

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Eighth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 19, 2001/Agrahayana 28, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

#### Suspension of Question hour

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as the House is aware, the Question Hour was suspended yesterday as per the consensus arrived at the Leaders' meeting held yesterday to enable the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make a Statement regarding terrorist attack on Parliament House, immediately after laying of the Papers on the Table. A discussion under Rule 193 on the statement, which was straightaway taken up, remained inconclusive yesterday.

In keeping with the spirit in which the Question Hour was suspended yesterday, if the House agrees, the Question Hour may be suspended today as well to facilitate resumption of the discussion after laying of Papers on the Table listed in the Agenda Paper.

I hope the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes. ... (Interruptions)

11.01 hrs.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy Cadre

\*401. SHRI T. GOVINDAN:  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted ISM&H cadre for the physicians of ISM&H working in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and CGHS, as recommended by the Tikku Committee on 1990 and the Fifth Central Pay Commission in 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Tikku Committee and the Fifth Central Pay Commission made 15 recommendations for the Constitution of a separate service for ISM&H physicians, improvement of service conditions, parity with allopathic doctors in promotional avenues and grant of various allowances. Out of these 15 recommendations, 13 have been accepted and implemented by the Government. Regarding the constitution of an ISM&H cadre, a view has been taken to constitute a separate cadre of ISM&H physicians working in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for which steps have been initiated. It is envisaged that there will be sub-cadre for the different systems viz. Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani & Siddha. Conversion of certain percentage of senior duty posts to non-functional selection grade is being pursued with the appropriate authorities.

[Translation]

#### Percentage of Atomic Power

\*402. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the Atomic power in the total power generated from various sources;

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment the percentage in the coming years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The present share of nuclear power is about 3% of the total power generated in the country from various sources.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The present nuclear power capacity is 2720 MWe. Based on projects under construction and proposed for commencement in the X Plan, the nuclear power capacity is projected to reach 4020 MWe by end of the X Plan (31st March, 2007) and 9935 MWe by the end of XI Plan (31st March, 2012). With this, nuclear share by end of XI Plan is estimated at about 5%. Further units are also envisaged to be set up to reach to total nuclear power capacity of about 20,000 MWe by the year 2020 to reach an estimated nuclear share of about 7%. Achievement of these, would however depend upon the availability of financial resources.

[English]

#### Nucleus Cochlear Implant Facility

\*403. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether severely impaired persons in speech and sounds are likely to be cured through newly advanced medical device called 'Nucleus Cochlear Implant Facility';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been aquired in large scale by AIIMS and all major hospitals making available such facilities to the needy persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) Nucleus Cochlear Implant Facility, an electronic device which is surgically implanted in a hearing-impaired individual's ear, has been developed by Cochlear Corporation (Australia). This implant facility is suitable for only those hearing impaired who have a sensory loss of hearing, i.e. malfunctioning of inner and outer hair cells. At present 18 centres, including All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai, Apollo Hospital etc. are offering this facility. The cost of the multichannel cochlear implant, including surgery, is approximately Rs. 7.50 lakhs. In Government Hospitals, the patients are required to purchase the device at their own cost for implantation. There is no proposal to provide this facility free of cost in major hospitals due to the cost factor and other operational difficulties.

#### Cargo Service

\*404. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from State Governments in regard to the development of inland waterways as additional mode of passenger transport and for cargo service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the plans being formulated by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of inland waterways where the cargo services are available in the country, State-wise;

(d) the projects earmarked involving cargo transportation for private sector participation and the response of the private sector thereto;

(e) whether there is any proposal for setting up of several jetties for a greater Cargo and passenger movement; and

(f) if so, the details thereof? .

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI VED PRAKASH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For encouraging State Governments to develop inland waterways there exists a provision for loan assistance up to 50% of the cost of the schemes on reimbursement basis to the State Governments.

From time to time proposals have been received from State Governments like Goa, West Bengal, Kerala, Bihar and U.P.

(c) The river Ganga from Haldia to Allahabad which passes through the states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, the river Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya which passes through the state of Assam and West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kollam alongwith Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals through the state of Kerala have been declared and are being developed by the Central Government for shipping and navigation and cargo movement/services exist in these three National Waterways 1, 2 and 3 respectively. In addition to the above waterways, cargo movement also takes place in some other states such as Goa, Maharashtra etc.

(d) As per guidelines of the Government projects relating to operation of vessels, fairway development,

provision of terminals and mechanized cargo handling facilities are identified for private sector participation. The response has been positive and encouraging. Some of the State and Central Public Sector units as well as Private Sector companies have shown interest for joint venture in the Inland Water Transport Sector. Preliminary discussions are underway.

(e) and (f) There are several proposals for setting up of permanent and floating terminals for greater cargo movement. A scheme for construction of permanent RCC jetty at Patna, Kolkata, Allahabad, Varanasi and setting up of floating terminal at Mirzapur, Gazipur, Varanasi in MW-1; construction of permanent terminal at Pandu, Guwahati and floating terminal at Dhubri, Jogighopa, Pandu, Silghat in NW-2 and a scheme for setting up of terminals at 11 locations at Kollam Chavara, Kayamkulam, Trikkunnappuzha, Alappuzha, Chertala, Vaikom, Emakulam G.C., C.E.P.Z., Aluva and Kottapuram in NW-3 have been prepared.

