

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Fifth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



**Gazettes & Debates Unit**  
**Parliament Library Building**  
**Room No. FB-025**  
**Block 10;**

*(Vol. XIII contains Nos. 21 to 25)*

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

**Price : Rs. 50.00**



## EDITORIAL BOARD

G.C. Malhotra  
Secretary-General  
Lok Sabha

Dr. P.K. Sandhu  
Joint Secretary

P.C. Chaudhary  
Principal Chief Editor

Y.K. Abrol  
Chief Editor

A.P. Chakravarti  
Senior Editor

Vijay Chhabra  
Editor

# CONTENTS

[Thirteenth Series, Vol. XIII, Fifth Session, 2000/1922 (Saka)]

No. 24, Thursday, December 21, 2000/Agrahayana 30, 1922 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 461-480 . . . . .	2-19
Unstarred Question Nos. 5014-5243 . . . . .	20-190
SHORT NOTICE QUESTION NO. 1 . . . . .	190-191
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE . . . . .	191-204
MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA . . . . .	205
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE	
Seventeenth Report . . . . .	206
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES	
Fourth Report . . . . .	206
COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME	
Third Report . . . . .	206
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	
(i) Fourth Report . . . . .	206
(ii) Statement . . . . .	207
STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	
Fifteenth Report . . . . .	207
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY	
(i) Forty-third Report . . . . .	207
(ii) Forty-fourth Report . . . . .	207
CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	
Non-clearance of development projects in various States due to Forest (Conservation) Act	
Shri Naresh Puglia . . . . .	208
Shri T.R. Baalu . . . . .	208-211
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 . . . . .	211-218
(i) Need to rehabilitate jhuggi dwellers of Delhi around the city	
Shri Lal Bihari Tiwari . . . . .	211

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(ii) Need to lay rail line between Alwar in Rajasthan and Narnaul in Haryana Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav .....	211-212
(iii) Need to bring a White Paper on Printing/circulation of fake currency notes in the country Shri Chandresh Patel .....	212
(iv) Need to ensure proper utilization of funds allocated for the development of Ranthambhor Tiger Sanctuary in Rajasthan Shrimati Jaskaur Meena .....	212-213
(v) Need to ensure implementation of law providing reservation for promotion to STs in the States Shri Mansinh Patel .....	213
(vi) Need not to disinvest the profit making Public Sector Undertakings including Hindustan Zinc Limited in Rajasthan Shri Bheru Lal Meena .....	213
(vii) Need to improve telephone services in Mysore Parliamentary constituency, Karnataka Shri S.D.N.R. Wadiyar .....	214
(viii) Need to declare Jopore-Mottu road in Orissa as a national highway Shrimati Hema Gamang .....	214
(ix) Need to review the decision of curtailment of train services on Ahmadpur-Katwa section in West Bengal Dr. Ram Chandra Dome .....	215
(x) Need to bring down the prices of petroleum products in the country Shri Ramji Lal Suman .....	215
(xi) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Maharashtra for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Washim district Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao Gawali .....	215-216
(xii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Southern part of the State Shri Ram Sajivan .....	216
(xiii) Need to take steps to prevent recurring floods in Bihar Shri Nawal Kishore Rai .....	216-217
(xiv) Need to extend provisions of Sixth Schedule to the constitution to the Hill Areas of Manipur for giving District Councils to the tribal dominated hill districts of Manipur Shri Holkhomang Haokip .....	217
(xv) Need to review the decision to provide guarantee to Enron company in Dabhol Power Project in Maharashtra Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale .....	218

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Thursday, December 21, 2000/Agrahayana 30, 1922 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[ MR. SPEAKER in the Chair ]

11.00 Hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri Rashid Alvi, Shri Sukdeo Paswan, Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 461.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This is Question Hour. No Bill is being discussed. You may please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not right. First you must allow the Question Hour to proceed. The Bill will be discussed later on.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The telecast of the proceeding on Doordarshan should be stopped.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is only the Question Hour. Please understand. Please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, this is Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, this is Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We are not discussing the Bill at all. This is only Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

11.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Pipelines Constructed under Petronet

\*461. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the status of various pipelines being proposed, planned and constructed under the aegis of Petronet and its subsidiaries in the country;

(b) the details of equity partners in different subsidiaries with the percentage of equity sanctioned for them;

(c) the basic principle being observed in Petronet in allotting equity;

(d) the criteria adopted for selecting the partners; and

(e) the time by which the pipeline is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) The status of the pipelines being proposed, planned and constructed under the aegis of Petronet India Limited (PIL) and its subsidiaries in the country is given in the Statement-I.

\* Not recorded.

The equity of PIL is held by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (16%), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (16%), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (16%), IBP Company Limited (2%), Reliance Petroleum Limited (10%), Essar Oil Limited (10%), ICICI (10%), IL & FS (10%) and State Bank of India (10%). The details of equity partners in different project companies of PIL with the percentage of equity approved for them is in the Statement-II.

The equity holders constituting the project companies include :

(i) PIL

- (ii) Refining company(ies) whose products are to be transported through the pipeline
- (iii) Interested oil marketing company(ies) and other oil companies
- (iv) Financial institutions

As per the guidelines approved by the Government in April 1996 for setting up of PIL, 26% equity in each of the project companies of PIL is held by PIL. The balance equity has been allocated to the refining company(ies), the interested oil marketing company(ies) and financial institutions.

#### Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of pipeline project	Location		Name of project company	Estimated/ approved cost (Rs. Crore)	Present status	Scheduled completion date
		From	To				
1.	Vadinar-Kandla Pipeline (117 kms)	Vadinar	Kandla	Petronet VK Ltd.	410.00	100 kms commissioned	17 kms completion to synchronise with EOL refinery
2.	Cochin-Coimbatore-Karur Pipeline (292 kms)	Kochi	Karur	Petronet CCK Ltd.	535.00	Work in progress	March 2001
3.	Mangalore-Hassan-Bangalore Pipeline (364 kms)	Mangalore	Bangalore	Petronet MHB Ltd.	666.70	Work in progress	March 2002
4.	Chennai-Trichy-Madurai (520 kms)	Chennai	Madurai	Petronet CTM Ltd.	538.70	Pre-project activities in progress	—
5.	Central-India Pipeline (1615 kms)	Jamnagar	Gwallor and Nagpur	Petronet CI Ltd.	Not finalised	Pre-project activities in progress	—
6.	Bina-Jhansi-Kanpur Pipeline (361 kms)	Bina	Kanpur	—	453.00	Project company to be constituted	—
7.	Paradip-Cuttack-Rourkela Pipeline (418 kms)	Paradip	Rourkela	—	581.00	Project company to be constituted	—
8.	Bhatinda-Pathankot Pipeline (250 kms)	Bhatinda	Pathankot	—	Not finalised	Project company to be constituted	—

#### Statement-II

Name of Company	Percentage equity holding approved by PIL				
	Petronet VK Ltd.	Petronet CCK Ltd.	Petronet MHB Ltd.	Petronet CTM Ltd.	Petronet CI Ltd.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Petronet India Limited	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0
JV Partner					
- IOC	26.0	—	—	26.0	26.0
- HPC	—	—	26.0	—	—
- BPC	—	26.0	—	—	11.0
- EOL	—	—	—	—	11.0
- RPL	—	—	—	—	26.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Strategic Investor</b>					
- RPL	13.0	—	—	—	—
- EOL	13.0	—	—	—	—
- MRPL	—	—	19.4	—	—
- Kochi Refineries Limited	—	23.0	—	—	—
<b>Chennai Petroleum Corp. Ltd.</b>					
Financial/Institutional Investors/Others	22.0	25.0	28.6	25.0	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Shutting Down of Wells by ONGC in Southern Region

\*462. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has been forced to shut down two dozen wells in the Southern Region;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of losses suffered by ONGC due to shutting down of these wells; and

(d) the steps proposed to make them economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Thirteen wells in Narimanam Grid and four wells in Kovilkalappal in the Cauvery basin (Tamil Nadu) have been kept closed by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), as the consumers who have been allotted gas are not in a position to receive supplies since their projects have not been completed.

(c) There is no loss of gas on account of closing the wells, however, ONGC's revenue earnings have been deferred.

(d) In order to improve the utilization of gas the following steps are being taken :

(i) Allocations on fallback basis are being considered in respect of some of the existing plants which can start consuming the gas earlier than the grass root projects.

(ii) ONGC has been permitted to directly market low pressure gas from isolated wells producing upto 1 lakh cubic meters per day.

(iii) Generally, allocation is being made for higher quantities than the available gas so that even if some of the allocations do not materialise, the gas utilization would not suffer in the long run.

### Marketing Rights to Foreign Companies

\*463. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Government have been considering offering marketing rights to private and foreign companies in case investments are made by them in Oil Exploration and Refining sector;

(b) if so, whether a Seminar on Oil Exploration and Production was held at New Delhi in September, 2000;

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussions held in the Seminar;

(d) the details of private and foreign companies who had agreed to invest in the field of Oil Exploration in lieu of marketing rights; and

(e) the extent to which Oil production is likely to be increased as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The Government of India announced a road map for dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in November, 1997. The aforesaid announcement *inter alia* provided for grant of marketing rights for transportation fuels viz. Motor Spirit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) conditional on owning and operating refineries with an investment of at least Rs. 2,000 crore or oil exploration and production companies producing atleast three million tonnes of crude oil annually. Full de-regulation of Petroleum Sector is targetted from 1st April, 2002 onwards.

Government have already decontrolled all petroleum products except MS, HSD, ATF, LPG (Domestic) and Kerosene (PDS).

(b) and (c) A Seminar was organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) on 28th September, 2000 on the subject "Exploration and production : Past Experiences and Future Trends". In the Seminar, there was general discussion and exchange of views.

(d) and (e) No proposal has been received for investment in oil exploration in lieu of marketing rights, so far.

### Exemption from Taxes on Upliftment of Petrol and other Lubricant

\*464. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to exempt foreign airlines, operating to and from India and also passing through the country, from payment of all levies and duties on upliftment of petrol and other lubricants in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also going to amend Aircraft Act, 1939 to make this effective;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the total loss of revenue likely to be suffered by the Government due to this decision?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) In order to fulfil the obligations under the Air Services Agreements signed by India with various countries and to comply with the resolutions of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the Government have introduced a bill in Parliament to enact a legislation under Article 253 of the Constitution to exempt from all duties and taxes, the fuel and lubricants uplifted by an aircraft registered in another State operating international services to, from and through India. The proposed exemption does not require any amendment in the Aircraft Act, 1934. When the new legislation is enacted, the State Governments and Union Territories from whose territory ATF etc. is lifted by foreign airlines will lose revenue on account of Sales Tax and other local duties. The total loss will depend on actual upliftment.

#### Development of Railways in Kerala

\*465. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the gross traffic receipts from Railways, zone-wise;

(b) whether the gross traffic receipts of the Railways from the State of Kerala have been showing steady increase over the years as compared to the receipts of other States in the country;

(c) whether investment in development of Railways in a State is proportionate to the gross receipts from that State;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to develop railways infrastructure in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) Zone-wise traffic receipts during 1999-2000 is as under :

(Rs. in crore)

Zone	Amount
Central	5409.49
Eastern	3643.14
Northern	6042.43
North Eastern	1042.33
North East Frontier	683.85
Southern	2336.43
South Central	3240.01
South Eastern	5949.94
Western	4564.26

(b) State-wise Gross traffic receipts are not maintained.

(c) to (e) The Railways are an integrated system and the geographical boundaries of States do not form a criterion for taking investment decisions. Various projects for New Lines, Gauge Conversion, Doubling and Electrification are, therefore, taken up on the basis of overall consideration. In this process some projects like New lines, Gauge conversion, Doubling and Railway Electrification cut across State boundaries and arising from this, it becomes difficult to furnish precise Statewise details of Railway investments.

#### Austerity Measures taken by IOC

\*466. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

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

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has followed austerity measures as per the directions given by the Government during the span of one year and till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the results achieved so far therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) has reported that they are following the guidelines on austerity measures contained in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) O.Ms No. 7(3)/E (Coord)/99 dated the 5th August, 1999 and No. 7(4)/E-Coord/2000 dated the 24th September, 2000.

The Corporation is reported to have saved a total of Rs. 55.75 crore approximately during one year, i.e. 1.10.99 to 30.9.2000.

#### Export of Textiles

\*467. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of textiles to several countries of the world is still determined on the basis of prescribed quota by importing countries;

(b) if so, the names of those countries;

(c) whether those countries are not the members of the World Trade Organisation;

(d) if so, the extent to which such restrictions in trade are justified in the present open market system;



(e) whether this matter has been taken up with the World Trade Organisation to remove these restrictions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (f) Till December 31, 1994, the exports of textiles to certain developed countries (e.g. US; member countries of EU; Canada) had been governed by bilateral textile Agreements entered into between India and these countries under the aegis of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), outside the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). With effect from January 1, 1995, the quantitative restrictions (import quotas) in the bilateral agreements under the MFA, are being governed by the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT. Presently, our textiles and clothing items face restraints in certain WTO member countries i.e. USA, European Union and Canada. As per ATC, these quotas would be phased out and textile sector fully integrated into WTO by 1st January, 2005.

#### **Textile Workers Rehabilitation Scheme for PSUs**

\*468. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
CH. TEJVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to cover textile workers working in public sector undertakings under the State Governments and the Union Government under the Textile Workers Rehabilitation Scheme, has been under consideration of the Government for the last several years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to arrive at any decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Handling of Air India Arrangements by Pakistanis at Chicago Airport**

\*469. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that people of Pakistani origin are handling Air India arrangements at O'Hare Airport at Chicago;

(b) if so, whether this matter was brought to the notice of the concerned Government;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. During the visit of Director-Security of Air India to New York and Chicago in Aug./Sept. 99 for inspection of security arrangements for Air India flights, he had detailed discussions with the Station Managers and also with the Ground Handling Agents (GHAs), and had expressed the concern regarding the deployment of employees of Pakistan Origin for handling Air India flights. The GHAs had pointed out that keeping out U.S. Nationals with origin from certain countries could have grave legal implications under the US Law which could amount to discriminatory practices. Nevertheless, they had assured him that as far as possible, they will try to keep out Nationals of Pakistan origin from handling Air India flights. The Station and Security Managers of Air India, who are Air India employees, were advised to watch the situation constantly and reiterate Air India's concern on this issue with GHAs from time to time.

#### **Arun Singh Committee on Defence Management**

\*470. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Arun Singh Committee on Higher Defence Management has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of main recommendations made by it;

(c) whether the Vision 2020 has since been prepared by the Indian Air Force;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on the suggestions and recommendations made by the Committee and on Vision 2020?

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

(b) The main recommendations relate to the restructuring of the higher defence management, changes in procurement organisation and procedures, research and development, defence production, policy research, HRD, manpower and cost effectiveness.

(c) to (e) IAF Vision 2020 was a collection of presentations made by the Indian Air Force to the Task Force set up to review the management of Defence. The Group of Ministers (GoM), which set up this Task Force would, after consideration of the various recommendations, formulate suitable proposals for implementation.

### Violence against Tourists

\*471. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of violence and fraud against foreign tourists are increasing in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to formulate separate legislation to tackle the problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Prevention of violence and fraud against foreign tourists is a law and order subject falling within the purview of the State/U.T. Administration. As per available information, complaints pertaining to crimes against tourists during the last three years are as under :

Year	No. of Complaints
1997	117
1998	100
1999	103

(c) to (e) In order to promote India as hassle free destination for foreign tourists, Ministry of Tourism has written to all States/U.T. Administration to enact suitable tourism legislation and to set-up Tourist Police for the safety of tourists. State of Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh etc. have already set up Tourist Police. Some other State Governments such as Delhi, West Bengal and Karnataka are considering to introduce such legislations.

[Translation]

### Demand of Kerosene

\*472. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the availability of Kerosene is less than its requirement in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the State-wise demand and supply of Kerosene during the last three years; and

(d) the quantity of Kerosene imported to meet the demand and the rate at which the Kerosene has been imported?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The availability of Kerosene for Public Distribution System (PDS) is not short in the country against its requirement. The requirement is met from indigenous production and imports.

(c) The allocation of Kerosene made to the States for PDS during the last three years is given in the statement. In addition Kerosene is also imported by the Parallel Marketers to meet the non-PDS demand.

(d) The quantity of Kerosene imported by the Public Sector Oil companies for PDS during the last two years is as follows :

Year	Quantity Imported (thousand metric tonnes)	Value (Rs. in Crores)
1998-99	5,421	3,002
1999-2000	5,144	4,518
Total	10,565	7,520

### Statement

State-wise SKO Allocation for the period  
from 1997-98 to 1999-2000

States/Union Territories	1997-98 (MTs)	1998-99 (MTs)	1999-2000 (MTs)
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar	4743	7155	6736
Andhra Pradesh	650785	675056	679848
Arunachal Pradesh	9948	10240	10295
Assam	263760	271235	272623
Bihar	679329	863745	870036
Chandigarh	21562	21778	15408
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3202	3237	3238
Delhi	245768	248325	204672
Daman/Diu	3033	3064	2438
Goa	27954	28257	28075

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	822339	831600	832432
Haryana	164653	170563	171731
Himachal Pradesh	58984	60737	61067
J & Kashmir	88828	91433	91921
Karnataka	513054	528301	531167
Kerala	289540	300006	302078
Lakshdweep	906	919	921
Madhya Pradesh	532741	661812	666632
Maharashtra	1558397	1576298	1577953
Manipur	22064	22670	22781
Meghalaya	20245	20847	20960
Mizoram	7868	8102	8146
Nagaland	13797	14207	14284
Orissa	239501	316597	318903
Pondicherry	15329	15342	15363
Punjab	337118	342376	343127
Rajasthan	361736	440060	443265
Sikkim	7794	7885	7895
Tamil Nadu	698837	716830	720076
Tripura	31451	32386	32562
Uttar Pradesh	1178862	1391123	1401255
West Bengal	785065	808013	812309
<b>Total</b>	<b>9659193</b>	<b>10490199</b>	<b>10490197</b>

[English]

### **Punctuality and Safety in Railways**

\*473. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are considering to take some important measures with the help of the State Governments to improve the punctuality and safety in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have also identified the sensitive railway zones which are more prone to disruptions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the State Governments have agreed to help and assist the Railways in implementing the schemes proposed for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) to (f) Indian Railways are taking the following steps to improve punctuality and safety with the help of State Governments :

1. Coordination meetings with State Governments at Divisional and Zonal Head Quarter levels.
2. Joint checks with State police to tackle the menace of miscreant activity including unauthorised alarm chain pulling, hose pipe disconnection and Clappet Valve Operation.
3. Close coordination with law and order machinery during threats of agitations/bundhs/ bomb blasts in order to minimise disruption to punctual and safe running of trains.
4. Running pilot specials in coordination with State Police in areas vulnerable to sabotage in some areas in some States.
5. Proper Road Signs have been provided on the approaches to level crossings so that the road vehicle drivers are made aware of the existence of a level crossing in coordination with State Government.
6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Governments are asked to help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licenses, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to co-operate in educating the road users.
7. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1998 and the Railways Act, 1989.
8. A meeting of the Chief Secretaries and the Directors General of Police from all the States was convened to bring about coordination between Railways and State Governments on matters relating to security. A High-Level Committee on Security on Railways consisting of Railways and State Government officials has been set up to suggest ways and means to provide better security to Railway passengers and Railway system.

The railways and State Governments coordinate to identify areas prone for disruptions. Railways take preventive and precautionary measures alongwith State Governments in these areas in order to minimise the disruption to punctual and safe running of trains.

### **Loss to Passengers due to Cancellation of Flights**

\*474. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that due to cancellation of flights, those passengers going abroad found themselves in great difficulty including loss of employment, and deprivation of their livelihood;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received in this regard; and

(c) the action taken in such matters?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Flights are sometimes cancelled due to some unavoidable reasons like technical problems, poor weather conditions etc. When such cancellation takes place, all efforts are made to transfer passengers to other flights including those of foreign airlines which are next available or re-route them over other points to their final destinations.

### **Generation of Funds**

\*475. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that with the present level of allocation of funds to the Railways, it will take over 35 years to complete new line projects and another 15 years to complete the gauge conversion projects;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways requires Rs. 3000 crore per year for the next five years to replace and upgrade tracks and rolling stock to meet safety requirements; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to generate funds independently to meet its requirements?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) With the present level of allocation of funds to the Railways it will take over 37 years to complete the new line projects already included in the budget and 15 years to complete the gauge conversion works included in the budget, not considering inflation.

(b) There are 81 new line projects included in the budget of several years, of which the updated cost is about Rs. 25000 cr. An approximate expenditure of Rs. 3000 cr. has been already done on these projects leaving a balance of Rs. 22000 cr. and with the present level of funding of Rs. 600 cr. it will take 37 years for completion. Similarly there are 73 gauge conversion projects costing approximate Rs. 15000 cr. of which about

Rs. 6000 cr. has been spent so far, leaving a balance of Rs. 9000 cr. and with the approximate allotment of about Rs. 600 cr. per year, it will take 15 years for completion.

(c) No, Sir. The total requirement for replacement of over aged track i.e. arrears and current arisings over the next 5 years would be approximately Rs. 25000 cr. In addition Indian Railways require Rs. 9500 cr. for replacement of over aged locomotives, coaches and wagons. This would make the annual requirement over the next five years of Rs. 6900 cr. per year. However, Khanna Committee recommended for a one time grant of Rs. 15000 cr. for safety related works.

(d) Apart from ongoing efforts to capture additional traffic and recover outstanding dues of the Railways, action has been initiated to mobilize resources, through various innovative methods, such as utilization of Railway land and air space, leasing of right of way for optic fiber communication channels, leasing of advertising rights at Railway Stations and on Rolling stock etc. Efforts are also being made to involve the State Governments and private & public sector investment in the execution and funding of rail projects.

### **Production of Silk under O.G.L.**

\*476. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Silk Board has prepared any scheme for the regulated area participation in the field of silk production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring the silk production under Open General Licence category;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage investment for the development of technology in the silk production?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) No specific scheme has been formulated by the Central Silk Board (CSB) for the regulated area participation in the field of silk production. However, to augment the domestic production and productivity of silk, CSB supplements the efforts of the State Sericulture Departments by implementing/or assisting a number of schemes/projects/programmes and by transferring technologies developed by research carried out in its various research institutions. The main schemes are :

— 36 Catalytic Development Schemes under which assistance is provided to micro projects prepared & implemented by the State Govts.

in critical areas of the entire sericulture & silk development from cultivation of food plants through to marketing of silk products.

- Madhya Pradesh and Manipur Sericulture Projects for expansion of sericulture with financial assistance from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.
- UNDP assisted non-mulberry Sericulture Project etc.

(c) and (d) The production of silk does not require any licence in the country. Only imports of raw silk, silk yarn, silk fabrics and silkworm cocoons require licence.

(e) To encourage investment for development of technology in the silk production several schemes are being implemented by the Central Silk Board as part of the Catalytic Development Programme, which aim to promote the use of new technologies and machines for reeling, spinning, dyeing and processing of quality silk with higher productivities. These include mainly :

- i. Promoting multi-end reeling machine and silk-reeling package;
- ii. Creation of growth centres for production of quality silks,
- iii. Common Facility Centres for Handloom silk processing centres;
- iv. Support to reeling units;
- v. Support for quality enhancement for silk sector;
- vi. Promotion of resource conservation technology through economic ovens.

In addition, silk industry is covered under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) under which for technology upgradation, loan at 5% point less than applicable rate is available.

### **Agreements with Oil Producing Nations**

\*477. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to sign several bilateral agreements with various Oil Producing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have participated in the meeting held in Canada on June 11, 2000; and

(d) if so, the main decision taken therein?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Agreements or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are signed by our National Oil Companies, as part of their activities, and in the current year the major countries covered are Algeria, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia, Russia, Venezuela and Vietnam. Besides, term contracts for purchase of crude oil have been entered for 2000-01 with Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and UAE.

(c) and (d) A Government delegation led by the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and comprising senior officers of the Ministry and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in petroleum sector attended the 16th World Petroleum Congress at Calgary, Canada from 11th to 15th June, 2000.

The high level Delegation met the prospective investors and could project the overall attractiveness of Indian Hydrocarbon Sector for investment and technology transfer and capabilities, especially in the Service Sector of Petroleum Industry.

### **Incentives for participation in N.C.C.**

\*478. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether students are not given enough incentives to participate in N.C.C. activities;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to reserve seats and jobs for students with N.C.C. experience;

(c) whether there are any proposals to upgrade the role of N.C.C.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) To encourage the youth of the country to join the NCC, the Central Government and the various State Governments offer a number of incentives to eligible cadets in the form of concessions in employment, academic fields, individual awards, trophies, cash awards, etc.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to upgrade the role of NCC.

### **Appointment of Women Lawyers as Judges**

\*479. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of Law Commission for the appointment of women lawyers as Judges of the High Courts and Supreme Court have been implemented by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[Translation]

### Complaints against the Directors of Madhya Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Government has not received any recommendation of the Law Commission for the appointment of women lawyers as Judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court.

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No information is maintained for caste or class etc. The Government have, however, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts from time to time requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

### Bird menance Causing Serious Problems

\*480. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bird menance is causing serious problem near several airports;

(b) whether the bird hit is also the cause of several accidents in the past;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to keep the airports free from bird menance?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Bird strikes to the aircraft are a matter of concern. However, the data for the last three years show a decline in the bird strike incidents which are as under :

1997	—	150
1998	—	136
1999	—	121

(b) and (c) No aircraft accident has taken place due to bird hit during the last 10 years.

(d) Surveys around the airports are carried out and appropriate measures are taken by the Airfield Environment Management Committees to check the sources of bird attraction. Besides, continuous efforts are made for scaring the birds and to remove the sources of bird attraction inside and outside the airfields.

5014. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaint relating to the bungling of foreign exchange by the directors of Madhya Pradesh flying club;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount in foreign exchange paid by the said club for purchase of three aeroplanes during 1997-98 and the amount reflected in the balance sheet;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to conduct an enquiry into the matter; and

(e) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A complaint against M/s Madhya Pradesh Flying Club Ltd. (MPFC) has been received regarding alleged siphoning of valuable foreign exchange of Rs. 36.25 crores to USA in connection with purchase of 2 trainer aircraft.

(c) According to the MPFC, for purchase of 3 trainer aircraft no foreign exchange was paid during 1997-98. Due to some dispute over the procurement price of the aircraft and the engines, the club has not made any payment to the Financer/Director so far and the club has shown this amount in the balance sheet as 'Liabilities' as follows :

(i) Liability accepted by the Club : Rs. 41,19,647/-

(ii) Disputed Liability : Rs. 33,14,677/-

(d) and (e) The matter shall be looked into at an appropriate level.

### Pollution due to Diesel

5015. SHRI PUSP JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pollution caused due to the presence of suspended particles in diesel is dangerous;

(b) if so, whether Euro-I and Euro-II norms have been laid down for automobiles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any emission norms for tractors have also been laid down;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) EURO-I norms have been brought into force *w.e.f.* 01.04.2000 throughout the country for all categories of vehicles. Bharat Stage-II norms (equivalent to EURO-II) for motor cars and passenger vehicles upto 3,500 Kg GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight) have been brought into force in NCT of Delhi *w.e.f.* 01.04.2000 and will be further extended to city of Mumbai *w.e.f.* 01.01.2001 and the cities of Chennai and Kolkata *w.e.f.* 01.07.2001.

(d) to (f) Emission norms for tractors have also been laid down *vide* notification No. G.S.R. 627(E) dated 08th September, 1999. A copy of the notification is attached as statement.

### Statement



Regd. No. D.L.-33004.99

## The Gazette of India

### Extraordinary

Part-II—Section-3—Sub-section (i)

Published by Authority

NO. 444 NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1999/BHADRA 17, 1921

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(Transport Wing)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 8th September, 1999

G.S.R. 627(E).—Whereas the draft of certain rules further to amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 was published as required by sub-section (1) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (59 of 1988) in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, section 3, sub-section (i), dated the 22nd December, 1998 with the notification of Government of India in the Ministry of Surface Transport

(Transport Wing) number G.S.R. 762(E), dated 22nd December, 1998 inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby within a period of forty five days from the date on which copies of the Gazette of India containing the said notification are made available to the public;

And, whereas the copies of the said Gazette of India were made available to the public on the 23rd December, 1998.

And, whereas the objections and suggestions received from the public have been considered by the Central Government.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 110 of the said Act, the Central Government, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, namely :

1. (i) These rules may be called the Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 1999.

They shall come into force from 01st October, 1999.

2. In the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, after rule 115, the following rules shall be inserted, namely :

"115A. Emission of smoke and vapour from agriculture tractors driven by diesel engines :

- (1) Every agriculture tractor manufactured on and from the date of commencement of this rule shall be maintained by its owner in such condition and shall be so used that visible and gaseous pollutants emitted by them comply with the standards as prescribed in this rule.
- (2) Every manufacturer of an agriculture tractor shall comply with the standards for visible pollutants, emitted by it, when tested as per the procedure described in Indian Standards IS : 12062 : 1987.
- (3) The emission of visible pollutants shall not exceed the limit values given below when tested on engine dynamometer at eighty per cent load at six equally spaced speeds, namely:
  - (a) Fifty five per cent of rated speed declared by the manufacturer or one thousand r.p.m. whichever is higher; or
  - (b) rated speed declared by the manufacturer.

Maximum Smoke Density	
Light absorption coefficient (1m)	Hartridge units
3.25	75

- (4) Every diesel driven agriculture tractor shall be so manufactured and produced by its manufacturer that it complies with the following standards of gaseous pollutants, emitted by them in addition to those of visible pollutants as provided in sub-rule (2) when tested as per the procedures described in ISO 81784-4 'CI' 8 mode cycle, namely :

The weighted average mass of carbon monoxide (CO), Hydrocarbons (HC) and mass oxides of Nitrogen (NOX) in gram or kilo watt. hr. emitted during the test shall not exceed the limits given below, both for type approval and Conformity on Production tests, namely :

Mass of Carbon monoxide (CO) — 14.0 gram or kilo watt. hr.

Mass of Hydrocarbon (HC) — 3.5 gram or kilo watt. hr.

Mass of Oxides of Nitrogen (NOX) — 18.0 gram or kilo watt. hr.

[F.No. RT-11011/13/98-MVL]

K.R. BHATI, JT. SECY

**Note :**

The Principal rules were published in the Gazette of India *vide* notification number GSR 590(E) dated 02-06-1989 and were last amended *vide* notification number.

Printed by the Manager, Govt. of India Press, Ring Road, Mayapuri, New Delhi-110 064 and Published by the Controller of Publications, Delhi-110 054.

[English]

**Highway for Linking PoK with Karakoram**

5016. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has constructed Highway linking Karakoram with Pakistan occupied area of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has posed a threat to our security particularly to Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to counter this move of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Pakistan has constructed Karakoram Highway linking Pakistan with Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir. The alignment of this Highway is Havelian-Thakot-Gligit-Khunjerab Pass. This was completed in June, 1978.

(c) and (d) Issues impinging on our national security are constantly monitored and all appropriate steps are taken to safeguard the territorial integrity of our country.

**Lubricants at Cheaper Rates**

5017. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil Corporation is selling lubricants to their lube distributors at cheaper rates as compared to the retail outlet dealers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the present dealers' commission structure does not provide any provision for dealers remuneration;

(d) if so, whether the profit of free trade products can be deducted out of the cost break-up of products covered under APM; and

(e) the time by which the system is likely to be made applicable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Hosue.

**Setting up of LNG Terminal at Cochin**

5018. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which the proposed LNG terminals to be set up in Cochin;

(b) whether there is a considerable delay in setting up the terminal; and

(c) if so, the time by which the terminals are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) has called bids for pre-qualification for construction of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal at Kochi on Build Own Operate and Transfer (Boot) basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The LNG supplies at Kochi terminal are scheduled to begin during 2003-04.



[Translation]

### Development of Tourism in Newly Created States

5019. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :  
DR. V. SAROJA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of projects/proposal received from the newly created States of Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal for tourism development;

(b) the names of projects cleared by the Union Government along with the funds allocated therefor, project-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to form a trust of all the tourist places in the respective States to promote tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Development of tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them every year. The details of projects prioritised in consultation with Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh for the current financial year which now fall in the newly created States are as under :

State	No. of Projects	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Chhattisgarh	3	131.00
Jharkhand	6	212.00
Uttaranchal	18	322.03

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Misuse of Reserved Tickets

5020. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the computerised chart showing the list of confirmed/R.A.C./waiting passengers is issued only two hours before the train leaves the station;

(b) if so, whether the benefits of cancellation of confirmed tickets are not given to the passengers in waiting list after the issue of such chart;

(c) whether the Government are aware that some counter clerks having the knowledge of such tickets re-sold

these cancelled tickets; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to tackle such problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Reservation charts are generally printed about 2 to 4 hours before the scheduled departure of the train. However, in case of trains which are scheduled to leave in the morning, the charts are printed on the previous night.

