely submit one thing that today people from minorities are not feeling safe and secure. The hon. Home Minister says that Dindar Anjuman and Pakistan's ISI are involved in it. I want to know what is your intelligence agency doing in this regard? You cannot shirk your responsibility by merely accusing Pakistan. I do not know whether Pakistan is involved in this or not, but this problem has arisen because of your thinking, actions and conduct.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all their sympathetic organisations, which I have named, think that they are above law and constitution. Recently a meeting of Vishwa Hindu Parishad was held in Agra. It was decided therein that whether anyone supports for construction of the temple or not, but now the temple would definitely be constructed by January, 2001. It was also stated that not only in Ayodhya but temples would also be constructed

in Kashi and Mathura. I want to know the intention behind such acts and utterances? What is going on in this democratic country?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one mendicant called Ritambhara was given on 99 years lease, 43 acres of land on one rupee. This Vishwa Hindu Parishad people were given lands on lease for one rupee. Mr. Deputy Speaker, whether the person holding high offices will promote the objective of religious tolerance or unification of the country? These are the persons who are trying to dis-integrate the country. The Government of India as well as the Government of Uttar Pradesh are encouraging such elements. The Government of India cannot shy away from its responsibility...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Ramji Lal Suman says.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is it not a fact that around 10 thousand ex-servicemen are being given training for handling latest arms in Ayodhya. Hon. Mr. George Fernandes has left. I wanted to know from him whether these persons are being imparted training for war with Pakistan? These acts are being indulged into to demoralise minorities in the country. This is a very serious matter and I feel hurt. The hon. Home Minister may kindly pardon me.. *(Interruptions)*

DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Is air-gun a modern weapon?

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You know better, you belong to RSS. All this has been published in the newspapers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please address me, don't give him reply.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: He should substantiate what he has said regarding Ayodhya.. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is my Parliamentary Constituency which he has referred to. This is my point of order. He may give evidence on it. He has publically levelled allegation and that too in Lok Sabha. I can give evidence in this regard.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You clarify when you get the chance to speak. You please sit down now.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: His allegation is baseless.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When you get a chance to speak, you may refute. This is not unparliamentary.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, he may either substantiate or tender resignation.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: I am on point of Order. He has levelled a serious allegation. This is going on in the House and is also being recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, either his statement may be expunged from the records or.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: I only want to say that... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not the question of mere statement. You please quote the rule.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: He has referred to 10 thousand people. He may either provide evidence, and if he is unable to do so, he may tender his resignation. Otherwise, I will tender my resignation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You first state your point of order.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: The fact should be substantiated or you may please expunge it from the record.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is no point of order.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please do not interrupt like this. If you behave like this, then I will name you. There is a limit to everything. You raised a point of order, I asked you to state the rule but you did not. If there be anything unparliamentary, I would expunge it. Why are you worried? I am here. If any such allegation has been levelled, then you may refute when you are given the chance to speak.

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (*Deoria*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he hails from that area only.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If he hails from that area, then there is no question of raising the point of order. He has not raised any point of order. You please to not waste time.

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI: If anyone says that ten thousand people are getting training in arms, and he is unable to prove it, then this is not goot at all. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am saying that.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You don't have to say anything now. Your statement will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I wanted to say that.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please don't talk about levelling an allegation, come to the point.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I heard with rapt attention the statement of Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please speak on the subject.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (*Pandharpur*): I submit that both of them should tender resignation. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, if you wish to speak. Please take permission from the chair..

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: He said that the matter of prime concern is religious conversion. I do not know much about religion. Mahatma Gandhi, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati, Swami Vivekanand has said that if Hindu religion cannot become tolerant then this religion should

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

be done away with. Instead of criticising others, until and unless we introspect ourselves as to where we have committed a mistake, this act cannot be stopped. In this country it is very unfortunate that those who build temples are not allowed to enter them. It is really very unfortunate. We disallow the person to fetch water from the well for whom the well has been constructed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the caste system in present form viz lower castes and upper castes, continues then no one can prevent conversion. I am reminising a couplet in this regard, which is as follows:

"Raat ka Intzaar Kaun Kare, Aaj Kal Din Mein Kya Nahin Hota.

Kuchh to Majbooriyan Rahi Hongi, Yun Koi Bewafa Nahin Hota."

At the end, while summing up, I would reiterate that this relates to the actions and conduct of the Government. The minorities of this country can never feel secure until and unless this country gets rid of the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA (Nominated): Mr. Deputy-Spekaer, Sir, I would like to speak on the topic of this afternoon's discussion in the context of human rights, democracy and secularism. I will not talk about atrocities because already atrocities have been spoken about earlier, everything is documented I will not name names because I have no proof. However, I would like to articulate the fears of the Christian community.

At the time of Independence, the Indian Nation stood for political liberalisation, secularism and plurality. For Gandhiji equality of all religions was founded on the doctrine of *Sarvadharmā Sambhava*. In recent times, however, there has been an attempt to forge a national identity and to impose this national identity on the nation. And that is the fear of the Christian community. Religious minorities are concerned that what is termed as "*Hindutva*" is being substituted for secularism. According to this doctrine of *Hindutva* India belongs to Hindus. India is both a Fatherland, *Pitrubhumi* and a holy land, *Punyabhumi*.

Recently, however, the hon. Home Minister has said that the BJP celebrates the multi-religious, multi-lingual and multi-ethnic diversity of Indian society, united by a cultural nationalism. The Supreme Court also has said that *Hindutva* can be defined as a way of life in the context of Indian culture and heritage. What is culture?

Culture refers to the customs, traditions and the way of life of a particular community. In the context of human rights, every individual has a right to belong to a community and every community has a right to its culture and if you deny some individuals their culture on a community their rights or a religious minority their right, you are denying them human rights.

Majority—Majority-ism is an attempt to make minorities assimilate into a larger culture and it is both morally wrong and political hazardous. It is morally wrong because it negates the basic principle that in a democracy each person counts individually. It is politically hazardous because we have seen the politics of assimilation in the conflicts that have arisen round the world in Northern Ireland, in Kosovo and Sri Lanka.

In India religious minorities have constitutional guarantees that are in accordance with the U.N. Convention on Minority Rights and Human Rights. The duty of the Government at the Centre and the States is to protect the individual's life and liberty and to safeguard constitutional rights.

If the *Organiser* tends to misinterpret the Bible we have certain Christian sects which have their origin in the USA. Even in the USA, they are considered as bizarre. They issue inflammatory pamphlets calling for the conversion of everyong. They call for the conversion even of other Christians. The Indian church of the 21st Century is a pluralistic church open to all religions. It favours ecumenism and pluralism and most importantly it is an Indian Christian Church.

Sir, we have Christian roving Ambassadors who tell the Western world that 98 per acent Hindus are persecuting two per cent Christians. These roving Ambassadors do not represent Christians. We would like to make that very very clear. Not all Christians who say they represent Christians represent Christians. Many of them are just fanning the flames of whatever fires are already there. The Majority of Hindus accept Christians as their brothers and live in peace and harmony and the majority of Christians do not believe that the BJP led Government is sponsoring attacks on minorities.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister has said on Independence Day:

"Let us not look for imaginary foes." We need to move beyond a policy of confrontation to a policy of conciliation and dialogue. Sir, with these few words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Sir, I rise with a great deal of pain and hesitation. In all the years of my public life or even otherwise I never had to stand up and declare myself a minority, fighting for my existence or for my rights. I was proud always to talk about myself as Indian first and Indian last and never ever thought it necessary to talk about a community or about the insecurity of my own community. Unfortunately, over the last few years, one has begun to feel rather insecure and one wonders, at times, what crime we have committed to become the targets of a hate campaign which we as a minority community are unable to understand or comprehend.

Sir, I would start, of course, with the President's message on Independence Day to the nation, calling for unity, understanding and the integrated approach to the nation's problems. I would like to quote a few lines from the speech of the hon. Prime Minister who from the ramparts of the Red Fort said: the Government would not tolerate activities of any organisation that spreads communal discord or incites violence and asked people of all faiths to refrain from creating 'imaginary enemies; and I quote.

"Religious intolerance and hate have never been part of India's liberal culture. I appeal to the people of all faiths and castes not to create imaginary enemies... He said a few unfortunate incidents had spoiled communal peace and goodwill in some places and asserted that the Government would not tolerate such activities.

"We are one in many and many in one." he added.

This is a very noble declaration made by the hon. Prime Minister who heads the NDA Government. I must say that if words and actions coincided, then there would not be any need for a discussion of this kind in this House.

Sir, I wish to place a few figures before the House because it is bettered that we indulge in rhetoric. We are saying things for the sake of saying them. I am giving you official figures. From 1964 to 1966, there were 33 incidents of attacks on the Christian community and from 1997 to 2000, they went up to 184. Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, I am not saying it for the sake of saying. I have got it from the Parliament Library. They are date-wise listed. They are available in the Library. I can give you the copy and I will send one copy to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

Between January and July, 2000, you have 52 incidents of attacks on the Christian community all over the country. These are the figures. Anybody can challenge them. I can produce the incidents, dates and places.

Here is another statement which is given in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on 25th of July by the Home Ministry. This statement shows the number of communal incidents between 1998 and 2000. Here, I am talking about the communal incidents involving all communities, including the Muslims and the others. In 1998, the Home Ministry has listed 645 incidents and 2,120 injured; in 1999, they have listed 598 incidents and 2,017 injured; and in 2000, that is, in this half year, they have listed 234 incidents and 500 injured. There also figures for the dead. This is the statement laid on the Table of the House in the Lok Sabha... *(Interruptions)* This is only for six months, that is for the whole year. So, these have not declined. What I am trying to say is that, rightly or wrongly, in the country today, there is a sense of insecurity among the minorities. Wherever I go in the country, people ask me what is happening, why are we being targeted, what crime have we committed? I am concerned about all minorities, but I am talking particularly about the Christian community because we have always been a very disciplined, a very low-key, non-provocative community. As Shri Sangma said, we have been taught that if we are beaten on one cheek, we should give the other cheek. That is what Christ taught us. We have learnt that service and care of those sections which have been neglected for centuries have to be given attention in the best way we can. Thousands of our people are working round the country and yet...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

What you have to say, say it later. I have heard Malhotraji, where I had not to listen, I sat outside. Therefore you should sit quietly.

[English]

Sir, I do not want to interrupt him, so I sat out. I did not want to unnecessarily provoke him. I want to know, are all these just law and order incidents, as the Home Minister would like us to believe? I can tell you, and I agree with Shri Sangma, that there have been occasions when Ambassadors at functions ask me: "Mrs. Alva, what is happening to the Christian community? Why is everybody attacking you?". I have always said: "This is our internal matter. India is secular and we are capable of looking after ourselves. We do not need any advice or any kind of interference from outside. We are proud to be secular. We are Indians and we will sort out our own problems without any help from anybody else. We do not want you fishing in troubled waters. We will look after ourselves." When we go abroad, same questions are asked and we give the same reply. We do not believe in making this a propaganda platform. But I speak today

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

as an Indian citizen who is hurt. I feel suddenly that I am a second class citizen. What crime have I committed? Alvas have been freedom fighters. There are hundreds of others among us who worked and fought side by side with everybody else from the freedom of this country. But today we are made to feel that are not as patriotic as others. We have to get certificates of patriotism from somebody on that side, maybe from my sister sitting there, who is a very good friend of mine. I do not know where to go to get myself accepted as an equal citizen, as a patriotic Indian. This is what hurts us. More than anger, I must tell you, it is the injustice and the pain which we minorities feel. I will show you the pamphlets. I have brought copies of the pamphlets which they have printed and are distributing. I have got photocopies of all of them. These are from *Sahitya Siddhu Prasthan*. All this is English and Hindi literature, with the cross, the blasphemy and the attack on the Community all over the country. The pamphlets which are being printed, are going from door to door. We are being told that this is all imaginary. I have got so many of them. Shrimati Tavleen Singh, after she has seen the pamphlets has at last written an article and I will quote it sooner or later. What is it all about? The article is: 'Hate campaign against Christians'. These are editorials in the Papers.

These are not from the Catholic Churches from the Catholic Bishops Conference. These are the editorials in the secular Press which all of us read, and you also read it. What for is this hit campaign? There are three or four questions. Before that, I would reiterate what Shri Sangma said. What have we not done in this country? Here are the figures and I just want to briefly place these figures before you. The Catholics alone — there are 40 other denominations also, but Catholics are known well today — have 7,570 kindergartens and nursery schools covering 9.10 lakh and odd children, 4,638 primary schools, 9,414 secondary schools, 480 colleges, 63 medical and nursing colleges and six engineering schools all over the country. These are the figures of only one community. If I give you the figure of students who are passing through these institutions, it will be very high. Many of your children are studying in our schools. They come to me for admissions—I do not give names here — begging me a seat in the institution....(Interruptions)

Today, they are being called missionary schools. I have got here a proforma to be filled up the Christian schools asking them, which country they belong to, from which country they get their money and what is their affiliation. This is being asked of schools and colleges which have been running same for more than 100 years. ... (Interruptions) Today, not only in Gujarat, in all the States, all our schools have been classified as

missionary schools. Is there anything called a 'missionary' school in the Constitution? Here, they are called minority institutions. But today, after you have come, suddenly our schools have become 'missionary' schools and our colleges have become 'missionary' colleges. What is the definition of missionary school or a 'missionary college? We have minority institutions. The Constitution has given us protection to run and manage them. For those in the *Sangh Parivar*, my friends on that side would get so excited. I am not mentioning your organisations, but I would just like to place before you the Constitution of India. I hope, at least, you will let me read this. The Indian Constitution gives freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion as one of the Fundamental Rights in article 25 and of course in article 19.

I am saying propagation is my right. If I propagate, I talk about the Congress Party and make speeches against you or against anybody else and try to convince people that what I am saying is right, I propagate my thinking, I propagate my religion, and I propagate my way of life. The socialist says that your whole system of running an economy is wrong while others say something else. If you are converted, you vote for them or you go with them. It is the right of everybody to convince another of his thinking. I am asking you this. Who are the people today who are talking of this? Who has stopped everybody else from going and working? They are being told that you serve them and you convert them. We do not serve and convert them. You go and have a survey of the schools and colleges in this country. I know how many of you have passed, including the Home Minister, from the Christian institutions. How many of you have been sought to be converted? How many of you have been converted in our institutions? Give me names, give me figures. I challenge you. How many of your children have been converted in our schools? When I am talking of our schools, I am talking of minority's schools. There are Muslim schools, Christian schools and other schools. You choose to go to these schools. You want the education in these schools, you want the training and the character-building and the advantage of these schools and then you ask whom we have converted? Give me names. Have any of your children been converted in our institutions? Give me names of three children in Delhi whom we have converted when they went to our Christian schools. ... (Interruptions) What is this propaganda? If you are suspicious, do not send your children to these schools. Nobody forces you. Who has converted your children? But the way it is going on, it is said 'mass conversion'.

[Translation]

I sit inside the Parliament. Tomorrow Malhotraji would say that I am trying to convert him as well.

[English]

Sir, it took me about 4 years to get Prof. Malhotra to agree to my sports programme when I was the Minister for Sports.

[Translation]

To make him agree that programme faced lot of difficulties, but today he is saying that it was well done, it was good.

[English]

But my point is that do not be suspicious of everybody around you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Sir, I want to tell you about a report of the Government of India.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rawale, you are a senior Member.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Madam, As you have asked therefore I wanted to tell you. You have asked the House...(Interruptions) She has asked the Parliament, therefore any member of Parliament could answer. I want to tell you with your permission that the Christian have increased by 27.4 per cent during 1951 to 1961.(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am addressing the Chair; I am not addressing you. You can speak, when your turn comes.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Margaret Alva's speech.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Today you remembered Indira Gandhi, it is very good. You should also mention as to what Indira Gandhi had spoken about Shiv Sena...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rawale, if she yields, then only you can speak.

