

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Fifth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



Parliamentary Library Unit
Parliament Library Building
Room No. PB-025
Block (C)

(Vol. XI contains Nos. 1 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

Price : Rs. 50.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

G. C. Malhotra
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

Dr. A. K. Pandey
Additional Secretary

Harnam Singh
Joint Secretary

P. C. Bhatt
Principal Chief Editor

A.P. Chakravarti
Senior Editor

Ashit Bhushan
Asstt. Editor

(Original English Proceedings included in English Version and Original Hindi proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.)

CONTENTS

Thirteenth Series, Vol. XI, Fifth Session 2000/1921 (Saka)

[No. 1, Monday, November 20, 2000/Kartika 29, 1922 (Saka)]

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA	iii-xi
OFFICERS OF THE LOK SABHA	xii
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	xv-xvii
NATIONAL ANTHEM-Played	1
MEMBERS SWORN	1
INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS	1
OBITUARY REFERENCES	1-10
Mr. Speaker	1-5
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	5-6
Shrimati Sonia Gandhi	6-7
Shrimati Somnath Chatterjee	7-8
Shri K. Yerranaidu	9
Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav	9-10
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 1-20	10-49
Unstarred Question Nos. 1-230	49-346

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF
THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

A

A. Narendra, Shri (Medak)
Abdullah, Shri Omar (Srinagar)
Abdullakutty, Shri A.P. (Cannanore)
Acharia, Shri Basu Deb (Bankura)
Acharya, Shri Prasanna (Sambalpur)
Adhi Sankar, Shri (Cuddalore)
Aditya Nath, Yogi (Gorakhpur)
Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba (Buldana)
Advani, Shri L.K. (Gandhi Nagar)
Ahamed, Shri E. (Manjeri)
Ahmad, Shri Daud (Shahabad)
Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar (Mayiladuturai)
Ajaya Kumar, Shri S. (Ottapalam)
Alva, Shrimati Margaret (Canara)
Alvi, Shri Rashid (Amroha)
Ambareesha, Shri (Mandya)
Ambedkar, Shri Prakash Yashwant (Akola)
Amir Alam, Shri (Kairana)
Ananth Kumar, Shri (Bangalore South)
Angle, Shri Ramakant (Marmagao)
Argal, Shri Ashok (Murena)
Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita (Karol Bagh)
Athawale, Shri Ramdas (Pandharpur)
Azad, Shri Kirti Jha (Darbhanga)
Atkinson, Shri Denzil B. (Nominated)

B

Baalu, Shri T.R. (Madras South)
Babban Rajbhar, Shri (Salempur)
Babbar, Shri Raj (Agra)

Bachda, Shri Bachi Singh Rawat (Almora)
Badnore, Shri V.P. Singh (Bhilwara)
Baghel, Prof. S.P. Singh (Jalesar)
Bainda, Shri Ramchander (Faridabad)
Bais, Shri Ramesh (Raipur)
Baita, Shri Mahendra (Bagaha)
Balayogi, Shri G.M.C. (Amalapuram)
Baliram, Dr. (Lalgunj)
Banatwalla, Shri G.M. (Ponnani)
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip (Calcutta North West)
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata (Calcutta South)
Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree (Jabalpur)
Bangarappa, Shri S. (Shimoga)
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar (Chandigarh)
Bansiwal, Shri Shyam Lal (Tonk)
Barman, Shri Ranen (Balurghat)
Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh (Hissar)
Basavanagoud, Shri Kolar (Bellary)
Basavaraj, Shri G.S. (Tumkur)
Basu, Shri Anil (Arambagh)
Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya (Vishnupur)
Baxia, Shri Joachim (Alipurduars)
Begum Noor Bano (Rampur)
Behera, Shri Padmanava (Phulbani)
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh (Meerut)
Bhagat, Prof. Dukha (Lohardaga)
Bhagora, Shri Tarachand (Banswara)
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal (Jaipur)
Bhatia, Shri R.L. (Amritsar)
Bura, Shri Bhan Singh (Bhatinda)
Bhuria, Shri Kantilal (Jhabua)
Bishnoi, Shri Jaswant Singh (Jodhpur)

Biswas, Shri Ananda Mohan (Nabadwip)
Bose, Shrimati Krishna (Jadavpur)
Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana (Bobbili)
Brahmanaiah, Shri A. (Machilipatnam)
Brar, Shri J.S. (Faridkot)
Bundela, Shri Sujan Singh (Jhansi)
Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur (Kokrajhar)

C

C. Suguna Kumari, Dr. (Shrimati) (Peddapalli)
Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy (Basirhat)
Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh (Howrah)
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya (Guwahati)
Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh (Hamirpur, U.P.)
Chandel, Shri Suresh (Hamirpur, H.P.)
Chandra, Shekhar, Shri (Ballia, U.P.)
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath (Bolgpur)
Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat (Khajuraho)
Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni (Buxar)
Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai (Banaskantha)
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath (Nagaur)
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal (Ranchi)
Chaudhary, Shrimati Nisha (Sabarkantha)
Chaudhri, Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai (Bulsar)
Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna (Ghosi)
Chauhan, Shri Nandkumar Singh (Khandwa)
Chauhan, Shri Shriram (Basti)
Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh (Bhiwani)
Chennithala, Shri Ramesh (Mavelikara)
Chikhalla, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai (Junagarh)
Chinnasamy, Shri M. (Karur)
Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram (Barmer)
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar (Katihar)

Choudhary, Shrimati Reena (Mohanlalganj)
Choudhry, Shri Padam Sen (Bahraich)
Choudhury, Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan (Malda)
Choudhury, Shri Samar (Tripura West)
Chouhan, Shri Nihal Chand (Sriganganagar)
Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh (Vidisha)
Chowdhary, Shri Adhir (Berhampore, West Bengal)
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh (Phillaur)
Chowdhury, Shri Bikash (Asansol)
Chowdhury, Shrimati Renuka (Khammam)

D

D' Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix (Nominated)
Daggubati, Shri Ramanaidu (Bapatla)
Dahal, Shri Bhim (Sikkim)
Das, Shri Nepal Chandra (Karimganj)
Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan (Raiganj)
Dattatreya, Shri Bandaru (Secunderabad)
Deepak Kumar, Shri (Unnao)
Delkar, Shri Mohan S. (Dadra and Nagar Haveli)
Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari (Kalahandi)
Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan (Silchar)
Devi, Shrimati Kailasho (Kuruksheetra)
Dhikale, Shri Uttamrao (Nasik)
Dhinakaran, Shri T.T.V. (Periyakulam)
Diler, Shri Kishan Lal (Hathras)
Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji (Chimur)
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra (Birbhum)
Dudi, Shri Rameshwar (Bikaner)
Dullo, Shri Shamsher Singh (Ropar)
Durai, Shri M. (Vandavasi)

E

Eden, Shri George (Ernakulam)

Elangovan, Shri P.D. (Dharmapuri)

H

F

Farook, Shri M.O.H. (Pondicherry)

Hamid, Shri Abdul (Dhubri)

Fernandes, Shri George (Nalanda)

Handique, Shri Bijoy (Jorhat)

G

Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan (Vijayawada)

Hansda, Shri Thomas (Rajmahal)

Gadhavi, Shri P.S. (Kutch)

Haokip, Shri Holkhomang (Outer Manipur)

Gaib, Shri G.S. (Ludhiana)

Haque, Mohammad Anwarul (Sheohar)

Gamang, Shrimati Hema (Koraput)

Hassan, Shri Molnul (Murshidabad)

Gamlin, Shri Jarbom (Arunachal West)

Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz (Kishangunj)

Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal (Ahmednagar)

I

Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka (Pilibhit)

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar (Sirsa)

Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia (Amethi)

J

Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar (Bareilly)

Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao (Prabhani)

Gautam, Shrimati Sheela (Aligarh)

Jaffer Sharief, Shri C.K. (Bangalore North)

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya (Nandurbar)

Jag Mohan, Shri (New Delhi)

Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala (Dhule)

Jagannath, Dr. Manda (Nagar Kurnool)

Gawali, Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao (Washim)

Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S. (Arakkonam)

Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram (Ratnagiri)

Jai Prakash, Shri (Hardoi)

Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand (Shajapur)

Jain, Shri Pusp (Pali)

George, Shri K. Francis (Idukki)

Jaiswal, Dr. M.P. (Bettiah)

Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh (Dibrugarh)

Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal (Chandouli)

Giluwa, Shri Laxman (Singhbhum)

Jaiswal, Shri Shankar Prasad (Varanasi)

Goel, Shri Vijay (Chandni Chowk)

Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash (Kanpur)

Gogoi, Shri Tarun (Kaliabor)

Jalappa, Shri R.L. (Chikaballapur)

Gohain, Shri Rajen (Nagaon)

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan (Ujjain)

Govindan, Shri T. (Kasargod)

Javiya, Shri G.J. (Porbandar)

Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy (Hassan)

Jayaseelam, Dr. A.D.K. (Tiruchendur)

Gudhe, Shri Anant (Amravati)

Jha, Shri Raghunath (Gopalganj)

Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal (Udhampur)

Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C. (Chikkodi)

Gupta, Shri Indrajit (Midnapore)

Jos, Shri A.C. (Trichur)

Joshi, Dr. Murl Manohar (Allahabad)

Joshi, Shri Manohar (Mumbai North Central)

K

Kallappan, Shri K.K. (Gobichettipalayam)
 Kamal Nath, Shri (Chhindwara)
 Kamble, Shri Shivaji Vithalrao (Osmanabad)
 Kannappan, Shri M. (Tiruchengode)
 Kanungo, Shri Trilochan (Jagatsinghpur)
 Karunakaran, Shri K. (Mukundapuram)
 Kashyap, Shri Ball Ram (Bastar)
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh (Churu)
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K. (Dohad)
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal (Ambala)
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbai (Rajkot)
 Katiyar, Shri Vinay (Falzabad)
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet (Patiala)
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh (Kota)
 Khabri, Shri Brijlal (Jalaun)
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant (Aurangabad, Maharashtra)
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat (Jangipur)
 Khan, Shri Hassan (Ladakh)
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali (Saharanpur)
 Khan, Sri Sunil (Durgapur)
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar (Betul)
 Khandoker, Shri, Akbor Ali (Serampore)
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. (Garhwal)
 Khanna, Shri Vinod (Gurdaspur)
 Khunte, Shri P.R. (Sarangarh)
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal (Delhi Sadar)
 Kriplani, Shri Shrichand (Chittorgarh)
 Krishnadas, Shri N.N. (Palghat)
 Krishnamraju, Shri (Narsapur)
 Krishnamurthy, Shri K. Balarama (Ongole)
 Krishnamurthy, Shri K.E. (Kurnool)

Krishnan, Dr. C. (Pollachi)
 Krishnaswamy, Shri A. (Sriperumbudur)
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh (Mandala)
 Kumar, Shri Arun (Jahanabad)
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya (Mangalore)
 Kumarasamy, Shri P. (Palani)
 Kuppusami, Shri C. (Madras North)
 Kurup, Shri Suresh (Kottayam)
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna (Damoh)
 Kyndiah, Shri P.R. (Shillong)

L

Lahiri, Shri Samik (Diamond Harbour)
 Lepcha, Shri S.P. (Darjeeling)

M

M. Master Mathan, Shri (Nilgiris)
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G. (Jalgaon)
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra (Indore)
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar (Malegaon)
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das (Janjgir)
 Maharia, Shri Subhash (Sikar)
 Mahato, Shri Bir Singh (Purulia)
 Mahtab, Shri Bhartruhari (Cuttack)
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha (Jamshedpur)
 Majhi, Shri Parsuram (Nowrangpur)
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai (Surendranagar)
 Malaisamy, Shri K. (Ramanathapuram)
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar (South Delhi)
 Mallik, Shri Jagannath (Jaipur)
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G. (Davangere)
 Malyala, Shri Rajaiah (Siddipet)
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand (Monghyr)
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar (Joynagar)

Mandlik, Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba (Kolhapur)

N

Mane, Shri Shivaji (Hingoli)

Nagmani, Shri (Chatra)

Mane, Shrimati Nivedita (Ichalkaranji)

Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh (Raichur)

Manjay Lal, Shri (Samastipur)

Naik, Shri Ali Mohd. (Anantnag)

Manjhi, Shri Ramjee (Gaya)

Naik, Shri Ram (Mumbai North)

Mann, Shri Simranjit Singh (Sangrur)

Naik, Shri Shripad Yasso (Panaji)

Mann, Shri Zora Singh (Ferozepur)

Narah, Shrimati Ranee (Lakhimpur)

Maran, Shri Murasoli (Madras Central)

Nayak, Shri Ananta (Keonjhar)

Marandi, Shri Babu Lal (Dumka)

Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad (Muzzaffarpur)

Mayawati, Kumari (Akbarpur)

Nitish Kumar, Shri (Barh)

Meena, Shri Bherulal (Salumber)

O

Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur (Swai Madhopur)

Ola, Shri Sis Ram (Jhunjhunu)

Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti (Mumbai South)

Oram, Shri Jual (Sundargarh)

Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina (Padrauna)

Osmani, Shri A.F. Golam (Barpeta)

Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari (Bilhaur)

Owaisi, Shri Sultan Salahuddin (Hyderabad)

Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal (Bilaspur)

P

Mohan, Shri P. (Madurai)

Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada (Kakinada)

Mohite, Shri Subodh (Ramtek)

Pai, Shri Rupchand (Hoogly)

Mohol, Shri Ashok N. (Khed)

Palanimanickam, Shri S.S. (Thanjavur)

Mollah, Shri Hannan (Uluberia)

Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar (Giridih)

Mookherjee, Shri S.B. (Krishnagar)

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan (Mandsaur)

Moorthy, Shri A.K. (Chengalpattu)

Pandiyan, Shri P.H. (Tirunelveli)

Munda, Shri Kariya (Khunti)

Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar (Barasat)

Muni Lal, Shri (Sasaram)

Panja, Shri Ajit Kumar (Calcutta, North East)

Muniyappa, Shri K.H. (Kolar)

Paranjpe, Shri Prakash (Thane)

Muraleedharan, Shri K (Calicut)

Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh (Shahdol)

Murmu, Shri Rupchand (Jhargram)

Parthasarathi, Shri B.K. (Hindupur)

Murmu, Shri Salkhan (Mayurbhanj)

Pasi, Shri Suresh (Chail)

Murthi, Shri M.V.V.S. (Visakhapatnam)

Passi, Shri Raj Narain (Bansgaon)

Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrasekhara (Kanakpura)

Paswan, Dr. Sanjay (Nawada)

Murugesan, Shri S. (Tenkasi)

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas (Hajipur)

Muttemwar, Shri Vilas (Nagpur)

Paswan, Shri Ramchandra (Rosera)

Paswan, Shri Sukdeo (Araria)
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar (Bhubaneswar)
Patel, Dr. Ashok (Fatehpur)
Patel, Shri Atmaram Bhai (Mehsana)
Patel, Shri Chandresh (Jamnagar)
Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbhai (Daman and Diu)
Patel, Shri Deepak (Anand)
Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh (Phulpur)
Patel, Shri Dinsha (Kaira)
Patel, Shri Mansinh (Mandvi)
Patel, Shri Prahlad Singh (Balaghat)
Patel, Shri Tarachand Shivaji (Khargone)
Pathak, Shri Harin (Ahmedabad)
Patil, Shri Amarsinh Vasantao (Belgaum)
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K. (Erandol)
Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe (Kopergaon)
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R. (Bijapur)
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao (Nanded)
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb (Jalna)
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Galkwad (Beed)
Patil, Shri Luxmanrao (Satara)
Patil, Shri Prakash V. (Sangli)
Patil, Shri R.S (Bagalkot)
Patil, Shri Shivraj V. (Latur)
Patil, Shri Shrinivas (Karad)
Patil, Shri Uttamrao (Yavatmal)
Patnaik, Shrimati Kumudini (Aska)
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal (Hoshangabad)
Pawalya, Shri Jaibhan Singh (Gwalior)
Pawar, Shri Sharad (Baramati)
Phoolan Devi, Shrimati (Mirzapur)
Pilot, Shrimati Rama (Dausa)

Ponnuswamy, Shri E. (Chidambaram)
Potai, Shri Sohan (Kanker)
Prabhu, Shri Suresh (Rajapur)
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra (Deogarh)
Pradhan, Shri Ashok (Khurja)
Pramanik, Prof. R.R. (Mathurapur)
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa (Chamrajanagar)
Prasada, Shri Jitendra (Shahjahanpur)
Premajam, Prof. A.K. (Badagara)
Puglia, Shri Naresh (Chandrapur)

R

Radhakrishnan, Shri C.P. (Coimbatore)
Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon (Nagercoil)
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala (Chirayinkil)
Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore (Sitamarhi)
Raja, Shri A. (Perambalur)
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab (Mangaldai)
Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara (Jhalawar)
Rajendran, Shri P. (Quilon)
Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav, Shri (Purnea)
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh (Dhar)
Ram Sajivan, Shri (Banda)
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan (Palamu)
Ramalah, Dr. B.B. (Eluru)
Ramalah, Shri Gunipati (Rajampet)
Raman, Dr. (Rajnandgaon)
Ramachandran, Shri Gingee N. (Tindivanam)
Ramshakal, Shri (Robertsganj)
Ramulu, Shri H.G. (Koppal)
Rana, Shri Kashiram (Surat)
Rana, Shri Raju (Bhavnagar)
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar (Karimnagar)

Rao, Shri D.V.G. Shankar (Parvathipuram)

Rao, Shri Ganta Sreenivasa (Anakapalli)

Rao, Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana (Rajahmundry)

Rao, Shri Y.V. (Guntur)

Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin (Patan)

Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh (Chhota Udepur)

Rau, Shrimati Prabha (Wardha)

Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh (Bijnor)

Rawale, Shri Mohan (Mumbai South Central)

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh (Ajmer)

Rawat, Shri Pradeep (Pune)

Rawat, Shri Ramsagar (Barabanki)

Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)

Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender (Mahabubnagar)

Reddy, Shri B.V.N. (Nandyal)

Reddy, Shri Chada Suresh (Hanamkonda)

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga (Nizamabad)

Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukender (Nalgonda)

Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana (Narasaraopet)

Reddy, Shri N.R.K. (Chittoor)

Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal (Miryalguda)

Reddy, Shri Y.S. Vivekananda (Cuddapah)

Renu Kumari, Shrimati (Khagaria)

Riyan, Shri Baju Ban (Tripura East)

Rizwan Zahir, Shri (Balrampur)

Rongpi, Dr. Jayant (Autonomous District Assam)

Roy, Shri Subodh (Bhagalpur)

Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar (Coochbehar)

Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap (Chhapra)

S

Sahu, Shri Anadi (Berhampur, Orissa)

Sahu, Shri Tarachand (Durg)

Sai, Shri Vishnudeo (Raigarh)

Saiduzzama, Shri (Muzaffarnagar)

Samantray, Shri Prabhat (Kendrapara)

Sanadi, Prof. I.G. (Dharwad South)

Sanghani, Shri Dileep (Amreli)

Sangma, Shri Purno A. (Tura)

Sangtam, Shri K.A. (Nangaland)

Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh (Sonapat)

Sankeshwar, Shri Vijay (Dharward North)

Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal (Ghatampur)

Sar, Shri Nikhilananda (Burdwan)

Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed (Gulbarga)

Sarkar, Dr. Bikram (Panskura)

Saroj, Shri Tufani (Saidpur)

Saroj, Shrimati Sushila (Misrikh)

Saroja, Dr. V. (Rasipuram)

Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh (Hardwar)

Sayed, Shri P.M. (Lakshadweep)

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao (Guna)

Selvaganpathi, Shri T.M. (Salem)

Sen, Shrimati Minati (Jalpaiguri)

Sengupta, Dr. Nitish (Contai)

Seth, Shri Lakshman (Tamiluk)

Sethi, Shri Arjun (Bhadrak)

Shah, Shri Manabendra (Tehri Garhwal)

Shahabuddin, Mohd. (Siwan)

Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid (Baramulla)

Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh (Etawah)

Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dnani Ram (Shimla)

Shanmugam, Shri N.T. (Vellore)

Shanta Kumar, Shri (Kangra)

Sharma, Capt. Satish (Raebareli)

Sharma, Vaidya Vishnu Datt (Jammu)
 Shashi Kumar, Shri (Chitradurga)
 Shervani, Shri Saleem I. (Badaun)
 Shinde, Shri Sushil Kumar (Solapur)
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan (Mahasamund)
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan (Dumdum)
 Singh Deo, Shri K.P. (Dhenkanal)
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari (Bolangir)
 Singh, Capt. (Retd.) Inder (Rohtak)
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer (Mathura)
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad (Vaishali)
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan (Bhind)
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh (Maharajganj, U.P.)
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj (Aonla)
 Singh, Rajkumari Ratna (Pratapgarh)
 Singh, Sardar Buta (Jalore)
 Singh, Shri Ajit (Baghpat)
 Singh, Shri Bahadur (Bayana)
 Singh, Shri Balbir (Jalandhar)
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan (Gonda)
 Singh, Shri C.N. (Machhlishahar)
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan (Farrukhabad)
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap (Sidhi)
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay (Moradabad)
 Singh, Shri Charanjit (Hoshiarpur)
 Singh, Shri Chhatrapal (Bulandshahar)
 Singh, Shri Digvijay (Banka)
 Singh, Shri Jai Bhadra (Sultanpur)
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai (Sarguja)
 Singh, Shri Lakshman (Rajgarh)
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar (Mandi)
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath (Maharajganj, Bihar)
 Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Motihari)
 Singh, Shri Rajo (Begusarai)
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Arrah)
 Singh, Shri Ramanand (Satna)
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan (Balua, Bihar)

Singh, Shri Rampal (Domariaganj)
 Singh, Shri Sahib (Outer Delhi)
 Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba (Inner Manipur)
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad (Kodarma)
 Singh, Shri Vishvendra (Bharatpur)
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti (Bikramganj)
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama (Aurangabad, Bihar)
 Sinha, Shri Manoj (Gazipur)
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant (Hazaribagh)
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S. (Thiruvananthapuram)
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh (Godhra)
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit (Mumbai North East)
 Sorake, Shri Vijay Kumar (Udupi)
 Sreenivasan, Shri C. (Dindigul)
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C. (Chickmangalore)
 Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava (Anantapur)
 Subba, Shri M. K. (Tezpur)
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M. (Sivaganga)
 Sudheeran, Shri V.M. (Alleppey)
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)
 Sunil Dutt, Shri (Mumbai North West)
 Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Adoor)
 Swain, Shri Kharabela (Balasore)
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Jaunpur)
 Swami, Shri I.D. (Karnal)

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B. (Vadodara)
 Thakur, Dr. C.P. (Patna)
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai (Bhandara)
 Thakur, Shri Ramsheth (Kulaba)
 Thirunavukarasu, Shri (Pudukkottai)
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari (East Delhi)
 Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt (Nainital)
 Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal (Rewa)
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)

Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh (Seoni)

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani (Deoria)

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)

Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh (Tarantaran)

U

Uma Bharati, Kumari (Bhopal)

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh (Kapadvanj)

Valko, Shri (Sivakasi)

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bhari (Lucknow)

Varma, Shri. Ratilal Kaldas (Dhandhuka)

Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D. (Bharuch)

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)

Venkataswamy, Dr. N. (Tirupati)

Venkateswarlu, Shri B. (Warangal)

Venkateswarlu, Prof. Ummareddy (Tenali)

Venugopal, Dr. S. (Adilabad)

Venugopal, Shri D. (Tiruppattur)

Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)

Verma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)

Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash (Kheri)

Vetriselvan, Shri V. (Krishnagiri)

Vijaya Kumar, Shrimati D.M. (Bhadrachalam)

Vijayan, Shri A.K. S. (Nagapattinam)

Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)

Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma (Nellore)

Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

W

Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R. (Mysore)

Wanaga, Shri Chintaman (Dahanu)

Wangcha (Shri Rajkumar (Arunachal East)

Y

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha (Mahendragarh)

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh (Alwar)

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh (Manipur)

Yadav, Shri Bhal Chandra (Khallilabad)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh (Etah)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Saharsa)

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shri Jagdambal Prasad (Godda)

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Ramakant (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)

Yerrannaidu, Shri K. (Srikakulam)

Z

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob (Katwa)

Zawma, Shri Vanlal (Mizoram)

OFFICERS OF THE LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri G.M.C. Balayogi

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Shri P.M. Sayeed

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Basu Deb Acharia

Smt. Margaret Alva

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya

Shri P. H. Pandiyan

Shri Shrinivas Patil

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

Shri Beni Prasad Verma

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav

Shri K. Yerrannaidu

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri G.C. Malhotra

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CABINET MINISTERS

Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi

The Minister of Human Resource Development, Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Ocean Development

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee The Prime Minister and also Incharge of the Ministries/Departments not specifically allocated to the charge of any Minister viz :

Shri Pramod Mahajan

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information Technology

(6) Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

Shri Murasoli Maran

The Minister of Commerce and Industry

(7) Planning

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu

The Minister of Rural Development

(8) Statistics and Programme Implementation

Shri Ram Naik

The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas

(9) Atomic Energy

Shri Nitish Kumar

The Minister of Agriculture

(10) Space

Shri Jual Oram

The Minister of Tribal Affairs

Shri L.K. Advani The Minister of Home Affairs

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan

The Minister of Communications

Shri Ananth Kumar The Minister of Tourism and Minister of Culture

Shri Sunder Lal Patwa

The Minister of Mines

Shri T.R. Baalu The Minister of Environment and Forests

Shri Suresh Prabhu

The Minister of Power

Kumari Mamata Banerjee The Minister of Railways

Shri Kashiram Rana

The Minister of Textiles

Kumari Uma Bharati The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

Shri Shanta Kumar

The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Shri Sukh Dev Singh Dhindsa The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers

Shri Jaewant Singh

The Minister of External Affairs

Shri George Fernandes The Minister of Defence

Shri Yashwant Sinha

The Minister of Finance

Shri Jag Mohan The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting

Shri Arun Jaitley The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs and Minister of Shipping

Dr. C.P. Thakur

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya The Minister of Labour

Shri Sharad Yadav

The Minister of Civil Aviation

Shri Manohar Joshi The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Shri Arjun Sethi

The Minister of Water Resources

MINISTERS OF STATE (Independent Charge)

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shri M. Kannappan	The Minister of State of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	Shri Bandaru Dattatreya	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Shri B.C Khanduri	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel	Shri Jaysingrao Galkwad Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines
Shrimati Vasundhara Raje	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Small Scale Industries, Agro and Rural Industries, Minister of State in the Department of Personnel and Training, Department of Pensions and Pensioners Welfare of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Departments of Atomic Energy and Space	Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation
Shri N.T. Shanmugam	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Coal	Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shri Arun Shourie	The Minister of State of the Department of Disinvestment and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning, Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Minister of State in the Department of Administrative reforms and Public Grievances of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions	Dr. Vallabhbal Kathiria	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
		Shri Krishnamraju	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
		Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
		Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles
		Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
		Shri Subhash Maharia	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
		Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power
		Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
		Shri Muni Lall	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour
		Shri Shripad Yasso Naik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture
		Shri Omar Abdullah	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Ramesh Bais	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources
Shri Shriram Chauhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Shri Ajit Kumar Panja	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Bachi Singh Rawat 'Bachda'	The Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology
Dr. Debendra Pradhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture		
Shri E.P. Ponnuswamy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Shri Tapan Sikdar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications
Shri Pon Radhakrishnan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	Shri Digvijay Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shri A. Raja	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Th. Chaoba Singh	The Minister of State in the Department of Food Processing Industries of the Ministry of Agriculture
Shri O. Rajagopal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Dr. Raman	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Shri I.D. Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance	Prof. Rita Verma	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
		Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XI

First Day of the Fifth Session of 13th Lok Sabha

No. 1

LOK SABHA

Monday, November 20, 2000/Kartika 29, 1922 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

11.02 hrs.

(The National Anthem was played.)

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Rama Pilot (Dausa)

11.03 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I introduce New members of the Cabinet.

Shri Arun Jaitley	Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs and Minister of Shipping
Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu	Minister of Rural Development
Kumari Uma Bharati	Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports
Minister of State (Independent Charge)	
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Shri B.C. Khanduri	Minister of State of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Ministers of State	
Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee	Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri Shripad Yasso Naik	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture
Shri Pon Radhakrishnan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Shri Krishnamraju	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs

11.05 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, as we meet today after

an interval of about three months, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the sad demise of Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and five of our former colleagues.

This House wishes to place on record its condolences at the passing away of Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, on the 10th October, 2000.

Mrs. Bandaranaike has left an indelible mark on our times and hers was a pioneering role in the politics of democratic change. She made a unique contribution to the progress of non-alignment and cooperation among the developing countries. The people and leadership of this country will cherish the memory of her friendship.

This House also wishes to convey its heartfelt sympathy to the people and Government of Sri Lanka and to the members of the family of the late former Prime Minister.

Shri C. Subramaniam, affectionately called CS, was a Member of Constituent Assembly and Provisional Parliament from 1946 to 1952 representing Madras Parliamentary Constituency; Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967 representing Pollachi Parliamentary Constituency of erstwhile Madras State; Fifth and Sixth Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1979 representing Krishnagiri and Palani Parliamentary Constituencies of Tamil Nadu respectively.

An able administrator, Shri C. Subramaniam served in the Union Council of Ministers as Cabinet Minister holding various important portfolios such as Steel and Mines, Agriculture and Finance.

It was during his tenure as Agriculture Minister that India became a food surplus nation through Green Revolution Movement and Shri Subramaniam became popular as father of the Green Revolution.

As Finance Minister, Shri Subramaniam introduced Regional Rural Banks to boost rural banking in India.

He had also the distinction of being the Chairman of the United Nations Panel on Nutrition and had submitted a strategy paper on a comprehensive scheme for international action to combat malnutrition. He also served as member of the Governing Council of the International Wheat and Maize Improvement Centre, Mexico and the Board of Governors of the International Rice Research Institute, Manila.

Earlier, Shri C. Subramaniam was a member of Madras Legislative Assembly from 1952 to 1962 and served the State as Minister of Finance, Education and Law. As Minister of Education in the erstwhile Madras State, he introduced free primary education and mid-day meal programme for poor children.

Shri Subramaniam also adorned the august office of the Governor of Maharashtra from 1990 to 1993. He also served as the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission during 1971.

Shri Subramaniam was conferred the *Bharat Ratna* in 1998 for his dedicated services to the nation.

A leading light of the Freedom Movement, he left his law practice to plunge into the freedom struggle. He was imprisoned for participating in Quit India Movement in 1942.

A man of letters, Shri Subramaniam published many books, both in Tamil and English languages.

In the sad demise of Shri C. Subramaniam, the nation has lost an active political and social worker and a true patriot.

Shri C. Subramaniam passed away on 7th November, 2000 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu at the age of 90.

Shri Nanasahib Bonde was a Member of Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing Amravati Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

An advocate by profession, Shri Bonde served as President of Amravati Bar Association during 1967-68. An active parliamentarian, Shri Bonde was the Member of Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

A social worker, Shri Bonde was associated with various social and academic institutions. He took keen interest in removal of untouchability and uplift of the downtrodden.

Shri Nanasahib Bonde passed away on 21st August, 2000 at Amravati, Maharashtra at the age of 86.

Shri Mandhata Singh was a Member of the Nith Lok Sabha from 1989 to 1991 representing Lucknow Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Singh was a Member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council from 1974 to 1989. He also served on various Committees in Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Singh served as Chairman, Joint Committee on Offices of Profit during 1990 and as a Member of various Parliamentary Committees of the Lok Sabha.

A teacher by profession, Shri Singh actively participated in Teachers' Organisation and was associated with academic work and founding of educational institutions. A man of letters, Shri Singh wrote many articles in various newspapers and journals.

An active social and political worker, Shri Singh worked relentlessly for the uplift of the downtrodden and oppressed people and evinced keen interest in labour union activities.

Shri Mandhata Singh passed away on 23rd September, 2000 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 77.

Shri Sitaram Kesri was a Member of the Fourth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1970 representing Katihar Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar.

Shri Kesri served as a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1971 to 1986 and from 1988 to 2000. He also served the country as Minister in the Union Council of Ministers in different capacities with distinction. An able parliamentarian, he was also a member of various parliamentary Committees including the Public Accounts Committee in 1979.

An active freedom fighter, Shri Kesari remained all along in the vanguard of the freedom struggle. A staunch believer in Gandhain ideology and programmes, he had profound and unflinching faith in secularism. When Mahatma Gandhi gave the clarion call in 1930 for the struggle for national independence, he left home and discontinued his studies to join the freedom movement. He was imprisoned several times for participation in the Independence movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and in 1942 during Quit India Movement, he was convicted for two years.

As a social and political worker, Shri Kesri was connected with various educational and cultural institutions. He devoted his entire life for the welfare and uplift of the downtrodden, the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society.

A widely travelled person, Shri Kesri was a member of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Poland in 1979 and a delegate to the UNCTAD Conference in Santiago, Chile in 1972.

Shri Sitaram Kesri passed away on 24th October, 2000 in New Delhi at the age of 83.

Shri Gadadhar Saha was a Member of the Fifth to Eighth Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1989 representing Birbhum Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

A teacher by profession, he was associated with various educational organisations.

As a social worker, Shri Saha worked relentlessly for the uplift of the weaker sections of the society and rural development. He was also deeply associated with socio-economic, cultural development and peasants' organisation work.

Shri Gadadhar Saha passed away on 25th October, 2000 at Birbhum in West Bengal at the age of 66.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire House would like to join in paying tributes to the departed souls.

Shrimati Sirimavo Bandaranaike was the first lady Prime Minister of the world. She did not get the Prime Minister's post in inheritance or in dowry. She had to put hard labour, shed tears and sacrifice blood for the same.

She took over the reins of the country after the death of her husband and bravely discharged all her duties. Sometimes she got the throne and sometimes she was exiled, but she never lost courage. During her reign, Ceylon became Sri Lanka and emerged as a separate State. She took command of the Non-Aligned Movement and established new economic order. The developing countries looked to her with great hope and expectation. Till her end, she was engaged in the welfare of the people and country. Some months ago I met her, at that time she was holding the post of the Prime Minister. Elections were held there and change took place. Shrimati Sirimavo Bandaranaike will continue to be known as a great lady in the world and occupy a respectable position in this part of the world.

Undoubtedly Shri C. Subramaniam was one of the gems of India. He worked zealously throughout his life. He was a great thinker. He was industrious and his perseverance was wellknown. The way he skillfully managed various Ministries that really speaks of his efficiency and inspires us to emulate. Despite political differences, he was successful in changing the ideology in the agriculture field by seeking cooperation of the entire country and foreign countries as well in a big way for fulfilling his dream to free India from the clutches of hunger. Modern science is also necessary for agriculture and alongwith traditional methods new methods of increasing production are very necessary. Shri C. Subramaniam will always be remembered for new thinking alongwith new seed and good crops. He was a great thinker and till last he was engrossed in work. A few days before his death he put forward a suggestion for setting up a Commission about science. He was in favour of coordination among all the branches of science and by uniting all of them a Commission should be set up for the development of science and furthering the cause of science. When I started a computer centre at my small home in Gwalior for the children and requested him to inaugurate the centre I was surprised and moved. He gladly accepted the invitation.

Passing through the streets of Gwalior, he might have remembered the princely State of Gwalior. Streets are nice

and clean. You should not think that when we are talking about streets we are taking about invectives. There is much difference between the two. He came there and remained for long and showed interest in it. Till now, hundreds of children have received computer education there. I thanked him.

I think a mistake was committed by me by not replying to one of his letters which was reminded to me after he left. A friend told me that Shri C. Subramaniam used to complain that late Nehruji gave reply of every letter by today's leaders are such that if letter is written to them they do not give reply. I might have committed this mistake. I appolse publically. But he never gave importance to one's ideology and the political party to which one belongs to even during those times when the democratic norms in the country were guided by party politics. He was a great thinker and has the ability of taking along all the people. Therefore, the great contribution made by him to Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan is very important and will be a guiding spirit for us.

Shri Mandhata Singh was a friend of mine from Lucknow who took great interest in teaching. His demise is really a great loss for us.

What to say about Shri Sitaram Kesri. He was a great personality. He cannot be described in words because he was a man of many colours and shades. From an ordinary worker, he rose to the highest rank but he did not change his style. No matter whether he was successful or not, he continued his efforts to come in contact with people, helping them and trying to take them together. We are aggrieved by his sad demise.

Shri Nana Sahib Bonde is no more with us. I offer my tributes to him also. I hope that our tributes will be conveyed to the family members of the departed souls.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (AMETHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike. Her place in history is assured. She became the world's first woman Prime Minister in 1959, following her husband's assassination.

She was subsequently elected Prime Minister on three occasions. Amongst her outstanding achievements was the promotion of a new Constitution, which proclaimed a republic and changed the name of her country to 'Sri Lanka'.

In the international sphere, she was respected leader of the Non-Aligned Movement. She had staged the 1976 NAM Summit in Colombo. She was moved the Resolution before the UN asking that the Indian Ocean be made a 'Zone of Peace'.

Perhaps, in the field of foreign policy, her most enduring achievement was to strengthen Indo-Sri Lankan friendship. She was held in affectionate high esteem by Panditji, Indiraji and my husband. On behalf of the Congress party and on my own behalf, I convey our sincerest condolences to President Chandrika Kumaratunga and to her family and also to the people of Sri Lanka.

The passing of Shri Sitaram Kesri has left a void within the Congress party and in the hearts of all those who knew him. A freedom fighter, a social worker and a Gandhian, Kesriji was a champion of the poor and the backward classes.

He had an unflinching faith in secularism until his last breath. He proactively fought against communal forces. As treasurer of the Congress party for many years, he enjoyed the confidence of Indiraji and Rajivji. His vast experience and general popularity among all members of the Congress party carried him to the Presidentship of the Congress party. I personally valued his wise counsel.

On behalf of all the Members of the Congress party, I pay my tribute to Shri Kesri and convey my heartfelt condolences to members of his family and to his large circle of admirers, friends and supporters.

Shri C. Subramaniam has left his mark in several areas of national life. As a young freedom fighter, as an active Member of the Constituent Assembly, as an important Minister in the Rajaji and Kamaraj Cabinets in Tamil Nadu, as a Union Minister under Panditji and Indiraji, Shri Subramaniam always displayed a rare combination of vision, wisdom and a deep understanding of the nation's needs and potentials. He was one of the architects of India's Green Revolution which brought self-sufficiency in food and a better life for millions of farmers. He will be remembered for his pioneering role and contribution to public life in our country. I convey my sincerest condolences to his wife and to his family.

I also want to convey my heartfelt condolences to the family of Shri Nanasahib Bonde, Shri Gadadhar Saha and Shri Mandhata Singh, the late and respected Members of the Sixth, Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabha respectively.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my Party and on my own behalf, I associate with what has been said by you, by the Leader of the House, and also by the Leader of the Opposition. We sincerely mourn the loss of so many distinguished past Members of this House and particularly, of the late Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as has been rightly pointed out already, in the difficult situation of Sri Lanka, the then Ceylon, that Shrimati Sirmavo Bandaranaike took upon herself the mantle of governance of that country. She provided the leader-

ship to that country, the great country and the people of the then Ceylon to come out of some of their pressing problems. On her own right, she became the leader of not only Sri Lanka, but also of the Third World and of the developing countries. As has been mentioned, she advocated that Indian Ocean should be a Zone of Peace. As a sincere friend of India, she embodied in herself the finest traditions of her country, the great values, which the people of Sri Lanka have always held dear. We sincerely mourn her loss, not only as the first woman Prime Minister, but also as one of the great leader of the Third World.

Shri Subramaniam made his mark in various capacities that he held. I remember that I had the privilege of seeing him here as one of the ablest Ministers this country has had. He combined humility with efficiency and transparency with achievement.

During his period India did make a mark in the world so far as agricultural development is concerned. In the later years, he rightly became an elder statesman to whom people looked for guidance. I had also similar experience as the Prime Minister had narrated of opening a small Computer Centre in Calcutta, maybe it was a little wider road than a *gali*. As President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, he dedicated that to the common people where free training is given to the budding youngsters who want to learn computers. I had opportunities to meet him on earlier occasions also. He had an aura of friendship and affection which attracted people towards him and he never lost those qualities.

Shri Sitaram Kesri was a colourful personality. We always remember his vibrancy, friendship and his contribution to the Congress Party and the country.

Sir, I mourn the loss of Shri Gadadhar Saha who was one of our Comrades. He was elected to this House four times – from Fifth to Eighth Lok Sabha. He was dedicated to the cause of peasants. He was one of the most popular peasant leaders and educationists of the area and of the whole district. By dint of his service, he became the idol of the people there. Working here together and working outside together, I had the privilege of knowing him closely and I can tell you, Sir, that it is very difficult to find replacements for such dedicated people who do not aspire anything for themselves but only try to do good for the ordinary people who are suffering from various difficulties and problems even after so many years of Independence.

I also mourn the loss of other distinguished colleagues that we have had here. On behalf of my party and on my own behalf, I express sincere condolences to the members of the bereaved families. I earnestly request you to convey our feelings to their family members. I associate myself with everything that has been said here.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the sense of loss of this august House in the death of Shrimati Sirimavo Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and in the death of five former Members of this august House. Shrimati Bandaranaike was the symbol of equal participation of men and women in public affairs. She demonstrated that women are equal to men in providing leadership. She was very active in Non-Aligned Movement. In her death, India has lost a true friend. My party condoles her death.

Bharat Ratna Shri C. Subramaniam was a veteran and visionary. He enriched the public life of our country by his vision, words and deeds. The hundred crores of Indian population are grateful to him for his role in Green Revolution and making the country self-sufficient in food grains. In his death we have lost a great visionary.

Shri Kesri played an active role in our polity for about fifty years. He always worked for the weaker sections, particularly, the *Harijans*, *Girijans* and minorities.

From an ordinary Party worker, he rose to become the President of the National Congress. In his death, the country has lost a senior Parliamentarian and an experienced leader.

This House is witness to the contributions of S/Shri Mandhata Singh, Nanasahib Bonde and Gadadhar Saha, the former Members of the House. They represented people of their respective constituencies with sincerity and dedication.

I associate myself with the Leaders and Members of this august House in paying my condolences for the loss of these six persons of proven eminence. On behalf of the Telugu Desam Party and on my own behalf, please convey my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the Members. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by all the leaders on the sad demise of Shrimati Sirimavo Bandaranaike. She was instrumental in improving Sri Lanka's image at International level and made great efforts for strengthening the country. The people of India could not forget her because in 1962 she re-affirmed her full support to India at the international level. By this she proved if there is any friend of India then Sri Lanka is the most trusted ally of India. At that time she strongly supported India and the Indians will remain indebted to her for this great gesture. She made efforts for bringing together all the poor developing countries on one platform diligently. Therefore we are remembering her in this House. Sir, please convey my party's deep condolences to the family members, friends and relatives and to the people of Sri Lanka.

I had close contact with late Shri Sitaram Kesari since long. Though he remained in Congress party till the end yet even through his party's platform he supported us, by supporting the cause of secularism. At that time people were afraid in mentioning my name. Many parties and leaders thought by going with us they would become apponent of one particular class, but late Shri Sitaram Kesri in country's welfare and to make secularism strong played a vital role by supporting us. He reached the zenith in Congress party due to his unwavering commitment to his ideology. I am sad that such a great leader has left us for forever. I on my own behalf and on behalf of Samajwadi party express our deep condolences to him. I request you to convey our condolences to members of his family.

Late Shri Mandhata Singh and I together worked as teachers. We also were together in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. We were also in the same party and he got elected to Lok Sabha from Lucknow too. I also had the opportunity to visit the college where he was teacher or principal.

I had personal relations with Late Shri Mandhata Singh. We worked together during several programmes and agitations. I and my party are deeply shocked by his sad demise. Please convey my deep condolences to the Members of the bereaved family, friends and relatives.

Shri C. Subramaniam, Shri Nana Sahib Bonde and Shri Gadadhar Saha were all great leaders. They served the country and society in different capacities. They were popular both within and outside the House. Besides this they served the country and society as Ministers as well as in other capacities, which we can never forget. Please convey my deep condolences to the members of their families and friends.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed souls.

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

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Standard of Coaches

*1. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of olympic finalists and coaches trained by National Institutes of Sports and Sports Authority of India since their establishment alongwith their contribution in building international standards sportsmen and women;

(b) whether these authorities have failed in training good quality coaches and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete steps proposed in this direction by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) The list of Olympic Finalist since establishment of Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala (1961) is as follows :-

1964	-	OG	-	A) Hockey Men Team (Gold Medal)
				B) Athletics
				Shri G.S. Randhawa - 110 Mtrs. Hurdles - 5th
1976	-	OG	-	Shri Sriram Singh - 800 Mtrs. -7th
1984	-	OG	-	P.T. Usha - 400 Mtrs. Hurdles - 4th
				4x400 Mtrs. Relay Women Team - 7th
1980	-	OG	-	Hockey Men Team (Gold Medal)
2000	-	OG	-	A) Weightlifting (W)
				K. Kalleshwari - 3rd
				Sanamacha Chanu - 6th (Joint 4th)
				B) Shooting
				Anjali Vedpathak - 8th

Leander Paces had won a Bronze Medal in 1996 Olympic Games, he lost his Semi-Final Match and played for 3rd position, which he won.

The Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala established in 1961 has so far produced 12837 coaches including 447 from various countries in various disciplines.

In addition to training to budding sports persons, the contribution of the coaches lies in drawing up of Long Term Development Programmes (LTDP) in association with the National Sports Federation, and in providing advanced coaching to sports persons who are selected for National Camps.

(b) and (c) Though, in most of the disciplines, the coaches produced by Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala are of fairly of good standard. However, there

is a gap in in certain disciplines especially those in which India is doing well such as Boxing, Shooting, Weightlifting and Athletics. For these disciplines foreign coaches have been appointed for a limited period. The Indian coaches are also attached with them in order to up-grade the skill of the sports persons and Indian coaches.

In order to up-grade the skill of the coaches, the government has formulated a scheme under which Indian coaches are sent abroad. Clinics will be organised with the help of foreign experts in the country with a view to up-gradation of the skill of the Indian coaches.

The faculty of Sports Scientists will also be upgraded by providing latest equipment and exposure to scientist by sending them for advanced training.

[Translation]

Late Delivery of Letters

*2. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received several complaints regarding late delivery, non-delivery and wrong delivery of letters;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) There are instances of occasional delay or wrong delivery but such instances are quite few compared to the total quantum of mail handled. During 1999-2000, 10346 complaints relating to late-delivery, non-delivery and wrong delivery of mails were received while 1550.56 crore pieces of mail were handled by the Department, the percentage of complaints to the total traffic being 0.00007% only.

There are many factors for late delivery of mails which are beyond the control of the Department like cancellation/late running of mail carrying planes, trains and buses; natural calamities, civil disturbances, like, bandhs and sudden unexpected spurt in mail volume particularly during festivals. Regarding non-delivery/wrong delivery of mails, incomplete/wrong address, absence of PIN Codes, non-availability of addressee, change of residence by the addressee, etc. are important factors. Instances of human failure on the part of departmental staff are suitably dealt by the Department.

Efforts are made continuously to improve mail delivery service and the following are among the specific steps taken by the Department in this regard :

- (i) Installation of Automatic Mail Processing Centres at Mumbai and Chennai.
- (ii) Computerisation of Registration Sorting work at major mail centres.
- (iii) Computerisation of Transit Mail Offices in a phased manner.
- (iv) Segmentation of mail into various channels; called Green Channel, Metro Channel, Rajdhani Channel, Business Channel etc, for quicker segregation and transmission and speedy delivery.
- (v) Regular monitoring of mail routing, and delivery by posting Test Letters and Trial Cards.
- (vi) Progressive mechanisation of delivery by providing mopeds to postmen for delivery work in suitable areas.
- (vii) Rationalisation/restructuring of delivery, with a view to deploying adequate manpower in the expanding urban conglomeration.
- (viii) Surprise checks on delivery of mails by supervisory staff and officers.
- (ix) Live Mail Survey at regular intervals both in rural and urban areas to identify weak links and streamline and improve mail transmission and delivery system.
- (x) Regular co-ordination meetings with Airlines, Railways and State Road Transport authorities to sort out problems relating to transmission of mails.
- (xi) Encouraging pre-sorting of mails by the bulk-mailers by providing incentive of discount in postage.
- (xii) Educating the customers for installation of Mail Boxes on the ground floor of multi-storeyed buildings.
- (xiii) Preparation of triplicate registered list in the destination mail offices for bulk mailers to reduce the load on the delivery post office and speed up delivery of such mails.

[English]

Crops Damaged in Drought Hit States

- *3. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that famine situation is looming large over Rajasthan and several other States;

(b) if so, whether any team of the Union Government has visited/proposed to visit the most famine affected States to assess the losses;

(c) if so, the extent of damage suffered by crops in the drought hit areas of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan and other States;

(d) the areas hit by drought during the last three years and as on date, year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the details of Central relief/financial assistance sought by each drought hit State and the relief given to them for the rehabilitation of affected people during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) There is no situation of famine. However, parts of the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa are likely to face drought of varying magnitude due to deficient rainfall during South-West Monsoon 2000.

(b) A Central Team has been deputed to the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. It has been decided to send Central Teams to Orissa and Rajasthan. A team will be sent to Gujarat after the receipt of the memorandum from the State Government.

(c) The extent of current Kharif crop loss in the drought affected States is as under :-

States	In lakh tonnes Production Loss	
	Foodgrains	Oilseeds
Rajasthan	-12.10	-2.04
Gujarat	-14.30	-12.84
Madhya Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh	-7.22	-9.73
Orissa	-0.26	-0.02

In the current spell, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are not expected to have drought like situation.

(d) and (e) The details of States which experienced drought of varying magnitude during the last three years and the releases of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), assistance sought from National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) and releases thereof to those States are indicated in the enclosed statement.

Statement
Crops Damaged in Drought hit States

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	Calamity Relief Fund (Central share)	National Fund for Calamity Relief	
			Demanded	Releases
1997-98				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	98.29	813.33	30.00
2.	Karnataka	33.12	326.00	22.00
1998-99				
1.	Kerala	46.08	537.50	NIL*
2.	Madhya Pradesh	42.49	251.34	NIL*
3.	Orissa	40.77	445.59	NIL*
4.	Rajasthan	148.92	959.62	21.98
1999-2000				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	107.69	720.36	75.36
2.	Gujarat	121.05	722.16	54.58
3.	Himachal Pradesh	23.37	259.42	NIL*
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	17.09	214.47	73.42
5.	Karnataka	36.29	249.95	17.09
6.	Madhya Pradesh	44.29	361.61	NIL*
7.	Manipur	1.61	24.00	4.93
8.	Mizoram	1.10	35.08	6.00
9.	Rajasthan	155.25	1144.40	102.93
10.	Tripura	3.90	108.95	5.34
11.	West Bengal	44.50	NIL	NIL*

* No funds were released as the drought was not considered of rare severity and did not qualify for assistance under NCFR.

Counter-Guarantees for Power Projects

scheme for counter guarantees for private power generation and transmission projects;

*4. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

(b) if so, the salient features of the new scheme along with the details of projects thereof;

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has objected and rejected the liability that such guarantees entail;

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to

state :

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated a new

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have initially confirmed guarantees to the first 8 fast track power projects only;

(f) if so, whether the cover is sought to be extended ostensibly to boost generation by private sector;

(g) if so, whether the guarantee is being considered due to Prime Minister's commitment in Lisbon earlier; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d), (g) and (h) The Prime Minister, in his speech delivered at the India-European Union Business Summit at Lisbon, Portugal on June 27, 2000 announced that the Government was willing to consider a new guarantee structure for large transmission-projects and power purchase systems as well as accelerating the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) process for renovation and modernization of the country's power generating companies. The details of the new guarantee scheme are being worked out.