(b) The berths/seats which are cancelled after printing of reservation charts, are allotted to the RAC passengers as per their priority by the Conductor/Train Ticket Examiner in the train.

(c) No such complaints have come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

### Railway Crossing Projects

5021. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested for construction of railway crossing under Tumkur Branch Canal and its distributories; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 7 canal crossings/bridges were proposed by the State Government of Karnataka on 'Deposit' terms. The work of two bridges, one at Km. 71/8-9 between Tumkur-Mallasandra stations and another at Km. 92/1-2 between Gubbi-Nittur stations have been completed. The work of another bridge at Km. 89/14-15 between Gubbi-Nittur is in progress. The work of remaining 3 bridges, one each at Kms. 84/14-15, 87/7-8 between Mallasandra-Gubbi-Nittur and at Kms. 115/2-3 between Banasandra-Ammasandra respectively, have not been taken up as estimated cost of these bridges has not yet been deposited by the State Government of Karnataka. The bridge at Km. 85/14-15 between Gubbi and Mallasandra is in planning stage as centage charges have been deposited by Karnataka Government recently.

### Computer Aided Design Centres

5022. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any scheme for setting up of computer aided design centres;

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

(c) whether any such centre has been set up or proposed to be set in Southern Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) In order to provide design development and manufacturing support to the Powerloom Sector, Government has set up 16 Computer Aided Design Centres (CADCs), under administrative control of TRAs in different parts of the country. Out of these, 4 CADCs have been set up in the State of Tamil Nadu. The details of CADCs are as follows :

S.No.	Powerloom Service Centre	State
1.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
2.	Karur	Tamil Nadu
3.	Komarapalayam	Tamil Nadu
4.	Somanur	Tamil Nadu
5.	Bangalore	Karnataka
6.	Doddaballapur	Karnataka
7.	Solapur	Maharashtra
8.	Ichalkaranji	Maharashtra
9.	Mumbai	Maharashtra
10.	Bhilwara	Rajasthan
11.	Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh
12.	Panipat	Haryana
13.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
14.	Surat	Gujarat
15.	Bhiwandi-(1)	Maharashtra
16.	Burhanpur	Madhya Pradesh

Similarly, for the Handloom sector the Government has set-up National Centre for Textile Designing (NCTD) in New Delhi to provide colour and design forecast, design pool and motifs through a web site. 5 Weavers Service Centres have been connected to the NCTD through Internet. A new scheme, viz., Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana for development and promotion of Handloom has been launched w.e.f. 1.04.2000. The scheme provides for financial assistance *inter-alia* for setting up of Computer Aided Textile Design System and to establish connectivity with National Centre for Textile Design. Under the scheme, no proposal has been received from Government of Tamil Nadu.

### Difficulty to Powerloom Sector

5023. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Textile Industry, particularly from the Solapur Powerloom industry, regarding the difficulties that are facing in availing the facilities under the Textile Upgradation Fund Scheme announced by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions made by them to make the scheme effective and to bring it within the means of the unorganised powerlooms and handlooms sector; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Government has been receiving representations from various Industry Associations including Solapur Zilla Yantramag Dharak Sangh, Solapur. The suggestions include amendments in financial and technological norms, parameters of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) and for inclusion of additional machinery in the list of eligible machinery etc.

The Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee which reviews and monitors the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme on a periodical basis has relaxed certain norms of the Scheme including modifications/relaxations in technology and financial norms and inclusion of a number of machinery in the list of eligible machinery.

[Translation]

### Funding of Defence Projects by France

5024. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects in the field of Defence proposed to be funded by France; and

(b) the extent to which defence preparedness of India is likely to be enhanced thereby?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No Indian Defence project is being funded by France.

(b) Does not arise.

### Flying/Gliding Club in Bihar

5025. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of flying/gliding clubs in Bihar and other States and the number of planes in each club; and

(b) the status granted to each club by the Directorate of Civil Aviation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Financial Crisis faced by Konkan Railways

5026. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation is facing financial crisis to continue their project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation does not have money to repay the interest and instalment of loan;

(d) whether the State Governments have not contributed their shares towards equity and loan;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the manner in which the Konkan Railway Corporation has planned to refund the bond money raised by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Corporation is in its operational phase since the completion of the construction phase on 26.01.1998.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, Ministry of Railways has been providing assistance to the Corporation to ensure timely payment of interest on loans.

(d) and (e) The Government of Maharashtra and the Government of Goa have not fully contributed towards their share of equity, and the balance equity yet to be paid by these Governments is Rs. 21.77 crores and Rs. 7.24 crores respectively. The reasons for the same are being followed up with them.

(f) Konkan Railway has been asked to make all out efforts to maximise the generation of internal resources so as to be able to meet its obligations.

In the interim, the Ministry of Railways is providing loans to meet its obligations. Already a loan of Rs. 200 crores in 1999-2000 and Rs. 324 crores during 2000-2001 has been extended to the corporation to meet its loan obligations. Separately, Ministry of Railways is considering approaching the Ministry of Finance for providing a financial package as a long term solution.

### Handling of Cargo by Major Ports

5027. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cargo handled by different major ports during the last three years, port-wise;

(b) whether Paradeep port has increased the handling of cargo in 2000-2001;

(c) if so, the target set for 2000-2001 and the number of cargo handled by Paradeep port during the first six months of the current year;

(d) the cargo handling facilities available at present in that port;

(e) whether the proposal to provide additional cargo berths in that port is under consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The cargo handled by various major ports during the last three years are as under :

Port	(In million tonnes)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Calcutta	7.95	9.16	10.31
Haldia	20.21	20.22	20.71
Paradip	13.30	13.11	13.64
Visakhapatnam	36.01	35.65	39.51
Chennai	35.53	35.20	37.44
Tuticorin	9.98	10.15	9.99
Cochin	12.32	12.67	12.80
New Mangalore	15.28	14.21	17.60
Mormugao	21.18	18.02	18.23
J.L. Nehru	8.90	11.72	14.98
Mumbai	32.10	30.97	30.41
Kandla	38.90	40.64	46.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>251.66</b>	<b>251.72</b>	<b>271.92</b>

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The annual traffic target set for Paradeep Port for the current financial year is 16.45 million tonnes. The total cargo handled by the port during first six months of the 2000-2001 (April-Sept.) was 9.71 million tonnes.

(d) The cargo handling facilities available at Paradeep Port are as under : (i) One Iron Ore berth alongwith are handling plant, (ii) Four Multi-purpose cargo berths,

(iii) One POL berth, and (iv) Two captive berths. Cargo handling operations in these captive berths are fully mechanised with automatic unloaders/shorebased unloaders.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. At Paradip Port, three Multi-purpose cargo berths, two coal berths and one oil berth are under construction.

### **Extra Perks to ICAI Officers**

5028. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :  
DR. B.B. RAMAIAH :

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

(a) whether the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India follows the Central Government scales of pay and allowances;

(b) if so, whether tax free perks like conveyance charges and free petrol are also paid to the Senior Officers without production of voucher;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of Audit objections received on the subject during the last three years and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), which is a statutorily autonomous body established under the Chartered Accountant Act, 1949, has informed that the Institute is statutorily empowered to appoint its officers and staff and also to fix their salaries, fees, allowances and their conditions of service.

ICAI has informed that while prescribing and revising the pay scales and other allowances payable to its employees, the Institute has generally taken into account the pay scales prescribed by the Central Government for its employees and also by other reputed and leading educational bodies such as UGC etc. from time to time.

(b) and (c) The Institute has reported that it does not allow any tax free perks like conveyance and free petrol to Senior Officers without production of voucher/declaration for having incurred the expenditure/receipt. The Institute has further reported that it makes the following payments to its employees which are reportedly exempt under the Income Tax Act and rules made thereunder :

- (1) Reimbursement for purchase of magazines/periodicals etc.,
- (2) Allowance paid for encouraging/pursuing Academic Research and Professional activities,

(3) Allowance paid for purchase or maintenance of uniform for wear during the performance of duties in office,

(4) Children Education Allowance upto a maximum of Rs. 100/- per month, per child, and

(5) Amount paid as conveyance allowance (transport subsidy in the Institute) to meet the expenditure on conveyance for performance of duties of an Office. The Institute has further stated that senior officers of the Institute are paid an additional amount of Rs. 2000/- per month towards maintenance of vehicle. According to the Institute, unlike in the Government, its senior officers are not provided with office vehicles at any level.

(d) The ICAI has informed that no audit objections have been received on the subject in the last three years.

### **Passenger Amenities**

5029. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the platforms, compartments, toilets are accessible to persons with disabilities including wheel chair users;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to design and manufacture coaches accessible to persons with disabilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways has however, decided to provide at least one toilet suitable for use of disabled persons and to provide ramp for access to station buildings at 155 major railway stations. However, wheel chairs are available with the Station Masters at important stations for use of indisposed/handicapped passengers.

(c) to (e) It is proposed to develop and manufacture 20 prototype Guard cum sleeper type coaches with wider doorways and modified toilets to permit direct access by wheel chaired passengers subject to availability of funds.

### **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India**

5030. SHRI KALAVA SRINAVASULU :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

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

(a) whether some Senior Level Officers, Assistant Secretary and above have left the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), which is a Statutory Body established under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, has informed that during the last three years (from 1997-98 to 1999-2000), the following persons of the level of Assistant Secretary and above have left the Institute :

S.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Rajeshwari Tyagarajan	Dy. Director
2.	Sh. Mohan Mishra	Asstt. Secretary
3.	Dr. Kamal Gupta	Technical Director
4.	Sh. D.N. Panda	Dy. Secretary
5.	Sh. Ashish Bhattacharya	Technical Director

ICAI has informed that the reasons for their leaving are varied such as compelling domestic problems/home sickness, pursuit of academic/professional interests etc. etc.

#### LPG Cylinder Refilling Companies

5031. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH BARWALA :  
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

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

(a) the details of the companies in which Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) had given the linkage for L.P.G. Cylinder Refilling;

(b) the details of Private Companies had got the linkage of Butein, Propen and C4;

(c) whether these companies are purchasing the Butein continuously;

(d) if so, the real use of C4 Gas in these Companies; and

(e) the price of C4 and Butein gas being purchased by these companies from GAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) produced by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) is sold to Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

(b) Currently, Butane and C4 Mix are not being sold by GAIL. Propane is sold to private sector consumers using propane as a fuel and blending to produce LPG.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

[Translation]

#### Non-Scheduled Operation and Aviation Training Companies

5032. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of non-scheduled operation and aviation training companies functioning presently;

(b) the number of aeroplanes available with them, company-wise and year-wise;

(c) the number of flying hours of these companies during the last three years;

(d) the names of the companies which do not possess hangars for maintenance and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the lease hold charges being charged by the Airports Authority of India and the norm prescribed for the purpose, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

#### Initiatives in Textile Sector

5033. SHRI SAHIB SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some initiatives have been taken in technology and advancement in Textile Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of these initiatives in the development of textile industry in the Ninth Five Year Plan and in the next five years in regard to compete in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for modernisation of Textile and Jute Industries for a period of 5 years, w.e.f. 1.4.1999.

Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) on 21.2.2000, with the objectives - to improve the productivity and quality of cotton, ensuring the availability of quality cotton to the textile mills. It has four Mini Missions, viz., MM-I & II relating to research and dissemination of

technology to farmers, are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and MM-III & IV relating to improvement in market infrastructure and modernization of ginning & pressing units are being implemented by the Ministry of Textiles.

The Government has also taken several steps to enhance the viability and competitiveness of the textile industry. Some of the main ones are as follows :

- (i) A chain of textile testing laboratories has been set up to help industry in assessing the quality of textiles.
- (ii) For import of capital goods, the Export Promotion of Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme has been simplified.
- (iii) Import of cotton is also under OGL to help industry to import requisite quality of raw cotton.
- (iv) Efforts are on to rationalise fiscal duty structure in consultation with industry and other concerned organisations.
- (v) Initiated measures for application of information technology in the textile trade and industry.
- (vi) The Powerloom specific schemes— Modernisation of Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs), Upgradation of PSC labs; Group Insurance Scheme for powerloom workers; setting up of Computer Aided Design Centres and enhancement of Powerloom Exporters Entitlement quota from 10% to 15% are under operation.

The textile industry is likely to be immensely benefited by these schemes, particularly from the point of view of improving the productivity and performance to be globally competitive.

### Consumption of Cotton

5034. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the domestic consumption of cotton during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;
- (b) the surplus stock in the country; and
- (c) the estimated consumption of cotton during 2000-01. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The domestic consumption of cotton during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as under :

Cotton Year (Oct.-Sept.)	Consumption (In lakh Bales of 170 Kg. Each)
1998-99	165.36
1999-2000	173.36

(b) The carry over stock from the 1999-2000 cotton year is 40.50 lakh bales and the estimated crop size for the 2000-01 cotton year is 158 lakh bales.

(c) The estimated consumption of cotton during 2000-01 cotton year is 173 lakh bales.

(Source : Cotton Advisory Board)

[Translation]

### Flight to Haj Pilgrims

5035. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide a flight to the haj pilgrims of Uttar Pradesh from Lucknow so as to avoid the long way to Mumbai or any other place in the country;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Haj movement is undertaken with wide-bodied aircraft. Since Lucknow Airport is operational only with narrow bodied aircraft, it would not be feasible to operate Haj flights ex/into Lucknow.

[English]

### Action Plan for Harvesting Rain Water in A.P.

5036. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry issued instructions to the Andhra sub-area Commander, Secunderabad and the Air Commodore, Air Force Station, Hakimpet, Secunderabad to co-operate with the technical team from the State Ground Water Department for preparing an action plan for harvesting the rain water in the land under the control of Defence Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the needful is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) ; (a) to (c) Instructions have been issued to concerned Army/Airforce Authorities to interact with the State Government Authorities in the matter. It is reported that action plan entails transfer of Defence land to the State Government as a part of package deal, at Secunderabad. The proposal in this regard, as and when received, from the concerned authorities shall be examined for taking appropriate decision.

**Promotion of 'Camping Tourism'**

5037. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Tourism Task Force was constituted in ITDC during 1991-92 to promote 'Camping Tourism';

(b) if so, the details of such activities carried out by the Tourism Task Force Division of ITDC and the head-wise amount spent on each activity and the benefit/profit accrued to ITDC on each activity;

(c) whether unutilised material of TTF Division used to be taken back to Delhi consequent upon the winding up of each Tourism Camp; and

(d) if so, the details of such material which was shifted to Delhi from time to time from each Camp with cost of each and whereabouts of such material as on date?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Tourism Task Force was set up in ITDC in May 1991 as part of its developmental activity mainly to promote camping tourism. This Task Force during its tenure, which ended in December 1994, organised 7 camps. The operational details of these camps are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) No Sir, the camp material was not brought back to Delhi in each and every case. The Task Force purchased/procured seed equipment/camp material for and on behalf of the Central Department of Tourism/State Governments, used them for organising other camps also and finally handed them over to the respective State Governments. The Tourism Task Force did not carry any inventory after it was disbanded in December 1994.

**Statement****Camp-wise Income and Expenditure Statement**

(Rs. In Lacs)

Camp At	Turnover	Expenditure	Net Profit/ Loss
Narwar (M.P.)	5.53	23.42	(-) 17.89
Jaisalmer (Raj.)	2.48	10.94	(-) 8.46
Kangra Valley (H.P.)	25.77	35.94	(-) 10.17
Diu (U.T.)	4.90	11.78	(-) 6.88
Andamans (U.T.)	2.46	5.86	(-) 3.40
Coorg (Karnataka)	2.98	11.60	(-) 8.62
Solang Nallah (H.P.)	3.92	8.93	(-) 5.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.04</b>	<b>108.47</b>	<b>(-) 60.43</b>

**Village Tourism Project**

5038. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched the village tourism project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places where this project is likely to be implemented, State-wise;

(d) whether the Communication and transport facilities are being provided to implement the said project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the said project is likely to be beneficial to the public?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) In consultation with the State Govts./UT Administrations, the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India extends financial assistance to them for infrastructural projects prioritised every year including the projects relating to development of Village Tourism.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

(d) and (e) Facilities for the projects are provided by the implementing State Govts./UT Administrations.

(f) Such projects promote local culture by preserving traditions and generate employment especially for women.

**Statement**

*No. of Projects Relating to Village Tourism Sanctioned during 1999-2000 and Prioritised for 2000-2001*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the project and State	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
<b>1999-2000</b>		
1.	Development of Rural Amenities at Langkhum, Nagaland	20.00
2.	Construction of Tourism Amenities under Rural tourism at Khonoma village, Nagaland	20.00
3.	Setting up of a Heritage Village at Bagbasa in Sonamura, Tripura	30.00
<b>2000-2001</b>		<b>Amount Prioritised</b>
1.	Heritage Village at Shilparamam, Andhra Pradesh	58.00

1	2	3
2.	Tourism Village, Hali Distt. Sindhudurg, Maharashtra	95.00
3.	Development of Heritage Village at Bagalkot, Karnataka	74.00
4.	Village Fair, Kerala	10.00
5.	Craft Village and Resort at Guwahati, Assam (1st Phase)	180.00
6.	Maghey Village Craft Centre, South Sikkim	19.20
7.	Development of Village tourism at Kalpa, Himachal Pradesh	10.00
8.	Development of Craft Village at Khandgri, Orissa	40.00
9.	Shilpgram at Tourist Village, Pushkar, Rajasthan	13.75
10.	Setting up of tourist village at Sarnath, Kushinagar, Kachhpura (near Agra) and Mathura, Uttar Pradesh	95.00

### Subsidy to Co-operative Societies

5039. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have released subsidy to co-operative societies which failed to fulfil the condition for grant of the subsidy whose requests were turned down earlier in 1996-97; and

(b) if so, the details of the subsidy released along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Army Officers on Deputation in BRO

5040. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army officers are sent on deputation basis to Border Roads Organisation;

(b) if so, the criteria being followed in this regard;

(c) whether these officers have sufficient expertise/qualifications for executing civil engineering works such as construction of roads, bridges and buildings;

(d) if not, the reasons for sending these officers in BRO; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that the talent of trained army officers is not wasted by deputing them to the jobs for which they are neither recruited nor trained?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) Army officers are posted in the Border Roads Organisation on tenure basis as per the manning policy approved by the Government for posting of officers of Army and General Reserve Engineer Force and they are governed by the terms and conditions of service applicable to them in the Army. These officers are drawn from the Corps of Engineers who possess sufficient technical qualifications and expertise in the field of Civil/Mechanical Engineering. The talent and expertise of these officers are properly utilized and their presence has improved the overall operational effectiveness of Border Roads Organisation.

### Powers of State Level Coordinator for Retail Outlets

5041. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the power, functions and duties of the State Level Coordinator; and

(b) the details of the Controlling authority over it in respect of allotment of retail outlets, LPG agency and Kerosene depots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The State Level Coordinator is an important link between State Government/UT Administration and Oil Companies/Oil Coordination Committee. The functions of State Level Coordinator *inter-alia* include distribution and stocking of petroleum products at various storage locations, forecasting demand of petroleum products, development activities like conducting feasibility surveys for preparation of Marketing Plans, associating with State Governments for checking malpractices etc.

(b) As per the extant policy, the Oil Marketing Company allot Retail Outlets/SKO dealership, LPG distributorships on the recommendations of Dealer Selection Boards, which is headed by a Retired High Court judge/District judge.

### Reservation of Tickets by Credit Cards in Delhi

5042. SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Credit Card beneficiaries of various public sector and foreign private banks cannot make reservation of Railway tickets with their Credit Cards in Delhi but they are accepted in other cities of the country;



(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to allow issue of railway tickets on Credit Card in Delhi as being done in other cities to maintain uniformity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This facility has been temporarily suspended in Delhi on account of failure of the concerned banks to enter into a written agreement with Northern Railway.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Northern Railway has already approached banks to sign the modified Agreement, make timely payment of Railway dues and promptly credit the refund of ticket to passenger.

### **Career Prospects of Officers of AFHQCS**

5043. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether officers of AFHQCS and CSS are inducted in service through the common mode of recruitment and training;

(b) if so, the reasons for denying the benefits of Central Staffing Scheme and comparable promotional opportunities to officers of AFHQCS;

(c) the details of attempts made to improve the career prospects of the officers of this Service with a view to improve the intake in the service;

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to alleviate the stagnation prevailing at various levels of the service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) All organised Services are not participating in the Central Staffing Scheme. Since source of recruitment to a Service is not the only consideration for treating a Service eligible for participating in the Central Staffing Scheme, the AFHQCS has been kept out of the Central Staff Scheme.

(c) to (e) Constant attempts are being made to improve the career prospects of the officers of the AFHQCS. 163 Civilian Staff Officers have been provided 'in-situ' promotions as part of this effort.

### **CII Report on Jute Industry**

5044. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has prepared a report on 'Jute Industry in West Bengal—A Development Strategy' by Mr. Bhomik;

(b) if so, the recommendations made in the report; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made in the report are with regard to measures :

(i) To support and facilitate improvement in productivity and quality of raw jute;

(ii) Incentives/support/relief measures extended by the Govt. and procedures for dealing with unviable jute mills, frequent lockouts and changing ownerships, etc.;

(iii) To revitalize the workforce;

(iv) To induce modernisation of mills;

(v) To monitor and encourage timely implementation of revival packages approved by BIFR;

(vi) To restructure the institutional support to the sector; and

(vii) To diversify products of jute.

(c) The State Govt. does not agree to all the recommendations of CII report. State Govt. policy on Jute Industry is under formulation.

### **Regularisation of Casual Labourers in A.S.I.**

5045. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to regularise the services of casual labourers, working for the past many years in Archaeological Survey of India, Hyderabad Circle of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Eligible casual workers fulfilling the prescribed criteria have been granted Temporary Status.

### PoWs in Pak Jails

5046. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain facilities and financial assistance are provided to the families of prisoners of war lodged in Pakistani jails;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) All the missing defence personnel of 1965 and 1971 wars, after a lapse of 7 years, have been presumed to be killed and their families are given liberalised pensionary awards, which include Liberalised family pension, Gratuity, Children allowance and Education allowance for children.

### Exploration Work on Brahmaputra

5047. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil India Ltd. has initiated exploration work in Northern border of Brahmaputra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the approximate expenditure incurred so far; and

(d) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Oil India Limited (OIL) started exploratory drilling in June, 1997 in areas of its operation in the North Bank of river Brahmaputra and have drilled four exploratory wells in the districts of Lakhimpur and Dhemaji. The exploratory drilling at Location Simen Chapori in the district of Dhemaji is in progress. The amount spent by OIL on exploration activities till September, 2000 is Rs. 137.20 crores. So far no commercial discovery of hydrocarbon has been made by OIL from these wells.

### Appointment on Contract Basis

5048. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some appointments have been made in the Ministry on contract basis during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some appointments have also been made in the Ministry as Consultants during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the terms of reference alongwith emoluments paid in each case, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

### Statement

(a) and (b) The following appointments were made on consultancy contract/contract basis during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001:

- (i) Shri B.D. Chandwani, retd. Dy. Registrar, Supreme Court of India has been appointed on consultancy contract basis on a fee of Rs. 5000/- p.m. for providing assistance and counsel services to Justice H.R. Khanna, Chairman, Railway Safety Review Committee.
- (ii) Shri T.K. Ghosh, retd. Statistical Inspector, Railway Board, has been appointed on consultancy contract basis on a fee of Rs. 4850/- p.m. for providing technical assistance to Railway Safety Review Committee.
- (iii) Shri S.L. Kataria, retd. General Manager, Oriental Insurance Corporation Ltd. has been appointed on contract basis, on professional charges of Rs. 3 lakh for a period of one year, for assisting the Railways in settlement of Marine Insurance Claims Cases, training the field staff for filing the claims and making the staff aware about the procedure etc.

### Modernisation of Oil Refineries

5049. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any policy to assist loss-making refineries to modernise their units;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the need for the OIBD or the OCC to advance funds for these refineries to meet their medium and short term financial needs;

(c) if so, whether any plan has been formulated to avoid huge losses being suffered by the refinery sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) None of the PSU refineries have suffered a financial loss in the year 1999-2000.

(b) to (d) The OIDB gives financial assistance by way of long term loans to the petroleum sector companies for their refining activities including modernisation, as per the financing pattern of Plan outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

### Theft of Parcel at New Delhi Railway Station

5050. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have an account of the parcels unloaded at New Delhi railway station during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of parcels delivered to the parties and the number out of them stolen;

(c) the number of cases of parcel theft registered by the railway police;

(d) the compensation amount railways had paid during the last three years against these thefts; and

(e) the steps taken to stop such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Number of parcels unloaded at New Delhi Railway Station during the last three years is as under :

Year	No. of Packages
1997	2689916
1998	2604114
1999	3606349

(b) (i) Number of parcel packages delivered to the parties is as under :

Year	No. of Packages
1997	2585205
1998	2605163
1999	3604148

(ii) Number of parcel packages stolen is as under :

Year	No. of Packages
1997	15
1998	23
1999	28

(c) All parcel package theft cases have been registered by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and not with the Government Railway Police, Delhi.

(d) No compensation has been paid during the last three years against these thefts.

(e) RPF staff have been deputed round the clock on each point and every platform of New Delhi Station to take care of the parcels.

### Status of Judges

5051. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether High Court has issued a notice to the Union Government for granting lower status to judges as compared to Governors and Ministers in warrant of precedence identifying the status of various Constitutional Authorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) A Civil Writ Petition No. 5758/2000— P. Kumar Versus Union of India has been filed in the Delhi High Court challenging the Warrant of Precedence dated 26.7.1979. The case was last heard on 12.12.2000. The next date of hearing in the matter is on 13.2.2001.

The matter is, thus, *subjudice*.

### Allocation for Advertisement by Oil PSUs

5052. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allocation on account of audio-visual media made for the various public sector oil corporations during the last two years, PSU-wise; and

(b) the amount of the annual budget spent on these media during the said period, media-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Survey for Oil Exploration in Bihar

5053. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether only one geo-survey party P.G.I. is conducting survey for exploration of oil and gas in Bihar since 1986;

(b) if so, whether ring drilling machine for this job has been shifted to Shisagar (Assam) from Western Champaran (Bihar) with the result the survey work has come to a standstill;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide ring drilling machine for conducting survey work in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) had acquired seismic data in Bihar from 1986 to 1997 with one departmental seismic party, GP-1. They have so far acquired 6,566 Ground Line Kilometre (GLK) of 2D seismic data and 17,595 stations of gravity magnetic data and drilled six exploratory wells in the State of Bihar. However, no encouraging result could be achieved. Hence the equipment has been deployed in other prospective areas as per inter-basinal prioritisation. Additionally, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, under the joint venture speculative survey programme alongwith M/s Alpha Geo, carried out 2D seismic survey in 1997 & 1998 in a block VN-ON-90/5 extending in some parts of Bihar covering about 60 Line Kilometre in the State besides covering parts of Uttar Pradesh. However, under the future New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) rounds, after NELP-II, it is proposed to offer exploration blocks covering some parts of Bihar on receipt of concurrence to NELP from the State Government.

#### Reimbursement of Expenditure incurred on Lok Sabha Election

5054. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have to reimburse huge amount to various State Governments on account of Lok Sabha Elections since 1996;

(b) if so, the total liability to be paid to each of the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) No Sir. It is not correct to say that the Union Government has to reimburse huge amounts of Government of India's share of election related expenditure in respect of the General Elections 1996 and onwards, to the State Governments since nearly 92% of the amounts claimed since 1996-97 have already been

released to the various State Governments. Thus, the liabilities to be discharged after the 1999 General Elections are minimal and a Statement containing the details thereof is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The reimbursement of election related expenditure by the Government of India is a continuous process and no time frame can be indicated for this purpose.

#### Statement

*Provisional and Approximate Figures of Liabilities of the Government of India's Share of Election Related Expenditure, Payable to the Various State/Union Territory Governments*

Name of the State Government/Union Territory	Provisional and approximate amount payable to the State/UT Governments after the 1999 General Elections
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 40,99,88,000/-
Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 5,89,88,000/-
Assam	Rs. 2,39,34,000/-
Bihar	(-) Rs. 13,52,21,000/-*
NCT of Delhi	(-) Rs. 3,40,45,000/-*
Goa	Rs. 65,59,000/-
Gujarat	Rs. 2,95,70,000/-
Jammu & Kashmir	(-) Rs. 2,98,03,000/-*
Haryana	Rs. 4,70,61,000/-
Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 57,99,000/-
Karnataka	Rs. 12,01,74,000/-
Kerala	Rs. 7,15,44,000/-
Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 1,46,21,000/-
Meghalaya	Rs. 3,85,29,000/-
Mizoram	Rs. 1,56,77,000/-
Manipur	Rs. 1,55,55,000/-
Maharashtra	Rs. 64,61,64,000/-
Nagaland	Rs. 1,28,97,000/-
Orissa	Rs. 15,94,32,000/-
Punjab	Rs. 6,77,99,000/-
Rajasthan	Rs. 4,20,07,000/-
Pondicherry	Rs. 2,61,000/-
Sikkim	Rs. 81,10,000/-

1	2
Tripura	Rs. 72,61,000/-
Tamil Nadu	Rs. 17,26,56,000/-
Uttar Pradesh	(-)Rs. 3,06,16,000/-*
West Bengal	Rs. 21,45,34,000/-
Union territories (without Legislature)	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil
Lakshadweep	Nil
Chandigarh	Nil
Daman & Diu	Nil
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>Rs. 205,94,35,000/-</b>

\*To be adjusted against the claims of the subsequent years.

### Indo-Russian Project

5055. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Asiatic Society has told three reputed scholars that a prestigious Indo-Russian project on the evolution of ties between the two countries has been shelved;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Negligence in Disposal of Cases

5056. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has penalized the General Manager of the Northern Railway for negligence in disposal of cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) It is true that the Hon'ble CAT/New Delhi passed an order against General Manager/Northern Railway in a particular case. However, it was not for any negligence on the part of the General Manager in disposal of the case;

(b) and (c) In compliance to the order of the Central Administrative Tribunal dated 29.11.99 in O.A. No. 2143/97, the two applicants (Shri Subodh Kumar and Shri Sultan Singh) were offered appointment as Safaiwalas in Commercial department *vide* letter dated 21.9.2000. Both the applicants accepted the same and also deposited the fee for medical examination, a prerequisite for joining duty.

Concealing the fact of their acceptance of the post of Safaiwalas, Shri Subodh Kumar and Shri Sultan Singh filed a contempt petition before the Central Administrative Tribunal, New Delhi, for non-compliance of the judgement dated 29.11.99.

At the admission stage itself the Hon'ble Tribunal took a view on 16.11.2000 that the Administration has disobeyed its orders dated 29.11.99 & 24.10.2000 and passed orders against the General Manager, Northern Railway with simple imprisonment till rising of the court and a fine of Rs. 5000/- to be paid by him personally and not from his department.

The Hon'ble Tribunal also passed order on 16.11.2000 that the petitioners should be appointed as Khalasis immediately. This was complied with on 16.11.2000 itself.

It is the perception of the Department that the Hon'ble Tribunal passed orders dated 16.11.2000 for imposition of punishment on General Manager, without following the proper procedure for contempt petition under rule 13 of contempt of court (CAT). Rules, 1992, without giving any opportunity to explain and also without disposing the Miscellaneous Application for clarification which was admitted by the same bench on 13th Nov., 2000

Therefore, a Writ Petition has been filed in the Delhi High Court, challenging the order dated 16.11.2000 of Central Administrative Tribunal/New Delhi. The case is listed for hearing in High Court in 5.2.2001.

### Purchase of Air Turbine Fuel

5057. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to waive off the sales tax from Indian Airlines so as to relieve it from the situation of deficit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, with a view to encourage small aircraft (Turbo-prop) operations to connect small and non-metro cities, in January, 2000 it has been decided to provide Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to such aircraft at international prices and notify such ATF as 'declared good' under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 for capping levy of sales tax at 4%. The modalities of implementing these decisions are under examination.

[English]

### **Bina Refinery Project**

5058 SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government have not cleared Bina Refinery Project for the reasons that it passes through Coral Reef in Gujarat Maritime, National Park whereas the Government has given permission to Reliance Pipeline which also passes through the same area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the policy of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### **Criminal Cases against Women**

5059 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pertaining to woman criminals pending in courts at present, State-wise; and

(b) the details of action taken by the Government for providing them speedy justice?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) There are 54 Admission and 139 Regular Hearing criminal matters (Actual number of files) pertaining to women criminals pending before the Supreme Court of India as on 12.12.2000. As regards cases pending in High Courts and Subordinate Courts, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Various steps have been taken by the Government for the speedy disposal of cases including cases pertaining to women criminals. These include amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial. Officers, establishment of Special Courts/tribunals, appointment of Special Judicial/Metropolitan Magistrates etc. The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill, 1994 is under consideration of Parliament. In addition, the recommendations of the 154th Report of the Law Commission have been commended to all State Governments to gear up investigation and prosecution of cases. Lok Adalats have been given a statutory base as supplementary forum for resolution of disputes.