Otherwise, how can you speak? ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Margaret Alva's speech.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: They cannot keep on interrupting me, when I am speaking. I am not yielding to them.(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Sir, are they speaking with your permission?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not given any permission, and he is interrupting on his own.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, I want a reply from the hon. Home Minister. I am not taking the replies from these people. I am not concerned with them. I am addressing the Chair, and the Home Minister.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Margaret Alva's speech.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As you know, when she yields, then only you can seek clarification. That is the system that we are following. When she is not yielding, how can you speak?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, we are a disciplined and service-oriented community. Shri Sangma gave the figures, and I am only repeating them. We are the only community in this country whose population has gone down over each Census. The figures that I have are based on your Census and not mine. It is based on the Census conducted by the Government of India and, yet, we are being told that we are increasing and multiplying, that we are converting everybody everywhere.

Christianity has been here from the time of Christ. You had the Portuguese rule; then the Dutch and the French came, and all of them are supposed to be

*Not recorded.

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

Christians; they were all there. My point is, over 2,000 years, we have remained 2.4 per cent with all the patronage you talk about. I am asking you, why is 82 per cent of the country's population afraid of two per cent of us? What crime have we committed. We are 2 per cent only. You are 82.17 per cent. and still, you are afraid that we are a threat to the country; we are anti-national. I would like to read 2-3 lines from the paper in front of me some of the things that are being said. The whole thing is that a campaign of hatred and suspicion is being created. I am not saying that the Hindu community is doing it. Today, I pay tribute to my countrymen that if this country is secular, it is because the overwhelming number of Hindus is secular, and they are committed to secularism. It is the mad fringe of some organisations which is creating this atmosphere, which is embarrassing the Prime Minister, and I know is embarrassing its NDA partners also, but they do not have the courage to speak out here.

I am asking you, when would you put sense into these organisations that are tarnishing, not only, the image of this country but also of your Party and of your leadership? At some point of time you should stand up and say, 'thus far and no further'. The hon. Prime Minister has already said that no more is he going to tolerate these things and is going to take action against them. Yet, we know what is happening. It is being said that everything is being done by the ISI and Pakistan. But how can the Government rope in those extremist groups when the Government cannot rope in their own extremist groups, with whom they are associated? How can the Government take a stand when they are not able to rope in their own people? I am not talking for the sake of talking. We have been told that we are foreigners just now there has been a call from the Bajrang Dal. They talk about the second Quit India Movement! ...*(Interruptions)* We all have become missionaries, we have been made missionaries. This has been said in a Press Conference. They say that this is the second Quit India Movement against them. This has been said by Dr. S.K. Jain, the national Convenor. He has said, 'they are helping separatist forces and we will compel them to leave India by virtually launching a Quit India Movement against them'...*(Interruptions)* They say that they do not have the moral ...*(Interruptions)* They say that they do not have the moral ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Alva, which paper are you quoting from?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I am quoting from the Asian Age. I am quoting a person by name Shri S.K. Jain. He is the General Secretary of the Bajrang Dal...*(Interruptions)* I can quote from Press reports. It is a public document.

Sir, he says, 'they do not have the moral right to stay in India'. This has been said in a Press Conference.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Bhopal): The person you are talking about is not present.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is quoting from a Paper. That is why I asked her about the paper from which she was quoting and all those things...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: If you are interested I am laying these papers on the Table of the House...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: This ruling had been given by the Chair that you cannot quote from newspapers.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Perhaps lateron it might have been refuted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you speak like this I won't allow. She has quoted from a newspaper therefore I asked the name.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am not quoting from paper but from other source, you should deny this. It has been said by Mr. B.L. Sharma, he has been a member of this house.

[English]

He has said this and I am quoting what he has said. Justifying the attacks on the minorities he has said, 'these are the result of the anger of patriotic Hindu youth against the anti-national forces'.

[Translation]

So we have become anti national and foreigner also. You speak whatever you feel like speaking.

[English]

He also has quoted the same statement in the *Tribune*, as made by Shri S.K. Jain. He has quoted others also...*(Interruptions)* All I am saying is that these statements are being made; they are repeatedly printing them and are circulating them, but what is the Government doing? If this hate campaign is allowed to

go on, then everybody, any anti-social element can take advantage of this and can attack the minorities. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

This is also to be quoted it is printed and bears name and photograph, this is photocopy, I have got original also. These pamphlets have been brought out by you.

[English]

'The politics of subversion — the Church'; 'Religious conversion' and 'Hindu Vivek Kendra'. Each one of them is bringing out inflammatory documents. Is the Home Minister aware of it? Are these things coming to your notice through the IB? Are these matters coming to your notice through the intelligence agencies? Every time you talk of intelligence failure.

[Translation]

There has been intelligence failure in Kargil and in Kashmir also, whether is it an intelligence failure here also. He does not give and I will handover such an important file.

[English]

These contain the incidents in the country, the material that is being circulated and the new draft Constitution that has been circulated by your youth wing for a 'Hindutva' India. The document that has been prepared by you is with me. You have circulated it at your last Convention. There is a pamphlet signed by Shri Advani that brings out the new features that are required. I have spoken about it in Parliament and I have also presented it in Parliament earlier. What I am saying is, what are we heading for?

Sir, the Government, 50 years after freedom, has set up Constitution Review Committee. They want to change the Constitution; they want to do something else, maybe.

Now, I have some papers here with me. I am not quoting these things. These are already there in the papers. ...*(Interruptions)* I have *The Pioneer*, this is supposed to be paper of the Government in many ways, and the headlines of the paper says, 'VHP kicks off a row over Christian schools'; 'VHP re-conversion drive'; 'VHP and Bajrang Dal burns copies of the Bible'. These are the headlines

[Translation]

I do not need to quote, all papers are available.

[English]

Then 'Delete special minority rights, says the VHP'. Then there is a whole editorial on 'The mockery of the Bajrang Dal'.

[Translation]

Everybody when people read in paper.

[English]

Sir, what is its impact on the feeling of unity and secularism in this country? How would you have liked somebody doing this to you all the time? Nobody would like it. I am asking the Government, what crime have we committed that we should be targetted in this way?

Sir, the other argument that has been put out against us is that we get foreign money. The Government could have a debate on this because all money comes through the RBI.

The statement issued by the RBI shows that the VHP and other Hindu organisations are getting more money as compared to all the Christian organisations. But that is nothing wrong; that is a patriotic way of collection of money! These figures are given by the RBI, Sir, and I will lay them on the Table of the House. It has been officially stated as to how much money is coming to which organisation through the RBI. However, only the Christians are targeted. Everything comes through the RBI with the permission of the Government. One has to register his organisation with the RBI.

[Translation]

If this is also wrong then we are smugglers. We all carry money with our for donations....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Indiraji had said that missionaries get money from abroad....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: They say that we are anti-national. I leave it to the Home Minister. If he has any proof that any one of us is involved in anti-national activities and any of us is getting money from abroad without naming the sources, let him prosecute us and send us to jail. We are prepared to go by the law. But this kind of a malicious campaign is not correct.

Here is an official proforma that is required to be filled by us. This is circulated by the Gujarat Government. It contains items like 'Name of the educational institution', 'To which country does your organisation, or school, or college belong to', 'amount received from that country'.

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'amount received from Union or State Government', etc. Every single school has to fill up these three pages and convince the Government there that we are above board. After these many years of being in this country, today suddenly there is a suspicion in their minds and they are asking us to fill all these proformas.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): It has happened during Emergency also. ...

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: You were sitting in Congress and advising the Government at that time. I know how much advice you have given to the Congress Government. Do not talk about that now. Please let us not get into an argument over it.

[Translation]

Today your affiliation is with the side for one seat but how much you have worked with us I know.

[English]

I have been a Minister and I know enough about it. Let us not get into it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up now.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am sorry, Sir, I will finish shortly.

Now there is another propaganda going on. I have seen these pamphlets which say that in the North-East Indian soldiers are being killed by the Christian insurgents. They say that it is a battle between the forces and the Christians and that the Christians are killing our soldiers. What happened in Kargil? Did not Christians die side by side; did not Muslim soldiers die side by side the Hindus and the Sikhs? Now they say that suddenly we are killing the soldiers in the North-East. Insurgency has nothing to do with these issues. It is a political issue. It is a battle they are fighting. You deal with them as you have to but do not communalise even that and say that Christians are killing the troops in the North-East. I do not understand the arguments that are being put forward. Our soldiers are dying in Sierra Leone; they are dying in Kosovo; we are sending them everywhere. Some of them die in the North-East; some die in Assam; and some die in Kashmir. Why should we minorities be blamed for that? We all know how many of them have died in Punjab. Was that because of the minorities? I do not understand these arguments.

Sir, I do not want to politicise the issue. The basis of our unity is diversity. The day you try to destroy it, we will fall apart as a nation. Our forefathers have shown it to us; Indian history has shown it to us. Sitting together we have faced challenges as one people. Today if you try to classify us into patriotic and nonpatriotic it would not. It is not in the interest of the country.

[Translation]

What is going on? Just now someone has said why to go to villages' work in urban area.

[English]

I will tell you why. It is because when you work with the exploited, the tribal people who have never had a voice, your whole social system gets shaken. You want them to stay where they are. You do not want them to stand up and speak for themselves. Why did the Scheduled Caste people go to Buddhism.

[Translation]

He talk of humanity. I am saying to the hon'ble Prime Minister that the poor, Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes people of the country needs to be treated humanity.

[English]

They want the dignity of being treated as human beings in the villages and in the backward areas.

Go and work with them. Who is stopping you? You have so many temple trusts, you have so many public trusts. Send your people to go there. Let them work there. Thousands and thousands can go and work. There is still more work to be done.

[Translation]

We are small in numbers like a drop in the ocean. They say we should accompany them. Let us go to villages and work there.

[English]

Go and work with the leprosy patients. Go and work with the AIDS patients whom nobody wants to touch. Go and work with the orphans, the abandoned children on the street. We work with them. And, for having worked with them, we have been called 'instigating trouble'.

I was in the Home Ministry. I know, so many cases are there. For example, in the backward areas of Bihar, tribal areas in U.P., Madhya Pradesh. What are the

charges? They are not priets or nuns but they are young people who are organising labour, organising the tribals against liquor, the land rights. They are all branded as naxalites and locked up. I say that they have the political patronage with the connivance of politice. Why? Because these people are being organised to fight against all this. Anybody who supports them is called a naxalite. *Arey baba*, everybody who talks for them is an anti-national.

[*Translation*]

They have to live like this. Everything will be all right.

[*English*]

Sir, all I am saying is 'hate begets hate and unless we learn to live in peace and accept each other.'

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am concluding now.

As Mrs. Stains, after that whole incident, said in true Christian spirit, "Father forgive them for they know not what they have done." This is the spirit.

As Shri Sangma said, we are not afraid of attacks on us. Christianity all over the world has thrived on persecution, on the blood of our martyrs. The more you have killed, the more Christianity has spread. We are not afraid. We may be two per cent. We are prepared to pay the price. But you will see, in this country, the Christians marching in silence with black badges.

As I said, we sat the whole day outside the *Rajghat* on the eve of the Independence. What did we ask for there? We asked for forgiveness and acceptance, that we may will live as one people and make this nation great. That was our crime, not taking revenge or reacting with: violence.

This is the spirit in which I appeal to the hon. Home Minister and to my colleagues in Parliament. We may belong to different places, different religions but we still are one. I may tell this august House that both my daughters-in-law in my House are Hindu girls. I have not converted them. They are not converted. They stay with me. One is the *Rajput* girl and the other is the *Coorgy* girl. They stay with me. My only sister-in-law is married to a Muslim. What difference does it make?

[*Translation*]

You talk of humanity at this stage. Follow it in day to day life. Everything will be all right.

[*English*]

Finally, Sir the slogan of the Independence Movement was:

[*Translation*]

Hindu-Muslim-Sikh-Isaie
Sab hain bhai bhai"
Now include sisters as well.

[*English*]

But we were one. That was the slogan of Mahatma Gandhi.

Sir, I conclude with these words from Tagore and I think, this should really be the theme today as we enter the new millennium:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high,

the knowledge is free;

where the world has not been broken up into fragments of narrow domestic walls;

where the words come out from the depth of truth;

where tireless striving stretching its arms towards perfection;

where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habits;

where the mind is led forward by thee into everlasting thought and

action into that heaven of freedom;

my father, let my country awake."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Kumari Uma Bharati.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Kumari Bharati.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please resume your seat.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Bhopal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very happy that I had an opportunity to hear Smt. Margaret Alwaji. I hold her in high esteem. The issue which is being discussed in the House is of great concern, since I agree that the present figures show the communal tension is prevailing in the country and what has been the situation in the country for so many years.

I agree with Smt. Margaret Alwaji that there may have been a decline in the figures but the cases of attack on Christians have increased for some time. The nature of earlier cases was different but now the number of attacks of present nature on Christians has definitely been more in comparison to that of the preceding years. That is why, I am mentioning these figures here. I wanted to say more, since Alwaji was speaking I want her to listen to me carefully. The decrease in the number of communal riots and the cases of attack on Christians are interrelated facts. The number of incidents of communal violence in 1991 was 1727, thereafter it was 1536. In 1993 it was 1042, in 1998 it was 645, in 1999 it was 598 and in the year 2000 it was 234. It is not me but the figures that are speaking that there has been sudden decline in the number of communal riots and tension and spread of communal harmony in the two years... (Interruptions)

I agree with Alwaji that the number of communal riots has declined but suddenly in the last one and half years efforts have been made to make the clashes between Christians and Hindus an issue of discussion. It also involves gruesome murder of the Christian priest and his children. It is such an incident which made our head hang in shame. I would like to tell you that it is a conspiracy. That is why this time the relations between Hindu and Christians are being talked about and targeted. Earlier, attempts were made to create instability in the country by flaring up tension between Muslims and Hindus, to create the situation of partition in the country. A vicious campaign against BJP has always been made that whenever this Government would be formed all the Muslims of this country would be repatriated to Pakistan, but the Government of BJP and Shivsena remained for five years in Maharashtra, let any Muslim from Maharashtra say that he has to run from Maharashtra because the BJP or Shivsena Government is ruling over there. Let any Muslim in Uttar Pradesh say that he is leaving the State due to B.J.P. Government.

Sir, B.J.P. was in power for five years in Delhi, let any Muslim say that he has to leave Delhi, because he is a Muslim and here B.J.P. is in power. I went to Amarnath although it cannot be referred to here but I would link it. Incidentally on 14th August I was in Amarnath and on 15th in Srinagar. When I went to Amarnath temple I was surprised to find that there were a Thakur priest, a Brahmin and a Muslim. They met me and invited me to their camp for a cup of 'Kehwa'. They were very aged. Sir, on one side an environment is being created that Muslims of Kashmir do not wish to live in India. But, this is not so. The person, provided by the Government to accompany me, was a Muslim. He used to tell me that he saw divine grace in me that is why he respected me. I could see that in comparison to other V.I.Ps. he could shower more love on me and respect me a lot. Although, it would be out of reference but I would like to tell you that it was quoted in a local newspaper that when pilgrims in Pahalgam were attacked, invaders came from inside the Jammu & Kashmir police regret this allegation levelled against them that they sympathise with the terrorists. This allegation has demoralised them.

Therefore, I would like to tell as the Members present here in the House and the press that although majority of the people in Jammu and Kashmir is Muslim but they are not with the terrorists. They are fighting with the terrorists in the like manner as are the jawans personnels of other armed forces. Even their wives are becoming widows and their children becoming orphans.

Sir, terrorism has a span and after some time it dies its own death. It is of age in Kashmir and it is about to meet its death. When some one dies, a good pandit is also to perform the last rites and I feel it is through hon'ble Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, the last rites of terrorism in Kashmir are to be performed.

In such a scenario in the States where BJP backed governments were ruling neither the communal riots took place nor the Hindu Muslim relations deteriorated. That to in a situation when the BJP government is in the Centre and hon. Advani ji, against whom the Ayodhya case is pending in the saddle, the relations between Hindu Muslims in the country are cordial and solution of Kashmir problem is in sight a new issue has cropped up of tension between Hindus and Christians.