[*Translation*]

### Unani System of Medicines

\*405. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to popularise the Unani system of Medicines;

(b) the achievements made so far in this regard;

(c) the number of Unani Hospitals/dispensaries in the country so far, State-wise;

(d) whether any State Government has requested the Union Government for establishment of Unani Hospitals and dispensaries;

(e) if so, names of those States; and

(f) the decisions taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (f) An independent department for the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy was established to look after the development and propagation of six systems of medicine, which includes the Unani system. The key thrust areas identified for the development of this system include:—

- Improvement in the facilities of under-graduate and post-graduate institutions in State colleges.
- Establishment of a National Institute for Unani Medicine to be functional from the academic session 2003-2004.
- Impetus given for setting up herbal gardens and taking up cultivation of Medicinal Plants used in the preparation of drugs.
- Issue of Essential Drugs List for Unani Medicine for stocking in the Unani hospitals and dispensaries.
- 5 Unani medicines have been included in the Reproductive and Child Health Programme of Family Welfare.
- Encouragement given to facilitate Drugs Standardization and Quality Control.
- Encouraging intra-mural and extra-mural research on various aspects of Unani Medicine. The achievement include:—

- Identification of significant leads for the treatment of chronic disease like Vitiligo, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Eczema, Bronchial Asthma and Filariasis.
- Development of pharmacopocial standards for signal and compound drugs.
- Ethno-pharmacological surveys for collection and identification of plants used in the Unani System.
- Editing, compilation and translation of rare Unani manuscripts.

There are 308 Unani Hospitals and 963 Unani dispensaries in the country. A state-wise list is given in the statement enclosed.

The health is a state subject and opening of hospitals/dispensaries is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments provide the facilities in their States based on the felt needs of the people of the area and their resources. The Central Government is facilitating procurement of ISM/Unani medicines in the hospitals and dispensaries throughout the Pradhan Mantri's Gramodaya Yojana.



**Statement****Statewise Distribution of Hospitals and Dispensaries in Unani as on 1.4.2000**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Number of	
		Hospitals	Dispensaries
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	207
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	1
3.	Assam	—	1
4.	Bihar	4	128
5.	Delhi	2	18
6.	Goa	—	—
7.	Gujarat	—	—
8.	Haryana	1	20
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	3
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	171
11.	Karnataka	14	48
12.	Kerala	—	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2	56
14.	Maharashtra	7	23
15.	Manipur	—	—
16.	Meghalaya	—	—
17.	Mizoram	—	—
18.	Nagaland	—	—
19.	Orissa	—	9
20.	Punjab	—	26
21.	Rajasthan	5	79
22.	Sikkim	—	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	1	6
24.	Tripura	—	—
25.	Uttar Pradesh	250	148
26.	West Bengal	2	—
27.	A&N Islands	—	—

1	2	3	4
28.	Chandigarh	—	—
29.	D&N Haveli	—	—
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—
33.	C.G.H.S.	—	9
34.	Central Research Council	12	8
35.	M/o Labour	—	1
All India		308	963

Note:- Figures are Provisional.

**Reservation for SC/ST in Private Sector**

\*406. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:  
SHRI A.K. MOORTHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to provide reservation to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Communities in the private sector industries running with Government financial assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Organisations for providing reservation in the private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Proposals regarding providing reservation for SCs/STs in Private Sector were received from a few SC/ST Welfare Organisations. On examination it was found that reservation in Private Sector, including those industries which have availed of some financial assistance from Government, is violative of the provisions of the Constitution.

#### Corruption Cases against Government Officials

\*407. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted by the CBI against several Government officials for commission of crime, viz. assets disproportionate to the known sources of income and dereliction of duty during the last three years, rank-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number out of them still under investigation of CBI and other Central investigating agencies;

(c) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has sought the sanction of the Union Government to probe into the allegation of corruption against the highups in the administration;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon;

(e) whether several cases are still pending in various courts from more than a decade;

(f) if so, the year-wise details thereof alongwith reasons therefor; and

(g) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for expeditious disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The figures indicating the number of raids conducted by the CBI against the Government officials during the last three years are set out below:

Year	Raids conducted against	
	Gazetted Officer	Non-Gazetted Officer
1998	101	71
1999	149	81
2000	160	82

(b) Out of 644 searches involving 326 cases during 1998, 1999 and 2000, the investigation has been completed in 258 cases.

(c) and (d) After the judgement of Supreme Court in 1997 in the case of Vineet Narain Vs. Union of India, no sanction is required from the Government for taking up investigation against public servants including those of the rank of Joint Secretary and above in the Government Department/PSUs.

(e) and (f) 1803 cases, as on 31.12.2000, were pending trial in various courts for more than a decade.

The main reasons for delay in trial of cases, *inter-alia*, include dilatory tactics adopted by the defence, witnesses being won over or turning hostile besides, a long time needed for recording of evidence in view of large number of documents and witnesses.

(g) The Government has set up special courts for exclusive hearing of CBI cases and has also been appointing special counsels in important cases to expedite the disposal of the cases pending for trial.

[English]

#### Clearance for Importing Drugs

\*408. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for researchers to obtain Central clearance for importing drugs meant for trial on human subject;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The existing provisions under Rule 122-A of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 ban the import of New Drugs without permission. However, to provide for even more clear language, an amendment in the rules has been made vide GSR 900(E) dated 12.12.2001.

[Translation]

#### Reservation Provision in P.G. Courses

\*409. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ruled that the reservation provision for institutional doctors in P.G. Courses of All India Institute of Medical Sciences as unconstitutional in order to maintain the high standard of the said institute in the field of medical science and laid down criteria for eligibility in each subject;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any effective steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 24th August, 2001 vide C.A. No. 7367 of 1996 in connected matters has struck down the institutional reservation for AIIMS candidates. However, AIIMS has been permitted to exercise a limited preference in favour of Institute graduates. The AIIMS is following the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court from January 2002, for P.G. admission courses.