(e) and (f) The Government of India's (GoI) counter guarantee scheme was developed as a transitory measure to boost private investment in power generation and it was decided in 1994 to extend Government of India counter guarantee to eight initial projects that had been cleared for bringing in foreign investment in power sector. Of these eight private power generation projects, counter guarantee of Government of India has been extended to Jegurupadu Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project (216 MW) of M/s. GVK Industries Limited, Ib Valley Thermal Power Project (500 MW) of Ib Valley Power Private Limited and Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project (Phase-I) and 740 MW of M/s. Dabhol Power Company under the pre-revised procedure. M/s. Spectrum Power Generation Limited withdrew their request for counter guarantee for their 208 MW Godavari Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project in Andhra Pradesh. Counter guarantee of the Government of India, through the revised procedure, has been issued in August, 1998 in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s. Hinduja National Power Company Ltd. (HNPC) in Andhra Pradesh, Bhadravati Thermal Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Company (CIPCO) in Maharashtra and the 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu. The Ib Valley project was re-negotiated by the Government of Orissa before construction could commence and, therefore, techno-economic clearance was issued afresh to this project on 26.2.1999. Issue of Counter Guarantee of Government of India under the revised procedure was approved in the case of this project and the Mangalore Thermal Power Project of M/s. Mangalore Power Company, on 22.12.1999.

[Translation]

Gigantic Project for Roads

*5. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared a gigantic project to connect all the corners of the country with roads;

(b) if so, the total estimated length of roads required to be constructed under this project;

(c) the number of four or more lane roads by the end of March, 2000;

(d) whether any time limit has been stipulated for constructing the remaining four lane roads; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) A project named the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) connecting four metropolitan cities and North-South and East-West Corridors involving upgradation of the National Highways to four/ six lane standard has been undertaken. Details are as under :

(i)	Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) component connecting Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai	: 5,952 Km
(ii)	North-South (NS) Corridor connecting Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir with Kanyakumari including Salem-Cochin Spur and East-West (EW) Corridor connecting Silchar with Porbandar	: 7,300 Km
	Total	13,252 Km

(c) Completed four-lane roads are not designated by number but by length. A length of 1016 Km on the National Highway network has been four / six laned by March, 2000.

(d) and (e) GQ is targeted for completion by end 2003 and NS&EW Corridors by 2007.

[English]

Constitution of Road Safety Council

*6. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to constitute a separate Road Safety Council for the National Highways;

(b) if so, the composition of the proposed Safety Council including the criteria adopted for selecting such members to this Council;

(c) whether any additional duties are proposed to be given to such Council;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to improve road safety on National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) Necessary measures of Road Safety on all National Highways are incorporated in the Road Design at the detailed project report stage for the concerned National Highways. Suggestions received are taken due note of. The Government is taking a number of steps to improve the road safety on National Highways. These include :

- i) Widening of single lane to 2-lanes
- ii) Widening of selected 2-lane sections to 4/6-lane
- iii) Improvement of road geometrics
- iv) Construction of bypasses
- v) Reconstruction of weak and narrow bridges and culverts
- vi) Providing paved shoulders
- vii) Strengthening weak pavements
- viii) Junction improvements
- ix) Replacement of level crossings by road over-bridges

x) Retro-reflective road signs

xi) Thermoplastic road markings

xii) Provision of parking lay byes

xiii) Provision of Service Roads

xiv) Wayside amenities on high traffic density corridors, and

xv) Creation of awareness amongst various categories of Road Users.

[Translation]

Losses in SEBs

*7. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some State-Electricity Boards in the country are running at heavy losses and are under the burden of heavy debt;

(b) if so, the reasons for losses in these State Electricity Boards;

(c) the details of losses and debt burden on each State Electricity Boards as on date, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are also aware that these State Electricity Boards are exploiting the poor people by restoring to frequent hikes in the electricity tariff in order to make up their losses;

(e) whether the Union Government have been considering/devising strategy to help these boards get over the losses;

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

(g) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (g) Instead of earning a minimum Rate of Return (RoR) of 3% on their net fixed assets as statutorily required under Section 59 of the Electricity Supply Act, 1948 almost all the State Electricity Boards are showing negative returns. They are unable to clear their dues to the CPSUs which are mounting. A statement-I indicating the surplus/deficit of the SEBs is enclosed. A statement-II indicating outstanding dues of CPSUs on SEBs is enclosed.

Major factors responsible for the losses of SEBs include high T&D losses including wide spread theft and pilferage of power unviable tariff structure and unsustainable cross-subsidy, and unsatisfactory billing and collection leading to a large gap between cost of supply and revenue collection. The annual losses on account of theft are estimated to be over Rs. 20,000 crores. Effective steps against pilferage of electricity may reduce the need for increase in tariff, to fill the gap between cost of supply and realisation.

The Government of India has taken a number of initiatives towards improving the financial health of the sector. The Chief Ministers/Power Ministers Conference was organised on February 26, 2000 which took note of the impending difficult situation facing the power supply in the country due to continuing decline in commercial viability of the sector as a whole. It was resolved 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 a unit on a priority basis.

Corporatisation/Co-operatisation/Privatisation of distribution would also have to be considered.

The Government of India has also signed Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding with the States of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh affirming the joint commitment of the States and the Centre to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. The Central Government in reciprocation has committed allocation of additional power from Central generating stations and financial assistance from Power Finance Corporation and investment in transmission lines by POWERGRID.

Statement-I

Commercial Profit/Loss of SEBs (Without Subsidy)

		(Rs. in crore)							
Sl. No.	SEBs	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Provi.	(RE)	(AP)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-4	-23	-981	-1255	-939	-1376	-2263	-2703
2.	Assam	-205	-197	-255	-261	-225	-411	-306	-336
3.	Bihar	-280	-190	-189	-211	-442	-496	-514	-548
4.	Delhi (DVB)	-207	-	0	-578	-626	-760	-961	-794
5.	Gujarat	-519	-493	-550	-1003	-1069	-1274	-1440	-1498
6.	Haryana	-404	-507	-468	-554	-625	-765	-532	-502
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-15	19	11	17	10	-33	-4
8.	J&K	-225	-293	-347	-363	-507	-662	-643	-347
9.	Karnataka	-19	-2	-164	-502	-652	-331	-604	-365
10.	Kerala	-65	-75	-129	-183	-208	-199	-162	-451
11.	Madhya Pradesh	-493	-377	-594	-602	-464	-941	-1288	-1966

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Maharashtra	162	189	276	-408	-92	-11	115	214
13.	Meghalaya	-8	-3	-21	-20	158	286	105	204
14.	Orissa	-85	-196	-136	-231	-344	-287	-405	-186
15.	Punjab	-626	-693	-681	-644	-606	-979	-1381	-1223
16.	Rajasthan	-260	-415	-412	-430	-269	-386	-577	-882
17.	Tamil Nadu	-258	-302	-2	-77	-257	-318	-885	-709
18.	Uttar Pradesh	-808	-1202	-1152	-1136	-1821	-1853	-1991	-2142
19.	West Bengal	-258	-231	-339	-332	-387	-492	-692	-675
Total		-4560	-5060	-6125	-8770	-9357	-11246	-14458	-14913

Statement-II

*Outstanding Dues Payable to Central Sector Power Corporation
As on 30th September, 2000
(Including Surcharge)*

S.No.	SEBs/States	NEEPCO	NTPC	PFC	DVC	NHPC	REC	PGCIL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	321.16 \$	2.00	0.00	0.00	4.04	24.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.44	0.12	5.44
3.	Assam	467.94	42.49	0.00	1.70	0.00	143.88	124.64
4.	Bihar	0.00	2678.30	0.00	1773.36	37.81	420.83	196.49
5.	Gujarat	0.00	454.30 *	5.00	0.00	0.00	4.68	34.70
6.	Goa	0.00	4.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	-0.80
7.	HVPL (HSEB)	0.00	398.04	0.00	0.00	940.64	0.00	27.61
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.0	27.45 \$\$	6.00	0.00	69.19	0.00	0.85
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	472.74	0.00	0.00	782.04	0.03	137.68
10.	Karnataka	0.00	258.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	48.61
11.	Kerala	0.00	363.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.54
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	835.83	9.00	0.00	0.00	1153.45	45.44
13.	Maharashtra	9.26	579.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.59
14.	Manipur	83.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.92	7.06	30.71
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.89	31.50	2.51
16.	Mizoram	22.11	0.00	2.00	0.00	3.53	0.64	6.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
17.	Nagaland	45.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.24	0.03	15.56
18.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	0.00	776.58	22.00	0.00	19.17	0.00	19.04
19.	Punjab	0.00	72.96	0.00	0.00	307.23	0.05	5.04
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	378.51	0.00	0.00	112.81	0.08	46.68
21.	Sikkim	0.00	32.11	0.00	0.00	5.33	0.02	12.29
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	388.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.05	-22.33
23.	Tripura	38.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.44	0.46	7.06
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	2374.81	0.00	0.00	889.55	222.59	307.87
25.	WBSEB	4.25	1336.39 @	2.00	742.37	17.73	477.48	83.33
26.	DVB (DESU)	0.00	2665.13	0.00	0.00	492.06	0.00	162.00
27.	DVC	0.00	695.42	0.00	0.00	1.76	0.00	4.50
28.	DNH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.18
29.	Chandigarh (UT)	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	10.06	0.00	-0.08
30.	NEEPCO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.51	5.81	0.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.35
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	34.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.12
33.	Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.76	0.00
34.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.00
35.	Power Grid	0.00	3.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Other (Wind)	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	10.92	0.00
37.	Private (JPHPCL)	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		683.41	15194.68	52.01	2517.43	3731.35	2507.81	1334.68

CUMULATIVE AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2000 Rs. 26021.37 Crores

* Since received

\$ Including Rs. 2 crores of APGENCO

\$\$ Including Rs. 6 crore of HPGCL

@ Including of Rs. 2 crores of DPL

[English]

Supply of Poisonous Cotton Seeds

*8. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imported poisonous cotton seeds and supplied to farmers in various States

particularly in Andhra Pradesh causing havoc with the lives of farmers;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the company who supplied poisonous/spurious seeds; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to safeguard the interest of cotton farmers who used such poisonous seeds?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH

KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India have neither imported poisonous seeds nor supplied such seeds to farmers in the country. No permits have been issued for import of cotton seed in the last three years.

(c) and (d) Seeds Act, 1966, Seed Rules, 1968 & Seed (Control) Order, 1983 are the legal instruments to ensure the availability of quality seeds to the farmers. The responsibility for implementation of these legal instruments lies with the State Governments. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is alert to the threat of spurious seeds. They have constituted a Special Committee and deputed officer from Department of Agriculture well before the commencement of the season to keep vigil on supplies of seeds and to carry out inspection of dealers premises. During the inception of the Special Team, 71 cases were booked, 5759 Qtls. of seeds worth Rs. 1.72 crore were seized/detained.

During the year 1999-2000, Government of Andhra Pradesh has notified 907 Seeds Inspectors. 10,629 samples and 2302 samples have been drawn under Seeds Act and Seed (Control) Order respectively by these Inspectors for the purpose of implementing these instruments in the State.

[Translation]

Setting up of C.R.F.

*9. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Central Road Fund for maintenance of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount allocated for the purpose during the current financial year;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any rule or criteria in regard to the said fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The CRF has been revamped by crediting to it the cess of Re. 1/- per litre on petrol and diesel levied with effect from 2.6.1998 and 1.3.1999 respectively. An Ordinance has been promulgated on 01.11.2000 to give statutory effect to revamp the Central Road Fund. The Ordinance empowers the Central Govern-

ment to administer, manage and allocate the accrued amount in the following manner :-

- 1) 50% of the cess on High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil for development of rural roads;
- 2) 50% of the cess on HSD and the entire cess collected on petrol will be allocated as under :-
 - i) 57.5% for the development and maintenance of National Highways.
 - ii) 12.5% for the construction of road under/over bridges and safety works at unmanned railway crossing; and
 - iii) Balance 30% on development and maintenance of State roads.

A sum of Rs. 5800 crores has been provided for in the Budget 2000-2001.

[English]

Lifting of Milk Samples

* 10. SHRI SAHIB SINGH :

DR. S. VENUGOPAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has directed the Government to lift milk samples from all private dairies and initiate suitable action against those found guilty;

(b) if so, the details of the dairies from whom milk samples were lifted and number out of them found adulterated;

(c) the punitive action taken against those found guilty;

(d) whether the Government are framing guidelines for display of the registration number on milk packets; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) The Government have not received any such direction from Delhi High Court.

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

(d) and (e) Para 26(2) of Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 (MMPO) provides for displaying registration number

granted under the Order. Guidelines for proper display of registration number granted under MMPO will be issued shortly.

Difficulties faced by Coconut Cultivators

*11. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute difficulties expressed by the coconut cultivators due to the decreasing prices of coconut and its products;

(b) whether the Government have received any representations from State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide relief to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India have directed NAFED, its nodal agency to undertake price support operation for procurement of copra under the Minimum Support Price Scheme. So far NAFED has purchased a total quantity of 1.37 lakh tonnes of Milling Copra in the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The procurement is still in progress. The Government has also increased the basic import duty on copra to 35% and on coconut oil (crude and refined) to 45%.

Modernisation of Old Power Plants

*12. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of ageing Hydro and Thermal Power Plants are unable to meet the target of power production in the country;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor, plant-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for increasing the generating capacity at an economical cost through the renovation and modernisation of ageing/existing power plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The total installed generating capacity in the country, as on 31.10.2000 is 1,00,077.35 MW, out of which thermal capacity is 71,245.36 MW and hydel capacity 24,712.26 MW. The thermal units are designed for an economical life of 25 years. 28 thermal power stations comprising 80 units aggregating to a capacity of 5952 MW have completed their useful economic life and due to ageing etc. are not able to generate at their full capacity and require Renovation, Modernisation and Life Extension. Besides ageing, poor quality of coal, non-availability of spares for obsolete equipment and poor maintenance of plants are also responsible for sub-optimal performance of the plants. The list of Thermal Power Stations requiring R&M and Life Extension due to ageing is attached as statement-I.

Similarly, the Normative Operative Life of hydro electric power plant is 30-35 years after which it normally requires Life Extension through renovation and modernisation, otherwise the units would not be able to produce the targeted generation. Out of a total hydel capacity of 24,712.26 MW in the country, 35 power stations comprising 106 units aggregating to a capacity of 3541.25 MW have become about 30 years old and require Renovation, Modernisation and Life Extension. The list of hydro power stations over 30 years old, where life extension may be required based on RLA studies, is attached as statement-II.

(c) and (d) The Government of India, having recognized the importance of Renovation & Modernisation (R&M) way back in 1984, launched a programme (Phase-I-R&M) comprising 34 thermal power stations covering 163 units in the country, which resulted in an additional generation of about 10,000 MUs/annum. Phase-II-R&M covering 44 stations with 198 units has been taken up for implementation. Presently, the Power Finance Corporation is providing loan assistance to SEBs for R&M of existing power stations and the Government is providing 4% interest subsidy under Accelerated Generation and supply Programme (AGSP).

Considering the importance of R&M and Life Extension Programme of both thermal and hydro power stations in the country, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has prepared a National Perspective Plan (NPP) upto 2012 for R&M, Life Extension and Upgrading of thermal and hydro power stations in the country covering about 63,422 MW (47,600 MW thermal and 15,822 MW hydro) capacity.

Keeping in view the poor financial health of the SEBs and the urgent requirement of R&M and Life Extension programme, the Government have formulated a scheme called the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) under which financial assistance in the form of grant and Loan is proposed to be provided for Renovation and Modernisation of the ageing power plants and upgradation of distribution network including sub-transmission system and metering. The modalities for implementing the scheme and the manner of funding are being finalized.

Statement-I*Details of Thermal Units due for RLA / LEP*

S.No.	State/Utility	Name of TPS	Installed Capacity (MW)
1.	DVC	Bokaro 'A' (U 1-4)	247.50
2.	-do-	Chandrapura (U 1-5)	660
3.	-do-	Durgapur (U-3)	140.00
4.	MPEB	Amarkantak (U 1&2)	60
5.	-do-	Korba II (U 1-4)	200.00
6.	-do-	Satpura (U 1-5)	312.5
7.	GEB	Dhuvaran (U 1-6)	534.20
8.	ASEB	Namrup GT (U 1-3)	69.00
9.	-do-	Chandrapur (U 1)	30.00
10.	APGENCO	Nellore (U 1)	30.00
11.	-do-	Ramagundam (U 1)	62.50
12.	-do-	Kothagudem (U 5&6)	220.00
13.	WBSEB	Bandel (U 1-4)	330.00
14.	-do-	Santalidih (U 1&2)	240.00
15.	BSEB	Patratu (U 1-6)	350.00
16.	-do-	Baruni (U 4 & 5)	100.00
17.	UPRVUNL	Obra (U 1-8)	550.00
18.	-do-	H'ganj (U 1, 3&4)	170.00
19.	-do-	Panki (U 1&2)	64.00
20.	DVB	I.P. (U 2-5)	247.5
21.	MSEB	Bhusawal (U 1)	62.50
22.	-do-	Paras (U 2)	62.50
23.	-do-	Nasik (U 1&2)	280.00
24.	-do-	Parli (U 1&2)	60.0
25.	-do-	Koradi (U 1&2)	240.00
26.	NTPC	Badarpur (U 1, 2&3)	300.00
27.	PSEB	Bhatinda (U 1&2)	220.00
28.	HPGCL	Faridabad (U 1)	60.00

Statement-II

List of Projects about 30 years old considered for RLA Studies / Life Extension Programme

Sl.No.	Name of Power Station / Year of Commn.	Installed Capacity (MW)	Whether RLA studies required	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tungabhadra Dam/A.P. 1957-64	2x9+2x9	Yes	
2.	Hampi/A.P. 1958-64	2x9+2x9	Yes	
3.	Upper Sileru I/A.P. 1967-68	2x60	Yes	
4.	Nizam Sagar/A.P. 1956	2x5	Yes	
5.	Bhakra LB/BBMB 1960-61	5x108	No	Uprating/RLA studies carried out M/s Hitachi who recommended uprating from 108 MW to 120 MW.
6.	Shimsha/KPTCL 1940	2x8.6	Yes	
7.	Panniar/KSEB 1963-34	2x15	No	Major RM&U work being carried out which includes replacement of turbine runner, rewinding/replacement of generators, exciters, governors, C&I equipment etc.
8.	Pallivasal/KSEB 1948-51	3x5+3x7.5	No	-do-
9.	Sengulam/KSEB 1954	4x12	No	-do-
10.	Sholayar/KSEB 1966-68	3x18	Yes	
11.	Idukki St, I/KSEB 1976	3x130	Yes	
12.	Kittiyady/KSEB 1972	3x2	Yes	
13.	Gandhi Sagar/MPSEB 1960-64	5x23	Yes	
14.	Dhakrani/UP 1965-70	3x11.25	Yes	
15.	Dhalipur/UP 1965-70	3x17	Yes	
16.	Khatima/UP 1955-56	3x13.8	Yes	
17.	Pathri/UP 1955	3x6.8	Yes	
18.	Rihand/UP 1962-66	6x50	Yes	RLA studies carried out. It is proposed to uprate the units from 50 MW to 60 MW.
19.	Obra/UP 1970-71	3x33	Yes	Although major RM&U work including re-insulation of stator/rotor winding, renovation of shaft seals, governor, replacement of amplidyne, slip rings etc. being undertaken, RLA studies for turbine component, D/D Pumps etc. could also be carried out.

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Rana Pratap Sagar/ Rajasthan 1968-69	4x43	Yes	<p>A reconnaissance study Report prepared by KFW Germany which recommended as follows :</p> <p>I. To renew the essential component & minimum work for modernisation.</p> <p>RPS - New static exciters inclu. AVR, replacement of electrical equipment for Gen. Sets.</p> <p>JS - Modification of Tail runners, new static exciters, replacement of electrical equipment for gensets only.</p> <p>II. Life Extension</p> <p>RPS & JS - Improvement of tail race drop out structure New runners, rehabilitation of alternators, New 0.4 IV, 11KV, 132 KV switchgears & aux.</p>
21.	Jawahar Sagar/Raj. 1972-73	3x33		
22.	Sholayar I/T.N. 1971	2x35	Yes	RLA studies carried out by TNEB.
23.	Periyar/T.N. 1958-65	4x35	Yes	-do-
24.	Sholayar II/T.N. 1971	1x25	Yes	-do-
25.	Aliyar/T.N. 1970	1x60	Yes	
26.	Sarkarpathy/T.N. 1966	1x30	Yes	
27.	Kodayar I/T.N. 1970	1x60	Yes	
28.	Kodayar II/T.N. 1960-64	1x40	Yes	RLA studies carried out by TNEB.
29.	Kundah I/T.N. 1960-64	3x20	Yes	
30.	Kundah II/T.N. 1960-64	5x35	Yes	
31.	Kundah III/T.N. 1966-78	3x60	Yes	
32.	Kundah IV/T.N. 1964-88	2x50	Yes	
33.	Kundah V/T.N.	2x20	Yes	
34.	Moyar PH/T.N. 1952-53	3x12	Yes	
35.	Mettur Tunnel */TN 1965-66	4x50	Yes	

* Based on the problems faced by TNEB a proposal of RM&U made by TNEB which incl. Intake gates, trash rack, screens, repair of penstock pipes & spiral casing, modernising governors, static excitation system, replacement of stator/rotor winding with class F insulation, auto synchronisation, replacement of Sw. gear & repair of generator transformer etc.

Note 2 :- TNEB has also carried out RLA studies on 4 of its power stations listed at item 25 to 36.

National Agricultural Policy

*13. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the National Agricultural Policy in depth;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the areas where Government propose to seriously implement the policy recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The National Agriculture Policy was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 28th July, 2000.

The Policy seeks to promote sustainable and demand driven growth of agriculture, based on efficient use of natural resources, to face the challenges confronting Indian agriculture today. To achieve the stated objectives, the Policy has indicated a nine-fold package of policy initiatives for development of sustainable agriculture, food and nutritional security, generation and transfer of technology, improving management of inputs, providing incentives for agriculture, promoting investments in agriculture, strengthening institutional structure to channelise the energies of small and marginal farmers, ensuring better risk management and introducing management reforms.

Several recommendations of the National Agriculture Policy are already under implementation. It has been decided to prepare an Action Plan, in consultation with all concerned, for effective implementation of National Agriculture Policy. An Inter-Departmental Committee has been constituted in the Ministry of Agriculture to coordinate and achieve necessary networking in the preparation of Action Plan. The Committee had been asked to submit an Action Plan by December, 2000.

The Government are serious about implementing all the recommendations contained in the National Agriculture Policy.

[Translation]

Fall in Prices of Agricultural Produce

*14. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of agricultural produce have slumped considerably and the farmers are not getting remunerative prices of their agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the comparative prices of agricultural crops during this financial year and the last year; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to provide remunerative price to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The prices of agricultural produce are ruling below the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by the Government at some places. The designated central nodal agencies have been directed to procure the quantities offered by the farmers so as to ensure that the farmers get remunerative prices. The Government is also using import tariff as an instrument for controlling imports wherever necessary and encouraging exports so as to bring in balance the supply and demand for agricultural commodities. A statement showing percentage variation in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) numbers of important agricultural commodities during the current year and the last year is enclosed. Information on farm harvest prices during the current year is also being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Commodities	Annual percentage variation in the WPI number (as on 28-10-2000)	
	2000 over 1999	1999 over 1998
1	2	3
Agricultural Commodities	1.0	-1.5
Rice	-7.6	20.9
Jowar	-23.3	30.8
Bajra	-17.1	36.8
Ragi	-9.3	22.7
Maize	-3.3	13.1
Wheat	-1.8	20.7
Barley	-23.8	46.9
Gram	11.7	2.4
Arhar	-25.2	-14.3
Moong	-2.2	3.9

1	2	3
Urad	16.5	18.4
Sugarcane	0.0	12.2
Cotton	8.1	-10.7
Groundnut-in-shell	-3.6	-0.7
Jute	20.9	0.0
Rapeseed/Mustard	-21.6	-20.5
Sunflower Seed	11.0	-29.2
Soyabean	-16.5	-9.4
Safflower	-16.2	-13.7
Tobacco	5.4	-18.3
Copra	-42.5	21.6
Sesamum	-31.4	9.1

[English]

Starvation Deaths

*15. DR. RAJESHWARMMA VUKKALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether starvation deaths are still reported in the country especially in western Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to assist the drought hit States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) No such reports have been received from the State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by the Central Government to mitigate drought are briefly as under :

- (i) A drought Contingency Action Plan has been circulated to the drought affected States.
- (ii) The Central Government is constantly monitoring and reviewing the drought situation and advising the States for initiating appropriate timely measures.
- (iii) It has been decided to send Central Teams for assessment of the drought situation.

(iv) The due Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been released to the drought affected States.

(v) It has been decided to allocate additional foodgrains at BPL rate @ 20 k.g. per family unit to all the families in the drought affected areas.

(vi) Fund have been released under related Central Schemes for starting employment generation programmes.

(vii) The States have been advised to start Food for Work Programme.

(viii) The Department of Drinking Water Supply is constantly monitoring drinking water supply projects with a view to expediting these.

(ix) The Central Ground Water Board has been advised to handover exploratory tubewells to the States for the purpose of drinking water.

(x) The States have been advised to sensitize farmers about the scarcity of water and encourage them to go for the crops which require less water.

(xi) States have also been advised to open fodder depots and cattle camps wherever necessary.

[Translation]

Pollution in Rivers

*16. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY :

KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the major polluted rivers in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any concrete steps for cleaning of these rivers;

(d) if so, the steps taken alongwith expenditure incurred during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the time by which the water of these rivers is likely to be cleaned?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, polluted stretches in 24 major rivers in 16 States have been identified. The State-wise details of rivers are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Government started the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I in 1985 which has been completed on 31-3-2000 at a cost of Rs. 452 crore. Government have subsequently approved the National River Conservation Plan which includes the Ganga Action Plan Phase II at a cost of Rs. 2504.92 crore. The Action Plan includes such works as (i) interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river and divert it for treatment, (ii) sewage treatment plants for treating the diverted sewage, (iii) low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks, (iv) electric and improved wood based crematoria to conserve wood and prevent the pollution of rivers on account of disposal of unburnt dead bodies into the rivers, (v) river front development works such as improvement of bathing ghats etc. and (vi) other miscellaneous works. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the existing environmental laws.

The amount spent on the cleaning of these rivers during the last three years is given below :

Year	(Rs. in crore)
1997-98	99.44
1998-99	107.76
1999-2000	157.31
2000-2001 (till 31.10.2000)	25.63

(e) The National River Conservation Plan is targeted to be completed by 2005.

Statement

Rivers covered under National River Conservation Plan

River No.	Rivers	State No.	State
1	2	3	4
I	Adyar	1	Tamil Nadu
II	Betwa	2	Madhya Pradesh
III	Bhadra	3	Karnataka
IV	Brahamini	4	Orissa

1	2	3	4
V	Cauvery		Karnataka Tamil Nadu
VI	Cooum		Tamil Nadu
VII	Chambal	5	Rajasthan Madhya Pradesh
VIII	Damodar	6	Jharkhand
		7	West Bengal
IX	Ganga	8	Uttar Pradesh
		9	Bihar
		10	Uttaranchal West Bengal
X	Godavari	11	Andhra Pradesh
		12	Maharashtra
XI	Gomati		Uttar Pradesh
XII	Khan		Madhya Pradesh
XIII	Krishna		Maharashtra
XIV	Kshipra		Madhya Pradesh
XV	Mahanadi		Orissa
XVI	Narmada		Madhya Pradesh
XVII	Sabarmati	13	Gujarat
XVIII	Satluj	14	Punjab
XIX	Subarnarekha		Jharkhand
XX	Tapti		Madhya Pradesh
XXI	Tunga		Karnataka
XXII	Tungabhadra		Karnataka
XXIII	Wainganga		Madhya Pradesh
XXIV	Yamuna	15	Delhi
		16	Haryana
			Uttar Pradesh

*[English]***Post Offices in Gujarat**

*17. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the criteria fixed for opening of post office in villages;
- (b) the number of villages in Gujarat where post office are available;

(c) whether there are a number of villages in certain States where postal facility of delivery of mail is available, but there is neither a post box nor any arrangement for the sale of post cards, envelopes and postage stamps etc. so far; and

(d) if so, the reasons for depriving such villages from such facilities even after golden jubilee of independence?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch Offices in rural areas are as follows :

	In normal Areas	In hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas
(1) Population	3000 (in a group of villages including the PPO village)	500 in individual village; or 1000 in a group of villages
(2) Distance	3 Kms. from the nearest existing post office.	3 Kms. Except that the distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in special cases.
(3) Anticipated income	33.33% of the cost	15% of the cost

(b) The post offices are available in 8090 villages in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) Postal facility has been extended to all the villages in the country and delivery of mail is also available there on daily basis. Extra Departmental Delivery Agents sell postage stamps and stationery while on mail delivery duty in the villages. For providing greater availability of post cards, envelopes and stamps for sale as also delivery of mails in the rural areas, Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras Scheme has been introduced recently and during the current year it is proposed to open 2000 such Kendras in the rural areas. According to the recent policy decision of the Department, letter boxes are being provided in villages having 300 or more population.

Illegal Trade in Animal Parts

*18. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the serious ecological imbalance caused owing to international market flourishing on the dead bodies of animals species;
- (b) if so, the action taken against the mafia controlling such business; and
- (c) the action proposed against illegal trade in animal parts?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Poaching and illegal

trade of wildlife and its derivatives by the organised mafia has serious implications for the conservation of wildlife in the country. Poachers have, over the years, developed strong linkages with international mafia. They take full advantage of the increased conflict between man and wildlife and instigate the villagers to poach or assist in poaching those animals that fetch very high price in the international clandestine market. They also take advantage of the inadequate infra-structural facilities of the forest department out side the protected areas. The problem is also compounded by the degradation of the habitat of wild animals due to increase in the human and cattle population in and around the protected areas. The important wildlife products traded illegally from the country by the organised gangs include Musk, Rhino, horns, Bear bile, Elephant tusk, Tiger skin and bones and Leopard skin and bones and Shahtoosh.

Government of India has taken following measures against these mafias for controlling such illegal activities :

- (i) Regional and sub-regional offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres in the country have been set up to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (ii) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- (iii) Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

1972 to apprehend and prosecute offenders involved in illegal activities.

- (iv) Government of India provides financial and technical help to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National parks and Sanctuaries, Eco-Development in and Around Protected Areas, Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development Programme etc. for enhancing the capacity and interest of the State so that they can protect the wildlife effectively. Financial assistance is also provided for establishing Strike Force and for providing arms to protection staff for combating the organised mafias. In addition, assistance is provided for giving rewards to informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.
- (v) A Special Co-ordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests for effective control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife. Many State Govts. have also set up similar committees at the State/District level.
- (vi) Periodic meetings are held with the State Govts for effective monitoring of the protection measures for wildlife.
- (vii) Govt. of India has streamlined its export import policy to curb smuggling of wildlife and its products from the country.
- (viii) Govt. of India has enhanced the compensation amount for loss of human life due to attack of wild animals from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 1.00 lakh to prevent retaliatory action by people.

Improvement in the Management of Zoological Parks

*19. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the management and maintenance of zoological parks and wildlife sancuaries to industrial houses or non-governmental voluntary organisations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to bring improvement in the management of zoological parks and wildlife sanctuaries in the country;

(d) whether zoo management courses are not available and the people are being sent abroad for training;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to start the Academy for zoological park management; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) In India, the ownership pattern of zoos is very varied. The State Governments, Municipal Corporations, Government Undertakings and Corporate Sectors have established their own zoos. Any decision to transfer the management of any zoo to any other agency can be taken by the owners of the zoo only. Government of India is not aware of any proposal in this regard.

As far as sanctuaries are concerned, the forest land comprising part of National Parks and Sanctuaries are the properties of State Governments and any decision to transfer the management can be taken by the State Government only. Government of India is not aware of any such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to improve zoo management :-

* Government of India has established Central Zoo Authority under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 with the objective of enforcing standards for housing, upkeep and health care of zoo animals. Central Zoo Rules have also been incorporated under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 providing standards and norms for the upkeep, housing and health care of animals in the zoos.

* A three pronged strategy has been devised for improvement of zoos in the country :-

(a) To stop establishment of sub-standard zoos in future.

(b) To close the zoos where the possibility of bringing the status of management of zoo animals to the prescribed standards does not exist.

(c) To provide technical and financial assistance to the zoos which have potential to improve and come upto the prescribed stand-

ards. Since its inception the Central Zoo Authority has provided financial assistance of Rs. 27.48 crores to various zoos for the improvement of animals housing, upkeep, health care facility, veterinary care and rescue centres.

- * Central Zoo Authority has organised regular courses with Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun for capacity building and grading the skills of zoo managers, zoo supervisors and zoo veterinarians. They have also been sent to small courses to Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, U.K. for exposure to Zoo management in the developed countries.

- * Since the inception of Central Zoo Authority, 23 mobile zoos have been closed.

Steps taken by the Government to improve management of sanctuaries and national parks :-

- * States are being insisted upon to prepare management plans for the sanctuaries without which no financial assistance would be provided.
- * Settlement of rights and rationalisation of boundaries is being done on priority basis.
- * Hundred per cent assistance for both recurring and non-recurring items would be provided to protected areas in high mountains, coastal zones and deserts having the following endangered species - Musk Deer, Turtle, Red Panda, Snow Leopard, Rhino, Phary's Monkey, Sangai Deer and Great Indian Bustard.
- * Financial outlay under different schemes of wildlife has been increased from about Rs. 174.42 crores in the 8th Five Year Plan to about Rs. 364 crores in the 9th Five Year Plan.
- * For capacity building training courses for staff in wildlife are being regularly organised at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun.

(d) Except for short term capsule courses organised by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun/Central Zoo Authority, there are no other courses available on zoo management in the country. The people are sent abroad with the objective of providing them exposure in the management of zoos of the developed countries.

(e) No such proposal under active consideration of the Ministry.

(f) Does not arise.

Safeguarding the Interest of Indian Farmers

*20. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a four member Task Force to assess the impact of WTO on Indian agriculture and to suggest measures to safeguard the interest of Indian farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Task Force is likely to submit its report to the Government; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to safeguard the interest of the farmers in this context?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A High Level Task Force on Agriculture has been constituted with the following members :-

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| (i) | Shri Sharad Joshi,
Chairman, Shetkari Sangathan | - | Chairman |
| (ii) | Shri P.P. Prabhu, Former
Secretary (Commerce),
Government of India | - | Member |
| (iii) | Prof. Abhjit Sen, Economist,
Presently Chairman,
Commission for Agriculture
Cost and Prices | - | Member |
| (iv) | Shri R.C.A. Jain, Addl.
Secretary, Department of
Agriculture and Cooperation | - | Member Secretary |

The term of reference of the Task Force are :

(a) To assess the impact of WTO commitments on

Indian agriculture and to suggest steps to safeguard the interest of the sector, while exploiting the opportunities presented by this treaty;

- (b) To make recommendations to integrate the use of information technology and other emerging technologies in the agricultural sector;
- (c) To make recommendations to effective risk management in agriculture including in production systems, insurance, price mechanisms, future trading, etc. and
- (d) Any other matter referred to it by the Government.

The Task Force is expected to submit its report by February, 2001

(d) In order to formulate India's negotiating proposals on the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) under the WTO, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, jointly with the Ministry of Commerce, organised three regional Consultations on the AoA with the representatives of State Governments, Farmers' organisations, NGOs and experts at Ahmedabad on 31st January at Calcutta on 27th March and at Cochin on 7th April, 2000. A National Seminar was also organised at IIFT, New Delhi on 10th June, 2000. It was followed by two meetings taken by the Union Agriculture Minister with leaders of Political Parties, Farmers' Representatives and Voluntary Organisations on the 13th September and with State Ministers for Agriculture and Food on 14th September, 2000. On the basis of inputs and advice received during these consultations and meetings, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has prepared negotiating proposals in the interest of the country on the following issues :

- (i) Market Access
- (ii) Domestic Support
- (iii) Export Competition
- (iv) Food Security.

Theft of Telephone Cables

1. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of cases of telephone cable thefts occurred in the capital during the last one year and till date;
- (b) the number of telephones remained out of order as a result of telephone cable thefts;
- (c) the period for which the telephones in each area remained out of order;

(d) the relief given to telephone consumers for the said period; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard telephone cables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Typists and Stenographers

2. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of typists and stenographers in the Ministry/Department and its subordinate offices who have not received training in Hindi typing and stenography so far;
- (b) the reasons for not imparting this training to them; and
- (c) the time by which such a training is likely to be imparted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) At present, there are 8 typists and 19 stenographers in the Ministry and its offices who have not received training in Hindi typing and Hindi stenography respectively.

(b) and (c) The typists and stenographers who do not know Hindi typing and Hindi stenography are being regularly nominated for respective trainings in different sessions in a phased manner. Training is a continuous process and it is our endeavour to train all our typists and stenographers in Hindi as early as possible.

[English]

Cultivable/Arable Land in Bihar and Jharkhand

3. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total cultivable/arable land in Bihar and Jharkhand States; and
- (b) the area under flood-prone and drought-prone in the above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The total

cultivable/arable land in the State of Bihar including Jharkhand is 92.3 lakh ha.

(b) The estimated flood prone and drought prone areas are 42.6 lakh ha. and 44.4 lakh ha. respectively.

Out of Order Telephones

4. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telephone communications to each block headquarters, the Gram Panchayats, Health Centres and the Police Station are mostly found disorder and 50% of the Sub-Divisional Government Head Quarters run in Tripura dislinked from the other parts of the State and country due to nonfunctioning of telephones;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these problems have been created due to non-supply of required machinery accessories and electronic equipments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, telecom services in few sub-divisional Head Quarters and Block Headquarters & Gram Panchayats are not up to the mark due to unreliable transmission media. Plan is made to provide reliable transmission media to all exchanges and new technology like wireless in local loop for VPTs in a phased manner.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Cellular Telephone Companies

5. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of those cellular telephone companies which have not yet started their operation though they have been granted licences much earlier;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against these operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Sir, out of the companies who hold Cellular Telephone Service Licenses

at present, only one company namely M/s Hexacom India Limited have not yet started their cellular service in North East Telecom Circle. M/s Hexacom have informed that due to difficult law and order situation, they could not start their operation in North East yet. A decision was taken to allow additional time, as required by the licensee company to start the service, in view of the prevailing circumstances.

New Telephone Exchanges in A.P.

6. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh telecom circle is planning to open about 200 new telephone exchanges in remote areas during 2000-2001;

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

(c) whether A.P. telecom circle needs extra allotment of 2000 Kms (1500 kms of 6F and 500 kms of 12F) fibre for the year 2000-2001;

(d) if so, whether A.P. Government have requested his Ministry to allot required cable on priority basis to AP Telecom circle; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is planned to open 300 new telephone exchanges in the rural/remote areas of Andhra Pradesh Telecom. Circle during 2000-2001. Location-wise details of 82 exchanges commissioned from 1.4.2000 to 15.11.2000 are given in the statement-I and the details of 218 exchanges planned to be commissioned during the remaining period of the year 2000-2001 are given in the statement-II.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Additional 2000 kms optical fibre cable (6F=1500 kms, 12F=500 kms) has been allotted to A.P. Telecom Circle. Efforts are being made to procure the required material.

Statement-I

New Exchanges Commissioned in Rural Areas of A.P. State (From 1.4.2000 to 15.11.2000)

Sl.No.	Name of the District	Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange
1	2	3	4
1.	Adilabad	1	Dahegaon
2		2	Devapur (T)

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
3.		3	Latekdi	32.		7	Parumanchala
4.	Anantpur	1	Pennanagar	33.	Mahabubnagar	1	Baluepalli
5.	Chittoor	1	Eedigapalli	34.		2	Burugula
6.	Cuddapah	1	Ankalammaguduru	35.		3	Gundur
7.	Guntur	1	Chiluvuru	36.		4	Itikyal
8.		2	Mutluru	37.		5	Karkalpahad
9.		3	Panidem	38.		6	Managanur
10.		4	Tyallur-75	39.		7	Mulohara
11.		5	Ullipalem	40.		8	Narva
12.	Karimnagar	1	Allipur	41.	Medak	1	Chittapur
13.		2	Erdandi	42.		2	Mahendra & Mahendra
14.		3	Ganneruvaram	43.		3	Nacharamgutta
15.		4	Kamalpur	44.		4	Narsingi
16.		5	Katkur	45.		5	Pathoor
17.		6	Hanumajipeta	46.		6	Shivampet
18.		7	Peddalingapur	47.	Nalgonda	1	Alagadapa
19.		8	Polasa	48.		2	Ennaram
20.		9	Paidimadugu	49.		3	Kanagal
21.		10	Samudrala	50.		4	Kapugallu
22.		11	Venkataropalli	51.		5	Kunilagudem
23.		12	Uppal	52.		6	Mariyala
24.	Khammam	1	Bandirevu	53.		7	Motakonduru
25.	Krishna	1	Uppuluru	54.		8	Peddamanagala
26.	Kurnool	1	Chintalayapalli	55.		9	Pillaipally
27.		2	Chityala	56.		10	Sivannagudem
28.		3	Edurur	57.		11	Tirumalagiri
29.		4	Kadumuru	58.		12	T.K. Pahad
30.		5	Lakshmipuram	59.		13	Vemulakonda
31.		6	Madhavaram				

1	2	3	4
60.	Nellore	1	Amencherla
61.		2	Doravarisatram
62.		3	Rudrakota
63.	Nizamabad	1	Badabheemgal
64.		2	Gannaram
65.		3	Gundanemaly
66.		4	Mendora
67.		5	Nagampeta
68.		6	Naleswar
69.		7	Ramadugu
70.	Prakasam	1	Kalluru
71.		2	Kamepalli
72.		3	Poihavaram
73.		4	Sanikavaram
74.	Rangareddy	1	Borampeta
75.		2	Thumkunta
76.	Srikakulam	1	Peddaseedi
77.	Warangal	1	Balapala
78.		2	Gavicherla
79.		3	Girnibavi
80.		4	Komaravelli
81.		5	Nadikuda
82.		6	Yellapur

Statement-II

New Exchanges proposed to be commissioned in Rural Areas of A.P. during 2000-2001

(from 16.11.2000 to 31.03.2001)

1.	Adilabad	1	Achalapur
2		2	Bhimini

1	2	3	4
3		3	Dhanora (B)
4.		4	Kotapalli
5.		5	Lonvelly
6.		6	Maddipadaga
7.		7	Narayanapur
8.		8	Pathabellampalli
9.		9	Ramtek
10.		10	Tallagurajala
11.	Anantpur	1	Brahmasamudram
12.		2	Cheemalavagupalli
13.		3	Janthuluru
14.		4	Murutla-II
15.		5	Muthavakunta
16.		6	Narayanapuram
17.		7	Nayamaddala
18.		8	Ravula Cheruvu
19.		9	Seetharamnagar
20.		10	Tagarakunta
21.	Chittoor	1	Appinepalle
22.		2	Bandameeda-kammappalli
23.		3	K.C. Palli
24.		4	Mallanur
25.		5	Mungilipallu
26.		6	Nellepalli
27.		7	Papireddigaripalli
28.		8	Turkapalli
29.	Cuddapah	1	Bommepalli
30.		2	Dayankhanpalli

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
31.		3	Devapatla	60.		9	Pullipadu
32.		4	Eturu	61.		10	Rajukaiva
33.		5	Gundlakunta	62.		11	Ravela
34.		6	Kogatam	63.		12	Sirigiripadu
35.		7	Mukkavaripalli	64.		13	Siripuram
36.		8	Murarichinthala	65.		14	Tallapalli
37.		9	Nagavaram	66.		15	Veerapuram
38.		10	Nagulaguttapally	67.	Karimnagar	1	Bheemraopet
39.		11	PVG Palli	68.		2	Kistampeta
40.		12	Pandillapalli	69.		3	Kothakonda
41.		13	Sreeramulapeta	70.		4	Laxmanapalli
42.		14	Thallapalli	71.		5	Lingannapeta
43.		15	Uruturu	72.		6	Nagampeta
44.		16	Veerannagattupalli	73.		7	Pathipaka
45.	East Godavari	1	A.V. Nagaram	74.	Khammam	1	Gubbagurthy
46.		2	Anuru	75.		2	Jamalapuram
47.		3	Devaguptam	76.		3	Janakipuram
48.		4	Donkarai	77.		4	K.G. Siripuram
49.		5	J. Annavaram	78.		5	Moddulagudem
50.		6	Kunavaram	79.		6	Nagaram
51.		7	N. Kothapalli	80.		7	Palair
52.	Guntur	1	Daida	81.		8	Peruru
53.		2	Enugupalem	82.		9	Pusugudem
54.		3	Govada	83.		10	Upperru
55.		4	Jammulapalem	84.	Krishna	1	Achhampalem
56.		5	Kanuparru	85.		2	Kondangi
57.		6	Madugula	86.		3	Kondapavuluru
58.		7	Muthyalampadu	87.		4	Pandiripalligudem
59.		8	Panditivaripalem	88.		5	Vyvaka

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
89	Kurnool	1	Banavasi	118.		11	Gummadam
90		2	Buduru	119.		12	Hakimpet
91		3	China Thumbalam	120.		13	Hasnabad
92		4	Dalvamdinne	121.		14	Ippalapalli
93		5	Devarabanda	122.		15	Karukonda
94		6	Dudekonda	123.		16	Kodair
95		7	Dudyala	124.		17	Mannanur
96		8	Gundakonda	125.		18	Medipur
97		9	H. Muravani	126.		19	Nagapur
98		10	Kotakonda	127.		20	Ponnakal
99		11	Lakasagaram	128.		21	Solipur
100		12	Mayalur	129.	Medak	1	Aksampally
101		13	Mulugundam	130.		2	Bodupatla
102		14	Nandavaram	131.		3	Kununurpalli
103		15	Pesalabanda	132.		4	Marvelly
104		16	Remata	133.		5	Mulugu
105		17	Sankalapuram	134.		6	Peddapur
106		18	Ternekallu	135.		7	Sulthanpur
107		19	Vemugodu	136.		8	Teegula
108	Mahabubnagar	1	Akuthotpalli	137.		9	Timmapur
109		2	Aleru	138.		10	VenkataraoPET
110		3	Ammapur	139.	Nalgonda	1	Bollepalli
111		4	Balampet	140.		2	Cherukupally
112		5	Boravelly				Thungathurthy
113		6	Edira	141.		3	Chinnamedharam
114		7	Gajulapeta	142.		4	Mothey
115.		8	Gangaram	143.		5	Nellikai
116.		9	Goriapadu	144.		6	Paladugu
117.		10	Gudaballur	145.	Nellore	1	Chatagatla

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
146.		2	Chilakamarri	175.		8	Mohiddinpuram
147.		3	Chilamanchenu	176.		9	Mokshagundam
148.		4	Chintalatakur	177.		10	Peddaganjam
149.		5	Chittiedu	178.		11	Rajupalem
150.		6	Eswarawaka	179.		12	Rudravaram
151.		7	Gundamadkila	180.	Rangareddy	1	Aliabad
152.		8	Hasnapuram	181.		2	Bodakonda
153.		9	Kommi	182.		3	Gandeed
154.		10	Momoduru	183.		4	Vennachedu
155.		11	Poolathota	184.	Srikakulam	1	Devanulthada
156.		12	Vallivedu	185.		2	G. Seetharamapuram
157.		13	Vanamthopu	186.		3	Patharlapalli
158.	Nizamabad	1	Argul	187.	Visakhapatnam	1	Chuchukonda
159.		2	Chillagiri	188.		2	Gitam Engineering Coll, Com
160.		3	Choutupalli	189.		3	Koduru
161.		4	Govindapet	190.		4	Palavalasa
162.		5	Pipri	191.		5	Sontyam
163.		6	Rythunagar	192.	Vizianagaram	1	Baguvalasa
164.		7	Tandoor	193.		2	Bandaluppi
165.		8	Thallampuram	194.		3	Garugubilli
166.		9	Uttoor	195.		4	Gudivada
167.		10	Yerragatla	196.		5	PeddamaJJipalem
168.	Prakasham	1	Adusumilli	197.	Warangal	1	Annaramshareef
169.		2	Bestavaripeta	198.		2	Bollikunta
170.		3	Botlagudur	199.		3	Chinnamupparam
171.		4	Botlapalem	200.		4	Chintanekkonda
172.		5	Daddavada	201.		5	Duggondi
173.		6	Kolalapudi	202.		6	Katerpalli
174.		7	Marripudi				

2	3	4
	7	Khanapuram
	8	Kothaguda
	9	Mallampally
	10	Mondrai
	11	Mupparam
	12	Mutharam
	13	Nagapuri
	14	Nagaram
	15	Pembarthy
	16	Regonda
	17	Tarigoppala
West Godavari	1	Ayyapparajugudem
	2	Kalla
	3	Narasannapalem
	4	Pamulavarigudem
	5	Singarajupalem

Caging System in Poultry

7. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether European Union has decided to phase aging system in poultry by end of 2011 to prevent cruelties ved in caging system;

(b) if so, the steps taken to phase out caging system in India;

(c) whether in USA minimum space for a hen is 2 feet, whereas in India it is much less; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to increase space till phase-out of caging system in India is done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to phase out caging system in India.

(c) 'Commercial Chicken Production Manual', an American publication has recommended 0.50 sq. feet per bird and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has recommended 1.25 sq. feet per bird in cages.

(d) There is no proposal to increase space for cage system in India.

Perishing of Sheep and Goats in Garhwal

8. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that more than 4500 sheep and goats have perished due to some mysterious disease in high pastures around Joshimath in Garhwal region;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sent any team of experts to find out the reasons and remedies for the disease;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the immediate steps taken by the Government to check the spread of disease in the region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that an outbreak of a mysterious disease occurred in Joshimath Block of Chamoli District. A total of 10,880 sheep and goats were affected of which 755 died.

(b) to (c) A team consisting of 9 members led by the Chief Veterinary Officer, Chamoli rushed immediately to the affected area to find out the reasons and remedies for the disease. The team collected samples for laboratory diagnosis of the disease and immediately sent to Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteshwar. Indian Veterinary Research Institute has confirmed the disease as Peste des Petits Ruminants.

(d) and (e) On confirmation of the disease, the remaining susceptible animals were vaccinated and thereafter no mortality has been reported due to this disease in that area.

Medicinal Plants in Orissa

9. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the medicinal plants in hills and forests of Orissa;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have taken any steps to preserve the existing medicinal plants and also to increase the growth of medicinal plants in that State;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The State Forest Department, Government of Orissa are fully aware of the existence of medicinal plants in hills and forests of Orissa. The area identified include Gandhamardan, Mahendragiri and Simlipal. About 100 species of medicinal plants have been known to be present in these areas.

(c) and (d) The field staff of the concerned Forest Division in the State have been instructed to provide proper preservation and growth of medicinal plants in these areas. In order to preserve these species along with the fauna, Similipal area has been declared as Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary and Similipal National Park under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Flora and fauna gets protection under this act and no material can be removed from this area. Under the Biosphere Reserve Programme a nursery has been established at Ramtirtha near Jashipur in Mayurbhanj District in 1988-89 and 43 species of medicinal plants available in Similipal area are being raised for purely research purpose.

As regards the propagation of medicinal plants, 50 ha. of medicinal plants have been raised in three years during 1995-98 at Bharatpur Reserve Forest by State Silviculturist under the State Plan Scheme. A sum of Rs. 23,84,212/- has been spent for ex-situ and in-situ conservation of medicinal plants.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) including Medicinal Plants, financial assistance has been provided to Orissa. A project with an outlay of Rs. 492.00 lakhs was sanctioned in 1997-98 for IX plan for developing an area of 6000 ha. in 22 districts for raising NTFP including medicinal plants.

- (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Threat to Delhi due to Bio-Medical Wastes

10. MOH. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the contagious bio-medical wastes are posing a big threat to Delhi;

- (b) if so, whether the hospitals are openly violating the provisions of the Contagious Bio-medical Wastes Act;
- (c) whether the Government have issued and guidelines for the centralised incineration of medical wastes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether these guidelines are being fully followed; and
- (f) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) In accordance with Schedule VI of Bio-medical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 as amended on 6th March, 2000, hospitals and nursing homes in towns with population of 30 lakhs and above and all hospitals with 500 or more beds are required to set up waste treatment and disposal facilities by 30th June, 2000. As per information furnished by the Government of Delhi, a total of 44 hospitals in Delhi have installed necessary waste management systems. In addition, the Government of Delhi has also identified a private company through public tender to collect bio-medical wastes generated by small hospitals and nursing homes on payment basis and also to maintain and operate incinerators in four major hospitals run by the Government of Delhi.