Hon. Sangmaji mentioned my name in his speech. I never disclose whom I worship incidently he was accusing RSS just like hon. Suman ji has accused the RSS of creating bitterness against the sikhs. Hon. Sumanji is not present here. He left the House after delivering speech. He is not aware of the fact that during the 1984 riots

when the Congress workers in Delhi were brutally burning sikhs and their children by dousing with petrol and by throwing their kids petrol tankers it was the sangh office which came to their rescue. Swayam sevaks were rescuing sikh man, women and children by risking their lives. The House is a august place ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is not yielding. No. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, if she is yielding, then you can do it. She is not yielding.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: I will not yield, Sir. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is not yielding. How can I give the floor to you?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Sir, that what I would like to submit that some people wanted to derive a wedge between Hindu and Christians I keep the photo of Jesus Christ along with the photo of lord Krishna in my room. I don't want to make it public. Religion is a very personal thing. You cannot pressurise anybody to follow any religion and nor you possess a right that because I follow this religion, that's why I am better than you and so on. That's what my religion has taught me. I would like to quote a couplet about this "Sajda ye isq ki tasdeek gawahi ke liye. khak mathe par lagi ho ye zasoori to nahin." Religion is not a matter of showcasing. I found this a very unfortunate day because today christians were talking in favour of Christians, Hindus for Hindus and Muslims for Muslims. If you believe this country secular then Hindu should have spoken in favour of Christianis and Christians in favour of Hindu. If Madam Margaret Alva ji will speak here then it will do no good and same is the case when Uma Bharati will speak in favour of Hindus. If the House wants to reflect its secular character then this tradition should be changed a little. I always reiterate this and also proposed the same in the House time and again that being a Hindu I have a right to move this proposal in the House and not a single Hindu will object because the Hindu religion is the only religion which accepts reforms. The spokesman of Samajwadi party was saying a very good thing, that even today many people were barred from entering the temples. Even I have seen this, but there are people who are trying to reverse this tradition.

They are fighting to seek permission for entry into the temples. There were times when even women were not allowed to utter 'Om'. Read Vedas or chanting gayatri mantra but today they are doing everything. Nobody can stop them. Whoever tries to stop them is criticised. A couple of years back the sankaracharya of Jagannathpuri has said, that women have no right to learn Vedas but Hindus from all over the country criticised him for this statement. Such reforms can only be seen in Hinduism. Thus, any religion which is reformative is welcomed and is hailed by the reformers. I am not saying this because I am a Hindu. I have also condemned the statement of Sankaracharya of Jagannathpuri I questioned him for saying this thing. One of his representative retorted that if the women start learning Vedas and Mantras it will put damaging effect on their uterus. I said that, then why don't this practice has a damaging effect on the heart of men. There should be no discrimination between the men and women. My statement was praised. No phatwa was issued against me for criticising him. Nobody came out to kill me and I don't have to hide myself. Later on I would come to issue of simmering tension between Hindus and Christians. No such idea should arise in the minds of Hindus which will hurt them. Nobody should feed bad about my statement and kindly do not interrupt me. Jagannathpuri is a place where no atheist is allowed to enter. There is a Muslim priest in Amamath. Hindus are admitting this with great pride and they are happy about it. I would like to ask whether anybody will dare to propose a Hindu priest in Mecca and Madina? Can you imagine what sort of heartburing it will lead to? What I have just said may not be appreciated by my party. Hindus are secular and they should be respected for this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not highly educated. A Biology professor brings frogs, snails and rabbits in the lab for experiments. Lion are not brought for experiments. Hindus should not be made to feel that all the experiments are being done on them, because if they are put in the category of earth worm, frog and rabbits then this could arise in their minds. If we keep on cracking jokes about them and do not hail their secularism then they might start thinking that to end this behaviour of people I should start dominating others only then this practice will come to an end.

I am a sannayasi. After renouncing world I joined a very big sect. My guru is a renowned acharya of South India. I would like to move a proposal on behalf of the Hindus. I know that nobody will go against my proposal because Hindu welcome reforms that's why atleast Hindus are not going to oppose it. I would hail if this proposal comes from my colleagues Margret Alva ji, Sangama ji

[Kumari Uma Bharati]

and the veteran hon. Member sitting here. The proposal is that religion will no more be debated in India. People should feel free to follow any religion. Nobody in the country should be called Hindu, Christian and Muslim. We have to groom such citizens who are not identified by their religion or caste. People should be free to visit any place of worship. I go to church. It is difficult for me to go to mosque because people will not appreciate my feelings and make fun of me.

I go to church because I like it. I submit that we should develop such human beings in India who are beneficence like Hindus have social service like Christians, faith like Muslims, large-heartedness like Buddhist and non-violence like Jains. Thus, such man is groomed who has the qualities of all religions. A person who is not identified by his religion. A person who is not identified by his religion. If the entire House agrees with me then we can promote this in whole country but I know that...

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): This proposal was mooted by Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore some 60 years back that's why I respect it.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Nobody will oppose this proposal. The entire House will agree with this.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I would appreciate if the entire House will support this proposal.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank my colleagues Shrimati Alva and Shri P.R. Dasmunsi for facilitating this proposal. I would like to submit that when hon. Mrs. Alva was quoting from the literature she explained that how the foul words against Christian missioneries are being spread. However, I would like to quote that very same literature to put across the point that how the Hindus were being targetted. Perhaps you will also condemn it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Satyavrat ji had been elected from the Khajuraho constituency, which is my old constituency on Congress ticket. There is a district called Raigarh in Madhya Pradesh. An incident took place in a school there. All the children of the school visited Bhopal... (Interruptions) Please listen carefully. After that I will accept any punishment which is given by you. These children narrated in front of the Press and Public that how the Christian principal of that school defamed Geeta and Ramayana and described Rama as devil and Krishna of loose character and loafer as well as the patient of AIDS because he was crazy of women. At that time not a single person of Congress party, Samajwadi party, Bahujan Samaj party, Communist Party (M) condemned

this act. What were the consequences of this? Hindus felt that they are like earth worms and a matter of ridicule. Nobody responded at that time. If anybody condemns by religion then I will speak. Besides RSS and VHP nobody protested. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have got the literatures, with me which describes Sai Baba as insane, Mata Amritanandmayi as mentally retarded, whom millions of people worship as their guru.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: They are highly mischievous persons who have uttered such things. I on my behalf and on behalf of my party urge Advani ji to take action against the persons making such statements. Such action should be taken against them.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Please take action against them. I would request the Home Minister to arrest those persons who have said this.

[Translation]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): You have given a very good speech. Please don't stoop low.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: I would like to tell you that the people who were apprehended belong to an organisation called the Deendar Anjuman. They were apprehended in Karnataka where the BJP is not ruling. I was watching the news on television at 2 p.m. in which it was reported that an Air Force Officer, though his name was not mentioned was caught for distributing the anti Christians literature. He was working as an agent and his name might appear in the evening news which may expose his activities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a conspiracy to create disturbances in the country. For the last 50 years attempts are being made to create divide among Hindus and Muslims.

How to develop insecurity in the minds of the Muslims. But liberal Muslims of this country have always tried to make people of their community understand this fact and it cemented ties of Muslims with this country and they were never provoked.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was spell bound while listening to the speech of Shri Farukh Abdullah. I remember every sentences of it and believe me I almost cried. Mr. Farukh Abdullah warned Pakistan that he himself is a Muslim and recites Namaj and thus is a devout Muslim. He was saying that he is a Hindustani Muslim and he will remain a Hindustani Muslim and he will remain a Hindustani Muslim and never ever could

become a Pakistani Muslim. He expressed his views on 15th August and very few people were present in Bakshi stadium at that time due to the tension in the town. All the people present there clapped vociferously after his speech and all of them were Muslims. That shows that they were in agreement with his views. In last fifty years the efforts to create tension between Hindu and Muslims failed. After the partition of India a good number of Muslims were left in the country. They stayed here not because they thought that Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi, Margaret Alva, Chandrashekhar, V.P. Singh, George Fernandes or Advani ji will save them or the military and police will protect them, but they had more faith on their Hindu neighbours rather than Pakistani Muslims. That's why they decided to stay here in India in good number. Their stay in India has become a challenge for some people and they have tried their best to provoke Muslims. But their efforts failed. Provocative speeches were given even in Parliament to no avail. One of our senior colleagues gives such speeches. If some people can manage it then the people of whole country will be provoked. But it never happened, because Muslims care for their livelihood and do not pay heed to these speeches. When this effort failed in last 50 years so now these people are trying to provoke Christians because it is a very peace loving community. Nobody can suspect their patriotism. I am nobody to issue certificates and even they said that they don't need any such certificate or licence. There is no licence for patriotism. Opportunities came when nation demands sacrifice and whoever withstood the test is the only certificate or licence one can give. I urge you people to go deep into such incidents and try to see the conspiracy behind these incidents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whatever was said by S.K. Jain and B.L. Sharma was reported by newspapers again and again. I would like to appeal to the media people that the glorification of such statements is dangerous for the country. The role of two people is of immense responsibility one of politician and the other of journalist. They should take their role seriously. The exaggeration of any statement may prove to be dangerous. I don't know whether there is any exaggeration of the statement of Mr. S.K. Jain and B.L. Sharma or some exaggeration has taken place. But I know one thing that Dara was reported to be an activist of Bajrang Dal and R.S.S. A separate Enquiry Commission, which was not at all politically influenced, has stated in its report that Dara was neither associated with RSS nor with Bajrang Dal. Then other issues came up. Therefore, I would urge the Government and hon'ble Home Minister that do not delay in investigating these incidents and collect information about every incident from every corner of India and get them investigated individually. Take the case of Jhabua incident. When the incident took place in Jhabua, it was

said that some Hindus have raped Christian nuns on the behest of RSS. But the facts proved to be otherwise, some of the culprits were Christians and some were found to be Congress activists and those poor nuns..(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Absolutely wrong. Umaji, we agreed to your proposal. ... (Interruptions) We agreed to your proposal wherein action was sought against those persons who levelled charges against Hindus. I too agreed to your proposal. I would like to ask..

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Kumari Uma Bharati says.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Finally, I would conclude with a request to hon'ble Home Minister. ... (Interruptions) There is a chopai in Tulsidas's Ramcharitmanas. I would like to conclude after reading out that Chopai and explaining the meaning thereof. I would like hon'ble Advaniji to listen to it carefully since these incidents are very delicate ones. I would request all hon'ble Members to take these incidents very seriously. It is a conspiracy to destabilise our country. And if it is proved that any worker of RSS or Bajrang Dal was involved in these incidents, then I myself would hang him till death in the lawns of Boat Club. But, let it be proved first, least it turns out to be false propaganda similar to that of Dara Singh, as in the olden days, Ayodhya too had people like Manthra and Kekai. I do not say that cent percent people in an organisation are innocent. The culprit will definitely be nabbed and our Government is not going to spare him. Once he is traced out, we are not going to spare him. Take it for granted that I and people like Shri Vinay Katiyar will punish him with our own hands. Now, I would conclude with reading out a chopai from Ramcharitmanas. This, I am reading out for hon'ble Home Minister and Union Government, as well.

"Jini Shishu tan vran hoi Gusain,
Maat Chinau Kathin ki nain."

This means that if a boil strikes a handsome and tender child and its poisonous infection spread, throughout the body, then the mother gets him operated in such a manner so that no scar is left on any part of child's body and the child does not feel pain also. I would like to urge the hon'ble Home Minister that to efforts are being made to create tension among Hindus and Christians

[Kumari Uma Bharati]

and efforts are also being made to prove that Hindus are attacking Christians, these are as good as coming up of new boils on the tender body of Mother India. Therefore, these incidents should be treated in the same way as a mother gets operated her child who is suffering from boils. In this way, Central Government can ensure cordial relations between Hindus and Christians and stability can be maintained in the country. This problem should be tackled in this way.

Finally on the on set of 21st century, you may wish that India may prosper, peace and love amongst one another may prevail and we may not politicise such incidents. There are several other issues which can be politicised. Hon'ble Members may raise other issues in the House, because such petty issues tarnish our image at international level. Therefore, such issues should not be projected in such a manner which may tarnish India's image throughout the world. It is a delicate issue. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: The operation should be carried so skillfully that it leaves no scar on RSS. Kindly be careful and show this much affection..
(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you since you have given me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The reply will be given tomorrow at two o'clock. All the speakers will participate in the debate today itself.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by making this announcement, you are reducing the number of Members present in the House. If you had not made this announcement, everybody will be waiting here to listen to the reply. Now, many Members will go away after making their speeches.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Sir, today this House is discussing atrocities committed on religious and linguistic minorities in this country.

19.44 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

I am in a dilemma as to how to start my speech. If I turn each and every page of the last 53 years of History, then this House will run short of time and the narration too will become a lengthy one.

However, I start my speech with a reference to Shri Malhotra's speech wherein he has said that in no country of the world so much facilities are provided to minorities as are being provided in India. He also made a reference of Minorities Commission and Minority Financial Institutions.

Madam, I have to submit with anguish that it is very sad that some people in this country feel that they are donor and others are donees. It is not proper to say that we have provided so many facilities to the minorities in India. Who are you to provide them? In this country, who gives anything to whom? Everyone is equal in this country.

Madam, Shri Malhotraji has compared Madrsas as of Pakistan with Madrsas in India. At that moment I wanted to say something but some of my colleagues interrupted and said that whenever any reference to Pakistan is made, it straight away pinches you. In fact, it is really agonising. I do not know how many Swayam sevaks fought for India's freedom. Hon'ble Home Minister has left but I want to tell him that he can find out from the documents that my father was a freedom fighter. He fought for the freedom of our country. When RSS was supporting Britishers, my father was fighting against them for country's freedom. If you do not believe, you may go through the records..(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Madam, his statement that, "RSS was supporting Britishers" should be expunged from records...(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Madam Chairperson, he is mistaken. It may be Rastriya Sewa Dal or Congress Sewa Dal which supported Britishers..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will have it looked into.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: We do not have to know the names. History of RSS is not hidden from anyone. You talk of Gandhi ji and avoid talking about Godse as to which organisation or party he belonged to. ... (Interruptions) You do not discuss about him. Everyone keeps silence when his name is referred to.

Madam, India is a secular country and Hindus play a major role in maintaining it as a secular nation. Hinduism is another name of tolerance. Hinduism has an open heart and a liberal mind. But it is a misfortune of this country that there are some such organisations in this country who act against Hinduism and grab power

in the name of Hinduism and they create a wall between Hindus, Muslims and Christians of this country.

Madam, had this country been declared a Hindu Rashtra on 15 August 1947, none would have objected because minorities were so much frightened that none would have dared to raise a voice of dissent. But our leaders took a well thought decision and declared it a secular state. If you compare India with other neighbouring countries who get independence during same period, you will see that India is much ahead of others and India has made tremendous progress.

Irrespective of the party ruling at centre, India is far ahead of many countries in the world. It is because follower of many religions live in India and despite that it is a secular country. Because it is a secular state, India is progressing very fast. Had it been a fundamentalist state or had it been declared a Hindu Rashtra, it would not have progressed so much.

This country is progressing because it is a secular state. In fact, the number of such secular persons in India is very less who create a wall of hatred in the name of Hinduism between different communities and their sole objective is to grab power. It is not the issue as to how much secular you call yourself or how much secular we call ourselves. No one can give a certificate of secularism to other. None can call himself a secular. But if one wants to obtain a certificate of secularism, it has to be obtained from minorities in India irrespective of what you call yourself. Are you saviour of minorities? Are you protecting Christians, Muslims and other people? In this regard, none can believe you throughout the world. If it is to be behind, it will have to be confirmed from minorities in the country whether the Government is protecting them or not. I would like to tell you that there are several leaders of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal or Bhartiya Janata Party when they appear on TV screen, heart beat of minorities increase, they get afraid. Why it is so in this country? Why you have created a wall of hatred in this country and as long as this wall of hatred exists, the minorities of this country cannot trust you. What is the reason that we hear a tale of terror only from minorities and they are not ready to accept that crimes are not committed against them. Not a single Member of this House has said that crimes are not committed in this country.