[English]

#### Development of SCs and STs

\*410. DR. BIKRAM SARKAR:  
SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the special steps taken under the mandate of Art. 46 of the Constitutions to promote the economic interests of the SCs and STs by way of establishment and maintenance of small scale industrial units through State sponsored/aided schemes and programmes so as to enhance employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth from SC/ST communities and to economically empower them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): In pursuance of Article 46 of the Constitution, the Government has been consciously promoting the cause of weaker sections, particularly SCs & STs through its various schemes and programmes for promotion of small scale industries in the country. As part of this effort, the following schemes/

programmes of the Ministry of Small Scale Industries have specific reservations/concessions/preference for SCs/STs:—

- (i) Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP)—To cultivate the latent qualities of youth by enlightening them on various aspects to be considered for starting new industry.
- (ii) Management Development Programme (MDP)—To impart state of art learning in emerging management techniques/practices to help small entrepreneurs harvest greater profits and substantial share in the domestic/overseas markets.
- (iii) Hire Purchase Scheme—To provide machines on Hire Purchase basis.
- (iv) Training—To impart training in conventional technology trades.

In addition, Government also implements the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) to assist educated unemployed youth in setting up self-employment ventures in industry, service & business sectors. The scheme envisages 22.5% reservation for SCs/STs and 27.5% for Other Backward Classes (OBCs). A ten year relaxation in upper age limit is also admissible to SCs & STs.

[Translation]

#### Non Utilisation of Plan Expenditure

\*411. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have not achieved the stipulated target in regard to plan expenditure for 2000-2001;

(b) the reasons for non-utilisation of plan expenditure, state-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the defaulting States during 2000-2001; and

(d) the cut in the plan outlay for 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Figures of actual plan expenditures for the year 2000-2001 have not yet been finalised. Hence, it is not possible to name the States with shortfall in expenditure against the targeted revised approved outlay.

(b) The inability of the States to mobilise adequate resources in the main reason for shortfall in expenditure. This is true for all the states with shortfall in Plan expenditure.

(c) and (d) Proportionate cut in Central assistance is imposed for states, which record lower expenditure than the targeted revised approved plan outlay and also on account of shortfalls in the earmarked outlays. These cuts are imposed usually after a time-lag of up to a year after receipt of the accounts relating to plan expenditure and consequent finalization of the expenditure figures. These figures are yet to be finalised. Accordingly, no cut in Central Assistance has been imposed so far during the current financial year on account of shortfalls in meeting targeted plan outlays in 2000-01.

[English]

#### Medicine/Herbal Plant

\*412. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:  
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to adopt an integrated approach towards imparting medical education blending Western and Indian System as well as Yoga to provide comprehensive medical treatment; and

(b) if so, the details of action plan for raising medicines/herbal plants on a large scale to meet domestic demand and cater to the increasing export potential?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There is no proposal to integrate teaching of various systems of Medicine. However, the Medical Council of India (MCI) was requested on 30.11.2000 to consider introducing a module on the basic principles and concepts of Ayurveda, Homoeopathy and Unani in the curriculum of MBBS students for their sensitization. Module on Yoga was not suggested to be included in the curriculum of MBBS. The MCI has informed that they have sought the opinion of Directors, Medical Education of States, Deans/Principles of all the medical colleges on 22.11.2001.

(b) The Department has been implementing the following schemes for the availability of medicinal plants:—

- Scheme for Development and cultivation of medicinal plants.
- Development of Agro-Techniques and cultivation of Medicinal plants.

The Department has also established a Medicinal Plants Board to coordinate all matters related to medicinal plants, including drawing up policies and strategies for conservation, proper harvesting, cost-effective cultivation, research and development, processing, marketing of raw material in order to protect, sustain and develop this sector. These are in addition to on-going schemes of other Ministries/organizations for increasing availability of medicinal plants.

#### Revival of NHDP

\*413. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:  
SHRI G.J. JAVIA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to revive National Highways Development Project;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister had a discussion in this regard with the Union Minister and the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the National Highways Authority of India is planning to raise funds from LIC and borrowings from the market by floating bonds for funding its National Highways Development Projects;

(e) if so, the facts thereof and terms and conditions laid down therefor;

(f) whether NHAI propose to wind up its agreement with World Bank and Asian Development Bank; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Presentations on National Highway Development Project (NHDP) were made by Chairman, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on 26th May, 2000 and 5th September, 2001

before the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Those who attended included Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission. Progress of NHDP Phase-I, as well as likely financing for NHDP Phase-II were discussed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Authority has initiated negotiations with LIC for long term funds required for the NHDP. The terms and conditions are yet to be finalised. Regarding borrowing from the market, NHAI is one of the Institutions permitted to raise funds by floating bonds under Section 54 EC of Income Tax Act. Besides, to partly finance NHDP, NHAI proposes to tap the market for borrowings with maturity of 10-15 years. Interest rates on these bonds depend on prevailing market factors.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### Agency to Help SSI on Patent Issues

\*414. SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to float an agency to help small scale industries on patent issues;

(b) whether the Government have decided to offer financial assistance to small scale industries for making patent applications and win patents for inventions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Losses in KVIC

\*415. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:  
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has been suffering losses during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to revive these units;

(d) the action taken against the persons responsible for the losses;

(e) the financial assistance provided to the said Commission by the Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(f) whether the assistance given was properly utilised; and

(g) if so, the Commission's turnover in terms of value during each of the above said years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. The Khandi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is not a commercial organization. However, in the course of its promotional activities, the KVIC is undertaking some trading activities for the marketing of Khadi and Village Industries products. The losses incurred in the Trading operations for the last 3 years are given below:—

Year	Amount
1998-1999	Rs. 1.60 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 2.74 crores
2000-2001	Rs. 1.86 crores

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) The funds released to the KVIC by the Government under various heads during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(f) The KVIC is implementing its schemes with the funds provided by the Government.