Pursuant to the XIth Finance Commission's recommendation, an amount of Rs. 502.90 crore has been sanctioned for creation of 1,734 additional courts in the country which will substantially bring down the pendency of cases specially the sessions cases in the district and subordinate courts over the next five years.

[English]

### **Expenditure on Vehicles**

5060. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state the total expenditure on running and maintenance of the staff cars including overtime/ex-gratia etc. paid to the concerned drivers being at the disposal of the Ministry/DoT annually during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : The expenditure incurred on running and maintenance of the staff cars including overtime/ex-gratia paid to the concerned drivers of the Ministry/DoT annually during the last three years are given as follows :

Year	Expenditure on staff cars/Overtime etc.
1997-98	Rs. 13,45,500.00
1998-99	Rs. 10,68,000.00
1999-2000	Rs. 19,78,000.00

### **Educational Certificate for Group 'D' Posts**

5061. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the South-Eastern Railway had issued an order for production of Certificate of Class 8th pass, from recognized school in case of Group-D employees;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which the earlier order as well as practice prevalent in the Government Department have been changed;

(c) whether any recruitment in Group-D by entertaining the certificate of un-recognised schools has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Educational qualification for appointment to Group 'D' posts in all categories and Departments of the Indian Railways has been prescribed as class VIII pass since December 1998. While laying down this qualification, it was not specified by the Ministry of Railways that the class VIII pass certificate should be only from an institution recognised by the Government.

South Eastern Railway had initially issued instructions to the concerned authorities on that Railway, that class VIII pass school certificates issued by unrecognised schools should not be treated as authentic. These instructions had been issued by the South Eastern Railway in order to be sure of the genuineness of the certificates. However, as a large number of schools in rural areas function without recognition and candidates who were from such schools would have been put to a disadvantage, it was subsequently clarified by South Eastern Railway that the genuineness of the educational qualification of a prospective candidate could be established by verifying the existence of the un-recognised school and an enquiry into the standard of education of the said school.

### Project Package Scheme Packages

5062. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Project Package Scheme Packages are not reaching Sericulture, Silk Weaving Societies and Handloom Weavers Societies in Andhra Pradesh even though they sanctioned in 1997-98; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) According to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, funds released to the Silk Weaving Societies and Handloom Weavers Societies during 1997-98 by the Central Government have been disbursed to the societies.

### Plight of Handloom Weavers

5063. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the plight of Handloom weavers in different parts of the country, particularly in the Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to redress their plight;

(c) the details of new schemes introduced during the last three years, till date for their benefit; and

(d) the names of proposals received from the various State Governments under the new schemes and financial assistance provided thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and proposal-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Government mitigates the plight of weavers by extending financial assistance through a number of Schemes, such as, Workshed-cum-Housing, Health Package, Insurance Schemes, Thrift Fund and Developmental Scheme, namely, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana.

(c) The New Insurance Scheme was introduced in 1997-98 with the objective to give social security to the Handloom Weavers. An integrated and comprehensive developmental scheme, namely Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana has been introduced during the current financial year, covering a number of activities for the benefit of weavers, such as inputs, infrastructure facilities, design development and Marketing incentive etc.

(d) The State Governments have been requested to send their proposal under Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana. Details of releases made to State Governments under New Insurance Scheme during the last three years and 2000-2001 are as under :

Sl. No	Name of the State	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.98	12.28	15.19	—
2.	Assam	—	—	0.25	—
3.	Bihar	—	2.34	3.59	0.36
4.	Gujarat	—	2.79	2.63	2.73
5.	Kerala	3.00	—	—	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	—	2.55	1.83	0.67
7.	Orissa	—	18.00	—	18.00
8.	Rajasthan	—	1.68	1.36	2.56
9.	Tamil Nadu	—	0.36	—	—
10.	Tripura	—	—	0.14	0.60

### Appointment/Posting of SCs/STs

5064. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to post/appoint adequate number of persons from SCs/STs community as Heads/Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Official/ Non-official Members of the Boards of Management of various Public Sector Organisations and Statutory Bodies under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the said posts under Inland Waterways Authority of India during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

### Dumping of Cheap Acrylic Yarn

5065. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some countries are dumping cheap acrylic yarn in the country due to which domestic industry has been facing trouble;

(b) whether the Government have identified those countries and propose to impose anti-dumping duties for the import of acrylic fibre;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the foreign suppliers have identified the Nepal route to enter India by taking advantages of Indo-Nepal Treaty; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The imports as a percentage of domestic production during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 have been 0.06, 1.41 and 1.62 respectively.

(b) and (c) The details of anti-dumping duty imposed on import of Acrylic Fibre are as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Notification No.	Amount of duty (Rs. per Kg)
1	2	3	4
1.	U.S.A. (All Exporters)		11.59
2.	Korea R.P. (All Exporters)		21.81
3.	Thailand	86/2000-Cus	
	(a) M/s Thai Acrylic Fibre Co. Ltd.	Dt. 08/06/2000	9.14 33.18
	(b) Other Exporters		

1	2	3	4
4.	Japan		
	(a) Asahi Chemical Ind. Ltd.		81.36
	(b) Mitsubishi Rayon		79.57
	(c) Toyobo Inc.	53/1999-Cus	77.09
	(d) Other Exporters	Dt. 04/05/1999	81.36
5.	Spain (All Exporters)		82.00
6.	Portugal (All Exporters)		74.22
7.	Italy (All Exporters)		81.12
8.	Mexico (All Exporters)	94/1999-Cus	83.70
		Dt. 16/07/1999	
9.	Turkey (All Exporters)	125/1999-Cus	71.00
		Dt. 15/11/1999	
10.	Taiwan	3/2000-Cus	
	(a) M/s Formosa Plastic Corop.	Dt. 12/01/2000	3.37
	(b) Other Exporters		10.35

(d) and (e) There have been complaints about surge of imports of Acrylic yarn from Nepal. The imports from Nepal as a percentage of domestic production during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 have been 0.03, 0.71 and 0.01 respectively. The steps are being taken to address the concerns of the industry under provisions of Indo-Nepal Treaty.

### Proposals of Election Commission

5066. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals of the Election Commission are still pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of all party meeting called by the Government to discuss the pending proposals during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement is laid on the Table of the House.



(c) During the past three years, two meetings of leaders of political parties have been held, one on 22.5.1998 to consider different pending proposals, including the unimplemented recommendations of the Dinesh Goswami Committee and another on 13.5.2000 to consider the question of further extending the current freeze on delimitation of constituencies and other allied issues.

### **Statement**

#### *Proposals of the Election Commission on 'Electoral Reforms' sent to the Government*

#### **I. Proposals requiring Constitutional Amendments.**

1. There should be a maximum of two Election Commissioners, along with the Chief Election Commissioner.
2. The method of appointment and the constitutional protection after appointment should be the same for the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.
3. The Election Commission should have an independent Secretariat and the expenditure of the Commission should be a charged expenditure on the Consolidated Fund of India.
4. Anti-defection law may be amended leaving it to the President and the Governors concerned to decide cases of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule, after obtaining the opinion of the Election Commission.

#### **II. Proposals requiring amendments to Representation of the People Acts of 1950 and 1951**

1. Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 should be amended to disqualify any person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or more from contesting elections for a period totalling the sentence imposed plus an additional six years. Further, a person who is accused of any offence punishable with imprisonment for five years or more should be disqualified, even when his trial is pending, provided that the competent court of law has taken cognisance of the offence and framed the charges against him.
2. Section 13CC of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and section 28A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 should be amended to make express provision empowering the Election Commission to frame rules for taking disciplinary action against electoral officers on deputation to the Commission in connection with elections. (Action already taken on this).

3. Political parties should be required to publish their accounts annually and these should be audited by agencies specified by the Election Commission.

4. Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, should be amended to expressly authorise the Election Commission to issue orders regulating registration and de-registration of political parties.

5. Number of proposers for candidates of recognised parties should also be ten as in the case of independent candidates and candidates of unrecognised parties.

6. Proxy voting facility should be granted for all service voters and their spouses.

7. Expenditure incurred by political parties should be included in the election expenses of the candidate concerned [omitting of Explanation (1) under section 77(1)].

8. Non-maintenance of true account of election expenses or not filing its true copy as required under section 78 should be punishable with imprisonment and fine, and on conviction, the candidate should be disqualified for 6 years.

9. A candidate who fails to lodge his election expenses' account within the prescribed time as required under section 78 of Representation of the People Act, 1951, should automatically stand disqualified for a period of 5 years with elections.

10. The Election Commission should be given rule-making powers under the Representation of the People Acts.

11. The Election Commission should be empowered under section 58A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to countermand election due to booth capturing even otherwise than on the report of the Returning Officer.

12. The Election Commission should be empowered to issue instructions to any officer in connection with conduct of elections and to make recommendations for referring any matter for investigation to any agency specified by the Commission and for prosecution of any person who has committed any electoral offence.

13. District Election Officers should be statutorily required to be consulted regarding police arrangements during elections.

14. There should be statutory ban on transfer of election officers on the eve of elections.
15. Unauthorised possession of ballot boxes or Electronic Voting Machines and unauthorised printing of ballot papers should be made cognisable offences.
16. Making of a false declaration in connection with elections should be an electoral offence.
17. Simplification of procedure for disqualification of a person found guilty of corrupt practice—Secretary to the Election Commission of India, instead of the existing provision for Secretary of the concerned Legislature, be specified as the authority under sub-section (1) of section 8A of Representation of the People Act, 1951, to submit cases of disqualification under that section to the President.
18. Entrusting the Election Commission with the job of delimitation of constituencies instead of setting up of a Delimitation Commission.
19. Model Code of Conduct and measures in enforcement thereof to be made effective from the date of announcement of elections by the Election Commission of India so as to ensure free and fair elections.
20. Appointment of an appellate authority in districts against orders of Electoral Registration Officers.

### **Comprehensive Policy for Development of Inland Water Transport**

5067. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any comprehensive policy for development of inland water transport,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the locations where inland water transport are to be started immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) With a view to developing the Inland Water Transport, the policy measures taken include the enactment of the Inland Waterway Authority of India Act, 1985 (82 of 1985), setting up of the Inland Waterways Authority of India so as to ensure development, maintenance and better utilisation of National Waterways and also to set up infrastructural facilities at National Waterways. The National Transport Policy Committee, 1980 has identified ten Waterways as having potential for declaration as National Waterways. Three waterways

have so far been declared as National waterways and are being developed for shipping and navigation purposes by IWAI. Techno-economic feasibility studies have also been carried out on the remaining seven waterways. Their declaration and subsequent development will depend upon availability of resources.

Government also extends financial support to State Governments on 50% sharing basis for implementing various projects under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for improving existing waterways through dredging, river training, shore marking and providing other infrastructural facilities and also augmenting IWT fleet by the State Governments.

Besides, action has also been initiated to evolve a policy framework and strategy for development of inland water transport. *Inter-alia* the policy framework envisages facilitating private participation in areas such as ownership and operation of Inland Water Transport fleet, construction and operation of river terminals, mechanised cargo handling system, joint venture participation etc.

(c) The inland water transport operations are to be carried out by IWT operators. Such operators *viz.* CIWTC, Directorate of IWT, Assam, Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Company and private operators have already been operating on three National Waterways and waterways in Goa and Mumbai.

### **Meetings of N.S.C.**

5068. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of meetings of the National Security Council held during the last two years, date-wise; and

(b) the important decisions arrived at, if any?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The National Security Council (NSC) consists of the Prime Minister, the Home Minister, the Defence Minister, the External Affairs Minister, the Finance Minister and the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. While the NSC has met formally only once, it is to be noted that four of its members have had about 20 meetings during the last six months to review the country's security system in its entirety. In addition, five of its members are also members of the Cabinet Committee on Security which meets often to discuss security issues and takes important decisions relating to the country's defence forces.

### **Indian Ports**

5069. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the disembarkation facility at Indian Ports at Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are not available as per international norm;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake any study to identify constraints and bottlenecks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Disembarkation facilities such as berthing of vessel alongwith the ramp for disabled passengers. Terminal and waiting areas, water supply and toilets etc. as well as security guards are available at Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta Ports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Acquisition of Bullet-Proof Jackets**

5070. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army had sent a proposal to purchase about 20,000 Bullet-Proof Jackets for soldiers fighting in Jammu and Kashmir in 1999;

(b) whether there is squabble over purchase of Bullet-Proof Jackets among the officials of the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Army had sent a proposal to purchase 20,000 Bullet Proof Jackets for soldiers fighting in Jammu and Kashmir in 3rd week of December, 1999. Finalization of the case has taken some time since Bullet Proof Jacket is a critical life saving item and due care has to be taken at every stage to ensure that only such jackets are procured which fully meet the Technical Specifications and Performance Parameters prescribed in the General Staff Qualitative Requirement. Adequate number of Bullet Proof Jackets is however held with the troops fighting militants in Jammu and Kashmir and those deployed along the line of control. The procurement action is at an advanced stage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply at (b) above.

[Translation]

### **Survey of Bhind-Mahoba Rail Line**

5071. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of progress made with regard to survey of Bhind-Mahoba via Urai railway line; and

(b) the time by which the survey is likely to be completed along with the funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The Terms of Reference of the survey have been approved by the Government and the survey is in progress.

(b) The survey is likely to be completed by 31.3.2002. The approximate cost of the survey is Rs. 13.9 lakhs. The amount allocated for this survey in 2000-01 budget is Rs. 9.23 lakhs.

### **Infrastructural Development of Tourist Spots In U.P.**

5072. YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted a proposal to the Union Government for infrastructural development of the Gorakhpur division so as to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by the Union Government therefor;

(c) whether the basic facilities are available for the indigenous and foreign tourists at the major Buddhist Spots and the Ramgarh Tal and Lake; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Improvement of basic facilities is an on going process and is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with the State Governments and UT Administration every year.

(d) Four infrastructure projects with Central component of Rs. 96.93 lakhs have been sanctioned at Buddhist spots in Uttar Pradesh during the first three years of Ninth Plan.

### Supply of LNG to Rajasthan

5073. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to allot more quota of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to Rajasthan for its industrial development keeping in view the vast reserves of ceramic in the State;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

### Doubling and Electrifying of Surat-Bhusawal Rail Line

5074. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of efforts made by the Government for doubling and electrifying of Surat-Bhusawal rail line; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Double BG line already exists on Surat-Udhna and Bhusawal-Jalgaon sections. Further, the survey for doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon section is in progress. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

The electrification work on Jalgaon-Udhna section, which is a non-electrified portion of Surat-Bhusawal line, is in progress, and is targeted for completion by March, 2003, subject to availability of funds.

### Scheme to Avoid Air Crash

5075. SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether air crashes of AI planes have increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to avoid air crashes of the Air India planes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There have been no accident to Air India aircraft during the last 3 years *i.e.* November, 1997 to December, 2000 (till date).

(c) and (d) To avoid air crashes, continuous safety measures are taken by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) such as 100% monitoring of flight recorders, safety audit of airlines, flight checks of crew by DGCA Flight Inspectors, implementation of safety recommendations emanating from accidents, inspection of aerodromes, installation of Minimum Safe Altitude Warning (MSAW) system on Air Traffic Control Radars, installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) and Ground Proximity Warning System (GPWS) on aeroplanes etc.

### Reservation Quota for Petrol Pumps & LPG for OBC

5076. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any quota for allotment of petrol pump and LPG has been reserved for other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the oil companies;

(b) if so, whether the private oil companies like Reliance are following the same rule;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to make provision for providing reservation in the future; and

(e) the time by which orders are likely to be issued in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal, at present.

[English]

### Manufacturing of Illegal LPG Cylinders

5077. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

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

(a) whether illegal LPG cylinder manufacturing units are functioning in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken against the illegal units;
- (d) whether complaints of explosion of such cylinder have also been received;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (f) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are procuring cylinders from the approved cylinder manufacturers having the statutory clearances from CCOE and BIS. However, the Ministry received some complaints relating to illegal manufacturing of mini cylinders in Meerut (U.P.) and State Government of Uttar Pradesh along with other State Governments was advised to conduct surprise raids on the premises of illegal manufacturers and take appropriate action.

#### **Appointment of Sole Selling Agents**

5078. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have banned appointment of sole selling agents for marketing cement, paper and bulk drugs; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government is of the opinion that in respect of Cement, Paper and Bulk Drugs demand and supply position is such that services of the Sole Selling Agents are not necessary for creating a market for such goods.

#### **Permission to Crown Express to start Airlines**

5079. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Aviation Company "Crown Express" has applied for permission to start an Airlines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total capital outlay projected by the company;

(d) whether the company applied to AAC for purchase of six aircrafts;

(e) if so, the details thereof with the price of each aircraft;

(f) whether any shortcomings in the company's application/proposal has been noticed; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not rejecting the application/proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. M/s Crown Express Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application on 19th July, 2000 for NOC to operate scheduled air transport services with 6 B-737 class of aircraft on dry lease basis. The authorised and subscribed equity capital of this company is Rs. 1.00 lakh which is proposed to be raised to Rs. 111.39 crores. On 24.8.2000 approval was issued by the M/o Industry on the FIPB proposal for 40% foreign equity participation (Rs. 44.55 crores) and 60% NRI equity (Rs. 66.83 crores).

(f) and (g) The proposal has been considered by the Aircraft Acquisition Committee on 10th November, 2000 and was deferred for consideration, because :

- (i) The company has not appointed the Chairman who should be an Indian national as per statutory requirement;
- (ii) Names/identity of the foreign investors and declaration that they do not have direct or indirect foreign airline connection has not been furnished;
- (iii) The authorised/subscribed equity capital is far below the prescribed level of Rs. 30.00 crores for operators proposing to operate with aircraft of all-up-weight of more than 40,000 kgs.

#### **Air Services between Bhubaneswar and Bangalore**

5080. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to provide air services between Bhubaneswar and Bangalore, Bhubaneswar and Chennai and Bhubaneswar to Trivandrum;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the time by which the air services are expected to start on these routes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Indian Airlines is already operating daily air service between Bhubaneswar and Bangalore via Delhi and a four days a week service

between Bhubaneswar and Chennai. However, commercial/operational constraints do not permit direct airlink between Bhubaneswar and Thiruvananthapuram. Airlines operators are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject of course to the compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

[Translation]

### Operation of Flight of Private Airlines

5081. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over those routes to the private airlines operators where the Indian Airlines has been incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Airlines operators are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject to the compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

### Theft of Booked Luggage

5082. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of claims for theft of booked luggage in trains filed by the parties during the last three years, zone-wise;

(b) the number of claims settled along with compensation paid, during the last three years, zone-wise;

(c) the number of officials found guilty in this regard and action taken against them, zone-wise; and

(d) the measures taken to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

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

(d) Following measures among others have been taken to check the crimes :

- Escorting of trains carrying valuable consignments over vulnerable sections.

- RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.
- Plain clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals.
- Based on criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of criminals/receivers of stolen property in order to bring them to book.
- Dog squads are deployed for patrolling vulnerable yards and areas.
- Close coordination between RPF, GRP and Local Police is maintained at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen property.

### Statement

Railway	Period	No. of Claims Registered on account of theft	No. of claims settled	Amount Paid (in lakhs)
CR	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
ER	1997-98	74	32	0.12
	1998-99	115	85	0.56
	1999-2000	91	88	0.85
NR	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
NER	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
NFR	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
SR	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
SCR	1997-98	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1998-99	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1999-2000	Nil	Nil	Nil
SER	1997-98	62	3	0.21
	1998-99	80	1	—
	1999-2000	67	2	0.03
WR	1997-98	50	13	0.33
	1998-99	80	27	1.5
	1999-2000	50	9	0.6

*[English]***Civic Amenities in Secunderabad Cantonment**

5083. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Secunderabad Cantonment Board has drawn up a series of measures to tone up its functioning and improve civic amenities on the lines of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether poor water supply system and poor condition of roads in the area need immediate attention; and

(d) the steps being taken to sanction special grant for making infrastructural improvement in this largest Cantonment of the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The Secunderabad Cantonment Board has drawn its detailed programme for improving civic amenities, including road repairs, augmentation of water supply/storage facilities and other infrastructural works in the cantonment area in the current financial year. Since Secunderabad Cantonment Board is, financially, self sufficient, it will be able to meet the required expenditure out of its own resources.

**Air-bus Service from New Delhi to Bhubaneswar**

5084. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK :  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for operation of Air-bus services from New Delhi to Bhubaneswar every day;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether all the routes of the country connected by Air-bus services are running in profit; and

(d) if so, the details of the routes with their income?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines' available fleet of A320 aircraft is currently fully deployed and spare capacity is not available to consider increase in A320 operations between Delhi and Bhubaneswar.

(c) and (d) Deployment of aircraft on various routes depends upon the traffic demand and availability of aircraft from time to time. No specific allocation of aircraft is made on a particular route.

As per the provisional figures, out of the 61 domestic routes operated by Indian Airlines in the first quarter of the current financial year, 45 routes earned cash surplus. This is despite increase in the price of ATF and other input costs.

**Operation of Bhubaneswar Airport**

5085. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a domestic airport in Rourkela in Orissa, as it is an important industrial and commercial centre;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Airport at Rourkela belongs to Steel Authority of India. It is suitable for operation by 50 seater class of aircraft. No airlines has shown interest to operate schedule flight from Rourkela. Airports Authority of India have no plan to upgrade the airport.

(c) Does not arise.

**Entry of Foreign Lawyers**

5086. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made for the entry of foreign lawyers to run their practice in India by grace of W.T.O.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen**

5087. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-servicemen in the country, State-wise and especially in Uttar Pradesh as on date,

(b) the funds provided for their rehabilitation during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase these funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) As per available information, 15.8 lakh ex-Servicemen were registered with the Zila Sainik Boards in the country. In Uttar Pradesh, the number of registered ex-Servicemen is 2,74,037. A statement giving the State-wise number of ex-Servicemen is attached.

(b) to (d) The State Governments undertake various resettlement and welfare schemes for ex-Servicemen from their own resources. The Central Government, however, shares 50% of the establishment and maintenance cost of the Departments of Sainik Welfare and Zila Sainik Welfare Offices with the State Governments.

**Statement**

S.No.	State	No. of registered ex-Servicemen
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58,949
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	206
3.	Assam	17,085
4.	Bihar	60,931
5.	Goa	1,551
6.	Gujarat	13,296
7.	Himachal Pradesh	78,874
8.	Haryana	1,68,044
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	50,230
10.	Karnataka	46,883
11.	Kerala	1,28,565
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30,317
13.	Maharashtra	1,45,449
14.	Manipur	3,740
15.	Meghalaya	1,809
16.	Mizoram	4,101
17.	Nagaland	1,994
18.	Orissa	15,826
19.	Punjab	1,93,380
20.	Rajasthan	1,00,592
21.	Sikkim	1,130
22.	Tamil Nadu	1,04,621
23.	Tripura	1,656
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2,74,037
25.	West Bengal	40,262
26.	A & N Islands	473
27.	Chandigarh	6,033
28.	Delhi	29,987
29.	Pondicherry	1,196

[English]

**Air Strips in North East Region**

5088. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of Air Strips and their locations in North East Region;

(b) whether these Air Strips are operational; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to operationalise these Air Strips?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is maintaining four airports at Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Lilabari and Rupsi and three Civil Enclaves at Silchar, Jorhat and Tejpur in Assam; one airport at Passighat and four Civil Enclave at Along, Daparizo, Zero and Tezu in Arunachal Pradesh; Imphal airport at Manipur; Lengpui airport at Mizoram; Shillong airport at Meghalaya; Dimapur airport in Nagaland; and four airports at Agartala, Kamalpur, Kailashahar and Khowai in Tripura States. There is no airport in the State of Sikkim.

(b) Airports at Rupsi, Passighat, Kamalpur, Kailashahar, Khowai, and Civil Enclaves at Along, Daparizo, Zero, Tezu are non-operational.

(c) Since no Airline has requested for operation of civil flights from these airstrips, AAI has no proposal to operationalise the non-operational airstrips.

**Instrument Landing Systems at Airports**

5089. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE :  
DR. ASHOK PATEL :  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :  
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the airports at which category I, II and III instrument landing system has been installed;

(b) the advantage that has been derived from the installation of these sophisticated category II instrument landing system;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the financial losses suffered by Air India, Indian Airlines and foreign airlines due to cancellation of flights and postponement of their domestic as well as international flights due to fog in Hyderabad, Delhi and Srinagar Airports during 1999-2000;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and



(e) the steps proposed to be taken to facilitate the landing of aircraft even in the heavy fog by imparting training to its pilots?

**THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) :** (a) Category I Instrument Landing System (ILS) has been provided at Agartala, Amritsar, Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bhubaneshwar, Bangalore, Bhopal, Khajuraho, Calcutta, Chennai, Coimbatore, Calicut, Dibrugarh, Delhi (Runway 28 & 10), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Jaipur, Jammu, Lucknow, Mangalore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi, Rajkot, Trichy, Trivandrum, Udaipur, Varanasi and Vadodara airports. Category II system has been provided at Delhi airport (runway 28 end). no airport has Cat.-III ILS at present.

(b) The Category II ILS permit authorized aircraft to operate in visibility conditions better than 350 metres. In this way, less number of flights are disrupted.

(c) and (d) The Financial loss on account of disruption of flights because of fog is being ascertained.

(e) Detailed guidelines have been circulated by the DGCA to all the concerned airlines prescribing the requirements for granting authorisation to pilots for conducting Category II and Cat.-III A operations. Indian Airlines, Air India and Jet Airways have been granted authorization to operate in CAT.-II ILS conditions.

*[Translation]*

### **Sale of Surplus NTC Land**

5090. **SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question no. 2864 on August 10, 2000 and state :

(a) whether permission has been obtained from the State Governments of Bihar, Assam, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh for the sale of unused and surplus land of National Textiles Corporation mills;

(b) if not, the action taken by the Government to obtain early permission in this regard and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to obtain permission from those State Governments which have not given permission in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) :** (a) The State Governments of Bihar and Orissa are yet to give their response for sale of unused and surplus land of NTC mills. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have no objection to the sale of surplus land of NTC mills provided the proceeds are used for revival of the mills located in

that State without any diversion and the sale is being done as a national policy. Government of Assam has stated that the land with NTC mills is ceiling surplus land and therefore cannot be sold.

(b) and (c) The matter has been taken up again with the State Governments for giving unconditional approval for sale of surplus land and appropriate conversion of land use.

*[English]*

### **Setting up of Fuel Testing Laboratory at Nasik**

5091. **SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up fuel testing laboratory at Nasik in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) :** (a) to (c) The Oil Marketing Companies have no proposal to set up fuel testing laboratory at Nasik. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has a laboratory with CFR Engine for octane testing at Manmad. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. have commissioned a mobile laboratory at Aurangabad for testing fuel samples. These laboratories cater to the requirements of Nasik also.

*[Translation]*

### **Medical Facilities at Railway Station**

5092. **DR. ASHOK PATEL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide medical facilities with doctors at various railway stations;

(b) if so, the names of the railway stations which have identified therefor, zone-wise; and

(c) the time by which the medical facilities are likely to be provided?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) :** (a) to (c) A pilot project to provide exclusive chemist shops at nine railway stations, such as Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CSTM), Mumbai Central, Howrah, Sealdah, New Delhi, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Chennai and Secunderabad is under consideration. Besides, the Station Masters of each Railway Station now maintains a list of all the Medical

facilities available in the vicinity of the Railway Stations, including their addresses and telephone numbers. Moreover, 158 model 'A' stations have been earmarked for providing augmented first aid facilities.

The licensees of these Chemist shops are expected to provide a qualified doctor in busy hours at their establishments. As this is a pilot project, no time-frame can be indicated at present.

[English]

### Company Law Settlement Scheme

5093. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases settled in Company Law Settlement Scheme, State-wise; and

(b) the total income earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) A Statement showing the number of cases settled in Company Law Settlement Scheme, State-wise is attached.

(b) The total income earned is Rs. 136.83 crore.

#### Statement

State(s)	No. of Companies which availed the Company Law Settlement Scheme
Andhra Pradesh	9,108
Bihar	1,455
Delhi and Haryana	22,605
Goa	500
Gujarat	7,757
Jammu and Kashmir	383
Karnataka	7,049
Kerala	3,864
Madhya Pradesh	5,134
Maharashtra	29,417
Meghalaya and all North Eastern States	922
Orissa	1,727
Pondicherry (UT)	301
Punjab and Himachal Pradesh	3,654
Rajasthan	2,835
Tamil Nadu	12,374
Uttar Pradesh	4,049
West Bengal	13,949
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,27,083</b>

[Translation]

### Expenditure Incurred on Guard

5094. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Guards working under the Central Government of Madhya Pradesh are posted at different airports of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government has requested the Union Government to reimburse the expenditure incurred on them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said reimbursement is likely to be made to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) At all operational airports except Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, State Police personnel are deployed for security duties. At Bhopal airport, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been deployed w.e.f. 16.3.2000 in place of State Police to perform security duties.

(b) and (c) The expenditure incurred by State Police on security functions at airports, is reimbursed by Airports Authority of India (AAI). Details of the claims of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh are being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

### Renovation of Railway Stations in Gujarat

5095. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the condition of railway stations in Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar and other districts of Gujarat is bad;

(b) whether any scheme has been chalked out to renovate them; and

(c) if so, the names of stations which would be given priority along with expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Condition of railway stations in the State of Gujarat is satisfactory.

(b) and (c) Improvement to condition of railway stations is a continuous process. Works in this regard are sanctioned through Annual Works Programme of the Railway. Works costing Rs. 13.24 crore have been taken up at various stations in the State of Gujarat. The names

of the stations where major works have been taken up alongwith cost of sanctioned works, are given in Appendix.

### Statement

Name of station	Cost of work (in lakhs of Rs.)	Name of station	Cost of work (in lakhs of Rs.)
Surat	193.88	Valsad	38.59
Vadodara	178.74	Maninagar	42.49
Ahmedabad	226.00	Mehsana	63.57
Rajkot	218.94	Sabarmati	27.43
Bhavnagar	51.25	Veraval	26.43
Junagarh	16.00	Surendemagar	18.91
Betad	19.50	Sidhpur	21.58

### Service Conditions of Assistants and ACSOs

5096. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the confirmation, seniority and promotion of employees of Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service (i.e. Assistants and ACSOs) are governed by AFHQ Civil Service Rules;

(b) whether Department of Personnel and Training (DoP&T) instructions dated March 28, 1988 to effect one time confirmation without amending the Recruitment Rules are being followed in AFHQ Civil Service; and

(c) if so, the reasons as to why the DoP&T instructions dated February 07, 1986 despite a clarification *vide* DoP&T D.O. No. 20021/1/84-Est(D) dated October 19, 1994 are not being followed in AFHQ Civil Service to determine the seniority of ACSOs for the last fourteen years?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. DoP&T instructions dated 28th March, 1988 to effect one time confirmation are being followed in AFHQ since no procedure for confirmation exists in the AFHQ Civil Service Rules, 1968.

(c) The instructions contained in DoP&T OM dated 07 February, 1986 on the subject of *inter-se* seniority between direct recruits and promotees are not being followed by the department as procedure for regulating such seniority exists in the AFHQ Civil Service Rules, 1968.

[Translation]

### Development of Tourist Places in Maharashtra

5097. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of tourist places in Maharashtra;

(b) whether tourist places of Maharashtra are being neglected;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There are a number of tourist places in Maharashtra. However, the State Government of Maharashtra has developed 51 places which include hill-stations, beaches, historical places, religious places, etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Development and promotion of tourist places/pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations concerned. However, Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides central financial assistance on the basis of projects prioritised every year in consultation with the States/UTs concerned.

For the year 2000-2001, 11 projects for Rs. 1181.00 lakhs have been prioritised for Maharashtra.

The Government is attracting foreign as well as domestic tourists by promoting India through its 18 overseas offices including the State of Maharashtra by advertising in print & electronic media, participations in travel fairs, inviting media and travel agents, extensive use of Information Technology in tourism promotions, etc.

[English]

### Aerosports Discipline of Defence

5098. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts being made to encourage various aerosports discipline of defence in the country; and

(b) the funds allocated therefor in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The efforts being made to encourage various aero-sports discipline by the three Services and

the NCC in the country include Gliding, Powered flying, Microlight flying, Para-sailing, Para-jumping, Sky Diving, Aqua Sailing, Para Gliding, Para Motor, Hang-gliding, Powered Hang-gliding and Hot air ballooning.