Just now Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev ji gave an excellent elaboration but I would like to ask hon'ble Home Minister seriously that why a single Christian is not ready to claim in the House that no crime is being committed against them in this country and during last two years nothing of that sort has happened with them. Not a single

Member from minority community or any Muslim Member is ready to say that crimes are not being committed against them. Why, today others are compelled to say on their behalf? Believe it, until and unless any Muslim, Christian or Sikh himself says that no crime is committed against them none is going to trust the other. ...*(Interruptions)* See inside you and you will get its reply.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Gonda): You tell us.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Under the rights of your Government, whatever happened in Jamia Millia. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Did we do that Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Government was in power at that time. We raised Shah Bano's issue. ...*(Interruptions)* Judgement of Supreme Court was reversed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: What have you to do with Shah Bano, under this Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Every time you raise this issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: We listen you patiently, now you listen it patiently. The problem is that you are not in habit of listening the truth...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: First you speak the truth then we will listen to you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: You do not have courage to listen to the truth...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you disturbing? Even otherwise, time is very less. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You speak later on. I would call you also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: His way of talking is compelling us to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You look at the Chair and speak addressing the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Whatever happened in Jamia Millia during the reign of this Government is not a small issue. The issue regarding Jamia Millia was raised in the

[Shri Rashid Alvi]

House. I do not want to reiterate anything but that time also. I had requested hon'ble Home Minister to visit Jamia Milia and meet the students who are like his children. How bad it is that you throw them from third floor and put innocent children in Tihar Jail. You break their hands and legs and then put them behind the bars and also ordered an inquiry against them. And even after that you expect them to be patriotic. How it is possible. Will those children not develop sense of hatred. That time also I had said that some Government representative should visit Jamia. It would be better if Home Minister could visit.

I don't want to tell anything about Bal Thakery Saheb, lest you start shouting at me...*(Interruptions)*

I do not want to say anything with regard to fear. ...*(Interruptions)*

But I would say that Bal Thakery Saheb made a statement. I have no concern as to how the FIR was, whether it was wrong or right...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Matter relating to Shri Krishna report is pending in the Court. If you discuss that issue, I am ready to reply. But would you allow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please donot go into the matter relating to court. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Earlier also I have told that I am not interested in the contents of FIR. But I am definitely concerned about the statement that entire country will be put on fire, "because it will affect the common person only. Common man will be compelled to think that law of this country is only for poor people like us and not for rich persons. Law takes its own course but if the attempts are made to interfere in course of the law in this manner then its consequences will be disastrous. Whatever happened with the minorities in Mumbai...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN You speak later on let him conclude his speech. You please conclude your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I want to tell you seriously that rise above party politics and then see this matter. If any portion of body gets any disease first it is got treated. Until and unless minorities in India are made strong the country cannot become strong. Bhagwan Shri Krishna has said in Gita that there are two methods of running the Government and politics is of two types. One type of

politics is for the country and other type is for the king. Loyalty in the politics for the country and for the king also differs. I would like to tell you that do politics for the country but not for the king or the party or the Sangh Parivar. Do it for the country. If you do politics for the country you will be royal towards the country and it will always be right. And a right approach will be called right and the wrong will be called always wrong. You cannot oppress one for long. Oppression is after all oppression. When it increase it also comes to an end. It does not have a longer life. I would urge the Government to pay attention towards what has been happening with minorities in this country. I would like to ask the Government the number of employees belonging to minority class among the total number of Government employees during last 52-53 years and what is their percentage today. How many per cent muslims are in Defence, Government and police services. Hardly two per cent of them are in Government service. Malhotra ji was telling that population of Muslims has increased by 8 to 12 per cent. If it increased by 8 to 12 percent then why their percentage in Government service did not increase. Why their strength is less? What is the reason, whether there is any discrimination or not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): Since you donot educate them, instead you put them in factories right from beginning, so how will they get government service...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I accept your version that there is lack of education among Muslims, but tell me what is the percentage of Muslim among peons since no qualification is required for peon...*(Interruptions)* My brethern, you will have to give them a place in your hearts. If you want to strengthen the country you will have to solve these problems. Still, if I take your view that there is a lack of education amongst Muslims and they put them in factories right from beginning, it will further weaken the country, since educating those children is not the responsibility of Rashid Alvi alone, it is the responsibility of you all.

2000 hrs.

If I agree to what you say, you will have to come forward and do everything since you are in the Government. Putting allegation and counter allegation is not going to help in any way. The third point I would like to raise is regarding the condition of minorities in Uttar Pradesh. I would like to tell hon'ble Home Minister that every now and then, the name of ISI and Pakistan is taken in the House and outside also and it is said that ISI or Pakistan have done this and that. I would like to ask that even if such is the case, then what our

Government is doing. Be it western U.P. or South India, whatever happens we put blame either on ISI or Pakistan and escape the responsibility, If anything happens in Kashmir, such as bunkers are constructed, Amarnath Pilgrims are killed or sikhs are killed, we say it has been done by Pakistan. I want to ask what our Government is doing? Whether the Government has no foresightedness. A thinker has said that the Government, the king or the Prime Minister who has no foresightedness, no thought, has no right to stay in power. You may commit a mistake once but not everytime. How it is possible that ISI agents are wondering throughout the country and our Government is sitting idle. Shri Malhotra has left the House. ISI agents are there is all the Madrasa along Nepal Border and the children studying in Madarsas become ISI agents later on. I want to tell you that they do not know what happens in Madarsas. I am sad to tell you that though they talk about Madarsas but infact children coming out of these Madarsas are not even able to earn their livelihood. I myself want that good education should be imparted in these Madarsas. I want that commercial classes should be conducted in these Madarsas so that children coming out of these Madarsas could get jobs outside. But, how unfortunate it is that the Government do not know what happens in the Madarsas and how it all happens. I would like to request hon'ble Home Minister to ask the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh as to how many Madarsas and Mosques he has visited personally and found ISI agents staying in those, as hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has alleged and to inform the House about it. You tell the name of any Mosque or Madarsas where you have caught ISI agents. Then I will accept it but we are not going to get any result through the propoganda carried out by newspapers. This sort of things will only increase the difference between Hindus and Muslims and a wall of hatred will come up between them which will not only destroy you and me but entire nation as well. Therefore, baseless talks are not going to solve any problem.

The law enacted in Uttar Pradesh with regard to Madarsas should be withdrawn. Hon'ble Home Minister I want to tell you that in Uttar Pradesh it is very difficult to construct a Mosque. Come along, I can show you practically. It is not a matter of pride for this nation where the two community often clashes in the name of Mandir and Mosque. After enactment of this law five persons cannot offer prayer (Namaj) together. Five persons together cannot offer namaj by spreading Jajma. If five persons want to say Allahu-Akbar in this country, they will have to take permission from District Collector...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alvi ji, you conclude your speech. It is getting late. Do not get into arguments. You please address the chair. This all will not go in records.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sit down and allow him to conclude it is already 2000 hrs. There are several other members to speak, let it be concluded. You give your name, we will give you an opportunity to speak. You may give your name through your whip...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have spoken more than half an hour.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: If they allow me to speak. I will conclude within five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You conclude your speech. It is already too late.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: If hon'ble Home Minister permits me I can provide the name of those Mosques in Uttar Pradesh, especially in my constituency Amroha in construction of which lots of hurdles were created. If may help you in solving that problem. After citing an incident I will conclude my speech.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: After ISI's protest.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I have already told that ISI agents should be severely dealt with in this country. Enact a law which provides for shooting down or hanging of an ISI agent in Connaught Place if he is caught spying in India. At the same time I would like to say that innocent persons should not be treated as ISI agent. There is a place called Joya in my constituency. One day Delhi crime Branch arrested one person from a main road in that village and locked him up naming him an ISI agents. From Joya to Delhi there are ten police station in a distance of 125 kms. Not a single police station was informed as to where from this person was arrested.

They went there in plain clothes and brought him here. At present he is locked up in Jammu jail. They failed to level any charge against him. He has been imprisoned on false charges. I personally know that he does not have any relation with that incident. Such incidents are on the increase in Muzaffarpur and Muradabad districts of Western U.P. day by day. For on personal vendata they lock up the people branding them I.S.I. agents. Home Minister should pay attention towards it. Consequences of branding innocent Muslims as I.S.I. agents would be advert.

[Shri Rashid Alvi]

Due to paucity of time, I will conclude my speech with this couplet:

"Khoon phir khoon hey tapkeyga to jam jayega,
Khoon phir khoon hay sao shakal badal sakta hay,
aisi shakaley ki mitao to mitaye na mitay,
aisey narey ki dabao to dabaye na dabey,
aisey sholey ki bujhao to bujhaiy na bujhe,
khoon phir khoon hay tapkeyga to jam jayega."

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri):
Madam Chairperson, atrocities are after all atrocities, whether committed on minorities or on majorities. We condemn it.

Madam Chairperson, we got the opportunity to listen to Shri Sangmaji in the House after a long time. He referred to about the special session of the House convened on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of our Independence. He praised the democracy of 50 years and gave a logic in this regard. More than 50 years have been passed and the democratic system is still existing in our country. Our democracy has been successful and is still existing even after 50 years because our Constitution has given enough protection and safeguards to minority communities and created a feeling of confidence in them. Madam, Chairperson, he has given this logic and I want to present his another logic with which I also agree that the people of majority community of our country have also respected and adopted the same Constitution which is the basis of our democracy. That's why democracy is still surviving even after passing of more than 50 years. There is a need to think about the second logic also...*(Interruptions)* They can't be convinced. Shri Sangma expressed his apprehensions in his speech. I was listening to him patiently and an apprehension came to my mind also that was he expressing his apprehensions or was he warning the Government? At this moment, Shri Sangma is not present in the House. He stated that Hindus live in various countries of the world. Temples and Gurudwaras are situated in various parts of the world. What will be the reaction of the world, if the attacks on christians are continued like this here. I do not understand as to what message Shri Sangma want to give to the world. Nobody has supported the attacks on christians. Not a single member of the House has supported it and nobody will do it in future also. Then what message Sangma ji want to give.

The second point he stated is that two communities in the world are going to fight against each other. One is Muslims and the other is christians, if they fight against each other what will be our position. I do not understand the rationale behind this logic. It does not have any concern with the incidents happened in the country.

Whenever any communal tension emerges or attempts on minority people are made, the responsibility is imposed upon people of majority community.

A reference was made of Shah Banu case during speech of Shri Alvi. He asked how Shah Banu case is concerned with these attacks? Shah Banu case does not have any concern with these affairs but it is very much related to the communalism. Congress Government had to yield before the verdict given by Supreme Court and the way people raised their protest against communalism. What is communalism? We would have to bear its consequences in future also. When we talk about communalism and secularism, we define differently as to who is secular and who is communal and who is minority.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to quote a paragraph published in "Rashtriya Sahara" under the caption "Alapsankhayak ki Paribhasha Kaun Tai Karey". As we are discussing this issue in the House, I think it necessary to quote it, "The word minority is being frequently used in country's politics. However, the word minority does not include christians, Parsies, Jains or Buddhist, it only includes Muslims i.e. majority amongst minority. Those religions which have not originated in India are considered as minority. The question is whether a state where minorities are decided on the basis of religion can be called a secular one. The concept of minorities should not be visualized from the community or sect point of view rather we should see it in totality. Why religion is the basis of identification of minorities? When the entire society is divided into various castes as per the recommendation of Mandal Commission and this has also been adopted in the National Policy, then why the minorities are classified on the basis of religion only? We should recognise the deprived classes or communities as minorities on local level. One particular caste may be in majority in one State but in minority in other state. Then the dispute of majority and minority will crop up on the basis of language. Bangla speaking people will be in minority in Tamil Nadu and Tamil speaking will be in minority in West Bengal. Other languages will also face the similar fate. It is an irony of fact that minorities have not been defined under any rule or law of the State. Although some protection and privileges have been provided to the minorities under Article 29 and 30 of our Constitution. Article 29(1) of our Constitution provides a privilege to the minority communities to safeguard their language, culture and script. It initially gives an impression that minorities are classified on the basis of language, script and culture. Upto this article our Constitution is secular but after this it no longer remains secular. For the first time in our Constitution minorities have taken classified on the basis of religion and language under

Article 30 and not on the basis of script and culture as mentioned in Article 29. It seems that makers of our Constitution have been religion, culture and community as synonym. Due to such complications since 1963 Supreme Court has not been able to give its verdict as to what would be the definition of minorities.

Madam Chairperson, when we talk about Jammu & Kashmir, we are called communal.

20.20 hrs.

[SHR: BABU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

All Hindu Pandits have migrated from Kashmir valley...*(Interruptions)* Not a single Pandit live there in Kashmir valley. Except Raja Maharajas and Government officials no common person remained there. The Hindus who have migrated from there were in minority but nobody raised their issue in the House, when we raise it, we are called communal and it is said that we are creating communal tensions...*(Interruptions)* They mould the definition as per their convenience and especially to get political mileage out of that...*(Interruptions)* Sir, these days attacks on christians are discussed every where. During the last one or two years, similar incidents were reported frequently in the newspapers. There is a need to ponder over the logic given by Uma Bharati also. Christian community is attached to the main-stream of the country. Riots between Hindus and Christians have never taken place earlier. This time also riots have not erupted between them. There is no such incident. only small and individual incidents have been reported. The need of the hour is to find out the culprit behind this conspiracy...

(Interruptions)

Sir, not a single incident has taken place in Mumbai, it has been reported in Gujarat only. And for that only the State Government is responsible. Previous Governments have held themselves responsible for such incidents. If any incident occurs in any State, the concerned State Government is held responsible for that. Whether those Governments have really taken up the responsibility of the incident. Responsibility is imposed on any Government only for getting political mileage...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am concluding soon.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the big nations of the world are aware of the fact that they can not extend their borders by means of wars. Then they turn towards religion for this purpose. On the issue of conversion of opposition have stated that conversion is not taking place on a large scale. But they agree to the fact that conversion is taking thought not on a large scale.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, can you give any example where Hindus have compelled the persons of other religions for conversion. Have you ever heard of any christian or muslim being converted into Hindu. Taking advantage of poverty, unemployment and backwardness, such people are being compelled to convert their religion. Anyone who raises voice against it, is called communal. However, conversion of poor people is a cruel joke with them...*(Interruptions)* We are not discussing this issue for the first time, every year we discuss it in the House. My submission is that we discuss this issue cutting across the party lines and find a solution, keeping aside the political gains and losses. Only then the incidents of atrocities on minorities or majorities can be controlled in the country.

(English)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I am not dithering to say that it is a disgrace of sort as today we are dwelling in on a sensitive issue regarding atrocities on linguistic and religious minorities, while standing at the dawn of Twenty-first Century, we are nurturing hope and new aspiration for future India.

Sir, it is quite paradoxical to note that on the one hand, we are bragging about the advancement of our country in the field of information technology, e-commerce, e-governance, digital convergence and so on, but on the other hand, a demented section of our society has been indulging in mayhem and depredation against linguistic and religious minorities, and relishing a devilish pleasure, especially on peaceful, law-abiding Christian minority and tribal population in India.

It is the pernicious outcome of the theory that is being propagated by the Sangh Parivar. That is, one man one nation and one culture.

Sir, the rights and freedoms of the Indian citizens have been enshrined in our Constitution. According to the Constitution, all persons are entitled to freedom of conscience; the right freely to practise, profess and propagate religion. In addition to that, any section of citizens residing in the territory of India or a part thereof, having a distinct culture, language and scripts of its own shall have the right to conserve it. I would like to quote what Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had said. 'Minorities in India are not racial minorities or national minorities as in Europe. They are all religious minorities'.

[Shri Adhir Chowdhary]

Sir, on the pretext of apprehending the ISI agents, the Muslim minority is being harassed and tortured. Political scores are being settled in this way. The name of the State, where it is being done, is obviously West Bengal. In the North-Eastern region, the linguistic minorities are facing the same mortification along with ethnic cleansing. The Hindu Minority in the Kashmir Valley has been systematically butchered and has been forced to leave the Valley. Already a massive exodus, a sort of Diaspora has taken place. But this Government has not yet taken any viable measure so as to ensure their return to the Valley. The driving force behind this sinister design is 'political Islam'.