(g) The production and employment under KVI programme in the country during last three years is as under:—

Year	Production (Value Rs. in crores)	Employment (in lakh persons)
1998-1999	5112.37	58.29
1999-2000	6165.34	59.23
2000-2001 (RE)	7212.00	62.73

**Statement****Funds Released to KVIC**

(Rupees in lakhs)

S.No.	Sub-Head	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
<b>Plan</b>				
1.	Khadi Grant	15960	9470	10500
2.	Khadi Loan	2098	1500	675
3.	V.I. Grant	8400	5400	1350
4.	V.I. Loan	900	250	—
5.	S&T (Khadi)	30	—	28
6.	S&T (V.I.)	170	70	195
7.	REGP	4665	1103	11000
Sub-Total		32223	17793	23748
<b>Non-Plan</b>				
8.	Khadi Grant	2400	2400	2400
9.	Admn. Expenditure	2560	2410	2410
10.	HBA Loan	30	30	150
Sub Total		4990	4840	4950
Grand Total		37213	22633	28708

*[English]***AIDS Control Projects/Programme**

\*416. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:  
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATAIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNICEF aided control programmes have been launched in the country;

(b) if so, the assistance/grant given during the last three years, State-wise, project-wise;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken some AIDS control programmes with the assistance of WHO and other International agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The National AIDS (NACP II) is a 100% centrally-sponsored scheme being implemented through the State AIDS Control Societies. The programme is being provided financial assistance by World Bank and Bilateral agencies (United States Agency for International development (USAID) and Department for International Development (DFID) for a period of 5 years (1999-2004). The DFID assistance is being provided for the implementation of "Partnership for equal Health" Project for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases in four States namely, Orissa, Kerala, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. The USAID is providing assistance for the implementation of the "AVERT" project in the State of Maharashtra for a period of 7 years (1999-2006). The financial outlay for Phase-II of National AIDS Control Project (NACP) is:

(1) World Bank                      Rs. 1155 crores

(2) USAID                              Rs. 0166 crores

(3) DFID                                Rs. 0104 crores

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Total                                    :      Rs. 1425 crores

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The State-wise release of funds to States during the last 3 years is given in the statement enclosed.

As far as WHO and UNICEF are concerned, they provide funds on specific projects on biennium basis. UNICEF is providing Antiretroviral drugs viz. Nevirapine (NVP) free of cost for the Feasibility study of preventing Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) in 11 institutions in the country located in 6 high prevalence States, namely Tamil Nadu (3), Maharashtra (5), Andhra Pradesh (1), Karnataka (1), and Manipur.

**Statement****National AIDS Control Project—Phase-II Release of Funds**As on 14.12.2001  
(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	Release during 1999-2000	Release during 2000-01	Release during 2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1219.67	824.50	400.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	159.00	111.00	100.00
3.	Assam	322.00	375.00	200.65
4.	Bihar	55.00	196.00	300.00
5.	Goa	98.00	72.73	70.00
6.	Gujarat	721.00	347.17	300.00
7.	Haryana	270.00	246.50	100.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	318.00	262.50	150.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.00	152.00	100.00
10.	Karnataka	801.67	398.65	450.65
11.	Kerala	280.00	350.63	268.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	352.31	542.00	200.00
13.	Maharashtra	998.35	852.00	300.00
14.	Manipur	352.38	415.30	240.00
15.	Meghalaya	70.14	87.50	50.00
16.	Mizoram	168.00	179.00	100.00
17.	Nagaland	380.00	250.50	300.00
18.	Orissa	200.00	358.50	200.00
19.	Punjab	312.39	321.50	100.00
20.	Rajasthan	150.00	380.00	150.00
21.	Sikkim	25.00	66.00	75.00

1	2	3	4	
22.	Tamil Nadu	883.09	1108.30	650.00
23.	Tripura	50.00	92.00	75.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	851.00	1175.00	500.65
25.	West Bengal	425.00	643.15	419.00
26.	Delhi	283.00	239.00	230.00
27.	Pondicherry	25.00	21.50	50.00
28.	A&N Islands	50.00	66.44	50.00
29.	Chandigarh	115.00	93.11	100.65
30.	D&N Haveli	25.00	9.00	25.00
31.	Daman & Diu	95.00	9.00	25.00
32.	Lakshadweep	25.00	9.16	25.00
33.	MDACS, Mumbai	670.00	431.65	400.65
34.	Ahmedabad MC	75.00	84.61	50.00
35.	Chennai MC	125.00	101.50	50.00
36.	Uttaranchal	-	-	50.00
37.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	50.00
38.	Jharkhand	-	-	50.00
Total		10975.00	10872.40	6955.25

### Improvement in Telecom Sector

\*417. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is one of the fastest growing telecommunications markets in the World;

(b) if so, the total number of subscribers at present;

(c) the target set up for the year 2005;

(d) whether India's cellular market is likely to join in the big league of Asia-Pacific markets after China and Japan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being considered to improve the telecom sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS,  
AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD  
MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of subscribers as on 30.11.2001 is 3,99,65,081.



(c) The target for number of telephones for the year 2005 is 100 millions.

(d) and (e) It is envisaged in the perspective plan that the number of cellular phones by the year 2005 will be 12.53 million & by 2010 it will be 82.05 millions which could make India one of the largest markets in the Asia Pacific Region.

(f) Government has enunciated New Telecom Policy 99 for the development of telecom sector. All possible steps are being taken to implement the policy.

#### **Foreign Funds for Inland Waterways**

\*418. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has estimated the requirement of about Rs. 56 crores in the inland water transport sector;

(b) if so, the strategies being adopted to attract so much investment in this sector;

(c) whether the Government propose to invite foreign partners/fund for inland water transport;

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that domestic investment in inland water transport has remained static for the last many years;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the extent to which the foreign funding is likely to be raised and is expected to rescue the inland water transport system?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI VED PRAKASH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir. The Planning Commission is yet to finalise sectoral allocation.

(b) The suggested strategy includes increasing, the budgetary support and to augment it with other sources such as raising of bonds by Inland Waterways Authority of India, tapping private investment including through joint ventures, Build Operate Transfer project etc. and to explore obtaining external funding.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Inland Water Transport sector as a whole did not get the required priority as a result of which domestic investment also remained low. Plan investment, however, has registered increase during the 9th Plan.