(c) and (d) As per rule 14 of Bio-Medical Wastes (Management & Handling) (Second amendment) Rules, 2000, Municipal Corporations/Municipal Boards/Urban Bodies have been made responsible for providing common disposal/incineration sites in the areas under their jurisdiction. In other areas, it is the responsibility of occupier generating bio-medical wastes/operator of the treatment facility to arrange for suitable sites individually or in association, so as to comply with the provisions of the Rules.

(e) and (f) The Government of India have written to all the States and Union Territories Governments to enforce Bio-medical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 strictly. The central Pollution Control Board is regularly monitoring the progress and the Chairman of the Board has written to all the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees to take necessary action against erring hospitals.

[English]

Acceleration in Agriculture Growth

11. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government have prepared a project report costing \$239.7 million aimed at accelerating agriculture growth by reforming country's agriculture technology development and its dissemination;

(b) if so, whether any concrete details of this project report have been prepared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the World Bank and the other international development associations have agreed to provide loans and assistance in implementing this project; and

(e) if so, the time by which the project is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation under the Ministry of Agriculture are implementing National Agricultural Technology Project w.e.f. 20.11.1998 for a period of 5 years. The total cost of the project (revised) in US \$ 200 million which is equivalent to Rs. 950 crores. The main objectives of the project are to re-vitalize technology generation, assessment, refinement and dissemination system in NARS (National Agricultural Research System), address location specific production problems through a holistic, integrated and participatory approach. The revised funding break-up is as per statement.

Statement

Funding Source	Approx. Project cost amount (US \$ in million)		Approx. Project cost amount (INR in crores)	
	Original	Revised	Original	Revised
1. IDA Credit	100.00	100.00	359.32	475.00
2. IBRD Loan	96.80	66.80	347.83	317.30
3. Govt. of India Contribution	42.90	3.20	154.15	157.70
Total	239.70	200.00	861.30	950.00

[Translation]

Waiting List for Telephone Connections

12. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons waiting for telephone connections in various telephone exchanges of Hardoi district of Uttar Pradesh as on October 31, 2000, exchange-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to clear the waiting lists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Waiting list for telephone connections in Hardoi district of Uttar Pradesh as on 31.10.2000 was 2,638. The exchange-wise details of W/L is given below :-

Sl. No.	Exchange Name	W/L
1	2	3
1.	Ahirori	25
2.	Atwa Kursath	15

1	2	3
3.	Baghauil	77
4.	Bawan	47
5.	Beniganj	2
6.	Bilgram	230
7.	Dhanwar	93
8.	Dhikunni	0
9.	Gausanj	0
10.	Gopamau	53
11.	Hardoi Civil	855
12.	Hardoi LW Road	343
13.	Harpalpur	97
14.	Kasimpur	0
15.	Kaurch	0
16.	Kothawan	0

1	2	3
17.	Lalpalpur	0
18.	Madhoganj	95
19.	Mallawan	204
20.	Pali	123
21.	Pihani	125
22.	Raigain	0
23.	Sandi	51
24.	Sandila	0
25.	Sawalpur	5
26.	Semra Churana	25
27.	Shahabad	40
28.	Subhan Khera	0
29.	Tandiyani	10
30.	Udhranpur	93
31.	Jahani Khera	30
32.	Kachhauna	0
33.	Sursa	0
34.	Todarpur	0

(b) Telephone connections are being provided gradually and the efforts are being made to clear the waiting list as on 31.10.2000 by the end of this financial year subject to availability of equipment and other resources.

[English]

Effect of Gas Prices on NTPC-Projects

13. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rising prices of gas have put the National Thermal Power Corporation Projects in a slow progress or some of them likely to force postponement of some proposed generation projects where gas was to be used as fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has planned expansion of its combined cycle power projects at Kawas, Gandhar, Anta & Auraiya by 650 MW each. The long term fuel for these expansion projects is envisaged to be Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The delivered price of regassified LNG is indexed to crude oil price, which in international market has increased to abnormally high level (about US\$ 32/barrel), resulting in steep increase in LNG prices. The abnormal increase in LNG price has necessitated reconfirmation from beneficiaries states of these projects to buy power at the indicative cost of generation of more than about Rs. 4/KWH and to absorb further variation in fuel prices, if any. Accordingly, NTPC has taken up the matter with beneficiaries of Western/Northern region for reconfirmation.

(c) Further, action on these proposals for investment approvals would be taken up only after reconfirmation from respective beneficiaries to purchase power at revised cost.

[Translation]

Self-Sufficiency to Farmers

14. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any programme to make the farmers self-dependent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to provide loans to the farmers to increase production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the farmers are likely to be benefited from the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The objective of all central sector and centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is to improve the production and productivity of crops and thereby make the farmers self sufficient and self dependent.

(c) and (d) A proposal to revamp the credit structure in the co-operative sector is on the anvil.

Telephone Lines

15. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the public representatives for increasing the number of telephone lines or installing new lines in Maharashtra particularly in Pune;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any meeting was held with local MPs in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the progress made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The public representatives such as Hon'ble MPs/MLAs etc. were demanding to provide telephones to the wait listed persons. Maharashtra Telecom Circle has planned to add 800 new exchanges and 6,00,000 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) for the year 2000-2001. The target for Pune is 84,300 lines and 64 New Exchanges.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A meeting of Hon'ble MPs of Maharashtra and Goa was held with Hon'ble MOC at Delhi on 11th April, 2000. Another meeting of Hon'ble MPs of Vidarbha areas was held at Nagpur with Hon'ble MOC on 5th October, 2000. Principal General manager (PGM) Pune Telecom held three meetings with Hon'ble MP of Pune constituency. Apart from this 79 numbers of meeting were conducted by various Secondary Switching Areas of Maharashtra circle.

As on 31st October, 2000 in Maharashtra 1,62,844 lines have been provided and 239 New Exchanges have been opened. Out of this 26,043 lines and 9 New Exchanges have been opened in Pune.

[English]

Resources of Gold and Diamond Resources by Multinationals

16. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any recommendations from Karnataka Government to hand over the mineral resources of gold and diamond to the multinationals; and

(b) if so, the details and the names of the multina-

tionals and their investments for exploration of mining resources thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYASINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) and (b) Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Companies Act, 1956 can be granted a reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease for exploration or mining of minerals including gold and diamonds. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a foreign company is not allowed to undertake reconnaissance/prospecting/mining operations. However, on the recommendations of the State Govt. of Karnataka, approvals have been given by the Central Govt. under section 5(1) of the MM(D&R) Act, 1957 for grant of Reconnaissance Permit for diamond/gold etc. in favour of 13 Indian Companies who are the subsidiaries/Joint Venture Companies formed by the foreign companies. The details are given in the attached statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Company	Minerals for which RP approved
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Adamas India Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond and associated minerals
2.	M/s. Adamas India Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond and associated minerals
3.	M/s. Adamas India Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond and associated minerals
4.	M/s. Adamas India Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond and associated minerals
5.	M/s. Adamas India Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond and associated minerals
6.	M/s ACC Rio Tinto Exploration Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
7.	M/s ACC Rio Tinto Exploration Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
8.	M/s. Geo Mysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
9.	M/s. Geo Mysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
10.	M/s. Geo Mysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals

1	2	3
11.	M/s. Metmin Finance & Holding Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
12.	M/s. Geo Mysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Diamond, Gold and associated minerals
13.	M/s. Metmin Finance & Holding Pvt. Ltd.	Gold, Copper and associated minerals

[Translation]

Selling Price of Foodgrains

17. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have fixed the selling price of foodgrains after adding all the expenses incurred on the agricultural produce;

(b) If so, whether the Government propose to ensure the farmers to sell their produce at these fixed prices; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The selling price of foodgrains of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) standards is the Minimum Support Price (MSP) at which the farmers sell their produce to the designated central nodal agencies set up for procurement purposes. The MSPs for foodgrains are fixed each season on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), views of concerned Central Ministries, State Governments and other relevant factors considered important in the fixation of MSPs. While recommending the price policy for different agricultural commodities, the CACP considers a number of important factors, of which cost of production is the most vocal factor. The cost of cultivation covers not only paid out costs, but also imputed value of owned assets and family labour, for which the farmers do not incur cash expenses. The MSPs announced by the Government not only cover cost of production, but also a reasonable margin of profit as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity.

(b) and (c) The MSPs fixed by the Government are in the nature of a guarantee to the producer that in the event of a glut in the market consequent on excessive production or any other reason, the prices will not be allowed to fall below the minimum economic levels. The farmers are free to sell

their produce in the open market at prices, which may be higher than the support prices fixed by the Government.

Funds for Agricultural Research Institutes

18. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide funds to States for Agricultural Research Institutes;

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

(c) the amount provided/sanctioned to each State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Modernisation of Post Offices

19. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the services offered by Indian Post Offices have not kept pace with the developments in other fields and with peoples' genuine expectations; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to modernise the Post Offices and to extend postal services to all the new locations coming up in the periphery of cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Indian Post Offices have kept pace with developments in all the fields keeping in view people's genuine expectations.

(b) The Department has undertaken modernisation programme of the Postal System from the beginning of the 8th Five-year Plan. A total of 6257 computer based multipurpose counter machines have been so far in 1445 modernized post offices. These Computerised counters provide multiple services in a single counter to the customers with accuracy and promptness. Over 12 crores transactions per year are being transacted on these machines. Action has also been taken to modernize money transfer system by adopting satellite technology and installation of a network of 77 VSATs during 8th Five Year Plan and the network is being upgraded and expanded. About 1.25 crore money orders are being transmitted annually in the existing network. Action has also been taken to automatize processing of mail in major metropolitan cities. Automatic Mail Processing systems have been installed in Chennai and Mumbai during the 8th Five-year Plan. About 12 lakhs letters are being processed daily on these systems.

Two more Automatic Mail Processing Centres are proposed to be installed during the 9th Five-year plan in Calcutta and Delhi. Forty one (41) registration sorting offices have been computerized during the first three years of 9th Five-year plan with a view to automatize processing of registered and insured articles. Modernisation programmes implemented also include computerization in the areas of Saving Bank and Postal Life Insurance, ensuring enhanced customer satisfaction. As a part of its modernization programme, the Department has introduced new premium products, including Speed Post, Business Post, Satellite Post and Greeting Post, which are tailored to meet specific customer needs.

During the 9th Five-year plan, 98 Departmental sub-Post Offices (DSOs) were opened from 1.4.1997 to 31.3.2000 in the urban areas. In the current Annual Plan, there is a proposal to open 45 new DSOs in the Urban areas. Opening of new post offices is dependent upon fulfilment of departmental norms and sanctioning of the required posts by the Ministry of Finance.

Financial Assistance to NGOs by NYKS

20. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state ;

(a) the financial assistance provided by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) to N.G.Os in last three years;

(b) the number of N.G.Os who have got the financial help more than once;

(c) whether any physical experiment has been conducted after providing financial help; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (d) Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) implements the scheme of financial assistance to registered Youth Clubs, Sports Clubs and Youth Development Centres of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) on agency basis. MYAS places funds in one lump-sum at the disposal of NYKS and it further sanctions Grants-in-aid to registered Youth Clubs/Sports Clubs & Youth Development Centres (YDC). No Youth Club/Sports Club or YDC is considered for financial assistance for more than once. These organisations are inspected by the Youth Co-ordinators/Regional Co-ordinators and Zonal Directors as per annual inspection targets fixed by the NYKS. Details of the financial assistance provided to Youth Development Centre, Youth Clubs/Sports Clubs for the last three years is as follows :

Name of Scheme	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
Youth Development Centre	188	56,30,000	181	54,40,000	184	55,20,000
Financial Assistance to Youth Clubs/ Sports Clubs	960	48,00,000	1369	68,45,000	1255	1,25,50,000

[Translation]

Problems faced by Farmers

21. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :

MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether hike in prices of fertilizers, diesel, power, seeds and insecticides has adversely affected on farmers and production of foodgrains; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to check this situation and help farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The production of foodgrains during 1999-2000 is estimated at an all time record of 205.91 million tonnes compared to 203.04 million tonnes during 1998-99. The hike in prices of inputs is duly taken into account, at the time of fixation of Minimum Support Prices of major agricultural commodities, so as to neutralize their effect. Besides the Government also gives subsidies on various inputs and takes other related steps to promote the cause of agriculture and the farmers.

By-pass/Flyover Projects given to private companies in Bihar

22. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects for by-pass roads and flyovers in Bihar have been given to private companies during the last three years;

(b) the total amount involved in these projects and the number of projects lying pending at present; and

(c) the criteria adopted for awarding these projects to private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Nil.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]

Indian Contingent for Sydney Olympic

23. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of Indian contingent for Sydney Olympics with the details of official delegation;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred in this connection;

(c) whether some State Governments had also sent their contingents separately; and

(d) if so, the number thereof and expenditure incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) On the recommendation of Indian Olympic Association, Government of India approved contingent of 123 persons (71 sports persons, 28 persons in the category of Coaches, Doctors, Masseurs, 2 youth campers and 22 persons in the category of Managers) in Olympic Games, 2000. A nine member official delegation (in two batches) witnessed the Sydney Olympic Games.

(b) Government of India sanctioned Rs.64,40,175/- to Indian Olympic Association and released Rs. 58.00 lakhs as first installment. This amount was sanctioned for out of pocket expenses; Ceremonial dress and rowing charges for hiring of boat.

As regards expenditure on Official delegation an expenditure of Rs. 31.02 lakhs were incurred towards air passage cost, DA, Contingencies, gift, tickets and accommodation. The Bills in respect of local transport and reception are yet to be received from Indian Mission in Sydney.

(c) In Olympics only national contingents are allowed participation. States cannot send contingent to Olympics.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Buildings Hired by N.H.P.C.

24. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees/officers working in the Parwati Hydrel Power project, Himachal Pradesh and the total expenditure being incurred on the establishment per day, category-wise;

(b) the present status of its construction activity and the items of works already started on the site as on date;

(c) the details of buildings taken on rent by the N.H.P.C. along with the total amount of rent being spent on each building every month;

(d) whether the laid down procedure has been adhered to while hiring these buildings or any tenders were invited for this purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The total number of employees/officers working in the Parbati Project as on 31.10.2000 are as under :-

i) Executives	110
ii) Supervisors/Workmen	998
Total	1018

Average per day expenditure incurred on establishment

i) Executives	Rs. 88,089/-
ii) Supervisors/Workmen	Rs. 2,90,812/-

(b) At present status on the construction activities in the Project is given in the attached statement-I

(c) to (f) The details of buildings hired on rent and their monthly rent are given in the statement-II. All the buildings have been hired after fulfilling all the codal formalities and procedures laid down by NHPC from time to time i.e. either through local press advertisement, local open enquiry or limited tender enquiry depending upon the amount of rent and establishing the reasonability of rates.

Statement-I*Status of construction activities at Parbati H.E. Project (Stage-II)*

At Parbati Hydro-electric Project Stage-II, all the additional investigation works, likes Survey, Drilling, Geological Mapping, Construction material survey and additional data required for Environment & Forest clearance and Design purposes have been completed. The revised Detailed Project Report has been submitted to Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The construction of infrastructure facilities at all the construction sites, namely Manikaran, Garsa and Sainj, have been taken up. The major items of activity presently under progress are as under :-

- Construction of 24 Types II and Type III quarters at Manikaran
- Improvement of 15 Km. Manikaran Pulga road.
- Construction of 2 Nos. bailey type steel bridge on river Parbati near Dam site and Adit-I already awarded.

- Construction of 23 km. fresh road and improvement 12 km. Garsa-Sheelagarh road has already been taken up. This includes the approaches to various adits and Trench Weir sites in Sheelagarh Valley.
- 28 units of Prefab huts (Double Storey) at Sainj is nearing completion.
- Work for construction of 60 Mtrs. span bridge across Sainj river at Power House has been awarded.

At Parbati H.E. Project Stage-I, the investigation works, namely Survey and Drilling at dam site (at an altitude of about 12000 ft.), as planned for the working season (Year 2000) have been completed. A team had been deputed at the above remotest site about 40 kms. (on foot track) from the nearest road head Barshani (Pulga).

With regard to Parbati H.E. Project (Stage-II), all the investigation works for the working season (1999-2000) have been completed before schedule. Additional investigation to confirm more design parameters are under progress. The draft report on Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) has been received from NEERI, Nagpur.

Statement-II*Buildings taken on Rent by NHPC*

Sl.No.	Building Hired	Purpose	Monthly Rent/procedure for hiring followed
1.	Hotel Silver Face Complex, Near New Bridge, Bhuntar-175125	Transit Camp-I & Field Hostel	Rs. 58,008/- Local market survey
2.	Hotel Silver Face Residential Complex, Near New Bridge, Bhuntar-175125	Office Building	Rs. 36,874/- Local market survey
3.	Hotel Kullu Palace Bhuntar-175125	Transit Camp-II	Rs. 15,421/- Local market survey
4.	Building of Shri Devi Singh, Salah	Power House (Stage-II) Office Complex	Rs. 2,815/- Local market survey
5.	Building of Shri Fateh Singh, Sainj	Stage-I & III Office Complex	Rs. 4,184/- Press Advertisement
6.	Green Valley Garden Paying Guest House, Building of Shri Moti Ram, Garga	Field Hostel/Transit Camp	Rs. 10,808/- Local market survey
7.	Noble Guest house, Near New Bridge, Bhuntar-175125	Office Building	Rs. 19,908/- Press Advertisement
8.	Hotel Horizon, Manikaran Road, Bhuntar	Transit Camp-III / Field hostel	Rs. 21,587/- Press Advertisement
9.	Building of Shri Uttam Singh, Baha, Thela	Transit Camp / Field Hostel	Rs. 6,688/- Local market survey.

Condition of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

25. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHIR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount allocated by the Government for maintenance of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the National Highways are in a bad shape particularly in eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the new schemes of the Government for improving the condition of these National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) An amount of Rs. 5349.82 lakhs has been allocated to the State of Uttar Pradesh for the maintenance of National Highways so far during the current financial year 2000-2001.

(b) to (d) The National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

Computerisation of Post Offices

26. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of existing head post offices in the country where computerisation has been done;

(b) the number of head post offices which are likely to be computerised by the year 2001; and

(c) the estimated amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The Department has made a comprehensive plan for total computerisation of Head Post Offices located in State capitals and district headquarters. In this plan all front and back operations are linked together in a local area network in the post offices using computer and a central server. An integrated software 'Meghdoot' 98 allows all operations to be carried out on computers in post offices. Since 1998-99, we have attempted computerisation in this manner in 306 Head Post Offices upto 31st March, 2000.

(b) Another 106 Head Post Offices are being computerised by 31st March, 2001.

(c) Rs. 5.80 crores are earmarked for this activity for the period ending 31st March, 2001.

[English]

Devastating Flood Situation in West Bengal

27. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware regarding the devastating flood situation in West Bengal during September-October of the current year and the extent of damage caused by the "National Calamity".

(b) what steps have been taken by the Union Government to render financial help to the State Government in order to undertake very large scale reconstruction in the flood damaged districts of West Bengal; and

(c) whether the "National Calamity Relief Fund" has been set-up to provide necessary and urgent help in the event of such national calamity as recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The assistance rendered to the State of West-Bengal by the Central Government is as follows :-

(i) The entire Central share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 75.83 crores for 2000-2001 has been released.

(ii) Rs. 422.43 crores has been released on 12th October, 2000 as revenue deficit grant.

(iii) Upto 20% of the fund released under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) can be spent on Sub-Mission projects/schemes.

(iv) 50 drilling rigs are available in the State for Rural Water Supply Programme.

(v) During current year, against the allocation of Rs. 78.95 crores under ARWSP, first instalment of Rs. 38.90 crores has been released. Further, under ongoing Sub-Mission Projects a sum of Rs. 20.00 crores has been released.

(vi) Damaged Railway lines have already been restored for passenger as well as freight trains.

- (vii) An additional allocation of 87,080 tonnes of rice at BPL rates has been for distribution to flood affected families at the rate of 20 Kg. per family.
- (viii) NH-31, 34 & 35 restored to the traffic w.e.f. 6.10.2000.
- (ix) To take up emergent repairs of flood damages Rs. 7.00 crores has been released on 3rd October, 2000.
- (x) 10,000 kilo-litre kerosene oil has been dispatched to the State Government.
- (xi) Disinfectants and other medicines have been supplied by the Department of Health including 1000 tonnes of bleaching powder.

(c) The Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) has recommended the creation of a National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the public account of the Government of India for providing assistance to the State Governments in the wake of a natural calamity of severe nature. The Government has accepted the recommendation of the EFC in this regard.

Setting up of Power Projects in Kerala

28. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from Kerala for granting funds for the development of existing power projects and setting up of new power projects in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard particularly for the approval of Kanoor Power Project; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) A private sector project in Kerala, namely Kannur CCGT project (513 MW) by M/s. Kannur Power Project Ltd. has been accorded techno-economic clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority on 16.2.2000 for a completed cost of US\$ 210.010 million + Rs. 587.97 crore. Funds for private sector projects are arranged/tied up by the IPPs themselves and not by the Union Government. However, the outlay for the power sector for Kerala for Annual Plan, 2000-01 has been approved

by the Planning Commission as Rs. 602.5 crore which covers various schemes including generation, transmission and distribution, renovation and Modernisation and rural electrification and other miscellaneous schemes.

Posting of SC/ST Officials in Foreign Assignments

29. SARDAR BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of officials belonging to SC/St category from Ministry of Agriculture and Affiliated organisations deputed to UNO and its affiliated organisations and other organisations since 1996;
- (b) the percentage of these officials as compared to the total number of the officials who have been given these assignments;
- (c) whether the percentage of SC/ST officials who got such assignments is quite unsatisfactory; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) No official nominated from Ministry of Agriculture and affiliated organisations has been posted to UNO and its affiliated organisations and other organisations since 1996.

Power Projects in Madhya Pradesh

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

- (a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has signed any agreement with the private and foreign companies for setting up of power plants in the State during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and company-wise;
- (c) the names of projects on which the said companies have started the construction work; and
- (d) the action taken against those companies which have not started their work till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board have informed that no MoUs have been signed with private and foreign companies during the last five years (1.4.1995 to 31.3.2000) for setting up power projects in the State.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Reduction in Local Calls Rate

31. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE :

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to reduce the rates of Local Telephone Call charges as has been done in the case of STD/ISD effective from 1st October, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Under TRAI Act of 1997, Tariff setting function has been entrusted to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

32. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new body Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) would be able to fulfil the obligation of expending telephone services to every nook and corner of the

(b) if so, the teledensity in India at present and how it is compared with the foreign countries;

(c) whether due to open sky policy in Telecommunication centre, the Government has taken the step formation of BSNL;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether valuation of assets of the Department of Telecom Services (DTS) transferred to the BSNL have been undertaken by the Government;

(f) if so, the amount of network of Government's telecom stock thus transferred;

(g) the manner in which the existing staff is likely to be adjusted under each department to safeguard their interest;

(h) whether the Government have calculated the additional financial burden that will evolve the BSNL; and

(i) if so, the details of such amount and manner in which BSNL waive the liability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The teledensity in India as on 31st October, 2000 is about 3% as against the average global teledensity of around 14.

(c) and (d) In accordance with the provisions of the New Telecom Policy, 1999, which had stipulated the separation of policy and licensing functions of the Department of Telecommunications from the service provision functions, a separate Department was created in October, 1999 which has now been corporatised as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited - a wholly owned Government Company. The Company has commenced operations from 1st October, 2000.

(e) and (f) For the present, pending detailed valuation, assets of the Department of Telecom Services (DTS) have been transferred to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited at a provisional value of Rs. 63,000 crores.

(g) to (i) The interest of employees are well protected and they stand transferred to BSNL along with their posts on existing terms and conditions, on as is where is basis, on deemed deputation without deputation allowance, w.e.f. 1st October, 2000. The additional burden on BSNL on this account will be known only after the finalisation of pay and allowances of its employees.

*[Translation]***Food Processing Industries**

33. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the annual turnover of various foreign companies operating in the field of food-processing;
- (b) the details of turnover of Indian companies in the same field;
- (c) the amount of revenue earned from vegetable and fruits out of it; and
- (d) the incentives being provided by the Government to the Cold Storages in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors. The information regarding annual turnover and financial performance of foreign companies as well as Indian companies in the processed food sector, is not maintained centrally.

(d) The Department of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Schemes for Development of Infrastructural Facilities provides financial assistance for establishment of :-

- (i) Cold Storage for non horticulture produce.
- (ii) Where the cold storage is an integral part of the food processing unit or of the common facilities in food park.
- (iii) Special type of cold storages with Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere facility.

The assistance is available to Public Sector Undertakings, Joint/Assisted/Private Sector companies, Non-Government Organisations and Cooperatives.

*[English]***Destruction of Forests in Orissa**

34. SHRIMATI HEMA SINGH :

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Remote Sensing Agency photographs mapping have indicated destruction of forests and tree cover of Orissa during last three decades;

(b) if so, whether any survey or study has been conducted to correlate with weather related disturbance during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) (a) Yes Sir, Forest Survey of India has been assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987. In this period, forest cover of Orissa has declined from 53253 sq. Km to 47033 sq. km.

(b) The effect of deforestation on environment and weather in the country has not been qualified.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian Cardamom Research Institute

35. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to close the Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICIR), Donigal Regional Station, Sakaleshpur in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have received representations from various Planters' Associations against this move;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to merge the ICRI in his Ministry;

(e) if so, the reasons thereof;

(f) whether the cardamom growers have also opposed to this move; and

(g) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (g) No decision has been taken as yet.

Condition of Zoos

36. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed distressing conditions of various zoos in the country;

(b) if so, whether the expert committee constituted to probe the death of White Tigers has since submitted its report to the Union Government;

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

(d) the concrete steps the Government have taken/propose to take in view of Supreme Court's directions of deteriorating conditions of zoos in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Environment and Forests have received the report of the Committee which was constituted to ascertain the causes of deaths of tigers and to suggest ways to avoid recurrence of the same in Nandankanan Zoo, Orissa. The report has confirmed that the main cause of the death of tigers was 'Trypanosomiasis'. It has confirmed that the choice of the drug 'Berenil' used by the Zoo Administration was appropriate. It has also been observed that a large number of tigers in the zoo, lack of proper hygiene, and the onset of monsoon caused the increase in the incidence of vectors. The main recommendations of the report submitted by the Committee are as follows :-

- i. Screening of tigers, lions and other animals should be conducted on a regular basis and appropriate treatment be provided on the basis of the screening results.
- ii. Restraining facilities and isolation wards should be upgraded for effective treatment of the animals.
- iii. Immediate repair of the safari and boundary wall be safeguard against ingress of livestock.
- iv. All the carnivores should be provided feed in individual feeding cells to ensure supply of food in hygienic conditions and facilitating the physical handling of animals.

v. Proper checking of the meat fed to the animals.

vi. Improved cleanliness and better drainage.

vii. Officer of the level of at least Deputy Conservator of Forests should be stationed at par: with adequate administrative and financial powers.

viii. Coordination between the Zoo Hospital and Orissa Veterinary College in matters of treatment of Zoo animals.

(d) The Supreme Court had directed the Ministry to submit the report of the said Committee along with the action taken by the Central Government on the report. The direction have been complied with.

Money Order Scam

37. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a money order scam was recently unearthed in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh involving the employees of the Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the amount of money orders involved in the scam; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the employees found involved in the scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Money Order frauds were unearthed in Uttar Pradesh involving outsiders and departmental officials during the years 1999 and 2000. No such case was reported in Bihar.

(b) Fraudulent money order transactions were detected in Gonda, Moradabad, Nainital, Pauri, Saharanpur and Jaunpur Postal Divisions of Uttar Pradesh Circle. The total amount involved in these cases is Rs. 33.96 lakhs.

(c) Cases were reported to the police and consequently three outsiders and one departmental official were arrested by the police. 18 departmental officials and 18 Extra Departmental agents were placed under suspension/put off duty. Departmental action has been initiated against 40 officials of which 22 have been finalised with imposition of punishment so far. Rs. 9.53 lakh has been recovered by the Government in these cases.

Telecom Facilities

38. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of villages having telephone facility in Gujarat as on date;
- (b) the number of rural Telephone exchanges in the State as on date;
- (c) the present situation of waiting list of telephone connections in rural areas on the State; and
- (d) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 13,923 villages in Gujarat have been provided with telecom facility as on 30.9.2000.

- (b) The number of Rural Telephone exchanges in the State as on 30.9.2000 is 1,756.
- (c) The waiting list of telephone connections in rural areas of the State as on 30.9.2000 is 16,743.
- (d) The waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively by opening new exchanges in rural areas by March, 2002.

[Translation]

Constitution of M.R. Rao Committee

39. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI NAVAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of M.R. Rao a few years ago;
- (b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;
- (c) if so, the date on which the Government received this report;
- (d) the recommendations which have been decided to be implemented by the Government so far;
- (e) the details of the recommendations rejected by the Government; and
- (f) the reasons for the rejection thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (f) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, had constituted a Seed Policy Review Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.V. Rao, ex-Vice-Chancellor, Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University and formerly Director General, ICAR to examine the changes required in the Seed Policy in the context of changing environment. The Group had submitted its Report to the Government in April, 1997. The Group gave its recommendations under the following frame work :-

- i) Plant Breeders' & Farmers Rights,
- ii) Seed production & distribution,
- iii) Import - Export of seeds,
- iv) Quality Control & Seed Legislation,
- v) Plant quarantine.

A Core Group was constituted to study the various recommendations on the basis of their merits in connection with operationalisation of the Seed Sector Reforms as proposed by Dr. M.V. Rao's Committee. The gist of the major recommendations and action taken there on are as under :-

i) Plant Breeders' & Farmers Rights :

Plant Variety Protection & Farmers' Right Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 14th December, 1999.

ii) Seed production & distribution :

Schemes for establishment and maintenance of Seed Bank and Seed Crop Insurance have already been introduced from last year.

iii) Import - Export of seeds :

The EXIM Committee in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is meeting every month to dispose off the proposals received for export and import of seeds and planting material. Steps have been taken to facilitate export of seeds as suggested by the Group.

iv) Quality Control & Seed legislation :

As recommended by the Group a draft Seeds Act, 2000 replacing the existing Seeds Act, 1996 has been prepared and circulated seeking comments from concerned Ministries prior to introduction in Parliament.

v) Plant quarantine :

As per the recommendation of the Group the Plant Quarantine system has been strengthened with men and material.

[English]

Development of Dairy and Animal Husbandry

40. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced any schemes for the development of Dairy and Animal Husbandry with foreign aid in Gujarat;

(b) the details of progress of Operation Flood in 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) The amount of foreign aid provided during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(d) the funds disbursed by the National Dairy Development Board during the above period; and

(e) the achievements made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The Government of India have not introduced any scheme for the development of Dairy and Animal Husbandry with foreign aid in Gujarat.

(b) The Operation Flood project has ended on April 30, 1996. However, the cumulative progress made by the Co-operative Milk Unions in Gujarat during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as under :

Particulars	1998-99	1999-2000
DCS Organised (Anand Pattern)	10434	10608
DCS Functional (Anand Pattern)	8951	8974
Farmer Members ('000)	2066	2147
Milk Procurement ('000) KG/Day	4153.03	4468.69
Milk Marketing ('000 Litres/Day)	1618.19	1686.00

(c) No scheme with foreign aid has been introduced as mentioned in part (a) above. However, National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) is implementing programmes on "Strengthening of Dairy Co-operatives" and "Women Dairy Development" which are funded out of the unspent EEC funds under Operation Flood. The following amounts have been released by the NDDDB to the Co-operative Milk Unions in Gujarat under this programme :

1998-99	-	Rs. 1.15 lakhs
1999-2000	-	Rs. 12.06 lakhs

(d) NDDDB has disbursed the following amounts to the Co-operative Milk Unions in Gujarat, out of its own funds:

1998-99	-	Rs. 710.55 lakhs
1999-2000	-	Rs. 2,549.82 lakhs

(e) The achievements made by the Co-operative Milk Union in Gujarat till 1999-2000 are as under :-

Particulars	1999-2000
DCS Organised (Anand Pattern)	10608
DCS Functional (Anand Pattern)	8974
Farmer Members ('000)	2147
Milk Procurement ('000) KG/Day	4468.69
Milk Marketing ('000 Litre/Day)	1686.00

[Translation]

Industry Status to Agriculture

41. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to give the status of industry to agriculture;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) The National Agriculture Policy seeks to provide the agriculture sector, in as many respects as possible, benefits similar to those obtaining in the manufacturing sector, such as easy availability of credit and other inputs, and infrastructure facilities for development of agri-business industries, development of effective delivery systems and freeing movement of agro produce. It has been decided to formulate an Action Plan to effectively implement the National Agriculture Policy.

[English]

Out of Order Telephone in Gurgaon

42. DR. SHRIMATI SUDHA YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephones functioning under Gurgaon City Exchange;

(b) the monthly average of telephones that remain out of order;

(c) the maximum and minimum of days in which a fault is removed;

(d) the reasons for delay in making the telephones functional;

(e) whether the Government propose to stop taking line charges for the days, the telephone remains out of order; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) At present 31475 telephones are functioning in Gurgaon City.

(b) On an average 0.4% telephones remain out of order on daily basis.

(c) Minimum two hours and maximum 7 days are taken to remove a fault in general.

(d) Efforts are made to ensure that the telephones

are made functional within 24 hours. But cable faults occurring due to digging by various agencies take more time in rectification. Shortage of staffs is another reason for delay in attending the faults.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Department gives rebate in rental charges if the telephone remains out of order beyond 7 days.

Power Projects in Sikkim and N.E. Region

43. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of power projects taken up in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim during the current year, till date; and

(b) the quantum of investment made in power sector during the current year, project-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The Lemakhong DG Power Project, (Heavy oil based) 6x6 MW in Manipur has been taken up during the current year.

(b) The project-wise, Statewise quantum of investment made in N.E. Region during the current year is given below :

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Project	State	Latest cost of the Project	Expenditure during 2000-01 upto 9/2000	Cumulative expenditure till 9/2000
Projects already Commissioned				
Doyang (NEEPCO) 75 MW (H)	Nagaland	758.70	45.65	720.67
Projects under Execution				
Dhansiri 20 MW (H)	Assam	78.63	Nil (work held up due to fund constraints)	38.94
Karbi langpi (Lower Borpani) 100 MW (H)	Assam	288.37	Nil (Work held up due to fund constraints & Law and order problem)	128.01
Kopili St.II (NEEPCO) 25 MW (H)	Assam	76.09	7.65	17.27
Likim Ro (24 MW) (H)	Nagaland	186.59	Not available	168.25 (upto 12/99)
Rolap St. I 9 MW (H)	Sikkim	45.00	N.A.	1.26 (upto 3/2000)
Teesta St. (NHPC) 510 MW (H)	Sikkim	2198.04	9.02	48.88
Ranganadi (NEEPCO) 405 MW (H)	Arunachal Pradesh	1446.09	114.32	1108.00
Tuirial (NEEPCO) 60 MW (H)	Mizoram	368.72	2.81	22.63
Loktak D/S (NHPC) 90 MW (H)	Manipur	667.46	3.76	12.32
Leimakhong DG Power Project 36 MW (T)	Manipur	126.02	20.37	122.49

In addition Rs. 20 crores and Rs. 15 crores were released during 1999-2000 to North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd., for pre-construction activities in respect of the proposed new central sector projects namely Tuivai HE Projects (210 MW) in Mizoram and Kameng HE Projects (600 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh respectively.

Sugarcane Development Scheme

44. SHRI P.D. ELENDOVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to introduce the comprehensive sugarcane development schemes in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the funds allocated and spent during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any projects using the latest technological developments and scientific developments in sugarcane production with financial and technological assistance from both the Union and the State Government as well as from foreign countries and international agencies;

(d) if so, the progress of such projects made;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to fund the schemes relating to sugarcane production in Tamil Nadu particularly in the Districts of Dharmapuri, Salem,

Namakkal, Erode, South Arcot, Cuddalore, Vellore, Chidambaram and Thiruvannamalai; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System is in operation from 1995-96.

(b) The State-wise funds allocated and released are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) There is no project for Sugarcane Development with the assistance of foreign countries and international agencies. The sugarcane development has been taken up as per scientific recommendations of Indian research system. Under the scheme field demonstrations are conducted by the scientists of ICAR/State Agriculture Universities, besides training is imparted to the farmers and field functionaries.

(e) and (f) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System is being implemented in 20 States including Tamil Nadu covering districts of North Arcot, Coimbatore, Dharamapuri, Sambuvarayur, South Arcot, Kanarjar, Chengal Anne and Madurai with the components of field demonstrations, frontline demonstrations, State level training, farmers level training, bullock drawn implements, tractor drawn implements, seed multiplication, heat treatment plant and drip infrastructure.

Statement

Statewise Allocation and amount released (spent) under SUBACS during last three years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Year					
	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Allocation	Release (Spent)	Allocation	Release (Spent)	Allocation	Release (Spent)
	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	172.75	0.0	166.70	148.0	135.0	58.18
Assam	45.51	0.0	48.42	0.0	18.0	5.0
Bihar	168.18	70.67	156.32	0.0	78.0	53.78
Goa	15.30	0.0	12.95	0.0	5.76	3.0
Gujarat	122.86	18.0	137.57	105.0	96.0	49.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Haryana	93.90	75.0	93.29	71.0	75.0	33.0
Karnataka	173.60	100.0	213.42	127.0	198.0	60.31
Kerala	27.20	20.0	40.38	38.0	30.0	18.68
Madhya Pradesh	65.82	27.0	106.93	73.0	78.0	33.0
Maharashtra	440.84	348.50	580.27	580.0	447.0	271.63
Manipur	12.60	5.0	30.0	20.0	21.0	14.13
Mizoram	12.70	10.0	30.0	21.30	21.0	13.72
Nagaland	16.20	11.0	22.51	23.0	21.0	15.64
Orissa	52.38	40.0	49.64	27.0	33.0	33.0
Punjab	82.80	0.0	82.80	43.0	51.0	15.0
Rajasthan	50.37	12.0	116.05	69.0	81.0	24.0
Tamil Nadu	155.41	65.0	165.30	94.0	126.0	87.63
Tripura	16.20	3.0	15.01	-	15.0	5.0
Uttar Pradesh	675.05	256.0	541.49	91.0	450.0	236.30
West Bengal	24.18	6.0	46.04	24.0	30.0	9.0
Pondicherry	20.22	15.0	19.98	-	10.0	3.0

C.S. = Central Share

Indigenous Manufacturers of Milk and Milk Products

45. SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the indigenous manufacturers of milk and milk products are restricted by the new Export and Import Policy of the Government which allows free import of milk and milk products;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to save the indigenous manufacturers of milk and milk products from the present competition due to the new Import and Export Policy of the Government; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to abolish the Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992 in order to make the manufacturers of milk and milk products to face the competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b)

The import of Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) has been on open general licence since 1975 and not as per the new Exim Policy. When it was felt that the cheap imports at zero duty, which was the bound rate, were having an adverse effect on domestic producers of milk powder, India undertook negotiations with its trading partners under Article XXVIII of GATT to raise the bound rate of duty of milk powder which was bound at zero level in the earlier negotiations of GATT. As a result of this step, the Deptt. of Revenue issued a notification on 12th June, 2000 by which the effective rate of import duty on milk powder, skimmed as well as whole, was fixed at 60% with a global annual Tariff Rate Quota of 10,000 Metric Tonnes at 15% duty on both lines taken together.

(c) There is no proposal to abolish Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992

[Translation]

Closure of BTPS due to Pollution

46. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'A' plant of Bokaro Thermal Power Station has been closed recently due to pollution;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the financial loss being incurred per month due to closure of the said plant;

(d) whether any prior notice was served by the Department of Environment before closing down the said plant;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to restart the said plant; and

(g) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Bokaro Thermal 'A' has been under shutdown recently due to non-fulfilment of pollution measures.

(b) The units were commissioned in the year 1953 and were fitted with mechanical dust collectors only. As a result, the emission through the chimneys was much above the stipulated limits.

(c) The financial loss would be around Rs. 3.27 crore per month on an average.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Both the Central Pollution Control Board and Bihar State Pollution Control Board directed DVC to install pollution control devices at Bokaro 'A' to meet the emission standards.

(f) and (g) The units can be allowed to operate only after installation of pollution control measures as per the instruction of the Bihar State Pollution Control Board. DVC has already tendered for installation of new electrostatic precipitators, ash evacuation and handling system, effluent water purifier.

[English]

New Post Offices in Kerala

47. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of new post offices proposed to be opened in Kerala during the Ninth Plan period, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : The details of new Post Offices already opened and those proposed to be opened in Kerala during the Ninth Plan period, location-wise are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Details of New Post Offices opened in Kerala during Ninth Plan Period

Year	Name of Post Office	Status	Date of Opening
1	2	3	4
1997-98	Murickssery	Sub Post Office	8-10-1997
	Mulakuvally	Branch Post Office	22-12-1997
	Vengoor	Branch Post Office	1-11-1997
	Nellikapara	Branch Post Office	29-11-1997
	Rosemala	Branch Post Office	20-12-1997
	Mandad	Branch Post Office	15-12-1997
	Vadakkupuram	Branch Post Office	31-3-1998
	Venkolla	Branch Post Office	31-3-1998
1998-99	Kerala Agr. Uni.	Sub Post Office	22-2-1999
	Malayattoor	Sub Post Office	27-3-1999

1	2	3	4
	West Kallada	Sub Post Office	31-3-1999
	Chennakunnu	Branch Post Office	31-3-1999
	Eravankara	Branch Post Office	20-2-1999
	Munnar Colony	Branch Post Office	20-3-1999
	Kunnathukaka HS	Branch Post Office	30-3-1999
	Kidarakuzhy	Branch Post Office	31-3-1999
	Velur, West	Branch Post Office	12-3-1999
	Chandrapuram	Branch Post Office	24-2-1999
	Kanjicode IE	Branch Post Office	12-3-1999
	Olar	Branch Post Office	26-2-1999
	Chariappara	Branch Post Office	31-3-1999
	Chirakarathazham	Branch Post Office	26-3-1999
	Netajipuram	Branch Post Office	27-3-1999
1999-2000	Kochi Airport	Sub Post Office	9-6-1999
	Kottiyoor	Sub Post Office	1-10-1999
	Kovalam	Branch Post Office	14-10-1999
	Poomala	Branch Post Office	18-1-2000
	Valamkulam	Branch Post Office	14-2-2000
	Kattussari	Branch Post Office	23-12-1999
2000-01	Choondassery	Branch Post Office	30-9-2000

During 2000-01 it is proposed to open 4 branch post offices and 2 sub Post Offices. Out of these, one Branch Post Office has already been opened. The target for 2001-2002 is yet to be finalised. The opening of new post offices is subject to fulfilment of Departmental norms and sanctioning of required posts by Ministry of Finance.

Quasi-Judicial Powers to SPCBs

(b) Does not arise.

48. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant quasi-judicial powers to State Pollution Control Board to tackle the problems of evasion of green norms by the large industrial units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of most polluted States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

Cellular Services

49. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Koshika Telecom Company was entrusted to operate cellular services in Uttar Pradesh (East and West), Bihar and Orissa;

(b) if so, whether this Company is operating in Uttar Pradesh (East) only whereas the other Circles are without Cellular facility in these States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other alternative measures the Government propose to take to provide cellular services in these Circles particularly in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, M/s. Koshika Telecom Ltd. were given four separate licenses for operation of Cellular mobile Telephone Service in Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh (East) and Uttar Pradesh (West) Telecom Circle Service areas. Three licenses of M/s. Koshika Telecom for Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh (West) Circles were terminated on 22.05.1999 due to default in payment of license fee dues. The Cellular Telephone Service is available from the other Service providers in these circles; viz, M/s. Reliance in Bihar & Orissa Circles and M/s. Escotel in UP (West) Circle. The UP (East) Circle license of M/s. Koshika was not terminated because the other licence in UP (East) Circle i.e. Aircell Digilink India Ltd. were also a defaulter and in case of termination of both the licenses, the Cellular Subscribers of UP(East) Circle would have been deprived of the services.

In terms of Government decision, a package for restoration of the three terminated licenses and simultaneous migration to New Telecom Policy - 1999 (NTP-99) regime was offered to M/s. Koshika under letters dated 17.04.2000. M/s. Koshika were also offered a package for Migration to NTP-99 regime in respect to UP(East) Circle existing license under letter dated 17.04.2000. M/s. Koshika furnished unconditional acceptance of all the four packages vide letter dated 25.04.2000, however, they failed to fulfil the conditions of payment of outstanding due as laid down.

The other operator in UP(East) Circle i.e. M/s. Aircell Digilink India Ltd. was also offered the Package of Migration to NTP-99 regime and they are under the process of migration to NTP-99 regime. Therefore, the subscribers of Cellular Service have option to avail service from the other operators in all the above said four Circles.

MTNL Scam Case

50. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI has started inquiry into major MTNL scam involving over 230 Class-I and Class-II MTNL officers of Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether fake bills and work orders from eastern suburbs were detected by the CBI;

(c) if so, whether charges have been framed against some officers with the help of CBI and Anti-Corruption Bureau;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) ACB, CBI, Mumbai have registered cases involving 12 officers of MTNL and 6 private parties in connection with the alleged irregularities in the award and execution of "reinstatement work" contract.

(b) Some incriminating documents have been seized and are under scrutiny by CBI.

(c) and (d) The investigation is in progress.

(e) The officers found guilty on the basis of CBI investigation report would be appropriately dealt with as per the existing rules & procedures.

Direct Marketing Rights

51. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote direct market and pledge financing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is extending refinance facilities for marketing of crops through Cooperative Banks and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies engaged in marketing of produce of grower members. The refinance facilities made available by NABARD are as under :-

(i) Advance against pledge of agricultural produce belonging to members.

(ii) Outright purchase of agricultural produce of members.

Regional Offices of NABARD have delegated powers to sanction credit limit to State Cooperative Banks on behalf

of District Central Cooperative Banks upto Rs. 1.00 crore. Each drawal on the credit limit is required to be re-paid in a maximum of 90 days but not later than 30th June, when the extent has to be extinguished.

Allocation of Power to Rajasthan

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

(a) whether the Government have progressively reduced allocation of power to Rajasthan from Central Generating Stations during the last four and five years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any request from Government of Rajasthan for restoring reduction of 112 MW power supply from Anta Gas Power Station and 140 MW from RAPP-I and II which were wholly dedicated to Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to restore Power to Rajasthan at 1995 level which was 50 percentage of Central Generating Stations capacity under 15 per cent unallocated quota;

(e) if so, the time by which the reduction is likely to be restored;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The allocation of power from 15% unallocated quota in Central Sector generating stations is periodically reviewed depending on relative shortages, irrigation requirements, seasonal variations in demand and emergency needs of the constituent States/Union Territories of the region. Keeping these factors in view the allocation of power from 15% unallocated quota to Rajasthan during the last five years has been as under :

Year	Allocation from unallocated Quota
1995-96	50%
1996-97	35 to 50%
1997-98	15 to 30%
1998-99	20 to 25%
1999-2000	19 to 28%
2000-2001 (upto 15th November, 2000)	25 to 27%

(b) and (c) Allocation of full output from RAPP Unit I and II continues to be dedicated to Rajasthan. A request has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for restoration of the special allocation of one third output of Anta GPS which had provided an additional benefit of about 112 MW to Rajasthan. Anta GPS is a regional power station and all the constituent States/UTs of Northern Region have a firm share in this power station in accordance with the sharing formula. Consequent to the restoration of RAPP Unit-I in April, 1997 and Unit-2 in June, 1998 and persistent demand from the constituents of the Northern Region for restoration of their due shares in Anta GPS, the special allocation to Rajasthan was withdrawn w.e.f. 20.10.1999. Restoration of the special allocation to Rajasthan would deprive the other states in Northern Region, who are already facing power shortages, of their entitled shares in Anta GPS.

(d) to (g) The present allocation to Rajasthan has been made keeping in view the overall energy requirements, of the constituents States/UTs of the Northern Region. However, following additional assistance has been provided to mitigate the power shortages in Rajasthan :

- (i) Special allocation of 50% in RAPP Unit-3 (220 MW).
- (ii) 25% (225 MW) of the unallocated quota from the central power stations and 45% of the unallocated quota during off-peak hours of the day from 1.11.2000 to 15.11.2000 by diverting 20% unallocated quota of Delhi.
- (iii) 69 MW from Dadri GPS from the diverted share of UPPCL.
- (iv) 89 MW from Chamera HPS.
- (v) 37% (74 MW) of 200 MW power out of generation from the newly commissioned units of Vindhyachal STPS.
- (vi) As per the agreement signed between DVB and RRVPNL on 12.10.2000, 15% to 50% share of DVB in Dadri TPS generation (depending on the availability of BTPS units) will be diverted to Rajasthan during 2300 Hrs to 0600 hrs next day). This agreement will be valid upto 15.3.2001.

Report by Committee on Disruption in Telecom Services

53. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a re-

port from the committee headed by Mr. Dilip Sahay to look into the reasons for the disruption in telecom services during strike by its employees;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against employees responsible for disruption in services; and
- (d) the financial losses incurred to the Government due to the strike and disruption in the services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the Committee has been asked to look into some more details in the matter and submit its report.

(c) and (d) Not applicable in view of reply given in Para (a) and (b) above.

Cohesive Pan-Indian Policy for Food Processing

54. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have stressed the need for cohesive Pan-Indian policy for food processing;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the time by which the same is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Creation of employment opportunities especially in rural areas, increasing processing level of food in general and fruits and vegetables in particular and to bring about a general fillip to the processing industries are some of the thrust areas of the proposed policy.

(c) Taking into consideration the various procedures to be followed, a definite time frame for the formulation of the Policy is difficult to envisage.

Skinning of Tigers

55. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Tigress skinned to offer sacrifice for VIP" appearing in The Asian Age dated October 11, 2000;

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

(c) whether after skinning of a tigress in Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad another incidence of skinning of a leopard in Andhra Pradesh has come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the erring staff?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The case of killing and skinning of tigress 'Sakhi' inside the Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad on the night of 4th October, 2000 is being enquired by State C.I.D. The Chief Minister of State is monitoring the progress of the case personally. Principal Secretary to the Andhra Pradesh Government, Revenue Department has also been appointed to inquire into the matter in its entirety. So far, Government of India has not received any report from the State Government wherein the apprehension of the tigress being killed for 'Mahamrityunjay Yagna' has been expressed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Forest Range Officer, Muddanur, has been placed under suspension by the State Government.

Supply of Solar Energy in U.P.

56. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of villages in Uttar Pradesh where solar power is being supplied; and

(b) the details of solar energy units which are supplying solar power as on October, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a solar photovoltaic (PV) programme in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh. The programme includes deployment of solar lanterns, solar home lighting systems, street lighting systems, solar pumps and power plants for lighting. The programme is implemented through State Nodal Agencies, manufacturers, Aditya solar shops and reputed non-governmental organisations.

In the State of U.P., the Non-Conventional Energy Development Agency (NEDA) is the main agency responsible for the implementation of the programme. The agency has reported electrification of 328 villages using solar PV power systems. In addition, a large number of villagers are using solar lighting systems, solar street lights and solar lanterns.

A total of 63,860 solar lanterns, 59,109 solar home lighting systems, 708 street lighting systems, 202 solar pumps and PV power plants of 404 kW aggregate capacity have been deployed in the state so far.

[Translation]

Optical Fibre Cables

57. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to make available reliable Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) for the telephone exchanges; and

(b) if so, the details of OFC proposed to be provided in Bihar especially in Saharsa, Supoul and Madhepura districts, exchange-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to make available reliable communication media to all exchanges in the country by March, 2002 with satellite or microwave or optical fibre link depending upon geographical terrain.

The details of OFC routes & exchanges en-route of OFC links which are being connected progressively for Saharsa, Supaul & Madhepura districts, is given in the attached statement.