Sir, this is the land of the Gita, the Unpanishad and the Tripitaka. Here, we are witnessing that thousands of copies of the Bible are being burnt into ashes. May I cite one Christian hymn? 'Lead kindly light amidst the encircling gloom'. This is the land that has been graced by Swami Vivekananda and Shankaracharya. But here we are observing that coffins of Catholic Christians are being pulled out of their graveyards on the excuse that the land is an illegal property.

Sir, this land is regarded as the cradle of most ancient and vibrant civilization in the world. But here in the name of conversion, in the name of *ghar wapsi*, tribal people are either being induced or are being threatened to get themselves converted into the Hindu religion. Those tribal people who have been worshipping their own God and practising their own animistic cultures for centuries are being forced to do this. This is the land of the Behula, Ahalya, Sita and Anusua. But here nuns are being raped and molested, the statue of Mother Mary is being desecrated.

The State of Gujarat has already been turned into a testing ground of *Hindu Rashtra*. The State Government of Gujarat is leaving no stone unturned in saffronising that State. You can observe that thousands of signboards are being erected in various villages in that State saying, 'You are welcome to the village of *Hindu Rashtra*'. Everybody in this House must admit that since the assumption of power by the NDA Government, atrocities and brutalities on religious minorities in the country have increased by leaps and bounds.

The Jag Mohan Reddy Commission Report of 1969 on the Ahmedabad riots; Madan Commission of 1970 on Bhiwandi riots; Justice Vithaythil Report of 1971 on Tellichery riots; Justice Jitendra Narain Report of 1979 on Jamshedpur riots; Justice Venugopal Report of 1982 on the riots in Kanyakumari; Citizens' Report of 1993 on Ayodhya; and the latest Srikrishna Commission Report on Mumbai riots, all vindicate the hand of Sangh Parivar

behind those riots. It will be a great folly if we gloss over the atrocities on religious and linguistic minorities by saying that it is a mere law and order problem.

The ideologues of *Sangh Parivar* compare the problem of Jews in Germany with the question of Muslims in India thus revealing the evolution of a concept of internal enemy, distinctly along the Fascist line. The Sangh Parivar is projecting India as a land of one religion and propagating that race spirit is a child of our religion. According to them, foreign races in Hindustan must either adopt Hindu culture and Hindu language, or may stay in India wholly subordinated to the Hindu Nation, claiming nothing, deserving no privileges, no preferential treatment and not even citizens' rights.

I would like to quote Swami Vivekananda. It has proved to the world that holiness, charity and purity are not the exclusive possession of any church in the world. He said, "Every system has produced men and women of the most exalted character. On the face of it, if anybody dreams of exclusive survival of its own and destruction of all others, I pity for them and point out to them that in spite of all resistance soon, upon the banner, of every religion will be written—help, not fight; assimilation, not destruction; peace and harmony, not dissension.

Finally, I would request the House to exert all endeavour in order to bring about peace and harmony in our country.

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN (Tiruchendur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Many speakers have spoken elaborately against the attacks on the minorities. I have my own views. I am from Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu, we have a different culture. We have inherited the Dravidian Movement which was sponsored by a great personality Periyar and our great leaders like Aringar Anna, and our dynamic leader Dr. Kalaingar stood for it.

In Tamil Nadu, there are no communal riots. There may be some isolated cases here and there, and that too because of personal differences. Suppose a person goes to a Christian institution demanding a seat, he may not be given a chance. Because of that he may make some mischief here and there. But on the whole, in Tamil Nadu, the culture is a little different. The people of Tamil Nadu want to live in peace. They want to live with communal understanding. But in other places, everybody knows what is the position. I need not elaborate much. It has been elaborated by many speakers.

The atrocities on minorities have been condemned by everybody. I very much appreciate our hon. Prime Minister for taking all possible efforts. I know all the

leaders of our country, particularly, the hon. Prime Minister are very much against the atrocities on minorities. Our hon. Prime Minister openly came forward to help the minorities. As minorities, we are very grateful to the leaders of our country and our State.

At the same time, there are some explanations for attacks on minorities like, it is an isolated case, or it is the activities of ISI and so on and so forth. So, it is the duty of the Government to see and brand them as anti-social elements. When we say that our country is a secular country, you must declare the culprits as anti-nationals. We must rather eliminate them, or we must eliminate that ideology from their minds. We must be very tough with these people who do all these dastardly things. Attacks on any religion of any person must be condemned.

I know, in the political arena, how some political leaders change their colours. When they are in the Opposition, they speak in different languages; when they occupy the position of the power, they speak in some other languages; and when they are with alliance, they speak differently in Tamil Nadu. But our leader Dr. Kalaingar gives importance to minorities, and under any circumstances, stands taller than anybody in this aspect or in this field.

So, I think that the leaders of other parties must learn from our dynamic leader Dr. Kalaingar to stand for the minorities and for the oppressed people. The so-called majority people have their own responsibilities in our country. Our country is known for its culture. It is very much appreciated all over the world. When we go abroad, they very much appreciate our culture and tolerance. When the Hindus are the majority people, they must hold the responsibility to help the minority people and create confidence in their minds and bring peace in this land.

Earlier, we used to talk about IQ and then EQ. But now, there is SQ. SQ means the spiritual quotient. As one sage has said, because of vested interests and ego, all these unwanted things are happening. We attack others. So, we must drive away the ego, the 'I', 'my religion', then only the God will enter our heart. So, all the people irrespective of majority or minority community accept this. We should shed the ego. Then only we can have the God in our hearts and bring prosperity, peace and happiness in our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur): Sir, will the Sikhs also participate in this debate?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Thank you.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Sir, will the Bodos also participate in this discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, whether I am going to get the opportunity to speak on this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody will get the opportunity?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, here we are discussing the atrocities on minorities. It is not only a matter of sorrow and concern but also of anger that the minorities are being attacked. Specially for a country which has always taken pride in being secular and in the fact that our constitution is secular and the interests of minorities are safe in our country it is a matter of regret that these activities are being down played by the Hon. Prime Minister in a manner that only minor incidents have taken place but they are not organised and has also assure that such attacks will not occur again. Both the sides in the House have accepted and is also proved by the data, that upto 1998 the atrocities on minorities specially on christians were absent but during the last few years have increased rapidly. What is the reason behind this? We have listened their arguments. They have tried to emphasise that Sangh Parivar is not responsible for it and they have also given certain examples in this regard. Some times they stress that it is a state matter and on the other hand they accept that conversions are taking place i.e. they are justifying atrocities because conversion are taking place. Surprisingly such dangerous utterances are going on that atrocities are acceptable due to conversion. Some people have given the example of Gujarat. Kindly tell whether the Government has failed or not. Who is responsible for the security of the people? Thus, if the data indicate and everybody agrees that the atrocities on minorities are increasing then the Government should accept that it has failed to provide security to the minorities. It is a pity that

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

some of the hon. Members belonging to the minorities have stated in their speeches that they are rated out second citizen treatment and they no longer believe that Government can provide security to them. It is not a minor thing that minorities lack faith in Government. Undoubtedly it is a matter of great concern. It's truly a bad thing as far as India is concerned. As there are countries who don't believe in secularism but for India it is a matter of embarrassment and pain. The Government don't have the courage because they cannot withstand the test of morality. The Minister of Home Affairs is guilty chargesheeted and accused of demolishing mosque. Thus, how can any minority could have faith in such Government? Some people say, that they believe in secularism, if you believe in secularism then who is the guilty? If you actually practise secularism then it will make our country proud but there should be no difference between preaching and practise. And they claim to be secular. Is it not really a funny thing?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is hypocrisy. That's why the country is facing the crisis which is a very dangerous thing. This is a secular country and nobody can deny it. Secularism is the basic tenet behind the unity of the country and there can't be no two opinions about it. Secularism is the force keeping the country well knit. This is the only basis on which you can think of a strong country. The lack of secularism will lead to the disintegration of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our great constitution makers felt this need and that's why they had enshrined the provision in the constitution but this Government cannot make any such claim. Nobody will take their statement seriously. That is the reason why this situation has developed. From the time their party came in power the minorities have started feeling insecure in India. This can be interpreted from their statements. What is the reason behind the attacks on minorities? Without finding the reason the remedy cannot be found out. Without finding the reason of any ailment the cure cannot be suggested. The atrocities on minorities are increasing. The figures doled out in the House indicate that atrocities on muslims and christians are decreasing under there rule. People emphasise that the persons committing atrocities have joined the Government. That's why the atrocities have declined. But I am stressing that the Government is not denying the fact that it has failed to provide security to the minorities and further no concrete assurance has been given by the Government that they will be secure in future.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when all the parties thought of supporting the Government then B.J.P. signed the common agenda, but I doubt whether the people of Sangh

Parivar have signed it or not because the B.J.P. cadres are free to speak or write anything. They are sticking to their old agenda. Now they are the people who are aware of the actual thinking behind all this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to conclude by giving an example. I studied a Sanskrit story in class tenth. Most probably the people of all States must have read it. There was an old banyan tree. There lived an old vulture named Zardago. Various birds used to live on that tree. That old vulture was their king and was responsible for their security and well being. That's why all the birds used to respect that vulture. One day a tom cat named Deerghkarna Bilar came there. He said, today is ekadashi fast that's why I will not eat meat. So please give me shelter. The birds were very kind hearted. Being very straight & simple they believed him and offered him shelter on the tree. Everyday when all the birds used to fly for their daily meals that cat used to eat the eggs and their off springs. Gradually the number of birds started decreasing. On enquiry it was discovered that Deerghkaran Bilar is guilty and was caught. Sangh Pariwar is just like Deerghkaran Bilar. They are the people who are behind the riots, disturbances, removing article 370 or to bring common civil code. And claim to offer solutions of all the ills afflicting the society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding with this, that the people of Sangh Parivar are hypocrite like Deerghkaran Bilar who preach and practise differently. They claim to be secular but contrary is correct. That is the reason why as long as they remain in power the minority community will not be secure...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, upto what time the House will sit? I would like to know whether Government has made arrangements for food. The employees commute from far off places, they should be provided something to eat?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are only three-four members to speak. The discussion will soon be over.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Nothing will be achieved by merely discussing it in the House. When the secularism will be strengthened only then India will become strong and number one country in the world. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except. Dr. Bikram Sarkar's speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR (Panskura): Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion on the atrocities of minorities. India's age old tradition is of faith in unity in diversity and the philosophy of secularism, tolerance and communal harmony. It is in this context that the subject of atrocities on minorities is being discussed. I had the occasion and opportunity of seeing this from the other side as a civil servant in the State Government as well as in the Central Government. Now, I have the opportunity as a Parliamentarian. I find that every year we discuss this particular subject and go back to our homes fully satisfied that something would be done. So far as Christians are concerned in India they are feeling insecure. As it appeared from the speech of Shrimati Margaret Alva and Shri Purno A. Sangma, there is general feeling that the Christians in India are feeling insecure.

I agree with Shri Sangma when he says that justice should not only be done but should also appear to have been done. There is a responsibility on all of us. We should rise above party politics. It is a fact that the Christians, unfortunately, are feeling isolated from the mainstream. They are very much a part of our country. They are Indians as much as the rest of them are. We demand that all-out efforts should be made to give them all security and protection that is needed. Some other sects and segments, like Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, are also victims of atrocities. So are the Muslims and Sikhs. So far as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned, now we have a National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A few years ago, we had a Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Their Annual Reports are not even discussed. This is given the lowest priority. The result is that we do not come to know the mind of Parliament and the House as to how they are reacting to those Reports and its recommendations.

I had the occasion to privately visit Keonjhar district after Mr. Stein's murder. It was very sad. When I went there I found that the tribals, as everywhere else, are not taken care of. The State Government has miserably failed to take care of the developmental aspects of the poor Scheduled Tribes in that part of Orissa. I made it known to my leader and my leader conveyed it to the Home Minister. The projects and schemes meant for their economic development had been diverted and the people did not get benefit out of these schemes and projects.

21.00 hrs.

This may be one of the reasons why they were taken care of by the Christian missionaries or others. Maybe, it is one of the reasons or factors for drawing them towards

Christianity and some of them got converted into the Christianity. If it is said that there is no conversion in the country that would be blasphemy. There are conversions. Even in the reports of the late '80s, we find proselytization in certain parts of India including Tamil Nadu. But some how these reports were not even discussed.

So far as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned, they are the poorest of the poor. Whenever they try to assert their rights which are given to them by the Constitution, they are harassed and atrocities are perpetrated on them on some occasion or the other. If they show the temerity to demand the rights and the benefits provided by the Constitution, they are made victims of atrocities.

Shrimati Margaret Alva was mentioning about civil servants. This is unfortunate that the entire blame is put on civil servants and the political leaders go scot-free. Irrespective of political parties, they put blame on them. I have seen how they behave. I would say that we cannot escape or shy away from our responsibilities. That is why, on behalf of my party, I would say that this should be kept above party politics. We must look at it as a source to find out what the reasons are. As I have said, our philosophy is secularism, tolerance and communal harmony. My Party, Trinamool Congress is a firm believer in this.

Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev talked about linguistic minorities of certain parts of Assam. There are manifestations of this in different parts. Kashmir valley has been mentioned. That is also one of the things. But we must go into the root causes of these things instead of paying lip service only. For that, we must do a little bit of heart searching to find out what exactly we want to do. Shrimati Alva was mentioning many things. She ended her speech by quoting Kavya Guru Tagore. I hasten to say — even though it is not really connected with this — that this was censored in the press when emergency was there. It is said: "held head high without any fear". But it is very difficult, particularly for those who are dispossessed and who are at the receiving end.

Sir, before I conclude, I bring to the notice of this House the atrocities perpetrated on the Muslims and Scheduled Castes in Birbhum. I have authenticated the names of those persons. I would place it on the Table of the House. I read out the names and one can easily find out which community they belong to. They are Raja Sheikh, Ali Hussain, Nijam Sheikh, Rasool Baksh, Sheikh Saboor, Sheikh Shaffiq, Harai Sheikh and one Scheduled

[Shri Vikram Sarkar]

Castes or may be Scheduled Tribe called Saran Mehta and again Ashraf Sheikh, Sheikh Shaffiq, Sheikh Salamat. I have authenticated this list and I am submitting it to the House. Along with this, I am also submitting a report consisting of 1500 names whose houses were looted and burnt. I have authenticated this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, those who were killed and arrested belong to the same community. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR: Sir, they are from different parts of the State including Midnapore from where I have been elected. Sir, the minorities including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being butchered in West Bengal. Sir, as I said, we want to keep it above politics. The hon. Home Minister is here and I would request him to intervene. Sir, I am submitting this authenticated copy for the record.* ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, ... *...*
(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, he should withdraw those words and apologise. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: *...* ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: *...*
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go through the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR: Sir, I need your protection. What does he mean when he says like that?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there is anything unparliamentary, it will be expunged. Please take your seat, Dr. Bikram Sarkar.

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR: So, Sir, you feel that there is something to expunge.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, if there is anything unparliamentary. Now, Shri Golam Osmani may speak.

+The papers sought to be laid on the Table not treated as papers laid on the Table.

**Expunged as ordered by the Clair.

*Not recorded.

SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI (Barpeta): Mr. Chairman Sir, it is a long discussion in which very many Members have projected their views on this subject. I would take up only one issue. If the Government, at the persuasion or pressure of reactionary forces, becomes nervous and takes steps, it would lead to destabilisation. The case of Assam is the most pertinent one. The agitation in Assam was basically due to some racial problem. What is happening in Tripura? The Bengalis have become the majority there in course of time and now, the tribals are agitating. That is understandable. In Assam also, in the course of 80 years, various types of people, including Muslims, Nepalis and others, went there and made their habitation. So, naturally, there was a reaction. In short in 1980s, there was a movement designating them as foreigners and that they should be driven out. Very many Muslims were forcibly turned out of Assam. At that time, it was realised that the so-called deportation by police will not be legal and that it will create some complication.

Then the question of application of Foreigners' Act came. Then the foreigners' order was issued in 1964 whereby tribunals were instituted. Till then, by the end of 1970s, the problem was more or less over. During Assam agitation, the same question again came up. Ultimately, there was a settlement, that is, the Assam Accord wherein it was decided, in the wisdom of people in the Government as well as in the Opposition, that 1971 had to be the cut-off year and those who came between 1966 and 1971 were placed in a separate category. They were treated as Indian citizens but they were disenfranchised for 10 years.