The Government has since approved an IWT policy in the year 2001, with a view to developing this mode and to attract private sector investment. This should now facilitate higher private sector investment in IWT development.

(f) Efforts are being made to obtain external funding through multilateral funding agencies. If the effort fructify, this will become a major additional source of funding to meet the requirement for accelerated IWT development.

#### **Small Scale Producers of Copper**

\*419. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANADA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new pricing system has badly affected the small scale copper producers;

(b) whether the small players have suggested for keeping the new mechanism on hold and have also pleaded for a dual system whereby the buyer will opt between the new and old system;

(c) whether the Government, have agreed to these suggestions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The Government of India does not have an administered pricing system for copper. Domestic producers are free to fix their own prices. Small scale copper producers have not made any representation for a dual system of pricing.

#### **Promotion of Agro based Products**

\*420. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts being made by the Government for the promotion and development of agro based products;

(b) whether lakhs of people are losing their employment on account of indifference of the Government towards rural industries based on herbs and medicinal plants;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to give special concession to registered Organisations/Institutions under the rural industries to encourage them; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) gives support to promote the setting up of industries in rural areas under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). The REGP is implemented throughout the country covering all industries including herbal and medicinal plant based industries. Under this scheme, 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money for the projects cost up Rs. 10 lakh. For project costs above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections, the margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

Moreover, the Government of India has announced a package for the promotion of Khadi and Village Industries Sector on 14th May, 2001, with the prime objective of creating more jobs in rural areas and empowering the women and backward classes. The main features of the package comprise of a rebate policy for five years, option of Rebate or Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities measures to promote marketing brand building and cluster development.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The KVIC under the REGP is encouraging people to set up industries including herbal cosmetic and herbal medicinal industries in rural areas.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### PM's Foreign Trips

4446. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:  
SHRI UTTAM RAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign trips our Prime Minister has undertaken since the inception of 13th Lok Sabha till November 15, 2001 including the date and period of stay etc.;

(b) the composition of Media contingent—both print and electronic media—including the names of media personnel, electronics media, crew etc. and the names of the newspapers in each trip;

(c) whether the media personnel have been looked after at Government cost or they had to pay their telephone and news transmitting charges like Fax, Telex, E-mail or Internet services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The information is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) The information is given in the statement-II to IX enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government does not provide for the boarding and lodging of the media delegation accompanying the Prime Minister on visits abroad. This expenditure, including any on telephone calls and faxes made from respective hotel rooms, are paid for by the media delegates themselves. To facilitate reporting from places visited, the Government arranges a media center with limited communication facilities especially computers with e-mail.

#### Statement I

The Prime Minister had undertaken 8 (eight) trips abroad since the inception of 13th Lok Sabha till November 15, 2001. The details are as under:

S.No.	Countries Visited	Date
1.	South Africa	November 11-18, 1999
2.	Mauritius	March 10-13, 2000
3.	Italy and Portugal	June 25-30, 2000
4.	USA and Germany	September 7-19, 2000
5.	Vietnam and Indonesia	January 7-14, 2001
6.	Iran	April 10-13, 2001
7.	Malaysia	May 13-16, 2001
8.	Russia, USA and UK	November 4-13, 2001

**Statement II****Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to South Africa (12-15 November, 1999)**

1. Sh. S. Bhattacharjee, Sr. Correspondent, *AIR*
2. Sh. N. Stanley, Cameraperson, *Films Division*
3. Sh. F.A. Waris, Sound Recordist, *Films Division*
4. Ms. Gauri Lankesh, Spl. Correspondent, *Eenadu TV*
5. SH. Ajit Kumar, Cameraperson, *Eenadu TV*
6. Sh. Sujit Chatterjee, Dy. Chief of Bureau, *PTI*
7. Sh. George Verghese, Spl. Correspondent, *UNI*
8. Sh. Tarun Basu, Executive Editor, *IANS*
9. Sh. P.J. Baruah, Editor, *Assam Tribune*
10. Sh. Chandan Mitra, Editor, *Pioneer*
11. Sh. Swapan Dasgupta, Dy. Editor, *India Today*
12. Sh. P. John Churchill, Spl. Correspondent, *Doordarshan*
13. Sh. Gyan Singh, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
14. Sh. Mandeep Singh, Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
15. Sh. K.S. Sarath Lal, Bureau Chief, *Janambhoomi*
16. Ms. Saumya Bandhopadhyay, Chief of Bureau, *Anand Bazar Patrika*
17. Ms. Seema Guha, Coord. Editor, *Times of India*
18. Sh. Harish Khare, Associate Editor, *The Hindu*
19. Sh. Pranay Sharma, Senior Journalist, *Telegraph*
20. Sh. Ashwini Minna, Resident Editor, *Punjab Kesari*
21. Sh. Praful Kumar Sinha, Chief Political Correspondent, *Dainik Bhaskar*
22. Sh. Hari Sharan Chhabra, Columnist, *Africa Publications*
23. Sh. Ranjit Bhushan, Bureau Chief, *Outlook*
24. Ms. Jeniffer Arul, Spl. Correspondent, *NDTV*
25. Sh. M. Srinivasan, Cameraperson, *NDTV*
26. Sh. Mahesh Shankar, Sr. Photo Officer, *Photo Division*
27. Sh. Amit Jain, Correspondent, *ANI*
28. Sh. Akshay Joshi, Cameraman, *ANI*
29. Sh. V. Narayanan, Correspondent, *Sun TV*
30. Sh. S. Kannan, Tech. Crew, *Sun TV*
31. Sh. Jai Prakash Awasthy, Spl. Correspondent, *Univarta*
32. Sh. Vijay Joshi, Sr. Photographer, *PTI Photo*
33. Sh. Vijay Maroo, Bureau Chief, *Ranchi Express*
34. Sh. Mukesh Kantilal Vyas, Res. Editor, *Sandesh*
35. Sh. Asokan, News Editor, *Junior Vikatan*
36. Sh. Ajay Chaudhary, Dy. Exec. Producer, *Aaj Tak*
37. Sh. Vinod Sharma, Dy. Chief of Bureau, *Hindustan Times*
38. Sh. Kepu Subrahmanya, Chief Correspondent, *Deccan Herald*
39. Sh. Tarun Vijay, Chief Editor, *Panchjanya*
40. Sh. Hari Jaisingh, Editor, *Tribune*
41. Sh. Ajay Upadhyay, Bureau Chief, *Dainik Jagran*
42. Sh. T.R. Gopalkrishnan, Editor-in-Chief, *The Week*
43. Sh. Jagdish Ratnani, Correspondent, *Zee TV*
44. Sh. Pankaj Mehta, Cameraperson, *Zee TV*
45. Sh. D. Umapathi, Principal Correspondent, *Kannada Prabha*
46. Jyoti Malhotra, Diplomatic Correspondent, *Indian Express*
47. Sh. Saeed Naqvi, Chief Editor, *World Report*