Statement

OFC Plan for 2000-2001

Sl.No.	Name of Route	Name of Exchange enroute being connected progressively
1	2	3
1.	Saharsa-Bariati More	Bariati More
2.	Bariati More-Bandgaon	Bandgaon
3.	Bariati More-Rahua Tulsia	Rahua Tulsia
4.	Panchgachhia-Nauhatta	Nauhatta
5.	Nauhatta-Murajpur	Murajpur
6.	Bajinathpur-Saurbazar	Saurbazar
7.	Saurbazar-Bhapattia	Bhapattia
8.	Saurbazar-Kapasias	Kapasias
9.	Kapasias-Golma	Golma

1	2	3
10.	Kapasias-Dhabauli	Dhabauli
11.	Simri Bakhtiarpur-Tiliahat	Tiliahat
12.	Madhepura-Mithai	Mithai
13.	Madhepura-Jitpur	Jitpur
14.	Jitpur-Dinapatti	Dinapatti
15.	Dinapatti-Mirganj Chawk	Mirganj Chawk
16.	Mirganj Chawk-Murliganj	Murliganj
17.	Udakishanganj-Puraini	Puraini
18.	Puraini-Chausa	Chausa
19.	Udakishanganj-Alamnagar	Alamnagar
20.	Tirbeniganj-Laharnia	Laharnia
21.	Saharsa-Supaul	Supaul
22.	Supaul-Sukhpur	Sukhpur
23.	Supal-Bina Babhangama	Bina Babhangama
24.	Bina Babhangama-Garh Baruari	Garh Baruari
25.	Supaul-Belaterha	Belaterha
26.	Bilaterha-Kishanpur	Kishanpur
27.	Kishanpur-Saraigarh	Saraigarh
28.	Triveniganj-Pipra-Madhepura	Pipra, Singheswar, Ghamaria
29.	Supaul-Raghopur-Birpur	Raghopur, Rattanpur, Birpur, Karzan Bazar
30.	Khagaria-Saharsa	Saharsa, Baluwahat, Simari, Bhaktiarpur, Sonbarsaraj

Sl. No.	Name of Route	OFC Plan for 2001-2002
1	2	3
1.	Rahua Tulsia-Panchgaohhia	Panchgaohhia
2.	Bengaon-Maheshi	Maheshi
3.	Maheshi-Balusha	Balusha
4.	Maheshi-Nainarajhanspur	Nainarajhanspur

1	2	3
5.	Simri Bakhtiarpur-Salakhua	Salakhua
6.	Sonbarnaraj-Biratpur	Biratpur
7.	Biratpur-Mangaur	Mangaur
8.	Maliohak-Khasnagar	Khasnagar
9.	Saharsa-Madhupura	Madhupura
10.	Murliganj-Mirganj-Kumarkhand	Kumarkhand
11.	Udakishanganj-Fulaut	Fulaut
12.	Gamharia-Gailash	Gailash
13.	Tribeniganj-Laharnia	Laharnia
14.	Jaidla-Girdharpatti	Girdharpatti
15.	Chhattarpur-Hariharpur	Hariharpur
16.	Supaul-Nirmalichakia	Nirmalichakia
17.	Raghopur-Pratapganj	Pratapganj

[English]

Setting up of Power Grid in Bihar

58. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set-up Power Grid to save the rest of Bihar after bifurcation of the State; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard and target fixed to implement this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) As per Section 62(1) of Bihar Reorganization Act, Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) would continue to function in the areas in which it was functioning immediately before the appointed day. Therefore, in order to avoid any dislocation after the appointed day, a Notification was issued by the Government of India on 1.11.2000 for continuance of the existing arrangements for generation and supply of electricity in both the successor States of Bihar and Jharkhand. It has also been decided to establish a load dispatch centre for the new State of Jharkhand.

Self-Sufficiency in Foodgrains

59. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the foodgrains items in which the country has achieved self-sufficiency at present;

(b) whether any of these foodgrains are being exported now; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and annual export position of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Against the normative foodgrains requirement of 192.39 million tonnes for the year 1999, the estimated production of foodgrains is 203.04 million tonnes for the crop year 1998-99. Thus, the country has become not only self-sufficient but also in a position to export the foodgrains. Accordingly, in the recent years, India has exported wheat, rice and coarse grains. The details of year-wise export for 1998-99, 1999-2000 (provisional) and 2000-2001 (April-July, 2000 provisional) is given in the table below :

	Quantity in '000 MT		
	1998-99	1999-2000 (Prov.)	2000-2001 (Apr-July Prov.)
Rice Basmati	597.8	606.5	357.6
Rice Non Basmati	4365.9	1216.7	174.4
Wheat	1.8	Neg*	0.8
Coarse Grains	9.5	7.6	4.2

* Negligible

Loss due to Cyclone in Gujarat

60. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the loss suffered by the people of Gujarat during 1998 cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of relief sought for by the Government of Gujarat from the Central Government;

(d) the extent to which relief provided to the Government of Gujarat, so far;

(e) whether there is wide gap between the relief sought and relief provided by the Centre; and

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to reduce the gap by providing some more relief to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The June, 1998 cyclone in Gujarat resulted in death of 1261 persons, 1303 were missing and damage was caused to 1.80 lakh houses. The total extent of damage was reported to be about Rs. 2100 crore.

(c) and (d) The State Government had sought assistance of Rs. 610.65 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR). Assistance of Rs. 55.35 crore as approved by National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) was released to the State.

(e) and (f) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to provide relief to the affected people in the wake of natural calamities. The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the State Government. Relief is provided to the affected people as immediate succor and it is not a compensation for the losses. There is no proposal to release further assistance to the Government of Gujarat for this calamity.

Import of Power

61. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalized the proposal for import of power from neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan;

(b) whether the Indian Government and Government of Bangladesh had agreed to prepare a joint feasibility report for inter-connection of power systems;

(c) if so, the latest position of the said report and the details of the power purchases agreement thereof;

(d) whether Pakistan had also agreed to supply power to India;

(e) if so, whether the operating agreement for purchase of power and the tariff rates has since been finalized; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (f) Bilateral arrangement/agreement already exist for exchange of power between India and Nepal and India and Bhutan. The Government of India and Bangladesh have agreed to prepare a joint feasibility report for inter-connection of power systems between the two countries for exchange of power. Preliminary discussions have been held at commercial level for setting up interconnections with Bangladesh. An initial exchange of power of the order of 150 MW was discussed.

Two rounds of discussions were held on power supply from Pakistan. During the second round of discussion, Government of Pakistan confirmed availability of 300 MW for export to India for ten years which could be increased to 600 MW as per availability during certain periods of time depending upon technical limits of the system on either side. The methodology for arriving at tariff rates and operating agreements for purchase of power was also discussed. However, since then there is no further progress in this matter.

New National Youth Policy

62. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to announce a National Youth Policy to channelise the talents in rural areas;

(b) if so, the activities likely to be promoted;

(c) whether a policy for disabled would also be considered; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (d) The Government have drafted a New National Youth Policy, 2000 for all round development of Youth covering all sections of youth such as rural youth, disabled youth, unemployed youth, out-of-school youth, students etc. Various youth development programmes will be formulated and executed in consultation with Union Ministries/Departments and State Governments.

Death of Labourers due to Gas Leakage

63. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the death of labourers caused due to gas leakage in a steel factory at Potheneri near Mettur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the company had complied with the established safety norms; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. As reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories, Government of Tamil Nadu, an accident took place in M/s. Southern Iron and Steel Company Limited, Potheneri, near Mettur in Tamil Nadu, wherein three employees died due to inhalation of Carbon monoxide accumulated in the raw-material storage in the bell part of the blast

furnace. The Management, it has been reported, has not complied with the provisions of Section 36 of the Factories Act, 1948. A show-cause notice was issued to the occupier and the Manager of the factory. The factory was covered under Employees' State Insurance (E.S.I.) Scheme. The legal heir of the deceased have been paid Rs. 70,000/- each under the LIC Group Insurance Scheme and Rs. 30,000/- each under Personal Accident Scheme.

[Translation]

Imbalance in Himalayan Region

64. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Bhayankar Apdaon Ka Samana Karnewale" appearing in Nav Bharat Times dated November 4, 2000;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of this warning;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme in this regard as a precautionary measure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) Yes Sir. The news item about dangers to traditional landuse, water resources and environment due to fast economic development in The Himalaya. The Government have taken various measures including due consideration to possible impact of development projects through Environmental Impact Assessment, ban on felling of trees above one thousand metres, upgradation of road construction techniques, promotion of afforestation. The Planning Commission have constituted a Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the report of the expert Committee on National Policy for integrated development in the Himalayas. The Steering Committee has constituted seven sector based Sub-Committees to look into various programmes in Himalayan Region and suggest corrective measures. The Steering Committee has taken some important decisions in its meeting held on 30th June, 2000, which include preparation of Perspective Plan for Border areas, specific plan on conservation and development of notified tribes, identification of economically viable projects for bamboo development and medicinal plants and strategy for dealing with the problems of forest fire.

[English]

Price of Pesticides

65. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of pesticides meant for sprinkling over the crops are being closely monitored by the Government;

(b) if so, the names of the authority granting permission to various companies for increasing the price of their products;

(c) the comparative prices of main pesticides for the last three years, pesticide-wise;

(d) whether the rate of increase in the prices of pesticides during the above periods reasonable;

(e) if so, whether the prices of agricultural items are also being increased in the same proportion; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to minimise the price of pesticides and agricultural items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) There is no statutory control on the prices of pesticides.

(c) A statement indicating the comparative prices of main pesticides, pesticide-wise, for the last three years is attached.

(d) to (f) The price of pesticides being used in agriculture sector have not varied significantly during the last three years. The Government have been encouraging indigenous production of pesticides to ensure availability of pesticides at reasonable prices.

Statement

Comparative prices of the key pesticides during the last three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000)

		(Rate Rs. per kg./litres)		
S.No.	Name of Pesticides	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	2,4-D Sodium Salt 80%	177	146	160
2.	Anilophos 30% EC	235	218	193
3.	Atrazine	133	N.A.	N.A.
4.	B.T. Bacillus thuringiensis	N.A.	1050	1128

1	2	3	4	5
5.	BHC 10% DP	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Benthiocarb	N.A.	240	N.A.
7.	Butachlor 50% GR	25	N.A.	N.A.
8.	Butachlor 50% EC	187	177	153
9.	Carbandazim 50% WP	497	397	339
10.	Carbofuran 3G	59	N.A.	54
11.	Chlorpyrifos 20% EC	281	229	166
12.	Copper Ozylchloride 50% WDP	177	156	186
13.	Copper Sulphate	N.A.	54	N.A.
14.	Cypermethrin 10% EC	357	300	219
15.	Cypermethrin 25% EC	N.A.	413	427
16.	Dichlorovos 76%	385	315	261
17.	Dimethoate 30% EC	212	185	204
18.	Endosulphan 35% EC	245	219	216
19.	Fenvalarate 20% EC	357	269	270
20.	Isoproturon 50%	400	326	329
21.	Malathion 5% Dust	N.A.	N.A.	10
22.	Malathion 50% EC	200	148	143
23.	Mancozeb 75% WP	219	223	229
24.	Methyl Parathion 50% EC	306	292	323
25.	Monocrotophos 36% SL	379	288	123
26.	Neem Based Insect 0.03%	132	N.A.	N.A.
27.	Neem Based Insect 0.15%	246	285	319
28.	Phorate 10G	58	46	42
29.	Phospamidán 85% SL	439	374	368
30.	Quinalphos 25% EC	365	226	242
31.	Quinalphos 5% GR	65	N.A.	N.A.
32.	Thiram	N.A.	157	129
33.	Zinc Phosphide 80%	N.A.	N.A.	308

Source : State Departments of Agriculture

N.A. : Not available.

[Translation]

Gap in Demand and Supply of Power

66. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:
(a) the total demand and supply of power at present in the country;
(b) whether the gap between demand and supply of power is increasing every year;
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
(d) the estimated demand of power by 2010;
(e) whether the Government propose to consider other alternatives in place of making additional power generation capacity to meet the gap between demand and supply of power in the country;
(f) if so, the details thereof; and
(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government to meet the gap between demand and supply of power in the country by 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The total demand and supply of power in the country during April-October, 2000 is given below :

Actual Power supply Position (MU)	Peak Demand Vs. Peak Met (MW)
Requirement 290,647	Peak Demand 73,567
Availability 270,567	Peak Met 65,628
Shortage (%) 6.9	Shortage (%) 10.8

(b) and (c) The figures of requirement, availability and shortage of energy in the country during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 (upto October, 2000) are given below :

Year	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Shortage (%)
1998-99	446,584	420,235	5.9
1999-2000	480,430	450,594	6.2
2000-01 (upto Oct. 2000)	290,647	270,567	6.9

The main reasons for shortage of power in the country are as follows :-

- (i) Growth in demand for energy outpacing the growth in generation.
- (ii) Low frequency conditions in the grid due to inadequate installation of shunt capacitors.
- (iii) Shortage of peaking power in the grid.
- (iv) Constraints in transmission and distribution system.
- (v) Low PLF of some of the power stations.
- (d) As per 15th Electric Power Survey, the total estimated energy requirement in the country by the end of 2011-12 is 1058440 MU and Peak Load is 176647 MW.

(e) to (g) Following are the steps (other than capacity addition) being taken to meet the gap between demand and supply of power :

- (i) Facilitating inter-regional transfer of power by establishing the necessary transmission network.
- (ii) Renovation and Modernisation and life extension of existing old units of thermal and hydro power stations to maximize generation.
- (iii) Implementation of short-gestation power projects
- (iv) Demand side management and energy conservation measures.
- (v) Reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses by implementing various measures.
- (vi) Promoting private sector participation in power sector.
- (vii) Formulation of Hydel Policy in August, 1998 for exploitation of hydro-potential at a faster pace, and promoting small and mini hydel project.
- (viii) Strengthening of transmission and distribution system and improving the reliability of the system.
- (ix) Reforms and restructuring of the power sector.
- (x) Doubling of the present generating capacity of about one lakh MW by 2012.

Opening of Rake Points

67. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of rake points in each State at present;
- (b) whether the said number is adequate in view of the vast areas of the States; and
- (c) if not, the number of new rake points proposed to be opened in each State before the on set of Kharif season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) According to information received from the Ministry of Railways, the number of rake points in different Zonal Railways is as under:

Railways	No. of Full Rake Points
Central	175
Eastern	130
Northern	271
North Eastern	77
North Frontier	25
Southern	41
South Central	75
South Eastern	29
Western	113
Total	936

Ministry of Railways do not maintain this information State-wise.

- (b) 936 Full Rake handling points spread all over the States in the country are considered adequate. At times of need, half rake handling points and two points combinations are also allowed.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Increase in Capacity of Power

68. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of 1 lakh MW electricity during the next 10 years;
- (b) if so, the total investment required to achieve this target; and
- (c) the details of sources from where the required funds for investment to achieve the above target are likely to be mobilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) It is presently estimated that in order to meet full demand of electricity expected by 2012 an additional capacity of approximately 1,00,000 MW needs to be set up by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The total investment required to achieve this target along with matching transmission and distribution facility will be around Rs. 8,00,000 crore. The funds required for the Central Sector would be raised through internal resources including retained earnings, issue of bonds etc. Additionally external resources would be tied up by way of foreign assistance from bilateral/multilateral institutions like World Bank, ADB, JBIC etc. The funds required for the State Sector would be obtained through internal resources of SEBs/utilities Annual Plan allocations, loans from Indian Financial Institutions and bilateral/multilateral assistance. The private sector is projected to meet nearly half of the additional installed capacity, through their own equity, retained earnings and borrowings from financial institutions etc.

Hydro Electric Power Projects in Kerala

69. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals for setting up Hydro Electric Power Projects in some States particularly in Kerala are still pending with the Government since the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of these projects, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of capacities likely to be created by these proposed projects and the reasons for the delay in this regard;

(d) whether the National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) has been entrusted the task to set up power projects in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the National Hydro Power Corporation in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) State-wise details of hydro electric schemes under examination for techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are given in the attached statement-I. No hydro electric project in Kerala is pending in CEA. However, Detailed Project Reports of hydro electric projects/multipurpose schemes of Kerala as per details in statement-II have been returned mainly due to Inter-State aspects involved.

Puyankutty HEP (2x120 MW) was cleared by CEA in January, 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs. 250 crores. The project was sanctioned by Planning Commission in August, 1986 subject to the clearance from forest angle. On recommendations of an expert Committee constituted for in depth analysis of the project, the State Government has been asked to carry out certain studies pertaining to Environment Impact Assessment, Social Impact Assessment and Social Cost Benefit analysis.

Adirapally HEP(2x80 MW) located on river Chalakudy was accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority on 22.4.1996 at an estimated cost of Rs. 230.48 crores. The project has been cleared from environmental angle in January 1998 and has also been accorded in principle clearance for diversion of 138.6 ha. of forest land. Kerala State Electricity Board has recently revised the details project report and updated the cost estimates and therefore been advised to submit these documents to CEA in connection with accord of investment approval by the Planning Commission.

(d) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to Part (d) above.

Statement-I

Details of pending Hydro Projects received in CEA during last 3 years

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme/ Executing Agency	Capacity [MW]	Estimated Cost [Rs. Crores]	Date of receipt in CEA
1	2	3	4	5
1998-99				
Orissa				
1.	Balimela HEP Extension Stage-II (7th & 8th Units) - Orissa Hydro Power Corporation	2x75 = 150	277.57	5/98

Status/pending Inputs :- Considered for TEC by CEA on 25.10.99. TEC will be issued after fulfilment of conditions (i) MOEF clearance for Surlikonda barrage; (ii) Inter-State clearance from Govt. of A.P.

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

Himachal Pradesh

2.	Dharwarl Sunda HEP- M/s Dhamwari Power Company Limited	2x35=70	563.03	1/99
----	--------------------------------------------------------------	---------	--------	------

Status/Pending inputs :- IPC issued on 31.3.96. Pending inputs are :- i) Tentative financial package; ii) Forest clearance for transmission lines; iii) Power evacuation beyond Maliana S/S; iv) Compliance to the comments on legal aspects : Cost estimated received in 9/99 are under examination in CEA/CWC; considered by SPAC on 13.3.2000 and it was decided to sort out a number of issues before the project is recommended for TEC.

1999-2000**Himachal Pradesh**

3.	Uhl HEP Stage-III - HPSEB	2x50=100	464.80	11/99
----	------------------------------	----------	--------	-------

Pending inputs :- i) Compliance of Sec.29; ii) Inter-State clearance; iii) Financial package; iv) MOEF clearance; v) Fresh clearance from State Department, vi) Power evacuation system; vii) Design of E&M works.

2000-2001**Himachal Pradesh**

4.	Parbati HEP Stage-II (NHPC)	4x200=800	4120	10/2000
----	--------------------------------	-----------	------	---------

Status/pending inputs :- TEC was transferred in favour of NHPC on 12.10.99 earlier cleared cost of Rs. 2151.78 Crs. for H.P. Fresh DPR received in 10/2000 is under examination.

Madhya Pradesh

5.	Matnar HEP MPEB	3x20=60	253.64	6/2000
----	-----------------	---------	--------	--------

Pending inputs :- i) Compl. of Sec. (2) & (3); ii) MOEF and State Forest Deptt. Clearance; iii) Inter-State aspect; iv) Land & Water availability certificate from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh; v) Updating of Cost estimate.

Mizoram

6.	Kologyna HEP Stage-I- Govt. of Mizoram	120	804.60	6/2000
----	-------------------------------------------	-----	--------	--------

Pending Inputs :- i) MOEF clearance; ii) Beneficiary State; iii) Land availability certificate from State Govt.; iv) Tentative financial package.

Total : 1300 MW

Statement-II*Hydro Electric/Multipurpose Schemes of Kerala returned for Resubmission*

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Capacity (MW)	Date of Return	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kerala Bhawani	3x50=150	January 1992	Involves Inter-state aspect. Located in Cauvery basin.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Mananthwady (Multipurpose)	4x60=240	July 1980	-do-
3.	Pambar	2x15=30	March 1990	-do-
4.	Kuttiyadi Augmentation	2x50=100	May 1992	-do-
5.	Pandiar Punnapuzha	2x35=70	July 1982	-do-
6.	Barapole	2x3+2x1.5=9	August 1991	Involves inter-state aspect with Karnataka.
7.	Pallivasal Rehabilitation	3x20=60	April 1992	-
8.	Karapara Kuriarkutty (Multipurpose)	2x12+3x20=84	May 1991	-

[Translation]

Power Grid Corporation of India enter in Entertainment Industry

70. SHRI AJYA SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation of India is contemplating to enter into the entertainment industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be materialized and the benefits likely to be accrued out of it; and

(d) the total amount likely to be spent on it along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) POWERGRID has plans to enter into telecommunication sector as infrastructure provider-II by leasing end-to-end bandwidth. Considering the potential for convergence of telecommunication and entertainment, POWERGRID may enter into entertainment segment as a value-added service in future. However, a final decision in this regard will depend on the cost effectiveness of the venture.

Import of Dangerous Insecticides

71. DR. ASHOK PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding large scale import of dangerous insecticides in the country which are banned in the developed countries;

(b) if so, whether in view of the complaints, Government proposed to amend the Insecticides Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) A few Pesticides which are banned in one or other countries of the world are not banned for use in our country under the Insecticides Act, 1968. Banning/restricting the use by various countries including India is done on the basis of local agro-climatic and environmental conditions. There is no restriction on the import of pesticides which are not banned in India subject to the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. As such, there is no need to amend the Insecticides Act in this regard.

[English]

Waiting list for Telephone Connections

72. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Rasipuram region as on October 1, 2000;

(b) whether any exchange is proposed to be opened in the near future in the region;

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

(d) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 1742 persons

are on the waiting list in Rasipuram region as on 1st October, 2000;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following exchanges in Rasipuram region are proposed to be opened during the current financial year.

1. Andalurgate (Rasipuram)
2. Sowripalayam (Commissioned)

(d) The waiting list as per NTP, 99 is likely to be cleared by the end of 31.3.2002.

Production of Cotton

73. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimate production of cotton in the current season in each State particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the support price of cotton given by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI); and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to avoid any loss to farmers in case of high production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The State-wise advance estimates of production of cotton during 2000-2001 are given in the attached statement.

(b) The Government of India fix the support price of two basic varieties of cotton viz. F-414/H-777/J34 and H4. The support prices of these two varieties of Fair Average Quality of cotton season 2000-2001 have been fixed at Rs. 1625/- per quintal and 1825/- per quintal respectively. However, the support prices for two other varieties are fixed by the Textile Commissioner. These prices, as fixed by the Textile Commissioner for the cotton season 2000-2001, vary from Rs. 1215/- per quintal to Rs. 2900/- per quintal depending upon variety.

(c) It is endeavour of the Government to provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce through the mechanism of price intervention. The Government and Office of the Textile Commissioner fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Commission for the Agricultural Cost and Prices, cost of production of agricultural inputs, normal escalation in each element of cost plus a reasonable margin of profit. In case prices touch the MSP level, the nodal agency immediately intervenes and starts procuring so as to stabilise prices. Further, quotas for export of cotton are released in phases depending upon estimated size of the crop for the relevant cotton season. Also,

import of cotton is under OGL (Open General Licence) with a basic duty of 5 per cent and additional surcharge of 10 per cent. Thus, through the instruments of price interventions, tariff rates and export quotas, farmers, interest are protected.

Statement

State-wise Advance Estimates of Production of Cotton during 2000-01

(in 000 Bales of 170 kg. each)

S.No.	State	Production
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1572
2.	Gujarat	2848
3.	Haryana	1300
4.	Karnataka	805
5.	Kerala	23
6.	Madhya Pradesh	546
7.	Maharashtra	2870
8.	Orissa	81
9.	Punjab	1321
10.	Rajasthan	1000
11.	Tamil Nadu	765
12.	Uttar Pradesh	10
13.	West Bengal	1
14.	Others	13
All India		13155

[Translation]

Fruit based Industries

74. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fruit based industries functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the plans prepared by the Union Government to encourage fruit processing industry in future;

(c) the criteria fixed by the Government to establish fruit based food processing industry in the country; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) A statement giving the state-wise break up of the number of units registered under Fruit Products Order, 1955, for fruit based products is attached.

(b) The Department of Food Processing Industries provides support to facilitate overall growth of food processing sector. Under its plan schemes, the Department provides Concessional finance to food processing industries. Besides, other agencies like National Horticultural Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) etc. also provide assistance under their respective schemes. This sector has also been included as a priority sector for providing loan by Financial Institutions.

(c) and (d) The Government does not set up food processing industries of its own. Norms are laid down for setting up of fruit processing industries in the Fruit Products Order, 1955 with regard to sanitation & hygiene, area of production, availability of potable water, plant & machinery etc.

Statement

State wise break up number of units licensed under Fruit Products Order, 1955 for fruit based products as on 1.1.2000

Name of the State	No. of Licences
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3
Andhra Pradesh	286
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Assam	23
Bihar	63
Chandigarh	60
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7
Delhi	333
Goa, Daman & Diu	84
Gujarat	224
Haryana	139

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	99
Jammu & Kashmir	81
Karnataka	248
Kerala	394
Madhya Pradesh	105
Maharashtra	948
Manipur	9
Meghalaya	14
Mizoram	3
Nagaland	4
Orissa	42
Rajasthan	93
Pondicherry	12
Punjab	341
Sikkim	3
Tamil Nadu	135
Tripura	4
Uttar Pradesh	542
West Bengal	294
Total	4589

[English]

Airtel Telephone Operators

75. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private telephone operator Airtel has been allowed to operate in 30 cities in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated revenue to be incurred by the Madhya Pradesh Telecom Circle thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) M/s. Bharti Telenet has been issued licence to provide Basic Telephone Service in the entire service area of Madhya Pradesh Telecom Circle. The licensee is providing the service under the brand name of Airtel. The licence is for a period of 20 years. The

revenue of Madhya Pradesh Telecom Circle has not declined after the commencement of service by the private sector.

Public Representatives in Developmental Activities of NALCO

76. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has any system and procedure for undertaking peripheral development activities in and around their establishment;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether Members of Parliament from those locations are associated and consulted and form part of the system and the procedure; and

(d) if so, the details of such meetings held recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYASINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d) NALCO has a Committee for undertaking peripheral development activities around its locations. In Damanjodi sector the Committee functions under the chairmanship of Collector, Koraput. Two Senior Executives of NALCO alongwith MLA, Patangi and MLA, Koraput are members of the Committee. For Angul sector, there is a Committee under the chairmanship of a Senior Executive from Human Resources Development and Administration (H&A) Department with representatives of other Departments of the Company. The local MLA and Collector make recommendations for such activities depending on circumstances. Members of the Parliament from

the respective areas are not directly associated and are not members of peripheral development committees.

[Translation]

Telephone Advisory Committee

77. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telephone Advisory Committee has been constituted in Rajasthan and Maharashtra;

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

(c) the norms laid down for constitution of the Committee; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. All the Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) in Rajasthan and Maharashtra have been constituted except Tonk TAC in Rajasthan as detailed in statement-I attached.

(c) A copy of the existing rules is at statement-II attached.

(d) The telecom District of TONK has recently become eligible for formation of TAC for which recommendations from various quarters are still awaited.

Statement-I

Rajasthan

Sl.No.	Name of TAC	Chairman of TAC	Normal Strength of TAC	Members Existing	Tenure of TAC
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Rajasthan (Circle)	CGM	65	75	31.12.2000
2.	Ajmer	GM	50	38	31.03.2001
3.	Alwar	GM	50	44	31.03.2001
4.	Bhilwara	GM	50	23	31.02.2001
5.	Bikaner	GM	50	28	31.03.2001
6.	Jaipur	PGM	55	58	31.12.2000
7.	Jhunjhunu	GM	50	30	31.12.2000
8.	Jodhpur	GM	50	66	31.12.2000

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Bharatpur	TDM	40	35	31.12.2000
10.	Banswara	TDM	40	25	31.12.2000
11.	Kota	GM	50	41	31.03.2001
12.	Nagaur	GM	40	23	31.12.2000
13.	Pali	GM	50	14	31.03.2001
14.	Siker	GM	50	27	30.03.2001
15.	Sirohi (Abu Road)	GM	50	17	31.12.2000
16.	Sriganganagar	GM	50	27	31.12.2000
17.	Udaipur	GM	50	31	31.12.2000
18.	Swai Madhopur	TDM	40	48	31.03.2001
19.	Churu	TDM	40	34	31.12.2000
20.	Chittorgarh	TDM	40	28	31.12.2000
21.	Barmer	TDM	40	18	31.12.2000
22.	Tonk	TDM	40	is yet to be constituted	
Maharashtra					
1.	Maharashtra (Circle)	CGM	65	85	28.2.2001
2.	Ahmednagar	GM	50	39	31.7.2002
3.	Akola	GM	50	27	31.7.2002
4.	Amravati	GM	50	66	28.2.2001
5.	Aurangabad	GM	50	42	31.3.2001
6.	Chandrapur	GM	50	21	31.7.2002
7.	Dhule (Dhulla)	GM	50	04	31.7.2002
8.	Jalgaon	GM	50	01	31.7.2002
9.	Kalyan	GM	50	70	31.3.2001
10.	Kolhapur	GM	50	25	31.7.2002
11.	Nagpur	GM	50	87	31.3.2001
12.	Nanded	GM	50	27	31.3.2001
13.	Nasik	GM	50	58	31.7.2002
14.	Panjim (Goa)	GM	50	39	31.3.2001
15.	Pune	PGM	55	50	31.1.2001

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Raigadh (Pen)	GM	50	21	31.3.2001
17.	Ratnagiri	GM	50	12	31.3.2001
18.	Sangli	GM	50	31	31.3.2001
19.	Satara	GM	50	09	31.4.2002
20.	Sholapur	GM	50	60	31.7.2002
21.	Bhandara	TDM	40	27	31.7.2002
22.	Buldana (Khamgaon)	TDM	40	40	31.3.2001
23.	Latur	TDM	40	15	31.3.2001
24.	Beed (Bhir)	TDM	40	40	31.7.2002
25.	Parbhani	TDM	40	29	31.3.2001
26.	Wardha	TDM	40	36	31.3.2001
27.	Yeotmal	TDM	40	63	31.3.2001
28.	Sindhudurg (Kudal)	TDM	40	19	30.4.2001
29.	Osmanabad	TDM	40	13	30.4.2002
30.	Jalna	TDM	40	17	30.4.2002

Statement-II

A Copy of Order No. 10-1/99-PHP dated 11.3.1999

Fresh Guidelines on Telephone Advisory Committees

1. Introduction

Advisory Committees are established for each Telecom Circle/SSA's headed by JAG officer and Union Territory. These include Members representing various user interests outside the Department of Telecommunications. It has been decided that these Committees will, inter alia, monitor the performance of the telecommunication services and advise the Department for their improvement. The guidelines in succeeding paragraphs indicate the manner of formation and functioning of these Committees. The guidelines would come into force with immediate effect.

In all 300 (Three hundred) such Committees cover the entire Telecommunication system in the country at present. As soon as a new Telephone District or an SSA headed by a JAG officer is created, a TAC would be constituted. Further, for administrative reason, there may be constituted more than one Area TAC's in Major/Metro Districts. Similarly, if required, Telecom Circle also can have more than one Zonal TAC's in lieu of addition to the Circle TAC.

A member of the Committee should normally be residing in the geographical jurisdiction of the Telephone District in case of a Telephone Advisory Committee, or in the concerned Circle/Union Territory in case of Circle Telecommunication Advisory Committee. However, there is no bar for any member residing outside the SSA/Circle of whose TAC he is a member, but he cannot discuss any point not pertaining to the particular TAC.

2. Size of Advisory Committees

The Annexure gives the category-wise general composition of the Advisory Committees. The number of members in any category in any TAC can be increased upto 25% in total at the discretion of the Government and this increased limit shall not be exceeded except under exceptional circumstances.

In addition, there will be two official member in each TAC who will function as Chairman and Secretary of the Committee. In the case of Telephone Districts, the Head of the Telephone District will function as the Chairman and the Assistant General Manager (C) or an equivalent officer as the Secretary of the Telephone Advisory Committee. In the case of Metro/Major Telephone districts, the Head of the Telephone

District will function as the Chairman and Deputy General Manager (C) as Secretary of the Telephone Advisory Committee. In the case of Circle level TACs, the Chief General Manager Telecommunications will function as the Chairman and an officer of ITS Group 'A' as the Secretary.

3. Procedure for Constitution

The method of formation of Telephone/Telecommunication Advisory Committee will be as under :-

- a) The Chief General Manager will recommend to the Telecommunications Directorate suitable names representing the various interests. The Chief General Manager may consult the Civic Body or any association representing Press, Trade and Commerce, Industry, Medical Profession etc.
- b) Recommendations/nominations may be obtained by the Chief General Manager from the State Government/Union Territory and Presiding officers of the State Legislatures to represent the State Government/Union Territory and the State Legislatures and be forwarded to the Directorate.
- c) Nominations for Members of Parliament also will be obtained by the Chief General Managers as per guidelines indicated in D.O. No. 14-19/96-PHP dated 21.03.1997 from Sr. DDG(CS). The MP may himself/herself be represented on the main Committees i.e. Circle TACs unless the MP does not want to be there in person.
- d) Nominations to the TACs will be made by the Government after considering the recommendations thus received from the Chief General Managers alongwith the other names received directly in the Directorate and by the Manager (Communications). While considering recommendations from Hon'ble MPs it shall be ensured that the member recommended belongs to the Constituency/State of the MP concerned.

The tenure of a TAC shall normally be two years from the day when the first member is nominated. Meetings of the Committee will be held at least once in a quarter. Irrespective of the fact whether new connections are to be released or not. Meeting dates should be fixed, as far as practicable, when the Parliament is not in session.

4. Functions

The functions of the Advisory Committees are :-

- a) Monitoring the performance of Telecommunication services and advising the Department for their improvement.

- b) Bringing the telephone using public and the Department of Telecommunications into closer relationship.
- c) Giving the public confidence that their grievances are being properly represented as well as attended to.
- d) Giving publicity to the action being taken by the Department for improving and developing the telephone service.
- e) Assisting the Department in handling the shortages in telephone equipment and lines by invoking co-operation and patience from public; and
- f) Assisting the Department in deciding out-of-turn connections as provided in the rules on a fair and equitable basis by joint assessment of the comparative merits of various applicants in the waiting list under the OYT and Non-OYT Special' categories.

5. Need for further Involvement of Members

With the expansion of Telecommunications network in the country and the problems faced by the Department in fulfilling the increasing expectations of the public there is need for greater understanding between the Department and its subscribers. Members of the Advisory Committees can play a very useful role in educating the public about the constraints of the Department in giving a still better service to the public. To enable Members of the Advisory Committees to get first hand information and detailed knowledge of various procedures, checks and counter-checks being exercised by the Department of Telecommunications, they may be actively associated with the following activities if they so desire :-

- i) Investigation of service complaints of telephones going out of order for long durations;
- ii) Complaints of delayed provision of telephones accessories etc.;
- iii) Maintenance of in-door and out-door plant;
- iv) General complaints e.g. non-receipt of bills, excess billing (but not individual cases);
- v) Co-ordination for building plans, cable laying works etc. with local authorities.

6. Formation of Sub-Committees

To achieve the above objectives, it has been decided that where Members are willing, Sub-Committees for the jurisdiction of each Area Manager (including Long Distance and Telex areas) in the Telephone Districts and that of Area Director Telecom in Telecommunication Circles may be formed. A

Sub-Committee may generally consist of 2 or 3 Members of the Advisory Committee and the concerned Divisional Engineer and/or the Area Manager in the Telephone District and the concerned Divisional Engineer Telephones/Telegraphs and/or the Director Telecom in the Telecommunication Circles. TAC Members may volunteer to serve on these committees.

The Sub-Committee may take up a few specific cases of complaints of the type mentioned in para 5 above, where a subscriber has a grievance or a complaint to make and where a TAC Member of the Sub-committee feels that there is scope for improvement in the method of working of the concerned exchange/office. After a detailed study, the Sub-Committee could give their views and recommendations.

The Head of the Telecom Circle/Telephone District will take necessary action on the recommendations of the Committee, if this is within his jurisdiction. In case recommendations/modifications are required to be referred to the Directorate, the same will be sent to the Directorate with the recommendations of the Chief General Manager after discussion in the TAC meeting.

The recommendations/suggestions will be of recommendatory nature and would not absolve the Departmental officers of their responsibilities, nor will it take away their authority to decide the case on merits.

7. You are, therefore, requested to take action so that the Sub-Committees as mentioned in paras 5 & 6 above may be formed in your Circle/Telephone District where the Advisory Committee is generally in agreement with this line of action.

8. Disqualification of TAC Members

The membership of a TAC member shall be deemed to have been cancelled who does not attend three consecutive TAC meetings of the Committee of which he is a member. Further the membership is also liable to be cancelled on the report of the Chairman of the TAC on misbehaviour/unsocial or antisocial activities etc. on the part of the TAC member.

9. General

The Advisory Committee are expected to provide the vital link between the Department and the users. It would give the public the confidence that their grievances are being properly represented and attended to, besides giving publicity and developing the telecommunication services.

10. These guidelines shall come into force with immediate effect and supercedes all earlier orders on the points covered by these guidelines.

Telecom/Telephone Advisory Committees-Composition & Interest Represented

Sections of Categories in a TAC	Telephone/Telephone Advisory Committees (TAC)					
	For Mumbai Calcutta, Delhi(Main) and Madras	For Delhi South, North West East & Central and Zonal	Headed by CGMs Above SAG Grade	Headed by PGMs	Headed by GMs and Circles with CGMs in SAG Grade	Headed by by TDMs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
State Administration	1	1	1	1	1	1
State Legislature	2	1	2	1	1	1
Corporation of Civic Body	2	1	2	1	1	1
Member of Parliament	All the MPs, both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha shall be member of one or the other TAC as per letter No. 14-49/96-PHP dated 21.03.1997					
Press	3	2	3	2	2	1
Medical Profession	2	1	2	2	1	1
Legal Profession	2	1	2	2	1	1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All Other Professions like Engineers, Architects etc.		4	2	4	3	2	2
Trade, Commerce & Industry		12	8	12	18	8	5
Public Workers and others		12	12	12	10	12	7
Others (Unspecified Category)		10	6	10	10	6	5
Total		50	35	50	40	35	25

Including the number of MPs.

[English]

Cold Storages

78. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cold storages run maintained by the Government and the number out of them not working satisfactorily;

(b) the steps, the Government propose to take to make their working satisfactory and economical;

(c) whether there is shortage of cold storages in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) The Government of India do not run and maintain the cold storages. However, the Government of India has a scheme under which financial assistance in the form of bank-ended capital investment subsidy is provided for construction/expansion/modernisation of cold storages and storages to the organisations such as Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings/Bodies, Companies, Corporations, Partnership and Proprietary firms, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees/Boards, Growers' Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations. The scheme is being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture, through the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). Capital subsidy @ 25% of the total project cost subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 50.00 lakhs and for North-Eastern States @ 33.33% subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 60.00 lakh is provided. The scheme is applicable to all those States/Territories, which do not control rentals.

With a view to develop storages and cold storages facilities, the Government of India constituted a High Level Expert Committee (HLEC) on 20.11.98. The Committee considered the status of cold storage industry, identified constraints in the way of development of cold storages/storages

and suggested incentives for its growth and development. The Committee suggested inter-alia creation/expansion of 12 lakh tonnes and rehabilitation/modernisation of 8 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity in the country during 9th Five Year Plan. In the light of recommendations of the Committee, the Government approved in December, 1999, the above mentioned scheme at an outlay of Rs. 175.00 crores.

Loss to Kharif Crops in Orissa

79. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the loss of Kharif crops in some States during this year;

(b) if so, the reasons led to the losses;

(c) the details of the areas affected in various States, State-wise; and

(d) the assistance extended by the Union Government to the State Governments to meet the situation arising out of the loss due to failure of Kharif Crops, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The loss in foodgrain production is mainly on account of deficient rainfall in some of the States during the south west monsoon 2000;

(c) Parts of the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa have been affected due to deficient rainfall in varying magnitude.

(d) The Central Government has released Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of Rs. 168.18 crore to Rajasthan, 131.14 crore to Gujarat, Rs. 31.98 crore to Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh and Rs. 41.05 crore to Orissa. Distribution of relief is the responsibility of the State Government. There is a provision of input subsidy to the farmers for crop loss as per the norms and guidelines under CRF. The Central

Government has also introduced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, to provide protection to farmers against natural calamities.

Blackmailing by Coach

80. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item captioned "I was blackmailed by my coach, says Malleswari" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated, October 3, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have enquired into the matter;

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

(d) the reaction of the Government on the poor show of Indian Contingent during Sydney Olympics 2000?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) Though such a news item figured in Hindustan Times on 3rd October, 2000, however, Ms. K. Malleshwari has not sent any complaint in this regard either to Sports Authority of India or to the Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Though the medal tally was poor, however, relative to the earlier performance at Atlanta Olympics, the performance of India in many disciplines such as Boxing, Weight-lifting (W), Judo and Shooting was better.

Increase in Capacity by NTPC

81. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NTPC has finalised a corporate plan to double its capacity and become a 40,000 MW plus capacity by 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NTPC has decided to enter in the area of Hydro Power; and

(d) if so, the places where these power projects are likely to be installed by NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The present generating capacity of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is 19435 MW. NTPC has drawn up a Corporate Plan to double this capacity and become 40,000 MW plus company by the year 2012 subject to timely linkages/clearances and financing tie-ups. This is planned to be achieved through implementation of identified projects, details of which are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The first hydro power project likely to be installed by NTPC is Kol Dam Hydro-electric power project of 800 MW capacity located in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh. The Tripartite Agreement in this regard has been signed between the Government of Himachal Pradesh and NTPC and Himachal Pradesh Electricity Board on 26.2.2000.

Statement

(Figures in MW)

Sl.No.	Project	Location	Capacity	IX Plan 1997-2002	X Plan 2002-07	XI Plan 2007-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	
I	Approved/Ongoing					
1	Vindhyachal-II	M.P.	1000	1000@	-	-
2	Unchahar-II	U.P.	420	420@	-	-
3	Kayamkulam CCPP	Kerala	350	350@	-	-
4	Faridabad GPP	Haryana	430	430@	-	-
5	Simhadri TPP	A.P.	1000	500	500	-
6	Talchar STPP-II	Orissa	2000	-	2000	-
	Total		5200	2700	2500	-
	Total (incl. Tanda TPS (440 MW) taken over from UPPCL)					
			5640	3140	2500	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	
II New Projects						
a) CEA Cleared Projects						
1	Ramagundam STPP-III	A.P.	500	-	500	-
2	Rihand STPP-II	U.P.	1000	-	1000	-
3	Sipat STPP-I	Chhatisgarh	1980	-	1320	660
4	Kawas CCPP-II	Gujarat	650	-	650	-
5	Gandhar CCPP-II	Gujarat	650	-	650	-
6	Anta CCPP-II	Rajasthan	650	-	650	-
7	Auraiya CCPP-II	U.P.	650	-	650	-
8	Koldam HPP	H.P.	800	-	-	800
Sub Total - a			6880	-	5420	1460
b) New Projects - FR Submitted						
9	Kahalgaon STPP-II	Bihar	1320	-	660	660
10	Barch STPP	Bihar	1980	-	660	1320
11	Vindhyachal-III	M.P.	1000	-	500	500
12	Sipat STPP-II	Chattisgarh	660	-	660	-
Sub Total - b			4960	-	2480	2480
c) Other New Projects						
13	North Karanpura STPP	Jharkhand	1980	-	-	1980
14	Unchahar STPP-III	U.P.	660	-	-	660
15	Dadri-II	U.P.	500	-	-	500
16	Kayamkulam CCPP-II	Kerala	1950	-	-	1950
17	Cheyur STPP (coal/LNG)	T.N.	1000	-	-	1000
Sub Total - c			6090	-	-	6090
Total - New Projects (a+b+c)			17930	-	7900	10030
Grand Total (I+II)			23570	3140	10400	10030
Cum. Capacity by end of plan incl. Existing Capacity as on date i.e. 19435 MW				19935	30335	40365

@ entire capacity added already

National Cooperative Policy

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

82. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(d) whether the Union Government are reviewing the Multi State Co-operative Act as promised earlier; and

(a) whether the Union Government have any plans to formulate and declare National Co-operative Policy;

(e) if so, the time by which the review is likely to be completed and the amended Act come into force?

(b) If so, the time by which the Policy is likely to be laid on the Table of the House;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) It has been decided to formulate a National Policy on Coopera-

tives. The Draft National Policy on Cooperatives was discussed with the State Ministers of Cooperation in a Conference held on 30.6.2000 at New Delhi. The State Governments accepted the Draft National Policy in principle. However, in order to further fine-tune the draft document, it was decided to constitute a Group of State Ministers headed by Minister of State (Agriculture). The Group of Ministers has held some rounds of discussions to fine tune the document. The Policy document would be finalised, in view of the recommendations of the Group of State Ministers.

(d) and (e) It has been decided to replace the existing Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act; 1984 on the lines of the Model Cooperative Act recommended by the Brahm Prakash Committee. The Cabinet has approved proposal. The Bill would be introduced in the Parliament after completing procedural requirements.

Exploitation of Gold Resources

83. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign firms are keen to exploit gold resources in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these companies and the States where these companies are keen to participate in the exploitation of gold;

(c) whether these companies have submitted any application for prospective licences to explore and exploit gold resources in Karnataka, Orissa and Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Some foreign companies have expressed interest in gold exploration/exploitation in the country and also obtained FIPB approval in this regard. The approval granted by FIPB is only for foreign equity participation in a Company incorporated in India. After obtaining FIPB approval these companies are required to apply to the concerned State Government, which are the owners of minerals in their respective territorial jurisdictions, for minerals concessions.

In accordance with Section 5(1) of the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company as defined under Section 3(1) of the Companies Act; 1956 can be granted mineral concessions. As such, under the existing mining legislation, a foreign company is not allowed to undertake reconnaissance/prospecting/mining operations.

The Central Government has so far conveyed its approval to the State Government of Karnataka for grant of 13 Reconnaissance Permits to Indian companies who are the subsidiaries/Joint Venture Companies formed by the foreign companies for diamond, gold, etc. over a total area of 13,572.72 sq. kms.

[Translation]

Power Generation by Hydro Power and Thermal Power Plants

84. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total power in percentage being generated by hydro power and thermal power plants in the country at present;

(b) whether power is not being generated as per demand;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to generate more power as per the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The category wise generation of power in the country during April-October, 2000 is given below :-

Category	Power generation (MU) April-October 2000			
	Target	Actual	% of Target	% share of total generation
Thermal	225,782	230,327	102	79.85
Hydro	54,122	48,842	90.2	16.93

Targets of power generation are fixed taking into account anticipated demand and availability of installed generation capacity.

(d) Following are among the steps being taken to generate more power as per demand :-

(i) Facilitating inter-regional transfer of power by establishing the necessary transmission network;

(ii) Renovation and Modernisation and life extension of existing old units of Thermal and hydro power stations to maximize generation.

(iii) Implementation of short-gestation power projects.

- (iv) Demand side management and energy Conservation measures. — Power supply units were installed after replacing the broken solar panels.
- (v) Reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses by implementing various measures. — New feeder cable was provided from antenna to the unit.
- (vi) Promoting private sector participation in power sector. — Telephone instruments faults were also attended.
- (vii) Formulation of Hydel Policy in August, 1998 for exploitation of hydro-potential at a faster pace, and promoting small and mini hydel projects. (c) Repairing of balance faulty 38 VPTs and 4 Base stations is under progress and will be completed by January, 2001.
- (viii) Strengthening of transmission and distribution system and improving reliability of the system. (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to replace irreparable faulty MARR based systems by WLL system this year on receipt of equipments.
- (ix) Reforms and restructuring of the power sector. (f) Not applicable.
- (x) Double the present generating capacity of one lakh MW by 2012.

Pending Power Projects of Gujarat

86. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Gujarat for setting up Jamnagar Thermal Power Plant, Phase-I for clearance;

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

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has returned seventeen other power projects to the State Government for re-submission of these projects as per the modified policy of the Government in this regard;

(e) if so, whether the Government have received the revised proposals of these projects from the State Government;

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) if not, the reasons for delay in clearance of these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government received a proposal from Gujarat for setting up Jamnagar Thermal Power Plant (2x250 MW) in the private sector by M/s. Reliance Power Ltd. for techno-economic clearance.

[English]

Out of order MARR Solar Telephones

85. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question 4357 dated August 21,2000 and state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has taken any action to rectify the fault of out of order Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) system based solar telephones in the villages of Yavatmal district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not the reasons therefor and the time by which these telephones are likely to be rectified;

(d) whether the Government propose to replace the highly fault prone MARR system based telephones by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system in the said district;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following efforts were taken to rectify the VPT faults :

— 48 VPTs and 4 base stations were rectified.

— Old and faulty batteries were replaced.

(b) .The project has been cleared techno-economically by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 24.5.1999.

(c) Construction on the project has not yet started as financial closure of the project is yet to be achieved.

(d) to (g) The details of proposals received for setting up power projects in Gujarat for which Detailed Project Re-

ports (DPRs) have been returned by Central Electricity Authority, along with reasons for returning the same are given in enclosed statement.

(h) The project will be taken up for clearance once the Detailed Project Reports complete with all necessary inputs/clearances are furnished by the utilities.

Statement

Details of proposals for setting up power projects in Gujarat for which Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) were returned by Central Electricity Authority for resubmission.

Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of Return/Reason for Return
1	2	3
Pipavav CCGT (GPCL)	615	Returned on 10.10.96 for want of GOG clearance for use of 100% Naphtha, fuel linkage of MOP&NG, fixing of execution agency in private sector.
Gas based TPS at Mahuva	2x210	Returned on 7/80 Fuel availability was not tied up.
Utran GTCC St.II	135	Returned on 5/92 due to non availability of gas from Gandhar fields.
Sinor GTCC	1230	Returned on 6/92 due to non-availability of gas.
Simultaneous cycle Gas based plant at Balol	6x5.5	Returned on 2/88
Kalol	6x5.5	
Ankleshwar	6x5.5	
Co-operative sector GTCC TPS for National Dairy Development Board at Samarakha	236	CEA intimated DOP on 6.11.89 that they are not in favour of this scheme and desired that NDDDB may take bulk power from GEB.
Pipavav CCGT St.II	615	Gas envisaged from Tapti fields is not likely to be available in near future. Gas for St.I proposal also not yet been confirmed. GEB has also resources constraints. GEB was informed on 11.2.92 accordingly.
North Gujarat CCGT	300	Returned on 8/93 due to non-availability of gas.
Gandhinagar CCGT	200	In 8/91 GEB was requested to submit revised report with 1GT+1 ST configuration for low cost per KW and better efficiency. GEB intimated in 10/91 that revised report will be sent after environment clearance is received.
Narmada St.I	2x500	Returned in 7/92 as coal linkage and transportation could not be tied up. Scheme has also been rejected by MOEF.

1	2	3
Sikka St.III	2x210	Returned in 8/92 as certain linkages such as coal linkage, E&F clearance etc. were not tied up. Scheme has also been rejected by MOEF.
Wanakbori GTCC	600	Returned in 10/92 as gas is not likely to be available from HBJ pipeline in the near future.
Gujarat Coastal (GEB) at Amreli	2x500	Returned in 2/96 as Fuel, Environment, Civil Aviation, Trans. System, could not be tied up.
Kharsalia Lignite Fired Plant	120	Returned on 28.2.96 due to non tie up of certain inputs.
Ghoga Lignite based	2x120	Returned on 12.7.96 as the project is proposed in private sector and the company is yet to be finalised.
Coastal TPS(GPCL)	2x500	Proposal for IPC returned on 17.9.96 due to nonfinalisation of private agency which are executing the project and MoU route is not open. Other pending inputs : Section 29(2), MOEF clearance, coal linkage, transmission system.
Sikka TPS Extn. U-3 & 4	2x250	Returned on 7.9.99. Pending inputs are Land availability, water availability, MOEF clearance, Fuel linkage, SPCB clearance, Compliance of Section 29(2) & (3), Firm Completed Cost, Tentative Financial Package, NOC of NAA, Fuel transport arrangement.
Dhuvaran Gas PP	100	Returned on 2.5.2000, Pending inputs are Water Availability, Fuel Linkage, NOC of SPCB, compliance of Sec(2) & (3), NOC of NAA, power evacuation system, State Govt. consent u/s 18A.
Surat Lignite Power (T) Project Extn. Ph.II	2x125	Returned on 23.10.2000. Pending inputs/clearance are land availability, fuel linkage, water availability (S&C), NOC of SPCB. NOC of State Environment Department, NOC of NAA.