(b) Funds provided for aerospports by the Ministry of Defence during 2000-2001 are as follows :

Army	Rs. 42 lakhs
Navy	Rs. 1.50 lakhs
Air Force	Rs. 85 lakhs
NCC	Rs. 17.34 crores.

[English]

### Tatkal Reservation

5099. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the trains and the stations where the Tatkal Reservation facility is available;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend this facility on more trains and Railway Stations;

(c) if so, the details thereof, train/station-wise;

(d) the procedure and formalities to be undertaken by the travelling passenger to get the ticket from Tatkal Reservation Scheme;

(e) whether the Government have received complaints regarding corruption in the Tatkal Reservation Scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A list indicating the details of the trains in which the Tatkal reservation facility is available is given in the statement attached. The reservation under Tatkal Scheme can be secured from any Computerised location.

(b) and (c) The extension of Tatkal scheme to any train or any class depends on the demand pattern and operational feasibility.

(d) To procure reservation under Tatkal scheme, a passenger has to produce either credit card of a bank with or without laser based photograph or a laser laminated photo identity card with a proper serial number or a voter identity card with photograph or a passport or a driving licence with laser laminated photographs or a ration card. The passenger has to carry the same proof of identity during the journey on the basis of which he/she has procured the reservation.

(e) and (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

### Statement

Sl. No.	No. of the train	Name of the train	Class
1	2	3	4
1.	1013	Lokmanya Tilak Terminus-Caimbatore Express	SL
2.	1015	Lokmanya Tilak Terminus-Gorakhpur Kushi Nagar Express	SL
3.	1016	Gorakhpur-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Kushi Nagar Express	SL
4.	1019	Mumbai-Bhubaneshwar Konark Express	SL
5.	1020	Bhubaneshwar-Mumbai Konark Express	SL
6.	1027	Dadar-Gorakhpur Kashi Express	SL
7.	1028	Gorakhpur-Dadar Kashi Express	SL
8.	1063	Dadar-Chennai Express	SL
9.	1064	Chennai Dadar Express	SL
10.	2009	Mumbai-Ahmedabad Shatabdi Express	CC
11.	2010	Ahmedabad-Mumbai Shatabdi Express	CC
12.	2013	New Delhi-Amritsar Shatabdi Express	CC
13.	2101	Kurla-Howrah Express	3AC, 2AC
14.	2102	Howrah-Kurla Express	3AC
15.	2105	Mumbai-Nagpur Vidharba Express	SL
16.	2106	Nagpur-Mumbai Vidharba Express	SL
17.	2137	Mumbai-New Delhi Punjab Mail	3A
18.	2165	Lokmanya Tilak Terminus-Varanasi Ratnagiri Express	SL
19.	2303	Howrah-New Delhi Poorva Express	SL
20.	2304	New Delhi-Howrah Poorva Express	SL
21.	2381	Howrah-New Delhi Poorva Express	SL
22.	2382	New Delhi-Howrah Poorva Express	SL
23.	2391	Patna-New Delhi Magadha Express	SL
24.	2392	New Delhi-Patna Magadh Express	SL
25.	2401	Patna-New Delhi Shramjeevi Express	SL
26.	2402	New Delhi-Patna Shramjeevi Express	SL
27.	2403	Delhi-Jammu Tawi Jammu Express	SL

1	2	3	4
28.	2404	Jammu Tawi-Delhi Jammu Express	SL
29.	2415	Indore-H. Nizamuddin Inter-City Express	SL
30.	2416	H. Nizamuddin-Indore Inter-City Express	SL
31.	2421	Bhubaneshwar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express	3AC
32.	2422	New Delhi Bhubaneshwar Rajdhani Express	3AC
33.	2423	Guwahati-New Delhi Rajdhani Express	3AC
34.	2424	New Delhi-Guwahati Rajdhani Express	3AC
35.	2471	Mumbai Central-Jammu Tawi Swaraj Express	SL
36.	2472	Jammu Tawi-Mumbai Central Swaraj Express	SL
37.	2473	Ahmedabad-Jammu Tawi Sarvodaya Express	SL
38.	2475	Hapa-Jammu Tawi Superfast Express	SL
39.	2477	Jamnagar-Jammu Tawi Express	SL
40.	2621	Chennai-New Delhi Tamilnadu Express	SL
41.	2622	New Delhi-Chennai Tamilnadu Express	SL
42.	2627	Bangalore-New Delhi Karnataka Express	SL
43.	2841	Chennai-Howrah Coromandal Express	2AC,3AC & SL
44.	2842	Chennai-Howrah Coromandal Express	SL
45.	2859	Mumbai-Howrah Geetanjali Express	SL
46.	2860	Howrah-Mumbai Geetanjali Express	SL
47.	2901	Mumbai-Ahmedabad Gujarat Mail	3 AC
48.	2902	Ahmedabad-Mumbai Gujarat Mail	3 AC
49.	2903	Mumbai Central-Amritsar Golden Temple Mail	SL
50.	2904	Amritsar-Mumbai Central Golden Temple Mail	SL
51.	2915	Ahmedabad-Delhi Ashram Express	SL
52.	2916	Delhi-Ahmedabad Ashram Express	SL
53.	2925	Bandra Terminus-Amritsar Paschim Express	SL
54.	2926	Amritsar-Bandra Terminus Paschim Express	SL
55.	2927	Mumbai Central-Vadodara Express	SL
56.	2928	Vadodara-Mumbai Central Express	SL
57.	2953	Mumbai Central-H. Nizamuddin August Kranti Express	3AC
58.	2954	H. Nizamuddin-Mumbai Central August Kranti Express	3AC

1	2	3	4
59.	2955	Mumbai Central-Jaipur Superfast Express	SL
60.	2956	Jaipur-Mumbai Cental Superfast Express	SL
61.	3045	Howrah-Guwahati Saraighat Express	SL
62.	3046	Guwahati-Howrah Saraighat Express	SL
63.	3073	Howrah-Jammu Tawi Himgiri Express	SL
64.	3074	Jammu Tawi-Howrah Himgiri Express	SL
65.	3231	Howrah-Danapur Express	SL
66.	3232	Danapur-Howrah Express	SL
67.	4257	Varanasi-New Delhi Kashi Vishwanath Express	SL
68.	4645	New Delhi-Jammu Tawi Shalimar Express	SL
69.	4646	Jammu Tawi-New Delhi Shalimar Express	SL
70.	4707	Bikaner-Bandra Ranakpur Express	SL
71.	4708	Bandra-Bikaner Ranakpur Express	SL
72.	5651	Guwahati-Jammu Tawi Lohit Express	SL
73.	6004	Chennai-Howrah Mail	SL
74.	6007	Chennai-Bangalore Mail	SL
75.	6008	Bangalore-Chennai Mail	SL
76.	6039	Chennai-Varanasi Express	SL
77.	6046	Chennai-Ahmedabad Navjivan Express	SL
78.	6121	Egmore-Kanyakumari Express	SL
79.	6122	Kanyakumari-Egmore Express	SL
80.	6319	Chennai-Trivandrum Mail	SL
81.	6320	Trivandrum-Chennai Mail	SL
82.	6329	Trivandrum-Mangalore Malabar Express	SL
83.	6330	Mangalore-Trivandrum Malabar Express	SL
84.	6346	Ernakulam-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Netravati Express	SL
85.	6508	Bangalore-Ajmer Express	SL
86.	6502	Bangalore-Ahmedabad Express	SL
87.	6510	Bangalore-Jodhpur Express	SL
88.	6525	Kanyakumari-Bangalore Express	SL
89.	6526	Bangalore-Kanyakumari Express	SL
90.	6605	Chennai-Mettupalayam Nilgiri Express	SL
91.	6606	Mettupalayam-Chennai Nilgiri Express	SL

1	2	3	4
92.	6669	Chennai–Erode Yearcaud Express	SL
93.	6670	Erode–Chennai Yearcaud Express	SL
94.	6717	Egmore–Madurai Pandian Express	SL
95.	6718	Madurai–Egmore Pandian Express	SL
96.	6804	Tiruchirappalli–Howrah Express	SL
97.	7001	Mumbai–Hyderabad Hussainsagar Express	SL
98.	7031	Mumbai–Hyderabad Express	SL
99.	8603	Hatia–Delhi Jharkhand Swarana Jayanti Express	SL
100.	8605	Hatia-Delhi Jharkhand Swarna Jayanti Express	SL
101.	9005	Mumbai Central–Okha Saurashtra Mail	SL
102.	9006	Okha–Mumbai Central Saurashtra Mail	SL
103.	9031	Mumbai Central–Gandhidham Kutch Express	SL
104.	9032	Gandhidham–Mumbai Central Kutch Express	SL
105.	9305	Indore–Howrah Shipra Express	SL

### Financial Assistance to Flying Club in Karnataka

5100. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been giving financial assistance to private flying clubs as well as to the institution run by the State Government;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance given to private clubs and to the Government Flying Training School in Bangalore during 1999-2000; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No financial assistance (subvention) is given to private flying clubs by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation. Subvention is given to such flying clubs/institutions as are run by the State Governments and also to those covered under the subsidy scheme.

(b) and (c) Since Government Flying Training School, Bangalore did not submit any claim for subvention during the year 1999-2000, no financial assistance was provided.

### Incomplete Refinery Projects

5101. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of Oil Companies which have kept incomplete refinery projects on their hands;

(b) the progress of each such incomplete refinery project;

(c) the reasons due to which these projects have remained incomplete;

(d) whether any efforts is being made to complete these projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target date fixed for the completion of these oil refinery projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) There have been some slippages in implementation of the following refinery projects.

(i) **6.0 Million metric tonnes per annum grassroot Central India Refinery Project at Bina (Madhya Pradesh)** : Land acquisition, technology selection and receipt of all environmental clearances have been completed. Implementation of the project has been delayed due to delay in receipt of certain environmental clearances. Continuous follow-up and efforts were made to obtain the various environmental clearances. The target date for completion of the project will depend on the decision by the joint venture partner to confirm participation in the project. The project is expected to be completed within 48 months from the date of commencement of project execution.

(ii) **9.0 million tonnes per annum grassroot refinery at Abhayachandrapur, Paradeep (Orissa)** : Major portion of land has been acquired, technology selection and environmental clearances for the project have been completed. Implementation of the project has been delayed due to withdrawal of joint venture partner from the project. After withdrawal of the joint venture partner, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has proposed to implement the project on its own. The project as per present schedule is likely to be completed in year 2003.

(iii) **9.0 million metric tonnes per annum grassroot Refinery Project at Bhatinda in Punjab** : All environmental clearances for the project have been received. Approximately 2,000 acres of land has been acquired for the project. Implementation of the project has been delayed due to delay in receipt of certain environmental clearances and withdrawal of joint venture partner from the project. Government has permitted Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to execute the refinery project through a 100% subsidiary company of HPCL, after tying up funding for the project. HPCL would induct a joint venture partner into the project, if so required, subsequently. The project is likely to be completed by the year 2005.

### Issuing of Photo Identity Cards in Orissa

5102. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of voters in Orissa;
- (b) the number of voters who have been issued photo identity cards in Orissa;
- (c) whether the Union Government have released 50% of the total cost incurred by Orissa for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The Election Commission has informed that as per the latest report received from the Chief Electoral Officer, Orissa, the total number of voters in Orissa is 2,41,72,899 and the number of persons issued with defect-free Photo Identity Cards is 1,81,88,207

(c) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has released provisional advance payments in excess of the 50% of the total expenditure incurred by the State Government of Orissa for the purpose of preparation of Photo Identity Cards, upto the financial year 1999-2000.

(d) The State Government of Orissa has, since 1994-95, been allowed an on-account advance payment of Rs. 17,75,00,244/- as Government of India's share of expenditure likely to be incurred on preparation of Photo Identity Cards. The audit certificates issued by the State Accountant General, for the years 1994-95 to 1997-98 indicate that the Government of India's share of the expenditure incurred on this account during the said years is Rs. 15,69,32,899/-. The provisional figures of the Government of India's share of the expenditure for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as received from the State Government do not indicate any expenditure having been incurred on this account. Thus, till 1999-2000, the State Government of Orissa was having an unutilized amount of Rs. 2,05,67,345/- of the Government of India's share of expenditure on preparation of Photo Identity Cards.

### Employment Generation in Armed Forces

5103. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of employment opportunities generated in the Defence Services during the last three years;
- (b) the percentage of employment opportunities generated in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether the Defence Services have not achieved the desired success in attracting the youths of Kashmir Divisions; and

(d) if so, the action plan formulated to generate employment opportunities in the Armed Forces and to make it more popular?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Significant employment opportunities have been generated in the Defence Services during the last three years. 1,57,942 number of personnel have been recruited during the last three years in Defence Services.

(b) No such data is maintained by the Government.

(c) and (d) Frequent recruitment rallies have been conducted every year in Jammu and Kashmir to attract the youth from the Valley. Although, representation from the J&K has been comparatively less due to inadequate response from the candidates, the same is constantly increasing due to special publicity/recruitment drives launched in the valley during the preceding years. Adequate publicity through advertisement in leading national/regional newspapers/motivational lectures/media/NCC activities is given to create awareness among the youth to motivate them to join the Armed Forces.

### Heritage Train for Shekhawati

5104. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to introduce a heritage train for Shekhawati is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for speedy implementation of the said scheme; and

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

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

(b) and (c) The required type of Metre Gauge coaches are not available at present.

[Translation]

### Employees on Deputation in Concor

5105. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers and employees working on deputation in A, B, C and D categories respectively in Container Corporation of India;

(b) the names of departments where from all these employees have come and criteria on which they were taken on deputation therein; and

(c) the period of deputation of all these officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No. of officers and employees working on deputation in A, B, C, and D categories are as under :

Group A	34
Group B	19
Group C	1
Group D	Nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

(b)(i) Names of organisations/departments wherefrom all these employees have come :

Department/Organisation	No. of deputationists
Railways	43
Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd.	5
Deptt. of Revenue/Min. of Finance	1
Airport Authority of India Ltd.	1
Centre for Railway Information System	1
National Projects, Constructions Corp. Ltd.	2
Madhya Pradesh State Warehousing Corp.	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

(ii) Criteria on which they were taken on deputation :

Their rich experience in the relevant field and organisational requirements.

(c) The period of deputation ranges from 1 to 5 years.

[English]

### I.T.D.C. Projects

5106. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ITDC projects in hand along with the expenditure incurred on each project;

(b) the details of ITDC projects which have been completed timely; and

(c) the details of projects found carrying weaknesses, deficiencies and even pointed out by CTE/CBI/CVC?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Presently, only one ITDC project i.e. Hotel at Chandigarh is under implementation and expenditure of Rs. 7.60 crores approx. has so far been incurred.

(b) During the last 5 years, ITDC has not constructed any new hotel.

(c) In all, 8 project works comprising of 2 civil and 6 electrical have been inspected/examined by CTE/CBI/CVC during the last 5 years.

### Re-Modelling Retail Outlets in Maharashtra

5107. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Oil Companies of the country have taken up renovation and remodelling of retail petrol and diesel outlets in the country;

(b) if so, the names of each outlet renovated and remodelled in Maharashtra so far, oil company-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the renovation for remaining outlets in Maharashtra, oil company-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (e) During the last three years (i.e., 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000), 113 retail outlets have been renovated/remodelled by the oil companies in Maharashtra. The company-wise details are as under :

Name of the oil Company	Number of retail outlets renovated/remodelled
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	56
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	30
Hidnustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	18
IIBP Co. Limited	09

The renovation/remodelling of retail outlets is an on-going process undertaken in a phased manner.



### Sale of Fake Railway Tickets

5108. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fake manual Railway tickets are being sold unhindered at various railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total loss suffered by the Railways therefrom during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the current year, only one case was detected on a station of North Eastern Railway involving one Railway staff. He was suspended and major penalty action under disciplinary rules initiated against him.

(c) The loss is not quantifiable.

(d) Apart from regular checks, the checking squads have been asked to keep strict vigil especially in general coaches. Announcements are also made advising the travelling public to desist from purchasing tickets from sources other than the booking counters. Railway staff, if found conniving in sale of fake tickets, are taken up under disciplinary rules.

### Nuclear Air Command

5109. SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a Nuclear Air Command for the Indian Air Force in view of the threat perception from the potential enemy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of countries in the world which are having nuclear air commands?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) It would not be desirable to disclose these details in the interest of the National security.

(d) It is understood that the United States Air Force has a Strategic Air Command. France, China and Russia are also understood to have Strategic Forces, placed under a single command.

### Misuse of Railway Saloons

5110. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed some restrictions on use of Railway Saloons by officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of a large scale misuse of saloons by top ranking officials;

(d) if so, the number of times railway saloons have been used by the officials, zone-wise, separately alongwith the purpose during the last one year; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent misuse of railway saloons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. However, Railway Saloons (Inspection Carriages) are to be used when travelling on inspection duty and subject to operational feasibility.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Instructions are reiterated that railway saloons are strictly for inspections.

### Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies in Manipur

5111. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of LPG agencies and petrol pumps allotted to the State of Manipur during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the target set for allotment of new LPG agencies and Petrol pumps in Manipur during 2000-2001; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) to (c) During the last three years (*i.e.*, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000) 5 LPG distributorships were allotted in the State of Manipur. No retail outlet dealership was allotted in the State of Manipur during this period.

To meet the increased demand, 2 retail outlets and 15 LPG distributorships have been included in the Marketing Plan 1996-98 for the State of Manipur. More dealerships/distributorships will be set up on the basis of feasibility surveys.

[Translation]

### **Vacant Posts of Managing Directors**

5112. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the time by when the posts of full time Managing Director of the Indian Airlines and Air India have been lying vacant;

(b) the reasons for not making any appointments on these posts; and

(c) the time by which the Government proposes to make appointments on these posts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The post of full time Managing Director of Air India Ltd. has been filled on regular basis *w.e.f.* 23.1.1998.

As regards Indian Airlines Ltd., the post of full time Chairman and Managing Director, fell vacant on 26.5.2000. One of the Joint Secretaries who is now also the administrative Joint Secretary of Indian Airlines Limited, is currently holding the additional charge of the post of Chairman and Managing Director, Indian Airlines as an-interim-arrangement. The proposal for selection to the post and appointment thereto has been taken up with Public Enterprises Selection Board on 3.1.2000., The selection process is underway.

[English]

### **Construction of Over Bridge at Mysore Railway Station**

5113. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to construct another road over bridge at Mysore railway station to serve the need of the large number of passengers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the said proposal expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. The Question of the Hon'ble Member is perhaps for a foot-over-bridge. The existing foot-over-bridge is adequate to handle the present level of passenger traffic.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Projects of Aviation in Maharashtra**

5114. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposals/projects for development expansion, upgradation and modernisation of aviation Network-Infrastructure in Maharashtra, particularly in Vidarbha Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to set up airport at Amraoti to operationalise air services to Mumbai and other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details of proposal received/under consideration and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of performance and plan allocations of various projects in Maharashtra are—

(1) Site Survey is being carried out for construction of technical block cum control tower at Nagpur airport with a plan allocation of Rs. 5 lakhs. Work is in progress for expansion and strengthening of Apron at a cost of Rs. 47 lakhs with probable date of completion in December, 2000.

(2) During 2000-2001, an allocation of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for expansion of apron in the Civil Enclave at Pune and Indian Air Force have been requested for release of 5 acres of additional land.

(3) Work is in progress for face lift of terminal building at Aurangabad airport. The projects in Phase-II *i.e.* extension of runway, apron, construction of new terminal building and car parking area at a cost of Rs. 67.11 crores will be taken up on receipt of the approval of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan. An allocation of Rs. 1 lakh has been made during 2000-2001.

(4) A pre-Public Investment Board meeting was held on 10-07-2000 in respect of a project for construction of terminal Phase-II at Mumbai airport at a cost of Rs. 20 crores.

(5) There are three proposals from the State Government of Maharashtra. One is construction of a second airport at Mumbai City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Limited (CIDCO) has been asked to complete studies for the second airport at Navi Mumbai. The second one is for construction of an airport at Sindhudurg for which the State Government has been

asked to rework the feasibility of the project in view of the round the clock operation at Goa airport. The third proposal relates to the construction of a new airport at Shirdi. AAI carried out the feasibility study and identified the land for construction of an airport suitable for operation of 50 seater class of aircraft. The State Government has been requested to identify land areas at villages Korhale and Kelwad near Shirdi and obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC) from concerned authorities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Entrance Fee for Tourist Spots

5115. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has imposed entrance fee for foreign tourists visiting tourists spots in the State;

(b) if so, whether four operators and others protested against the imposition of the fees;

(c) whether imposition of the fee has led to downward trend in the number of foreign tourists visiting the State; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to withdraw the fee to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The Government of Gujarat has imposed fee for entry into Gir Forest.

(b) Tour Operators have protested against imposition of entry fee for Gir Forest and also regarding the entry fee of US Dollars 30 for Banni area in Kutch imposed by Government of India.

(c) The available tourist arrival statistics for Gujarat for last three years do not show a downward trend. The reported arrival figures are as under :

1997		1998		1999	
Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
118994	7994	217661	9002	215270	10185

(d) The Government of India has already withdrawn imposition of entry fees of USD 30 to Banni Area.

[Translation]

### Quota in Tatkal Reservation

5116. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the seats reserved for 'Tatkal' reservation are not adequate to meet the demand of passengers, particularly at Ahmedabad station;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the number of berth for 'Tatkal' reservation;

(c) if so, the details thereof, train-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The Tatkal reservation scheme is extended to more trains from time to time depending upon demand pattern and room for attachment of additional coaches by various trains. The number of berths available under the tatkal scheme in various trains including trains originating ex. Ahmedabad is generally adequate to meet the demand except during the rush period.

(b) to (d) Tatkal reservation scheme is being extended in Sleeper Class to be 6045 Ahmedabad—Chennai Navjivan Express w.e.f. 06.01.2001.

[English]

### Flight from Pune to Chennai via Mumbai

5117. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are intending to introduce flight from Pune to Chennai via Mumbai on the experimental basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Airlines operators are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

### Registered Companies

5118. SHRI VAIKO :  
DR. C. KRISHNAN :

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

(a) the number of companies on the roll of the Registrar of Companies as on date, region-wise;

(b) whether any survey or verification of these companies have been made;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal before the Government to verify physical presence of these companies at their registered and self-claimed administrative office; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The number of companies on the rolls of the Registrars of Companies as on 14.12.2000 were as under :

Northern Region	1,73,950
Eastern Region	91,212
Western Region	1,76,878
Southern Region	1,23,151

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Department has set up a Special Cell to monitor and to trace out the vanishing companies and promoters/directors and to initiate legal action against such companies which are unavailable at their last known addresses.

#### **Demand of Natural Gas for Punjab**

5119. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to set up a Core Study Group for estimation of demand of Natural Gas/Regasified LNG in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, with reference to such a proposal received from the Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation (PSIDC), the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas had advised the PSIDC to engage a professional consultancy/agency in this regard. PSIDC has entrusted the task to M/s Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI).

#### **Missing of Multi-Media Computer System from AMC, Lucknow**

5120. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a modern multi-media computer system containing top secret information has been reported missing from Army Medical Corps, Central Command HQ, Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of precautionary arrangements which were made for the safety of the said computer;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only a LCD multi-media projector has been reported missing from AMC Centre & School, Lucknow. This equipment is not a computer, and has no facility for storage of data.

(c) Precautions for safety of computer and information are, already, in force, as per instructions issued in this regard and Standard Operating Procedures have been laid down for safe custody of costly equipment.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply to parts (a) & (b) above.

#### **Gauge Conversion of Chennai-Villupuram-Trichy-Madurai Rail Line .**

5121. DR. C. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of Chennai-Villupuram-Trichy-Madurai rail line;

(b) the length out of that converted into broad gauge;

(c) the time by which the whole stretch would be converted into broad gauge along with total cost of the project at current rate;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Chennai-Villupuram section was electrified when the line was meter gauge;

(e) if so, the reasons for not electrifying the said line after conversion;

(f) whether there is any proposal to electrify the said line; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) 501 km.

(b) and (c) The entire length has already been converted at an approx. cost of Rs. 800 crores.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As part of the gauge conversion between Chennai Beach and Tiruchchirappalli a parallel broad

gauge line was commissioned between Chennai Beach and Villupuram. Chennai Beach-Tambaram section which is a suburban section was electrified and Tambaram-Villupuram section being a non-suburban section not electrified. Electrification was not part of the gauge conversion project.

(f) Yes, Sir. The work to electrify the new parallel BG line between Tambaram and Villupuram is already sanctioned and is in progress.

(g) Electrification of parallel broad gauge line between Tambaram-Villupuram was included in the budget of 1999-2000. The section Tambaram-Chengalattu is targeted for energisation by March 2001. Work on the Chengalattu-Villupuram section will be taken up in the second phase and is targeted to be completed by March 2003.

*[Translation]*

### **Development of Rajapur Village as Tourist Place**

5122. SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Union Government to develop the Rajapur Village, district Gonda in U.P., the birth place of saint poet Goswami Tulsidasji as a tourist place; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

*[English]*

### **Recruitment of Well Trained Pilots**

5123. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to recruit well trained and well experienced pilots for Indian Air Lines and Air India;

(b) if so, the details of vacancies at present and the recruitment plan drawn by the Government; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Air India have no proposal under consideration to recruit pilots in the immediate future. However, in case of an increase in the fleet strength they may consider recruitment of pilots. As regards Indian Airlines, they had advertised for filling up 24 posts of Trainee Pilots. The recruitment action for filling up these

24 posts is in process. The written test was held on 10th December, 2000 and the Group Discussions and Interviews are in progress. Indian Airlines is also contemplating induction of some more pilots in addition to the number mentioned above.

### **Revival of Aroor Plant of Balmer Lawrie Ltd.**

5124. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Kerala regarding the suggestions for investing amount for the revival of Aroor Plant of Balmer Lawrie Limited in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) to (c) Government of Kerala made a proposal involving an incremental investment of Rs. 50 crores and additional outlay of Rs. 184 crores for the manufacture of Metro Rail Car bodies for Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited for the revival of Aroor plant of Balmer Lawrie Limited. The revival proposal was examined by the company and same was found un-viable for variety of reasons.

### **Production of Synthetic Fibre and Yarn**

5125. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of producers engaged in the synthetic fibre and yarn industry;

(b) the licenced capacity and the actual production and sale made by them during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the details of their excess production during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) . (a) and (b) As per information made available by Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, there are about 48 producers in the synthetic fibre and synthetic filament yarn industry. The installed capacity as on March, 2000 by these units as well as production during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and estimated figures for the year 2000-2001 are given in the statement attached. The information in respect of sale is not monitored by the Department.

(c) Denier-wise production of synthetic fibres/yarns is not monitored by the Department.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Item	Installed Capacity as on March, 2000	Production (In tonnes)			
			1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 (estimated)
1.	Acrylic Fibre (Inc. Dry Spun)	1,29,000	79,509	79,420	94,993	1,10,000
2.	Nylon Filament Yarn	28,040	29,983	28,700	26,058	27,000
3.	Nylon Industrial Yarn/Tyre Cord	49,700	46,579	48,501	50,292	50,000
4.	Polyester Staple Fibre	5,90,700	4,30,653	5,18,834	5,47,048	5,60,000
5.	Polyester Filament Yarn	11,30,300	6,59,734	7,15,623	7,77,189	8,00,000

**Tax Benefits to Inland Water Transport**

[Translation]

5126. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend tax benefits to Inland Water Transport by another three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have evaluated the impact made by tax exemption during the last 15 years in the development of Inland Water Transport;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the IWAI for creation of waterways and infrastructure facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal to extend tax benefits to Inland Water Transport. However, IWT has since been declared as infrastructure under Income Tax Act and tax benefits under Section 80 IA are available for this sector *w.e.f.* April, 1999.

(e) Besides, three waterways namely the Ganga from Haldia to Allahabad (1620 Km), the Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri (891 Km) and West Coast Canal, including Champakara and Udyogamandal canals (205 km) that have already been declared as National Waterways, hydrographic survey and techno-economic feasibility studies have been conducted on some other waterways, such as DVC Canal, Barak river, East Coast Canal integrated with Godavari and Krishna river system etc. Their declaration as National Waterways and subsequent development will depend on availability of resources. The development of National Waterways is a continuous process and carried out by Inland Waterways Authority of India through various plan schemes meant for providing infrastructural facilities such as navigational channel, terminals and navigational aids etc.

**Rail Link between Nainital and Dehradun**

5127. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide rail link between Nainital and Dehradun after creation of Uttaranchal; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Supply of Drinking Water**

5128. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the different Railways are running special water containers service for the needy areas in drought hit States;

(b) if so, the names of the States where such tankers are being provided by Indian Railways;

(c) whether this tanker service is being provided on purely humanitarian ground;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether such service is also being run in Andhra Pradesh where drinking water is not available; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

### Group of Ministers on Tourism

5129. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Group of Ministers of Tourism, Industry and Trade was formed to examine tourism related issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Group has given any recommendations in this regard;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(e) if not, the time by which the Group of Ministers is likely to submit their report?

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

(b) A Group of Ministers of Tourism Industry and Trade has been constituted on 16.10.2000 comprising of the following :

1. Shri Ananth Kumar, Minister of Tourism & Culture
2. Shri Jagmohan, Minister of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation
3. Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Minister of Railways
4. Shri Sharad Yadav, Minister of Civil Aviation
5. Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of Information and Broadcasting

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Notice from NHRC to Defence

5130. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence has received any notice from the National Human Rights Commission regarding the alleged killing of the widow of a soldier martyred in the Kargil conflict by her Father-in-Law for the compensation amount;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken or propose to take any steps to ensure that the compensation amount provided to the widows of the martyrs of Kargil conflict

actually reaches to them and they are saved from the possible threat to their life and property; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) In a Suo Motu reference, the National Human Rights Commission have issued notice to Ministry of Defence, as well as, Director General of Police, Government of Uttar Pradesh, calling for a report on the news item "Kargil widow is killed, compensation motive", which appeared in the *Indian Express* on 9th August, 2000 with a Lucknow dateline.

2. The position of the case, as reported by Army HQrs, is that Late Smt. Shiv Kumari Yadav, widow of the Late Rifleman Ram Nihore Yadav of 1/3 Gorkha Rifles, resident of Sultanpur District was murdered on 07th August, 2000. An FIR has been lodged in Police Station, Kotwali Dehat, Sultanpur on the same day. The Police apprehended Shri Ram Adhar, father-in-law and Shri Anand Kumar, son of Shri Daya Sankar for investigation.

3. In so far as the Central Government is concerned, it is ensured that the compensation amount provided to the widows of Kargil conflict, actually, reaches them. Before payment of the benefits, the 'next of kin' is asked to open a single bank account. Thereafter, Pension, Gratuity, Ex-gratia and other entitlements from Government of India are paid into the single bank account of the 'next of kin'. However, ensuring safety against possible threat to their life and property is the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

### Insurance Schemes for Handloom Weavers

5131. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:  
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of insurance schemes introduced for Handloom Weavers;

(b) the number of handloom weavers benefited by these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether any survey is being conducted to accelerate the pace of the said process; and

(d) if so, the number of weavers likely to be benefited under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) There are two Insurance schemes introduced by the Central Government for handloom weavers :

- (i) Group Insurance scheme : a weaver is provided with an insurance coverage of Rs. 10,000 for natural death on an annual basis having

premium of Rs. 120/- which is shared equally amongst the beneficiary, the State and Central Governments.

- (ii) **New Insurance scheme** : provides a coverage of Rs. 1 lakh in the event of death or loss of two limbs or two eyes or permanent disability. It also provides for a coverage of Rs. 50,000/- for loss of one limb or one eye. Under the scheme there is a coverage in respect of damage of dwelling unit and raw materials also. The premium is Rs. 120/- per annum, with a contribution of Rs. 20/- by the weaver, Rs. 40/- by the State Government and Rs. 60/- by the Government of India.

(b) The details of handloom weavers benefited under these schemes during each of the last three years are as under :

Year	Number of Weavers Benefited	
	Group Insurance Scheme	New Insurance Scheme
1997-98	1,06,432	60,453
1998-99	1,47,637	66,662
1999-2000	1,96,604	41,666
2000-01	3917	41,556

(c) and (d) No Sir, does not arise.

### **Infrastructural Facilities at Bhuj**

5132. **SHRI RAJO SINGH** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a lot of difficulties are being faced for landing of aeroplanes at the Bhuj airport in Gujarat due to lack of adequate infrastructural and Radar facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for upgradation of the Bhuj airport for smooth landing of the planes there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Bhuj Airport is owned by Indian Airforce. Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Air Terminal and Civil Apron. The Civil Apron can accommodate only one B-737 aircraft at a time.