**Statement III****Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's Visit to Mauritius (10-13 March, 2000)**

1. Sh. Alok Deshwal, Spl. Correspondent, *Doordarshan*
2. Sh. Nelson John, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Sh. R. Khapekar, Cameraman, *Films Divn.*
4. Sh. A.K. Raina, Spl. Correspondent, *All India Radio*
5. Sh. V.K. Raina, Spl. Correspondent, *All India Radio*
6. Sh. Kanchan Dey, Sr. Photo Officer, *Photo Divn.*
7. Sh. Rajesh Ahuja, Spl. Correspondent, *ANI*
8. Sh. Shailesh Seth, Cameraman, *ANI*
9. Sh. Ashilesh Sharma, Spl. Correspondent, *Aaj Tak*
10. Sh. S.K. Chowdhary, Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
11. Sh. Vasudevan Raja, Spl. Correspondent, *Sun TV*
12. Sh. Chandrasekaran Velauytham, Cameraman, *Sun TV*
13. Ms. Jayashree Lengade, Spl. Correspondent, *Eenadu TV*
14. Sh. K. Manohar Reddy, Cameraman, *Eenadu TV*
15. Sh. Rahul Mahajan, Spl. Correspondent, *PTI*
16. Sh. Atul Moudgil, Cameraman, *Zee TV*
17. Sh. Sunil Ghatade, Spl. Correspondent, *PTI*
18. Sh. Partha Sarathi Sengupta, Photographer, *PTI Photo*
19. Sh. B.B. Nagpal, Spl. Correspondent, *UNI*
20. Sh. Arun Kesri, Spl. Correspondent, *Univarta*
21. Sh. Atul Penna, Spl. Correspondent, *IANs*
22. Sh. Ajay Maroo, Editor, *Ranchi Express*
23. Sh. Vir Sanghvi, Editor, *Hindustan Times*
24. Sh. Yashwant Raj, Spl. Correspondent, *Times of India*
25. Ms. Shobori Ganguly, Spl. Correspondent, *Pioneer*
26. Ms. Deepal Trevedie, Spl. Correspondent, *Sambhav*
27. Sh. Aloran Mukherjee, Spl. Correspondent, *The Hindu*
28. Sh. B.S. Arun, Spl. Correspondent, *Deccan Herald*
29. Ms. Aunohita Mojumdar, Spl. Correspondent, *Statesman*
30. Sh. R. Rangaraj, Spl. Correspondent, *New Indian Express*
31. Sh. Prabodh Bardolai, Spl. Correspondent, *Dainik Jagran*
32. Sh. Vijay Kumar, Editor, *Pujab Kesari*
33. Sh. R. Manikandan, Asst. Editor, *Kumudan*
34. Ms. Jyoti Malhotra, Dipl. Correspondent, *Indian Express*
35. Sh. T.V. Lakshminarayan, Spl. Correspondent, *The Tribune*
36. Sh. Prashant Mishra, Chief of Bureau, *Dainik Jagran*
37. Sh. Deeptosh Majumdar, Spl. Correspondent, *The Telegraph*
38. Sh. Madhusudan Anand, Chief of Bureau, *Navbharat Times*
39. Sh. Rajeev Pal, Spl. Correspondent, *Rediff*
40. Sh. Jayanta Ghoshal, Spl. Correspondent, *Bartaman*
41. Sh. Sudeep Chakravarti, Sr. Editor, *India Today*
42. Sh. Kanan Das, Asst. Editor, *Sameaj*
43. Ms. Surekha Taksal, Spl. Correspondent, *Sakaal*
44. Sh. R. Lakshmpati, Executive Editor, *Dinamalar*
45. Sh. Veer Bahadur Saxena, Chief of Bureau, *Rajasthan Patrika*
46. Sh. M.P. Krishnadas, Deputy Editor, *Mathrubhumi*