Pollution in Gomti River

87. SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Gomti river is getting polluted;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to clean the Gomti river;
- (d) whether any action plan have been formulated for the purpose;
- (e) if so, the amount proposed to be spent thereon; and
- (f) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main pollution of Gomti is on account of discharge of untreated sewage of Lucknow, Sultanpur & Jaunpur towns into the river.

(c) to (f) An action plan for pollution abatement of river Gomti is already under implementation. Under this plan, works

in Sultanpur & Jaunpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.36 crore are in various stages of implementation. In Lucknow, under the first phase of implementation, certain emergency works including diversion of Gaughat drain out-falling into the river upstream of a drinking water intake point have been completed at a cost of Rs. 5.9 crore. In addition, project proposals have been formulated for the balance approved amount of Rs. 43 crore under the first phase. These works include setting up of one sewage treatment plant to treat the flow of three drains and interception & diversion of some other major drains to downstream of the Barrage. All these works are targeted for completion by March, 2004. It has been decided to prepare project proposals for the remaining works in Lucknow under the second phase, which is targeted to be cleared by July, 2001.

[Translation]

Generation of Power by NTPC

88. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the power in MW being presently generated by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) each year; and
- (b) the total requirement of power in MW in the

country at present and the gap between the generation and the demand of the power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The present installed generating capacity of NTPC is 19435 MW. Energy generation from NTPC stations during the last three years and current year (2000-01) upto 31st October, 2000 are given below :

Year	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 (Upto 31st October, 2000)
Generation (MU)	106,290	109,505	118,676	74,589

(b) The peak requirement of the country during April-October, 2000 was 73567 MW and the peak met during the same period was 65628 MW leaving a shortage of 7939 MW (10.8%)

Telephone Facility in Rural Areas

89. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the responsibility of repair and maintenance of telephone services provided in the rural areas so far to private companies as most of the telephone connections are out of order; and

(b) if not, the strategy made by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited to repair the said rural telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Following are the main reasons for frequent interruption of telecom services in rural areas :

- i) Prolonged power breakdowns.
- ii) Unreliable transmission media.
- iii) Poor road connectivity which hampers movement of line staff and officers.

In spite of unreliable power supply and poor road connectivity all efforts are made to maintain the exchanges. It has been decided to provide power supply to exchanges in rural areas by means of maintenance free battery sets and engine alternators. It has also been decided to provide reliable media connectivity to rural exchanges in a phased manner.

Apart from this following measures are taken for upkeep of rural telecom services.

- (a) Testing of VPTs are carried out daily by dialing from the exchanges. Any VPT not responding on two consecutive days is treated as faulty.
- (b) Testing of MARR links are carried out daily from the base station.
- (c) Meter reading are checked fortnightly and low reading is taken as an indication of the system not performing properly.

[English]

Protection to Agriculture Commodities Markets

90. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have urged the Union Government in October, 2000 to take steps to protect agriculture commodities markets in the country in view of problems being faced by producers;

(b) if so, the details of points highlighted; and

(c) the action taken to resolve the hardship pointed out to improve the plight of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House separately.

Shortage of Post Offices in Orissa

91. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of post offices in coastal region of Orissa;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for opening of new post offices in the region;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the post offices are likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of targets for opening of new Post Offices in coastal region of Orissa for the Plan Year 2000-01 are as under :

Division	Target for Opening of branch Post Offices	Target for opening of Sub-Post Offices
Bhubaneswar	-	2
Balasore	1	-
Cuttack South	1	-
Cuttack North	1	-
Puri	1	-
Total	4	2

The opening of new post offices is subject to the fulfilment of departmental norms, availability of resources and approval of the required posts by the Ministry of Finance.

Postal Saving Schemes

92. SHRI SHIVRAJ VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the public investment under various postal saving schemes for 1999-2000 in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage investment by public in postal saving schemes during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Government of India has not reviewed the investment in various postal savings schemes during 1999-2000 in Maharashtra.

(c) Adequate steps are taken by the Government from time to time for continued and enhanced mobilisation of resources through small savings schemes throughout the country. Small savings schemes offer rise-free avenue of investment due to sovereign guarantee, attractive returns, considerable tax, incentives, easy liquidity and accessibility. These schemes are operated through a network of over 1.5 lakh post offices and also branches of public sector banks. Over 5 lakh small savings agents make these schemes available at the doorsteps of the investors through out the year. In addition, publicity campaign and training programmes for agents, State Government Officials and public are organised by National Savings Organisation throughout the country.

[Translation]

Setting up of New Centre in I.I.A.R.

93. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new centre has been opened in the Indian Institute of Agricultural Research for microbiological research on the viral diseases of the plants;

(b) if so, the States from which the agricultural lecturers have been selected for higher training for running these programmes smoothly; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A new centre has been opened in the Division of Plant Pathology of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute for conducting research on the viral diseases of plants.

(b) One from Tamil Nadu.

(c) At present a Professor from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore is receiving training at this centre.

Checking of Pollution Level

94. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution levels are being checked in States;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for checking pollution, at States levels State-wise; and

(c) whether a monthly report is compiled through this system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) A network of monitoring stations have been set up to assess quality of water and ambient air at national level. The ambient air quality is being monitored in 92 cities/towns through 290 ambient air quality monitoring stations and for monitoring of water quality of rivers, lakes and of ground water, 480 stations have been set up throughout the country. All State Pollution Control Boards are participating in the monitoring programme. The criteria fixed for checking pollution includes the location of industries, pollution problem posed by different sources, sensitive areas etc.

Normally monthly/quarterly reports regarding water and air quality are prepared by monitoring agencies and sent to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) which are compiled and published annually by CPCB.

[English]

Coconut Development Board

95. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of uses identified by Coconut Development Board or Union Government for Coconut and Coconut Trees;

(b) the details of products to be produced from coconut and coconut trees respectively;

(c) the details of industrial uses and the industries making or liable to make such products;

(d) whether the Government or Coconut Development Board has any scheme to help entrepreneurs who propose to set up such industries; and

(e) the number of companies given such help, if so, the quantum of help in each case during the past three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The uses of coconuts and coconut palms are identified as food, refreshing drink, fuel, feed, energy, timber and fibre.

(b) The processed products of coconut are : copra, desiccated coconut, coconut oil, coconut cream spray dried milk powder, coconut cake as cattle feed, coconut toddy, coconut vinegar, tender coconut water, nata-de-coco, coconut shell charcoal, activated carbon, shell based handicrafts, coir & coir products, coir pith. The trunk of coconut tree is processed into coconut timber for making wall panels, furniture, doors & windows, handicrafts, etc.

(c) Coconut oil finds its uses in soap making, perfumery, hair oil units and in the manufacture of paints and lubricants. Edible coconut oil also finds limited uses in bakery and confectionery units. Coconut shell is being commercially exploited for manufacture of coconut shell powder, coconut shell charcoal and activated carbon.

(d) The Coconut Development Board under the Central Sector Integrated Programme for Development of Coconut Industry in India provides financial assistance to coconut based industries @25% of the cost of building, plant and machinery or Rs. 2.5 lakh whichever is less. Financial assistance is also provided @25% of the cost of laboratory equipments or Rs. 100 lakh whichever is less for introduction of Agmark/ISO standards in coconut processing units.

(e) Five cooperative institutions were supported by the Coconut Development Board during last 3 years for development of infrastructure facilities for primary processing and marketing of coconuts. During the period, only in the year 1999-2000 an assistance of Rs. 4.56 lakh was provided to these units.

[Translation]

Sports Federations

96. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States where sports federation have been established and the number out of them recognised;

(b) whether permission had been granted to the office bearers of the sports federation of participating in Sydney olympics and if so, the number of said office-bearers; and

(c) the number of the sports federations having their complaints pending?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) Government recognises/deals only with the National Sports Federation which have national character. The Sports Federation in turn have their affiliated units in States.

(b) On the recommendation of Indian Olympic Association, Government of India approved participation of 123 persons (71 sports persons, 28 persons in the category of Coaches, Doctors, Masseurs, 2 youth campers and 22 persons in the category of Managers) in Olympic Games, 2000. The contingent also included three persons who are office bearers of National Sports Federations.

(c) The National Sports Federation are the autonomous organisation and Indian Olympic Association is an apex body of National Sports Federations, which is supposed to look after such matters. However, Government of India has received few complaints.

[English]

Telephone Revenue

97. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether revenue earning has increased from telephone during the last three years;

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

(c) the total amount of investment made in telecom sector in those years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of Territorial-wise revenue earnings and amounts invested during last three years are furnished in the attached statement.

Statement*Bharat Sanchar Nigam Revenue and Investment*

Circle	Revenue (In Cr rupees)			Capital (Plan) Outlay (In Cr Rupees)		
	97-98	98-99	99-00	97-98	98-99	99-00
Andaman & Nicobar	6.63	8.35	12.52	9.96	16.45	22.48
Andhra Pradesh	1040.69	1294.64	1455.30	550.53	696.94	976.95
Assam	137.32	160.22	179.22	122.46	112.85	118.94
Bihar	318.55	363.30	397.49	269.86	325.45	314.07
Gujarat	221.27	1403.74	1461.63	563.38	552.25	746.72
Haryana	323.96	396.44	436.43	181.22	207.17	178.74
Himachal Pradesh	78.01	97.05	101.53	121.59	119.87	164.14
J&K	81.03	105.35	115.11	50.51	51.04	69.28
Karnataka	1169.59	1384.00	1449.70	654.66	714.02	907.51
Kerala	728.08	854.19	895.47	631.13	731.50	878.15
M.P.	591.55	682.08	683.10	329.76	390.55	384.87
Maharashtra	1272.22	1569.31	1631.00	849.18	865.52	972.21
North-East	61.52	73.74	88.72	104.78	182.03	170.62
Orissa	182	219.51	232.28	167.28	174.44	214.64
Punjab	680.6	826.42	861.88	406.29	526.00	586.56
Rajasthan	552.09	670.08	716.70	385.22	374.88	535.91
Tamil Nadu	910.8	1092.06	1252.06	652.48	756.35	984.09
U.P.	503.18	602.88	674.92	594.83	679.70	601.65
UP(West)	512.83	616.48	687.35	422.74	334.51	372.34
West Bengal	171.54	204.89	242.62	227.54	306.58	365.38
Calcutta	734.74	820.12	828.98	418.85	362.61	293.63
Chennai	838.62	940.31	982.68	223.42	259.35	368.40
Total Territorial	12116.82	14385.16	15386.69	7937.66	8740.06	10227.28
Others	2470.18	3358.84	2861.31	708.34	709.94	2304.72
Total DOT/DTS	14587	17744.00	18248.00	8646.00	9450.00	12532.00

Note : Maharashtra includes Goa, Bengal includes Sikkim and North East Circle includes Meghalaya, Arunachal, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

Statement

98. SHRIMATI G.J. JAVIYA :

DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Krishi Vigyan Kendra set up in the country so far, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open such kendras in each district, backward areas and hilly areas of the country;

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

(d) the details of assistance given to Krishi Vigyan Kendras during the last three years; and

(e) the achievements made by Kendras and farmers benefited with it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has set up 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) in the country so far State-wise details are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) The establishment of KVK in each district including backward and hilly areas of the country will depend on the availability of additional financial resources.

(d) During the last three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000), an amount of Rs. 138.77 crores was provided to the KVKs.

(e) During the period, the achievements made by the KVKs are as follows :

- 41.32 thousand training programmes benefiting 9.32 lakh farmers, rural youth and extension personnel.
- Frontline demonstrations covering 16.26 thousand hectares benefiting 40.70 thousand farmers.
- Extension activities including 859 kisan melas, 2602 field days, 1576 kisan goshlies, 2392 film shows, 1221 exhibitions and 3287 TV and radio talks.

Distribution of KVKs in different States/Union Territories

S.No.	State/UTs	Total
1	A&N Islands	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	16
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4	Assam	4
5	Bihar	21
6	Delhi	1
7	Goa	1
8	Gujarat	10
9	Haryana	12
10	Himachal Pradesh	8
11	Jammu & Kashmir	4
12	Karnataka	11
13	Kerala	9
14	Lakshadweep	1
15	Madhya Pradesh	20
16	Maharashtra	23
17	Manipur	1
18	Meghalaya	1
19	Mizoram	2
20	Nagaland	1
21	Orissa	12
22	Pondicherry	2
23	Punjab	10
24	Rajasthan	31
25	Sikkim	1
26	Tamil Nadu	16
27	Tripura	2
28	Uttar Pradesh	30
29	West Bengal	9
	Total	261

Supply of Power to Farmers by SEBs

99. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of State Electricity Boards which are running at a loss due to the subsidized supply of power to farmers;

(b) the extent of which this loss due to subsidy has been compensated by the Union Government; and

(c) 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) A state-

ment showing the commercial losses SEBs wise is given in Annexure enclosed. However, there are a number of reasons behind the losses such as high T&D losses, theft of power, inadequate tariff and poor efficiency in collection besides low rate for agriculture supply.

The Govt. of India have enacted the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 which enables the State Govts. to constitute State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. While determining the tariff, the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions are to be guided by the principles that the tariff progressively reflect the cost of supply of electricity at an adequate and improving level of efficiency. If a State Govt. requires grant of subsidy to any consumer or class of consumer in the tariff determined by the State Commission, the State Govt. would need to give an explicit subsidy from the budget. So far fourteen states have notified/constituted State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

Statement*Commercial Profit/Loss of SEBs*

SEBs	1992-93 Actual	1993-94 Actual	1994-95 Actual	1995-96 Actual	1996-97 Actual	1997-98 Provi.	1998-99 (RE)	1999-2000 (AP)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 Andhra Pradesh	-4	-23	-981	-1255	-939	-1376	-2263	-2703
2 Assam	-205	-197	-255	-261	-225	-411	-306	-336
3 Bihar	-280	-190	-189	-211	-442	-496	-514	-548
4 Delhi (DVB)	-207	-	0	-578	-626	-760	-961	-794
5 Gujarat	-519	-493	-550	-1003	-1069	-1274	-1440	-1498
6 Haryana	-404	-507	-468	-554	-625	-765	-532	-502
7 Himachal Pradesh	2	-51	19	11	17	10	-33	-4
8 J&K	-225	-293	-347	-363	-507	-662	-643	-347
9 Karnataka	-19	-2	-164	-502	-652	-331	-604	-365
10 Kerala	-65	-75	-129	-183	-208	-199	-162	-451
11 Madhya Pradesh	-493	-377	-594	-602	-464	-941	-1288	-1966
12 Maharashtra	162	189	276	-408	-92	-11	115	214
13 Meghalaya	-8	-3	-21	-20	158	286	105	204
14 Orissa	-85	-196	-136	-231	-344	-287	-405	-186
15 Punjab	-626	-693	-681	-644	-606	-979	-1381	-1223

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16	Rajasthan	-260	-415	-412	-430	-269	-386	-577	-882
17	Tamil Nadu	-258	-302	-2	-77	-257	-318	-885	-709
18	Uttar Pradesh	-808	-1202	-1152	-1136	-1821	-1853	-1991	-2142
19	West Bengal	-258	-231	-339	-332	-387	-492	-692	-975
	Total	-4560	-5060	-6125	-8770	-9357	-11248	-14458	-14913

[Translation]

Food Processing Industries

100. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of food processing industries set up in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total number of industrialists who have given representations for setting up such industries during the last three years in the country;

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to provide any special incentive for setting up of such food processing industries in the areas abundantly producing related crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) Food Processing Industries are both in the organized and unorganized sectors, hence the information on the number of food processing units state-wise is not maintained centrally. However, as per annual survey of industries 1997-98, there were 31415 food processing units in the factory sector. State-wise details are given in the attached statement-I.

(b) State-wise details of assistance provided by Department of Food Processing Industries for setting up of food processing units during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) and (d) The Department under its Plan Schemes provides financial assistance in the form of loan or grant-in-aid for setting up/expansion/modernization of food processing industries. Higher financial assistance is provided for setting up of food processing industries in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North-Eastern States, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, and Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Food Processing Units in the Factory Sector (As per Annual Survey of Industries 1997-98)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Factories
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11272
2.	Assam	744
3.	Bihar	354
4.	Goa	43
5.	Gujarat	1392
6.	Haryana	640
7.	Himachal Pradesh	65
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	81
9.	Karnataka	1392
10.	Kerala	1274
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1126
12.	Maharashtra	2612
13.	Manipur	9
14.	Nagaland	20
15.	Orissa	371
16.	Punjab	1335
17.	Rajasthan	512
18.	Tamil Nadu	4044
19.	Tripura	47
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2510

1	2	3
21.	West Bengal	1336
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4
23.	Chandigarh	35
24.	Daman & Diu	16
25.	Delhi	128
26.	Pondicherry	46
27.	States not specified.	7
Total		31415

Statement-II

State-wise details of financial assistance provided to various food processing units during the last three years

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57.50	20.85	130.65
2.	Assam	4.80	192.00	245.96
3.	Bihar	52.00	-	7.78
4.	Goa	-	-	1.25
5.	Gujarat	25.00	75.00	47.40
6.	Himachal Pradesh	113.08	166.15	40.75
7.	Haryana	-	-	50.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	7.50	82.50
9.	Karnataka	56.75	25.80	75.00
10.	Kerala	102.00	100.32	192.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	50.00	73.00	44.50
12.	Maharashtra	179.80	146.77	204.19
13.	Manipur	14.43	30.41	46.68
14.	Nagaland	10.05	99.00	104.72
15.	Orissa	16.55	131.90	87.105
16.	Punjab	89.45	48.15	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	99.50	22.43	111.18

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Uttar Pradesh	52.75	78.74	130.53
19.	West Bengal	-	205.60	236.56
20.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	7.50	-
21.	Delhi	-	6.00	152.10
22.	Mizoram	36.87	-	-
23.	Meghalaya	-	-	44.30

[English]

Misappropriation of Money-Orders

101. SHRI R.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have detected a large number of cases of misappropriation of money-orders by postal officials in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. Only 271 cases amounting Rs. 45.76 lacs were detected involving postal officials and outsiders during the year 1999-2000. This forms only 0.008% of the value of money orders booked during the year 1999-2000.

(b) Details are given in the statement attached.

(c) The cases were reported to police. Action was taken against the delinquent under departmental rules.

Statement

State-wise details of cases of misappropriation of Money Orders and amount involved therein during the year 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Name of State	Total no of cases	Amount involved (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30	1,45,026
2.	Assam	Nil	Nil
3.	Bihar	2	1,32,820
4.	Delhi	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4
5.	Gujarat	10	89,803
6.	Haryana	3	12,261
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4,309
8.	J&K	3	12,800
9.	Karnataka	54	1,55,704
10.	Kerala	28	57,914
11.	Madhya Pradesh	7	77,482
12.	Maharashtra (including Goa)	11	1,10,258
13.	North East (Arunachal, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland)	5	1,68,835
14.	Orissa	3	40,300
15.	Punjab	9	4,00,469
16.	Rajasthan	12	1,37,225
17.	Tamil Nadu	60	2,93,938
18.	Uttar Pradesh	23	27,22,842
19.	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	7	40,400
Grand Total		271	45,76,386

Production of Horticulture Crops

102. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of large number of horticulture crops remain to be low;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor giving the names of those crops; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government or propose to take to boost the production of those crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The production and productivity of horticultural crops in the country is not low, rather production of fruits and vegetables have increased and presently India ranks 2nd in the world production of fruits and vegetable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is promoting increase in the production and productivity by way of area expansion, transfer of technology through demonstrations, training, supply of quality planting material and marketing support.

[Translation]

Fall in Agricultural Production

103. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural production has decreased drastically in several States of the country due to low rainfall in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to obviate the irrigation related problems faced by the farmers in future and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) According to advance estimates, the production of various agricultural crops in Kharif 2000-01 is likely to be lower than those of Kharif 1999-2000 in some of states such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan due to lower rainfall compare to long period average. The all India advance estimates of production of Kharif 2000-01 vis-a-vis kharif 1999-2000 is given in the following table :

Crop/Group of Crops	Production (Million Tonnes)	
	2000-01	1999-2000
Foodgrains	102.68	103.90
Oilseeds	12.11	12.55
Sugarcane	300.58	309.31
Cotton*	13.16	11.99

* Million Bales

(c) and (d) To tackle the irrigation related problems, the following important schemes/programme are being implemented :

(i) A centrally sponsored scheme "Command Area Development" (CAD) was initiated with the basic objective of bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and that utilised so as to increase agriculture production from the irri-

gated commands. The scheme inter-alia, envisages the following :

- * Construction of field channels,
- * Land leveling and shaping,
- * Implementation of warabandi for rotational supply of water,
- * Construction of field drains,
- * Adoption of drip and sprinkler systems,
- * Conjunctive use of surface and ground water.

(ii) "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)" was launched for expeditious completion of large irrigation and multipurpose projects costing Rs. 500 crore or more and beyond the resource capability of the States as well as for completion of other projects which were in the advanced stage of construction. The funds are released in the form of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) on matching basis.

(iii) Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) was launched under the aegis of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for providing loans to State Governments to attend to the needs of rural infrastructure including ongoing irrigation projects, watershed development, soil conservation, flood control, drainage, roads and bridges etc.

[English]

Revenue Loss

104. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether after corporatisation of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) the revenue is decreasing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof till date; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to make up the deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As per available trends, no decrease is visible in the revenue earnings of the network, post-corporatisation.

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

Shrinking of Forest Land

105. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether area under reserved forests is shrinking with each passing year due to mining activities;
- (b) if so, whether on several occasions rules regulating the forest areas have been relaxed to make room for mining in forest areas;
- (c) if so, the extent of forest land released for the purpose of mining; and
- (d) the details of forest lands so far released for mining in Andhra Pradesh and the number of applications pending for the release of forest land for mining in the State?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Under the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, forest land can be diverted for non-forestry purposes including mining, subject to fulfilment of condition of raising compensatory afforestation over equivalent non-forest land (transferred to Forest Department) or double degraded forest land, as the case may be, and adequate environmental safeguards are also stipulated. Moreover, such approval is given only after ascertaining that mining activity is site specific and is confined to barest minimum forest area.

(c) During the last three years i.e. 1997-1999, 176 mining proposals have been approved under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 24967.956 hectare of forest land where 6174.58 hectare is for fresh mining and 18793.376 hectare is for renewal of mining leases.

(d) During the last three years (1997-1999), 5164.05 hectare of forest land has been approved for mining purposes under aforesaid Act in the State of Andhra Pradesh where 625.84 hectare is for fresh mining and 4538.21 hectare (including 4147 hectare for renewal of underground mining of coal) is for renewal of mining lease. Nine mining proposals pertaining to State of Andhra Pradesh are under consideration of the Ministry where three are under active consideration of the Ministry and six are pending with the State Government for furnishing essential additional information.

[Translation]

Crop Insurance Scheme

106. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have implemented Crop Insurance Scheme in all the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has already been implemented in the country from Rabi 1999-2000 season. Scheme has been extended to all States/UTs. However, so far only the following 18 States/UTs have implemented the scheme :

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Bihar
4. Goa
5. Gujarat
6. Himachal Pradesh
7. Karnataka
8. Kerala
9. Maharashtra
10. Madhya Pradesh
11. Meghalaya
12. Orissa
13. Sikkim
14. Tamil Nadu
15. Uttar Pradesh
16. West Bengal
17. Pondicherry
18. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

(c) The scheme is available to all the States/UTs. It is, however, at the discretion of the States/UTs to implement the scheme or not. Consent/options from all the States/UTs were called for. Only 18 States/UTs have come forward to implement the scheme.

Support Price for Linseed

107. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request has been made by the Madhya Pradesh Government to fix support price for Linseed;

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Union Government to announce support price for Linseed;

(c) whether the support price for Linseed for coming Rabi season is likely to be announced; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) The proposal of the Government of Madhya Pradesh for fixing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of linseed was received last year. The case was examined and found not feasible to agree to the proposal for various reasons including the fact that the production of linseed is localized in nature, whereas only those commodities are covered under MSP Scheme which have all importance in terms of Area and production.

National Highways in U.P.

108. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are not motorable;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh for the construction of new National Highways and to repair the existing National Highways during last three years;

(d) whether the allocated amount has been utilised as per the prescribed programme;

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

(f) the total kilometers of National Highways to be repaired during 2000-2001 in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) No Sir. The National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

(c) Funds allotted for the development and maintenance of the National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last 3 years are indicated as under :

(Amount in Rs. lakh)

Year	Normal Works	Externally aided projects	Maintenance & Repairs	Total
1997-98	4608.00	7330.00	4949.19	16887.19
1998-99	7078.14	4850.00	6128.44	18056.58
1999-2000	9155.35	2865.00	10179.49	22199.84

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Full allocation has been utilised.

(f) 592 kms.

[English]

New Post Offices in J&K

109. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have proposed to open new, sub and branch post offices and installation of new post boxes in States;

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

(c) the number of new, sub and branch post offices proposed to be opened in Jammu and Kashmir particularly in Poonch region during 2000-2001; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the improvement of Postal Services including modernisation of mail service in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of number of sub and branch post offices proposed to be opened during the current Annual Plan 2000-2001 are available in statement. Letter boxes are installed as and when justification is found. It is an on going process for which no targets are fixed.

(c) There is a proposal to open 7 Extra Departmental Branch Offices (EDBOs) and 1 Departmental Post Office in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Out of these one has been opened in Jammu (Mishriwala) and two others are proposed to be opened in Barnai and Chak Umrah. The Dangri EDBO in Rajouri district is proposed to be upgraded to the status of Departmental Sub Office. Presently, there is no proposal for opening of a Post Office in Poonch region. The opening of new post offices are dependent upon fulfilment of departmental norms and sanctioning of required posts by the Ministry of Finance.

(d) Several steps have been taken for the improve-

ment of postal services in the State. 92 multi purpose counter machines have been installed in various post offices as on 31.3.2000. 12 Extended Satellite Money Order Stations (ESMO) have been installed. 3 VSATs (Very Small Aperture Terminals) have also been installed. 13 Post Offices in the State have been modernised. The names of the post offices modernised are - 1. Gandhi Nagar H.O. 2. Leh H.O. 3. Udhampur H.O. 4. Kathua H.O. 5. Anantnag H.O., 6. Jammu H.O., 7. Srinagar H.O., 8. RSPO S.O., 9. Trikuta Nagar S.O., 10. Vinayak Bazar S.O., 11. Lakanpur S.O., 12. Reasi S.O., 13. SR Gunj allocated for modernisation of post offices in the State.

Steps have been taken for modernisation of the mail services in the J&K State. The Registration Branch of Sorting Office in Jammu Railway Mail Service (RMS Office) has been computerised. It is also proposed to further modernise the Jammu RMS during this current financial year. Speed Post Services have been extended to District Headquarters Pulwama, Baramulla, Anantnag, Sopore, Akhnoor and Kathua. ESMOs are proposed to be installed in Baramulla, Sopore, Pulwama and Anantnag. ESMO has also been installed at Rajouri H.O. for swift transmission of money orders in Poonch and Rajouri.

Statement

Target for opening of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices during Annual Plan 2000-2001

Sl.No.	Name of Circle	Extra Departmental Branch Offices (EDBOs)	Departmental Sub Offices (DSOs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	2
2.	Assam	30	3
3.	Bihar	75	7
4.	Delhi	04	2
5.	Gujarat	20	3
6.	Haryana	15	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	07	1

1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	05	1
9.	Karnataka	21	2
10.	Kerala	04	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	40	3
12.	Maharashtra	60	2
13.	North-East	40	2
14.	Orissa	10	2
15.	Punjab	14	2
16.	Rajasthan	20	2
17.	Tamil Nadu	15	2
18.	Uttar Pradesh	50	3
19.	West Bengal	55	7
Total		500	50

Production of Cashewnut

110. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of cashewnut is far below the necessity to provide proper employment to cashew workers in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have noticed huge amount of foreign currency is spent for import of cashewnut; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the production of cashewnut, the amount spent in the last two years and the physical achievement made, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Since the production level of cashewnut in the country is below the requirement of the processing sector, raw cashewnut is being imported. During the year 1999-2000 an expenditure to the tune of Rs. 1054.00 crores was incurred for importing about 2.26 lakh metric tonnes of raw cashewnut.

(c) The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Development Programme of Cashew in India since the Eighth Plan under which various activities such as establishment of regional nurseries, area expansion, rejuvenation of old cashew plantations, training of farmers, organising demonstrations and publicity measures were taken up. The outlay for the Scheme during

the Ninth Plan is Rs. 70.00 crores. The State-wise details of funds released are given in Statement-I. The achievement in cashew production is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Release under Cashew Scheme during IX Plan

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State	Released Made	
		1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	83.61	133.29
2.	Goa	170.52	123.78
3.	Karnataka	113.84	121.70
4.	Kerala	89.30	84.98
5.	Madhya Pradesh	48.90	7.00
6.	Maharashtra	690.20	541.36
7.	Manipur	19.75	0.00
8.	Meghalaya	14.30	6.28
9.	Nagaland	9.00	4.30
10.	Orissa	109.02	352.56
11.	Tamil Nadu	183.90	89.26
12.	Tripura	14.30	4.00
13.	West Bengal	0.00	2.00
14.	A&N Islands	0.00	0.00
15.	Pondicherry	14.45	0.00
16.	Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa	99.70	77.89
Total		1660.79	1548.40

Statement-II

Achievement in Production of Cashewnut

(000 Tonnes)

S.No.	State	Production	
		1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80.00	100.00
2.	Goa	20.00	30.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Karnataka	40.00	60.00
4.	Kerala	130.00	100.00
5.	Maharashtra	85.00	125.00
6.	Orissa	50.00	40.00
7.	Tamil Nadu	35.00	45.00
8.	West Bengal	8.00	8.00
9.	Others	12.00	12.00
Total		460.00	520.00

[Translation]

Renew of Licences of Sawmills

111. SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the licences of sawmills are being renewed even after the orders of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the renewal of licences of sawmills in Uttar Pradesh especially in Bulandshahar and Merrut districts two years ago;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Licensing of sawmills is a subject matter of State Government. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 4.3.1997 directed closure of all unlicensed saw mills, veneer and plywood industries in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Ministry is not aware of renewal of licenses of unlicensed saw mills.

(c) Ministry is not aware of any complaints regarding the renewal of licenses of saw Mills in Uttar Pradesh especially in Bulandshahar and Meerut Districts two years ago.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Complaint Regarding Distribution of Rice in Calamity Stricken Areas

112. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints that rice sent to calamity stricken areas of some States has not reached to the affected people and was sold on the way;

(b) whether there is any exclusive rule and law to ensure that material collected for relief purposes reaches the calamity stricken areas and affected person; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) This Ministry is not aware of such complaints.

(b) and (c) There are State Relief Codes and Manuals regarding relief management. The Ministry has also issued guidelines regarding items of expenditure and norms for relief. The primary responsibility for providing relief to the people affected by natural calamities is that of the State Government concerned. The ground level distribution of relief is in the domain of the State Governments.

Power Generation Target

113. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for generating more thermal and hydro-electric power during 2000-2001;

(b) whether any private sector participation has been encouraged to achieve the target;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any private sector power project is coming up in Talcher Coal belt of Orissa; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) A target for additional generating capacity of 2263 MW thermal and 1297 MW hydro have been planned during 2000-01.

(b) and (c) Till the end of October 2000, generating capacity addition of 495.2 MW thermal has been achieved in the private sector.

(d) and (e) A 500 MW (2x250 MW) capacity Duburi Thermal Power Project is likely to come up in Talchar Coal belt of Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 219153 lakhs. The project received techno economic clearance on 29th April 1999 but is yet to achieve financial closure.

Late Delivery of Postcard/Inland Letters

114. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that postcard or inland letter takes months together to reach the destination;

(b) If so, whether there is any time limit for reaching the letters at its destination;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. Efficiency of the postal system for transmission and delivery of articles including postcard and inland letters is monitored regularly and the result is generally satisfactory. Occasional complaints are received about delay, non-delivery of mails including postcard and inland letters.

(b) and (c) The following norms have been prescribed for transmission and delivery of mails :

(i) Within the District	Within 48 hours after the day of posting
(ii) Within the State	Within 48 to 72 hours after the day of posting
(iii) Mails for other States	3 to 5 days depending on the distance involved and transport links
(iv) First Class mails between Metro cities	Within 48 to 72 hours after the date of posting
(v) First Class mails between State Capitals	Within 48 to 72 hours after the day of posting

(d) Efficiency of the postal system including processing, transmission and delivery of mails is regularly monitored. Close coordination is maintained with the transport agencies for timely transmission of mails. Live survey of mails is also conducted. Induction of new technology for sorting of mails in major centres of mail concentration is a specific effort to improve efficiency of the service.

Special Courts for Violation of Environmental Laws

115. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and Delhi Government have jointly formulated an action plan for setting up of special courts to hear cases of violation of environmental laws;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to enforce 'spot fines' and confiscation of assets of offenders to check pollution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conduct of Sports Organisations

116. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to review the sports policy of the country after the bad performance of the athletes in the Sydney Olympics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the conducts of various sports organisations in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) and (b) To replace the existing National Sports Policy Government has prepared a draft National Sports Policy in consultation with all the State/UT Governments, National Sports Federation, eminent Sports Persons, Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association, Various Ministries/Departments of Central Govt., Members of Parliament, Parliamentary Consultative Committee and other various agencies concerned. The salient features of the Policy are as under :

- (i) Broadcasting of Sports and achievement of excellence;
- (ii) up-gradation and development of infrastructure;
- (iii) support to the National Sports Federations and other appropriate bodies;
- (iv) strengthening of scientific and coaching support to sports;

- (v) *Incentives to sports persons;*
- (vi) *enhanced participation of women, tribals and rural youth;*
- (vii) *Involvement of the Corporate Sector in sports promotion; and*
- (viii) *creation of greater awareness to promote sports mindedness in the public at large.*
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Misappropriation of Foreign Exchange by Indian Olympic Association

117. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Olympic Association has misappropriated foreign exchange to the tune of crores of rupees in the recently held Sydney Olympics;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to probe the activities of IOA involved in foreign exchange scandal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (c) The allegation regarding transfer of Foreign Exchange by the Indian Olympic Association in connection with the Sydney Olympic Games has been referred to Ministry of Finance for their advice.

Installation of Telephone

118. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target fixed for installation of telephones in rural and urban areas in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh during 2000-2001;

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

(c) whether there is any difference in the achievements of telephones in the rural and urban areas; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to remove the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Targets are fixed for large switching capacity and small & medium

switching capacity exchanges in the country. The large switching capacity exchanges are in urban areas and small & medium switching capacity exchanges generally in rural areas. The State-wise details including Andhra Pradesh are given as per statement attached.

(c) and (d) The telephone connections are being installed progressively in all the States of country in rural & urban areas depending upon growth rate and waiting list. All efforts are made to fully achieve the targets during a financial year. NTP'99 envisages to provide telephone connections on demand in the country by 31/3/2002 and sustain it thereafter so as to achieve a teledensity of 7 by year 2005 and 15 by year 2010 for urban areas as well as to improve rural teledensity to 4.0 by year 2010.

Statement

State-wise Telephone Connections Target for the year 2000-01

S.No.	Name of State	Large Switching Capacity	Small & Medium Switching Capacity	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	400000	175000	575000
2	Assam	45000	10000	55000
3	Bihar	160000	100000	260000
4	Gujarat	248000	82000	330000
5	Haryana	110000	40000	150000
6	Himachal Pradesh	20000	40000	60000
7	Jammu & Kashmir	38400	11600	50000
8	Karnataka	325000	100000	425000
9	Kerala	412500	37500	450000
10	Madhya Pradesh	120000	30000	150000
11	Maharashtra	640000	100000	740000
12	North East	37000	13000	50000
13	Orissa	72000	28000	100000
14	Punjab	125000	125000	250000
15	Rajasthan	110000	100000	210000
16	Tamil Nadu	575000	125000	700000

1	2	3	4	5
17	Uttar Pradesh	384000	106000	490000
18	West Bengal	337800	107200	445000
19	Delhi	200000	0	200000
Total		4359700	1330300	5690000

Note : Gujarat State includes Dadar Diu, Daman & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)

Kerala State include Lakshadweep (U.T.)

Maharashtra State includes Goa and Mumbai.

North East telecom circle includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalay, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura State.

Punjab State includes Chandigarh (U.T.)

Tamil Nadu State includes Chennai and Pondicherry (U.T.)

West Bengal State includes Calcutta and Sikkim, Andaman Nicobar State

Bihar State includes Jharkhand State.

Madhya Pradesh State includes Chattisgarh State.

Uttar Pradesh State includes Uttaranchal State.

Decline in Growth Rate of Farm Sector

119. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the growth rate of the farm sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of the decline on the economy including the growth rate of GDP; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken by the Government in the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The growth rate of farm sector declined in the year 1999-2000 due to aberrant weather conditions resulting in lower area coverage and lower productivity of various crops like oilseeds, coarse cereals, pulses, etc. The impact of the decline on the economy is directly reflected in the reduction in the growth of value addition by Agriculture Sector, and indirectly in the growth of Manufacturing and Service Sectors due to reduction in demand for goods and services and reduced supply of raw materials. According to the estimates released by Central Statistical Organisation, the growth rate of value addition by 'Agriculture & Allied Sector' consisting of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fishing, at 1993-94 prices, declined to 1.3% in 1999-2000 as compared to 7.2% in 1998-99. The growth of the overall economy measured in terms of GDP declined to 6.4% in 1999-2000 from the level of

6.8% in 1998-99 at 1993-94 prices.

(d) To increase production and productivity in the farm sector, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in rice/wheat/coarse cereals Based Cropping System Area, National Pulse Development Project, Oilseeds Production Programme and Technology Mission on Cotton etc. Under these programmes/project, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of Integrated Pest Management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and use of improved farm implements. Research is also being continuously undertaken to develop improved technologies so as to enhance the productivity and production of food grains in India. Field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers is being organised for effective transfer of technology.

[Translation]

Thermal Plant at North Karanpura

120. SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister had laid foundation stone of a thermal power plant at North Karanpura, last year;

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this thermal plant is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The foundation stone of a thermal power plant was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at North Karanpura on 6.3.1999.

(b) Site specific studies and investigations are presently under progress and feasibility report is under preparation. Subject to timely linkages/clearances and funding tie up, the project is likely to be started during the Xth Plan period.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

Budget for Rural Electrification Corporation

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

(a) whether budget outlay for Rural Electrification Corporation for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 has been sharply curtailed in comparison to the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons and its justification therefor;

(c) whether Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Rajasthan would be highly affected due to decline in plant outlay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Government has provided a budgetary support of Rs. 430 crore to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) during the year 1999-2000 under Normal Programme and Rs. 175 crores under Minimum Needs Programme for carrying out RE works in the country. Year-wise details of budgetary support given by the Government to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for the period 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are given as under :

Rs. in crores		
Year	Normal*	MNP#
1997-98	348	175
1998-99	450	175
1999-2000	430	175

* Budgetary Support including equity from MOP

Funds outlay approved under Minimum Needs Programme (MOP)

It will be seen therefore that there has not been any sharp curtailment in the outlay.

(c) and (d) In view of the above, question does not arise.

H.T.M.S. on Delhi-Jaipur National Highway

122. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install Highway Traffic Management System (HTMS) on Delhi-Jaipur National Highway;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the extent to which accidents are likely to be checked after the installation of this modern technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A project to install Highway Traffic Management System on Kotputli-Amer Section of National Highway-8 to facilitate and monitor traffic movement has been approved by National Highways Authority of India and awarded to M/s. Siemens through global competitive bidding at a cost of Rs. 17,52,50,007.00.

(d) Since such a system is being installed in the country for the first time, it would be difficult to estimate the extent to which accidents would be checked.

[English]

Counter Guarantee for Mangalore Power Project

123. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had sought certain clarifications from Government of Karnataka on the Mangalore Power Project for considering the issue of a counter guarantee;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any communication from the Government of Karnataka in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Vide a letter dated 3rd January, 2000 addressed to the Government of Karnataka (GOK), Ministry of Power (MOP) had communicated the decision of the Central Government to issue counter guarantee to the 1013.2 MW Mangalore Power Project subject to certain conditions. The draft counter guarantee and draft tripartite agreement document were also sent to GOK on 14.1.2000 for comments.

(b) A partial response of GOK to the letter dated 3.1.2000 of MOP was received in the Ministry of Power (MOP) vide GOK's letter dated 13.7.2000.

(c) After examining the reply dated 13.7.2000 of GOK, MOP has again written to them on 2.8.2000 stating that certain actions stipulated in the conditions prescribed for issue of counter guarantee were still required to be complied with by GOK before the project could be processed further for issue of counter guarantee. The GOK were also requested to expedite their comments on the draft counter guarantee and

tripartite agreement documents. The response of the GOK is still awaited.

- (d) Does not arise.

Out of Order Telephone Lines in Delhi

124. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether faults occur frequently in telephone lines for the last three years in Delhi in general and in Sector-8 in Rohini in particular;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the fault in telephone lines in the above area, once put in order, soon goes out of order;

(d) if so, the number of complaints from the above area lying unredressed presently and since when;

(e) the specific reasons for not removing the fault permanently; and

(f) the time by which the above complaints are likely to be redressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prohibition of Storage of Hazardous Chemicals

125. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coastal Regulation Zonal Notification of the Government prohibits storage of hazardous chemicals within the CRZ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have permitted storage of these products within the existing port limit under notification;

(c) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government for environmental clearance for handling and storage of petroleum products within CRZ in the case of minor ports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Paragraph 2 (ii) of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (CRZ), 1991 as amended from time to time, prohibits storage of hazardous substances in the CRZ. However, as per the proviso to Paragraph 2 (ii), storage of 14 specified petroleum products is permissible in the CRZ.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested the Union Government to delegate powers to the State Government for issuing environmental clearance for such storages located within minor ports. This request was not acceded to by the Union Government.

Sabarimala Development Project

126. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the forest land to Travancore Devaswam Board in Kerala for the Sabarimala Development Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala had earlier in 1993 submitted a proposal for diversion of 115.60-hectares of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for providing amenities to pilgrims of Sabarimala Temple. While this proposal was under process, the State Government in December 1995 forwarded another proposal involving 20 hectares of forest land for the same purpose. The State Government was requested to carry out a study so as to minimise any adverse environmental effect of the development activity in the area and to prepare a long term Master Plan as majority of the forest area formed part of Periyar Tiger Reserve. Despite reminders, the State Government did not furnish the required information. Meanwhile, the Ministry approved diversion of 0.4225 hectare area in November 1998 for construction of sewage treatment plant at Cherlyanavottam as it was site-specific and for an eco-friendly use of 0.20 hectare for construction of a check-dam at Kunnar for water augmentation and allowed temporary use of 5.00 hectares at Pamba for parking facilities in February, 2000.

A Committee comprising Sh. O. Rajagopal, Hon'ble Union Minister of State and Shri Ramesh Chennithala, M.P. has inspected the site on 26th & 27th March, 2000. The Committee has made detailed observations and suggested action on removal of unauthorised constructions and dumped garbage from Pamba, preparation of long term detailed master plan of the entire complex, action plan for pollution control of Pamba river, etc. The State Government has been requested to formulate a proposal accordingly for fresh consideration of the Ministry.

Rate of Telephone Instruments

127. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to make Telephone Instruments available at low an reasonable rates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRTY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, the telephone instruments are mae available as a part of initial installation charges. As compared to prevalling market rates, the charges levied are very reasonable.

Bio-Village Scheme

128. MOHAMMAD SAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Bio-village scheme to improve the economic conditions of the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of those villages selected/proposed to be selected in the first instance;

(d) whether any workshop has also been started for this purpose in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) The Department of Bio-Technology in the Government of India has sanctioned a project on establishing model Bio-villages at Mocha-Gorser near Porbander, Gujarat. The Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar is the lead implementing agency of the project. As per the objective, training programmes have been organized to benefit the villagers through biotechnological interventions like promotion and use of biofertilizers, bio-pesticides, biogas and also popularisation of plantations like Jojoba, Jatropa, Salvadora and Shankpushpi particularly on wastelands.

Based on the success of establishing bio-village at Mocha-Groser, the projects are proposed to be developed in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal where the Department of Biotechnology will provide technical advice. A total outlay of Rs. 8.08 lakhs exists for this pilot project during 2000-2001.

(d) to (f) No workshop has been organised on this aspect. However, the Department of Bio-technology has consulted a number National Institutions in formulating this project.

Telecom Facilities

129. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons having telephone connections and cellular telephones at present in the country, each separately;

(b) the details of comparative figures with other Asian countries; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide more such facilities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of telephone connections and Cellular telephones as on 30/9/2000 in the country are :

(i)	Telephone Connections	28217798
(ii)	Cellular Telephones	2623656

(b) The details for Asian countries including India as per the year 1998 are given in the statement attached.

(c) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) of Department of Telecommunication envisages to provide telephone connections on demand in the country by 31/03/2002 with the participation of private sector complementing the efforts of the Department.

Statement

Details of Telephone Connections and Cellular Phones in Asian Countries for the year 1998

(Reference to World Telecommunication Development Report - ITU 1999)

S.No.	Name of Country	Telephone Connections	Cellular Phones
1	2	3	4
1	Afganistan	29000	-
2	Armenia	556000	7000

1	2	3	4
3	Azerbaijan	680200	65000
4	Bahrain	157600	92100
5	Bangladesh	378000	75000
6	Bhutan	10400	-
7	Brunei Darussalam	77700	49100
8	Cambodia	24300	61300
9	China	87420900	23863000
10	D.P.R. Korea	1100000	-
11	Georgia	628800	60000
12	Hongkong SAR	3729200	3174400
13	India	21593700	1195400
14	Indonesia	5571600	1065800
15	Iran (I.R.)	7355000	390000
16	Iraq	675000	-
17	Israel	2819000	2147000
18	Japan	63580000	47285000
19	Jordan	510900	70500
20	Kazakhstan	1775400	29700
21	Korea (Rep.)	20088500	14018600
22	Kuwait	427300	250000
23	Kyrgystan	354600	1400
24	Lao P.D.R.	28500	6500
25	Lebanon	620000	500000
26	Macau	173900	75500
27	Malaysia	4384000	2200000
28	Maldives	20000	1600
29	Mongolia	87300	2000
30	Myanmar	229300	8500
31	Nepal	194000	-

1	2	3	4
32	Oman	220000	103000
33	Pakistan	2757000	202000
34	Philippines	2700000	1595000
35	Qatar	150500	65800
36	Saudi Arabia	2878100	627300
37	Singapore	1777900	1094700
38	Sri Lanka	523500	174200
39	Syria	1463000	-
40	Taiwan-China	11500400	4727000
41	Tajikistan	221300	400
42	Thailand	5037500	1957200
43	Turkmenistan	354000	3000
44	United Arab Emirates	915200	493300
45	Uzbekistan	1536700	16800
46	Vietnam	2000000	187000
47	West Bank and Gaza	167300	40000
48	Yemen	220300	18000

[Translation]

Cleaning of Yamuna River

130. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have released funds to M.C.D., Delhi, for construction of toilets in order to keep the Yamuna River clean;

(b) if so, the details of the funds sanctioned during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have received loan from a Japanese Bank for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (e) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government have received a loan of Yen 17.77 billion from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation for pollution abatement of river Yamuna under the Yamuna Action Plan which is under implementation since 1993. Under this Plan, works have been taken up in 6 towns (Yamunanagar, Karnal, Panipat, Sonapat, Gurgaon & Faridabad) of Haryana and 8 towns (Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Ghaziabad, NOIDA, Vrindavan, Mathura, Agra & Etawah) of Uttar Pradesh besides Delhi. The Plan includes such works as interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost toilets, crematoria and river front development.

Incentives to Hydro Power Projects

131. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hydro-Power Projects are cost effective and popular source of power; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide incentives to hydro-power projects to develop the power capacity in the country particularly in remote and hilly areas during the last three year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Hydro is a clean source of energy besides being cost effective in the long run.

(b) The Government of India has taken various steps for developing the hydro potential in the country specially located in the remote and hilly areas. A policy on Hydro Power Development has been announced in August, 1998 to give impetus to hydro development by addressing the various issues that led to the decline of share of hydro power in the last three decades. Among the various steps taken to accelerate hydro development are (i) tariff for hydro projects has been rationalised; (ii) procedures for transfer of techno-economic clearance have been simplified; (iii) the ceiling limits for techno-economic clearance by CEA for hydro power projects on MOU route has been enhanced and notified; (iv) a mechanism to cover geological risks has been evolved; and (v) small hydro projects upto 25 MW capacity have been transferred to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. As against the existing hydel capacity of 2425 MW under the Central Sector, Government has sanctioned 6 hydroelectric projects with a capacity of 1265 MW for commissioning during the 10th Five Year Plan. Advance action in respect of hydel projects involving more than 20,000 MW capacity has also been initiated for capacity addition during the 11th Five Year Plan and beyond. The Government is also taking steps to accelerate the process and survey and investigation of the new hydroelectric sites with a view to create a shelf of projects which could be taken up for execution.

Survey by GSI Maharashtra

132. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Geological Survey of India in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the mineral reserves found there; and

(c) the action taken in respect of the survey of mineral reserves in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are the details of the mineral reserves found in Maharashtra.

Gold : The mineral is investigated in Pular (W), Kolari, Bhaonri and Ranmangli area, Parsori (W), Parsori (E) Bhaonri, Kalla Pahar area and Kitar-Marupar block in Nagpur and Bhandara districts. In Kitar-Marupar block 1.19 mt of ore containing 1.33 g/t gold, 1.33% Copper, and 3.65 g/t. silver have been estimated. In Parsori (W) Gold ore reserves of 1.0 mt are estimated, with tenor of 1.7 g/t. In Kitar-Kheri blocks estimated ore reserves of gold are 57000 tonnes with an average gold content varying from 0.90 to 2.58 g/t.

Manganese : In Parsoda block at Nagpur district a reserves; of 0.178 mt of Mn ore is estimated.

Coal : The regional exploration for coal in Bahmini-Palasaon and Rajura-Manikgarh block in the south-eastern part of Wardha Valley coalfield, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra estimated a total 'Indicated reserve of 319.24 m. tonnes and 167.54 m. tonnes respectively.

(c) GSI during 2000-2001 have mounted following programmes in Vidarbha region in respect of mineral survey.

1. Specialized thematic mapping in Sausar fold belt in Bhandara, Nagpur district for structural and mineral appraisal/reserves.

2. Geochemical Survey for gold and copper in Nagpur Bhandara and Gondia district.

3. Exploration for manganese ore in Goguldoh area Nagpur district.

4. Search for kimberlite in Chandrapur and Gadchiroli district.

[English]

Construction of Building of Telephone Exchange

133. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for technical development and upgradation of Kalna telephone exchange under Katwa region of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a land belonging to PWD, West Bengal can be made available for building a suitable infrastructure for the purpose;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kalna under Katwa region is a digital electronic exchange which has been upgraded from equipped capacity of 3000 lines to 4000 lines.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The case regarding allotment of land belonging to PWD West Bengal for telecom building was taken up with District Magistrate Burdwan who has further taken up with Joint Secretary PWD Govt. of West Bengal recently.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

[Translation]

Telephone Facility

134. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages without telephone facility in Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Begusarai and Jamui districts of Bihar; and

(b) the number of villages in these districts where the said facility is proposed to be provided during 2000-2001, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The number of villages without telephone facility in Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Begusarai and Jamui districts of Bihar and the number of villages proposed to be provided with telephone facility in these districts during 2000-2001 are as under :

Districts	Number of Villages without telephone facility	No. of Villages proposed to be provided with telephone facility during 2000-2001
Shekhpura	75	75
Lakhisarai	80	80
Begusarai	118	118
Jamui	125	125

All the villages in the said districts are planned to be covered during the current financial year.

[English]

Universal Service Obligation Fund

135. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a Universal Service Obligation Fund to generate resources for providing access to telecommunications to remote and unprofitable areas; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard and the reasons for the delay in implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, under the New Telecom Policy, 1999, the Government is committed to provide access to all people for basic telecom services at affordable and reasonable prices and seeks to achieve the following Universal Service Objectives:-

- i. Provide voice and low speed data service to balance 2.9 lakh uncovered villages in the country by the year 2002.
- ii. Achieve internet access to all district headquarters by the year 2000.
- iii. Achieve telephone on demand in urban and rural areas by 2002.