To give effect to this position of Assam Accord, two legal provisions were made. One of the provisions was, necessary amendments were made in the Citizenship Act whereby 1966-71 stream was placed and for those who came after 1971, a separate law was made. That is called the Illegal Migrants Determination by Tribunal) Act of 1983. That was the condition and the agitators who came to power in Asam in 1985 not only signed the Accord but also agreed to it and then some amendments were made.

After that, they said that there are 60 lakh foreigners, but they miserably failed to come nearer to that figure. I would like to quote only some figures here for the perusal of the Home Minister to understand as to why this demand for the abrogation of the IM(DT) Act is made. In the statement made under the IM(DT) Act, the total number of cases inquired by the police and finalised during 1986 and 1993 was 2,87,625. But previously also, a lot of harassment was made by the police.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Sir, kindly give me few minutes more.

So, it was referred to a scrutinising body comprising of DC and SP who are required, under the IMDT Act, to refer to the Tribunal. Out of 2,87,000 cases, only 28,000 cases were referred to the Tribunal and 2,50,000 cases were left out. You can imagine the extent of harassment that was meted out to the people. Out of 28,000 cases referred to the Tribunal, 26,000 cases were disposed of and only 2,000 were found as foreigners. This is why the IMDT Act has to go. Whoever the police think as foreigners, they serve notice to them under the Foreigners Act and they say that they have to be deported. This is against all notions of fair play and justice. Therefore, I would request the Home Minister to examine this problem very thoroughly before deciding anything about the IMDT Act.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for permitting me to participate in this discussion. At the outset, I want to say that clashes and atrocities have occurred in our country a number of times. We have discussed here only about the atrocities on religious minorities and only few speakers have spoken about the problems of linguistic minorities. There are instances of class and caste conflict too. Democratic temper is developing at a very slow pace.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to some years back. The word which has been repeatedly used here is 'secularism'. When did this word come into existence? Did our nation use this word from the immemorial? The word which has been used in the Constitution is *dharmanirpeksha*. We have been repeatedly uttering it as *panthnirpeksha*. In a number of speeches made outside, it is uttered as *sampradayanirpeksha*. But what is the true character of this so-called 'secularism' in the context of our nation which is built up with so much of sacrifice? When we go back 5,000 years ago, I would like to ask whether there were no clashes between different communities. There were clashes in those days also. During Raja Vartihari and Vikramaditya's time, in the 5th Century A.D., a number of clashes were taking place. When did the Hindu concept come into existence? When did *Ganpatya*, *Shaiva* and *Shakta* come into one fold? When did that take place? Was it during Goswami Tulsi Das time?

2113 hours

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Can we say that it took place 1,000 years ago when the nomads from the Central Asia invaded our country? When did this concept of secularism come into being?

Was 'secularism' imported from Western thought or was it totally inherent within our Indian psyche, what we call, the *Bharatiyata*?

Sir, many speakers who spoke before me used the word 'tolerance'. They have also mentioned Swami Vivekananda's utterances and Guru Rabindranath Tagore's utterances. But they have repeatedly mentioned that Hindus are tolerant. It is not only that; the Hindus respect other religions. We respect all the religions. That is why, four specific *dharma* have flourished within our country, namely, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism. These are the four inherent religions of this part of the world. We have not only tolerated other religion, but we have also accepted recognised and we have given respect to Christianity which reached our shores 2,000 years ago, before it reached Rome and before it reached Europe. Before Europe was enlightened by Christianity, it reached our shores.

The most modern religion of this world is Islam. It had the patronage of the feudal lords for more than 800 years. A question was being asked by Shrimati Alva: "We have schools for the last 100 years. Why are you asking this question?" For more than 150 years, you had the privilege of getting the patronage of the administration. Normally, most of the Hindu institutions did not get the patronage for the last 1,000 years. We did not get the patronage. We have respect for other two foreign religions too. There came Parsis — the Zoroastrians. Then came the Jews. These are four religions which came from outside. Not only have they been tolerated but they have also been accepted and respected. Now I would come to the cause of clashes.

At this juncture, I would ask a very simple question. How many Christian missionaries have gone to the Muslim areas and done work? Where are they? This question has never occurred to us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Today, what is the position of Hindus? If you take the whole world into consideration, the Hindus are in a minority. There was a time when Hindus were in Central Asia, and also, on the banks of the river Nile. After the partition in 1947, we have been confined to this part of the sub-continent. The refugees have come from the West and also from the East. We have become a minority in the whole world community. If there is a temple somewhere in other parts of the world, we feel elated because there are Hindus outside this country.

But I would like to draw the attention of the House, especially, the Minister of Home Affairs, about the problem

[Shri Bhadrachari Mahtab]
of linguistic minorities. The languages which have been recognised by the Constitution, invariably get protection and privileges in this country but there are language which are slowly dyeing down. Urdu is one of that language. So also Maithili, Sanskrit which is the mother of more languages of India, is also in a minority. Sindhi is another linguistic minority. But we are not discussint this. I would draw the attention of the House towards the creation of linguistic states and the problem arising out of it. We had raised this problem earlier when the Bihar Reorganisation Bill was being considered. Our States were formed linguistically. Orissa was formed along with the Sind Province in 1936. At that time, just two linguistic States were formed. But in 1948, that is after we got Independence, two erstwhile princely States Saraikala and Kharsnav were also merged with Orissa. Later on, it went 'temporarily' to Bihar for administration. What happened instantaneously? Oriya was the court language of those princely States and Hindi was imposed. There were 1,500 Oriya schools. How many schools do exist there today? I would request the Minister of Home Affairs, through you, that there are a number of people of linguistic minority nature like this who are just outside the border States in different districts, say, in Midnapore, East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum, Raigarh, Raipur, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Vishakhapatnam. It was decided to protect these linguistic minorities by those respective States. But seldom anything has been done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: There are areas outside Linguistic States which need attention. Similarly, there are Marathis outside Maharashtra. But I would request that all attempts be made to protect the linguistic minorities. Why is it that only when certain atrocities are being committed, the Central Government is reacting to it? Why are not precautionary measures taken before hand?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I am concluding. Now I come the the crux of this problem. Orissa was the First State in 1958-59 to enact the Bill which was called the Orissa (Freedom of Religion) Act.

It was enacted in late fifties. The Christian community went to Orissa High Court against that Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, it needs a bit of explanation. Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh also an enactment was done. This was in 1958-59. The Orissa

High Court took a decision against the enactment of this Bill and Orissa Government went to the Supreme Court in 1973. The Supreme Court gave a decision in favour of this enactment of 1958-59 in the 80s and rules were framed specifically relating to conversions. Whereas Madhya Pradesh enactment was quashed by the Supreme Court, Orissa enactment was upheld and a condition was put that whenever there is a conversion or reconversion, the Collector is to be informed much in advance.

What has happend in Manoharpur, Keonjhar or Mayurbhanj is a reaction to non-compliance of this Act. Rules were framed in 80s and this took about 25 years just for this enactment where Hindus or socalled majority people are unable to protect...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: After this, your speech will not be included in the proceedings. Your speech is considered as concluded. Now you please sit down.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, let me conclude my speech.

Sir, I would urge upon the hon. Home Minister to look into this matter.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): Mr. Chairman, we are discussing about atrocities on minorities, but I would like to draw the attention of the House that I represent a State where we have no problem about the minority aspect.

Sir, we have heard very interesting points from various speakers who have spoken here earlier and they have enlightened the House. But in my State, Nagaland, somebody has mentioned that the figures that Nagaland has about 87 per cent Christians. Now, comparatively, in other parts of India, we do not have that much of percentage as far as Christian population is concerned.

Nagaland has got this Christianity only about a century back. About 2000 years ago when Christianity came to the shores of India, at the time, we were still very primitive. But about a century ago, when the first Evangelist came, people in Nagaland were head hunters, bloodshed was there. One village was fighting with another village. When this Evangelist came, he said, 'we will bring you a good news and you must listen to it. The Evangelist spoke out to them, 'that if you kill each other, you will go to hell.' The Evangelist also told them 'that in order to save your soul after death, you must accept Jesus Christ

and before that you have to confess all your sins and accept Jesus Christ so that you can have eternity in the next world.' So, with that simple belief and faith they have accepted Christianity.

Now, within such a short span of time the percentage has increased to 87 in Nagaland. Today, in Nagaland, we have Hindu Temples, Gurudwaras, and Mosques. But before we embraced Christianity, we were not Hindus or Sikhs or Buddhists, we were Animists. Suppose today we are asked to convert to Hinduism or Islam it will be quite absurd for a Naga. We were Animists and we had our own heritage, we had old beliefs and faith. So, Christianity stays and today and we Nagas would just like to request that India being a secular country and the State of Nagaland, where I come from, is a very sensitive State and no one should provoke the people to take action against the minorities in the State.

On the eve of the 53rd Independence Day, the President, Shri K.R. Narayanan, in his message had said:

"The precious heritage of tolerance of different faiths and ideologies, which has been the cementing force in our complex pluralistic society, is showing signs of breaking down and a new intolerance, resulting often in violence, is manifesting itself in our society."

It is very correct. Today I may have no problem in my own State there is no guarantee if wrong actions are not checked. Many Members have been stating atrocities committed to minorities in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and even in Assam, there are a lot of atrocities committed on the minorities—Christians and Muslims. Now, if this is allowed to continue in a secular State like India, I think, this is going to create a lot of problems. So far, the Nagas have been tolerating it. We have been giving all the other religions an equal place. If this sort of thing are allowed to flare up in other parts of India, what message will go out? Even in places like Kashmir, we have got a lot of Muslims. Then, in Mizoram and Meghalaya, we have a large population of Christians. In these places, thank God, nothing has happened up-till now. But if the Government does not control these anti social organisations, I think, there will be a time when those people in Kashmir and in North East States will start reacting and even our friends who are in minority in those areas will be in great danger.

Newspapers and various medias reports have been pointing fingers on the Bajrang Dal, Vishwa Hindu

Parishad, RSS hand. There is a saying that, "there cannot be a smoke without a fire." So, I think, whatever is going in the country needs to be checked. Unless this is checked,—it is not only in those places which have been mentioned but in other places also, where the Christians are in majority—they can also flare up. Then, it will be very difficult for the Government of India to contain it. Not only that, we have got other external forces, which are trying to disturb the country. Why should we kill our own brothers and sisters? These nuns who are raped are Indian citizen. These priests who are murdered are Indian citizen. Just because they believe in one faith, why should some one should their live?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Sir, please give me some more minutes and I will end up as I am making a very important statement. If the Government of India does not take care, do not blame the opposition because I am giving a very serious thought to all the politicians assembled here and also to the hon. Home Minister, who is here now, and this will be very valuable for the Government also.

I think, a check should be immediately put on these organisations, whichever organisation they might be. They should not be allowed to go scot-free. Put them behind the bars. Tell them that this is not good for a secular country like India. Therefore, a message should be sent very clearly to these organisations to stop this nonsense immediately.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri P.R. Dasmunsi to present the 13th Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

21.28 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirteenth Report

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Joachim Baxla.

21.29 hrs.

[Translation]

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities on linguistic and religious minorities in the country—Contd.

SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA (Alipurduars): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak over this serious issue. Our country is a secular country and I am happy on being a citizen of this glorious country. I am worried to see the atmosphere which is prevailing in the country today, the way the incidence of violence is taking place on minority community and atrocities being committed upon them in various States. Every citizen of our country is concerned about it. Just now an hon'ble Member of Nagaland has expressed his concern about the state of affairs in Nagaland, I agree with his view.

Today, our colleague and hon'ble M.P. Shri Bikram Sarkar has said that this kind of incidents are taking place in West Bengal also. There is no truth in the incident which he has mentioned. The environment in West Bengal is harmonious and there is no fear among the people that they are insecure. But if we look at the incident like violent attack on the people in Nasik, Gujarat who were returning to their homes after enjoying cinema and the incidence of burning alive Graham Staines, who was engaged in the service of sick people for the last 34 years, and his two children in Orissa, it is certainly a matter of concern for the entire country.

After getting elected as MPs it is our responsibility to bring this sort of environment to an end. The hon. Home Minister should be more responsible as regards providing protection to the minorities.

Hon'ble Uma Bharatiji has mentioned that hon. Home Minister's name is involved in demolition of Babri masjid in Ayodhya and a case is pending in the court in this regard. When some member of ruling party make such mention then it causes me more concern as to what is the purpose of making this kind of mention. I am concerned as to what message it will convey to common people. Therefore I am really concerned about it. I would request NDA Government headed by BJP that it should try to prevent its sister organisations indulging in such activities and it should pay attention towards this also. It should also pay attention towards creating harmonious atmosphere through its speeches, we also work in this direction. Churches of the minorities, even their holy book

Bible are being burnt. If we do not check this trend immediately, we shall be facing a terrible situation in the near future.

Mr. Chairman Sir, through you I request hon'ble Prime Minister and hon'ble Home Minister that we should condemn such incidents and we should endeavour to stop such incidents immediately. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I rise to speak with a very heavy heart because I hear persons like Shri Purno A. Sangma and Shrimati Margaret Alva say that they feel threatened and they feel very insecure in this country. I feel very disturbed. I do not know the reason why we are being told in this country that we are the communalists. Being a Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party, a *Swayam Sewak* of *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh*, when I am being told this, I also feel very disturbed.

Why? On the other day Shri Muniyappa, who has left now, sitting on the other side from the Congress Party, in the course of his speech has said that Hinduism is the worst religion in the world. Islam and Christian are the best.

He said so. It is in the record. All the Members, I remember on that day heard it. The late lamented Rajesh Pilot was sitting there; he just let out a very embarrassing smile when he told this and we listened to it. But we tolerated it.

Shrimati Margaret Alva and Shri P.A. Sangma have raised a question: Why is this happening? There must be some reason behind this, because they say that the Christians are a minuscule minority in this country and the majority community is waging an attack on them. There are reasons. Because, every Christian - as they say - is telling that he is being threatened. The majority community, the Hindus, has got a mind and they also feel something.

Something happened in my constituency. Once in 1999 we heard on BBC that a nun was raped in Baripada, my constituency. When she was waiting for a bus, a woman came to her in a car and asked. "I am going in this direction. Are you interested in coming in my car?". The nun said, "Yes, I want to go." So, she went and on the way she found that the driver or the person was not a woman. He was actually a man and he raped her inside the car. Some time later she escaped and went to a Church.

Shrimati Margaret Alva raised many times about *The Asian Age*. It published a cartoon, saying, "Beasts posing as men, disguised as women (Orissa rapists).

Then the late Archbishop of Delhi gave a statement in the same *Asian Age*:

"Raping a woman is a heinous crime and every man should be ashamed of this, but when that rape has been carried out on a religious woman who has consecrated her life to God taking the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, the crime becomes sacrilegious and diabolical."

Five thousand Christians took out a procession in my constituency writing the same, "God, forgive them. They do not know, what they do." What is the meaning? These Hindus, have raped a Christian nun and they want God to forgive them! Then the next day, a bus conductor issued a statement that that lady had travelled in his bus and not in a car.

What about the medical report? The medical report says that:

"Considering the findings with the hymen and with the vaginal *introitus* of the victim lady, it could be inferred that the victim lady is experienced to sex act previously to the alleged occurrence; and no recent sexual intercourse".

That was what the medical report on the nun said!

What is this? The nun is absent. I had to sit on a one-day *Dhama* in front of the Collectorate just to get her arrested, to create communal harmony. She has vanished. So, what I mean to say is that it is unfortunate that no newspaper published this, that this happened, that this was the medical report. What will a Hindu feel if this happens to be done by another community?

So, I mean to say that this is the reason why all these things are happening. You take the example of the lawyers in Dara Singh's case. Everybody says that Dara Singh is a Bajrang Dal man or a BJP man. But he was not arrested when the Congress was in power. It is only after the Biju Janata Dal and BJP came to power that they arrested him and he is now in the jail. Our Government have even arrested his lawyer under the NSA. Even Shri Ram Jethmalani fought the case of the assassins of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He was not arrested. But the lawyer of Dara Singh is now arrested under the NSA. Our Government did it, where the BJP is also a party to the Government.