(c) There are plans to upgrade passenger facilities at Bhuj by construction of a new civil enclave, equipped with modern passenger facilities, a new civil apron and taxi-track at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.57 crores. The work for construction of apron and taxi-track is in progress with completion date September, 2001. Terminal Building work is also in progress with schedule/date of completion December, 2002

[English]

### **Opening of more Reservation Windows**

5133. **SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether new and additional ticket booking windows at Tilak Nagar and Kanjur Marg, Mumbai have been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The proposal for providing additional booking windows at Tilak Nagar Railway station is being considered for inclusion in the Works Programme 2000-2001. As regards Kanjur Marg Railway station, as the existing booking windows are adequate to deal with the present volume of traffic there is no justification to provide additional booking windows at this station for the present.

### **Setting up a Pipeline between Paradeep and Haldia**

5134. **SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has decided to set up a pipeline between Paradeep and Haldia for transporting crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of expenditure likely to be incurred on it; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Crude oil requirements of the refineries of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) at Haldia and Barauni are to be met fully and the refinery of Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (BRPL) at Bongaigaon partially through imports, for which Haldia is the nearest port. In order to handle the increased volume of crude oil, additional facilities are required to be created on the east coast by IOCL. The details of the project like cost, date of commencement of the work have not been worked out as yet.



### Visit of Disabled Persons to Taj Mahal

5135. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disabled foreign and domestic tourists visited Taj Mahal this year;

(b) whether the Government propose to make Taj Mahal accessible to persons with disabilities including wheel chair users;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to have trained guides to communicate with hearing impaired persons; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) 25 Indian tourists used wheel chair during the year 2000 to visit Taj Mahal and no foreign tourist requested for availing this facility at Taj Mahal from Archeological Survey of India. Sometimes, it has been observed that the foreign tourists bring their own wheel chair with them and use the same. The wheel chairs are allowed up to the Chameli Floor of Taj. The disabled tourists are taken up to main tomb with the help of attendants.

(d) No guide to communicate with hearing impaired persons is available with Archaeological Survey of India.

(e) Due to insignificant demand.

### Hyderabad Mass Rapid Transportation System

5136. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on improving the existing suburban railway stations and the approach roads would be started soon with Begumpet Station under the Hyderabad Mass Rapid Transportation System Project; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this Project is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A detailed survey for strengthening of existing railway infrastructure for operating suburban trains in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad is in progress. Specific places can be identified for improvement in the existing suburban railway system only after the Survey Report becomes available.

(b) Sanction and execution of the project would depend on receipt and acceptance of the report and requisite clearances being obtained.

### Cases of Attacks raised by NHRC

5137. SHRI PUSP JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Human Rights Commission of India has taken up the cases of attacks on passengers while travelling in trains between January 01, 1999 till date, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The details of cases of attacks on passengers while travelling in trains between 1.1.1999 to 30.11.2000 is as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the complainant	Subject
1.	Shri Rajendra Kishore, Distt. Bhagalpur.	Alleged assault/misbehaviour and extortion of money from passenger by GRP and BMP on Patna-Gaya section.
2.	Smt. Puja Devi, Distt. Bhagalpur.	Alleged murder of late Shri Naresh Saha and Shri Basant Pandit by GRP personnel while travelling by Jamalpur-Howrah Super Express on 11.8.2000.
3.	Shri K.N. Pandey, Bhopal	Alleged misbehaviour and assault on passenger by GRP in train Cochin-Barauni Express on 14.4.2000 between Jhansi and Orai.

[Translation]

### New Director Appointed by Mescos Airlines

5138. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new Directors appointed by Mescos Airlines Limited during the last three years alongwith the time taken in getting security clearance for these Directors;

(b) the number of aviation companies whose applications for security clearance of the Directors are pending for more than four months; and

(c) the steps taken to accord clearance expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) During the last 3 years only one new Director viz. Air Marshal (Retd.) Denzil Keelor was appointed as new Director by M/s MESCO Airlines. Security clearance of AM Keelor and another Director Shri D.K. Singh (since 1993 on the Board of the company) was granted after about six months.

(b) and (c) Obtaining security clearance of the Directors of the new applicant companies as well as those of the existing operators whenever new Director(s) are proposed to be appointed is an on-going process. Security clearance of the following new applicant companies for non-scheduled operations and their Directors is awaited:

Sent to MHA on :

- |       |                                 |            |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------|
| (i)   | M/s Future Travels Ltd.         | 11.10.2000 |
| (ii)  | M/s R.C. Aviation (India)       | 21.11.2000 |
| (iii) | M/s Bilakhia Holdings Pvt. Ltd. | 21.11.2000 |

No time limit in this regard can be fixed as security verification involves various agencies and formalities. Reminders are sent periodically to the verification authority to expedite the security clearance.

[English]

### Construction of Runway at Vizag Airport

5139. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested his Ministry to approve the construction of the runway of 10,000 feet at Vizag Airport since the airport belongs to defence (Navy);

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

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

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

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to construct a new runway with other associated facilities at Visakhapatnam airport to make it suitable for operations of AB-300 class of aircraft with contribution from State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Ministry of Defence and the Airports Authority of India (AAI). AAI is conducting techno-economic study for the same.

### Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme

5140. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to modify the existing Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government also propose to make amendments in the Multinational Transportation of Goods Act, 1993;

(c) whether Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme, which was formulated in August, 1997 has been altered to provide for a flexible system of financing ship acquisition;

(d) if so, whether the shipping department has decided to lay down guidelines so that processing of application for subsidy becomes transparent and time bound; and

(e) if so, the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A bill to amend some of the provisions of MMTG, Act 1993 was passed by the Rajya Sabha during this year's Monsoon Session while Lok Sabha has passed it in current Winter Session.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme that was brought into operation in August, 1997 has been modified recently so as to amplify its scope and to provide for a feasible system of raising funds for ship acquisition. Guidelines have also been laid down to streamline the procedure for deciding the eligibility for subsidy under the modified scheme in a time bound manner.

### Quota for Domestic Ships

5141. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a quota for domestic ships in outbound cargo to earn more foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to come into force;

(c) whether Indian ships are proposed to be paid in rupees for outbound cargo;

(d) if so, whether this system of payment is likely to make Indian shipping competitive; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Freight payments to Indian Shipping lines are already being made in Indian Rupees for all outbound cargo including those carried on behalf of Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

### **Requirement of Concrete Sleepers**

5142. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of annual requirement of concrete sleepers; and

(b) the gap between placing the orders and supply of these sleepers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Annual requirement of concrete sleepers is finalised on the basis of sanctioned works and budget allotment. Assessed annual requirement of concrete sleepers is approx. 60 lakh nos.

(b) The production from the existing firms gets commenced within one month from placement of orders. New firms getting orders are given a time period of 12 months to set up facilities and start production.

### **Participation of Officers of AFHQCS in Appointing Process**

5143. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether officers of AFHQCS in the grade of Deputy Secretary and above have requisite experience to hold similar and higher appointments in his Ministry;

(b) whether officers of AFHQCS can provide better continuity and expertise in his Ministry, if posted;

(c) if so, the reasons for denying this opportunity; and

(d) the steps being taken to allow their participation in the Ministry of Defence?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Officers of AFHQCS are not posted in MoD as posts in the grade of Deputy Secretary and above are filled up through Central Staffing Scheme. The officers of the AFHQCS are being recruited for manning various administrative posts in the three Defence Headquarters and the Inter-Service Organisations under the Ministry of Defence. The issue of greater involvement of AFHQCS officers in Ministry of Defence has been taken up at the appropriate level.

### **Development of Kakatiya Fort at Warangal**

5144. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to develop Kakatiya Fort at Warangal into an Archaeological Museum; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the all-round development of Warangal Fort as a tourist destination. The request comprises a proposal for setting up a museum within the Fort and reconstruction of the ancient structures. Given the resource constraints, the priority is to conserve and strengthen the ancient structures of the Fort.

### **Inequity between Officers of CSS and AFHQCS**

5145. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officers of CSS and AFHQCS are recruited through the Civil Services Examination;

(b) whether equitable career opportunities to hold Joint Secretary and equivalent level appointments are available to AFHQCS;

(c) if so, the number of posts of Joint Secretary and equivalent held by AFHQCS and CSS respectively; and

(d) the steps taken for removing this inequity?

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

(b) and (c) As against two posts equivalent to the rank of Joint Secretary in AFHQCS, there are 34 number of Joint Secretaries from CSS.

(d) The attempts to increase posts of Joint Secretary level of AFHQCS have not fructified.

### **Subramaniam Committee on Jute Industry**

5146. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government constituted a High Powered Committee on Jute Sector *vide* its Orders dated June 30, 1992 under the Chairmanship of Shri T.S.R. Subramaniam, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles with 16 other members from the Government Departments including Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether this Committee unanimously recommended at page No. 28 of its report to Secret/ rescind the Act altogether by 1994-95 saying that Jute industry can not be artificially propped up by this piece of legislation for an indefinite period in a liberalized economy when free market forces have come to operate; and

(c) if so, the action taken to scrap the Jute packaging Material Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The High Powered Committee on Jute Sector in its report of November, 1992 stated that the jute industry cannot be artificially propped up by Mandatory Jute Packaging Orders issued under JPM Act, 1987 for an indefinite period in a liberalized economy when free market forces have come to operate. The said committee recommended that provisions of Mandatory Jute Packaging Order should be diluted gradually in two or three stages and by 1994-95 it should be rescinded altogether.

(c) The Supreme Court upheld the provisions of the Act in its judgement dated 25th April, 1996. Provisions of Mandatory Jute Packaging Orders have been gradually diluted since its inception and are briefly given below

Period	Percentage of total production of commodity to be packed in jute packaging materials			
	Foodgrains	Sugar	Cement	Fertilizer
01.07.1987—30.06.1988	100%	100%	70%	50% (5 types)
01.07.1988—14.03.1995	100%	100%	70%	100% (Urea only)
15.03.1995—30.06.1995	100%	100%	50%	65% (Urea only)
01.07.1995—30.06.1997	100%	100%	50%	50% (Urea only)
01.07.1997—14.12.1998	100%	100%	—	50% (Urea only)
15.12.1998—31.03.2000	100%	100%	—	20% (Urea only)
01.04.2000—24.10.2000	90%	90%	—	15% (Urea only)
25.10.2000 till date	100%	100%	—	20% (Urea only)

#### Allotment of LPG Dealerships and Retail Outlets in Ahmedabad

5147. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of LPG Dealerships/Diesel/Petrol Retail Outlets have been allotted but not commissioned within the stipulated time since the issue of letter of intent during the last six years in Ahmedabad District of Gujarat. company-wise;

(b) the cases in which extension has been given over the stipulated time limit;

(c) whether the Government are considering subsequent allotment to the next person in the wait list in each case, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (d) The company-wise details of retail outlet

dealerships and LPG distributorships allotted but not commissioned within the stipulated time since issue of Letter of Intent in Ahmedabad District of Gujarat during the last six years are as under :

Name of the Company	Number of retail outlets	Number of LPG distributorships
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	1	—
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	1	—
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	5	5
IBP Co. Ltd.	2	—

As per the procedure, the Letter of Intent (LOI) holder is required to fulfil the conditions laid down in the L.O.I. and commission the retail outlet/distributorship within the prescribed period, failing which the Company will have the right to withdraw the LOI and issue it to the next person in the merit panel. However, on its satisfaction, the Oil Company can grant extension of time to the LOI holder.

**Case of Rs. 2000 Crores Indian Oils Approved**

5148. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Indian Oils Rs. 2000 crore case appeal on Monday" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated October 29, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to save the IOC from demurrage cost and penalty of Rs. 2000/- which are likely to be imposed on it?

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

(b) The Commissioner of Customs at Calcutta had passed an order confirming the demand of customs duty amounting to Rs. 975.98 crore alongwith a penalty of equal amount plus recovery of interest at the rate of 20% per annum on the amount demanded as duty, under the Customs Act.

(c) IOC appealed against the order of the Commissioner of Customs, Calcutta before the Larger Bench of the CEGAT, New Delhi which, in its final order, set aside the adjudication order passed by the Commissioner of Customs, Calcutta.

**Coal Bed Methane in Coalfield Area (Bihar)**

5149. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether ONGC has struck Coal Bed Methane in the Coalfield area of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of CBM likely to be explored;

(d) whether it is economically viable for exploration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has taken up exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) as

Research and Development (R&D) work and has drilled four wells in Jharia basin in the State of Jharkhand (earlier in Bihar). Preliminary studies and R&D activities undertaken by ONGC have indicated the presence of CBM in this area.

(c) to (e) The CBM reserves base can be known only after exploration and the commercial viability of such reserves can be established thereafter.

**Decision of GAIL for Entering the Telecom Sector**

5150. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) has decided to enter into the Telecom Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount to be invested by GAIL on the Telecom sector; and

(d) the revenue likely to be generated from the Telecom business by GAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) is planning to enter the Telecom sector as an infrastructure provider category-2 (IT-2) by utilising its existing optical fibre network of approximately 1900 k.m., which is to be expanded in three phases, along its pipeline system spread over North-West India. GAIL proposes to lease out the bandwidth capacity to various telecom operators under the National Telecom Policy-1999

(c) The total cost of the network is estimated at Rs. 500 crore, to be invested in phases

(d) GAIL expects to earn an annual revenue of around Rs. 800 crore after the completion of the project

**Demands of Employees Working in BEL**

5151. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a move to cut HRA and rate of increment in the revised pay structure of employees of Bharat Electronics Ltd., and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) According to directives applicable to all public sector undertakings, the House Rent Allowance (HRA) payable to employees would be a percentage of the basic pay, but such percentage would

differ from place to place depending upon the classification of the city/town. Since the number of rates of HRA have been reduced to four from the earlier five, and the cities/towns also stand reclassified, employees residing in certain cities/towns may now be entitled to lower rates of HRA. In the case of executives, such directives have been implemented by BEL. As regards HRA for non-executives, an MoU has been signed between the management of BEL and the negotiating trade unions on the basics of the same directive. However, in both cases actual HRA being received by individual employees under the earlier system would be protected irrespective of the change in classification of the city/town in which they reside. In the matter of increment of non-executives as per the earlier system, the increment in a pay-scale was being given as a percentage of the basic pay. In the MoU now signed with the non-executives, the increment in a pay-scale would be a fixed amount. However, the last increment drawn by an individual employee would be protected.

### **Guidelines for Candidates Contesting the Election**

5152 COL (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chief Election Commissioner of India had suggested norms and guidelines like education, past background etc. for the prospective candidates for Parliament and State Assemblies;

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

(c) whether the Government have formed a group of Ministers or propose to constitute a Commission for electoral reforms.

(d) if so, whether the Government contemplate to discuss this issue in the Current Session of Parliament to arrive at a consensus for constituting a Parliamentary Commission, and

(e) if so, the time schedule for such a Commission to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The Chief Election Commissioner has not made any proposal regarding educational qualification of candidates contesting for Parliament and State Assembly elections. However, the Election Commission made certain proposals for disqualifying candidates seeking elections to Parliament/ State Assemblies on the ground that charges had been framed against them for certain serious offences. In respect of candidates who have been convicted for certain specified offences, it is open to the Electoral Officers to

seek information in respect of offences for which they may have been convicted. Such candidates are required to file affidavit about their convictions in cases covered by section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

(b) The Government has no proposal at present to make changes in the law making educational qualifications compulsory for seeking elections to Parliament/State Assemblies or to disqualify candidates based on framing of charges against them.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

### **Haj Arrangements**

5153. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian pilgrims were stranded at Jeddah for several days due to the inordinate delay in Haj flights;

(b) if so, whether a high level Indian team visited Saudi Arabia to work out a foolproof arrangements in consultation with Saudi officials;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries on Haj arrangements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) For Haj-2001 movement, arrangements are being made with the Saudi Arabia Airlines to carry a part of Haj pilgrims to send from India. Senior level Officers have visited Jeddah for finalisation of these arrangements/agreement along with Saudi Arabia Airlines, improved handling at airport, return flight for some pilgrims from Madinah and provide improved information system to pilgrims and their relatives in India on flight information.

### **Utilisation of Land by Major Ports**

5154. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain guidelines were issued for utilising the land available with major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ports are not utilising the land as per the said guidelines; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Board of Trustees of Major Port Trusts have been empowered to grant leases of lands upto a term not exceeding 30 years for Port related activities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Stoppage of Rajdhani Express Train at Borivili**

5155. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not providing the halt for Rajdhani and August Kranti Express trains at Borivili station on the way from Delhi to Mumbai Central;

(b) whether the Government are aware that majority of passengers travelling by these two trains live in the suburbs of Mumbai and they have to go back to their destinations after alighting at Mumbai Central which is far away on this very track;

(c) whether the Government have received any requests from the passengers to provide halt at Borivili for these two trains, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) Some representations for the stoppages of the Rajdhani at Borivili have been received. These were examined but the stoppage has not been found operationally feasible as the trains enter into Mumbai during the morning peak hours. The stoppage if provided, will affect the sensitive commuters trains.

[Translation]

### **Reduction of Flights to Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur**

5156. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has reduced its flights to Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur which are the major tourist destinations in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to re-introduce daily flights to these places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Due to loss of one Boeing 737 aircraft in an air accident in Patna on 17th July, 2000, and the resultant reduction in the available capacity, the flights operating through Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur had been restructured. The frequency of operation on Mumbai/Udaipur/Mumbai routes had been reduced from 14 to 7 flights per week and on Mumbai/Jaipur/Mumbai routes from 10 to 7 flights per week w.e.f. 8th August, 2000.

The frequency of operation to/from Jodhpur ex-Mumbai and Udaipur had been increased from 4 to 7 flights per week and from Delhi and Jaipur from 3 to 7 flights per week. In the Winter Schedule effective 29th October, 2000, the frequency of operation between Delhi/Udaipur and Delhi/Jaipur has been increased from earlier 7 flights per week to 10 flights per week.

### **Irregularities in Patna Airport**

5157. SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether a high level team found irregularities in the maintenance of the Jai Prakash Narain International Airport, Patna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have ordered an inquiry into this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, an incidence of presence of a dog at runway at the time of landing of an aircraft was enquired into by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). In view of the apparent lack of effective supervision, Airport Director, Deputy General Manager (Air Traffic Control) and Inspector, Central Industrial Security Force posted at Patna Airport have been transferred, and action has been taken by AAI to complete the boundary wall at the airport.

[English]

### **Women Officers in Army**

5158. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of women SC Officers serving the Indian Army;

(b) the number of such officers who left the army after completion of five year service;

(c) whether on the basis of some evaluation regarding their performance, any policy has been formulated regarding their term of service;

(d) whether there is any proposal to give permanent commission to lady officers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) At present, there are 1089 women SSC officers in the Army

(b) 99 SSC women officers left Army after five years service.

(c) to (e) In Army Medical Corps, Army Dental Corps and Military Nursing Service, women officers are recruited on both permanent and Short Service Commission basis. In other identified branches, women officers are recruited, initially, for 5 years, under Short Service Commission with the option of extension of another 5 years, subject to their fitness

2. The scheme of grant of Short Service Commission for women was started in 1992 and initially, the commission was granted only for 5 years. However, in 1996, this Commission was made extendable to 10 years for women officers, who opt for extension and are found fit by Board of officers.

### **Non-Availability of Flights between Mumbai-Calicut**

5159 SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the Air passengers due to non-availability of flight in the Mumbai-Calicut sector in the evening.

(b) if so, the time by which more flights are likely to be introduced particularly in the evening time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) At present, only Indian Airlines and Jet Airways are operating scheduled flights on Mumbai-Calicut sector with the following departure times ex-Mumbai :

Flight No.	Frequency	Departure time (ex-Mumbai)
<b>Indian Airlines :</b>		
IC-657	Daily	1140
IC-597	Mon, Wed & Fri	1330
IC-595	Tue & Sat	1330
IC-593	Thu & Sun	1210
<b>Jet Airways .</b>		
9W-423	Daily	1230

(b) and (c) Time slots for operation of all flights are decided by the airlines themselves on the basis of commercial inputs and operational feasibility.

### **Allegation against former GM of Southern Railway**

5160. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the allegations against the former General Manager of Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present position of the enquiry?

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

(b) Railway has received details of four FIRs about the cases registered against Shri N. Krithivasan, former General Manager of Southern Railway. The allegations are about favouritism shown to private contractors in some contracts during the period 1994 to 1998, resulting in loss to Railway and about possession of assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. CBI's investigations are under progress.

[Translation]

### **Effect of Western Culture**

5161. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study with regard to the changes that have taken place in Indian Culture during the last few years due to the advent of Western Culture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, there is ample evidence that Indian culture with its history of thousands of years has the intrinsic resilience and viability to preserve its distinctiveness.

### **Disinvestment of IBP**

5162. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision with regard to disinvestment of I.B.P. so far; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?



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

(b) Of the equity held by Government in IBP Company Ltd. (IBP), only 26% shall be retained by Government and the balance disinvested to a strategic partner who would also be entitled to management control. The process of disinvestment should be through international competitive bidding.

[English]

### **Withdrawal of Scheduled Flight to Bhubaneswar**

5163. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the frequent withdrawal of scheduled flights to Bhubaneswar which has caused lot of inconvenience and hardships for tourist to the city; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the winter Schedule effective 29.10.2000, Alliance Air has restructured some of its services to Bhubaneswar as follows :

- Delhi/Bhubaneswar/Vizag and return to operate as Delhi/Bhubaneswar/Vizag/Chennai and return (4 per week);
- Calcutta/Bhubaneswar/Vizag/Chennai and return to operate as Calcutta/Bhubaneswar/Vizag and return (4 per week);

Other services of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are as follows :

- Delhi/Bhubaneswar/Delhi (3 per week);
- Calcutta/Bhubaneswar/Hyderabad and return (3 per week);
- Mumbai/Raipur/Bhubaneswar/Mumbai (3 per week).

Airlines are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject of course to the compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category/routes.

[Translation]

### **Legislation on the Security at Airport**

5164. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any draft legislation in regard to the security of airports in the country,

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

(c) whether any survey in regard to the security arrangements at various airports of the World has been conducted;

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

(e) the time by which the proposed legislation is likely to be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a), (b) and (e) A new comprehensive Civil Aviation Act is under preparation. There will be a chapter on Civil Aviation Security in the new Act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

### **Exploration Work undertaken in Non-Conventional Gas Fields**

5165. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain explorations have been made in the non-conventional gas fields in some parts of country during the last four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State & Union Territory-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether some positive results have been achieved from the activities;

(d) whether the Government propose to undertake explorations in some new non-conventional gas fields areas of the country in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) and (b) 1 At present, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

Ltd. (ONGC) is pursuing Research & Development (R & D) activities for Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in Jharkhand and West Bengal, as details given below :

(i) Jharkhand :

Year	R&D Wells in Prabatpur block
1997-98	Jharia-1
1998-99	Jharia-2
1999-2000	Jharia-3 & 4
2000-2001	Testing of wells Jharia 2, 3 & 4 and re-testing of Jharia-1

(ii) West Bengal .

Geological field work has been done in western part of North Raniganj during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

2. One block in Raniganj in West Bengal has been awarded to Great Energy Corporation Ltd. Two slim holes have been drilled by the company for testing for CBM during 1996-97

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) Some more blocks in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, have been identified and are proposed to be offered through global bidding for exploration and exploitation, after clearance by all the concerned State Governments.

### Enquiry Report of Godavari Train Accident

5166. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have enquired into the cause of rail accident of Godavari Express on June 4, 1999 between Ghanapur and Ippagnda stations in Secunderabad Division of the South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

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

(b) and (c) As per findings of the Inquiry Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, Secunderabad, the derailment occurred most probably due to failure of a fatigued Alumino-thermic (AT) weld of the Continuously Welded Rails (CWR) in the left side rail of Up track at Km. 300/15-13 under the passage of either the previous train or the ill fated train.

The detection of cracks in rails or welds is done by Ultrasonic Flaw Detection System, the efficacy of which is under study of a Technical Development Group consisting of Dr. Baldev Raj of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam and other officers. Action has also been initiated for development of gadgets for detection and thereafter removal of defective wheels of wagons that enhance the impact on the rail, causing their failure. Actions to detect weld and rail cracks by patrolling of railway tracks during vulnerable temperature conditions has also been taken.

[Translation]

### LPG Bottling Plants

5167. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of LPG bottling plants (Company-wise) at present in the country. State-wise; and

(b) the LPG bottling plants (company-wise) proposed to be set up in the State during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As on 1.10.2000, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are having 125 LPG bottling plants in the country with a total bottling capacity of 5196 TMTPA. The Statewise details are given in statement-I.

(b) The State-wise number of bottling plants planned by the end of IX Plan by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in the country are in the statement-II.

#### Statement-I

#### Statewise Number of LPG Bottling Plants and Capacity as on 1.10.2000

States	Number of Bottling Plants	Bottling Capacity (TMTPA)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	9	408
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
Assam	5	113
Bihar	4	179
Delhi	2	220
Goa	1	22

1	2	3
Gujarat	8	432
Haryana	5	330
Himachal Pradesh	1	22
Jammu & Kashmir	2	36
Karnataka	7	256
Kerala	5	168
Madhya Pradesh	5	232
Maharashtra	14	793
Manipur	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Orissa	3	118
Punjab	4	278
Rajasthan	8	184
Sikkim	1	5
Tamil Nadu	12	453
Tripura	1	5
Uttar Pradesh	18	572
West Bengal	9	358
Total (A)	124	5184
<b>Union Territories</b>		
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0
Pondicherry	1	12
Total (B)	1	12
All India (A+B)	125	5196

**Statement-II***Statewise Number of LPG Bottling Plants and Capacity Planned by end of IX Plan*

States	Number of New Bottling Plants Planned	Bottling Capacity Additions (TMTPA)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	6	196
Arunachal Pradesh	1	5
Assam	3	34
Bihar	6	142
Delhi	0	0
Goa	1	10
Gujarat	3	78
Haryana	2	32
Himachal Pradesh	2	20
Jammu & Kashmir	2	33
Karnataka	7	218
Kerala	1	66
Madhya Pradesh	8	284
Maharashtra	16	332
Manipur	1	10
Meghalaya	1	5
Mizoram	1	5
Nagaland	1	5
Orissa	2	32
Punjab	2	54
Rajasthan	6	176
Sikkim	0	0
Tamil Nadu	9	180
Tripura	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	16	542
West Bengal	5	164
Total (A)	102	2623
<b>Union Territories</b>		
Andaman & Nicobar	1	5
Chandigarh	0	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0
Total (B)	1	5
All India (A+B)	103	2628

*[English]***Air India Flights from Riyadh**

5168. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to introduce Air India flights from Riyadh and Daman to Hyderabad to help 4 lakhs Andhra Pradesh workers staying in Saudi Arabia; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present Air India operates 6 flights/week between Riyadh and Mumbai and 7 flights/week between Dammam and India out of which 3 flights each provide convenient connections to Hyderabad. All frontier formalities on these flights can also be completed at Hyderabad. Due to shortage of aircraft capacity, Air India is presently not in a position to operate direct flights to these Stations from Hyderabad.

*[Translation]***Sale of Aircraft**

5169. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4279 dated April 4, 2000, and state :

(a) the reasons for grounding the 32 aircrafts of Indian Airlines which are not in operation alongwith the time since when they are not in operation; and

(b) the steps taken so far by the Government to dispose of the aircraft of Indian Airlines alongwith the main features of agreement reached with M/s. Carry Air Leasing Aviation Limited regarding sale of two aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Out of 32 aircraft of Indian Airlines, 28 aircraft of Agro Aviation have been disposed off. Four Dornier DO-228 aircraft have been lying unserviceable since 1990/1993. The tenders received for the sale of these aircraft are in the process of finalisation.

Air India had signed an agreement with M/s. Carry Air Leasing Aviation Limited for sale of two aircraft which has since been terminated by Air India due to failure of M/s. Carry Air Leasing Aviation Limited to pay the purchase price within the time allowed.

*[English]***Optical Fibre Network**

5170. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of optical fibre cable network that has been laid in Maharashtra;

(b) the routes where optical fibre cable network are yet to be laid in Maharashtra; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be laid in rest of the areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A total of 621 route-km of optical fibre network has been laid in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) The optical fibre cable is being laid on routes based upon the operational need and availability of funds. Presently, besides the 621 route-km on which optical fibre cable is already existing, work is sanctioned and in progress on another 1691 route-km in Maharashtra

**Cargo Facilities at Madurai**

5171. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up cargo facilities at Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Domestic cargo at all the airports are handled by concerned airlines who have their own cargo handling facilities. Airlines provide such facilities based on their operational requirements and commercial viability.

**Development of Railway Stations**

5172. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Station in Telengana Region like Karim Nagar, Mahaboobnagar, etc. are not being improved as compared to the other Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to get the Railway Station in Telengana Region inspected and the action taken to make necessary improvements for passengers facilities?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All Railway Stations, including those in Telengana Region, are inspected by field units periodically. Existing passenger amenities are reviewed every year and deficiencies are recouped. Any additional facilities, required as a result of growth of traffic at Stations, are proposed in Annual Works Programme of Railway depending upon availability of funds and other relative priority of works.

### **Raising of Funds through Non-Conventional Sources**

5173. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :  
SHRI SUBODH ROY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal for raising Rs. 1000 crore from "non-conventional sources" in Railways; and

(b) the success achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A target of Rs. 750 crore for mobilisation of resources from non-traditional sources has been kept for the year 2000-01. This comprise Rs. 500 crore from the use of right of way for laying optic fibre cables, Rs. 150 crore from commercial utilization of land and airspace and Rs. 100 crore from commercial publicity at Railway premises and on rolling stock.

Railways have formed a Corporation to build a nation-wide broadband telecom and multimedia network by laying Optic Fibre Cable along the railway track to generate income. A consultant has been engaged to prepare a Business Plan for the Corporation. The consultant is also assessing the value of Railways' 'right of way' and other telecom assets. After deciding the financial structure of the Corporation, a part of the value is expected to be realised by the Railways in the current year. As regards commercial utilization of land and airspace, a number of sites have been identified for commercial development. The earning figures will be known only at the end of the financial year.

### **Irregularities in Secunderabad Cantonment**

5174. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported irregularities in Secunderabad Cantonment Board with regard to housing and other civil constructions;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the total number of houses in the Board area and official records corrected accordingly,

(c) whether all the taxes are being regularly collected from the residents of the Board area;

(d) whether any objections have been received from Hyderabad Airport on the Height of the Buildings, which are causing problems for take off and landing of Aeroplanes;

(e) if so, the action taken thereon;

(f) whether the Government are considering Amendments to Cantonment Act 1924, which is not useful to the present day requirements;

(g) whether there was a fraud of more than one crore rupees in Engine Oil purchases by employees and the Board Officials asked for a CBI inquiry into the corrupt practices of Board Employees; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In December, 1999, a survey was conducted by the CEO, Secunderabad Cantonment Board and 242 buildings, partly or wholly, unauthorised, were detected in various parts of the Cantonment. The assessment and collection of property tax is also, regularly, done by Cantonment Boards, including Secunderabad, in accordance with the provisions contained in the Act.

(d) and (e) National Airport Authority at Hyderabad had forwarded a list of certain properties likely to cause problems for take-off and landing of the Aeroplanes on extension of runway No. 27. Subsequently the State Government has proposed an alternative site for a new international airport at Shamshabad. Therefore, no follow up action has been taken by the Board on Airport Authority's letter.

(f) Yes, Sir. A comprehensive Bill is proposed to be introduced to enact a new legislation.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. Based on the findings of a Committee appointed by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, HQs Southern Command, Pune, the CBI was requested by the Government to take up investigation. The investigation is yet to be completed.

*[Translation]**[English]***Train Accident**

5175. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some rail passengers were killed due to travelling on the top of a train at Surat-Bhusawal railway line near Dhenthan railway station on November 1, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the passengers have to sit on the top of the train due to non-availability of space in the trains on the said line;

(d) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to increase the number of coaches in these trains;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the time by which the coaches are likely to be increased; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Four roof top travellers died and seven were injured after being electrocuted by a transmission line of Gujarat Electricity Board which broke and fell on train No. 76 UP on the Surat-Bhusawal line.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (g) Augmentation of loads of trains is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, availability of coaches and traffic justification.

**Procurement of Wagons**

5176. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there are growing demand of rail wagons in several areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of wagons procured by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year so far, company-wise;

(d) whether the demand for wagons is likely to increase in the near future; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (e) Sir, Railway is able to meet the demand of wagons for core and non-core sectors. Although the demand for wagon is governed by market forces, the assessment of demand of wagons by the rail users—both core and non-core is a continuing process which is done annually as well as on five yearly basis in consultation with major rail users and user Ministries. Mid term corrections, if required is resorted to as per need. Procurement of wagons is done according to such assessment.