The resources for meeting the Universal Service Obligation would be raised through the imposition of a universal access levy, which would be a percentage of the revenue earned by all the operators under various licenses. This percentage is to be decided by the Government in consultation with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

A consultation Paper on the subject of Universal Service Obligation was released by the TRAI on 3.7.2000. The TRAI had sought inputs on the consultation paper (which is a public document and is also available on the internet) from various stakeholders, including service providers, consumers and other organisations and Financial Institution etc. The matter is presently being examined by TRAI and the Government will take a final decision on it after receiving formal recommendations from the TRAI.

[Translation]

Production of Fruits and Vegetables

136. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide funds to the States to augment the production of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, the funds allocated to each State during the last three years and for the year 2000-2001;

(c) whether there is an ample scope of augmenting the production of fruits and vegetables in Haryana;

(f) Does not arise.

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have formulated any concrete plan or programme for providing any assistance to fruit growing States;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of funds allocated to different States during the last three years for the development of fruits and vegetables including Root & Tuber crops are given in the statement.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has formulated (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Integrated Development of Fruits and (ii) Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Vegetables including Root & Tuber Crops for implementation during the Ninth Plan with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores and Rs. 43.84 crores respectively. The schemes provide assistance to the State Governments including Haryana for activities like production and distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, productivity improvement programmes, training of farmers, on farm handling, mechanisation, demonstration, establishment of Tissue/Leaf Analysis Laboratories, Plant Health Clinics, Disease Forecasting Units etc. With effect from the year 2000-01, the State Governments have been given the option to include the relevant components, which they consider to be of priority, in their Work Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State's Efforts through Work Plans.

Statement

Details of Allocation under Fruits and Vegetables Schemes to different States

(Lakh Rs.)

Sl.No.	State	Funds Allocated for Fruits				Funds Allocated for Vegetables Crops including R & T			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	71.37	132.06	114.06	33.72	12.00	7.50	19.50	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26.60	37.27	55.27	11.68	3.75	3.75	14.25	
3.	Assam	15.21	45.83	45.83	8.72	4.55	3.55	12.55	
4.	Bihar	71.72	111.97	101.97	8.20	23.00	15.00	33.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Goa	4.01	11.90	11.90	4.92	3.75	3.75	14.25	
6.	Gujarat	76.26	115.61	115.61	12.03	6.50	4.50	18.00	
7.	Haryana	34.80	84.81	94.81	17.32	8.00	6.00	18.00	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	41.34	84.00	71.00	18.21	5.50	3.85	14.35	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	135.50	143.81	104.41	24.26	4.00	3.00	13.50	
10.	Karnataka	83.59	179.71	200.17	38.85	14.00	8.15	29.15	
11.	Kerala	53.64	94.16	94.56	23.70	8.50	8.15	53.15	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	108.23	133.46	112.06	16.57	30.00	15.00	39.00	
13.	Maharashtra	127.49	194.54	204.64	43.58	14.00	6.00	19.50	
14.	Manipur	67.28	95.58	77.58	20.28	3.75	3.75	14.25	
15.	Meghalaya	10.53	21.85	21.85	12.94	3.75	3.75	14.25	
16.	Mizoram	7.62	22.13	40.13	15.57	3.75	3.75	14.25	
17.	Nagaland	53.60	73.55	59.70	15.49	3.75	3.75	14.25	
18.	Orissa	327.70	332.86	335.11	30.44	10.50	10.50	37.50	
19.	Punjab	30.00	49.08	49.08	29.45	10.50	6.00	18.00	
20.	Rajasthan	40.70	80.22	80.62	18.87	12.75	6.75	18.75	
21.	Sikkim	10.30	16.79	55.79	11.96	5.55	3.55	14.05	
22.	Tamil Nadu	80.06	133.03	148.03	31.11	10.75	7.75	19.75	
23.	Tripura	15.35	31.90	31.90	14.09	4.75	5.25	18.75	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	90.39	122.84	122.44	33.66	46.00	18.00	33.00	
25.	West Bengal	83.96	93.10	93.10	4.64	11.00	9.00	24.00	
26.	A & N Island	11.30	14.69	14.69	2.35	2.15	1.50	4.50	
27.	Chandigarh	11.00	1.00	1.00	0.68	1.50	1.50	6.50	
28.	D & N Haveli	4.84	6.62	6.62	1.99	1.50	1.50	6.00	
29.	Delhi	4.86	5.90	5.90	0.95	3.00	3.00	14.50	
30.	Daman & Diu	4.87	8.20	8.20	2.23	1.50	1.50	4.50	
31.	Lakshadweep	10.90	14.09	14.09	2.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	
32.	Pondicherry	3.00	8.01	8.01	4.12	1.50	1.50	6.00	
Total		1718.02	2500.03	2500.11	515.03	275.50	180.50	581.00	

*[English]***Construction of Alleppy By-Pass**

137. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the construction of Alleppy by-pass Phase-II has been delayed for a long time;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Construction of Alleppy bypass (total length 7.58 kms.) is proposed to be done in two phases. The work on phase-I is in advanced stage and is expected to be completed by March 2001. Land Acquisition for the work under Phase-II (length 3.85 kms.) of bypass has already been completed. Construction work of Phase-II by-pass is proposed to be taken up under Build Operate and Transfer (B.O.T.) scheme for which techno-feasibility study is in advanced stage of finalisation by the consultants and the State P.W.D.

*[Translation]***Content of Iodine in Rock Salt**

138. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the presence of adequate content of iodine in rock salt in Drang area of Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have decided to initiate this survey after finding adequate content of iodine in the rock salt there; and
- (d) if so, the date on which the decision to conduct the survey was taken and the progress made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d) The samples of rock salt from Drang area, Mandi District, Himachal Pradesh have been analysed. However, the results of chemical analysis have not yielded any content of iodine.

Electrification of Villages

139. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of villages electrified in the country so far;
- (b) the total quantity of electricity consumed in these villages; and
- (c) the other steps taken to improve the position of electrification in villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) 507216 villages have been reported to be electrified by the end of September, 2000 as against 5,87,258 inhabited villages in the country as per 1991 census.

- (b) Specific information regarding total quantity of electricity consumed in these villages is not available.
- (c) The steps taken to improve the position of electrification in villages include funding of programmes of village electrification and pump set energisation by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) with support from the Government of India. In addition, REC is financing investments in the areas of System Improvement and Small Generation. State Electricity Boards are being assisted by the REC to look at the entire rural distribution system in a designated geographical area in an integrated manner so as to identify the existing inadequacies and draw up a plan for their removal in a time bound manner by way of realigning and strengthening the LT distribution network and installation of energy meters, wherever required.

*[English]***Killing of Tigers**

140. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI Y.V. RAO :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Tiger Skins at throw-away prices in A.P." appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated October 16, 2000;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have conducted an inquiry into the reported killings of tigers in the Srisaillam-Nagarjuna Sagar Tiger Project;
- (c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) whether any officials of the wildlife and forest department have been involved in the skinning of tigers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Chief Wildlife Warden of Andhra Pradesh has informed that there were two incidences of poaching of tigers in the State during the current year. The enquiries, however, have not corroborated the incidence about the sale of tiger skin and claws at Atmakuru. The population of tiger in the Srisaillam-Nagarjunasagar Tiger Project had declined after 1989 but in recent years, the population has increased from 34 in 1995 to 51 in 1999 due to improved management.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Revival of Power Projects

141. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any plan for the revival of the power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the power-generation capacity out of the total installed capacity required to be revived;

(c) the estimated cost worked out in this regard; and

(d) the additional quantum of power likely to be generated in the country on completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 1124 MW thermal capacity which is presently under long shut down, is required to be revived.

(c) The estimated cost to revive the above thermal units has been worked out to be about Rs. 807 crores.

(d) 1124 MW additional capacity is likely to be available for generation after the revival of these units.

[English]

Money Order Cost

142. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the present cost of money order and the reasons for the high cost;

(b) whether the Government propose to reduce the cost of money order;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As per 1999-2000 (Projection) the cost of handling one money order is Rs. 36.23. The high cost of money order is due to increase in cost of operation and other expenses.

(b) and (c) The traditional system of money order transmission is being replaced by electronic transmission through V-Sat in order to reduce the cost of transmission.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (b) and (c) above.

[Translation]

Central Assistance Sought by States

143. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Governments have requested the Union Government to provide Central assistance in addition to Calamity Relief Fund to undertake relief work in their respective States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of demands made by each State particularly in case of Karnataka;

(c) the extent to which the demands of State Governments have been accepted by the Union Government; and

(d) the amount of additional assistance provided to each State during the above period against their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) The primary responsibility for providing relief to the people affected by natural calamities is that of the State Government concerned. The Government of India only supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing additional resources in accordance with the recommendations of the

Finance Commission appointed from time to time. As per the scheme in force, year-wise allocation from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been made to the State with contribution by the Centre and States in the ratio 3:1. In addition to CRF, assistance was extended from the National Fund for Calam-

ity Relief (NFCR) for calamities of rare severity. The NFCR has been discontinued from 31st March, 2000 on the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission. A statement indicating the demands made by the State Governments and assistance provided from the NFCR during the last three years is as attached.

Statement

Demand made by the States in the wake of various Natural Calamities in addition to CRF and assistance provided from the NFCR

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No.	State	Amount Demanded by the State Government			Assistance provided by the Union Government from NFCR		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1159.28	600.00	760.36	32.00	26.50	75.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	105.15	200.23	-	Nil*	13.47	-
3.	Assam	-	1001.98	-	-	59.90	-
4.	Bihar	428.82	1003.75	701.26	10.00	11.45	38.18
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	282.01	810.65	817.23	Nil*	55.35	54.58
7.	Haryana	102.00	757.29	-	Nil*	13.27	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	458.37	266.06	259.42	10.56	Nil*	Nil*
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	273.97	-	214.47	Nil*	-	73.42
10.	Karnataka	621.55	1352.13	249.95	Nil*	39.78	17.09
11.	Kerala	342.00	1499.63	79.56	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*
12.	Madhya Pradesh	256.00	251.34	556.88	Nil*	Nil*	38.86
13.	Maharashtra	-	152.34	-	-	Nil*	-
14.	Manipur	-	-	24.00	-	-	4.93
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	35.08	-	-	6.00
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	570.70	445.59	7143.5	54.00	Nil*	828.15
19.	Punjab	-	1140.60	-	-	Nil*	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Rajasthan	321.00	959.62	1144.4	Nil*	21.98	102.93
21.	Sikkim	43.92	141.41	-	5.52	7.67	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	621.55	-	-	25.00	-	-
23.	Tripura	-	30.11	158.80	-	5.05	5.34
24.	Uttar Pradesh	566.07	2254.30	339.55	Nil*	131.15	16.68
25.	West Bengal	177.00	813.93	750.38	Nil*	66.33	29.52

* No funds were released as the calamity was not considered of rare severity and did not qualify for assistance under NFCR.

Assistance for Development of Agriculture

144. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL :
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :
SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total assistance given to each State for the development of agriculture and seed production programmes during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether a number of State Governments have asked for more assistance for the said purpose during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the time by which assistance sought by State Governments is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Details of funds released to all State Governments for the development of agriculture and share of seed production programmes therein during 1998/99 and 1999/2000 are given in the statement.

(b) to (e) There is a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh for an additional central assistance of Rs. 5.11 crore over and above this year's allocation of Rs. 8.05 crore and the previous year's unspent balance of Rs. 5.05 crore for seed distribution. This proposal has been forwarded to Ministry of Finance for their concurrence.

Statement

Details of Funds Released for the Development of Agriculture and for Seed Production

S.No.	Name of the State	Total Release for Agriculture Development		Released for seed production	
		1998-99	1999-2000	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7540.81	8217.88	0.00	6.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	528.87	592.55	4.20	6.50
3.	Assam	600.7	543.11	0.00	9.65
4.	Bihar	591.46	519.65	0.00	10.00
5.	Goa	237.22	200.07	2.94	12.17
6.	Gujarat	5364.36	5507.6	10.17	15.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	2956.85	2939.4	5.99	13.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1533.7	1240.16	0.00	7.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1061.74	1088.36	0.00	31.38
10.	Karnataka	9429.92	8758.48	0.00	23.16
11.	Kerala	4255.46	3181.32	4.50	21.50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8168.25	8201.21	15.61	29.26
13.	Maharashtra	12611.17	12176.94	24.16	18.00
14.	Manipur	653.34	1125.58	0.00	15.40
15.	Meghalaya	569.21	759.02	5.70	5.80
16.	Mizoram	1408.75	1311.77	5.33	10.28
17.	Nagaland	1626.31	1586.02	9.00	7.20
18.	Orissa	3599.91	4725.85	39.00	51.30
19.	Punjab	3231.31	2960.32	0.00	16.00
20.	Rajasthan	10242.02	9791.82	8.92	12.04
21.	Sikkim	504.83	560.85	3.82	9.58
22.	Tamil Nadu	6484.51	6308.6	0.00	41.92
23.	Tripura	745.81	1124.08	4.98	11.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12205.96	10738.75	0.00	15.00
25.	West Bengal	1445.96	1650.08	0.00	18.00
Total		97598.43	95809.47	144.32	417.14

Protection of Tortoises

145. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- whether a large number of rare varieties of tortoises were recovered in Andhra Pradesh recently;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the action taken to protect the life of tortoises?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 336 illegally captured tortoises were seized at Gokavaram of East Godavari district

during transit in an Ambassador car being registration No. AHW 3949 by Andhra Pradesh police on 15-10-2000. Out of the 336 tortoises seized, 184 were alive and they were released immediately in the river Godavari. Remaining 152 tortoises were dead which were buried after Panchnama. A case has been registered under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the accused have been remanded in Central Jail as per orders of Hon'ble Court.

[English]

Clearance of Road Projects in Kerala

146. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the 37 proposals of Kerala related to sanction of Road Projects have since been cleared by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the above proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (d) in the current Annual Plan 2000-2001 for Kerala State there is provision for sanction of only 29 Road Projects (each costing more than Rs. 50.00 lakhs) at an estimated cost of about Rs. 75 crores. Out of these 29 road projects, 12 road projects have already been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 26.70 crores (details are given in the attached statement. One road projects is in the process of sanction. Proposals for remaining projects are awaited from the State PWD.

Statement

List of Road Projects Sanctioned Under Annual Plan 2000-2001

State : Kerala

		NH No.	Name of works	Length in Kms/ Mts	Approx. Cost (Rs. in crores)	Remarks
1.	Improvement of Riding Quality	47	Km 230-248/875	18.88	3.25	Sanctioned
2.	Improvement of Riding Quality	17	Km 292-305	13.00	2.66	Sanctioned
3.	Improvement of Riding Quality	17	Km 203/585-215	11.42	2.51	Sanctioned
4.	Improvement of Riding Quality	17	Km 29-41	12.00	1.74	Sanctioned
5.	Improvement of Riding Quality	17	Km 110-125	15.00	2.59	Sanctioned
6.	Improvement of Riding Quality	208	Km 23-33	10.00	1.78	Sanctioned
7.	Improvement of Riding Quality	208	Km 66-76	10.00	1.31	Sanctioned
8.	Improvement of Riding Quality	47	Km 525-172-538/165	12.99	2.20	Sanctioned
9.	Improvement of Riding Quality	47	Km 502/800-514/500	11.70	2.10	Sanctioned
10.	Improvement of Riding Quality	49	Km 261-274	13.00	2.20	Sanctioned
11.	Improvement of Riding Quality	47	Km 10-20 (Trivandrum Bypass)	10.00	2.20	Sanctioned
12.	Improvement of Riding Quality	49	Km 274-286/610	12.61	2.16	Sanctioned
Total					26.70	

[Translation]

Fake NSCs and Postal Orders

147. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of sale of fake National Savings Certificates/Postal Orders in Uttar Pradesh have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken against those persons involved in this racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. No case of sale of fake National Savings Certificates/Postal Orders in Uttar Pradesh have come to notice.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Death of Tigers

148. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "It's official now, Project Tiger is a flop" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated November 5, 2000;

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

(c) whether various schemes of the Government such as "Project Tiger" and other connected schemes to save the natural resources in the country have proved to be a total failure;

(d) if so, the exact number of tigers died or killed during this year; and

(e) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to save the precious belongings of the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item has completely misquoted the Director, Project Tiger for which rejoinders have been sent to the Hindustan Times. Project Tiger is a successful conservation effort and Government of India is trying its best through Project Tiger to continuously address the challenges in the implementation of the conservation programme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The details of tigers killed in the current year given in statement-I.

(e) The measures taken by the Government of India are in statement-II.

Statement-I

Death of Tiger-2000

Name of the State	Poaching	Other causes
1	2	3
Assam	1	Nil
Kerala	1	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	2	5
Maharashtra	—	1

1	2	3
Rajasthan	—	3
Uttar Pradesh	10	—
West Bengal	9	2
Andhra Pradesh	3 (1 in zoo)	—
Total	26	11

Statement-II

Steps taken by the Government of India

National Level

- Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserves Police, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisation like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
- Training Programmes and Workshops have been organised to sensitize the above departments to be proactive in control of trade and smuggling of wildlife products.
- A special co-ordination committee with Secretary (E&F), Special Secretary (Home), Director, CBI and representative of the Chairman, Central Board of Excise & Customs has been created to ensure better co-ordination in the efforts to curb smuggling of wildlife products.
- Central assistance is being provided to State Governments to strengthen the protection infrastructure including armed squads, vehicles, communication network and co-ordination between the Park Managers.
- Schemes for awards and rewards for outstanding performance and acts of valour has been introduced to encourage detection and reporting.
- The State Government have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensity patrolling.
- Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.

8. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger-trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
9. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for eco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
10. Site specific special force in Project Tiger Areas.
11. Special Strike Force all over the country to control Trade.
12. Creation of wildlife trade control bureau.

International level :

1. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
2. To control transboundary trade and effect mutual cooperation in tiger conservation :-
 - (i) A protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China.
 - (ii) An MoU with his Majesty's Government of Nepal has been signed.
 - (iii) Dialogue with Bangladesh has been initiated.
3. Several resolutions at CITES to check illegal trade in Tiger parts and products have been adopted at India's initiative.
4. The Millennium Tiger Conference was held in March, 1999. The conference declaration suggested several action for conservation of tiger both at national and International level.

Development of Forest in A.P.

149. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total amount allocated for development of forest in Andhra Pradesh during the current year;
- (b) the amount released so far;
- (c) whether the Government propose to help the poor farmers in disposing of their 30 lakh unsold mango sapplings in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government, Rs. 16,431.99 lakhs have been allocated for forest development in Andhra Pradesh under the state plan schemes, centrally sponsored schemes, and externally-aided projects, etc. for the financial year 2000-2001, of which Rs. 14,864.542 lakhs have been released so far. The State Government has decided to utilise the plant material available with various departments for implementing watershed programmes.

[Translation]

Policy for Utilisation of Fund by SEBs

150. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :

KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of that some State Electricity Boards are compelling industrial consumers to purchase electricity from the said Boards for their own use inspite of having their own power in their industries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy so as to avoid the unutilisation of crores of rupees invested for the generation of their own power due to short term policy of State Electricity Boards and power generating units of Public Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Power has received a complaint from the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta complaining against the alleged insistence by some of the State Electricity Boards on mandatory purchase of power a certain percentage of their requirement by industrial units having their own captive power. Under Section 44 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are competent to give consent to setting up of captive power plants by various industries. This has to be balanced against the need to maintain the viability of the tariff structure on account of the social commitment to subsidise supply of Electricity to certain sections of the society, rural areas and agricultural sector.

(c) The Government of India, through a circular letter dated October 9, 1995 has advised the State Governments/State Electricity Boards to encourage setting up of captive generation plants and to create an institutional mechanism which allow captive power units an easy entry into the

power sector by quickly clearing captive power applications, giving the developers a rational tariff for purchase of surplus power by the grid and third party access for direct sale of power to other industrial units.

[English]

Internet Telephony

151. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recommended opening of Internet Telephony;

(b) If so, whether the Government are considering the proposal favourably;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to grant licence to VSNL, BSNL, MTNL and such public sector ISPs to launch Net Telephony;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. However, in the highlights of Mid-Term Appraisal of 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) released by Planning Commission, opening of Internet Telephony has been identified as one of the major policy issues that still need to be addressed in the Telecom Sector. The main document is yet to be released.

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

(f) As per the New Telecom Policy (NTP) '99, Internet telephony shall not be permitted at this stage. However, Government will continue to monitor the technological innovations and their impact on national development and review this issue at an appropriate time.

Low Market Capitalisation in MTNL Scrip

152. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether market value of MTNL scrip at stock exchange has declined during the second quarter of current year;

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

(c) whether the MTNL has expressed serious concern over the low market capitalisation;

(d) if so, whether the company is considering taking strategic decisions for improving its performance in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Groundnut Cultivation

153. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any scheme to promote groundnut cultivation in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which this scheme has been launched;

(d) whether the Government are aware that there is vast scope for groundnut cultivation in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase the groundnut cultivation in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 25 States to promote the cultivation of oilseeds including groundnut. Under the programme financial assistance is provided for the critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, gypsum/pyrites micro-nutrients, rhyzobium culture etc. to the farmers through State Govt. In addition to this, frontline and general demonstrations are also organised on the farmers' fields to disseminate the improved production and disseminate the improved production and protection technologies.

(c) A list of States where the scheme of Oilseeds Production Programme is being implemented is enclosed as statement.

(d) and (e) The State of Orissa is already covered under OPP for the development of all the 9 oilseed crops viz. Groundnut, Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Niger, Castor, Linseed, Sunflower, Safflower and Soyabean. The Scheme is being implemented in the State of Orissa covering 13 selected districts which are potential for the cultivation of various oilseed crops including groundnut. During the current year, an amount of Rs. 420.00 lakhs has been allocated to the State for implementation of the scheme.

Statement

List of States where the scheme of Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is being implemented

Sl.No.	State
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Bihar
3.	Gujarat
4.	Haryana
5.	Himachal Pradesh
6.	Jammu & Kashmir
7.	Karnataka
8.	Kerala
9.	Madhya Pradesh
10.	Maharashtra
11.	Orissa
12.	Punjab
13.	Rajasthan
14.	Tamil Nadu
15.	Uttar Pradesh
16.	West Bengal
17.	Goa
18.	Arunachal Pradesh
19.	Assam
20.	Manipur
21.	Meghalaya
22.	Mizoram
23.	Nagaland
24.	Tripura
25.	Sikkim

Production of Rice

154. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of rice in the country for the last three years particularly in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab;

(b) whether there is steady increase in the production of rice;

(c) if so, whether there are no takers for this rice including Food Corporation of India;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the procurement of rice in the above States;

(e) whether some States are advising the farmers to switch over to other crops as there is no support price for rice; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The following statement shows the total production of rice in the country as also in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Punjab for the last three years.

States	Total Production (Million tonnes)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Karnataka	3.21	3.21	3.60
Andhra Pradesh	10.69	8.51	11.43
Punjab	7.33	7.90	7.94
All India	81.73	82.54	86.00

(c) to (f) There has been a record procurement of rice in the recent years. The total procurement of rice during 1999-2000 was of the order of 18.21 million tonnes as against 12.53 million tonnes in 1998-99. As in the past, during the current year also the support price for rice has been fixed and the procurement so far has reached the level of 8.06 million tonnes as against 6.90 million tonnes during the corresponding period last year.

[Translation]

Requirement of Seeds

155. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any estimate has been made by the Government in regard to the quantum of annual requirement of seeds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the source through which the said requirement is met in the country;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to overcome the dependence on import so as to meet the said requirement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information gathered from State Governments, the requirement of certified and quality seed for the year 2000-2001 is 96,71,306 quintals.

(c) The requirement of seed is met through two Central Seeds Corporations and 13 State Seed Corporations, State Departments of Agriculture, State Seed Farms, Cooperative Institutions, private seed companies etc.

(d) and (e) The country is not dependant on imports to meet the seed requirement. Import constitutes a very meager portion of certified/quality seed distributed in the country. The question of dependence on import does not arise because as per existing policy bulk import of any seed may be permitted only for two years within which time the concerned seed company must develop the required production capacity within the country.

In order to increase the availability of certified/quality seed and to increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR), the Government of India provides assistance to State Governments for production of seeds and planting material under various crop development schemes, such as Integrated Cereal Development Programme on Rice - based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice), Integrated Cereal Development Programme on Wheat-based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Wheat), Integrated Development Programme for Coarse Cereals, Accelerated Maize Development Programme, National Pulse Development Programme, Oilseeds Production Pro-

gramme, Special Jute Development Programme, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane-based Cropping System, Integrated Development of Vegetable including Root and Tuber Crops, Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Fruits, Coconut Development Programme, Spices Development Programme and Cashew Development Programme.

[English]

Development of National Highways on Priority basis

156. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been developing National Highways on priority basis;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for Central Road Fund (CRF); and

(c) the amount sanctioned and released for Gujarat National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 2000-2001, the share for development and maintenance of National Highways from CRF is Rs. 2010 crores.

(c) During 2000-2001, an amount of Rs. 8810.00 lakhs has been provided for development of National Highways & 1950.00 lakhs for maintenance of National Highways in Gujarat.

[Translation]

Rise in Price of DMS Milk

157. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sale of DMS milk has gone down due to hike in its prices;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take steps to increase the sale; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Since the hike in sale price of DMS milk with effect from 1.3.2000, the

sale of milk has gone down as compared to the sale of milk before the hike in sale price of milk.

(b) and (c) The Government have taken the following measures to enhance sale of DMS milk :

1. Increase in the commission to the concessionaires & depot agents;
2. Any group of consumers purchasing more than 100 litres of milk per day, to be paid incentive;
3. Procedure for issue of home delivery cards has been simplified;
4. Depot opening and closing time both for morning and evening shifts have been extended to suit the convenience of the consumers;
5. New distribution channel of bulk supply has been started;
6. Area for supply of DMS milk has been expanded;
7. Area field officer has been empowered to appoint new agents;
8. Introduction/launching of Full Cream Milk;
9. Introduction of half litre polypack for all kind of milk;
10. Introduction of Publicity Vans in various colonies and in rural areas;

11. Incentive for sales promotion;
12. Wide publicity through hand bills, posters, banners and through Press/Newspapers for milk and milk products;
13. Training to field staff as well as to the production staff; and
14. Organisation of public awareness camp.

[English]

Centrally Sponsored Environment Projects in Sikkim

158. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of centrally sponsored environment projects launched in Sikkim during each of the last three years;
- (b) the achievement made so far under each project;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to launch any environment project in the State in near future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The details of Centrally Sponsored Environment Projects launched in Sikkim during each of the last three years and the details of the achievements made so far under each project are given in the Statement.

All these projects will be continued in the State in the near future.

Statement

(Financial : Rs. in Lakhs)

(Physical : Area in Hectares)

S.No.	Name of the Schemes	Financial and Physical Achievements					
		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1.	Eco Development around important Protected Areas including Tiger Reserves	-	-	-	05.85	-	32.63
2.	Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project	340	91.20	2560	214.59	2050	109.82
3.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project	1075	69.99	735	67.18	780	69.52
Total		1445	161.19	3295	287.62	2830	211.97

Preservation of Environment

159. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation comprising a group of environmental experts and administrators recently went to abroad and another such expert group visited India to study the environmental conditions and to find the reasons for the deterioration of the environmental conditions in India and abroad;

(b) whether the Government have any plan to introduce latest technological developments in preservation of environment and to combat various types of Pollution in the country with financial and technological support from foreign countries and international agencies;

(c) if so, the details of the progress of such projects currently in progress and planned to be undertaken in near future;

(d) the total funds allocated for carrying out such projects in India;

(e) whether these projects were monitored by the State Pollution Control Boards in the country; and

(f) If so, the details of the monitoring activities done by SPCB's?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) Environmental conservation is an ongoing endeavour. Government of India has been closely monitoring the status of environment in the country on a regular basis. To this end, the Government has been undertaking cooperation in bilateral and multilateral spheres through exchange of ideas, transfer of technology and appropriate consultations through participation in various fora and by exchange of mutual visits. The Government has also been successfully negotiating technological and financial assistance in the areas of control of pollution, conservation of biodiversity and preservation of our forests. The Central and State Pollution Control Boards have well defined mandates, which includes monitoring pollution control projects.

[Translation]

Construction of National Highways

160. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the places where National Highways have been constructed till the year 2000 in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate plan to construct National Highways connecting all the directions as well as metropolitan cities; and

(c) if so, the details of such plan and expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) A list giving details of national highways in the country as on date is given in the statement.

(b) and (c) The existing national highway network in the country connect all the State capitals, and generally Metro-politan cities, other important cities and towns, industrial centres, major ports, places of tourist centres etc. The expansion/development of national highways is a continuous process and this is done in a phased manner keeping in view the traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Statement

S.No.	State/UT	NH. No.	Route
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh		
		4	Jn. with N.H. 3 near Thane-Pune-Belgaum-Hubli-Bangalore-Ranipet-Chennai.
		5	Jn with N.H. 6 near Jharpokharia-Cuttack-Bhubaneswar-Vishakhapatnam-Vijaywada-Chennai.
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhnadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kurnool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		9	Pune-Sholapur-Hyderabad-Vijaywada-Vuyyuru-Machilipatnam
		16	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur
		18	Chittoor-Kurnool
		43	Raipur-Vizianagaram-

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
			Jn. with N.H.5 near Natavalasa			36	Nowgong-Dabaka-Dimapur (Manipur Road)
		63	Ankola-Hubli-Hospet-Gooty			37	Pancharatna-Solapur-Guwahati-Jorabat-Kumargaon-Makum-Saikhoaghat
		202	Hyderabad-Warangal-Venkatapuram-Bhopalpatnam			37A	Kuari Tal-near Tejpur
		205	Ananthapur-Kadiri-Tirupati-Renugunta-Tiruttani-Chennai			38	Makum-Ledo-Lekhapani
		214	Kathipudi-Kakinada-Pamurru			39	Numaligarh-Imphal-Moreh-Indo/Burma Border
		219	Madanapalli-Kuppam-Krishnagiri			44	Shillong-Passi-Badarpur-Agartala-Sabroom
2	Arunachal Pradesh					51	Palkan-Tura-Dalu
		52	Baihata Charali-Tezpur-Bander-Dewa-North Lakhimpur-Pasighat-Tezu-Sitapani-Jn. with H.H. 37 near Saikhoaghat.			52	Baihata Charali-Tezpur-Bander Dewa-North Lakhimpur-Pasighat-Tezu-Sitapani-Jn with N.H. 37 near Saikhoaghat
		52A	Bander-Dewa-Itanagar-Gohpur			52A	Bander-Dewa-Itanagar-Gohpur
		153	Ledo-Indo/Myanmar Border (Stillwell Road)			52B	Kulajan-Jn. with NH. No.37
3	Assam					53	Jn. with N.H. 44 near Badarpur-Jirighat-Silchar-Imphal
		31	Jn. with N.H.2 near Barhi-Bakhtiyarpur-Mokameh-Purnea-Dalkola-Siliguri-Sivok-Cooch Bihar-North Salmara-Nalbari-Charali-Amingaon Jn. with N.H. 37			54	Dabaka-Lumding-Lamding Haflong-Silchar-Aizawl-Theriat-Tuipang
		31B	North Salmara-Jogighopa			61	Kohima-Wokha-Mokokchung-Amguri-Jhanji
		31C	Near Galgalia-Baghdogra-Chalsa Nagar-Kata Goyer-Kata-Balugaon-Hashimara-Rajabhat Khawa-Kochugaon-Sidli Jn. with N.H.31 near Bijni.			62	Damra-Baghmara
						151	Karimganj-Phirkand-Akbarpur-Bangladesh border
						152	Patacharkuchi-Hajura-Bhutan border

1	2	3	4
		153	Ledo-Indo/Myanmar Border (Stillwell Road)
		154	Dhaleshwar-Bhairabhi-Kanpui
	Bihar & Jharkhand		
		2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Sikandara-Bara-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Mohania-Barhi-Palsit-Baldyabati Bara-Calcutta
		6	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Sambhalpur-Baharagora-Calcutta
		19	Ghazipur-Balla-Hajipur-Patna
		23	Chass-Ranchi-Rourkela-Talcher-Jn. with N.H. 42
		28	Jn. with N.H. 31 near Barauni-Muzaffarpur-Muzaffarpur-Pipra-kothi- Gorakhpur-Lucknow
		28A	Jn. with N.H. 28 at Piprakothi-Sagauli-Raxaul-Indo/Nepal Border
		30	Jn. with N.H. 2 near Mohania-Patna-Bhakhtiyarpur
		30A	Phatuha-Chandi-Harnaut-Saksohara-Barh
		31	Jn. with N.H. 2 near Barhi-Bhakhtiyarpur-Mokameh Purnea-Dalkola-Siliguri-Sivok-Cooch Bihar-North Salmara-Nalbari-Charali-Amingaon Jn. with N.H. 37.
		32	Jn. with N.H. 2 near Gobindpur-Dhanbad-Jamshedpur

1	2	3	4
		33	Jn. with N.H. 2 near Barhi -Ranchi-Jn. with N.H.6 near Baharagora
		57	Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga-Thaebitia-Forbesganj-Purnea
		75	Gwalior-Jhansi-Chhatarpur-Rewa-Renukut-Garwa-Daltenganj-Ranchi
		77	Hajipur-Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi-Sonbarsa
		78	Katni-Shahdol-Nagar-Ambikapur-Jashpurnagar-Gumla
		80	Mokamah-Munger-Bhagalpur-Sahebganj-Rajmahal-Farakka
		81	Kora-Katihar-Malda
		82	Gaya-Rajgir-Biharsharif-Mokamah
		83	Patna-Punpun-Gaya-Bodhgaya-Dobhi
		84	Arrah-Bhojpur-Buxar
		85	Chhapra-Siwan-Gopalganj
		98	Patna-Phulwari-Bhusaula-Naubatpur-Bikram-Arwal-Aurangabad-Amba-Chhattarpur-Nawa-Rajhara (NH No.75)
		99	Dobhi-Chatra-Balumath-Chandwa (NH No.75)
		100	Chatra-Simaria-Hazaribagh-Bishnugarh-Bagodar (NH No.2)
		101	Chhapra-Baniapur-Maharajganj-Barauli (NH No.28)

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		102	Chhapra-Rewaghat-Muzaffarpur			17	Panvel-Mahad-Panaji-Karwar-Mangalore-Connanore-Calicut (Kozhikode)-Ferokeh-Kuttipuram-Pudu Ponnapi-Chowghat-Cranganur Jn. with N.H. No.47 near Edapally
		103	Hajipur-Mushrigharam			17A	Jn. with N.H.17 near Cortalim Marmagao
		104	Chakia-Narhar Pakari Bridge-Madhuban-Shivhar-Sitamarhi-Hariakhi-Umagaon-Jaynagar-Khatauna-Narharia			17B	Ponda-Borim-Verna-Vasco
		105	Darbhanga-Aunsi-Jaynagar				
		106	Madhepur-Bihpur				
		107	Maheshkhunt-Sonbarsaraj-Simri-Bakhtiarpur-Bariahi-Saharsa-Bainathpur-Madhepura-Muriganj-Purnea	8	Gujarat	NE-1	Ahemdabad-Nandiad-Anand-Vadodara
5	Chandigarh	21	Jn.with N.H.22 near Chandigarh-Ropar-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu Manali			6-Extn.	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Sambalpur-Calcutta
6	Delhi	1	Delhi-Ambala-Jalandhar-Amritsar-Indo/Pak Border			8	Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahemdabad-Vadodara-Mumbai
		2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Mohania-Barhi-Palsit-Baidyabati-Bara-Calcutta			8A	Ahemdabad-Limbdi-Kandla-Mundra-Mandvi
		8	Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahemdabad-Vadodara-Mumbai			8B	Bamanbore-Rajkot-Porbandar
		10	Delhi-Fazilka-Indo/Pak Border			8C	Chiloda-Gandhinagar-Sarkhej
		24	Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow			8D	Jetpur-Junagarh-Keshod-Somnath
		4A	Belgaum-Anmod-Ponda-Panaji			8E	Somnath-Bhavnagar
7	Goa					14	Beawar-Sirohi-Radhanpur
						15	Pathankot-Amritsar-Bhatinda-Gandhinagar-Bikaner-Jaisalmer-Barmer-Samakhiali
						59	Ahemdabad-Balasinor-Sevalla-Godhra-Limkhed-Dohad-Jhabua-Sardarpur-Dhar-Indore

1	2	3	4
9	Haryana		
		1	Delhi-Ambala-Jalandhar-Amritsar-Indo/Pak Border
		2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Sikandra-Bara-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Mohania-Barhi-Palsit-Baidyabati-Bara-Calcutta
		8	Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahemdabad-Vadodara-Mumbai
		10	Delhi-Fazilka-Indo/Pak Border
		21A	Pinjore-Baddi-Nalagarh-Swarghat
		22	Ambala-Kalka-Shimla-Narkanda-Rampur-Chini-Indo/Tibet Border near Shipkila
		64	Chandigarh-Rajpura-Patiala-Sangrur-Bhatinda-Dhabwali
		65	Ambala-Kaithal-Hissar-Fatehpur-Jodhpur-Nagaur-Pali
		71	Jalandhar-Moga-Barnala-Sangrur-Narwana-Rohtak-Jhajjar-Bawal
		71A	Rohtak-Gohana-Panipat
		72	Ambala-Nauhan-Paonta Sahib-Dehradun-Rishikesh (Haridwar)
		73	Roorkee-Saharanpur-Yamunanagar-Saha-Panchkula
10	Himachal Pradesh		
		1A	Jalandhar-Pathankot-Srinagar-Uri
		20	Pathankot-Mandi
		21	Jn. with N.H.22 near Chandigarh-Ropar-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu-Manali

1	2	3	4
		21A	Pinjore-Nalagarh-Swarghat
		22	Ambala-Kalka-Shimla-Narkanda-Rampur-Chini-Indo/Pak Border
		70	Jalandhar-Hoshiarpur-Hamirpur-Toni Devi-Ahwa Devi-Dharampur-Mandi
		72	Ambala-nahan-Paonta Sahib-Dehradun-Rishikesh (Haridwar)
		88	Shimla-Bilaspur-Hamirpur-Nadaun-Ranital-Kangra-Bhawan (NH 20)
11	Jammu & Kashmir		
		1A	Jalandhar-Madhampur-Jammu-Banihal-Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri
		1B	Batote-Doda-Kishtwar-Chhatree-Symthan Maidan-Symthan-Khanabal (Srinagar)
		1C	Domel-Katra
12	Karnataka		
		4	Jn. with N.H.3 near Thane-Pune-Belgaum-Hubli-Bangalore-Ranipet-Madras
		4A	Belgaum-Anmod-Ponda-Panaji
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhnadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kurnool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		9	Pune-Sholapur-Hyderabad-Vijaywada-Machilipatnam
		13	Sholapur-Chitradurga-Shimoga-Tirthahalli-Mangalore
		17	Panvel-Mahad-Panaji-Karwar-Mangalore-Connanore-Calicut

1	2	3	4
			(Kozhikode)-Ferokeh-Kuttipuram-Pudu Ponnani-Chowghat-Cranganur Jn. N.H.47 near Edapally
	48		Nelamangala near Bangalore-Hassan-Mangalore
	63		Ankola-Hubli-Hospet-Gooty
	206		Tumkur-Shimoga-Honnavar
	207		Hosur-Surjapur-Devanhalli-Doda Ballapur-Nelamangla
	209		Dindigul-Pollachi-Coimbatore-Annur-Satyamangalam-Chamraj Nagar-Kollegal-Bangalore
	212		Kozhikode-Mysore-Kollegal
13	Kerala		
	17		Panvel-Mahad-Panaji-Karwar-Mangalore-Connanore-Calicut (Kozhikode)-Ferokeh-Kuttipuram-Pudu Ponnani-Chowghat-Cranganur Jn. N.H.47 near Edapally
	47		Salem-Coimbatore-Trichur-Ernakulam-Trivandrum-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
	47A		Willingdon Island terminating at Cochin on N.H.47 Bypass
	49		Dhanushkodi-Madurai-Cochin
	208		Kollam-Punalur-Tenkasi-Rajapalayam-Srivilliputtur-Thirumanglam
	212		Kozhikode-Mysore-Kollegal
	213		Palghat-Kozhikode
	220		Kollam-Teni
14	Madhya Pradesh & Chhatisgarh		
	3		Agra-Gwalior-Shivpuri-Indore-Dhule-Nasik-Thane-Mumbai

1	2	3	4
		6	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Rajpur-Sambalpur-Baharagora-Calcutta
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhnadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kumool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		12	Jabalpur-Bhopal-Biaora-Rajgarh-Khichipur-Aklara-Jhalawar-Kota-Bundi-Devil-Tonk-Jaipur
		12A	Jabalpur-Mandia-Chilpi-Sigma (Raipur)
		16	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur
		25	Lucknow-Kanpur-Jhansi-Shivpuri
		26	Jhansi-Lakhandon
		27	Allahabad-Mangawan
		43	Raipur-Vizianagaram-Jn.with N.H.5 near Natvalasa
		59	Ahemdabad-Balasinor-Dohad-Dhar-Indore
		59A	Indore-Betul
		69	Nagpur-Obaidullaganj
		75	Gwalior-Jhansi-Khajuraho-Chhatarpur-Panna-Satna-Rewa-Renukut-Garwa-Deltonganj-Ranchi
		76	Pindwara-Udaipur-Mangarwar-Chittorgarh-Kota-Shivpuri-Jhansi-Mahoba-Banda-Karwi-Mau-Allahabad
		78	Katni-Shahdol-Nagar-Ambikapur-Jashpurmagar-Gumla
		79	Ajmer-Nasirabad-Bhilwara-Chittaurgarh-Nayagaon-Neemuch-Ratlam-Ghat Bilod (Indore)

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		86	Kanpur-Chhatarpur-Sagar-Rahatgarh			13	Sholapur-Chitradurga-Mangalore
		90	Bhogaon-Etawah-Gwallior			16	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur
		200	Raipur-Bilaspur-Deogarh-Talcher-Chandikhola			17	Panvel-Mahad-Panaji-Karwar-Mangalore-Cannanore-Calicut-(Kozhikode) Ferokeh-Kuttipuram-Pudu Ponnani-Chowghat-Cranganur Jn.with NH 47 near Edapally
		202	Hyderabad-Warangal-Venkatapuram-Bhopalpatnam			50	Nasik-Jn.with N.H.4 near Pune
		216	Raigarh-Sarangarh-Saraipalli			69	Nagpur-Obaldullaganj
		217	Raipur-Gopalpur			204	Ratnagiri-Hathkhamba-Pali-Sakharpa-Malkapur-Kolhapur
15	Maharashtra	3	Agra-Gwallior-Shivpuri-Indore-Dhule-Nasik-Thane-Mumbai			211	Solapur-Osmanabad-Aurangabad-Dhule
		4	Jn.with N.H.3 near Thane-Pune-Belgaum-Hubli-Bangalore-Ranipet-Chennai	16	Manipur	39	Numaligarh-Imphal-Moreh-Indo/Burma Border
		4B	Nhava-Sheva-Kalamboli-Palspe			53	Jn. with N.H.44 near Badarpur-Jirighat-Silchar-Imphal
		6	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Sambalpur-Bharagora-Calcutta			150	Aizawi-Tipaimukh-Churachandpur-Imphal-Ukhrul-Jessami-Kohima
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhnadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kumool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)	17	Meghalaya	40	Jorbat-Shillong-Indo/Bangladesh Border near Dawki-Amalren-Jowai
		8	Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahmedabad-Vadodara-Mumbai			44	Shillong-Jowai-Badarpur-Agartala-Sabroom
		9	Pune-Sholapur-Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Machilpatnam			51	Paikan-Tura-Dalu
						62	Damra-Baghmara-Dalu

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
18	Mizoram					23	Chas-Ranchi-Rourkela-Talcher Jn.with NH 42
		44A	Aizawl-Sairag-Lengpui-Mamit-Manu			42	Jn. with NH 6 near Sambalpur-Angul-Jn. with NH 5
		54	Silchar-Aizawl-Theriat-Tulpang			43	Raipur-Vizianagaram near Natevalasa Jn. with NH 5
		54A	Lunglei-Theriat			60	Balasore-Rupbas-Jaleswar-Dantan-Belda-Kasba-Nayangarh-Kharagpur-Bishnupur-Bankura-Asansol
		54B	Venus Saddle-Saiha			200	Raipur-Bilaspur-Deogarh-Talcher-Chandikhol
		150	Aizawl-Tipaimukh-Churachandpur-Imphal-Ukhru-Jessami-Kohima			201	Borigumma-Bhawanipatna-Bolangir-Barapalli-Bargarh
		154	Dhaleshwar-Bhairabhi-Kanpui			203	Bhubneshwar-Puri
19	Nagaland					215	Panikoli-Keonjhar-Rajamunda
		36	Nowgong-Dabaka-Dimapur (Manipur Road)			217	Raipur-Gopalpur
		39	Numaligarh-Imphal-Moreh-Indo/Burma Border			1	Delhi-Ambala-Jalandhar-Amritsar-Indo/Pak Border
		61	Kohima-Wokha-Mukokchung-Amguri-Jhanji			1A	Jalandhar-Madhampur-Jammu-Banihal-Srinagar-Baramula-Uri
		150	Aizawl-Tipaimukh-Churachandpur-Imphal-Ukhru-Jessami-Kohima	21	Punjab	10	Delhi-Fazilka-Indo/Pak Border
20	Orissa					15	Pathankot-Amritsar-Bhatinda-Ganganagar-Bikaner-Jaisalmer-Barmer-Samakhiali
		5	Jn.with N.H.6 near Jharpokharia-Cuttack-Bhubneswar-Vishakhapatnam-Vijayawada-Madras			20	Pathankot-Mandi
		5A	Jn.with NH 5 near Haridaspur-Paradip port				
		6	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Sambalpur-Bharaghora-Calcutta				

1	2	3	4
		21	Jn. with NH 22 near Chandigarh-Ropar-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kulu-Manali
		22	Ambala-Kalka-Shimla-Narkanda-Rampur-Chini-Indo/Tibet border near Shipkila
		64	Chandigarh-Rajpura-Patiala-Sangrur-Bhatinda-Dhabwali
		70	Jalandhar-Hoshiarpur-Toni Devi-Ahwa Devi-Dharampur-Mandi
		71	Jalandhar-Moga-Barnala-Sangrur-Narwana-Rohtak-Jhajjar-Bawal
		95	Kharar-Samrala-Ludhiana-Jagraon-Ferozpur
22	Pondicherry	45A	Villupuram-Pondicherry-Chidambaram-Nagapattinam
		66	Pondicherry-Tindivanam-Krishnagiri
23	Rajasthan	3	Agra-Gwalior-Shivpuri-Indore-Dhule-Nashik-Thane-Mumbai
		8	Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahmedabad-Vadodara-Mumbai
		11	Agra-Jaipur-Bikaner
		11A	Manoharpur-Dausa
		12	Jabalpur-Bhopal-Biaora-Jhalawar-Kota-Bundi-Jaipur
		14	Beawar-Sirohi-Radhanpur
		15	Pathankot-Amritsar-Bhatinda-Ganganagar-Bikaner-Jaisalmer-Barmer-Samakhiali

1	2	3	4
		65	Ambala-Kaithal-Hissar-Fatehpur-Jodhpur-Nagaur-Pali
		76	Pindwara-Udaipur-Mangarwar-Chitorgarh-Kota-Shivpuri-Jhansi-Mahoba-Banda-Karwi-Mau-Allahabad
		79	Ajmer-Nasirabad-Bhilwara-Chittaurgarh-Nayagaon-Naemuch-Ratlam-Ghat Bilod (Indore)
		89	Ajmer-Nagaur-Bikaner
		90	Baran-Aklera
24	Sikkim		
		31A	Sivok-Gangtok
25	Tamil Nadu		
		4	Jn. with NH 3 near Thane-Pune-Belgaum-Hubli-Bangalore-Ranipet-Chennai
		5	Jn. with NH 6 near Baharaghora-Cuttack-Bhubneshwar-Vishakhapatnam-Vijayawada-Chennai
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kurnool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		7A	Palayankottai-Tuticorin Port
		45	Madras-Tiruchirapalli-Dindigul
		45A	Villupuram-Pondicherry-Cuddalore-Chidambaram-Nagapattinam

1	2	3	4
		45B	Trichy-Viralimalai-Tovarankuruchchi-Melur-Madurai-Arupukottai-Tuticorin
		46	Krishnagiri-Ranipet
		47	Salem-Coimbatore-Trichur-Ernakulam-Trivandrum-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		49	Dhanushkodi-Madurai-Cochin
		66	Pondi-Tindivanam-Gingee-Thiruvannamalai-Krishnagiri
		67	Nagapattinam-Trichy-Karur-Palladam-Coimbatore
		68	Ulunadrupet-Salem
		205	Anantpur-Kadini-Tirupati-Renugunta-Tiruttani-Chennai
		207	Hosur-Surajpur-Devanhalli-Doda Ballapur-Nelamangala
		208	Kollam-Punalur-Tenkasi-Rajapalayam-Srivilliputtur-Thirumanglam
		209	Dindigul-Palni-Coimbatore-Annur-Kollegal-Bangalore
		210	Tirichy-Pudukottai-Devakotti-Ramanathapuram
		219	Madanapalli-Kuppam-Krishnagiri
		220	Kollam-Teni
26	Tripura	44	Shilong-Jowai-Badarpur-Agartala-Sabroom

1	2	3	4
		44A	Aizawi-Sairang-Lengpul-Mamit-Manu
27	Uttar Pradesh & Uttranchal		
		2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Sikandra-Bara-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Mohania-Barhi-Palsit-Baidyabati-Bara-Calcutta
		2A	Sikandara-Bhognipur
		3	Agra-Gwalior-Shivpuri-Indore-Dhule-Nashik-Thane-Mumbai
		7	Varanasi-Mangawan-Rewa-Jabalpur-Lakhnadon-Nagpur-Hyderabad-Kurnool-Bangalore-Krishnagiri-Salem-Dindigul-Madurai-Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari)
		11	Agra-Jaipur-Bikaner
		19	Ghazipur-Balla-Hajipur-Patna
		24	Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow
		24A	Bakshi-Ka-Talab-Chenhat (NH No.28)
		25	Lucknow-Kanpur-Jhansi-Shivpuri
		25A	Km 19 (NH 25)-Bakshi-Ka-Talab
		26	Jhansi-Lakhnadon
		27	Allahabad-Mangawan
		28	Jn. with N.H.31 near Barauni-Muzaffarpur-Piprakothe-Gorakhpur-Lucknow
		29	Gorakhpur-Ghazipur-Varanasi
		56	Lucknow-Haidargarh-Jagdishpur-Sultanpur-Varanasi

1	2	3	4
		56A	Chenhath-Km 16 of NH 56
		56B	Km 16 on NH 56 to Km 19 of NH 25
		58	Ghaziabad-Merrut-Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee-Haridwar-Rishikesh-Rudraprayag-Chamoli-Joshimath-Badrinath-Mana
		72	Ambala-Paonta Sahib-Haridwar
		73	Roorkee-Saharanpur-Yamunanagar-Saha-Panchkula
		74	Haridwar-Najibabad-Nagma-Afzalgarh-Kashipur-Kichha-Jehanabad-Pilibhit-Bareilly
		75	Gwalior-Jhansi-Khajmahli-Chhatarpur-Panna-Satna-Rewa-Renukut-Garwa-Daltonganj-Ranchi
		76	Pindwara-Udaipur-Mangarwar-Chitorgarh-Kota-Shivpuri-Jhansi-Mahoba-Banda-Karwi-Mau-Allahabad
		86	Kanpur-Chhatarpur-Sagar-Rahatpur-Gyaspur-Vidisha-Raisen-Bhopal-Dewas
		87	Rampur-Bilaspur-Pantnagar-Haldwani-Nainital
		91	Ghaziabad-Bulandshahar-Khurja-Aligarh-Etah-Kannauj-Kanpur
		92	Bhongaon-Etawah-Gwallor

1	2	3	4
		93	Agra-Aligarh-Babraia-Chandausi-Moradabad
		94	Rishikesh-Ampata-Tehri-Dharasu-Kuthunaur-Yamnotri
		96	Ayodhya (Faizabad)-Sultanpur-Pratapgarh-Allahabad
		97	Ghazipur-Zamania-Sayedraja
28	West Bengal		
		2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Sikandara-Bara-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Mohania-Barhi-Palsit-Baidyabati-Bara-Calcutta
		6	Hajira-Surat-Dhule-Nagpur-Raipur-Sambalpur-Bharagora-Calcutta
		31	Jn. with NH 2 near Barhi-Bakhtiyarpur-Mokameh-Purnea-Dalkola-Siliguri-Sivok-Cooch Behar-North Salamara-Nalbari-Charali-Aminagar-Jn. with NH 37
		31A	Sivok-Gangtok
		31C	Near Galgalia-Baghdogra-Chalsa-Nagarkota-Goyarkata-Balugaon-Hasimara-Rajbhat Khaw Kochugaon-Sidli-Jn. with NH 31 near Bijni
		32	Jn. with NH 2 near Godindpur-Dhanbad-Jamshedpur
		34	Jn. with NH 31 near Dalkola-Berhampora-Barasat-Calcutta
		35	Barasat-Bangaon-Indo/Bangladesh Border
		41	Jn. with NH 6 near Kolaghat-Haldia Port

1	2	3	4
		55	Siliguri-Darjeeling
		60	Balasore-Rupbas-Jaleswar-Dantan-Belda-Kasba-Narayangarh-Kharagpur-Bishnupur-Bankura-Asansol
		80	Mokamah-Munger-Bhogalpur-Sahebganj-Rajmahal-Farakka
		81	Kora-Katihar-Malda

[English]

Export of Onions

161. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the NAFED has suspended export of onions;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether prices of onions have increased during the last six months;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether due to suspension of export of onions, farmers are suffering lot of losses because of surplus stocks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. It was suspended temporarily from 1st to 13th November, 2000.