The BJD is there from which Shri Mahtab was just speaking. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, you give me some time. ...(*Interruptions*) I will complete in three or four minutes.

Now, I will not repeat. I am also having the Minority Commission's Report with regard to Mathura, Agra, Kosi and Rewari. However, I will not go through it. But the late Archbishop of Delhi has told the hon. Prime Minister that he does not believe in this. The only Christian member, who is there in the Commission, is being accused as Judas, a traitor. He might be a stooge of the NDA Government. But what about Shri Shamim who was the Chairman? He is not a Hindu. What about Shri Tarlochan Singh, who was the Vice-President? He is not a Hindu. There was another Buddhist representative also. Do you mean to say that all of them are the stooges of the BJP, Bajrang Dal, VHP, RSS and NDA? They do not have any mind of their own. So, if we do not believe in this Commission, then with whom should we believe? Why are these things happening? These things are happening because there was a conspiracy hatched against the NDA Government when it came to power in 1998. When the Jhabua incident had occurred, the President of the USA, Mr. Bill Clinton, telephoned to our hon. Prime Minister. The German Parliament had passed a Resolution. But, later on, when it was found that it was not the Bajrang Dal who was involved, there was no apology from that side. Everybody was silent.

Now, take the example of the Press. It is also a part of the conspiracy. I am just reading one sentence from the *Asian Age*. When Graham Staines was murdered, the heading was "Jai Bajrang Dal! shouted the attackers." It is the heading. Then, what is written:

"The mob (which killed Australian missionary Graham Stewart Staines and his two young sons Timothy and Philip) blew whistles three times and shouted the slogan Bajrang bali ki jai."

They shouted 'Bajrang bali ki jai' and what was the heading, 'Jai Bajrang Dal!'

Sir, there is an international conspiracy to defame this Government. Shri P.A. Sangma was telling that there is going to be a conflict between the Christian block and the Muslims block in future. Which side will he take after the bomb blasts in the churches in Karnataka, Andhra or Goa? After knowing that who was involved in this, Shri Sangma and others should try to know who is trying

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

to draw a wedge between the Hindus and the Christians of this country. They should understand about this thing.

Finally, I will just read one sentence from one of the Christian Reporters, Shri Francois Gautier, who is a French man. It was published in *The Hindustan Times* of 1st February, 1999.

"Is the life of a white man more important and dear to the Indian media than the lives of a hundred Indians? Or to put it differently: Is the life of a Christian more sacred than the lives of Hindus? It would seem so. Because we all remember not so long ago, whether in Punjab or in Kashmir, how many militants would stop buses and kill all the Hindus—men, women and children."

"Is it because of an eternal feeling of inferiority, which itself is a legacy of the British colonisation? Is it because they consider Hindus to be inferior beings—remember the words of Claudius Buchanan, a chaplain attached to the East India Company: "...Neither truth, nor honesty, honour, gratitude, nor charity, is to be found in the breast of a Hindoo"! It is because the Indian Press is still deeply influenced by Marxist and communist thoughts like it is in Kerala, where the communists have shamelessly and dangerously exploited the Christians issue for their own selfish purpose?"

Sir, in Sanskrit it is said: "Janami dharmam nachme pravriti, janami adharmam nachme nivriti"

I know what is *dharma*, but I do not observe it, and I also know what is *adharma*, but I do not refrain from doing it. This is what the opponents are doing.

Finally, I appeal, with folded hands, to all the Christian brothers and sisters of this country that they should not treat incidents like increase in somebody's passing marks or a theft in somebody's house, as communal incidents or atrocities on minorities because Hindus are also suffering. I was also taken to jail because of no reason, because somewhere a danga took place in 1991. When I was contesting in Kendrapada, they arrested me and put me behind the bars. They also wanted to keep me under NSA but later on they found that there was not a single case against me. Because I was a civil servant earlier, so they also released me. So, if I can suffer this, why not others who say that they are Indians? When I suffer, should I say that it is an atrocity on a Hindu? If any policeman beats a Hindu, will he say that it is an atrocity on the Hindus? So, with folded hands, I appeal to all members of the Christian community that they should not be swayed away by this malicious propaganda that Indian

is against the Christians, India is against the Muslims, India is against the minorities, because this is the best possible Government led by Atal Ji, led by Advani Ji, that we are having after 53 years.

With these words and with my appeal, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Due to paucity of time, I am not taking much of the valuable time of this House. However, it is only two days back that we have celebrated the 53rd Independence Day of our country. The progress, the development and the position that our country has attained in the world over, has increased our status in the comity of nations. But, at the same time, it is a matter of regret that still we have to discuss the atrocities committed on minorities in this country. Despite the fact that there are consistent threats, harassment and atrocities on that minorities of this country, I venture to say the minorities in this country have firm faith and belief in the Indian State. This is the country for the minorities also as a citizen of this country, who are born in this country, who are living in this country and who are to be buried in the holy soil of this country. We have our faith in the democracy, in the secularism, in the Constitution and in the pluralistic society that we have. But it is also equally true that there are elements in this country who are on inimical terms with the minorities and are creating many problems not only for this Government but for any Government and for the peace-loving people of this country. The murders of the missionaries, the naked parading of the priests, the attacks on the place of religious worship, the death of a Christian in custody who bears witness in a court of law against a *Hindutva* goon, destruction of the specific targets of the properties, business places and industrial units belonging to the Muslims—for which I was a witness in Surat—with the connivance of the administration, are shocking for right-thinking Indians in this country. It is in this context that I would just quote a portion of what our hon. President has referred in the Independence Day message.

I quote:

"We liberated ourselves from the foreign rule and established a democratic polity through our Commission which embodies modern ideas of the governance and the right and the liberties of the people and blended them with advanced ideas of social equality and justice, integrating them all into our age-old human values and cultural heritage."

This is the history of India. At the very same time, there are the elements who are fomenting communalism

in this country who are giving encouragement to the citizens to kill their own fellow citizens of this country, and harassing and always committing atrocities on the hapless minorities in this country. This is an undisputed fact.

Mr. Chairman, I had the occasion to visit Surat and also some other parts of Gujarat. In 1998, I visited Sanjaili, Randikpur, Ahua districts and some other places. I have submitted my report to the hon. Home Minister and in fairness, I would say that he has tried to act upon it. What happened? Only hapless people have been attacked. On 9th of this month I went to Ahmedabad and on 10th and 11th, I visited Surat. I am thankful to the Administration there, who cooperated with me and made arrangements for my visit. What have I seen? The VHP had declared an all India bandh against Kashmir massacre on 4th of August. But only in Gujarat, they had called the *bandh* on 3rd and the Muslims also participated in the *bandh*. While Muslims were in their houses taking rest, their properties, their business places, their houses and their industrial units had been destroyed—Mr. Chairman, I am a witness to it—and material and machinery worth crores of rupees had been destroyed. Why? What will they do? The Minister of Home in the State Government, Shri Hiran Pandiya was there at the time of violence and thereafter, no other Minister from the Government of Gujarat visited that area. My request also fell on deaf ears. I requested them to give some financial relief since previous day these people had a source of livelihood but next day they have lost everything. Where shall they go? I have visited the places where these people, who were suffering, were living and I myself have seen their unforgettable plight. It is for the information of the hon. Home Minister that even *Maqbara* Mosque was also attacked. Why did all these things happen? Why were they attacked? What did Muslims do? I ask why such crimes and such atrocities are taking place against Muslims. Did the minorities not support this Government on the sensitive issue of Kashmir? Minority community, Muslims have extended their support to all Governments, including the present Government led by Shri Vajpayee. Why has this violence been let loose against these minority people? I would say that a criminal is a criminal irrespective of which Party he belongs to and whoever is guilty may be proceeded against.

I would just like to say that every time, incidents involving Muslims being linked with *ISI*. If there is *ISI* hand, The Government should take action against *ISI*. There was a promise made by the Home Minister that there will be a White Paper on *ISI*. Why has it not been given so far? We would like to know that. They may take action against *ISI* or whichever other agency is involved in all these activities. Here, I would like to draw

the attention of the Home Minister to a reply given on 1.8.2000 to an Starred Question No. 135 by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, my friend, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao. The question was put by Shri Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy. His question was whether the Government proposes to bring a White Paper on *ISI* activities in India. If so, the reasons for not publishing them. The reply given is that the statement is laid on the Table of the House. The Statement reads:

"(a), (b) and (c): All relevant aspects pertaining to the preparation of a White Paper on *ISI* activities in India are at present under close examination of the Government."

I hope, it will come again, Sir in the same answer it is said:

"Really, there is no let up in the activities of *ISI* in sponsoring terrorism in the country and extending various kinds of support including weapons, financial assistance, arms training etc., to the militant outfits operating in the country."

Further, it is very important, the answer said:

"The activities of the *ISI* and all other organisations having a bearing on maintenance of communal harmony in the country are under constant watch of law enforcement agencies and requisite legal action is being taken whenever necessary."

This was the reply. Then, there was another reply to Unstarred Question No. 1411, dated 01.08.2000. The question was asked by none other than my good friend, Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, and another hon. Member. What was the question? It was about the number of bomb blasts, violent incidents, carried out by terrorist organisations; number of civilian soldiers killed, injured therein, along with the compensation paid" etc; and, further question, (b) the number of *ISI* agents, terrorists, identified, arrested, punished, killed during the said period State-wise."The answer given by Shri Vidyasagar Rao was:

"The Central Government does not maintain information in this regard."

To the Starred Question, the hon. Home Minister has given the reply saying:

"Activities of *ISI* and all other organisations having a bearing on maintenance of communal harmony in the country are under constant watch of law enforcement authorities."

[Shri E. Ahamed]

In the second answer to unstarred question on same day, it was said:

"The Central Government does not maintain information in this regard."

Is it the manner in which the Home Ministry functions in these matters? I am only asking this question. Therefore, for everything, wherever the minorities are involved, why do you take the name of the ISI? Earlier, we have been hearing about the CIA and, now, we are hearing about the ISI. We have absolutely nothing against taking whatever action that deserves to be taken by the Government against the ISI. But the poor innocent and the hapless people of the minority community must be spared.

I will just take a minute to say one thing. The activities of the *Vishwa Hindu Parishad* are creating a lot of heartburn among the minorities. It is not that the Indian Union Muslim League is only speaking about *Vishwa Hindu Parishad* and *Bajrang Dal*. I would just like to let you know as to what is the opinion of the Samata Party. In the Samata Party's newsletter, it was stated that their National Council had passed a resolution, wherein they had mentioned:

"We must however ensure that organisations like the VHP and *Bajrang Dal* are not allowed to fan tension or tarnish the image of NDA. They are not the true representatives of the Hindu community."

This is the view even among those who are in the NDA. Then, why have they not been curbed or controlled?

Sir, I would say that this is a country which has given the highest honour to a woman Christian Missionary, Mother Teresa. This is India; this is our own country which has given the highest honour to a Muslim, Dr. Abdul Kalam for his contribution in the field of scientific development. This is our country, and we have to live in this country. Therefore, it is the duty of the Home Minister to take steps, stringent action, whatever it is, violence and terror against minorities.

While inaugurating a Meeting of the Chief Secretaries, Home Secretaries and the Directors-General of Police of different States, the Home Minister is reported to have said:

"These incidents, that is, the atrocities against minorities, specially Christians, do not appear to be emanating from any tension between the communities. As the sequence of these incidents indicate, the possibility of an anti-Indian element trying to create disaffection in society and give the country a bad name cannot be ruled out."

This is what Shri Advani said. Who are these elements? Then why is the Government shying away from controlling these elements? Why has the Government not taken action against them? Who are protecting them? These are the factors to be taken into serious consideration, and take action to create an atmosphere for peaceful coexistence in the country. This is the country, where it is said,

[Translation]

"Mazhab nahi sikhata aapas main bair rakhna, hindi hai hum, vatan hai hindustan hamara."

22.00 hrs.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, why was I denied to speak?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should know how much time you have taken....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I did speak for 15 minutes. But you did not allow me to speak...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You see the time as to how long you have spoken.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Is it simply because I mentioned that Hindi was being imposed on Saree Kala and Kharsuan?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I will sit down. But I need an answer...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for allowing a Sikh Member of Parliament to speak on this subject. It is almost past chicken curry time and we are all sitting here very late without our dinners. So, I hope, you would have the patience to hear me out.

Sir, the trouble that we now have in India is that the ultra nationalist Right Wing forces have taken control of this country. It may be the BJP or the Congress. There is no difference between these two Parties as far as the Right Wing ultra nationalism is concerned. I would like to give a few examples.

Sir, the first example is that of 1984 when the late Indira Gandhi made the Indian Forces sit at Harmandir Sahib and 36 other Gurdwaras in Punjab and elsewhere in the country. At that time though Indira Gandhi gave orders to the Indian Army to enter the Golden Temple, the BJP said that it should have been done some six months before. In 1984, the Sikh relics from the Golden Temple were taken away by the Indian Army. Since then we have had so many Prime Ministers—Raja V.P. Singh, Shri Chandra Shekhar, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Shri Deve Gowda and now Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee—but those relics have not been returned. Those relics are still with the Government of India and have not been returned.

Sir, as far as the Sikh massacre of 1984 is concerned, the hoodlums who perpetrated this heinous crime are still at large. No Party, whether it be the BJP or the Congress, has taken any action against Shri Bhagat, Shri Tytler, Shri Bhajan Lal and Shri Sajjan Kumar. I fail to understand that if the BJP is for the Minorities, then why are these hoodlums still at large? These are the things that pain me. It pained me when the Babri Masjid was attacked and was razed to the ground. It was the BJP then ruling the State and at the Centre, the Government of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao did nothing about it, it simply fiddled and kept quiet. This nexus of the major Parties is very shameful.

I would like to give you another example. This has happened lately in the Parliament and that was the passage of the Uttaranchal Bill. The Sikhs were pained because they felt that the Udham Singh Nagar should not have gone to the Uttaranchal. The BJP and the NDA supported the Bill and they proposed it. The Congress seconded its proposal. My contention is that this sneaking of the Right Wing ultra nationalism into politics is very dangerous. I wish that the Home Minister and others would take some notice of all these things.

Sir, many Sikhs have been in jail since 1984. Under article 21 of the Indian Constitution it is mentioned that there shall be a speedy trial. But the Sikh prisoners, who are in jail since 1984, have remained without any trial. There has been no trial for the Sikh prisoners. Shri Advani had promised that the Sikh detainees would be released but that has remained only on paper.

Let me speak, Sir I am the only Sikh who is here to speak. Everybody has been given a chance. Let me say what is paining the Sikhs and the minorities in India. Please hold your horses and let me speak.

There are fake encounters against the minorities. People are caught and not brought to justice but killed. That has happened to the Sikhs. It has happened to the Muslims all the way from Kashmir to Punjab, and in the East. If you see the map of India you will find that the State of India is not at peace with any of its minorities. Look at the peripheral State of Punjab that has become an army cantonment; look at Kashmir that is an army cantonment; and look at the North-East that is an army cantonment. This sort of things scare us.

We are very unhappy and insecure, as the other Members have said. We are also a religious minority and a linguistic minority. We have our population in the border State of Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and in Jammu and Kashmir. But Punjabi is not taught in any of these States and the minorities there are not getting their fair share of justice and their Constitutional rights. We now see that ultra-nationalist feelings are coming into our bureaucrats and our military officers. Most of them, when they retire, invariably want to join the BJP and the RSS-sponsored parties. We have a danger that like in Fiji we are going to be demographically upset from the influx of imported labour in Punjab. They are being given ration cards and allowed to vote. So, it is painful to know that the Sikhs in their own State would become a minority in times to come.