Wagon procurement, company-wise during the last three years and current year so far is given below :

**(Figures in four wheeler units)**

S.No.	Wagon Builders	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	
					Total load including Spill over	Procured upto Nov. 2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bharat Wagon Engg. Co. Ltd., Muzaffarpur	1342.5	1230	577.5	1192.5	690
2.	Bharat Wagon Engg. Co. Ltd., Mokameh	1195	895	502.5	1747.5	532.5
3.	BRAITHWAITE & Co. Ltd., Kolkata	2697.5	2567.5	2040	2527.5	1235
4.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd., Bumpur	1870	2042.5	1190	2467.5	900
5.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd., Howrah	1775	1807.5	1782.5	1772.5	1037.5
6.	JESSOPS & Co. Ltd., Kolkata	157.5	407.5	187.5	655	157.5
7.	Southern Structurals Ltd., Chennai	380	475	370	502.5	92.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Bridge Roof, Kolkata	0	0	52.5	305	30
9.	Cimmco Birla Ltd., Bharatpur, Rajasthan	4412.5	3012.5	1115	(*)1817.5	360
10.	TEXMACO Ltd., Kolkata	5470	4245	2192.5	1995	1232.5
11.	Modern Industries, Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh	1325	1032.5	1457.5	1160	335
12.	Hindustan Development Corpn., Kolkata	4315	3190	1012.5	(**)3265	535
13.	BESCO Ltd., Kolkata	540	1255	1247.5	2262.5	637.5
14.	Titagarh Steels Ltd., Kolkata	412.5	1032.5	737.5	2642.5	1062.5
15.	Binny Engg., Chennai	70	27.5	57.5	27.5	25
16.	Sri Ranga, Coimbatore	0	2.5	2.5	0	0
17.	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., Kolar	0	0	7.5	97.5	25
	<b>Total Industry</b>	<b>25962.5</b>	<b>23222.5</b>	<b>14532.5</b>	<b>24437.5</b>	<b>8887.5</b>
	<b>Railway Workshops</b>	<b>1902.5</b>	<b>2012.5</b>	<b>1930</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1197.5</b>
	<b>Total Production</b>	<b>27865</b>	<b>25235</b>	<b>16462.5</b>	<b>26437.5</b>	<b>10085</b>

(\*) Out of 1817.5 FWUs, 662.5 FWUs is reserved for ordering on performance against CONCOR contracts.

(\*\*) Out of 3265 FWUs, 1687.5 FWUs is reserved for ordering on performance against CONCOR contracts.

### Posting of SCs/STs in Foreign Assignments

5177. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding posting of persons from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes category in foreign assignments under UNO/its affiliated Organisations;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the number of persons from his Ministry and its affiliated Organisations deputed to UNO/its affiliated Organisations/other International Organisations as on January 1, 1996 in different grades and persons belonging to the SCs and STs among them?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) One belonging to General Category.

### Increase in Capacity of AC 2 Tier Coaches

5178. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :  
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of trains in which the Government propose to increase capacity in AC 2 Tier and 1st Class coaches in each zone;

(b) whether requests for increasing AC/1st class Coaches have been received from different States/Zones; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) There is no proposal to increase capacity in AC 2 Tier and 1st Class coaches.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Augmentation of AC/1st class Coaches in trains is an ongoing process subject to traffic pattern, availability of coaches and operational feasibility.

[Translation]

### Import of Scrag Testing Machines

5179. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways had made unuseful investment in the import of Scrag Testing Machines by COFMOW, from England;

(b) if so, the date by which the supply order was given and the cost of the said machines;

(c) the reasons for this wasteful investment;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility for such unuseful investment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

### Army Training Centres/Cantonments

5180. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any army cantonments/training centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to J&K, location-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in setting up the centres; and

(d) the time by which each of these centres are likely to be set up?

Sl. No.	Refineries proposed to be expanded	Present Capacity (MMTPA)	Expansion Capacity (MMTPA)	Capacity after expansion (MMTPA)	Approved/ Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)
1.	IOC, Barauni, Bihar	4.20	1.80	6.0	1,803.00
2.	IOC, Panipat, Haryana	6.00	6.00	12.0	3,365.00
3.	CPCL, Chennai, Tamilnadu	6.50	3.00	9.5	2,360.38
4.	KRL, Kochi, Kerala	7.50	6.00	13.5	4,319.80

(c) and (d) The details of oil refinery expansions which were identified for completion during the 9th Plan are given below .

### PSU Refinery Expansion Projects

#### Capacity in Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA)

IOC, Barauni Expansion (Ph-I)	0.90
HPC, Visakh Expansion	3.00
IOC, Koyali Expansion	3.00
IOC, Mathura Expansion	0.50

### JV Refinery Expansion Projects

MRPL, Mangalore	6.00
-----------------	------

All the above 5 refinery capacity expansion projects as mentioned above have been completed.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government, at present.

### Expansion of Oil Refineries

5181. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to develop and expand existing oil refineries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with the estimated amount to be spent in each case, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to develop and expand some oil refineries during the Ninth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The details of PSU refineries on the present refining capacity & their expansion projects with expected project costs are given below :

### New Airlines on Domestic Route

5182. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received applications for starting new airlines on domestic routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a decision has since been taken to give NOC to some applicants for starting new airlines on domestic routes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;



(e) the rules and regulations prescribed for giving permission for starting a new airline;

(f) whether any relaxations have been made in giving the NOC for starting the new airline; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Consideration of proposals to commence airline operations is an on-going process. At present, applications received from two new private companies namely, M/s Crown Express Pvt. Ltd. and M/s Ahmedabad Aviation & Aeronautics Ltd. for obtaining "No Objection Certificate" for operation of scheduled air services in the country are under consideration with reference to the provisions of the guidelines on the subject. The following 4 applications are pending for want of information/clarification :

- (i) M/s Shree Raj Travels & Tours;
- (ii) M/s Royal Chinar Airlines;
- (iii) M/s Asian Airlines; and
- (iv) Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.

Besides M/s Stallion Airlines who was given NOC on 8.4.1997 has sought extension in NOC which is also under examination. NOC has also been given to M/s Modiluft Ltd. on 29.2.2000 subject to certain conditions.

(e) The rules/regulations in this regard have been provided for in the CAR Section 3 Series C Part II & III, AIC No. 4/1998 and the Air Transport Advisory Circular 1/1987.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Retail Outlets and LPG Distributorship to SCs/STs**

5183. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of retail outlet dealers and LPG distributors at present;

(b) the number out of them belong to SC/ST/OBC, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more such dealerships and distributorships in near future;

(d) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) As on 1.10.2000, there were 17925 retail outlet dealerships and 6330 LPG distributorships in the country. Out of these, 1706 retail outlets and 1038 LPG distributorships belong to persons of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes category. There is no reservation for OBC category.

In order to meet the increased demand, 927 retail outlets and 2078 LPG distributorships have been included in the marketing plan 1996-98. More dealerships/ distributorships will be set up on the basis of feasibility surveys.

#### **Direct Flight from Delhi to Bhuj**

5184. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no direct flight between New Delhi to Bhuj;

(b) if so, whether the Government are likely to consider provisions of a halt of New Delhi-Jodhpur-Mumbai flight at Bhuj; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airline operators are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject of course to the compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

*[Translation]*

#### **Purchase of Materials by Vehicles Factory, Jabalpur**

5185. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to Unstarred Question No. 185 dated February 24, 2000 regarding Purchase of Materials by Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur and state :

(a) whether purchase worth Rs. 1417.07 crore were made by Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur during the period 1996 to 2000;

(b) the amount of spare parts out of the above which have been utilized;

(c) whether spare parts for Shaktiman, Zonga etc. of old generation vehicle were also purchased even after signing of transfer of Technology agreement;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether corporatisation of the Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur is under the consideration of the Government; and

(f) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (f) Purchases worth Rs. 1417.07 crore were made by Vehicle Factory Jabalpur (VFJ) between 1995-1996 and 1999-2000. These included input materials (and not spare parts) required for production of old generation vehicles and spare engines. The procurement of input materials for old generation vehicles continued even after signing of technology agreement for production of new generation vehicles as the demand for old generation vehicles continued from the user till establishment of production of new generation vehicles.

2. No proposal of corporatisation of VFJ is presently under consideration.

[English]

### **Medical Facilities to Passengers**

5186. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to provide medical assistance to the passengers at various railway stations of Delhi;

(b) whether no doctors have been posted at the important railway stations in general and at Hazrat Nizamuddin in particular; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to deploy doctors round the clock at various railway stations in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Railways primarily provide total medical care to the railway beneficiaries. However, as a goodwill gesture passengers are provided medical facilities in emergencies. Each Railway Station of Indian Railways is provided with first aid boxes. Besides this, the Station Master of each Railway Station maintains a list of all the medical facilities available in the vicinity of the Railway Stations. This list includes names of both railway doctors and private medical practitioners as also of nearest hospitals along with their addresses and telephone numbers. The list is periodically updated.

During emergencies, station masters have instructions to summon the railway medical officer "on call" for this purpose or the earliest available non-railway

doctor from the above list for attending to a passenger requiring emergency medical aid. Besides this, 158 model 'A' stations are earmarked for providing augmented first aid boxes with broader range of medicines which are under implementation.

A pilot project to provide exclusive chemist shops at nine railway stations such as Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CSTM), Mumbai Central, Howrah, Sealdah, New Delhi, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Chennai and Secunderabad is under consideration.

The licensees of these chemist shops are expected to provide a qualified doctor in busy hours at their establishments.

### **Dues of Airlift Charges against former CM of Kerala**

5187. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether airlift charges for special flight from New Delhi to Thiruvananthapuram permitted for the then Chief Minister designate of Kerala in March 1995 by the Prime Minister remains unrealised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of dues to be recovered; and

(d) the steps taken for recovery of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The then, Chief Minister of Kerala was provided airlift facility on 21.3.1995 on sectors Delhi-Thiruvananthapuram. The Government of Kerala, initially, issued a sanction to release airlift bill, amounting to Rs. 14.69 lakhs, on this account. However, subsequently, the sanction was withdrawn by the State Government. The State Government has, now, been asked to review their stand and to clear the dues.

### **Malpractices in Delhi Public Library**

5188. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of grant given to the Delhi Public Library every year for the purchase of books and other publications;

(b) whether the Government are aware of malpractices going on in the purchases in which the present Director is directly involved;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has been ordered in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendation made and the action taken against the guilty officials;

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted to the Government;

(f) whether the Government is proposed to transfer the present Director before any inquiry is initiated; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No separate grant is released for purchase of books and publications. Out of the Plan grant released to Delhi Public Library, the Library has spent the following amount for purchase of books and other publications during the last 5 years:

1995-96	—	43,29,915.00
1996-97	—	44,26,581.00
1997-98	—	23,22,933.00
1998-99	—	52,18,654.00
1999-00	—	34,98,855.00

(b) No, Sir. The Government are not aware of any alleged malpractices on the part of present Director in the matter of purchase of books and publications.

(c) to (g) In view of the (b) above, do not arise.

### **Retirement Age of Employees in Major Ports**

5189. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any policy decision to reduce the retirement age of 58 years from 60 years after two years of its enforcement in major ports;

(b) if so, whether this decision is uniform extending to all public sector, joint sector, autonomous bodies including Central Government employess and All India Service Cadre Officers or is in isolation forced on major ports;

(c) if so, the details of the resolution of major Port Trust Boards in relation to retirement age, port-wise; and

(d) the details of workers and officers of major ports with regard to retirement age which do not have their own rules but adopted rules of Government which remain unchanged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Major Port Trust Boards have resolved to roll back the age of retirement in major Ports with a view to

reducing their excess manpower and reducing their operational expenditure. The initiative for reduction in the retirement age has been taken by the major Port Trusts irrespective of whether similar decisions were taken in the Public Sector Organisation and Govt. bodies.

(c) The details are given in the statement attached

(d) The Calcutta Port Trust and Paradip Port Trust do not have their own regulations in the matter. However, the resolution of the Calcutta Port Trust Board has been notified in the State Gazette. In respect to Paradip Port, the resolution of the Board has been brought to the notice of all its employees.

### **Statement**

*Details of the Resolutions of the Major Port Trust Boards in Relation to Retirement Age :*

1. MUMBAI PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 9 dated 11.1.2000 resolved to approve rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years w.e.f. 31.3.2000.

2. TUTICORIN PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 21 dated 17.4.2000 resolved to reduce the age of retirement of the employees of Tuticorin Port Trust from 60 years to 58 years w.e.f. 30.6.2000. It was also approved that the class IV employees who entered service prior to 1.4.79 shall retire on superannuation on the afternoon of last day of the month in which they attain the age of 60 years.

3. NEW MANGALORE PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 13 dated 28.4.2000 resolved to reduce the superannuation age of Class I, II and III officers and employees and also the Class IV employees who entered into Port Service after 31.3.1980 and to give effect to the same from 30.9.2000

4. VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 59 dated 25.9.2000 resolved to approve rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years w.e.f. 30.11.2000.

5. CALCUTTA PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 128 dated 25.8.2000 resolved to approve rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years w.e.f. 31.12.2000 except in respect of Class IV employees recruited prior to 30.10.1972.

6. PARADIP PORT TRUST : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 38 dated 4.10.2000 resolved to approve that the age of retirement for Class I, II, III employees which was increased from 58 to 60 years by earlier Board Resolution shall stand change to 58 years w.e.f. 31.1.2001.

7. **KANDLA PORT TRUST** : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 77 dated 20.10.2000 resolved to approve rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years *w.e.f.* 31.1.2001.

8. **CHENNAI PORT TRUST** : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 133 dated 24.11.2000 have resolved to reduce the age of retirement from 60 years to 58 years *w.e.f.* 31.1.2001.

9. **COCHIN PORT TRUST** : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 72 dated 18.10.2000 have resolved to approved rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years *w.e.f.* 31.3.2001 except the class IV employees who entered Board's service before 21.7.72.

10. **MORMUGAO PORT TRUST** : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 72 dated 31.10.2000 have resolved to approve reduce the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years. The date of effect is yet to be decided.

11. **JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU PORT TRUST** : The Board of Trustees through Resolution No. 748 dated 24.11.2000 have resolved to approved rolling back the age of retirement of Port employees from 60 years to 58 years *w.e.f.* 31.3.2001.

### **Child Marriages**

5190. **SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK** : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether marriages of infants are taking place in some States despite the ban imposed on such marriages;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) if so, whether the law or it is merely on paper only;

(d) if so, the number of such cases which came to the notice of Government, State-wise; and

(e) the steps the Government have so far taken or propose to take to prevent such marriages?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 seeks to restrain solemnization of child marriages. It is not correct to say that the law is merely on paper. The detailed information was given by the Government in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 138 on 28th November, 2000. A copy of the said reply is given in the statement attached.

### **Statement**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

(MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS)

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 138

TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.2000

### **CHILD MARRIAGE**

\*138. **SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY** : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the child marriages are still taking place in the country;

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

(c) the action taken to stop child marriages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The unfortunate practice of child marriage is still continuing in some parts of the country. According to the information available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of cases registered in the country under the Child Marriage Restraint Act during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 were 78, 56 and 44 respectively. The State-wise break-up of these statistics is enclosed.

(c) By an amendment carried out in 1978 in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, the minimum age for marriage was raised to 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls; the offences under this Act were also made cognizable. The administration and implementation of this Act is however, the responsibility of the State Governments.

The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 was also amended in 1976 to legally enable a girl to repudiate a child marriage whether the marriage has been consummated or not.

Besides the aforementioned legal provisions, the following measures have been taken to curb the social evil of child marriage :

- (i) Under a National Plan of Action, which focuses on survival, protection and development of the girl child, awareness is being created against child marriages through the electronic and print media. Social awareness is also being generated, through voluntary agencies and universities, about the ill-effects of early

marriage and consequent early pregnancy on the health of the girl child.

- (ii) The State Governments and UT Administrations have been asked to formulate a specific scheme to raise the status of the girl child, with one of its objectives being the postponement of marriage of girl child beyond the legal age for marriage.
- (iii) The Department of Women and Child Development implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Balika Smridhi Yojana" under which funds are released to the State Governments and the UT Administrations to provide financial assistance to the girls born on or after 15th August, 1997. The financial assistance is in the nature of a periodic deposit in the account of the girl child, including a scholarship for successful completion of study in each class. The accumulated value of deposits becomes payable to the beneficiary on attaining the age of 18 years and having remained unmarried till then. Under the scheme, a sum of Rs. 40 crore has been released during the year 1999-2000 to benefit 8 lakh girl children.

*Incidence of Child Marriage Restraint Act during 1997 to 1999*

Sl. No.	State/UT	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	23	5	0
5.	Goa	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	29	30	14
7.	Haryana	0	3	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	4	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	1	2	0
11.	Kerala	4	1	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0	1	1
13.	Maharashtra	0	0	7
14.	Manipur	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	0	0	1

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Punjab	1	2	4
20.	Rajasthan	10	5	2
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	1	0	0
23.	Tripura	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1	0	0
25.	West Bengal	0	0	0
	Total (States)	76	54	44
26.	A & N Islands	1	2	0
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	0	0	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	1	0	0
	Total (UTs)	2	2	0
	Total (All-India)	78	56	44

Source : 1. 1997; 1998 = Crime in India Data  
2. 1999 = Monthly Crime Statistics.

Note : Figures for 1999 are Provisional.

**Protest against Alleged Manhandling of Official**

5191. DR. C. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Train Movement hit as staff desert posts" appearing in *Hindu* on December 7, 2000;

(b) whether any notice or prior warning was given before disrupting the essential services;

(c) if not, the action initiated against the concerned officials;

(d) the number of passengers and trains affected due to agitation; and

(e) the steps being taken to prevent such incidents in future?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (e) A fact finding inquiry has already been ordered.

(d) Two passenger trains were detained for 26 and 35 minutes each.

### **Malpractices in Overbooking**

5192. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that International Airlines indulge in the malpractices of overbooking during the busy season of Christmas and New Year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Air India also indulge in this malpractice;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action initiated against the errant Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Certain amount of overbooking is a normal industry practice followed by all airlines. Since, due to heavy rush, there was large scale offloading of passengers during the last Winter season, the Government have decided to liberally permit airlines to operate additional flights or upgrade the capacity of their aircraft as per traffic demand during the current winter season to avoid offloading.

[Translation]

### **Attachment of More Coaches in Kalindi Express**

5193. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received requests for attaching more two tier coaches and enhancing the reservation quota in Kalindi Express from Mainpuri;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Govt. in this regard;

(d) the time by which the said demands are likely to be fulfilled;

(e) whether it is also proposed to enforce punctuality in this train particularly between Delhi and Rewari; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No request has been received for attachment of 2 Tier coach in Kalindi Express from Mainpuri.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) Kalindi Express runs between Farrukhabad and Delhi and does not run between Delhi-Rewari.

(f) Does not arise.

### **Reinstatement of Labourers in CSD**

5194. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has pronounced a verdict directing the Army Headquarters (C.S.D.) Canteen, New Delhi to reinstate the services of some labourers who were retrenched earlier;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time limit given to implement the said decision;

(c) the progress made so far in compliance of the Court order; and

(d) the time by which the said decision is likely to be implemented fully?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The facts of the case are that three casual labourers who are employed on day-to-day basis, when required in the Army Headquarters Canteen, New Delhi, had filed an OA No. 2741 of 1997 in Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Principal Bench, New Delhi, for their regularisation as Central Government Employees. CAT in its judgement directed the management to examine the feasibility of granting temporary status to these casual labourers as prevalent for Central Government Employees.

A CWP No. 5003/98 against the said judgement was filed by the Army Headquarters Canteen, New Delhi, in the High Court of Delhi which directed that these individuals be given preference for employment whenever casual vacancy is available. The said labourers, however, again filed a writ in the High Court No. CM No. 3938/2000 praying for employment as per CATs judgement. The Hon'ble Delhi High Court while disposing of the CWP No. 5003/98 and CM No. 3938/2000 on 10th October, 2000 ruled that since the Army Headquarters Canteen, New Delhi has already re-engaged one of the casual labourers through the Contractor from 7th June, 2000 and as they are willing to re-engage the other two labourers, provided they report for duty as and when required, it might not be necessary to continue any further proceedings in the Writ Petition and they have disposed of the petition accordingly. As such, no time limit has been specified in the judgement as the judgement came into operation from immediate effect.

(c) and (d) Hon'ble Court's order is being complied with by Army Headquarters Canteen, New Delhi. Since the appointment of casual labourers is on day-to-day basis and as and when required, the question of any time by which the said decision is likely to be implemented, does not arise.

### Tourism Projects of Bihar

5195. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of projects cleared by the Union Government for Tourist Complex in Bihar, location-wise;

(b) the funds allocated by the Union Government therefor, project-wise; and

(c) the present position of the projects along with the time by which these projects are likely to be completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The details of Tourist Complexes sanctioned in Bihar during first three years of Ninth Plan are as under :

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount released	Present Status
1.	Tourist Complex at Raxaul	45.00	13.50	Project has been dropped on the request of Bihar Government.
2.	Tourist Complex at Vaishali	44.00	14.00	Utilisation Certificate awaited.
3.	Tourist Complex at Bhagalpur	35.00	11.00	-do-
4.	Tourist Complex at Aurangabad	25.00	7.50	-do-

[English]

### Restructuring of Duty Free Shops

5196. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWÁISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a restructuring plan for the existing Duty Free Shops in some of the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total profit earned by these shops during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps being taken for evolving ways and means to make these shops more marketable?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The profitability of Duty Free Shops is given below:

Year	Net Profit (Before Tax) (Rupees in crores)
1997-98	28.75
1998-99	26.98
1999-2000	23.27
2000-2001 (Prov.)	15.21

(d) The measures being taken for improving sales at Duty Free Shops *inter-alia* include :

- (1) To increase the product range with latest designs;
- (2) To renovate/refurbish the existing shops to bring them to international standards;
- (3) Seeking special offers from manufacture for launching their products;
- (4) To compete with international prices.

[English]

### Railway Corridor Project

5197. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated railway corridor project as an alternative to the National Highway Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to examine economic viability of the project in comparison of proposed NHAI project; and

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

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

### Modernisation of Egmore Museum

5198. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for the modernisation of the Egmore Museum is pending with the Government for assistance;

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has intimated that the Government of Tamil Nadu had submitted a proposal to the Planning Commission seeking financial assistance of Rs. 8.00 crores for renovation of heritage buildings and galleries of the Egmore Museum. The Planning Commission requested the ASI for its views on the reasonableness of the estimates. ASI has recently given its comments to the Planning Commission for appropriate action.

### **Handloom Expo-2000 in Andhra Pradesh**

5199. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a national handloom exhibition 'Expo-2000' was held in Andhra Pradesh during September-October, 2000;

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

(c) whether this Expo-2000 had registered a record business during the period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the States participated in the exhibition; and

(f) the extent to which the Expo-2000 has proved remarkable success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Govt. of India assists State Govts. financially to the extent of Rs. 38.00 lakhs for organising a National Handloom Expo, apart from the contribution of the concerned State Govt.

(c) and (d) According to the information furnished by the State Govt., the Expo registered a sale of Rs. 345 lakhs.

(e) 14 (Fourteen) States participated in the Expo.

(f) The Expo helped the participants of the Expo to liquidate their handloom products.

### **Promotional Avenues for Jawans of Armed Forces**

5200. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether defence officers have better avenues of promotions as compared to Jawans;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide equal opportunity to all in matter of promotion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Promotional avenues of Officers and Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR) in the three Services of the Armed Forces are not comparable as they are governed by separate set of terms and conditions of service.

(b) and (c) All officers and PBOR are provided equal opportunity for promotion within their own cadre as per the promotion policy, applicable to each category of personnel.

### **Supply of Casseroles to Western Railway**

5201. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any controversy between Railway quality control agency and Western Railway over foil casseroles which were supplied by Hindalco Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the consignment was rejected earlier by the inspecting engineer of RITES;

(d) if so, the reasons for approving the same consignment for supply to Western Railway;

(e) whether favouritism and partiality has been done by awarding the tender to the company which was not in race of getting the job as per the prescribed norms;

(f) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the action being taken by the Government against those found involved in this scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no controversy between Western Railway and quality control agency over supply of foil casseroles by Hindalco Industries. However, the supplies made by M/s. Hindalco Industries, subsequent to their offer being accepted in respect of the tender opened on 12.05.2000, were rejected because they failed to meet the specifications of size as also the fact that the Indian Railway logo was not embossed on the casseroles.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.



(e) and (f) The contract has been awarded by Western Railway after following necessary prescribed norms, rules and regulations. As such the question of favouritism does not arise. The Railway has followed all norms while rejecting the consignment by conducting a joint inspection by Western Railway alongwith representative of the supplying firms and RITES.

(g) Does not arise.

### 2600th Birth Anniversary of Lord Mahavira

5202. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 776 on November 23, 2000 regarding 2600th Birth Anniversary of Lord Mahavira and state :

(a) the details of composition of the National Committee;

(b) the names of the members nominated on the Drafting Committee;

(c) the names since added or removed from the National Committee and Drafting Committee;

(d) whether the National Committee and the Drafting Committee have held any meeting so far;

(e) if so, the date and purpose of the meetings held so far;

(f) the draft programme of the celebrations drawn up in this regard; and

(g) the suggestions received from Jains or any other body or individual for the proposed celebration?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (g) A National Committee comprising 59 members was initially constituted. 8 more members have been included in the Committee. A list of the members given in the statement is attached. The first meeting of the National Committee was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister on 9th December, 2000 to discuss about organising the celebrations. A number of suggestions were received during the meeting involving joint efforts by Government of India, State Governments and Jain Community. No Drafting Committee has been constituted.

#### Statement

*List of Members of the National Committee constituted to celebrate 2600 year Tirthankara Mahavira's Janma Kalyanak.*

1. Prime Minister of India Chairman
2. Union Minister for Tourism & Culture Vice-Chairman

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 3. Union Minister of External Affairs                          | Member |
| 4. Union Minister of Home Affairs                              | Member |
| 5. Union Minister of Finance                                   | Member |
| 6. Union Minister for Communication                            | Member |
| 7. Shri Sunder Lal Patwa, Union Minister for Rural Development | Member |
| 8. Union Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting      | Member |
| 9. Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment    | Member |
| 10. Shri Dhananjay Kumar, Union Minister of State for Textiles | Member |
| 11. Shri Sundar Singh Bhandari, Governor, Gujarat              | Member |
| 12. Chief Minister, Punjab                                     | Member |
| 13. Chief Minister, Bihar                                      | Member |
| 14. Chief Minister, Karnataka                                  | Member |
| 15. Chief Minister, Gujarat                                    | Member |
| 16. Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh                             | Member |
| 17. Chief Minister, Maharashtra                                | Member |
| 18. Chief Minister, Rajasthan                                  | Member |
| 19. Chief Minister, Delhi                                      | Member |
| 20. Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh                              | Member |
| 21. Dr. L.M. Singhvi, M.P.                                     | Member |
| 22. Shri Dipchand Gardi  | Member |
| 23. Shri M.C. Shah   | Member |
| 24. Smt. Indu Jain   | Member |
| 25. Shri Sahu Ramesh C. Jain                                   | Member |
| 26. Shri Shrenikbhai Kasturbhai                                | Member |
| 27. Shri Raj Kumar Jain  | Member |
| 28. Shri Virendra Hegde  | Member |
| 29. Shri S.P. Jain   | Member |
| 30. Dr. Saryu Doshi  | Member |
| 31. Shri Hulaschand Golecha                                    | Member |
| 32. Shri Hastimal Munot  | Member |
| 33. Dr. Mahendra Pandya, NRI                                   | Member |
| 34. Shri C.K. Jain, Ex-Secretary General, LS                   | Member |
| 35. Shri Mangilal Sethia                                       | Member |
| 36. Shri K.L. Jain   | Member |
| 37. Shri Bannechand Maloo                                      | Member |

38. Shri L.L. Achchha	Member	64. Shri Prakashbhai Jhaveri of Mumbai	Member
39. Shri Pradeep Kumar Kashlival	Member	65. Shri Vasanthbhai Khokhani of Rajkot	Member
40. Shri Charukirti Bhattaraka	Member	66. Secretary—Culture	Member
41. Smt. Kamla Ham Pa Nagarajiah	Member	67. Joint Secretary—Culture	Member—Secretary
42. Shri Laxmi Chand Kothari	Member		
43. Shri Sankalchand Bagrecha	Member		
44. Shri Nirmal Chand Jain	Member		
45. Shri Sampat Raj Gadhia	Member		
46. Shri Gyan Raj Mehta	Member		
47. Shri Manohar Chajjed	Member		
48. Dr. M.R. Thanga, MLC	Member		
49. Shri D.R. Mehta	Member		
50. Prof. Rinpoche	Member		
51. Dr. Rafiq Zakaria	Member		
52. Bhai Jodh Singh	Member		
53. Dr. Karan Singh	Member		
54. Dr. B.K. Modi	Member		
55. Shri V.H. Dalmia	Member		
56. Maulana Wahididdin-Jamia	Member		
57. Arch Bishop of Delhi	Member		
58. Shri Vijay Darda, MP	Member		
59. Shri Lalit Mehta, MP	Member		
60. Shri Dilip Gandhi, MP	Member		
61. Shri Pushap Jain, MP	Member		
62. Shri Naresh Puglia, MP	Member		
63. Shri Dhirubhai Shah, Speaker, Gujarat Legislative Assembly	Member		

### Export of Silk Products

5203. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the export of silk products in quantity and value during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise and product-wise;

(b) the target set in this regard during the said period;

(c) whether the export of silk carpets has declined during 1999-2000;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) whether the ASSOCHAM has called for immediate measures to arrest the declining trend of export of silk carpets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (g) The target and achievement in the total export of silk products and in the export of silk carpets in value terms for the last three years and the current year is as below :

**Table - I**

Year	Targets for silk exports (Rs. in crores)	** Achievement of silk carpets exports (Rs. in crores)	** Export of silk carpets in Million sq. meters.	# Total silk exports. (Rs. in crores)
1997-98	1050	109.62	0.31	1116
1998-99	1050	136.44	0.38	1134
1999-2000	1260	153.93	0.43	1721
2000-2001	1386	56.75	0.16	913
		(upto Sept. 2000)	(upto Sept. 2000)	(upto Aug. 2000)

\*\* source Carpet Export Promotion Council

f

# source DGCIS

The country-wise exports of silk products is as below :

**Table-II\*\***

Year	USA	Germany	UK	Italy	France	Hongkong	(Rs. Crores)	
							All other Countries	Total Silk Goods
1997-98	354.41	147.13	105.51	67.58	59.31	57.41	324.65	1116
1998-99	333.03	168.49	104.69	62.65	66.24	48.52	350.38	1134
1999-2000	609.69	133.54	191.06	106.37	79.45	111.40	489.49	1721
2000-01 up to August, 2000	341.15	73.97	63.82	51.41	39.90	43.71	268.04	913

&& source DGCIS

The figures do not show any decline in the export of silk carpets.

### Share of Indian Shipping

5204. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) the share of Indian Shipping in the overseas sea-borne trade of Indian cargoes;

(b) whether the Indian ships carry less than 30% of outbound cargo from India;

(c) if so, whether the capacity of Indian Shipping not kept pace with the rate of growth of Indian overseas trade;

(d) whether there is any effort to reduce the mismatch the outbound cargo and the capacity of Indian ships; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The share of Indian Shipping in the overseas sea-borne trade during the last three years is as under :

Year	Trade (In million tonnes)
1997-98	63.53 (31.4%)
1998-99	62.61 (30.8%)
1999-2000	70.85 (31.5%)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Government has been taking various steps to promote Indian Shipping and the following proposals are presently being pursued to give further

boost to Indian Shipping :

(i) Tax relief to Indian Seafarers.

(ii) Enhancement of depreciation rate of ships from 20% to 40%.

(iii) Infrastructure status to Coastal Shipping.

(iv) Introduction of Tonnage Tax in lieu of Corporate Tax.

### Use of Jute Bags

5205. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have Notified that foodgrains and sugar are compulsorily required to be packed 100% in Jute Bags since May, 1987 till date except for a brief period of March 31, 2000 to October 24, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Jute Bags being used are not of Food-Grade Jute Bags;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for allowing health hazardous Jute Bags containing Jute Batching Oil, to be compulsorily used for domestic consumption and Food-Grade-Jute Bags for foreign consumption; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that Non-Food-Grade-Jute—Bags are not allowed to pack edible items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) (a) Government of India issued an order dated 29.05.1987 under Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 making it compulsory w.e.f. from 1.6.1987 for packing of 100% production of both foodgrains and sugar in Jute Packaging Materials. This compulsory packing of 100% productions of both

foodgrain and sugar by Jute Packaging Materials has been continuing since 1.6.1987 till date. However, for a brief period from 31.3.2000 to 24.10.2000, compulsory packing by Jute Packaging Material was reduced to 90% of the production of the both foodgrain and sugar.