(b) There was sudden spurt in prices of onion in the last week of October, 2000. In order to protect the interests of domestic consumers, the export was temporarily suspended.

(c) There was some increase in prices of onions.

(d) The details are reflected in the statement attached.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. Because the export of onion has been resumed with effect from 14th November, 2000 to safeguard the interests of onion growers.

Statement

Month-wise wholesale rate of onion for last six months of 2000-2001 (Tentative)

(Rs. per Qtl.)

	2000-2001			2000-2001			2000-2001		
	Azadpur (Delhi)			Nasik (Maharashtra) (Model)			Pune (Maharashtra)		
	Arrival	Min	Max.	Arrival	Min	Max.	Arrival	Min	Max.
April	77860	100	475	192730	180	304	422751	100	270
May	156900	125	425	670826	121	340	397301	100	300
June	249380	100	500	520549	150	346	425841	120	300
July	208730	150	625	481230	151	335	317595	150	350
August	187460	125	625	394525	170	440	263890	100	420
Sep.	199975	200	800	401686	239	406	192652	150	400
Oct.	240532	250	875	375610	295	830	302046	200	800

[Translation]

Breakage in Ash Tank at Bokaro Thermal Power Station No.2

162. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of Bottom ash is being released in the Damodar river due to breakage in the ash tank of 'B' plant of Bokaro Thermal Power Station;

(b) if so, whether a huge funds were spent on repair on the same tank in the past;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the river is also being polluted due to release of ash by the said power station;

(e) if so, whether the said power station has also suffered huge losses due to fire and flowing of furnace oil in the river;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) steps taken by the Government to check pollution in the river and financial irregularities prevailing in the said power station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir. There are 3 Ash ponds for storage of ash of Bokaro Thermal Power Station No.2. Ash Dyke of Pond No.1 was breached. However, ash is not being released into the river Damodar, due to the breach.

(b) No fund has yet been spent on the repair of the breach.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No ash is being released into the river by Bokaro Thermal Power Station No.2.

(e) and (f) Some time in April 2000, a leakage developed in the oil storage tank and consequently some quantity of oil split into the river. The loss due to leakage was negligible and generation of thermal station did not suffer due to leakage or due to any fire.

(g) To prevent any probable spill over of ash into the river Damodar, DVC has already identified the required land for the development of permanent ash disposal area beside the Bokaro-Bermo Road. The Government is not aware of any financial irregularities in the said power station.

[English]

Central Assistance for Development of Solar Energy

163. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total Central grant released for the development of solar energy in Kerala during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount utilised by the State Government during the above period; and

(c) the details of the grant to be allotted to Kerala for the development of solar energy during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is promoting the use of solar photovoltaic and solar thermal devices and systems under its programmes in all the states of the country. The programmes are implemented through the State Nodal Agencies, reputed non-governmental organisations, Public Sector Undertakings and selected Banks, The Ministry also supports the establishment of the 'Aditya' solar shops for the sale and servicing of renewable energy products.

The total Central grant released for the development of solar energy in Kerala during each of the last three years is as follows :

1997-98	Rs. 14.69 lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 124.80 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 212.35 lakhs
Total	Rs. 351.84 lakhs

This grant has been fully utilised.

(c) No State-wise allocations have been made for the Ninth Plan as a whole. Grants are released on the basis of annual plans and programmes. So far Rs. 943.17 lakhs have been sanctioned to Kerala during the first four years (1997-98 to 2000-01) of the Ninth Plan based on the proposals received from the State and the progress of implementation.

Closure of Bharat Gold Mines

164. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close down the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any request for the revival of the same has been received by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYASINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d)

Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Ministry of Mines was referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1992. The BIFR has passed the final order on 12.6.2000 concluding that the company is not likely to make its net worth exceed its accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting its financial obligations and hence not likely to be viable in future. Therefore, it is just, equitable and in public interest to wind up BGML under section 20(1) of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. BIFR has forwarded its opinion to the Registrar, Karnataka High Court for necessary action.

The officers and the workers submitted a rehabilitation/revival package in January, 2000 to BIFR, copy of which was received by the Government in March, 2000. The rehabilitation package inter-alia envisaged increased annual gold production from the level of 400 Kg. to 10.77 Kg. by operating 3 mines with fewer workers. The rehabilitation package was not based on ground realities and the means of finance constituted entirely of assistance from the Government of India and envisaged relief, sacrifices and concessions from the Government of India and the State Governments. The BIFR did not find it worthwhile to accept the rehabilitation package.

Status Paper on Sports Federations

165. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any plan to prepare a status paper of each Sports Federation pertaining to short-term and long-term programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether his Ministry is prepared to share budgetary support to these Federations to achieve their target; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per "Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federation (NSFs)" all NSFs are required to prepare Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) for four year cycle between Asian Games to avail of Government assistance. The LTDP include four yearly plans which take care of long and short term requirement/targets of the concerned sports discipline.

(c) and (d) This Ministry provides assistance to NSFs under the "Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)" for holding of National Championship at senior, junior and sub-junior levels, organizing international tournaments in India, training and participation in international

tournaments abroad, coaching through Indian and foreign coaches and requisite technical and scientific back up. For financial year 2000-2001, the budgetary allocation under this scheme is Rs. 17.00 crores.

National Seeds Grid

166. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Seeds Grid to ensure supply of seeds to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal for setting up a National Seeds Grid. However, under a Central Sector Scheme for "Establishment & Maintenance of Seed Bank", there is a provision for setting up a Data Bank and Information System for effective utilization of seeds from the Seed Bank during emergent situations, which will function in effect as a 'seeds grid'.

TV Rights for next Cricket World Cup

167. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards award of TV rights for the next World Cup to the World Sports Group for \$550 million dollars ignoring the Zee network which offered \$ 666 million dollars bid to the BCCI, resulting in a loss of almost 500 crores of rupees to the country;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether any enquiry has been made in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Food Laws

168. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to enact legislation to create a single authority to administer all the food laws under one umbrella;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government in creation of infrastructure like cold chains, warehouses, transportation etc. for food processing sector;
- (d) whether Food Processing sector are facing negative growth rate since the last two years; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) and (b) An Approach paper towards formulation of a Processed Food Development Act has been prepared and circulated. A copy of the paper giving details of the proposal is attached as statement.

(c) The Government has taken a number of policy initiatives to promote the growth of Processed Food Sector in the country, which include inter alia provision of financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant to provide industries public sector undertakings, non-government organisations, cooperatives etc. Such assistance is also provided for creation of infrastructure facilities.

(d) and (e) Food Processing Industries cover different segments of the industry and a negative growth rate for the whole sector is not reported. However, in the fruit and vegetable processing sector during the year 1997-98, the growth showed a negative trend. Though detailed reasons for this trend have not been reported, one of the apparently discernible factors to which the negative growth could be attributed is levying of Excise Duty on these products as against the zero duty in the preceding years.

Statement

Approach Paper on Proposed Processing Food Development Act

In 1995, the Government of India appointed a Task Force under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) E.S. Venkataramaiah to review the existing Food Laws including Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA Act) and to suggest a simplified and harmonized Food Law. This Task Force opined that there should be a paradigm shift in the legal framework

to promote 'good manufacturing practices' which has been universally found to be a better instrument to protect public health, minimize commercial fraud and to promote the development of industry and trade on scientific lines. The Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry appointed a Subject Group on Food and Agro Industries headed by Nussli Wadia. This group recommended that there is an urgent need to not only avoid existing multiplicity of laws and multifarious agencies administering them but also suggested that the harmonization of these laws under a single umbrella so that a single authority can supervise the effective implementation of the law concerning food sector. An unwieldy number of laws pervade this industry. Some of them specific to the sector and others affecting the sector indirectly. A list of various laws is appended to this Paper, from which it can be discerned that the food industry is inexorably bound by the different co-ordinates of a wide ranging enactments. These Acts are oblivious of various developments in science, discipline of food microbiology, food chemistry, food technology and various trade developments that have taken place in the last few years.

The Committee of Secretaries in its meeting held on 31st May, 1999 also underscored the prime need for rationalization and simplification of the various food laws and also directed that food standards be determined and administered by a single authority.

This Department recently organised four regional seminars to elicit inputs for drafting the National Food Processing Policy. The industry representatives were particularly of the view that the existing food laws have been impeding their growth since many times it is not possible for them to keep track of their requirements of different Acts and that they are caught in the throes of multi-pronged enactments requiring enormous time and money on their part to conform to the requirements. The existing laws were framed to take care of different situations and there are essentially regulatory in character. As such, these do not in any way help in the development process. The industry also raised several other issues during the Regional Seminars. One issue relates to the WTO challenges including import of food items from other countries into India, the items which are otherwise considered waste in the country of origin. It was also desired that the proposed Act should cover aspects such as micro-nutrients and food fortification, import of new technologies such as genetically modified foods, export regulations, standards, merit goods, taxation etc. They also emphasized the need for futures market and suggested creation of enabling environment for attracting huge investments in this sector. Government assistance by means of appropriate fund and also by creation of network of laboratories and R&D organisations, it was felt, would go a long way in gearing the industry to become competitive in the international arena. It is felt that there is an urgent need to bring in a new legislation entitled "Processed

Food Development Act" which will take into account the core elements of existing food laws that are relevant to the present day context and also introduce other provisions to cater to the industry's requirements.

Content of the Proposed Act

The proposed Act when introduced is expected to provide a single window system and will move from regulatory penal regime to that of promotional and developmental mechanism so as to sub serve the interest of the Indian food industry and to make them viable and competitive to derive the best advantage of globalization of markets.

The proposed Act will attempt to harmonize and rationalize the existing food laws. An attempt will also be made to simplify the rules and procedures so as to make it easy for the industry to comply with the requirements. These provisions will also take into account the requirement of sanitary and phyto sanitary measures required to be adopted as per international standards of manufacturing practices.

An appropriate provision will be made for defining standards. This provision will cover not only the nationally manufactured goods but also the imported goods. The definition and standards will take into account the provisions of AGMARK, Export (Quality & Inspection) Act, ISO-9000, SQS-2000 besides Codex standards. The standards defined in the proposed Act will be a compulsory provision rather than the existing voluntary submission. The power of checking and certification will be given to a network of laboratories and R&D institutions who are considered to possess necessary infrastructure in this regard.

It is also envisaged to provide for an authority who could not only oversee the implementation of the standards but will also have powers to guide and rectify the manufacturing practices as well as to suggest the requisite methodology for adoption by the industry/unit concerned. The decision of this authority will be final and binding and there will be no appeal provision against the decision of this authority. This authority will be a compact committee consisting of industry representatives, representatives of national laboratories, R&D organizations who are conversant with standards and limited Government representatives so that the compliance will be readily forthcoming to its decision.

Since the emphasis of the Act will be on development, it is proposed to include certain provisions for grant of incentives. In this regard, the Act will propose to define what are merit goods and the kind of incentives that could be made for manufacturers of such merit goods. The merit goods will be defined in terms of value addition and higher the value addition the more will be the incentives. An enabling provision for providing similar incentives with regard to products from diffi-

cult and backward areas will be incorporated to treat them on par with merit goods. It is also proposed to appropriately make provisions for setting up a Development Fund for the Food Processing Industry to enable the sector to have access to investible fund at a reasonable capital cost.

It is also proposed to set up an Equalization Fund under this Act. It is observed that in the food processing sector, the cost of production fluctuates depending upon a variety of factors such as cost of raw material, cost of technology, marketing infrastructure and others. At times, it is likely that the sale proceeds may fall below the cost and the industry will suffer adversely. In such a situation, the differential between the cost price and the sale proceed will be made available to the industry from the Equalization Fund. Where a lot of surplus is expected from the sale proceeds, a portion of surplus will go back to the Fund as a means of replenishment of the Fund.

Ministry of Environment have already issued a Notification regarding manufacture, use, import/export and storage of genetically engineered organisms or cells. The proposed Act, however, will contain enabling provisions for regulating the genetically engineered or modified food items either by means of compulsory labeling or in certain cases totally banning such items either from being imported into the country or from being manufactured or sold in the country. Appropriate rules will be made with reference to these provisions so that such food items which may have long term deleterious effects, can be controlled.

Appendix

- (a) Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 and Rules;
- (b) Standards of Weights and Measures Act and Packaged Commodity Rules;
- (c) Essential Commodities Act and Orders, namely,
 - Fruit Products Order;
 - Milk and Milk Products Order;
 - Meat Products Order;
 - Solvent Extracted Oil, De-oiled Meal, Edible Flower (Control) Order;
- (d) Indian Seeds Act;
- (e) The Copra Cess Act;
- (f) The Produce Cess Act;
- (g) The Industries (Development & Regulation) Act;
- (h) MRTP Act;

- (i) Consumer Protection Act;
- (j) The Central Excise & Customs Act;
- (k) Agricultural Produce (Grading & Marketing) Act;
- (l) Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act; and
- (m) Environment Protection Act;
- (n) Other Central/State/Local Bodies Acts and Rules having bearing on the promotion of Food Processing Industries.

Notification on Fixation on Noise Standards

169. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a notification on fixation of noise standards has already been approved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be published in official Gazette?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Government have made various rules/regulations to control noise pollution. The notification issued include the following :-

- (i) Ambient Air Quality standards in respect of noise for industrial, commercial, residential areas and silence zones have been notified vide GSR 1063 (E) dated 26.12.1989.
- (ii) Noise Limits for Automobiles at the manufacturing stage to be achieved by 1992 and domestic appliances and construction equipment at the manufacturing stage published under GSR 742 (E) dated 30.8.1990.
- (iii) Standards/Guidelines for Control of Noise Pollution from Stationary Diesel Generator (DG) Sets published under GSR No. 7 dated 2.1.1999.
- (iv) Noise Standards for fire-crackers published under GSR No.682 (E) dated 5.10.1999.
- (v) The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 published under S.O. No.123 (E), dated 14.2.2000.
- (vi) Noise limit for generator sets run with petrol or

kerosene published under GSR 742 (E), dated 25.9.2000.

[Translation]

Encroachment on National Highways in U.P.

170. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has formulated any scheme to improve the basic infrastructure of roads and to clear encroachments on National Highways and to ensure smooth and accident free flow of traffic;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance sought by the State Government to widen the National Highways and to plant trees alongwith the road side; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Under the provisions of the Road Side Land Control Act 1945, encroachments on National Highways are removed with the assistance of the District Administration/Local authorities concerned.

(b) No assistance is sought by National Highway Wing of Uttar Pradesh PWD from this Ministry for this purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Polluting Industries in Delhi

171. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industries running in residential areas of Delhi;

(b) the number out of them which have effluent treatment plants;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the industries which have not installed effluent treatment plants so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for rehabilitating the polluting industries from the residential areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) According to the Delhi Pollu-

tion Control Committee (DPCC), out of a total of 96000 industries located in non-industrial/residential areas, 683 units have installed Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs).

(c) and (d) The Government of Delhi/DPCC had issued closure directions against the water polluting industries not having ETPs. 967 identified water polluting industries have been allotted specific plots in Narela and Badli Complexes and 5619 other polluting industries have been allotted plots in Bawana and Badli.

National Youth Development Fund

172. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided to create a National Youth Development Fund;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the strategy adopted/ to be adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (d) There is a proposal in the draft new National Youth Policy, 2000 to create a National Youth Development Fund through contributions, which would be utilised for youth development activities. Income Tax exemption would be sought for contribution to the Fund.

[Translation]

Telephone Directory in Bihar

173. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the telephone directory in Bihar especially Saharasa SSA has not been printed after 1996;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for timely printing of telephone directory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the directory printed in all the telecom districts of Bihar including Saharasa are given in the attached statement.

- (c) Earlier the telephone directories were printed

on positive royalty basis. Wherever those could not be printed on positive royalty such cases were referred to Department of Telecom Head Quarters by the Circles for relaxation of the conditions. This process caused certain amount of delay in bringing out the directories. Recently, the telephone directory printing policy has been reviewed and it has been decided to print the directories even on negative royalty or on cost sharing basis. CGMs of the telecom circles have been delegated powers to decide such cases in order to bring out the directories in time. In this review, the earlier arrangement of providing full directory each year has also been modified to printing of directory in alternate years and supplementary directory in intervening year. This will further help in timely printing of directories. In respect of Saharasa telecom district tender has been opened and is under finalisation.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Telecom District	Year of Print of Current Directory	Corrected upto
1	2	3	4
1	Arrah	1997	Aug, 1997
2	Bhagalpur	1996	Oct, 1996
3	Chhapra	1997	Aug, 1996
4	Dhanbad	1997	Aug, 1997
5	Darbhanga	1997	Mar, 1997
6	Dumka	1997	Aug, 1996
7	Gaya	1997	Aug, 1997
8	Hazaribagh	1997	Aug, 1997
9	Jamshedpur	1997	Aug, 1997
10	Katihar	1997	Oct, 1996
11	Motihari	2000	-----
12	Muzaffarpur	1994	Dec, 1993
13	Munger	1997	Oct, 1997
14	Patna	1996	Nov, 1996
15	Ranchi	1997	Dec, 1996
16	Sasaram	1997	Aug, 1997
17	Saharasa	1997	Oct, 1996
18	Daltanganj	1997	Aug, 1997
19	Hazipur	New District	
20	Khagaria	New District	

[English]

Development of Forest in Bihar

174. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after bifurcation of Bihar the average forest cover would be less in comparison to rest of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal/scheme to develop forest in rest of Bihar to maintain ecological and environmental balance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A State Forestry Action Programme has been

prepared to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through improvement in investment for conservation and development of forest resources.

Degradation of Forest Areas

175. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total forest areas degraded so far in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the total areas regenerated through afforestation/reforestation and eco-development programmes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State/UT	Degraded areas as per State of Forest Report 1999 in Sq. Km.	Seedling Distributed in lakhs	Area Planted in last three years in Hectares
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	29,201	4387.75	347021
Arunachal Pradesh	11,195	20.22	7053
Assam	9,495	51.92	11283
Bihar	15,114	300.4	26015
Goa	267	32.72	2523.4
Gujarat	8,452	4867.58	191450
Haryana	706	82.26	46344
Himachal Pradesh	4,528	77.69	77958
Jammu and Kashmir	12,511	157.16	40457
Karnataka	12,121	1292.96	230442.8
Kerala	1,985	12.2	30375
Madhya Pradesh	54,064	1121.32	439641
Maharashtra	27,111	2096.37	258123
Manipur	11,625	23.51	10600
Meghalaya	9,969	122.06	6676

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	14,677	30.84	17768
Nagaland	9,041	0	0
Orissa	26,184	702.72	192039
Punjab	1,002	135.28	29033
Rajasthan	16,483	920.02	155280
Sikkim	1,141	54.69	21450.86
Tamil Nadu	11,234	1679.97	223633
Tripura	3,555	125.62	23009.19
Uttar Pradesh	12,291	3877.2	256150.9
West Bengal	2,770	511	33386
A&N Islands	125	3.8	9851.13
Chandigarh	1	1.03	169
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	53	15.2	980
Daman & Diu	3	0.45	287
Delhi	56	37.57	0
Lakshadweep	0	6.97	112
Pondicherry	0	12.6	174.36
Total	306,960	22761.08	2689786

Charges of Long Distance and STD Services

176. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Long Distance Telecom Services cost about 13 times the world average rates;

(b) if so, the details of the charges of STD and long distance services in the country as compared to other countries;

(c) the reasons for the extremely high charges for long distance and STD services in the country; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the said charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Straight

comparison of so called world average long distance rate with the Indian long distance rate is not possible because of the presence of many variables in the computation of both elements, such as varying exchange rates, significant variation in purchasing power, usage patterns, packaging of traffic by telecom operators etc. The general global trend is that in developed countries which have higher tele-density, the quantum of subsidisation of local tariff is less as compared to that in a developing country where infrastructure development and tele-density have yet to attain respectable levels.

(d) Historically, long distance tariff has subsidised access charges i.e. rental and local call charges. The Telecommunication Tariff order (TTO), 1999 issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in March, 1999 initiated a process of tariff re-balancing that was scheduled to be completed in three phases. The first phase of tariff re-balancing effective from 1st May, 1999 reduced long distance tariffs, on average, by about 23%. The second round of tariff re-balancing effec-

tive from 01.10.2000 has reduced the long distance tariff about another 13%.

Air and Noise Pollution

177. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether air and noise pollution in all the major cities in the country are in alarming proportions including Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been formulated in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided by the Government to States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Air and Noise Pollution levels exhibit a rising trend in most of the major cities of the country including Gujarat. This is due to increase in economic activities including industries and transportation accompanied by growth in population.

(b) The steps/schemes initiated to control pollution include the following :-

- (i) A scheme on "Assistance for Development of Eco-cities" has been formulated. In the first phase, seven metro cities have been identified.
- (ii) National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network has been established which covers 92 major cities of the country for assessing the prevailing ambient air quality.
- (iii) Action plans prepared for 24 identified critically polluted areas are under implementation.
- (iv) 17 categories of highly polluting industries have been identified. These industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipments in time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (v) Zoning atlas is prepared for the identification of environmentally compatible industrial zones for siting of industries.
- (vi) Emission standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check air and noise pollution.
- (vii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting of industries.

(viii) Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and are enforced by the Transport Departments of the various States.

(ix) CNG is supplied to automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi and Mumbai to cater to the CNG fitted vehicles.

(x) Ambient noise standards in respect of industrial, commercial, residential areas and silence zone have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(xi) Source specific noise standards have been evolved and notified for vehicles, domestic appliances, generator sets, construction equipments and fire crackers.

(c) The financial assistance provided by Central Pollution Control Board to the various States for carrying out air quality monitoring is given below :-

Sl.No.	Name of State Pollution Control Board/ Pollution Control Committee	Amount (in Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh SPCB	8,95,714/-
2.	Assam SPCB	1,49,976/-
3.	Bihar SPCB	12,83,128/-
4.	Chandigarh PCC	4,79,122/-
5.	Gujarat SPCB	19,74,684/-
6.	Goa SPCB	3,49,944/-
7.	Haryana SPCB	2,33,296/-
8.	Himachal Pradesh SPCB	15,66,480/-
9.	Karnataka SPCB	9,83,176/-
10.	Kerala SPCB	23,12,274/-
11.	Meghalaya SPCB	1,99,968/-
12.	Madhya Pradesh SPCB	26,20,414/-
13.	Orissa SPCB	15,03,926/-
14.	Punjab SPCB	6,70,726/-

1	2	3
15.	Pondicherry PCC	6,41,588/-
16.	Rajasthan SPCB	20,24,676/-
17.	Tamil Nadu SPCB	10,83,232/-
18.	Uttar Pradesh SPCB	22,28,810/-
19.	West Bengal SPCB	6,16,568/-
Total		218,17,702/-

[Translation]

Laboratory at Jabalpur

178. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jabalpur area of Madhya Pradesh is very sensitive to earthquakes;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a State of the art laboratory for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The Jabalpur area falls under the seismic zone and is vulnerable to earthquakes.

(b) and (c) An earthquake observatory is already functional at Jabalpur. It is equipped with state-of-art digital earthquake recording instruments.

[English]

Development/Maintenance of National Highways

179. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to create a Central Road Fund for the development and maintenance of National Highways in the country during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Government has revamped the existing Central Road Fund (CRF) by crediting into it accrual of cess of Re.1/- per litre on petrol levied w.e.f.

2.6.1998 and on diesel levied w.e.f. 1.3.1999 to be utilised for development and maintenance of National Highways and State roads, development of rural roads, construction of road over/under bridges and other safety works at unmanned railway crossings.

(b) The amount provided for development and maintenance of National Highways in the last two years is as under :-

Year	Amount (in crores)
1999-2000	1900
2000-2001	2010

Out of the allocation for National Highways, estimates amounting to Rs. 57516.18 lakhs were sanctioned during 1999-2000 as per details are given in attached statement. An amount of Rs. 1192 crore was given to NHAI in 1999-2000 and Rs. 1800 crore in 2000-2001 for implementation of National Highways Development Project which is spread out in various States.

Statement

Allocation of Funds under IRPQ

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Estimates sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3457.80
2.	Assam	2056.66
3.	Bihar	6346.00
4.	Chandigarh	51.33
5.	Delhi	160.00
6.	Goa	617.00
7.	Gujarat	1792.23
8.	Haryana	597.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1242.65
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00
11.	Karnataka	4419.00
12.	Kerala	1449.00

1	2	3
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4484.18
14.	Maharashtra	4303.00
15.	Manipur	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	464.24
17.	Mizoram	543.64
18.	Nagaland	422.66
19.	Orissa	2516.00
20.	Pondicherry	167.10
21.	Punjab	448.76
22.	Rajasthan	4967.96
23.	Tamil Nadu	9382.70
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4848.25
25.	West Bengal	2779.00
Total		57516.18

[Translation]

Inadequate Facilities for Fruits and Vegetables

180. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the annual loss of fruits and vegetables due to inadequate facilities of food processing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted regarding damages of fruits and vegetables; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) to (d) In 1995, Government of India constituted a Working Group on Post Harvest Management, Marketing and Exports. This Group estimated that post harvest losses in different ranges from 8% to 37%. These losses occur during different stages after harvest. The Indian Institute of Horticultural Research has assessed that losses occur at the following stages :-

(i) Harvesting & pre-harvesting; due to spoilage, spillage and trimming.

(ii) Transport; due to spoilage, bruising, breakage and infection as a result of dust and heat.

(iii) Storage; due to over-ripening or under ripening, with rain and humidity.

(iv) Processing and packaging; due to inefficiency and contamination.

(v) Marketing; due to loss of weight and quality with multi-level handling.

State wise details regarding damages of fruits & vegetables are not available.

[English]

Power Projects in Kerala

181. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of proposals from the Government of Kerala for setting up power projects in Private and Public Sectors during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of these projects along with their capacity thereof, year-wise;

(c) the number of power projects processed and the number of projects out of them rejected along with the reasons therefor during the above period;

(d) the details of MW of power shortage likely to occur in the coming three years, State-wise; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the power shortage in the country particularly in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) During the last three years beginning 1997-98 till date, only one project namely Kozhikode Heavy Fuel DGPP (128 MW), with an estimated cost of Rs. 391 crore was received in 7/99 in CEA for accord of Techno-economic Clearance. The present status of the project clearance is given as under :-

Pending inputs :

1. Compliance of Section 29 (2) & (3) of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.
2. Clarification on Legal, Evacuation, Technical, Financial details of completion cost etc. are awaited from KSEB.

(d) The State-wise anticipated power supply position indicating the peak deficit in MW for the next 3 years that is 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed as statement. The power supply position for 2002-03 and 2003-04 is based on sanctioned on-going and CEA cleared projects. However, the actual shortage in respect of the State of Kerala so far during 2000-01 has been in the region of about 7%.

(e) The following steps are being taken to meet the power shortage in the country :

- (i) Renovation and Modernisation and life extension of existing units of thermal and hydro power to maximize generation.

- (ii) Implementation of short-gestation power projects.
- (iii) Demand side management.
- (iv) Reduction in transmission and distribution losses.
- (v) Strengthening of inter-regional transmission system and sub-transmission and distribution system for improving reliability of the system.
- (vi) Promoting energy efficiency and conservation.
- (vii) Doubling of the generation capacity by the end of 11th Plan.

Statement

Estimated peak demand/peak availability in the country for the year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

State/UT	2001-02			2002-03			2003-04		
	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Availability (MW)	Peak Surplus/ Deficit (MW)	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Availability (MW)	Peak Surplus/ Deficit (MW)	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Availability (MW)	Peak Surplus/ Deficit (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	4540	2105	-2435	4816	2263	-2553	5126	2339	-2787
Himachal Pradesh	809	1021	212	878	1387	509	954	1418	464
Jammu & Kashmir	1615	953	-662	1749	1023	-726	1895	1176	-719
Punjab	5814	3849	-1965	6132	3943	-2189	6465	4069	-2396
Rajasthan	5606	2651	-2955	6001	3279	-2722	6431	3682	-2749
Uttar Pradesh	11280	6173	-5107	12073	6577	-5496	12921	6863	-6058
Chandigarh	177	64	-113	185	70	-116	193	78	-115
Delhi	3481	2105	-1377	3719	2436	-1283	3974	2565	-1409
Gujarat	8070	6079	-1991	8530	6555	-1975	9016	6761	-2255
Madhya Pradesh	6953	4619	-2335	7353	5786	-1567	7776	6359	-1417
Maharashtra	13147	12093	-1054	14048	12840	-1208	15010	13123	-1887
Goa	296	328	32	314	337	23	334	338	4
Daman & Diu	98	7	-91	106	10	-97	115	10	-105
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	150	11	-139	162	15	-147	175	16	-160

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	7483	6688	-795	7901	7315	-587	8343	7900	-443
Karnataka	5422	4277	-1145	5739	4644	-1095	6074	4686	-1388
Kerala	3226	2412	-814	3437	3252	-185	3677	3379	-298
Tamil Nadu	6598	5285	-1313	6942	5461	-1481	7304	6159	-1145
Pondicherry	345	122	-223	369	127	-242	395	128	-268
Bihar	2325	1888	-437	2476	1909	-567	2637	1909	-728
Orissa	3072	2590	-482	3348	2598	-750	3650	2598	-1052
West Bengal	4517	3276	-1241	4774	3276	-1498	5077	3332	-1745
Sikkim	46	73	27	49	73	24	52	78	26
DVC	2478	1870	-608	2651	1870	-781	2837	2040	-797
Arunachal Pradesh	94	119	25	103	119	16	114	121	7
Assam	986	712	-274	1045	721	-324	1110	783	-327
Manipur	193	117	-76	214	117	-97	237	119	-118
Meghalaya	140	239	99	150	239	89	160	241	81
Mizoram	141	64	-77	160	64	-96	182	65	-117
Nagaland	68	82	14	72	82	10	77	83	6
Tripura	186	126	-60	203	126	-77	223	128	-96
Andaman & Nicobar	41	41	0	45	41	-4	50	41	-9
Lakshadweep	8	8	0	9	8	-1	9	8	-1
Total	95757	74721	-21036	101872	81519	-20353	108456	85729	-22727

Notes : 1. Demand as per 15th EPS

2. Unallocated power of central projects reckoned in the total only.

3. The above power supply position has been worked out by taking into account capacity addition of 24309 MW during Ninth Plan.

[Translation]

Public Telephone Facility in Villages

182. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages where telephone facility has been made available and the number of villages where this facility has not been provided till October 31, 2000, State-wise;

(b) the number of telephone facilities provided in the villages during the last six months, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the telephone facility is likely to be provided in the remaining villages of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Telephone facility has been made available in 3,83,056 villages out of the total 607,491 villages in the country till October 31, 2000. Number of villages, where the said facility has not been pro-

vided, is 2,24,435 villages. State-wise details are given in attached statement.

(b) Telephone facility has been provided in 8,451 villages during the last six months. State-wise details are in statement.

(c) Department plans to provide telephone facility in all the remaining revenue villages of the country by March 2002 with the joint efforts of other Fixed Service Providers.

Statement

Public Telephone Facility in Villages

(State-wise Details)

Sl.No.	State	Total No. of Villages	Villages with VPTs as on 31.10.2000	Villages left uncovered as on 31.10.2000	Number of Villages where Telephone facility has been provided in the last six months
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andaman & Nicobar	282	282	0	8
2	Andhra Pradesh	29460	23383	6077	4
3	Assam	22224	14381	7843	200
4	Bihar	79208	25584	53624	661
5	Gujarat	18125	13923	4202	-
6	Haryana	6850	6811	39	4
7	Himachal Pradesh	16997	11324	5673	960
8	Jammu & Kashmir	6764	3865	2899	72
9	Karnataka	27066	26080	986	279
10	Kerala	1530	1530	0	-
11	Madhya Pradesh	71526	46992	24534	494
12	Maharashtra	42060	31170	10890	-
13	Goa	407	371	36	-
14	Arunachal Pradesh	3599	634	2965	38
15	Manipur	2394	688	1706	4
16	Meghalaya	5629	1215	4414	29
17	Mizoram	770	621	149	2
18	Nagaland	1192	638	554	43
19	Tripura	862	660	202	4
20	Orissa	46989	23070	23919	142

1	2	3	4	5	6
21	Punjab	12687	12687	0	564
22	Rajasthan	38634	23789	14845	62
23	Tamil Nadu	17991	17898	93	53
24	Uttar Pradesh (E)	75698	49943	25755	3451
25	Uttar Pradesh (W)	39551	24650	14901	1119
26	West Bengal	37910	19967	17943	233
27	Sikkim	427	288	139	25
28	Calcutta	468	421	47	0
29	Delhi	191	191	0	-
Total		607491	383056	224435	8451

Agro Based Industries

183. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the position of Agro based Industries specially in eastern part of India like Bihar, Assam etc.;

(b) whether the Government propose to encourage agro based industries and food processing industries in these States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and financial assistance given to start such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government has been taking a number of steps for the development of processed food industries in the country. Under the Plan Schemes of the Department of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is provided to private industries, Public Sector Undertakings, Non-Governmental Organizations, Cooperatives, Human Resource Development Organisations and Research & Development Institutions etc. for the development of processed food sector. The schemes provide for higher quantum of assistance for projects to be set up in difficult areas which include Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North-Eastern States and integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas. These schemes are project oriented and not State specific. The Department do not set up any unit directly in any State.

(c) Financial assistance of about Rs. 5.06 crores has been provided in respect of proposals received from Assam and Bihar during the first three years of the Ninth Plan (1997-98 to 1999-2000)

Provision of Cold Storage in Terminal Markets

184. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up cold chains, provision of pre-cooling facilities and cold storages in terminal markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) The Government has a scheme for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storages and storages for horticulture produce. The scheme is being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture, through the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC). Under this scheme, financial assistance in the form of back-ended subsidy is provided to the organizations such as Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings/Bodies, Companies, Corporations, Partnership and proprietary firms, Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee/Boards, Growers' Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations. Capital subsidy @ 25% of the total project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs and for North-Eastern States @ 33.33% subject to a maximum

limit of Rs. 60.00 lakhs is provided. The scheme is applicable to all those States/Union Territories which do not control rentals.

Decline in value of shares

185. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the acceleration of reforms in the telecom sector has resulted in the crash of over 50 per cent in the value of shares of VSNL and MTNL, the two largest PSUs in long distance telephony during the last six months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are furnished in the enclosed statement in respect of VSNL. In respect of MTNL, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Details about VSNL

VSNL share price has come down more than 50% during the last six months. The downward price movement is attributed largely to two factors : firstly because of decline in overall sensex and secondly because of certain announcements by Govt. on premature withdrawal of VSNL's monopoly on International telephony including cable connectivity. The VSNL price movement between April and October 2000 is given in Table below.

	31st March 2000		28th April 2000		30th October 2000	
	Price (Rs.)	Sensex	Price (Rs.)	Sensex	Price (Rs.)	Sensex
BSE	1840.00	5001.28	1330.00	4657.55	211.55	3689.43
						(Ex-Bonus)
NSE	1852.50	1528.45	1325.05	1406.55	629.70	1167.15
						(Cum-Bonus)
GDR	US \$ 26.775		US \$ 19.00		US \$ 7.500	

Linking of NH-5 and NH-43

186. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to link National Highway No.5, Berhampur and National Highway No. 43 at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether it connect Angul and Dhenkanal District Headquarters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The Central Government has already declared the road connecting Gopalpur in Orissa with Raipur in Madhya Pradesh as new National Highway No.217 vide Notification dated 12.10.2000. This road intersects NH No.5 and passes through Berhampur and leads to NH. No.43 after joining NH No.6 near Raipur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Rajasthan

187. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephone connections provided in Rajasthan under the recently sponsored new scheme;

(b) the number of models of telephone instruments supplied to these new connections;

(c) whether a large number of new telephone connections are out of order due to defect in the new telephone instruments; and

(d) if so, the steps are being taken or proposed to be taken to deal with the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of new telephone connections provided in Rajasthan Circle under the reduced registration fee package introduced since 1/11/2000 is 2601.

(b) Eight different types of models of telephone were supplied for new telephone connections provided vide para (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

[English]

Polluted Water in Panipat

188. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to seepage of chemically polluted water in open drains and areas by the hundreds of dyeing houses in Panipat in Haryana, the underground water has become contaminated and largely unfit for consumption;

(b) if so, the action the Government propose to take to ensure that no industry in the country of any sort contaminates the underground water;

(c) whether there is any proposal to survey all dyeing houses in the country and units which are contaminating the underground water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) According to the Haryana State Pollution Control Board, there is nothing on record with item confirming ground water contamination making it unfit for consumption due to seepage of chemically polluted water discharged by dyeing houses in Panipat.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to avoid ground water contamination due to industries include the following;

- Environmental standards for effluent emanating from different industries have been notified.
- The Central Government has constituted the Central Ground Water Board as an Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purposes of regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- Monitoring of ground water quality is being done periodically by the Central Pollution Control Board/State Pollution Control Boards/Central Ground Water Authority in different cities and towns in the country.

(c) and (d) State Pollution Control Boards are inventoring the polluting units in their State including dyeing house. Such surveys have been carried out in the State of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra etc. A number of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) have been provided for clusters of SSI units including dyeing units in different States.

Developmental Activities of NALCO

189. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total dividend earned by National Aluminium Company (NALCO) during each of the last five years;

(b) the amount of money spent by NALCO in the social sector in those years;

(c) whether the fund released by NALCO for the peripheral development and other development in the social sector at Anugul and other areas in Orissa have really been spent;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the specific programmes drawn up by NALCO for the development of the areas where people were affected due to establishment of the Alumina/Aluminium Plant by NALCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYASINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) NALCO has not earned any dividend during the last five years.

(b) The amount spent by NALCO in the social sector during the last five years is as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	0.62
1996-97	0.65
1997-98	1.20
1998-99	5.52
1999-2000	4.57

(c) The fund released by NALCO for peripheral development schemes have been spent for different developmental activities.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The activities undertaken under the peripheral development scheme of NALCO includes development of buildings for schools, colleges and hospital, construction/repairing of roads, culverts, community facilities, play ground, digging of tube wells, drinking water schemes, sanitation, street lighting, organisation of health and immunization camps, family welfare camps, animal health camps, social forestry etc.

STD Services

190. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of days of STD services paralysed in the country during September 2000;

(b) the cities affected due to disruption of STD services;

- (c) whether the Government have fixed responsibility for paralysing this in the essential services;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken against those found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Internet NODS

191. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the "Internet NOD" is running very slow at Yavatmal, district of Maharashtra; and
- (b) the actions taken to speed up in a "Internet-NOD" in the said district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. However, during busy hour the data transfer rate gets slowed down.

- (b) BSNL has planned to connect the Yeotmal Internet node to the Nagpur National Internet backbone (NIB) node for improving the speed.

Assistance for improvement of Power Supply in U.P.

192. SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Uttar Pradesh to eradicate the power shortage in the State;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of those areas where a lot of difficulties are being faced due to non-availability of power;
- (d) whether the Government propose to provide more fund for this purpose to the State Government;
- (e) if so, the total fund is likely to be released by the Government; and
- (f) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh requested the Central Government for 300 MW of additional power till December 15, 2000 to meet enhanced Rabi crop irrigation requirements in the State which has been allocated by way of restoration of their firm share in some of the Central Sector power stations earlier diverted to other constituents of the Northern Region due to non-payment. This is over and above 2372 MW already being availed by Uttar Pradesh from central sector stations against its share. Besides, Uttar Pradesh has also been allocated 14% (126 MW) from unallocated quota of central sector stations.

The State Government has also been advised to increase its own generation from its thermal power stations, which is going down due to shortage of coal.

(d) to (f) A list of projects of Uttar Pradesh cleared by the Central Electricity Authority is given in statement. While in the case of private sector projects it is upto the respective project promoters to find the necessary funds, the concerned CPSUs will be undertaking the financing of the Central Sector projects. So far as the State sector projects are concerned, the State Government has taken up with various international and domestic financial institutions for funding of these projects to leverage the resources available under the State plan.

Statement

CEA Cleared Projects

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. crores)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date of TEC
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Anpara 'C' UPSEB (Sonebhadra) (T)	2x500=1000	Yen 63.823 Bn + Rs. 1738.17 crs. (completed cost)	11/94	9.8.1996 (Appraised)
2	Vishnuprayag HEP (H) (M/s. Jalprakash Power Venture Ltd.) Chamoli	4x100=400	US\$ 107.35M+ Rs. 1233.57 crs. (Submission of FPP by 31.12.2000)	4/99	3.6.1997

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Rosa TPP-Phase-I (M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corpn. Ltd.) Shahjahanpur (T)	2x283.5=567	US\$ 280.7267M+ Rs. 1435.5284 crs	4/96	20.8.1997
4	Tehri Dam St.II HEP (UP)-THDC, (Tehri Garhwal) (H)	4x250=1000	Rs. 531 crs. Clearance subject to Env. aspects	3/81 (I) 9/87 (II)	10.10.1998
5	Auraiya CCGT St.II (T) UP-NTPC (Etawah)	1x650=650	US\$243.844M+ Rs.857.622 crs. (Completed Cost)	5/97	28.9.1998
6	Rihand STPP St.II (T) NTPC	2x500=1000	US\$433.191M+ Rs.2208.43 crs.	9/98	22.7.1999 1.10.1999
7	Maneri Bhali-II HEP (H)-UPSEB (Uttar Kashi)	4x76=304	Rs. 1111.39 crs.	8/98	21.2.2000
8	Srinagar HEP (H) (M/s. Duncans North Hydro Power Co. Ltd. Pauri Garhwal)	4x82.5=330	US\$95.054M + Rs.1299.89 crs.	4/2000	13.6.2000
	Total (8 Nos.)	-	5251 MW		
	Hydro (4 Nos.)	-	2034 MW		
	Thermal (4 Nos.)	-	3217 MW		

Website Hacked in Andhra Pradesh

193. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the website of the Andhra Pradesh Telecom Department was hacked several times in October, 2000;

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

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard and to prevent involvement of I.S.I. from the websites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The website of Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle was hacked once on 4th October, 2000;

(b) This happened when the website was temporarily shifted to a test server on 3rd October, 2000. The main server was under upgradation during this period.

The website on test server was working with only static

web pages and without any database. The security features were therefore not enabled. Upgradation of the main server was subsequently completed and the website shifted back on 5th October, 2000.

(c) Precautions are taken by Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle to ensure security of the website.

Production of Pulses

194. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given any incentives to the farmers to increase the production of pulses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of pulses grown in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the production of pulses is more than our need;

(e) If so, whether there are any proposal to export the pulses; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in 27 States/U.T.s covering 305 districts in the country. Under the scheme various incentives are provided to the farmers through State Govt. to increase the production of pulses. The NPDP Scheme envisages financial assistance to the farmers for distribution of certified seed, seed minikits, rhizobium culture, micro-nutrients, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, PP equipments etc. Besides, this field demonstrations and farmers trainings are also being organised for the effective transfer of improved pulses production & protection technology.

(c) The quantum of pulses grown in the country during the last three years are given below :

Year	Area (in '000 ha.)	Production (in '000 tonnes)
1997-98	22871.2	12979.3
1998-99	23818.9	14809.2
1999-2000 (Estimated)	21371.0	13060.0

(d) to (f) The production of pulses is not more than our requirement. However the export of pulses is taking place in small quantities as the export of pulses is permitted only in 5 kg packing under OGL. The details of the export of pulses during the last three years are given below :

Year	Export of Pulses (in lakh tonnes)
1997-98	1.68
1998-99	1.04
1999-2000 (Provisional)	1.82

[Translation]

Compensation of affected farmers of Uttar Pradesh

195. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Rabi crop related work could not be done in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country and these crops had to be burnt in the fields;

(b) if so, the estimated revenue loss therefrom;

(c) whether the affected farmers are likely to be provided compensation for this loss due to natural calamity;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) This Ministry has not received any such information.

(c) to (e) An amount of Rs. 39.18 crores as part of first instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been released to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for the current year. There is a provision of input subsidy to the farmers for crop loss as per the norms and guidelines under CRF. The Government has also introduced the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which can be made use of by the farmers. Further action in the matter is required to be taken by the State Government as they are primarily responsible for providing relief to the people affected by natural calamities, including farmers.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in Orissa

196. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Orissa at present particularly in Balasore region, district-wise;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be opened in the State and the said region during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, location-wise;

(c) whether telephone exchanges have been upgraded at Baramba and Narasingpur in Athgarh Sub-Division of Cuttack in Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide local call facility between Narasingpur and Cuttack;

(f) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(g) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As on 31.10.2000, 887 telephone exchanges are functioning in Orissa out of which 74 exchanges are working in Balasore region. District-wise details are given in the attached statement-I.

(b) It is proposed to open 76 exchanges during 2000-2001 and 75 exchanges during 2001-2001 in Orissa State. Location-wise details of the exchanges already opened/proposed to be opened during 2000-2001 are given in statement-II. Location of the exchanges proposed to be opened during 2001-2002 will be decided depending on the demand.

(c) and (d) The telephone exchange at Baramba has been upgraded to 512P C-DOT exchange. There is a plan to install 2nd unit of 256P C-DOT exchange at Narasingpur in Athgarh Sub-division of Cuttack in Orissa.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) Narasingpur is neither adjacent SDCA to Cuttack nor it is within 50 Kms. Radial distance to Cuttack.

Statement-I

District-wise details of Telephone Exchanges Functioning in Orissa (as on 31.10.2000)

Sl.No.	Revenue District	No. of Exchange
1	2	3
1	Balasore	45
2	Bhadrak	29
3	Nuapada	11
4	Kalahandi	24
5	Dhenkanal	35
6	Angul	34
7	Keonjhar	33
8	Sambalpur	26
9	Bargarh	38
10	Jharsuguda	15
11	Deogarh	5
12	Cuttack	48
13	Jajpur	34
14	Jagtsinghpur	31
15	Kendrapada	21
16	Khurda	56
17	Nayagarh	16

1	2	3
18	Puri	29
19	Bolangir	27
20	Sonepur	11
21	Mayurbhanj	41
22	Sundergarh	54
23	Ganjam	96
24	Gajapati	13
25	Boudh	10
26	Kandhamala (Phulbani)	25
27	Koraput	32
28	Rayagada	24
29	Nowrangpur	14
30	Malkangiri	10
Total		887

Statement-II

Location-wise details of Telephone Exchanges already opened/to be opened during 2000-2001

Sl.No.	Revenue District	Station	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1	Malkangiri	Khairapur	Commissioned
2	Malkangiri	Kudumulguma	Commissioned
3	Malkangiri	Padia	Commissioned
4	Koraput	Podagada	
5	Koraput	Onukudeli	Commissioned
6	Rayagada	Durgi	
1	Anugul	Balipatta	Commissioned
2	Dhenkanal	Birasal	Commissioned
3	Dhenkanal	Mohabir Road	Commissioned
4	Keonjhar	Janghira	
5	Anugul	Pabitr Nagar	Commissioned
6	Keonjhar	Udayapur	
1	Khurda	Krishnaprasad	
2	Khurda	Nuapada	Commissioned
3	Puri	Sunamuhi	
4	Khurda	Patnahat	
5	Khurda	Abhayamukhi	
6	Khurda	Mohipada	
7	Puri	Satpada	
8	Puri	Khajuria	

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
9	Nayagarh	Godipada		3	Boudha	Ambagaon	
1	Kalahandi	Desapur		4	Ganjam	Kahnda Deuli	
2	Nuapada	Lakhana		1	Bhadrak	Earm	Commissioned
3	Nuapada	Bhulia Sikuan		2	Balasore	Kalpada	Commissioned
4	Nuapada	Sarabong	Commissioned	3	Bhadrak	Bilana	
5	Nuapada	Tarbod		4	Balasore	Durgadevi	
6	Kalahandi	Ampani	Commissioned	5	Bhadrak	Kamaroan	
1	Jajapur	Gobardhanpur		6	Balasore	Srirampur	
2	Jagatsinghpur	Anolipatna		7	Bhadrak	Antra	
3	Jajapur	Peripada		1	Sundargarh	Gurundia	
4	Cuttack	Barhampura		2	Sundargarh	Badagogua	
5	Kendrapara	Ayatana		3	Sundargarh	Kaleiposh	Commissioned
6	Cuttack	Jilinda		4	Sundargarh	Soroda	
7	Cuttack	Bandalo		5	Sundargarh	Khuntagaon	
8	Kendrapara	Adhajori		6	Sundargarh	Sahajbahal	
9	Kendrapara	Benipur		1	Deogarh	Tilelbani	Commissioned
10	Kendrapara	Antei		2	Baragarh	Janpada	Commissioned
11	Kendrapara	Namouza		3	Jharsuguda	Saletikira	
12	Kendrapara	Pikrali		4	Jharsuguda	Pukharisahi	
13	Cuttack	Durgapur		5	Sambalpur	Gundurchuan	
14	Cuttack	Rameswar		6	Sambalpur	Fasimal	
15	Jajapur	Ragadi		7	Sambalpur	Gochhara	
16	Jajapur	Nahan					
1	Mayurbhanj	Nadpur					
2	Mayurbhanj	Tangavilla					
3	Mayurbhanj	Manida					
4	Mayurbhanj	Pratappur					
5	Mayurbhanj	Marshigaon					
1	Bolangir	Guduvella	Commissioned				
2	Bolangir	Chandanvati					
3	Bolangir	Ghasian					
4	Bolangir	Mahimunda					
1	Phulbani	Gochhapara					
2	Ganjam	Pital					

Speed Post Facility

197. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of cities/towns in Maharashtra having speed post/satellite money order facilities;

(b) whether these facilities are proposed to be extended to more post offices in the State during 2000-2001;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise alongwith the proposals received and under consideration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The requisite information is appended as statement-I and II.

(b) to (d) Speed post is a premium product and is run on commercial considerations. Expansion of this network is an on-going process depending on market situation, assessment of the need, the anticipated revenue and transport network.

Satellite Money Order

It is proposed to extend the Satellite money order service in the Cities/Towns shown in statement-III.

Statement-I

List of Cities/Towns in Maharashtra Circle having Speed Post Facility

National Speed Post Centres

Mumbai, Nagpur, Nasik, Aurangabad, Panaji (Goa), Pune, Thane

State Speed Post Centres

Alibag, Bhayander, Mahd, Mira Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Vashi, Vasai. Virar, Akola, Amravati, Chandrapur, Malkapur, Gadchiroli, Wardha, Washim, Yeotmal, Bhandara, Goandiyā, Kamptee, Ratnagiri, Chiplun Lote, Sangli, Miraj, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, Ahmednagar, Chakon Dehu Road Cantt, Jejuri, Karad, Lonawala, Mahabaleshwar, Ranchgani, Pandharpur, Sholapur, Satara, Shirur, Kepergaon, Shirdi, Bhusawal, Beed, Dhule, Jalgaon, Jalana, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Parbhani.