**Statement IV****Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's Visit to Italy & Portugal (25-29 June, 2000)**

1. Sh. Sitanshu Ranjan Kar, Addl. Director, *Doordarshan*
2. Sh. Bhunesh Kumar, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Sh. Rabindra Nath Mishra, Sr. Correspondent, *AIR*
4. Sh. Radhey Shyam, Chief Cameraman, *Films Divn.*
5. Sh. H.S. Neelakantha, Recordists, *Films Divn.*
6. Sh. Sukhvir Singh Bhoria, Sr. Photo Officer, *Photo Divn.*
7. Sh. K. Gundappa Vasuki, Correspondent, *ANI*
8. Sh. Arun Kapoor, Cameraman, *ANI*
9. Sh. M. Shakeel Ahmed, Chief News Editor, *PTI*
10. Sh. V.K. Joshi, Sr. Photographer, *PTI Photo*
11. Sh. Shibi Alex Chandy, News Editor, *IANS*
12. Sh. Gurdelp Singh, Spl. Correspondent, *UNI*
13. Sh. Ravi Chaturvedi, Spl. Correspondent, *Univarta*
14. Sh. Indu Shekhar Sinha, Correspondent, *ZEE TV*
15. Sh. Mathew P. Jacob, Cameraman, *ZEE TV*
16. Sh. Abhigyan Prakash, Correspondent, *NDTV*
17. Sh. Ajmal Jami, *NDTV*
18. Sh. V. Narayanan, Editor-in-Chief, *Sun TV*
19. Sh. P.M. Rao, Cameraman, *Sun TV*
20. Sh. N.K. Singh, Spl. Correspondent, *Eenadu TV*
21. Sh. Rajan Saxena, Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
22. Sh. Sanjay Pugalia, Dy. Executive Producer, *Aaj Tak*
23. Sh. Rajiv Gupta, Sr. Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
24. Sh. Aloran Mukherjee, Chief Eco. Correspondent, *Hindu*
25. Sh. Harish Gupta, Associate Editor, *Indian Express*
26. Sh. N.M. Kutty, Resident Editor, *New Indian Express*
27. Sh. B.K. Pandey, Spl. Correspondent, *Times of India*
28. Sh. K.A. Badrinath, Dy. Chief of Bureau, *Hindustan Times*
29. Ms. Shobori Ganguly, Spl. Correspondent, *Pioneer*
30. Sh. Aditya Raj Das, Spl. Correspondent, *Deccan Herald*
31. Sh. Amar Singh Chandel, Dy. Editor, *The Tribune*
32. Sh. D. Majumdar, Dy. Chief of Bureau, *Telegraph*
33. Sh. S. Chakrabarti, Resident Editor, *Statesman*
34. Ms. Aditi P. Mehta, Bureau Chief, *Business Standard*
35. Sh. G. Srinivasan, Spl. Correspondent, *Business Line*
36. Sh. Prashant K. Mishra, Chief of Bureau, *Dainik Jagran*
37. Sh. Mahesh Srivastava, Editor, *Dainik Bhaskar*
38. Sh. V.K. Chopra, Editor-in-Chief, *Punjab Kesari*
39. Sh. Rohit Saran, Associate Editor, *India Today*
40. Sh. R.C. Batura, Associate Editor, *Organiser*
41. Sh. B.K. Das, Sub Editor, *Samaj*
42. Sh. Avijit Ghosal, Spl. Correspondent, *ABP*
43. Sh. Prabhakar Khole, Editor, *Sakaal*
44. Sh. Bahubali Shantilal Shah, Editor, *Gujarat Samachar*
45. Sh. Baby John, Leader Writer, *Malayala Manorama*
46. Sh. Y. Sivasankar, Associate Editor, *Rediff on the Net*
47. Sh. Veer Bahadur Saxena, Chief of Bureau, *Rajasthan Patrika*
48. Sh. A.C. Upadhyay, Editor, *Hindustan*
49. Sh. Kannan Adityan Managing Editor, *Malai Murasu*

**Statement V**

*Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to U.S.A. and Germany-(06-17 September, 2000)*

1. Shri B.P. Kainthola, Correspondent, *Doordarshan*
2. Ms. Jayshree, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Shri Bejnath Bhagat, Cameraman, *Films Division*
4. Shri B.P. Gupta, Recordist, *Films Division*
5. Shri R.C. Saldi, News Editor, *All India Radio*
6. Shri Sanjiv Mishra, Photographic Officer, *Photo Division*
7. Shri Satish K. Singh, Chief of Bureau, *ZEE TV*
8. Shri Surendra Kumar, Cameraperson, *ZEE TV*
9. Shri M.K. Jha, Correspondent, *Aaj Tak*
10. Shri Rajdeep Sardesai, Political Editor, *NDTV*
11. Shri P. Vardarajan, Cameraman, *NDTV*
12. Shri V.V.P. Sharma, Correspondent, *Eenadu*
13. Shri Kulbhushan, Cameraman, *Eenadu*
14. Shri Vasudevan Raja, News Editor, *Sun TV*
15. Shri SPS Kumar, Cameraperson, *Sun TV*
16. Shri M.K. Razdan, Chief Editor, *PTI*
17. Shri Subhash Chander Malhotra, Photo Editor, *PTI-Photo*
18. Shri Ramesh Arora, Assistant Chief Editor, *UNI*
19. Ms. Shobhna Jain, Editor, *Univarta*
20. Shri Prashant Mishra, Chief of Bureau, *Dainik Jagran*
21. Shri Sunil Dubey, Editor, *Hindustan*
22. Shri N.K. Singh, Editor, *Dainik Bhaskar*
23. Shri Ajay Maroo, Editor, *Ranchi Express*
24. Shri Suresh Bafna, Bureau Chief, *Nai Duniya*
25. Shri Ashwini Minna, Editor, *Punjab Kesari*
26. Shri Padam Mehta, Editor, *Jalte Deep*
27. Shri N. Asokan, Bureau Chief, *Mathrubhumi*