(b) Jute bags used for compulsory of both foodgrain and sugar were in conformity to Bureau of Indian Standard's Specification. The jute bags conforming to relevant BIS Standards, used in the packing of foodgrains & sugar, have no reported adverse effects on human health.

(c) Jute Batching Oil (JBO) a particular grade of petroleum byproduct, has been used almost throughout the world for processing of raw jute for manufacturing jute bags. There is no conclusive evidence of any correlation with a specific health hazard. The odourless hydrocarbon free jute bags using vegetable oil derivatives as Batching Oil has been named as foodgrade jute bags by International Jute Organisation (IJO) and it is now IJO STANDARD 98/01. IOCCC (Intt. Organisation on Coffee, Cocoa & Chocolate) has suggested some changes and the same are awaiting approval of IJC. These bags are exported for packing of selected commodities like Cocoa Beans, Coffee Beans and Shelled Nuts. Currently Indian Export of odourless hydrocarbon free jute bags is around 10-15,000 MT per year out of total jute goods export of around 1.8 lakh MT.

(d) JBO processed jute bags have not been conclusively proved to be health hazard. It would however be possible to supply hydrocarbon free jute bags to any consumer on demand.

### LNG Project at Dahej

5206. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Petronet is setting up a 5 million tonne LNG project at Dahej (Gujarat);

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

(c) whether a contractor has been selected for this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3000 crore or so.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The commissioning of the Dahej Terminal is scheduled for December 2003.

### Posts Reserved for SCs/STs

5207. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the instructions for Reservation in promotion, prescription of Lower Qualifying marks/Lesser standard to Evaluation issued by the Department of Personnel and Training *vide* office memorandum No. 36012/23/96. Estt. (RES) Vol.II dated October 3, 2000 for provision to Article 335 incorporated in the Constitution by the Constitution's 82 Amendment Act, 2000 have been implemented by the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of officers/staff in various categories are likely to be benefited thereby; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Railways to implement the same with retrospective effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the proviso the Article 335 incorporated through Constitution (Eighty-second Amendment) Act, 2000 and on receipt of Office Memorandum dated 3.10.2000, from Department of Personnel and Training, instructions have been issued *vide* Railway Board's letter dated 12.12.2000 to all the Zonal Railways/Production Units and the organisations under the control of Ministry of Railways for restoration of relaxations/concessions in the matters of promotion to candidates belonging to SC/ST category by way of lower qualifying marks/lesser standards of evaluation which existed prior to 27.3.2000. As such all the SC/ST staff eligible for relaxation/concession will be benefited in the selections made on or after 3.10.2000.

(d) Does not arise.

### Compressed Natural Gas

5208. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Compressed Natural Gas is a pollution free fuel;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make it compulsory to use CNG in all Government vehicles from April 1, 2001 to encourage use of this gas in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) leads to lesser pollution than other fuels.

(b) and (c) No Sir. However, in view of the fact that CNG is a non-polluting fuel, Central Govt. have authorized the use of CNG in motor vehicles by amending in August, 2000 the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.

(d) Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) to convert all their bus fleets to single fuel mode of CNG by 31.3.2001. As such, its availability, in the first instance, is being ensured in the city of Delhi. In addition, its supply is also being made in Mumbai and Gujarat.

[Translation]

### Siachin Allowance

5209. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to enhance the Siachin allowance to the defence personnel posted at Siachin glacier is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Siachen Allowance is admissible to the defence personnel posted in Siachen region. The rates of such allowance were increased to Rs. 7000/- p.m. for officers and Rs. 4667/- p.m. for PBORs, with effect from 1.8.1997. No proposal to further enhance the said allowance is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

### Expenditure Incurred at Ahmedabad Airport

5210. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the average annual income earned from the Ahmedabad Airport of Gujarat;

(b) the expenditure incurred for the development of Ahmedabad Airport by the Union Government;

(c) whether there is a dearth of some basic facilities keeping in view the rush of passengers at the said airport;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce a new scheme regarding lodging of passengers and providing clock room facilities at the Ahmedabad Airport; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The average monthly income earned from Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel International Airport during 1999-2000 was Rs. 121.57 lakhs.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has spent approx Rs. 13.66 crores during 2000-2001 (up to Nov. 2000) on development of the airport.

(c) All basic passenger amenities are available at Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel International Airport at Ahmedabad. A new Domestic Departure Terminal has been planned to cater to 600 passengers at a time at an estimated cost of Rs. 45.91 crores to meet the increased passenger traffic.

(d) and (e) Cloak room and lodging facilities in the form of rest room will be provided in the proposed Domestic Departure Building. The project is likely to be completed within 30 months after the commencement of work.

[English]

### Railway Projects in Maharashtra

5211. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the details of projects submitted by the Government of Maharashtra for construction of new rail lines, gauge conversion, doubling of rail lines and electrification of rail routes alongwith the action taken thereon during the last three years and the current year.

(b) the names of those railway lines, the construction work of which was accepted by the Government in principle, but could not be considered for execution due to resource crunch during the last five years; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of these lines are likely to be started?

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

**Records of Cultural Equipments**

5212. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to catalogue the numismatic collections deposited in all the museums in the country and also regarding the ancient coins found in India but got deposited in various museums abroad and also in the private collections in both India and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to collect the treasure troves found in India and various parts of the country lying with State treasuries departments or local sub-treasuries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The preparation of the National Register of the tangible heritage, including numismatic collections, in the country has begun. In the first phase, the Register would include the 'AA' and 'A' category collections.

As far as collections deposited outside the country is concerned, it may be stated that prior to Independence, a large number of cultural objects including coins had moved from the Indian Subcontinent to different parts of the world. These objects are scattered among innumerable museums and private collections. There is no international covenant for the restitution of such objects. Further, because of partition of Indian Subcontinent, there would be competing claims about the country of origin of these objects. In view of this, building a record of such objects is not only time consuming and problematic but also unlikely to yield practical results so far as restitution is concerned.

(c) The Constitution assigns the subject "Treasure Trove" to State List. The Government do not propose to collect the treasure troves lying with State Treasuries.

[Translation]

**Appointment of Organisers In Place of Ticket Sale Agents**

5213. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India propose to appoint organisers in place of general ticket sale agents like in Britain;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which they are likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Air India is in process of appointing Consolidators in place of General Sales Agents (GSAs) in certain countries. They have so far appointed three consolidators in UK & Ireland on 10th July, 2000. Similarly, four consolidators have been appointed in Canada on 08th August, 2000.

[English]

**Allocation of Funds for Railway Projects**

5214. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds earmarked for new lines during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the fund allocated for new projects, year-wise and zone-wise; and

(c) the names of new lines being taken up during this period in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Rs. 2097.65 cr. has been provided for new line projects in the first 4 years of the 9th Plan since 1997-98 to 2000-01. The funds to be provided in the 5th year have not yet been decided.

(b) and (c) The desired information is as under :

Zone	Year of inclusion in the budget	Name of Project	Name of State	Funds allocated in 9th Plan so far (Rs. in cr.)
1	2	3	4	5
Central	1997-98	Lalitpur-Singrauli	Madhya Pradesh	5.51
		Baramati-Lonad	Maharashtra	0.20
Eastern		Ara-Sasaram	Bihar	18.55
		Giridih-Barakhana-Ranchi new line between Giridih-Koderma	Bihar	9.00

1	2	3	4	5
Northern		Tarantaran-Goindwal Chandigarh- Ludhiana	Punjab Haryana/ Punjab	6.05 40.17
North		Muzaffarpur-	Bihar	1.21
Eastern		Sitamarhi		
Northeast		Diphu-Karong	Manipur	25.29
Frontier		Brahmaputra bridge at Bogibeel with linking lines between Dibrugarh and North Bank line	Assam	10.00
Southern		Bangalore- Satyamangalam Dharmavaram- Penukonda via Puttappathi Angamali- Sabarimala	Karnataka/ Tamilnadu Andhra Pradesh  Kerala	2.10 35.20 6.00
South		Munirabad-	Karnataka/Andhra	8.36
Central		Mehboobnagar	Pradesh	
Eastern	1998-99	Rajgir-Hisua-Tilaya	Bihar	16.16
		Koderma-Ranchi	Bihar	39.00
	Deoghar-Dumka		Bihar	3.00
	Fatuha-Islampur		Bihar	27.10
South		Gadwal-Raichur	Andhra Pradesh	9.22
Central				
Central	1999-2000	Agra-Etawah via Fatehabad and Bah	Uttar Pradesh	10.19
South		Kakinada-	Andhra Pradesh	0.10
Central		Pithapuram		
Eastern	2000-2001	Deoghar-Sultanganj Tarkeshwar- Bishnupur	Bihar West Bengal	6.00 22.00
Northeast	2000-01	New Maynaguri-	Assam	6.00
Frontier		Jogighopa		
South		Kotapalli-Narsapur	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
Central				
Western		Gandhinagar-Kalol Ajmer-Pushkar Ramganj Mandi- Bhopal	Gujarat Rajasthan Rajasthan/ Madhya Pradesh	2.00 1.00 1.00

[Translation]

### **Doubling of Rail Lines**

5215. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
SHRI A. NARENDRA :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rail lines doubled during the last three years and the current year so far, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of rail lines on which doubling work is in progress and the time schedule fixed for completion of each project and progress made thereon so far, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount spent on each project so far;

(d) the details of those rail lines for which survey has been conducted for doubling, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(e) the details of those rail lines which are proposed to be doubled in near future, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(f) whether the Government have also received some representations regarding doubling of some rail lines during the current year; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

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

[English]

### **New Technology in Garment Industry**

5216. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Rayon Corporation has decided to go in for capacity expansion and introduction of new technology in garment industry;

(b) if so, whether the company has agreed to help the suppliers to expand capacity and bring latest technology;

(c) if so, the extent to which the company has agreed to provide initial investment; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure a steady supply of garments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Rayon & Industries Ltd. is a private company. As per information made available by M/s. Madura Garments, Bangalore (A division of Indian Rayon & Industries Ltd.), the Indian Rayon & Industries Ltd. is expanding its capacity and including latest technology.

(c) and (d) The company has not yet taken a decision regarding quantum of investment/assistance.

[Translation]

### **CNG Stations in Maharashtra**

5217. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question No. 762 dated November 23, 2000 and state :

(a) the location-wise and district-wise details of the 21 CNG Stations functional in Maharashtra; and

(b) the location-wise/district-wise details of the 14 stations to be set up next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Details are given in statement-I and II respectively.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Functional CNG Station located in Mumbai*

1. Mahanagar Gas Limited, City Gate Station, Sion
2. Anik Bus Depot, B.E.S.T., Sion
3. Gujarat Service Centre, Arthur Road
4. Kausar Auto Service, Agripada
5. Modern Auto, Mumbai Central
6. American Auto Supply Co., Victoria Road, Byculla
7. Universal Motors, Mazagoan
8. Amar Auto, P. De Mello Road, Wadi Bunder (Near C.S.T.)
9. Chembur Service Station, Chembur
10. Vijay Auto Mobiles, LBS Marg, Kurla (West)
11. Mumbai Taxi Association, LBS Marg, Kurla (West)
12. National Highway Trucking Centre, G.M. Road, Chembur



13. Highway Automobiles, LBS Marg Opp. Darga, Ghat-Ko-Par (West)
14. Parekh Petroleum Services, S.V. Road, Vile Parle (West)
15. Royal Service Station, Near Hotel Leela Keminski, Andheri (East)
16. Shriseva Enterprises, Kherni Road Saki Naka
17. Jogehsaari Petrol Supply, S.V. Road Opp. Post Office, Jogeshwari (West)
18. Global Automobiles, Veer Sambhaji Road, Opp. Bombay Oxygen Ltd. LBS Marg, Mulund (West)
19. Mahanagar Gas Ltd. Opp. ICICI Building, Mbandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East)
20. Mastakar Auto Service, New Link Road, Near Adarsh Nagar, Oshiwara (West)
21. Uganda Service Station, R.A. Kidwai Road, Wadala

#### **Statement-II**

*Location-wise list of 14 CNG Stations proposed to be set up next year in Mumbai*

1. New Bharat Automobiles (BPCL Petrol Pump), Mumbai Central
2. A.D. Adjanina (HPCL Petrol Pump), Grant Road
3. Chhagan Mitha (HPCL Petrol Pump), Wardan Road
4. Royal Auto (HPCL Petrol Pump), Bhendi Bazar
5. Express Petroleum (BPCL Petrol Pump), Colaba
6. India Garage (HPCL Petrol Pump), Worli
7. Intel Carport (IOCL Petrol Pump) Sahar Airport, Andheri (East)
8. Ghatkopar BEST Depot, Ghatkopar (East)
9. M/s. Suburban Service (HPCL), Bandra (W)
10. Omish Traders (Private), W.E. Highway-Kandivli (E)
11. M/s. Famous Auto (BPCL), Borivli (W)
12. Plot at Mahalaxmi/Worli (to be allotted by Government of Maharashtra)
13. Shetgari Sangh (BPCL), Parel
14. Sachdeva Auto (HPCL), Malad (W)

[English]

#### **Rent of I.T.D.C. Flats**

5218. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ITDC Management enhanced exorbitantly the rent of different flats taken on lease for office purposes from private owners in Connaught Place area of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the old rent and the enhanced rent paid to each flat owner along with the amount of arrears paid during January 1999 to June 2000, flat-wise.

(c) whether most of the flats have been vacated by ITDC after paying the arrears;

(d) if so, the reasons and the justification therefor;

(e) whether all the parties were in the Court for demanding the eviction of the flats; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) (a) to (f) The information is being collected.

#### **Commission of Travel Agents**

5219. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the travel agents/tour operators of ITDC give business to ITDC units/Commercial Division;

(b) if so, the commission which is allowed to them for giving such business to ITDC.

(c) the amount of business given to ITDC by the enlisted travel agents/tour operators during each of the last three years and the current year, unit/division-wise;

(d) the amount of commission given by ITDC to the travel agents/tour operators during the said period; and

(e) the outstanding Commission above Rs. 20,000/- for more than one year as on March 31, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Most of the travel agents/tour operators give business to ITDC hotels and they are allowed 10% commission on the business given.

(c) and (d) Requisite information is given in the statement attached.

(e) There were no such outstanding dues payable by ITDC.

S. No.	Hotels	Statement																							
		1997-98						1998-99						1999-2000						April 2000-Sept. 2000					
		(Rs. in Lakh)						(Rs. in Lakh)						(Rs. in Lakh)						(Rs. in Lakh)					
		No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents	No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents	No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents	No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents	No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents	No. of Travel Agents	Total Business Given by Travel Agents	Total Commission Paid to Travel Agents						
1.	Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	81	606.00	38.20	70	264.77	20.21	81	236.89	5.28	46	29.79	1.28	54	160.66	7.81	42	75.55	5.73	39	32.99	1.42	23	8.42	0.07
2.	Hotel Samrat	157	298.80	11.16	153	322.52	8.90	150	262.52	7.02	76	38.04	0.60	144	237.43	6.96	135	204.66	4.80	102	109.64	3.38	44	12.53	0.53
3.	LMPS-Mysore	73	41.13	0.53	58	31.98	1.41	37	15.92	0.33	28	3.87	0.47	65	32.38	1.32	47	26.12	0.26	57	16.25	1.10	28	22.04	0.86
4.	KADR-Kovalam	143	521.63	5.58	113	315.25	2.18	79	206.49	3.47	48	38.32	0.78	67	150.85	0.44	32	68.05	0.63	21	23.98	0.04	11	3.28	Nil
5.	Hotel Airport Ashok, Calcutta	223	146.29	4.89	243	98.70	4.60	119	94.02	2.63	37	23.84	0.30	80	39.84	1.77	79	34.59	2.48	65	35.77	1.90	47	12.95	0.36
6.	Hotel Bangalore Ashok	19	66.91	1.49	45	45.72	0.63	77	43.85	0.12	37	6.84	0.06	80	39.84	1.77	79	34.59	2.48	65	35.77	1.90	47	12.95	0.36
7.	Hotel Kanishka	109	202.93	2.04	97	92.18	1.04	96	80.70	0.46	17	22.26	0.06	84	52.71	1.36	63	37.20	1.43	34	23.90	0.91	21	3.64	0.06
8.	Hotel Qutab	84	52.71	1.36	63	37.20	1.43	34	23.90	0.91	21	3.64	0.06	32	19.35	—	33	21.22	—	52	16.04	—	18	2.95	Nil
9.	Hotel Janpath	68	43.70	2.45	68	50.61	2.72	66	38.88	1.02	22	4.94	Nil	19	66.91	1.49	45	45.72	0.63	77	43.85	0.12	37	6.84	0.06
10.	Hotel Agra Ashok	34	4.31	0.08	25	4.65	0.11	21	1.60	0.11	15	0.67	0.03	84	52.71	1.36	63	37.20	1.43	34	23.90	0.91	21	3.64	0.06
11.	Hotel Varanasi Ashok	136	59.48	3.96	156	60.65	3.36	181	63.71	3.39	50	10.09 (Approx.)	0.48	109	202.93	2.04	97	92.18	1.04	96	80.70	0.46	17	22.26	0.06
12.	LVPH-Udaipur	6	2.73	0.02	7	0.47	0.05	5	0.35	0.02	06	0.85	0.10	84	52.71	1.36	63	37.20	1.43	34	23.90	0.91	21	3.64	0.06
13.	Hotel Jaipur Ashok	17	1.84	0.11	14	3.22	0.18	14	2.13	0.10	09	2.00	Nil	19	66.91	1.49	45	45.72	0.63	77	43.85	0.12	37	6.84	0.06
14.	Hotel Pataliputra Ashok	77	50.44	—	59	47.08	—	57	47.75	—	51	10.99	0.02	68	43.70	2.45	68	50.61	2.72	66	38.88	1.02	22	4.94	Nil
15.	Hotel Ayodhya Ashok	98	66.53	0.30	85	55.16	1.73	83	52.03	0.21	43	12.31	0.06	34	4.31	0.08	25	4.65	0.11	21	1.60	0.11	15	0.67	0.03
16.	Hotel Kalinga Ashok	56	15.33	0.09	38	13.51	0.18	40	8.42	0.08	11	2.71	Nil	136	59.48	3.96	156	60.65	3.36	181	63.71	3.39	50	10.09 (Approx.)	0.48
17.	Bharatpur Forest Lodge	68	20.49	0.35	49	15.34	4.44	43	15.72	0.06	29	7.19	Nil	6	2.73	0.02	7	0.47	0.05	5	0.35	0.02	06	0.85	0.10
18.	Hotel Manali Ashok	106	38.73	0.96	93	37.89	0.98	84	32.23	0.94	37	7.37	0.39	17	1.84	0.11	14	3.22	0.18	14	2.13	0.10	09	2.00	Nil
19.	Hotel Jammu Ashok	148	72.64	0.86	139	74.08	0.46	121	38.65	0.11	35	3.85	0.05	77	50.44	—	59	47.08	—	57	47.75	—	51	10.99	0.02
20.	TADR-Mamallapuram	60	8.44	0.65	44	6.44	0.79	38	6.47	0.63	15	1.79	0.04	98	66.53	0.30	85	55.16	1.73	83	52.03	0.21	43	12.31	0.06
21.	Hotel Khajuraho Ashok	9	2.56	0.26	7	4.26	0.43	17	7.17	0.72	06	1.12	0.11	56	15.33	0.09	38	13.51	0.18	40	8.42	0.08	11	2.71	Nil
22.	Hotel Ranjit	68	20.49	0.35	49	15.34	4.44	43	15.72	0.06	29	7.19	Nil	68	20.49	0.35	49	15.34	4.44	43	15.72	0.06	29	7.19	Nil
23.	Hotel Lodhi Hotel	106	38.73	0.96	93	37.89	0.98	84	32.23	0.94	37	7.37	0.39	106	38.73	0.96	93	37.89	0.98	84	32.23	0.94	37	7.37	0.39
24.	Hotel Assam Ashok	148	72.64	0.86	139	74.08	0.46	121	38.65	0.11	35	3.85	0.05	68	20.49	0.35	49	15.34	4.44	43	15.72	0.06	29	7.19	Nil
25.	Hotel Aurangabad Ashok	60	8.44	0.65	44	6.44	0.79	38	6.47	0.63	15	1.79	0.04	106	38.73	0.96	93	37.89	0.98	84	32.23	0.94	37	7.37	0.39
26.	Hotel Indraprastha	9	2.56	0.26	7	4.26	0.43	17	7.17	0.72	06	1.12	0.11	60	8.44	0.65	44	6.44	0.79	38	6.47	0.63	15	1.79	0.04
27.	Hotel Indraprastha	9	2.56	0.26	7	4.26	0.43	17	7.17	0.72	06	1.12	0.11	148	72.64	0.86	139	74.08	0.46	121	38.65	0.11	35	3.85	0.05

### Tourism Projects of Karnataka

5220. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Projects for the development of Tourism in Karnataka and the amount allocated and released thereunder during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, project-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any blue print for the all-round development of Jog Falls to attract tourists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The details of the Projects for the development of Tourism in Karnataka during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are given in the statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) For conducting a feasibility report for development of Jog Falls, the Department of Tourism sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs out of which Rs. 5.00 lakhs have been released as first instalment

#### Statement

*Scheme/Projects Sanctioned and Amount Released for the Year 1999-2000 for Karnataka*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Tourist Home at Pajaka Kshetra Udupi Distt.	49.00	15.00
2.	Tourist Home at Hanumanthanagar	10.00	4.30
3.	Yatriniwas at Sagar, Shimoga Distt.	48.00	14.40
4.	Yatriniwas, Sirsi	48.00	14.40
5.	Yatriniwas at Siddaroodha Swamymath	38.27	0.01 (Token)
6.	TRC at Gulbarga	22.40	6.72
7.	Wayside Amenities at Gadag/Lakkundi	30.00	0.01
8.	Wayside Amenities at Kudligi (Bellary Distt.)	26.00	7.80
9.	Wayside Amenities at Bankapur Cross (Dharwad Distt.)	25.00	7.50
10.	Wayside Amenities at Zalki Cross (Bijapur Distt.)	25.00	7.50
11.	Wayside Facilities at Bannarghatta National Park, Bangalore	27.35	8.35
12.	New Tourist Cottage at Muthyalamadu	44.66	13.40
13.	Additional Tourist Cottages at Srirangapatna	27.50	8.00
14.	Additional accommodation facilities at Nandi Hills	14.30	4.50
15.	Public Conveniences at ArasikereHonnar road Midway to Jog	8.00	2.40
16.	Public Conveniences at Shivanasamudra (near Darga)	8.00	2.40
17.	Public Conveniences at Sri Ramadevarakatte	8.00	2.40
18.	Public Conveniences at Malekamanahalli near Bandipur	8.00	2.40
19.	Public Conveniences at Ganigapura (near temple), Gulbarga Distt.	8.00	2.40
20.	Public Conveniences at Hampi (4 Nos.)	32.00	9.60
21.	Public Conveniences at Tumkur-Honnar road	8.00	2.40
22.	Public Convenience at Badami (near Caves)	8.00	2.40

1	2	3	4
23.	Public Conveniences at Srirangapatna (near Gumbaz)	8.00	2.40
24.	Public Conveniences at Horanadu (near Kalasa)	8.00	2.40
25.	Public Conveniences at Pilikula Nisarga Dhama near Mangalore (2 Nos.)	16.00	4.80
26.	Jungle Lodges Tourism Resort, Hampi	49.00	14.70
27.	Construction of Jetty at Sankey Boat Club, Bangalore (KSTDC proposals)	5.50	0.04
28.	Const. Of Log Forests at Cauvery fishing Camp Unit-II at Doda Makali Mandya Distt.	45.40	13.62
29.	Const. of Eco-Tourism facilities at Kemmangundi, Chikckmagalur	45.45	13.63
30.	Const. of student nature camp facilities at Bannerghatta national park	32.00	0.10
31.	Eco Tourism resort at Bannerghatta National park near B'lore	48.00	0.01
32.	Purchase of OBM at Mysore Belagaun	13.62	6.80
33.	Procurement of Water Sports equipment for Devbagh Beach Resort	5.00	2.50
34.	Water Sports equipment for various boat club	8.67	3.00
35.	Illumination/Fort lighting of Chitra Durga Fort	18.55	5.56
36.	Illumination/Flood lighting of Gulmarg at Tippus Summer Place	17.23	0.04
37.	Hampi Festival	2.50	1.25
38.	Feasibility Study Report of Jog Fall	10.00	5.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>856.40</b>	<b>214.14</b>

*List of Projects prioritised for Central Financial Assistance During 2000-2001 in respect of Karnataka State*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Karwar beaches	7.20
2.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Gokarna, Kumta Taluk	7.20
3.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Kondajji (Davangere District)	7.20
4.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Golgumbaz and Ibrahim Roza	14.40
5.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Shiradi, Hassan District	7.20
6.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Bidar near Nanak Jhara	7.20
7.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Banvasi	7.20
8.	Public convenience and drinking water facility at Basavan Bagewadi	14.40
9.	Development of Karanji Tank Bird Sanctuary, Mysore	48.00
10.	Construction of Yatri Niwas at Biligiri Ranganna Hills, Mysore District	56.00
11.	Construction of Yatri Niwas at Talakadu, Mysore District	56.00
12.	Production of CD-Roms on the five tourism circuits of Karnataka	25.00
13.	Rejuvenation and development of Kempabudi Tank, Bangalore	76.00
14.	Providing musical fountains and boating facility at Gulbarga Tank	8.00
15.	Development of tourism including improvements to existing facilities and amenities at Hampi	78.00
16.	Construction of Tourist Reception Centre at Mandya	32.00
17.	Construction of Yatri Niwas at Dutta Peet, Ganigapura, Gulbarga District	56.00
18.	Construction of Yatri Niwas at Mallaiah Temple, Manasuli Village, Athani, Belgaum District	56.00
19.	Establishment of Ayurvedic Treatment and rejuvenation therapy centre at Pilikula Nisarga Dhama, Mangalore	40.00

1	2	3
20.	Establishment of Ayurvedic Treatment and rejuvenation therapy centre at Dev Bagh Beach Resort, Karwar	56.00
21.	Upgradation of Hotel Mayura Apoorva at Mulbagal, Kolar Distt.	7.50
22.	Construction of Restaurant/Cafeteria at Fort, Chitradurga	24.00
23.	Development of Heritage Village at Bagalkot	74.00
24.	Comprehensive development of Banvasi	76.00
25.	Dussehra Festival at Mysore	5.00
26.	Hampi Festival at Hampi	5.00
27.	Providing flood lights to Maravanthe Beach, Udupi District	32.00
28.	Providing floodlights to Malpe Beach, Udupi District	32.00
29.	Construction of Yatri Niwas at Darga Complex, Muragh, Malla, Chintamani Taluk, Kolar District	56.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>960.50</b>

*Scheme/Projects sanctioned and amount released for the year 2000-2001 for Karnataka*

Sir. The Corporation has been set up with the objectives of :

(Rs. in lakhs)

- (i) fulfilling the Railways communication need.
- (ii) create a nationwide broadband telecom infrastructure.
- (iii) generate additional revenues for the Railways.

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount released
1.	Tourist Reception Centre at Mandya	31.92	9.58
2.	Public conveniences at Bidar near Nanakjhara	7.20	2.16
<b>Total</b>		<b>39.12</b>	<b>11.74</b>

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Corporation is presently functioning from temporary accommodation provided in the Railway Board.

(e) to (g) The clerical, technical & non-technical staff for the Corporation will be appointed as and when required. The staff may also be taken from the open market, if suitable candidates are not available from the Railways.

### Setting up of Railway Telecommunication Corporation

5221 SHRI T M SELVAGANPATHI :  
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Telecom Corporation of India Ltd. has been set up under her ministry;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of this Corporation;

(c) whether the Corporation has started functioning in full scale from its own office;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with its location;

(e) whether clerical, technical and non-technical staff of the Corporation would be appointed from open market;

(f) if so, the details thereof with criteria to be adopted in this regard, category-wise; and

(g) the time by which the appointment process would be initiated?

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

### Derailment of Goods Train

5222. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether a Goods Train was derailed between Ulavapadu-Tettu Railway Station in which 20 bogies were completely damaged on October 24, 2000.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the value of Government property damaged thereby.

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

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

(b) The cause of this derailment is Rail Fracture. The cost of damage to Railway property is Rs. 48,70,710

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per findings of Enquiry Committee, the derailment was due to rail fracture. No Railway staff has been held responsible in this accident. However, ultra sonic flaw detecting and patrolling has been strictly enforced.

[Translation]

### Plants Making Solvents

5223. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small and big plants making solvent from naphtha at present. State-wise;

(b) whether all these plants have been closed down during the last two months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to re-open the closed plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

### Illegal Vendors

5224. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that rail passengers face lot of problems due to illegal coolies and illegal vendors at railway stations;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted preventive enquiry in each division during the last three years and current year to deal with this type of situation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Some cases of passengers facing problems due to activities of unauthorised coolies and vendors have come to notice. During the checks conducted by the Railway administration from time to time, the persons operating unauthorisedly as vendors and coolies are apprehended and action is taken against such persons as per the provisions of Railways Act, 1989. During the years 1997,

1998, 1999 & 2000 (upto November), the number of such persons apprehended on the Zonal Railways is as under:

Railway	1997	1998	1999	2000 (upto Nov.)
Central	6462	7125	9078	10842
Eastern	1202	1805	2585	1207
Northern	1294	899	1174	1398
North Eastern	176	198	211	258
Northeast Frontier	50	80	50	90
Southern	8620	11136	10578	9373
South Central	4049	4009	6948	8686
South Eastern	1041	1357	1459	1987
Western	5591	6914	6955	6456

### Employment to Sports Persons

5225. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of players provided employment in the Railways during the last three years, zone-wise and sports-wise; and

(b) the number of players out of them performed satisfactorily in the National and International tournaments?

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

[English]

### OCC Calculations for Pre-Tax Return

5226. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil Coordination Committee (OCC) calculated the retention price allowing 23.10 per cent pre-tax return instead of 12% post-tax return without verifying the actual payment;

(b) if so, whether the verification of actual tax paid disclosed on over-payment of at least Rs. 2154.75 cr. to oil companies during 1993—98;

(c) if so, the reasons for making such excess payment to oil companies;

(d) whether there is any proposal to recover the amount from those companies apart from taking action against the delinquent officials; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The Oil Coordination Committee (OCC) has allowed a rate of return on net worth @ 12% post tax together with interest on borrowings on the basis of Government decisions dated 23rd October, 1986 on the Oil Cost Review Committee (OCRC) recommendations. The decision that the rate of return on net worth is to be allowed at 12% grossed up at the prevailing rate of corporate tax was reconfirmed in 1996 by the Government.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

### **Oil preserves in Rajasthan**

5227. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large quantity of Oil & Gas reserves have been found in Western Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to establish Petro-Chemical Industry or Oil Refinery in Rajasthan;

(c) if not, whether the Government are considering transporting crude oil to Marhura Refinery or Kapurthala Refinery in Punjab;

(d) if so, whether the Government have appointed an expert Committee to finalise Petro-Chemical projects to be included in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) have established a total of 11.73 Billion Cubic Metre of in-place volume of natural gas in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. Natural Gas at the rate of 0.463 Million Metric Cubic Metre per day is being supplied to the Rajasthan State Electricity Board.

Oil has established presence of heavy oil in Baghewala oilfield in Rajasthan. Oil has also been discovered by a private operator in Gudamalani in Barmer district of Rajasthan. Original oil in-place estimated by

the operator is about 0.19 million tonnes. The commercial viability of these oil discoveries has not yet been established. As such, transportation of crude oil from these fields is not envisaged at present.

(b), (d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### **Indo-Pak War, 1965**

5228. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the report regarding Indo-Pak War in 1965 published recently in various newspapers;

(b) whether Government had decided earlier not to publish the said report;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a report of Indo-Pak War in 1965 by a retired senior army officer has also been published in some newspapers;

(e) whether the two reports are contradictory to each other;

(f) if so, the steps being taken to publish and release a correct and authenticated report with a view to keep factual information in this regard on record; and

(g) whether the Government like-wise, propose to publish the history of Indo-China War in 1962 and Indo-Pak War in 1971?

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

(b) and (c) Considering the contents and continuing relationship with Pakistan, release of the official version of the Indo-Pak War for general publication had been deferred in the past.

(d) to (f) Lt. General (Retd.) Harbaksh Singh the then GOC-in-C, Western Command, had published a book titled "War Despatches Indo-Pak Conflict, 1965" in 1991. The second publication "In Line of Duty—a Soldier Remembers" has also been recently published. Incidents & strategies of the battle in this sector covered in the official history of the 1965 war also appear to have been covered in the private publications. No comparative study between the private publications and the official history of the war has been made.