Statement-II

Names of Towns in Maharashtra having Satellite Money Order Facilities

Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Aurangabad, Dadar HQ

Names of Towns in Maharashtra having Extended Satellite Money Order Facilities.

Ahmednagar, Paratwada, Amravati, Beed, Gondia, Bhandara, Khangaon, Buldana, Chandrapur, Margao, Panaji, Bonvili, Chembur, Chinch Bunder, Girgaon, Kalbadevi, Mahim, Mandvi, Kamthi, Nagpur City, Thane, Wardha, Alibag, Kalyan, Kamptee, Khangaon, Margaon, Ambejugal, Deviall, Tuljapur, Parteshwar, Pandharpur, Satara, Kolhapur, Sangli, Palghar, Sholapur, Karad, Miraj, Srirampur.

Statement-III

Proposed cities for Satellite Money Order Facilities during 2000-2001

Ratnagiri, Nasik, Jalgaon, Sholapur, Kolhapur, Akola

Proposed locations for Extended Satellite Money Order facilities in 2000-2001

Dhule, Sangli, Beed, Jalna, Karad, Latur, Malegaon, Malvan, Miraj, Nanded, Osmanabad, Pandharpur, Panvel, Parbhani, Shivaji Nagar, Srirampur, Yeotmal, Chalisgaon, Ichalkaranji, Palghar, Shirdi, Sawantwari, Gadchiroli, Kudal.

[Translation]

Pollution due to Hospital Wastes

198. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hospital waste has become the biggest danger in view of environment in all metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, the schemes started or being considered by the Government to check pollution generated by hospital waste?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Proper collection, segregation, transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of bio-medical wastes is a major challenge facing all the metropolitan cities. In order to regulate Bio-medical wastes, the Government of India has notified Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998. The management of bio-medical wastes has been identified as one of the thrust areas. Government of all the States and Union Territories have been requested to take immediate steps to enforce the Bio-medical Waste Rules. Awareness campaigns have also been launched to make people aware of the danger of improper handling of bio-medical wastes.

[English]

Tender Coconut

199. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tender Coconut is nutritious, delicious and good for health;

(b) if so, the steps taken to propagate domestic and other uses of Tender Coconut;

(c) whether any steps have been proposed or taken to transport produces at low cost;

(d) whether any action has been taken to facilitate availability of tender coconut in various parts of the country (Non Coconut Growing Areas); and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To promote uses of Tender Coconut, the Coconut Development Board undertakes market promotional activities such as advertisement through mass media, propagation of packed tender coconut water, participation in various State/National/International level exhibitions, Seminars etc. Recently, the Coconut Development Board organised a Seminar on "Tender coconut in human nutrition" to bring awareness among public, especially the young generation. The Tender Coconut Water Parlour ("Elaneer Pandal") has been opened near Kera Bhavan premises of Board's headquarters at Kochi. Grant-in-aid of Rs. 5,000/- was provided by the Board to establish such "Elaneer Pandals" in Kerala during 1995-96. The Board promotes a special mechanical device by which the tender nuts could be punched to squeeze out water as well as to cut it open.

(c) to (e) Transportation of tender nuts is inconvenient and costly it cannot be stored for long duration. The Coconut Development Board, therefore, in collaboration with Defence Food Research Laboratory, Mysore have developed technology for preserving and packing tender coconut water in pouches/aluminium canes. The technology has been availed off by three entrepreneurs. One of the companies has already launched their product and also exported to Sydney during last Olympic. The product is available in all metropolitan cities in India. The company is in the look out for expanding their market all over India, especially in areas where fresh tender coconuts are not easily available. Further, tender co-

conuts are made available in non-traditional areas through private trade channels.

[Translation]

Power Projects in Private Sector

200. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of power projects in the private sector for which the financial formalities have been completed as on date;
- (b) the details thereof along with their capacity in megawatt;
- (c) the details of States along with their location thereof;
- (d) the time by which these power projects are likely to be set up; and
- (e) the estimated cost of each of these power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) As per available information, 16 projects having techno-economic clearance (TEC) of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) totalling to around 6120 MW have achieved financial closure. 5 projects, as per the details given in statement-I, having TEC of CEA have obtained approval of CEA for their firm financial package (FFP).

Statement

The Capacity, Location, Commissioning Schedule and Estimated Cost of private sector power projects for which the FFP have been approved by CEA

Sl.No.	Name of Project/ Promoters	Capacity (MW)	State (District)	Commissioning Schedule	Estimate Cost	
					As per TEC	As per FFP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	P.P. Nallure CCPP by M/s. PPN Power Gen. Company	330.5	Tamil Nadu (Tanjavur)	3/2001	US\$ 206.549m + Rs. 429.86 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.33.5)	US\$ 177.48m + Rs. 524.81 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.33.5)
2.	Kondapalli CCPP by M/s. Kondapalli Power Corp.	355.0	A.P. (Krishna)	GT1 : 1/2000 GT2 : 3/2000 ST : 8/2000	US\$ 180.616m + Rs. 385.254 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.36)	US\$ 178.636m + Rs. 384.441 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.36)
3.	Samalpatti DGPP by M/s. Samalpatti Power Co.	106.0	Tamil Nadu (Dharmapuri)	14-17 months from F.C.	US\$ 61.222m + Rs. 153.098 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.39)	US\$ 55.978m + Rs. 172.508 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.39)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Maheshwar HEP by M/s. SMHPCL	400	M.P. (Khargone) 2003-04		US\$ 213.29m + Rs. 812.09 Crs. (1US\$=Rs.35.5)	US\$ 211.68m + Rs. 921.665Crs. (1US\$=Rs.35.5)
5.	Malana HEP by M/s. Malana Power Co. Ltd.	86	H.P. (Kullu)	5 years after Fin. Closure	Rs. 341.911 Crs.	Rs. 332.711

CEA Central Electricity Authority
 FFP Firm Financial Package
 CCPP Combined Cycle Power Project
 DGPP Diesel Generating Power Project

SMHPCL Sree Maheshwar Hydel Power Corporation Limited
 GT Gas Turbine
 ST Steam Turbine
 F.C. Financial Closure

[English]

Environmental Problems due to Coal

201. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems caused by excessive use of coal in some States;

(b) If so, whether any efforts are being made for easing environmental problems caused by the use of coal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government for control of environmental pollution caused by use of coal include the following :-

- A notification was issued requiring thermal power plants located beyond 1000 kilometers from the pit head or those located in urban areas or sensitive or critically polluted areas irrespective of the distance from the pit head to use coal not having ash content more than 34 per cent with effect from 1.6.2001.
- Environmental standards have been notified for coal mining, steel and cement plants under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Environmental standards for other industries using coal in the boilers have also been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Major coal user industries are being monitored regularly by the Central Pollution Control Board/ State Pollution Control Boards and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- National Environmental standards and code of practice for coal mines have been notified.

- A notification was issued to protect the environment, conserve top soil and prevent the dumping and disposal of fly ash discharged from coal or lignite based thermal power plants on land.

Assistance for National Highway in NER

202. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAKOIP : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of National Highways in the North Eastern Region (NER), district-wise; and

(b) the financial assistance provided for maintenance, widening and development of National Highways in NER during the Ninth Five Year Plan, Highway-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) District-wise details of National Highways in North East Region are not maintained. The State-wise details are as under :

State	NH length in Km.
Arunachal Pradesh	392
Assam	2836
Manipur	954
Meghalaya	717
Mizoram	857
Nagaland	439
Sikkim	62
Tripura	400
Total	6657 Kms.

(b) Development and Maintenance of National Highways is the responsibility of the Union Government and funds for the same are provided to the State Governments State-wise and not highway-wise. The details of the same are as under :

State	Funds allocated during 9th Plan so far (1997-2001) for	
	Development	Maintenance
	(Rs. Crore)	
Arunachal Pradesh*	--	--
Assam	146.15	100.85
Manipur	36.67	23.42
Meghalaya	58.84	29.16
Mizoram	15.00	10.50
Nagaland	26.00	12.83
Sikkim*	--	--
Tripura*	--	--
Total	282.66	176.76

*National Highways in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura are with Border Roads Development Board (BRDB).

In addition to the above, Rs. 352.30 crore for development and Rs. 24.81 crore for maintenance of National Highways in North East Region (NER) have been allocated to Border Road Organisation (BRO) during Ninth Plan so far.

[Translation]

Investment in Horticulture, Fishery etc. in North Bihar

203. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to invest more in the horticulture, fishery, dairy and food processing schemes alongwith agriculture in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details of action plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing various central sector schemes for the development of horticulture, fisheries, dairy and food processing in the country including Bihar. There is no separate action plan for the State of Bihar.

[English]

Loss of Lives/Properties due to Flood/Cyclone

204. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loss of lives and property due to flood/cyclone natural calamities during last three years and upto October 2000, State-wise;

(b) the fund allocated to the States and the central agencies for flood and other protections during the above period;

(c) the amount provided to the victims of natural calamities during the above period, Year-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to declare large calamities as national disaster and make schemes to encounter them at National level with involvement of the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Statement-I is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The primary responsibility for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities including floods is that of the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing funds from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to take immediate measures for relief. In case of a natural calamity established as bring to rare severity, additional assistance had also been provided to the States from the then National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) during 1995-2000. A statement-II and III showing the allocation of Centre's share of CRF to the States for the last three years and for the year 2000-2001 is enclosed. Another statement-IV showing the release of funds from NFCR to the State during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is also enclosed. (The NFCR has been discontinued with effect from 1.4.2000).

(d) and (e) As per the recommendations of the Finance Commissions appointed quinquennially, the natural calamities of rare severity are attended to earnestly by harnessing and coordinating assistance from all central Ministries/Departments and agencies in close coordination with the State Governments. Assistance is also made available to the State Government in such calamities from the Plan Schemes of the Central Government being operated in the States. Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 2555.28 crores had been provided to the States from the NFCR. The Eleventh Finance Commission has also recommended assistance for such cases from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

Statement-I

Damage due to Heavy Rains, Flood, Cyclone and Landslide-South-West Monsoon

State/UTs	Period of Occurrence	Total District (No.)	District Affected (No.)	Villages Affected (No.)	Area Affected (in lakh Hectare)	Population Affected (n lakh)	Damage to Crop area (in lakh Hectare)	Damage to House Huts (No.)	Human lives lost (No.)	Animals lost (No.)
1 Andhra Pradesh	23-26.9.97	23	9	1301	1.35	47.98	1.35	7725	40	93
2 Arunachal Pradesh	14.6.97	12	9	66	Neg.	0.14			8	
3 Assam Ist Wave	6.6.97	23	6	439	0.41	1.00	0.07		1	
IInd Wave	8.7.97	23	17	3076	6.35	24.58	1.01	4770	14	
III Wave	16.9.97	23	3	341	0.21	13.08				
4 Bihar	13.7.97-Sept. 97	55	25	6650	11.45	67.61	6.30	166390	155	151
5 Gujarat Ist. Wave	23-26.6.97	19	17	2125	1.98	3.12	1.98	117500	219	9949
IInd Wave	26.7-26.8.97	19	11	1931	0.95	11.49	0.95	25319	66	979
6 Himachal Pradesh	29.7-11.8.97	12	12	1931	4.48	28.55	2.54	11067	223	4809
7 Jammu & Kashmir	August,97	14	11	11935	0.08		0.08	20907	80	6682
8 Karnataka	July,97	20	11	299	0.05		0.05	1641	66	82
9 Kerala	9.6.97-23.9.97	14	14	1482	3.85	95.00	0.90	16109	143	183
10 Maharashtra Ist Wave	1-30.6.97	31	21	1432	Neg.		Neg.	967	76	70
IInd Wave	1-31.7.97	31	18	265	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	406	14	18
IIIrd Wave	1-31.8.97	31	8	2419	0.49	7.95	0.49	33279	73	198
IVth Wave	1-31.9.97	31	15	55		0.02		382	36	32
11 Madhya Pradesh	August,97	45	4	748	0.22	4.56	0.22	47963	34	1263
12 Orissa	July & Aug, 97	30	19	9387	4.06	39.32	4.06	87678	29	52
13 Punjab	25.7-31.8.97	17	12	3090	0.86		0.86	10685	22	75
14 Rajasthan	June-Sept, 97	30	11	385	Neg.		Neg.	10196	64	94
15 Sikkim Ist Wave	7-9.6.97	4	4					3000	57	
IInd Wave	5-6.8.97	4	4	1						5
16 Uttar Pradesh	July-Sept,97	72	35	2284	3.49	10.21	1.55	5123	102	114
17 West Bengal Ist Wave	27-28.6.97	18	3		Neg.	1.17	Neg.	2000		
IInd Wave	22-24.7.97	18	6	881	1.93	12.36	1.93	38750	21	
IIIrd Wave	6.8.97	18	1			0.01		16	17	
Total			241	52523	42.21	368.15	24.34	611873	1560	24849

Damage due to Heavy Rains/Floods, Cyclone etc. during 1998-99

S.No.	State	Human Lives Lost Nos.	Cattle Lost Nos.	Houses Damaged (In lakhs)	Cropped Area Damaged (In lakhs ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	239	N.R.	0.31	13.04

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23	16	Neg.	Neg.
3.	Assam	159	7814	0.35	2.89
4.	Bihar	380	187	1.99	12.24
5.	Gujarat	1305	15647	2.73	2.27
6.	Haryana	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	7.40
7.	Himachal Pradesh	71	221	0.05	2.35
8.	Karnataka	310	9562	1.28	6.07
9.	Kerala	224	N.R.	0.38	1.46
10.	Maharashtra	537	2000	1.46	N.R.
11.	Meghalaya	3	N.R.	Neg.	0.04
12.	Orissa	23	17	0.12	0.75
13.	Punjab	46	72	Neg.	0.84
14.	Rajasthan	12	51295	0.15	N.R.
15.	Sikkim	10	40	0.01	0.10
16.	Tripura	17	N.R.	0.12	N.R.
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1361	3399	3.85	14.15
18.	West Bengal	235	1642	1.98	4.47
	Total	4955	91912	14.78	68.06

N.R. - Not Reported

Neg. - Negligible

Damage due to Heavy Rains/Floods, Cyclone etc. during 1999-2000

S.No.	State	Human Lives Lost Nos.	Cattle Lost Nos.	Houses Damaged (In lakhs)	Cropped Area Damaged (In lakhs ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	388	0.03	N.R.
2.	Assam	3	N.R.	Neg.	1.06
3.	Bihar	285	2028	2.49	3.44
4.	Gujarat	46	Nil	N.R.	N.R.
5.	Himachal Pradesh	30	129	0.02	N.R.
6.	Karnataka	122	959	0.17	0.40
7.	Kerala	152	N.R.	0.21	N.R.
8.	Madhya Pradesh	27	654	0.29	0.62
9.	Orissa	10100	455109	21.60	21.54
10.	Punjab	11	N.R.	Neg.	0.02
11.	Rajasthan	46	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12.	Tamil Nadu	103	573	0.36	0.20
13.	Tripura	16	82	0.04	0.05
14.	Uttar Pradesh	86	9	0.01	0.33
15.	West Bengal	79	N.R.	5.76	0.34
	Total	11109	459931	30.98	28.00

N.R. - Not Reported

Neg. - Negligible

Damage due to Heavy Rains, Landslide, Flood, Cyclone etc. during South-West Monsoon-2000

As on 12.10.2000

S. No.	State/UTs	Calamity	Total Districts affected (No.)	Districts affected (No.)	Villages affected	Area affected (in lakh Hectare)	Population affected (in lakh)	Damage to crop Area (in lakh Ha.)	Estimated value of Crop damaged (Rs. in crore)	Damage to houses/huts (Lakhs)	Estimated value of houses damaged (Rs. in Crore)	Human lives lost (No.)	Animals lost (No.)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	HR/F	23	17	4522	-	29.35	4.22	0.95	1.04	963.64+7.76	257	5368	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	HR/F	12	4	-	-	-	NR	-	NR	-	26	NR	
3.	Assam	HR/F/L	23	18	3474	4.43	36.09	2.24	250-300	NR	-	32	NR	
4.	Bihar	HR/F	53	33	11559	5.98	78.74	3.90	222.81	2.81	117.56	273	1815	
5.	Gujarat	HR/F	25	10	389	-	4.08	NR	NR	0.24	2.64	116	406	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	HR/F/L	12	3	-	-	-	NR	NR	NR	-	100	NR	
7.	Karnataka			NR				0.57		0.55		152	690	
8.	Kerala	HR/F/L	14	14	109	-	-	NR	27.43	0.9	5.59	75	NR	
9.	Madhya Pradesh	HR/F	61	6	459	-	-	Neg.	-	0.3	-	13	147	
10.	Punjab	HR/F	17	7	40	-	-	NR	Neg.	35	-	7	NR	
11.	Uttar Pradesh	HR/F	83	39	2427	-	4.16	4.35	-	0.34	-	400	871	
12.	West Bengal	HR/F	17	9	1412	-	204.12	19.20	1500.00	21.95	400	1320	83630	100 missing
13.	Sikkim	HR/F/L	4	1	-	-	-	NR	-	Neg.	-	11	NR	
			Total	344	161	24391	10.41	356.54	34.48	63.13		2782	92927	

Note : F - Flood

L - Landslide

HR - Heavy Rains

NR - Not Reported

Neg. - Negligible

Statement-II

Centre's Share for CRF Released during 1995-2000

(Rs. in lakh)

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Andhra Pradesh	11119.50	6985.50	12411.50	7747.50	10769.00	49033.00
2 Arunachal Pradesh	498.00	528.00	557.00	586.00	610.00	2779.00
3 Assam	3540.00	3751.00	3958.00	4160.00	4337.00	19746.00
4 Bihar	3678.00	3697.00	4112.00	4322.00	3378.75	19387.75@
5 Goa	76.00	80.00	85.00	89.00	93.00	423.00
6 Gujarat	9882.00	10470.00	11048.00	11612.00	12105.00	55117.00
7 Haryana	1774.00	1879.00	1983.00	2084.00	2173.00	9893.00
8 Himachal Pradesh	1908.00	2021.00	2133.00	2242.00	2337.00	10641.00
9 Jammu & Kashmir	1395.00	1476.00	1559.00	1639.00	1709.00	7780.00
10 Karnataka	2962.00	3139.00	3312.00	3481.00	3629.00	16523.00
11 Kerala	5999.50	2077.50	4385.00	4608.00	4804.00	21874.00
12 Madhya Pradesh	3616.00	3831.00	4042.00	4249.00	4429.00	20167.50
13 Maharashtra	4828.00	5115.00	5398.00	5673.00	4435.50	25449.50@
14 Manipur	176.00	186.00	196.00	206.00	161.25	925.25@
15 Meghalaya	197.00	209.00	221.00	232.00	242.00	1101.00
16 Mizoram	90.00	95.00	100.00	105.00	110.00	500.00
17 Nagaland	120.00	128.00	135.00	141.00	147.00	671.00
18 Orissa	4388.00	2757.00	4898.25	3057.75	4250.00	19351.00
19 Punjab	3833.00	4061.00	4286.00	4504.00	4696.00	21380.00
20 Rajasthan	12674.00	13428.00	14170.00	14892.00	15525.00	70889.00
21 Sikkim	333.00	353.00	373.00	494.00	306.00	1859.00
22 Tamil Nadu	4201.00	4451.00	4697.00	4937.00	5147.00	23433.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23 Tripura	318.00	337.00	356.00	374.00	390.00	1775.00
24 Uttar Pradesh	8857.00	9384.00	9902.00	13119.50	8137.50	49400.00
25 West Bengal	3633.00	3849.00	5129.25	3201.75	4450.00	20263.00
Total	90096.00	84490.00	99447.00	97756.50	98371.00	470160.50
TFC Allocation	84771.00	89815.00	94778.00	99611.00	103844.00	472819.00
Advance Release	5325.00	0.00	4669.00	2814.50		

@ Fourth quarterly instalments amounting to Rs. 1126.25 lakh, Rs. 1478.50 lakh and Rs. 53.75 lakh in respect of Bihar, Maharashtra and Manipur respectively have not been released for want of information relating to constitution of CRF and crediting the Central and State share into the fund.

Statement-III

State-wise release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2000-01

SI.No.	Name of State	Total Allocation	Central share	Central share released
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	198.06	148.54	148.54
2	Arunachal Pradesh	12.02	9.02	4.40
3	Assam	101.49	76.12	15.66
4	Goa	1.24	0.93	0.34
5	Gujarat	161.40	121.05	131.14
6	Haryana	81.30	60.98	15.69
7	Himachal Pradesh	43.49	32.61	8.44
8	Jammu & Kashmir	34.90	26.18	6.17
9	Karnataka	74.57	55.93	13.11
10	Kerala	67.24	50.43	17.34
11	Madhya Pradesh	90.10	67.58	31.99
12	Manipur	2.87	2.15	1.56
13	Meghalaya	3.94	2.95	1.76
14	Mizoram	2.97	2.23	0.80
15	Nagaland	1.96	1.47	0.53
16	Orissa	109.47	82.10	30.70
17	Punjab	122.72	92.04	16.95

1	2	3	4	5
18	Rajasthan	207.00	155.25	168.18
19	Sikkim	6.91	5.18	2.95
20	Tamil Nadu	102.64	76.98	18.59
21	Tripura	5.20	3.90	1.41
22	Uttar Pradesh	178.64	133.98	39.18
23	West Bengal	101.10	75.83	32.13
24	Bihar	123.66	92.74	-
25	Maharashtra	157.20	117.90	-
Total		1992.10	1494.07	707.56

Note : No instalment of Central share has been released to Bihar & Maharashtra for want of conformation regarding credit of previous years's release to the CRF account.

Statement-IV

Release from National Fund for Calamity Relief 1995-96 to 1999-2000

As on 8/31/00

State Name	Year					Total
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1995-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Andhra Pradesh	0.00	163.00	42.00	26.50	75.36	308.86
2 Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	13.00	0.00	13.47	0	26.47
3 Assam	0.00	21.00	0.00	59.90	0	80.90
4 Bihar	0.00	28.00	10.00	11.45	38.18	87.63
5 Gujarat	0.00	0.00	86.90	55.35	54.58	196.83
6 Haryana	39.41	0.00	0.00	13.27	0	52.68
7 Himachal Pradesh	12.49	10.56	24.80	0.00	0	47.85
8 Jammu & Kashmir	18.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	73.42	91.59
9 Karnataka	0.00	0.00	22.00	49.98	17.09	89.07
10 Kerala	0.00	0.00	12.91	0.00	0	12.91
11 Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	67.76	35.00	38.86	141.62
12 Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.93	4.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13 Meghalaya	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0	10.00
14 Mizoram	4.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	10.71
15 Orissa	25.75	55.00	4.00	0.00	828.15	912.90
16 Punjab	16.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	16.16
17 Rajasthan	0.00	21.00	0.00	21.98	102.93	145.91
18 Sikkim	0.00	5.52	7.00	7.67	0	20.19
19 Tamil Nadu	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0	25.00
20 Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.05	5.34	10.39
21 Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	131.15	16.68	147.83
22 West Bengal	0.00	21.00	0.00	66.33	29.52	116.85
Total	116.69	373.08	277.37	497.10	1291.04	2555.28

[Translation]

Assessment of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes

205. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned "Krishi Mantralaya me sansadhano ke barbadi" published in Dainik Jagran dated October 14, 2000;

(b) if so, whether there is a need of very few centrally sponsored schemes instead of presently ongoing 150 centrally sponsored schemes;

(c) if so, whether inspite of incurring heavy expenditure on these schemes, the productivity in agriculture sector has not increased during the last decade;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to make an assessment of the achievements made through these schemes; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing 36 Centrally Sponsored Schemes, of which 27 schemes have now been merged under a single Macro-Management Scheme to provide more flexibility to State

Governments to give greater attention to their specific areas of priority.

(c) No, Sir. There has been increase in productivity of agriculture crops during the last decade. A statement indicating productivity of major crops is enclosed.

(d) Government is continuously monitoring the achievements/progress made through centrally sponsored schemes.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

		Yield (Kg/hect.)	
Crop		1990-91	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
1.	Wheat	2281	2707
2.	Rice	1740	1964
3.	Jowar	814	844
4.	Bajra	658	663
5.	Maize	1518	1762
6.	Gram	712	795
7.	Groundnut	904	807

1	2	3	4
8.	Mustard	904	929
9.	Soyabean	1015	1135
10.	Cotton	225	232
11.	Jute & Mesta	1634	1822
12.	Sugarcane	65395	74640

[English]

Construction of Mejia Thermal Power Project

206. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to start the construction work of fourth unit of Mejia Thermal Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the time by which the work on this project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has provided Rs. 5 million in B.E. 2000-2001 for preliminary work on extension of Mejia Thermal Power Station of Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC). The estimated cost of project is Rs. 6082.37 million including IDC of Rs. 617.33 million. The work is likely to be started during the 9th plan period subject to various clearances like techno-economic clearance, environmental clearance, coal linkage and financial tie up etc.

[Translation]

Agricultural Development Scheme in Bihar

207. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes under operation for the agricultural development of Bihar;

(b) the amount allocated for these schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the achievements of these schemes;

(d) if so, the results of the review; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on the basis of the results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) The following major schemes are under implementation for development of agriculture in Bihar.

1. National Pulse Development Project (NPDP).
2. Oil Seed Production Programme (OPP)
3. Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)
4. National Project for Development and usage of Bio-fertilizers
5. Externally Aided (EEC) Alkali Reclamation Project; and
6. Macro Management.

(b) The details of funds released by the Government of India for development of agriculture under various schemes during the last three years are given below :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1997/98	1198.83
1998/99	591.46
1999/200	519.65

(c) to (e) A review of the schemes indicated that the fund utilisation position was poor in Bihar in respect of many schemes. They have been advised to improve the position.

Ban on lifting of sand from rivers

208. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued instructions to the State Governments to impose a ban on lifting of sand from the rivers;

(b) if so, whether the activities of lifting of sand illegally in Ghaghra river of Uttar Pradesh and in Yamuna river of Delhi are still going on in connivance with the local administration; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the officials involved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Permission for mining of river sand is accorded by the concerned State Governments. In case of illegal mining, action is required to be taken by the State Governments. The Central Government is not aware of any illegal mining of sand in Ghaghra river of Uttar Pradesh and in Yamuna river of Delhi.

[English]

Telephone Facility

209. VAIDYA VISHNUDATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to meet the increasing demand of communication/telephone in rural, far-flung areas and urban areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the priority accorded and supply of essential equipments for installation of rural telephone exchange and provide connectivity to all villages and panchayats with STD/ISD/PCO's network;

(c) the reason for delay in implementation of the policy for rural connectivity;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to provide telephone connectivity to all villages far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir State on priority basis as per the situation of the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government plans to install 3331 exchanges during the current financial year with a switching capacity of 25.08 lakhs lines to provide 13.79 lakhs DELs (Direct Exchange Lines) in rural areas and switching capacity of 41.2 lakhs lines to provide 39.30 lakhs DELs in the urban areas of the country.

The Department has taken all necessary action for supply of exchange equipments and other essential items such as power plan, battery, MDFs and underground cables etc. for installation in rural and urban areas. These exchanges will provide telephone connections, VPTs and STD/ISD/PCOs to the villages and panchayats.

(c) The connectivity in rural areas depends upon the availability of appropriate technology and essential infrastructure i.e. suitable accommodation, reliable electric supply, easy transportation etc. which, in some cases is taking time to organize.

(d) and (e) The Government proposes to provide telephone facility in all the villages including far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir. 3,865 villages out of 6,764 villages have already been provided with telecom facility till 31.10.2000. Special priority has been accorded to J&K Circle in providing INMARSAT Mini-M satellite terminals for far-flung areas. All the remaining villages in the State of J&K are planned to be covered by March, 2002.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to para (d) & (e) above.

[Translation]

National Institute of Sports

210. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the average expenditure being incurred on a sportsman by Government;

(b) the number of "National Institute of Sports" and the expenditure incurred on them during the last three years; and

(c) the reason's for poor performance on Olympics?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) Expenditure on senior sports persons also called elite sports persons while in National Coaching Camp is approximately to Rs. 10,000/- per month. Whereas, for junior sports persons training under SAI Sports Promotion Schemes, the expenditure come to Rs. 2,000/- per month on an average. This expenditure is mainly towards boarding, lodging, training, kit, medical expenses etc.

(b) There is only one National Institute of Sports in the country functioning at Patiala since 1961.

The Sports Authority of India imparts training to sports persons under its Sports Promotional Schemes i.e. National Sports Talent Contest, Army Boys Sports Company, SAI Training Centres, Centres of Excellence, Special Area Games and Sports Academies. These sports centres are established in various parts of the country wherein all round training is given to the sports persons. The above Schemes are monitored through seven Regional Centres of SAI which are involved in providing sports infrastructure and training for development of excellence at the Regional level. Expenditure towards run-

ning of these schemes including maintenance of Centres and SAI sports infrastructure is made out of SAI budget.

Expenditure incurred towards the National Coaching Camps for the last three years is as follows :-

1997-98	-	Rs. 1,84,90,416-22
1998-99	-	Rs. 2,32,90,980-10
1999-2000	-	Rs. 3,21,86,184-00

(c) India's performance in Sydney Olympics was not satisfactory though it was comparatively better than previous Olympic Games. This is the first time that India secured 1 bronze medal in Women's Weightlifting and 6 other sports persons/team ranked in first 10. Performance of Athletes was below expectations and this is presently due to their peaking at the Asian Track and Field Meet in Jakarta in August, 2000. They did not sustain their peak performance up to Olympics. However, the spirited performance put up by Indian sports persons in Boxing, Women's Weightlifting and Shooting have provided an encouraging boost to the morale of Indian sports persons and if more efforts is put in these disciplines India can definitely improve its medal tally in future.

[English]

Construction of Quilon By-pass

211. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the construction of Quilon By-Pass at NH 47 during the last year especially in the 3rd and 4th sector; and

(b) the details of the action plan to complete the construction and the amount provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Construction of Quilon Bypass on NH-47 is proposed to be done in four phases. Work of Quilon bypass under Phase I & II (total length 4.79 kms.) has already been completed in August 1999 except for the R.O.B. (Rail Over Bridge). Work on R.O.B. has been tendered by the Railway authorities in October 2000 and the work has commenced. Construction work of Phase III, Phase IV (total length 8.35 kms.) of Quilon bypass is proposed to be taken up under Build Operate and Transfer (B.O.T.) scheme for which techno-feasibility study is in advanced stage of finalisation by the consultants and the State PWD.

[Translation]

Medical Centres on National Highways

212. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to set up medical relief centres for accident victims on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Highways Authority has set up any such medical relief centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (d) No, Sir.

[English]

Increase in Agricultural Growth Rate

213. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Agricultural accounts for 29.4 per cent of the GDP and 64 per cent of the labour force; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Union Government to increase the growth rate in order to promote the export of agriculture products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) According to advance estimates of National Income prepared by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the agriculture and allied sector accounted for 25.5 per cent of GDP at constant prices during 1999-2000. However, as per "New Series on National Accounts Statistics" brought out by the CSO, the percentage of workers in agriculture was 64 per cent as on 1.10.93.

(b) To increase the production and productivity various crops, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System approach, National Pulse Development Project and Oilseed Production Programme etc. Under these programmes, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of

scientific water management including micro irrigation and improved farm implements. In addition, field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further, a central sector scheme on development of fruits and vegetables is being implemented. Under fruit scheme, assistance is being provided for establishment of nurseries and tissue culture units for distributoin of quality planting material, area expansion, frontline demonstration, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers, disease forecasting units, horticulture mechanization. Under the scheme of Integrated Development of Vegetables, the emphasis is laid on production of planting material especially onion and potato, improvement of production and productivity, technology transfer, on farm post-harvest handling and development of information system.

Privatisation on International Call Segments

214. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering privatization of International Call segments;

(b) if so, whether all aspects of National security are being considered while taking a decision in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Sir, VSNL monopoly in international voice telephony service will continue till 31.3.2000. Meanwhile, all aspects of national security will be addressed and appropriate action will be taken.

Production of Coconut

215. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total production of coconut in the country during the year 1999-2000 state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : The State-wise production of coconut during 1999-2000 is given in the attached statement.

Statement

State-wise production estimates of coconut during 1999-2000

SI.No.	States	Production (in Million Nuts)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1051.8
2.	Assam*	149.9

1	2	3
3.	Goa	121.5
4.	Karnataka*	1495.1
5.	Kerala*	6672.0
6.	Maharashtra*	226.8
7.	Orissa*	795.1
8.	Tamil Nadu*	3096.7
9.	Tripura*	6.1
10.	West Bengal	324.3
11.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands*	87.5
12.	Lakshadweep*	27.7
13.	Pondicherry*	29.6
All India		14084.1

* Pertains to 1998-99

[Translation]

Damage to Soyabean Crop in Rajasthan

216. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Soyabean crop has failed in Rajasthan, resulting in immense loss to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee to look into the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have provided relief in the form of grants to the farmers, whose crops have been destroyed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) In the State of Rajasthan due to drought like conditions during current year, some damage has occurred to kharif crops including Soyabean. In addition, an attack of pest of Tobacco Caterpillar on Soyabean crop was also reported by the State

during Kharif 2000 and the Government of India has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 95 lakhs to the State for pest-control measures to save the crop. The State has reported that the overall loss of Kharif oilseeds including Soyabean is 26% during the current year.

(c) and (d) It has been decided to send a team to the State to assess the damage on account of drought.

(e) and (f) An amount of Rs. 168 crore has already been released from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of Government of India to the State Government. Inputs subsidy against crop losses suffered by farmers, is required to be disbursed from this amount. The Central Government has also introduced the Crop Insurance Scheme.

[English]

Nephtha Based Power Project in Karnataka

217. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for a Nephtha Based liquid fuel power project at Najangud, Hassan and Mandya;

Name of Project/Generating company	Capacity (MW)	Major Pending inputs/clearances
Nanjangud CAPP (M/s. IPS Power Company)	96.7	Resolution of inter-State angle of water availability by Central Water Commission (CWC).
Hassan CAPP (M/s. Hassan Power Supply Co. Ltd.)	189	Resolution of inter-State angle of water availability by CWC.
Mandya CAPP (M/s. Mandya Power Partners Pvt. Ltd.)	164.4	Detailed Project Report (DPR) returned on 1.5.2000 as a number of inputs/clearances have not been tied up.

(d) and (e) The above schemes could be further considered for accord of TEC only after the issue of use of Cauvery water is resolved and other inputs/clearances are tied up by the concerned project authorities.

Improvement in Customer Service

218. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made any changes in the functioning of Telecom Sector after its making of Corporatisation with regard to improvement in customer service etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, con-

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered this proposal for clearance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Hassan and Nanjangud projects have been considered by CEA for TEC but the decision on TEC was deferred since the Central Water Commission (CWC) had expressed reservation for clearance as the dispute on water sharing among co-basin states was under adjudication in the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal (CWDT). The proposal for the Mandya project has been returned by CEA since a number of inputs/clearances including clearance of CWC for use of Cauvery water was not tied up. So, far, none of these 3 projects have been accorded TEC by CEA due to the pending inputs/clearances. The details of these projects, also indicating the inputs/clearances pending for accord of TEC by CEA, are given below :-

sequent upon Corporatisation of Department of Telecom Services and Department of Telecom Operations from 01.10.2000, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has initiated and exercise for simplification of various procedures related to shifting of telephone connections from one place to another and expeditious execution of the shifting orders. Proposals are also under consideration for simplifying various application forms and set up Call Centres to provide information to customers as they want it, when they want it and the way they want it.

Orders have been issued recently for reduction in Registration charges for new telephone connections from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 2000/- in urban areas and from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 500/- in rural areas. Orders have also been issued for making available application forms free of cost, acceptance of telephone bills through cheques on Saturdays and Sundays in CTOs & DTOs and speedy restoration of telephones disconnected on account of non-payment of telephone bills.

*[Translation]***Drip Irrigation Scheme**

219. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is encouraging Drip Irrigation Scheme and giving maximum subsidy for the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the subsidy provided to each State for the purpose during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase subsidy to States for the same; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) During the Eighth Plan, the Government has been providing assistance for drip irrigation under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture @ 90% of the total cost of the drip system to Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women farmers and 70% of the cost to the other category farmers. During the Ninth Plan, with effect from 2000-01 assistance for drip irrigation is being provided @ 50% of the total cost to Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women farmers and 35% of the total cost to other category farmers.

(c) The details of subsidy assistance provided to the State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture during the last three years is given in the statement.

(d) and (e) The Government does not propose to increase the subsidy for drip irrigation.

Statement**State-wise Assistance provided under Plasticulture Scheme**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1070.00	1410.75	1277.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	46.00	34.62

	1	2	3	4	5
3. Assam			0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Bihar			0.00	0.00	0.00
5. Goa			3.00	19.00	7.00
6. Gujarat			100.00	141.49	230.20
7. Haryana			44.00	155.42	61.00
8. Himachal Pradesh			0.00	0.00	0.00
9. Jammu & Kashmir			570.00	262.00	236.07
10. Karnataka			2234.00	2995.00	2372.45
11. Kerala			304.00	415.65	364.12
12. Madhya Pradesh			80.00	183.10	221.10
13. Maharashtra			2447.00	3194.13	2704.75
14. Manipur			24.00	63.00	30.00
15. Meghalaya			0.00	45.00	0.00
16. Mizoram			38.00	88.00	38.00
17. Nagaland			70.00	96.00	41.80
18. Orissa			125.00	0.00	214.80
19. Punjab			0.00	93.00	38.00
20. Rajasthan			287.00	270.00	310.77
21. Sikkim			38.00	45.32	43.00
22. Tamil Nadu			515.00	1095.00	1052.25
23. Tripura			0.00	0.00	0.00
24. Uttar Pradesh			0.00	115.59	234.57
25. West Bengal			0.00	0.00	0.00
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli			8.50	0.00	3.00
27. Daman & Diu			8.50	5.00	0.00
28. Delhi			0.00	0.00	0.00
29. Lakshadweep			4.50	5.00	3.00
30. Chandigarh			0.00	0.00	0.00
31. Andaman & Nicobar			0.00	0.00	0.00
32. Pondicherry			0.00	0.00	0.00
Total			7970.5	10744.05	9510.00

Facilities to Farmers

220. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have taken any steps to facilitate the farmers to take allied activities alongwith the agriculture;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the percentage of farmers benefitted by the said steps, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The strategy of Government has been to diversify agriculture into other allied activities capable of generating higher returns and income, such as animal husbandry, horticulture, both irrigated and unirrigated, sericulture, fisheries, forestry etc. The treatment of reinfed areas on watershed basis will provide empolymnt opportunities for unskilled labour by way of developing the potential of dry lands. It has not been possible to assess the benefits under the above steps, due to lack of comprehensive surveys covering the above aspects.

[English]

Rate of Agricultural Development

221. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the rate of agricultural development was earlier fixed at 4.2%;
- (b) if so, whether the agricultural development now stands at 1.3%;
- (c) whether due to this decline in agricultural development the production of oil seed, paddy and sugarcane are likely to suffer; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. In the Ninth Five Year Plan, a target of 4.5 per cent annual growth rate in Gross Value of Agricultural Output of excluding forestry, has been fixed.

(b) Yes, Sir. The growth rate of agriculture and allied activities has declined to 1.3 per cent during 1999/2000 according to National Accounts Statistics 2000 (Constant price 1993/94).

(c) The production of oilseeds, sugarcane and rice during 1999/2000 as compared to 1998/1999 is given below :

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	1998/99	1999/2000 (Advance Estimates)
Oilseeds	25.21	21.18
Rice	86.00	88.25
Sugarcane	295.73	309.31

(d) The Government is promoting several crop-based schemes, and schemes for provision of quality inputs, as well as schemes for optimum water use such as sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation systems and construction of check dams to improve ground water availability.

[Translation]

Additional Telecom Network

222. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Bihar to make available the additional make available the additional communication network by using VSAT, Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) based telephones and optical fibre cables;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKADAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following proposals have been received from Bihar :

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (i) MCPC V-SAT | 12 Nos. |
| (ii) WLL Macro Cellular for Rural Telephony | BSC-020 Nos.
BS-190 Nos. |
| (iii) WLL Micro Cellular for Urban Telephony | 4K |
| (iv) OF Cable | 5000 Kms. |

Action is being taken for providing aforesaid equipments subject to its availability and availability of funds.

*[English]***Priority to Gymnastics, Table Tennis and Diving**

223. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative figures of per capita expenditure on sports in India, China, Korea and other countries;

(b) whether Gymnastics, Table Tennis and Diving are the areas where neither big amount of money nor physical strength and heights are required;

(c) if so, the reasons for not giving much priorities to these sports; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve these disciplines considering the achievements of China and Korea in these fields?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) Information is being collected.

(b) Yes, Sir. As compared to some other games, these games do not require big amount of money. However, so far as physical strength and height are concerned these are assets even in these games.

(c) Gymnastic, Table Tennis and Swimming have been given due priority.

(d) Information is being collected.

*[Translation]***Food Processing Units by MNCs**

224. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some multi-national companies have set up Food Processing Units in the country during the past three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH) : (a) and (b) As per information available, 52 projects envisaging foreign investment have been implemented during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 in the processed food sector. State-wise number of projects reported to be implemented are attached as statement.

Statement

State-wise number of food processing units envisaging foreign investment implemented in the processed food sector during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

Sl.No.	State	Number of Projects
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Gujarat	4
3.	Haryana	3
4.	Karnataka	4
5.	Kerala	3
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3
7.	Maharashtra	12
8.	Orissa	1
9.	Punjab	2
10.	Rajasthan	2
11.	Tamil Nadu	7
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2
13.	West Bengal	2

*[English]***Deaths of Lions and Tigers in Nandan Kanan Zoological Park**

225. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in pursuance of the inquiry report relating to deaths of a large number of lions and tigers in Nandankanan Zoological Park earlier this year, the lions and tigers from that zoo have been shifted to other Zoos;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in the light of the inquiry report;

(c) whether any further casualty of lions/tigers took place during the course of transportation or rehabilitation;

(d) whether an one year old tigress was killed and her skin removed in Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad recently;

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

(f) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents in other Zoological parks?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In pursuance to the recommendations of the enquiry report and meeting of the officials of Union Government and the State Government of Orissa, it was agreed to transfer 15 lions and 15 tigers from the Nandankanan Zoo to other zoos in the country with a view to remove congestion. So far 7 lions and 7 tigers have been transferred from the Nandankanan zoo to the other zoos in Andhra Pradesh by the State Government. Further movement of animals has been stopped because of *gherao* of the zoo by the local people as a protest against movement of the animals from Nandankanan Zoo to other States.

(c) One lion died during transportation from Nandankanan Zoo to Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The State Government has handed over the enquiry of the case to the State C.I.D. and Shri S. Reddy, Principal Secretary to the Government Revenue Department has also been appointed to inquire into the matter in its entirety.

(f) The State Government have been requested to beef up the security arrangements in the zoos, particularly during the night and also to fill up the vacant posts.

[Translation]

Production of Seeds

226. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several public sector undertakings are engaged in production of seeds;

(b) if so, the number and names of such undertakings engaged in production of seeds in the current year;

(c) the average annual production of seeds by these undertakings; and

(d) the percentage of this production of seeds vis-a-vis the total production capacity of these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are two Central Government Undertakings and 12 State Government Undertakings engaged in seed production during the current year. The names are : National Seeds Corporation Limited, State Farms Corporation of India Ltd., Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation Ltd., Maharashtra State Seed Corporation Ltd., Madhya Pradesh Rajya Beej Evam Farm Vikas Nigam, Gujarat State Seed Corporation Ltd., Rajasthan State Seed Corporation, Haryana Seed Development Corporation Ltd., Punjab State Seed Corporation Ltd., Uttar Pradesh Seeds and Tarai Development Corporation Ltd., Orissa State Seed Corporation Ltd., West Bengal State Seed Corporation Ltd., Assam State Food Corporation Ltd., and Karnataka State Seed Corporation Limited.

(c) and (d) The details of average annual production of seeds and the percentage of this seed production vis-a-vis total production capacity of these Undertakings as per the information received from Seeds Corporations are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Details of average annual production of seeds, percentage of this seed production vis-a-vis the total production capacity of Seed Corporation

Qty. in Qtls.

Sl. No.	Name of the Corporation	Average annual production of seed	Total seed production capacity	Percentage of Seed Production vis-a-vis the total production capacity
1	2	3	4	5
1.	National Seeds Corporation Limited	3,89,016	4,13,875	94
2.	State Farms Corporation of India Ltd.	1,89,370	2,81,000	68
3.	Haryana Seed Development Corporation Ltd.	2,11,973	2,90,000	79

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Punjab State Seeds Corporation Ltd.	1,35,666	2,50,000	52
5.	Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation	1,96,856	2,50,000	78.7
6.	Uttar Pradesh Seeds and Tarai Development Corporation Ltd.	10,04,335	9,50,000	105
7.	Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation Ltd.	6,10,058	5,11,500	119
8.	Karnataka State Seed Corporation Limited.	1,64,065	2,00,000	82
9.	Maharashtra State Seed Corporation Ltd.	9,45,000	6,68,000	141
10.	Gujarat State Seed Corporation Ltd.	87,794	1,17,502	75
11.	Orissa State Seed Corporation Ltd.	3,00,000	4,50,000	66.66
12.	Assam State Seed Corporation Ltd.	16,500	20,000	82.5
13.	West Bengal State Seed Corporation Ltd.	1,00,000	1,20,000	83.3
14.	M.P. Rajya Beej Evam Farm Vikas Nigam	6,07,876	6,96,000	87

[English]

Improvement in Delivery Time of Telegrams

227. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether delivery of telegrams has not improved in the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which modern methods and machines are useful in expediting delivery of telegrams in the country; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Department of posts to improve the delivery time of telegrams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Delivery of Telegrams has improved in the country. The quality of Telegraph Service measured as Percentage of Telegrams delivered within 12 daylight hours, has improved from 88.38% during 1991-92 to 96.3% during 1999-2000.

(b) Microprocessors based Electronic Message Switching Systems are being used for transmission of telegrams in order to reduce transit delays. The development of Modern Telegraph Message Switching Network has reduced delays to a great extent.

(c) The Telegraph Services are operated by Bharat

Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and not by the Department of Posts. The improvement in the quality of service is an ongoing process. Efforts are made continuously to improve the delivery time of telegrams.

Use of Banned Pesticides

228. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 40 pesticides being used in the country are totally banned in other countries of the world;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to check the import of these pesticides; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) About 33 pesticides which are banned in some other countries of the world are not banned for use in our country. Banning/restricting the use by various countries including India is done on the basis of local agro-climatic and environmental

conditions. The Government keeps on reviewing periodically the continued use or otherwise of pesticides which are banned/ severely restricted in other countries of the world by constituting special Expert Committees or the Registration Committee. Based on such reviews, a total of 23 pesticides/pesticide formulation have been banned. There is no restriction on the import of pesticides which are not banned in India subject to the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

Declaration of more State Roads as National Highways

229. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have recently decided to declare more state roads as National Highways in the country;

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

(c) the total funds allocated for the purpose;

(d) the details of the State roads declared as National Highways during the past three years and total investments made thereon;

(e) whether all the National Highways are in traffic worthy condition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has on 12.10.2000 declared state roads aggregating to approx. 5694 Kms. as new National Highways as per details given in statement-I.

(c) These newly declared National Highways are yet to be taken over by the Government of India. Hence, no allocation has so far been made for them.

(d) A statement-II giving details of National Highways declared during the last three years including the recently declared National Highways is attached. Allocation of funds for development and maintenance of National Highways

are made State-wise and not National Highways wise to be spent on works sanctioned by the Ministry.

A statement giving details of allocation made during the last three years for development and maintenance & repairs of National Highways is as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1999-2000 (SRP)
Development	55124.00	79213.01	108462.00	—
Maintenance & Repairs	49750.00	54980.00	68758.00	48307.72

(e) and (f) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and efforts are made to keep them in traffic worthy condition with the available resources.

Statement-I

List of National Highways declared recently on 12.10.2000

Sl.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.	Total length (in Kms.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	219	150
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	153	40
3.	Assam	153, 154	130
4.	Bihar	98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107 & Extn. of 75	1376
5.	Gujarat	8E	220
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Extn. of 1B	85
7.	Karnataka	218	176
8.	Kerala	220	210
9.	Madhya Pradesh	12A, 59A, Extn. of 86, 216, 217, Extn. of 75	1243
10.	Mizoram	154	70
11.	Orissa	217	438

1	2	3	4
12.	Punjab	95	225
13.	Rajasthan	90	100
14.	Tamil Nadu	220	55
15.	Uttar Pradesh	91, 92, 93, 94, 96, 97, Extn. of 75	1176
Total			5694

Statement-II

List of National Highways declared during last three years

Sl.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.	Total Length (in Kms.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63, 202, 205, 214, 219 & Extn. of 9	1150
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Extn. of 52A & 153	62
3.	Assam	61, 62, 151, 152, 153, 154, 52A, 52B & Extn. of 54	540
4.	Bihar	30A, 57, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, Extn. of 75	2678
5.	Chandigarh	Nil	-
6.	Delhi	Nil	-
7.	Goa	17B	40
8.	Gujarat	6-Extn., 8A, 8D, 8E, & 59	830
9.	Haryana	21A, 65, 71, 71A, 72, 73 & Extn. of 64	663
10.	Himachal Pradesh	21A, 70, 72 & 88	334
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1C & Extn. of 1B	175
12.	Karnataka	Extn. of NH-13, 63, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218	1574

1	2	3	4
13.	Kerala	208, 212, 213, 220	500
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12A, 59, 59A, 69, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 78, 79, 86, Extn. of 86, 200, 216, 217, 92 & 202	3471
15.	Maharashtra	Extn. of NH-6, 69, 204 & 211	708
16.	Manipur	150	523
17.	Meghalaya	62, Extn. of 62, Extn. of 40	245
18.	Mizoram	44A, 150 & 154	376
19.	Nagaland	61 & 150	256
20.	Orissa	60, 200, 201, 203, 215 & 217	1652
21.	Pondicherry	66 & Extn. of 45A	30
22.	Punjab	64, Extn. of 64, 70, 71, 95 & 72	661
23.	Rajasthan	Extn. of 65, 76, 79, 89, 90 & 65	1550
24.	Sikkim	Nil	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	Extn. of 45A, 45B, 65, 67, Extn. of 67, 68, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219 & 220	1862
26.	Tripura	44, 44A & Extn. of 44	200
27.	Uttar Pradesh	24A, 25, 25A, 56A, 56B, 3046, 58, 72, 73, 74, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 92, 93, 94, & 96, 97 & 2A.	313
28.	West Bengal	60, Extn. of 60, 80, 81	313
Total			23,406

Diversion of Forest Land

230. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the Andhra Pradesh Government for diversion of 53,404 ha. forest land for excavation of canals in Warangal district;

(b) if so, whether in pursuant to the suggestions made by his Ministry, the forest area has now been reduced from 53,506 ha. to 39,322 ha. by reducing the bed width of the canal;

(c) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested his Ministry to permit 33,22 ha. forest land at the earliest to achieve planned irrigation under the canal in 89,000 acres in the extremist affected backward district of Warangal; and

(d) if so, the decision taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir. However, a proposal for diversion of 53,406 hectare of forest land for excavation of DBM-

48 and its minors was received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in July, 1999 under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) After detail examination of the proposal the Central Government conveyed its inability to approve the proposal on 08.10.1999 and informed the State Government that if user agency comes with any alternative (including reduction in canal width) which minimises damage of forest, the proposal will be given due consideration.

(c) and (d) A modified proposal for diversion of 24.60 hectare (after reducing the canal width) was submitted by the State Government on 24.10.2000. The proposal has been discussed in Forest Advisory Committee meeting on 31.10.2000 and is under consideration for decision.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 'o' clock on Tuesday, November 21, 2000.

11.42 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Tuesday, November 21, 2000/Kartika 30, 1922 (Saka)

© 2000 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and Printed at Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006