There is Human Rights Commission and there is the Minorities Commission but they do not have any teeth. They cannot punish any person. The Human Rights Commission cannot go into any case which is more than two years old. But the atrocities and the perpetration of genocide that has taken place against the Sikh people is of much earlier times. I would advise the hon. Home Minister to put some teeth into the Human Rights Bill so that we can get justice.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is 10.10 p.m. and it is the convention of the House that if the proceedings go beyond the expected hours then arrangements are made to provide food and transport otherwise arrangements should be made to provide allowance to MPs....(Interruptions) The government should respond in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Sir, we want to protest that the Sikhs under article 25 of the Constitution

[Shri Simranjit Singh Mann]

are clubbed with the Hindus. In the Hindu Marriage Act, we are clubbed with the Hindus. We are a separate people; we have a separate language; a separate religion; a separate culture; and a separate dialect; and we want the Parliament to change the law and say that we are a separate people.

The last thing that I want to say is, when I recently visited Canada and America most of the Sikhs complained that they were on the blacklist of India and they do not get visas. This is something that perturbs me. Even when I went out to America in the month of April, I was detained for half an hour in the airport.

The reason given was that my name was in the blacklist. Most of the Sikhs are blacklisted. I wish that the vengeance against Sikhs that had set in after 1984 ceased and we were respected and brought on a par with the majority community.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful that you have given me an opportunity to speak over this serious issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would also be grateful if you conclude your speech in five minutes.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Today the way the atrocities, oppression and attacks are being made on religious and linguistic minorities in the country, it is certainly a matter of great concern for intellectual, peace-loving, democratic and secularist people of India. I want to convey sympathy on my own behalf and on behalf of people of Bodoland to those people who have to face misery due to some advanced and regional elements. Though in our North-Eastern region, in Assam, such kind of atrocities have not taken place on the tribal population, which are being discussed here but they are facing the atrocities, oppression and attacks of other kind.

[English]

We are also linguistically, religiously and ethnically minorities. So, it is the duty of the Government of India to take some concrete and positive policy decisions to ensure the safety, security and all-round development of the downtrodden people including the indigenous Bodo Mongoloid people and so on and so forth.

[Translation]

Today, the debate is going on over the issue of conversion but I was surprised to find one issue wherein

some tribal people had to adopt other religion due to some non-tribal people, they were not provided the opportunity to embrace their own tribal religion in the same manner.

[English]

What sort of action has been taken? The tribal people have been converted again forcibly into Hindu religion. Why have the tribal people not been allowed to go back to their respective indigenous faiths? We the people of Bodoland are not Hindus. We are not Hindus, Sikhs, Jains or Buddhist. We have our own indigenous faiths, beliefs and religions.

A very interesting thing is that in each and every census on record, the majority tribal people have not been listed along with their respective tribal religions. They have been listed either as Hindus or as those belonging to other religions. Why have the indigenous Mongoloid Bodo people not been allowed to be listed with their own religions?

This is my humble appeal to the hon. Union Minister of Home Affairs. He should give a very clear-cut directive to the census authorities to list the tribal people of this great country to be listed with their respective religions, beliefs and faith in the course of the on-going census.

Until and unless the Bodo people and the indigenous tribal people of Assam are given a separate State of 'Bodoland', you can never ensure safety, security, all round development, survival and existence of the indigenous Bodo people of this great land of India.

So, it is the duty of the Government of India to concede to our longstanding, very genuine, legitimate, justified separate State of Bodoland. I would also like to pray to the hon. Home Minister to take very drastic measures and actions to stop all kinds of atrocities, which are being perpetrated on the religious, linguistic, cultural and ethnic minorities, with special reference to the indigenous Bodo Mongoloid people and other downtrodden people of this great country of India. Otherwise, you can never expect this great country to remain united.

With these few words, I would like to conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing in the House the atrocities committed on minorities in our country for last 2-3 years. It is not good for us. Though we all are Indians

yet why we do not see eye to eye with each other. Often we hear a slogan, 'Say it with pride that we are Hindus'. In place of it I would like to give a new slogan, 'Say it with pride that we are Indians.' Donot say with pride that "I am Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Lingayat, Parsi, Jain" but say with pride that, 'I am Indian'. Say it boldly that I am an Indian. Say it unitedly that we are Indians. Say firmly that we are Indians. Say with pride that we are Indians.

In January, last one Australian missionary called Graham Staines and his two children were burnt alive in Orissa. After some days, a Muslim businessman was murdered in Orissa. Just a week after that, one Christian preacher Arun Das was murdered in Mayurbhanj, Orissa. Dara Singh the man behind these killings, is a Bajrang Dal activist from your State...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dara Singh has committed several crimes of this type. Christian nuns were raped in Madhya Pradesh and since then it is going on unchecked. Hindus in Baroda, Gujarat tried to attack Christians on 29 October, 1998. They were attacked in Jankans, Nanpari and Dang villages in Surat district.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, he has alleged that Hindus were behind rape. Therefore the word 'Hindu' should be expunged from the proceeding.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I did not allege rape.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Objectionable portion will be expunged.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Whosoever they may be, but they were Indians. These atrocities were committed by a forum named Hindu Jagran Manch at Balgarh in Dharampur and Ahmedabad. Atrocities were also committed on minorities in Banaras in Uttar Pradesh. Christians were also made the target of attack in Abna and Peth in district Nasik in Maharashtra. Figures regarding atrocities on Christians are available. The number of incidents relating to attack on Christian community in 1998 was 86 and in 1999 was 120. 100 such incidents took place in 2000. In 1998 three person were killed in such incidents, 12 persons died in 1999 and 7 in the year 2000. Similarly the number of persons injured in such incidents during 1998, 1999 and 2000 was 45, 91 and 90, respectively. The figures regarding communal riots are as follows: in 1998, 645 incidents took place wherein 217 persons died and 2120 persons were injured. During 1999, 598 incidents took place where in 160 persons died and 2017 were injured, similarly during 2000, 55 incidents took place wherein 55 persons died and 500 persons were injured. The figures have come down during 2000. It's after the BJP Government

have come to power. It is true that when these people are not in power more atrocities are committed on Christians and Muslims and when they are in power they do not commit atrocities...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, you cannot stay in power for long? How can you stay in power for long?

"Advani ji tum to satta par aye to hamen jalane ke liye,

Aur hum jal rahen hai tumhe mittee me milane ke liye,

Hum age badh rahen hai, tumko satta se hilene ke liye,

Hum satta par aa rahe hai tumhen jalane ke liye.

Similarly, Hindus, since you are in majority, must try to understand the minorities and also realise that they are the citizens of India, like you are also the citizen of India, so why are you fighting with each other? Why are you trying to eliminate one another?

Aapas main badhao tum dosti,

Mat jalao ek dusre ki basti.

Similarly we have to adhere to the following:

Jor julam ki takkar main sangharsh hamara nara hai, Sangharsh hamara naara hai,

Yeh Bharat desh hamara hai, Bharat desh tumhara bhi hai.

Similarly, the Government should try to understand Bahujan Samaj, minorities and oppressed people. It is not a question of power. Power is a game of one Upmanship. It will be a continuous process in democracy. However, providing protection to the minorities, is the responsibility of the Government of India and we assure to protect the Hindus wherever they are in minority, such as Jammu and Kashmir, Tripura and maybe in Meghalaya...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now resume your seat. None of his remarks will go on records.

...*(Interruptions)*"

[English]

SHRI DENZIL B. ATKINSON (Nominated): Sir, I thank you for providing me this opportunity to speak on the matter under discussion. The microscopic Anglo-Indian community of which I am one of two in the Lok Sabha, are hundred per cent Christians.

[Shri Denzil B. Atkinson]

Sir, I have listened to the issues raised by hon. Members who spoke before me. This being my maiden speech, I request you to hear me out fully. Sir, after listening to all the speakers, I find that everybody has been recollecting what had happened months and months back. Hardly any one of them is touching upon what exactly happened during the last few months. This is regarding bomb blasts. I believe that this discussion was asked for only because of that.

Sir, the Deendar Anjuman at Hyderabad is at a distance of five minutes' walk from my residence. I have attended several meetings that were called by them. They were inter-religious meetings. People from different religions attended these meetings. I am happy to say that all the meetings were called only for inter-communal harmony. That area is surrounded by a wall within which there are about 2000 Muslim houses. All the Muslims who live there are feeling disturbed these days. They are not agreeing to what has been done by other persons living within that vicinity. They are extremely sad. They say they are Muslims and that they belong to India. They also say that if these people who come from Pakistan, stay in this area and make claim to this place, let these people be arrested and taken into custody under the law of the land.

Sir, there were people who spoke in one or two of those meetings. They tried to whip passions of the people living within that area. However, the Muslims living around there have heeded the voice of these people. Yes, there is no doubt that there were bomb blasts. No person was killed. Churches, Mosque and Temple were all upset over these blasts. We condemn in the strongest terms the violence and demand that arrested persons of Deendar Anjuman be thoroughly investigated so that those who are behind this sinister design are revealed. It is most unfortunate that the timing of explosions was always minutes before a meeting in the Church ended or minutes after the crowd came out. Eyewitnesses at all the places said the same thing. They saw two persons walking in. Some say that they wore caps and that they left a bag in some part of the premises and walked away. It is unfortunate that no one of them even questioned these people who left the bag and walked away in spite of the Government coming out with so many messages that if you see somebody leaving his bag, please immediately accost the person and find out what is the problem.

Sir, there were attempts. I should say, to engineer the recent incidents and then doctor them so that there is no grave or fatal injuries and finally advocate on behalf of the Christian community. We had people rushing to the place, coming back the next day and stating that the

people there say that it was the RSS who was responsible. Unfortunately, the people there do not know who the RSS was, they do not even know what is the meaning of RSS or VHP. These are all cooked up stories only to discredit the NDA Government whenever the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh visited any of the church areas, there was a hue and cry asking him to withdraw TDP support to the NDA Government. There is a clear design on the part of not only people from across the border but also from within this country who are trying to destabilise this Government because they are afraid that never again will any of them occupy the Treasury Benches.

We all know that the main accused came out from Karnataka and we, in Andhra Pradesh, are happy failing which the blame and the accusation would have gone against the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh that he had engineered the reports of the Police. So, the tip of the iceberg started to break from Bangalore where another Government is in power. I have been saying that we have had, unfortunately, the Communist Party (Marxist) who came out on 30th June demanding a high-level inquiry commission by a High Court judge to go into the what is called 'the deep-rooted conspiracy' behind the string of attacks and wanted this on the lines of the Wadhwa Commission which went into the murder of Graham Staines. It means that they have accepted that the Wadhwa Commission Report was correct.

On 3rd July, they questioned the secular credentials of the BJP allies. On 27th July, they said that some anti-national elements were behind this communal issue. But, unfortunately, I would like to ask the Communist Party of India one point. They have asked the Chief Minister of A.P. to convene an all-Party meeting to discuss admission of students in minority institutions offering certain degree and post-degree courses...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I have much to say. I come from the area where these people were picked up. I have barely spoken for three minutes. I am not going to say anything about your Party.

They alleged violation of all norms and committing serious irregularities and malpractices and of giving preference to non-minority students whose parents were prepared to give huge donations. On the one side, you sympathise with the Christian community and on the other side, you protest. We are not charging huge donations and, at least, not the Catholic Church or the Catholic institutions. They are not taking donations. You may go to St. Colombus or the the Mont Fort schools. They do not accept any kind of donations. But I do not speak on behalf of other Christian institutions. This type of sympathy

is really very bad. We had a Congress spokesman who visited two places. In a Press interview, I was the first person probably in the country state before the Press and say that the ISI was involved in these activities going on in this country because the same day, I was sitting in the flight reading 'Amnesty International—2000'. I have read that hundreds of our Christian brothers in other Islamic countries are being killed brutally or thrown out of their houses. The bishops are being pulled out, killed and other burnt. You cannot even offer your prayers. It does not happen in this country. You are free to visit your churches; you are free to visit your mosques or gurudwaras. Those things do not happen here. We are not pulled out or thrown out.

So, this was an attempt by the Congress spokesman that he wanted the Centre to come out with conclusive proof in regard to its allegation that the Pak-based ISI was behind the violent incidents. This was after his visit to churches at Ongole and Tadepalligudem and review of the incidents at Medak, Machilipatnam and Vikarabad. He said:

"There were clear indications that Sangh Parivar activists were distributing provocative leaflets besides issuing inflammatory statements."

He further said:

"Shri Naidu supported the BJP and gave it a foothold in the State."

Who, may I ask Shri Jogi, is responsible for the Congress losing its strangle-hold in the country?...*(Interruptions)*

On June 26th, the Congress Legislature Party Leader in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy alleged that the *Sangh Parivar* was behind the blast in a mosque at Guntur and that the TDP's support to the Coalition Government at the Centre is responsible for the increasing attacks on the minorities in Andhra Pradesh. He then questioned as to whom the Chief Minister would blame for the Guntur incident. I would like to know what has happened to Shri Rajasekhar Reddy after learning about the truth of the incidents and also about the recent brutal murder of a Bishop in Guntur when the hand of a son of a Congress leader is involved. After it has been known to the people of this country that the hand of no *Sangh Parivar* member or anybody from the BJP or from the NDA is involved, why is there a silence on the part of the parties who came out thinking themselves to be FBI or CIA trained investigators, going for an investigation, coming back and immediately blaming the *Sangh Parivar* or the other NDA parties?

Sir, I would like to say that there are some interested parties taking advantage of the tolerant community, appropriating to themselves the right to speak, but speak in different tongues. Sadly, the Roman Catholic priests and nuns are the prime targets whereas it is known that unbaptised Christians masquerading as preachers, for reasons other than conversion, act in a manner that no other Christian denomination indulge in. Truly, these conversions are not Christian-like and what such individuals receive in return are known to most of us. Hate campaigns are being injected and innocent Christians are being taken for a ride. There are Christian leaders who say that their lives are in danger. They have been threatened by the very same person who has been criticised by Christians abroad that he is leading the Christian community down the wrong path.

Sir, I fail to understand as to how a member of the National Commission for Minorities has been blamed. If speaking the truth is wrong, then, I certainly feel that a lot of mistruth has been spoken from the other side also. We have another person, who was earlier a Member of this House, appealing to the Christian community to internationalise the terrorism against Christians in the country. The gentleman did not ever speak of the terrorism that the country is facing which has taken a toll of thousands of lives. He then says that his party is taking up the issue of attacks on Christians with the United Nations and says to reporters that the attacks on the Christian community was a part of the tacit understanding between the RSS and the ISI of Pakistan. So, at least, one gentleman understands the fact that the ISI's hand is there behind these attacks.

Recently, the Bishops had spoken at a huge christian meeting at Nizam Grounds in Hyderabad and they said: "We are Indians first and Christians thereafter". But a self-styled Catholic leader, who is an anti-national, said: "We are Christians first and Christians last" and as such does not claim himself to be an Indian.

Sir, nowhere in the Bible is it said that Jesus, when subjected to cruelty—not known during those times—wished or expressed ill against those who tortured him with whipping, crowning with thorns, carrying a wooden cross, pierced with a lance and finally nailed to a cross. All that Jesus had to say was: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." But today, using the name of Jesus, tempted by Satanic forces and lured into causing rifts between religions and society the Christians are being called to take to the streets and demonstrate even when it is against the wishes of the religious elders of the Church.

[Shri Denzil B. Atkinson]

I call upon Christians to follow the teachings of Jesus and not that which are laid down by man. I call upon the people of this country to desist from making provocative statements and imaginary allegations but instead bring about cordial talks between the different religions and involve a few Christian Parliamentarians.

Sweeping statements were aired only when the minority community was attacked. One would have expected a periodical massacre of the *dalits* in Bihar to have rocked Parliament, but there was not even a mention of it. It means that the value of a life depends on the religion to which a person belongs. Are some lives expendable and other accountable by the Government? This is a blatant discrimination. Should human suffering and loss of lives be bartered in the hands of the Opposition just to embarrass the NDA Government and gain political mileage? Is not the Opposition equally responsible to inject a feeling of security and create a harmonious ethos in this country?

Finally, I conclude by repeating the words of a recently retired Archbishop who served this country for 28 years and never resorted to even a single conversion. He said, "I am an Indian by birth, a Christian by faith and a Hindu by culture." Brave and true words, Sir. Let us all follow the same path.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: List of speakers is over. The Home Minister will give reply tomorrow at 1400 hrs. The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

2243 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Friday, 18 August, 2000/Sravana 27, 1922 (Saka)