(g) No decision has been taken to publish the history of Indo-China War in 1962 and Indo-Pak War in 1971.

[English]

### Payment of Commission to General Sales Agents in London

5229. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :  
PROF. I.G. SANADI  
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :  
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether that the Managing Director of Air India had shown favours to the General Sales Agents in London to the tune of Rs. 3 crores as payment of Commission;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether attention of the Government has also been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Indian Express* dated November 11, 2000 in this regard;

(d) whether this matter has been inquired into; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A preliminary inquiry report has been received from Air India alleging that M/s Welcome Travels, General Sales Agent of Air India in London have been benefited by Rs. 3 crores in the year 1997-98 by revision of slabs of Productivity Linked Incentive (PLI).

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) The veracity of the allegations in respect of undue favours shown to M/s Welcome Travels by officials of Air India is being examined in the Ministry.

### Recruitment of Casual Labourers

5230 SHRI SUNIL KHAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recruitment of casual labourers is going on whereas gangmen the trainees of Kharagpur division are out of the list; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

### Fire Ravaged at Cafeteria

5231. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether a fire ravaged at cafeteria in the Indira Gandhi International Airport on September 29, 2000 night underlining the fact once over again that the airport is not equipped to handle such type of crises;

(b) whether a KLM flight which was to nose in at an aerobridge close to the cafeteria had to be diverted to another aerobridge;

(c) whether no emergency light was available at the time arrival of firemen; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. A fire broke out in the kitchen of Ashoka cafeteria in Terminal II at 2200 hours on 27th September, 2000. The fire staff responded immediately and the fire was contained within 10 minutes. IGI Airport is fully equipped to handle fire exigencies.

(b) Yes, Sir. A KLM flight was reallocated to another aerobridge as a precautionary measure. In fact no damage occurred at the aerobridge close to the cafeteria.

(c) and (d) Fire Officials had their emergency lights with them when they arrived at the site of incident

### Complaints against HPCL

5232. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether there are complaints regarding premature release of HPCL leased house at 6 Sorrento Mount Pleasant Road, Mumbai and its subsequent purchase by a near relative of the former Director (Marketing) of the corporation at a throw away price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

### Taking Over of Hindustan Prefab Limited

5233. SHRI B.V. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has approached her Ministry to take over the ailing Hindustan Prefab Limited; and



(b) if so, the response of the Ministry in this regard?

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

(b) The proposal has not been agreed to.

### Export Quota of Cotton

5234 SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Textile Commissioner, Mumbai failed to enforce the conditions of agreement for export of cotton and forfeit the bank guarantee resulting in non-recovery of penalty of Rs. 3.82 crores for non-fulfilment of export obligations besides compensation of 24% of the bank guarantee during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated and fixed responsibilities in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The Office of Textile Commissioner, Mumbai, could not forfeit the bank guarantee in four cases of export of raw cotton of 1995-96 Cotton season resulting in non-recovery of penalty of Rs. 3.82 crore. To recover the penalty together with interest of 24% thereon, the Textile Commissioner has filed summary suits in the High Court of Judicature, Mumbai.

(b) to (d) To fix responsibility, a preliminary inquiry was conducted and on the basis of the findings of the preliminary inquiry report further action has been initiated as per laid down procedures.

### Releasing Amount by ONGC for a Bridge on River

5235. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited have mutually agreed to construct a bridge across Vasista branch of river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh on cost sharing basis at an estimate of Rs. 12 crores;

(b) if so, whether the overall cost of the bridge due to escalation in the cost of the bridge is estimated at Rs. 59 crores;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the ONGC to release an amount of Rs. 29.5 crores towards the completion of the bridge; and

(d) if so, the status on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) No, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited have not mutually agreed to construct the bridge across Vasista branch of River Godavari in Andhra Pradesh on cost sharing basis. However, ONGC had agreed to contribute a sum of Rs. 6 crores as its 50% share of the total cost of construction of the bridge which had been originally estimated by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh as Rs. 12 crores.

(b) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that the cost of the bridge is now estimated to have gone up to about Rs. 59 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) ONGC have already released Rs. 6.00 crores towards the project, as their share of contribution.

### Stand Alone Refineries

5236. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the fate of Stand Alone Refineries after the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to evolve policy to help such Stand Alone Refineries;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that thousands of small share-holders stand to lose their savings due to lack of concern for these Stand Alone Refineries; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to set up a task force to study within a time-bound period the survival of Stand Alone Refineries in the post - APM phase ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) to (d) Government have taken a decision on the integration of stand-alone refineries with Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies. Under the aforesaid arrangement, Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited

(CPCL) and Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (BRPL) would be made the subsidiaries of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), and Kochi Refineries Limited (KRL) and Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) would be made subsidiaries of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

This arrangement will help the stand-alone refineries to face the challenges of de-regulation in a better way as well as enhance the supply of petroleum products to IOCL and BPCL especially in Southern and North-East Region.

### **Effect of APM on Production of Oil**

5237. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether phasing out of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) for oil sector will have any effect on the production of oil in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Under the administered pricing mechanism (APM), indigenous crude oil producers were getting the price for their crude linked to the actual cost of production of oil. On dismantling the APM, the price payable to indigenous crude oil producers, has been linked to the international prices of crude oil. The change is expected to generate more surpluses with the Exploration & Production Companies. This is expected to further accelerate the exploratory and developmental efforts.

### **Air Cargo Growth**

5238. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study conducted by National Council for Applied Economic Research revealed that infrastructure deficiencies and lengthy procedures which result in high dwell time hit air cargo growth in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether one third of the total infrastructure available at airport cargo terminals is occupied by unclaimed cargo; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to clear the unclaimed cargo as on date?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A study conducted by National Council for Applied Economic Research has

mentioned about certain infrastructural deficiencies in air cargo. But independent studies carried out in Mumbai and Delhi in association with Customs and the Clearing Agents Association have shown that the longer dwell time for import cargo was attributable to delay in filing clearance documents and remittance of Customs Duty by importers and agents. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has, however, initiated system improvements to bring down dwell time so that the optimum utilisation of infrastructure facilities are ensured.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The accumulated stock of uncleared/unclaimed import cargo at the four metro airports have already been disposed of under two special projects titled 'Operation Instant Cargo-I' and 'Operation Instant Cargo-II'. In all 81 auctions were held during the last three years in which 1, 11, 134 packages have been sold fetching total sale proceeds of Rs. 31.52 crores to the national ex-chequer and AAI thereby clearing the blocked space.

### **Discontinuation of Air India Flights**

5239. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Air India stopped flying to several international capitals, officers commanding diplomatic status are sent to New Delhi as Couriers-several time a week; and

(b) if so, the alternative arrangement is envisaged to save such extravagant expenses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Mindful of the need for economy nowhere, except from Moscow officers of the Embassy are being sent as couriers to New Delhi.

### **Round the Clock Operation at Trivandrum International Airport**

5240. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Hon'ble Minister while inaugurating the construction of new International Terminal for the Trivandrum International Airport has announced that round the clock operation will be introduced at the Trivandrum airports; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement the announced scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Round the clock operations from Trivandrum International airport has been introduced from 1st September, 2000.

### **Expenditure Incurred by Air India on Prime Minister**

5241. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India plane on which the Prime Minister had gone to U.S. kept completely idle in U.S. and another Air India plane kept as stand-by in India;

(b) if so, the freight loss calculated for two planes during the whole period of Prime Minister's visit to U.S.; and

(c) the comparative figures of running cost, maintenance, profit and loss and accrued loss of Air India as compared to other international airways?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Government of India charters plane from Air India for VVIP flights and the aircraft operates to the programme decided by the Government of India. There were no plane(s) kept as standby in India.

(b) There was no freight loss since no scheduled Air India flights were re-scheduled or cancelled.

(c) Air India undertakes operations of VVIP flights on no-profit-no-loss basis. In other words, the actual expenditure incurred by Air India towards VVIP flights is billed to the Government.

### **Gas Based Power Plants**

5242. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) had a proposal to set up some gas-based power plants.

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

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for development of dual fuel power project with both liquid and gas option under joint venture.

The power project is planned to be constructed at Hazira in Gujarat with a capacity of 360 MW.

### **Negligency in Duty**

5243. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether rats made a scheduled Air India Mumbai-Chennai-Kualalumpur-Singapore Airbus flight to return to base minutes after taking off from the Mumbai airport in the last week of October, 2000;

(b) the cause of rat menace in aeroplanes.

(c) whether the planes are not fumigated regularly before the departure flights; and

(d) the action taken against those responsible for negligence?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Air India flight AI-488 returned to Mumbai after being airborne as rodent sighted on-board by cabin crew. Rentokill fumigation was carried out. Rodents enter aircraft through pallets/containers carrying vegetables, fruits and other perishable food stuff. They also enter aircraft through catering hi-lifts, aero-bridge etc. Air India has an ongoing rodent control programme for all areas under its control. On aircraft, they carry out fumigation periodically and on sighting rodents.

### **SHORT NOTICE QUESTION**

#### **Import of Outdated Technology**

SNQ.1. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Railways have imported outdated technology for its ambitious projects as reported in the *Pioneer* dated December 10, 2000;

(b) if so, whether due to import of outdated technology, the Indian Railways have spent crores of rupees which are presently wasteful;

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

(d) the corrective steps taken in this regard and the responsibility fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. No software for Freight Operations Information System (FOIS) has ever been imported by this Ministry which was outdated at the time of its purchase. The newspaper is referring to Traffic Reporting And Control System (TRACS) software purchased in the 1980's by Indian Railways, which became obsolete subsequently. The application has since been developed to conform to present-day technology and Phase-I has already been implemented on 15

divisions of Indian Railways fully utilizing the infrastructure created in reference to that purchase. Expenditure incurred at that point of time is thus neither wasteful nor does question arise for fixing responsibility.

**14.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.*

[ MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair* ]

**14.00 hrs.**

*At this stage, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table*

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Papers to be laid on the Table

**14.01 hrs.**

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3054/2000]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
  - (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3055/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3056/2000]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Railway Sports Promotion Board, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Railway Sports Promotion Board, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3057/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3058/2000]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3059/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and the Department of Defence Production and Supplies for the year 2000-01.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3060/2000]

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : I beg to lay on the Table :**

- (1) A copy of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Coimbatore Division-I) Limited and the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Coimbatore Division-III) Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 991 (E) in Gazette of India, dated the 7th November, 2000 under sub-section (5) of section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3061/2000]

- (2) A copy of the 29th Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) pertaining to the execution of the Provision of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 for the period from 1st January, 1999 to 31st December, 1999 under section 62 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3062/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3063/2000]

- (4) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission of India :

- (i) One Hundred Seventy-First Report on Biodiversity Bill, January, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3064/2000]

- (ii) One Hundred Seventy-Second Report on Review of Rape Laws, March, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3065/2000]

- (iii) One Hundred Seventy-Third Report on Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2000, April 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3066/2000]

- (iv) One Hundred Seventy-Fourth Report on Property Rights of Women : Proposed Reforms under the Hindu Law, May, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3067/2000]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3068/2000]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) On behalf of Shri Sunder Lal Patwa, I beg to lay on the Table**

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 —
- (i) G.S.R. 886 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 2000 declaring that no reconnaissance permit or prospecting licence or mining lease shall be granted till the 31st March, 2002 in the areas specified in Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh as mentioned in the Notification.
- (ii) G.S.R. 887 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 2000 declaring that no reconnaissance permit or prospecting licence or mining lease shall be granted till the 31st March, 2002 in the areas specified in Mandya District of Karnataka as mentioned in the Notification.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3069/2000]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) On behalf of Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, I beg to lay on the Table :**

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year

1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptrollers and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3070/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3071/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of MSTC Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the MSTC Limited, Calcutta for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3072/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Bongaigaon for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Bongaigaon, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3073/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of IBP Company Limited including its subsidiary, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the IBP Company Limited including its subsidiary, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3074/2000]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Biecco Lawrie Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Biecco Lawrie Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3075/2000]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Oil Industry Development Board, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Oil Industry Development Board, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3076/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the working of Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3077/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3078/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3079/2000]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3080/2000]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-1999.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-1999, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (d) of item No. (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3081/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3082/2000]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, for the year 1999-2000

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3083/2000]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3084/2000]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3085/2000]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3086/2000]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3087/2000]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3088/2000]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3089/2000]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3090/2000]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Textiles Committee, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3091/2000]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Northern India Textile Research Association Ghaziabad, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3092/2000]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3093/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3094/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3095/2000]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mumbai for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3096/2000]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year.



1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3097/2000]

(e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3098/2000]

(f) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3099/2000]

[Translation]

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 :-

(i) G.S.R. 786(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 2000 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(ii) G.S.R. 843(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 2000 approving the Cochin Port Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(iii) G.S.R. 846(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2000 approving the Madras Port Trust Employees (Reimbursement of Tuition. (Fees) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(iv) G.S.R. 847(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2000 containing corrigendum to the Mormugao Port Employees' (Leave) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(v) G.S.R. 851(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 2000 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Leave) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(vi) G.S.R. 857(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 2000 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 2000.

(vii) G.S.R. 874(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2000 approving the JNPTE (Leave) Amendment Regulation, 2000.

(viii) G.S.R. 899(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2000 approving the Madras Port Trust Employees' (Appointment, Promotion, etc.) Amendment Regulation, 2000.

(ix) G.S.R. 896(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th November, 2000 Containing Corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 748(E) dated the 26th September, 2000.

(x) G.S.R. 912(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th December, 2000 approving the Kandla Port Employees' (Retirement) Amendment Regulation, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3100/2000]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1999-2000 along with Annual Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3101/2000]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1999-2000 along with Annual Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3102/2000]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Erstwhile Mumbai Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Erstwhile Mumbai Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3103/2000]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kandla Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3104/2000]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Madras Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Madras Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3105/2000]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3106/2000]
- (8) A copy each of the following (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 :-
- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3107/2000]
- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3108/2000]
- (c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3109/2000]
- (d) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3110/2000]
- (e) (i) Annual Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3111/2000]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3112/2000]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tuticorin Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tuticorin Port Trust, for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3113/2000]

[English]

14.01½ hrs.

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA**

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha :-

- (i) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday the 15th December, 2000 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one Member from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri K.G. Bhutia, died and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote one Member from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri Palden Tsering Gyamtso, member, Rajya Sabha has been duly elected to the said Committee:

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of the rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th December, 2000 agreed without any amendment to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Amendment) Bill, 2000 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 2000."
- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th December, 2000 agreed without any amendment to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Bill, 2000 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 2000."

14.02 hrs.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE****Seventeenth Report**

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI (NAINITAL) I beg to present the Seventeenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Working of Circle Stamp Depots.

14.02¼ hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES****Fourth Report**

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (ADILABAD) I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

14.02½ hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME****Third Report**

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (ELURU) : I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme on the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation-Proposals to amend Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme.

14.02¾ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****(i) Fourth Report**

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI) I beg to present a copy of the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on "Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Second Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 2000-2001."

14.03 hrs.

**(ii) Statement**

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI) : I beg to lay on the Table the Statement on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 1999-2000

14.03¼ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT (1999-2000)**

*[Translation]***Fifteenth Report**

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (RATNAGIRI) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Fifteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development on "The Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997."

14.03½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY***[English]***(i) Forty-third Report**

SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA (SIDDIPET) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the forty-third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry on the Credit Flow to Small Scale Industries.

14.03 ¾ hrs.

**(ii) Forty-fourth Report**

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (ELURU) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the forty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry on the Performance Review of the BYNL Group of Companies.

14.04 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF  
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE****Reported Non-clearance of Development  
Projects in Various States due to Forest  
(Conservation) Act***[Translation]*

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR) Sir, I call the attention of the Hon. Minister of Environment and Forests to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :-

"Situation arising out of non-clearance of development projects of public utility in various states due to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : At the outset, I want to remind this august House about the healthy traditions, of living in harmony with nature, that is inherent part of our culture.

The close relationship between long term survival of mankind and maintenance of natural forests has always been appreciated by our society.

However, after Independence, the monolithic driven development strategy led to massive diversion of forest land for various non-forestry purposes.

The rate of diversion of forest land was of the order of 1.5 lakh hectare per annum during the period 1950 to 1980 and caused serious national concern.

Having realised that loss of forest cover is a serious national problem where Centre and State has to play positive role, the subject 'Forest' was brought from State list to concurrent list by 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976.

After putting 'Forest' in Concurrent list, Union legislature has occupied only one aspect of this concurrent field namely "Conservation of Forests" by enacting the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by this august House, while leaving other issues pertaining to conservation and development of forests with the State Government. The Act has achieved its objective to some extent as the rate of diversion of forest land has been brought to less than 20,000 hectare per year from the pre-1980 level of 1.5 lakh hectare per year.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Yes, Sir.

\*While achieving this goal, the Central Government has also been sensitive to the needs of development. We have constantly been reviewing the progress of decision making on the proposals received for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Rules and guidelines have been streamlined and simplified and updated from time to time to ensure that decision on a proposal is taken expeditiously without compromising with the spirit of the Act.

Since 1980, 6080 number of proposals for diversion of 4.93 lakhs hectare of forest land have been approved under this Act for various development projects.

From 1997 to 1999, 2953 proposals were received.

Of these 2016 proposals have been sanctioned, 247 proposals rejected on merit and 91 are under consideration of the Central Government. Remaining proposals have either been withdrawn by the State Governments or could not be decided for want of essential information from the State Governments.

The percentage of projects in which final decision has been taken is about 75%.

The age analysis of various projects reveals that delay in sanction of projects is mainly on account of :

1. The time lag between submission of a project by the user agency and its receipt by the Central Government.
2. Time taken by the State Governments to provide the wanting information.
3. Compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval in particular mutation of non-forest land in favour of the Forest Deptt. and deposition of the cost of compensatory afforestation.

I may like to also mention that user agencies have not evolved acceptable norms for working out the minimum requirement of forest land for various developmental activities.

The problem of not examining the alternatives of the forest land is also there.

This at times lands us to an impasse because of the immense adverse environmental impacts of the project.

The revision of proposals to offset these concerns takes long time.

Some of the initiatives taken by the Central Government to cut short the delay in deciding the projects are :-

1. Six Regional Offices have been created in the country to process proposals of State Government and have been given power to decide cases involving forest land up to 5 hectare (except mining & regularisation of encroachment). All such proposals are to be decided within four weeks from receipt of complete proposals.
2. Senior officers of the Ministry carry out a periodic review of pending cases with the State Governments and the user agencies, so that the discrepancies can be settled. Sometimes, even the Forest Advisory Committee invites the user agency for discussion and clarifications so that a final view on the project can be taken without delay.
3. The State Governments have been persuaded to create land banks for the purpose of compensatory afforestation so that the proposals are not delayed for identification of non-forest land and its mutation in the name of the Forest Deptt.
4. Regional offices have been directed to carry out site inspection where-ever required expeditiously so that the proposals are decided by the Ministry within 90 days of receipt of proposal complete in all respects
5. It has been emphasised to all concerned that all the wanting information should be sought from the State Governments at a time. Subsequent back referencing has to be avoided.

In my individual capacity, I monitor the progress of all important cases that are brought to my notice by my colleagues and ensure that the projects are attended on priority basis.

After my assuming the office of Minister for Environment and Forests, the Government has received 1284 fresh proposals.

We have been able to issue final approval in respect of 880 proposals and in-principle approval for 530 proposals.

167 cases have been rejected on merits during this period.

I propose to continue this momentum and clear the backlog as fast as we can.

\* Also laid on the Table some written portion of his statement.

The State Governments must also respond to the situation and strengthen the infrastructure dealing with the proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The user agencies should also be advised to consult the Forest Deptt. right from the stages of project formulation so that subsequent queries and objections can be avoided.

On our part we will endeavour to be innovative and work out strategies to ensure that perfect harmony is maintained between the conservation and development objectives

educational institutions and research centre are situated in Alwar. It would not be an exaggeration to say that milk is available in abundance in Alwar. It is seen that labourers, students, farmers and other poor persons daily come to Alwar in search of employment. Thousands of people come here from Narnaul, Haryana and other villages and cities. There is a rail line between Alwar and Narnaul. People travel by road to reach Alwar. The road between Alwar and Narnaul is also in a very dilapidated condition due to which the fear of accidents always persist while travelling through the road. The buses remain overcrowded. Besides, the road transport diversely affects the environment.

I request the Government to immediately conduct a survey for laying the rail line between Alwar and Narnaul so that the train services could be started at the earliest between these places for the train journey is more comfortable, cheaper and convenient mode of transport.

**(iii) Need to bring a White Paper on printing/circulation of fake currency notes in the country**

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL (JAMNAGAR) : Fake currency notes are in circulation in Gujarat and various parts of the country and several groups indulging in fake currency have been busted. The circulation of fake currency affects the economy of the country very adversely.

ISI of Pakistan and the secret services of other countries also have been found to be involved in the printing and circulation of these fake currencies. This must be thoroughly investigated and I would like to demand emphatically from the Government to issue a White Paper which may include all the facts in this regard so that the countries involved are exposed and the truth may come out before the nation.

**(iv) Need to ensure proper utilisation of Funds Allocated for the Development of Ranthambhor Tiger Sanctuary in Rajasthan**

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (SAWAI MADHOPUR) : There are several Tiger sanctuaries in India, one of which is situated in Sawai Madhopur Parliamentary Constituency called Ranthambhor Tiger Sanctuary. The Government of India had selected it to develop in the year 1997 under its eco-development project. The entire allocation of this project was to be spent through the Government of India and World Bank for the development of the villages affected by the Tiger Sanctuary. A total of 38 crore rupees were sanctioned for the project which were to be spent for the development of the villages through the cooperation of the villages by constituting EDC committees but it has been seen that the participation of the villages is negligible in these committees. Therefore, through you I would like to request the Government to ensure the proper utilisation

14.05 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\***

MR. SPEAKER : Matters under rule 377 are treated as laid on the Table. ... (*Interruptions*)

**(i) Need to rehabilitate Jhuggi Dwellers of Delhi Around the City**

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (EAST DELHI) : Sir, the jhuggi dwellers from various parts of Delhi are being rehabilitated in the Tikri Khurd village, Gautam Colony and Bhalsawa of Nerala Assembly constituency due to which the residents of these areas are facing a lot of problems. The rehabilitation of these jhuggi dwellers will neither benefit the jhuggi dwellers nor the villagers for there are neither any employment opportunities for them nor there is any facility of electricity and drinking water for them. It would have been better if some areas was developed and these jhuggi dwellers would have been rehabilitated there itself so that they would not have to travel long and would have easily found means of employment in the city. Besides the land on which these jhuggi dwellers are being rehabilitated was reserved for construction of schools and hospital buildings and development of parks. Due to the shifting of these jhuggis here the residents of these areas will be devoid of these facilities.

Therefore, through you, I demand the Government to develop some place near the city and rehabilitate these jhuggis in those areas instead of rehabilitating them in the rural areas of Nerala.

**(ii) Need to lay rail-line between Alwar in Rajasthan and Narnaul in Haryana**

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV (ALWAR) : Sir, Alwar is important district in Rajasthan and it comes under the National Capital Territory. Various industries,

\* Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

of funds allocated by the Government of India and World Bank for the development of 110 villages which have been affected by the Ranthambhor Tiger Sanctuary.

**(v) Need to ensure implementation of law providing reservation for promotion to STs in the State**

SHRI MANSINH PATEL (MANDVI) : The Supreme Court had imposed ban on the reservation in promotion and other facilities for Scheduled Tribes a few years back but a new Bill seeking to restore the validity of reservation in promotion to the ST's has been passed in the House by the present Government. But many State Governments have not implemented it yet due to which the people belonging to Scheduled Tribes have not been getting the opportunity of coming at par with people of other castes. During the period between passing of order by the Supreme Court and passing of bill in the House, people belonging to ST could not get any benefit. I submit before the Government to compensate people belonging to Scheduled Tribes who were devoid of these facilities during the above period. Through the House I request the Government to enforce the implementation of the Bill in all the States and also to make arrangements for compensating the ST for the period during which they could not get the benefit of this facility.

**(vi) Need not to Disinvest the Profit Making Public Sector Undertakings including Hindustan Zinc Limited in Rajasthan**

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (SALUMBUR) : Sir due to sell of profit making Public Undertaking to private sector a grave and serious problem has arose before the employees of the public sector undertakings. The privatisation of PSUs is justified if they are sick or are incurring losses but the profit making undertakings should not be privatised. Hence the decision of the Government to mobilise Rs. 10000 crores through the disinvestment of 20 Public Sector Undertakings by 31st March, 2001 is not justified. Hindustan Zinc Limited is the only profit making multinational Public Sector Undertaking in Rajasthan which is situated in tribal area and most of its employees are tribals. If it is privatised then the Advasis won't get the benefit of employment and reservation. The gross profit earned by the company during the last three years has been Rs. 20 crore; Rs. 25 crore and Rs. 182 crore respectively.

I request the Government not to privatise the profit earning PSU's including Hindustan Zinc Limited for the step will be in the interest of the country as well as of the public sector.

**(vii) Need to Improve Telephone Services in Mysore Parliamentary Constituency, Karnataka**

*[English]*

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE) A large number of villages in my Parliamentary Constituency Mysore do not have telephone facilities. The villages fall under the H.D. Kote, Hunsur and K.R. Nagar Taluks. Due to the absence of telephone exchanges the people have to move far away for urgent communication. The matter has been brought to the notice of the concerned authority several times. Unless telephone exchanges and optical Fibre Plants are set up at K.R. Nagar, Hirekyathanahalli, N. Begur and Dadaduhalli, the telephone connection would not be possible to the villages under H.D. Kote, Hunsur and K.R. Nagar Taluks in Mysore District. Laying of cables in the Hebbal Head quarters which comprises Chandogol, D.R. Kappal and Sidapisa villages should be expedited. Hunsur-Garadagur Optical Fibre Scheme planned for 1999-2000 to provide media link, may also be started immediately.

I would also like to urge the Government to provide additional channel between handpost and Beechanahalli.

**(viii) Need to declare Jeypore-Mottu road in Orissa as a national highway**

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG (KORAPUT) : Sir, as per the Indian Road Development Scheme 1981-2000, road transport facilities are scanty in Orissa as compared to all India average. As per the state schemes, the length of the national highways in Orissa should be 3114 kms. by the year 2001. Till now, national highways in the State are upto 2752 km. State Government have sent some proposals to the Surface Transport Ministry to declare some road projects as national highways some of those special roads are Gopalpur-Raipur Jeypore to Mottu. The road between Jeypore to Mottu is 208 kms. long which passes from Korapur and Malkanguri adivasi districts of my parliamentary constituency. This road is the only means of transport for these undeveloped areas of the State. It also connects the State of Andhra Pradesh. This area is mainly adivasi dominated area and is affected from naxalite activities. High quality of these roads will help in controlling the terrorism.

Therefore, I demand from the Government that the high quality road between Jeypore and Mottu should be constructed and it should be declared as national highway.

**(ix) Need to review the Decision of Curtailment of Train Services on Ahmadpur-Katwa Section in West Bengal**

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (BIRBHUM) : Ministry of Railways has stopped plying of trains since last September in Ahmadpur-Katwa section and reduced the number of trains drastically in the narrow gauge section of Burdwan-Katwa route of Eastern Railway, for a long time. This decision of the Railway Department has caused tremendous misery of the thousands of poor commuters of that region of Birbhum and Burdwan districts of West Bengal. Moreover the stations of that sections are being handed over to the private businessmen.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to review this decision of closing down and curtailing train services and immediately stop the privatisation of Railway services of that section. I also urge upon the Government to implement conversion of narrow gauge section in to broad gauge for overall development of that region.

**(x) Need to bring down the Price of Petroleum Products in the Country**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD) : Sir, the prices of crude oil was 37\$ per barrel in international market during last September which came down to 28\$ per barrel at the time of presentation of our budget in March 2000. As a result of price rise in international market, the prices of all petroleum products e.g. petrol, diesel, LPG, kerosene etc. were also hiked by our Government. They justified the price rise as an impact of increase in prices in international market. At present, the prices have come down from the prices of March 2000 to 27\$ per barrel. Consequently, I demand that the prices of petrol, diesel, LPG and kerosene should also be reduced than the prices of March 2000. The reason given for the price rise was the oil pool deficit of Rs. 23000 crore. Today the deficit stands at Rs. 13000 crore which can be cover up by making improvement in administrative system.

Therefore, I request the Government to immediately roll back the prices of petrol, diesel, kerosene and LPG.

**(xi) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Maharashtra for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Washim District**

KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI (WASHIM) : Very humbly I would like to request that the parliamentary constituency to which I belong has come into the grip of drought this year. The situation is worse in

Maharashtra, especially in Washim district where people are on the verge of starvation.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to send a special team separately for Washim district to assess the situation there and the State Government should be provided sufficient funds to improve the condition of the people there. This is my request.

**(xii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Southern Part of the State**

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (BANDA) : Sir, the Southern part of Uttar Pradesh, which includes Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Lalitpur, Jhansi, Hammirpur, Jallaun, Shankargarh of Allahabad, Bara-Jasra area, Mirzapur and Soanbhadra Districts, is affected by drought, low and untimely rainfall. This area is adjacent to Madhya Pradesh and this part of Madhya Pradesh is also affected from drought. Due to drought, crops have been damaged to a large extent. Crops could not be protected due to lack of irrigation facilities. Baring a small part where irrigation is done through canals, rest of Bundelkhand remains unirrigated and therefore most of the time it is reeling under drought. Paddy crops have been worst affected. Drying up of fields are affecting the sowing of Rabi crops also. Lift irrigation schemes and handpump scheme initiated by the Government and other private handpumps are not working due to lack of electricity. Electrification of new handpumps has been stopped. Farmers are on the verge of ruin. Lack of drinking water is posing a serious problem. Agitation and discontentment are prevailing in the minds of people.

Government should take immediate steps to save the farmers whose crops have been affected by drought and adequate funds should be granted to the State Government for providing relief to the affected people.

**(xiii) Need to take steps to prevent recurring floods in Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI) : Sir, just like the previous years, this year also 24 districts of Bihar State including Sitamarhi, Shivher, Mujaffarpur, Motihari, Betiah, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Saharsa, Supoul, Katihar, Siwan, Gopalganj district have been destroyed by floods in Kosi, Bundhi, Gandak, Bagmati and Avdhara group rivers due to which loss to life and property has taken place on a large scale. All these rivers are originated from the hilly areas of Nepal from where they flow to the plains of northern Bihar. Therefore, cooperation of Nepal is needed to solve the problem and to save the plains of Bihar from the havoc caused by floods. As dialogue should be held with Nepal Government for the construction of dams



on Sheeshapani, Kosi and Saptkoshi rivers so that the flow of these rivers could be checked. Alongwith it, these rivers should be made more shallow. Besides, basins of these rivers should be connected with each other through canals, the old embankments of these rivers should be strengthened and new ones should also be constructed so that the flow of these rivers could be checked and land erosion could be stopped.

[English]

**(xiv) Need to extend provisions of Sixth Schedule to the Constitution to the Hill areas of Manipur for giving District Councils to the Tribal Dominated hill District of Manipur**

SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP (OUTER MANIPUR): The establishment of 6 (six) Autonomous District Councils under State Act was made a part of the package granting Statehood to Manipur along with Meghalaya and Tripura under the North-East Re-organisation Act, 1971.

The successive Governments in Manipur recommended to the Government of India the extension of Sixth schedule to the Hill areas of the State. After detailed examination and consultation, the Hill Area Committee recommended extension of Sixth schedule to the Hill areas of Manipur.

The people of Manipur which includes the Meiteis, the Nagas and the Kukis still want to live together in peace and harmony. However, appreciating the aspiration of the tribal and the hill people, the Government of India may think of giving District Council to the tribal-dominated hill districts of Manipur by extending the 6th (Sixth) Schedule to the Constitution in the State of Manipur by effecting a constitutional amendment in this regard.

[Translation]

**(xv) Need to review the decision to provide guarantee to Enron Company in Dabhol Power Project in Maharashtra**

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALE-GAON): The Power purchase agreement with Enron

Company in regard to Dabhol Power Project, signed by Maharashtra Government in 1993 was a hasty decision. The provision of counter-guarantee given by the Centre and State Government were proved adverse and unfavourable and will increase the burden on farmers and common man because now they will have to purchase the power on higher rates. Therefore, it seems that the provisions of counter-guarantee are not in the interest of the people of the country.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to review the entire guarantee agreement. If it is not done, more adverse effects of the agreement will appear before us in future.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. How can you speak from here.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again on Friday, 22nd December, 2000 at 11 a.m.

1406 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, December 22, 2000/Pausa 1, 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 by National Printers 20/3, West Patel Nagar, New Delhi-8.**

---

---