28. Shri Satyapal Arora, Resident Editor, *Samaj*
29. Shri Suman Chattopadhyaya, Editor, *Anand Bazar Patrika*
30. Shri Jayanta Ghoshal, Bureau Chief, *Bartaman*
31. Shri Sanjay Raut, Editor, *Samna*
32. Shri Bharat Reshamwala, Editor, *Gujratmitra*
33. Shri G.L. Aggarwala, Editor, *Amar Assam*
34. Shri Ghulam Mohd. Sofi, Editor, *Srinagar Times*
35. Shri J.S. Dardi, Editor, *Chardhikala*
36. Shri Dileep Padgaonkar, Chief Editor, *Times of India*
37. Shri Vir Sanghvi, Editor, *Hindustan Times*
38. Shri Chandan Mitra, Editor, *Pioneer*
39. Ms. Malini Parthasarthy, Editor, *The Hindu*
40. Shri O.P. Verma, Chief of Bureau, *Deccan Herald*
41. Shri Hari Jaisingh, Editor, *Tribune*
42. Shri T.N. Ninan, Editor, *Business Standard*
43. Shri Prabhu Chawla, Chief Editor, *India Today*
44. Shri Ranjit Bhushan, Chief of Bureau, *Outlook*
45. Shri Tarun Vijay, Editor, *Panchjanya*
46. Shri Sheshadiri Chari, Editor, *Organizer*
47. Shri Virendra Kapoor, *Columnist*

**Statement VI**

*Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to Vietnam and Indonesia (07-14 January, 2001)*

1. Shri Manoj Pandey, Correspondent, *Doordarshan*
2. Shri Daya Shankar Sharma, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Shri P. Rajendran, Chief Cameraman, *Films Division*
4. Shri S. Chaudhary, Chief Recordist, *Films Division*
5. Shri S. Sudarsanam, Spl. Correspondent, *All India Radio*

6. Shri C.M. Vinayagam, Sr. Photo Officer, *Photo Division*
7. Shri Sudhir Chaudhary, Correspondent, *ZEE News*
8. Shri Surender Singh, Cameraman, *Zee News*
9. Shri Deepak Chaurasia, Special Correspondent, *Aaj Tak*
10. Shri Mandeep Singh, Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
11. Shri Sudipto Patra, Producer, *Eenadu*
12. Shri K. Srinivas, Cameraman, *Eenadu*
13. Shri Ravi Babu Velichiati, Correspondent, *Sun TV*
14. Shri Samuel Armstrong, Cameraman, *Sun TV*
15. Shri Prem Prakash, Chairman, *ANI*
16. Shri Yogesh Geol, Cameraman, *ANI*
17. Shri Sunil P. Gatade, Special Correspondent, *PTI*
18. Shri George Verghese, Special Correspondent, *UNI*
19. Shri S.C. Malhotra, Chief Photo Officer, *PTI-Photo*
20. Shri Rajiv Pande, Spl. Correspondent, *Univarta*
21. Shri P. Jayaram, Correspondent, *IANS*
22. Shri Alok Mehta, Editor, *Dainik Jagran*
23. Shri Avinash Chopra, Joint Editor, *Pujab Kesari*
24. Shri Prashant Mishra, Special Correspondent, *Dainik Jagran*
25. Shri Anil Narendra, Editor, *Veer Arjun*
26. Shri K. Chandragopalan, Sub Editor, *Dinathanthi*
27. Shri D. Vijaymohan Nair, Dy. Chief of Bureau, *Malayala Manorama*
28. Shri Atanu Bhattacharya, Senior Correspondent, *Bartaman*
29. Ms. Sonia Trikha, Special Correspondent-cum-Assistant Editor, *Indian Express*
30. Shri Manoj Joshi, Pol. Editor and Chief of Bureau, *Times of India*

31. Shri Jai Raina, Spl. Correspondent, *Hindustan Times*
32. Ms. Shobori Ganguli, Assistant Editor, *Pioneer*
33. Shri Amit Baruah, Spl. Correspondent, *Hindu*
34. Shri Pranay Sharma, Special Correspondent, *The Telegraph*
35. Shri O.P. Verma, Chief of Bureau, *Deccan Herald*
36. Shri Sumit Mitra, Senior Editor, *India Today*

**Statement VII***Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to Iran (April 10-13, 2001)*

1. Shri K.M. Ravindran, Additional Director (News), *Doordarshan*
2. Shri Ravi Prakash Rola, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Shri Radhey Shyam, Chief Cameraman, *Films Division*
4. Shri A.K. Singh, Recordist, *Films Division*
5. Shri M.K. Qureshi, Correspondent, *All India Radio*
6. Shri O.P. Jora, Director, *Photo Division*
7. Shri Prem Prakash, Chairman, *ANI*
8. Shri Arun Kapoor, Cameraman, *ANI*
9. Shri Anurag Tomar, Special Correspondent, *Zee TV*
10. Shri P.J. Mathew, Cameraman, *Zee TV*
11. Ms. Maya Mirchandani, Correspondent, *NDTV*
12. Shri Nitin Malik, Cameraman, *NDTV*
13. Shri V.O. Anil Kumar, Bureau Chief, *Sun TV*
14. Shri R. Sivaraman, Cameraman, *Sun TV*
15. Shri Sujit Chatterjee, Deputy Chief of Bureau, *PTI*
16. Shri Subhash C. Malhotra, Editor, *PTI (Photo)*
17. Shri Ramesh Bhan, Special Correspondent, *UNI*
18. Shri Arun Kumar Kesari, Special Correspondent, *Univarta*

19. Shri P. Jayaram, Special Correspondent, *IANS*
20. Shri Gyanendra Sharma, Political Editor, *Dainik Jagran*
21. Shri Om Gour, Editor, *Dainik Bhaskar*
22. Shri Vijay Maroo, Editor, *Ranchi Express*
23. Shri Vijay Kumar Chopra, Editor-in-Chief, *Punjab Kesari*
24. Shri S.P. Mariapan, Chief Sub-Editor, *Dinathanthi*
25. Shri K.V.S. Haridas, Editor, *Janamabhoomi*
26. Shri Sriram Dash, Editor, *Nidhi News Service*
27. Shri M.W. Haque, Chief Editor, *Akhbar-e-Mushriq*
28. Shri Amir Ali Khan, News Editor, *Dally Siasat*
29. Shri Abdul Rashid Shah, Chief Editor, *Nidai-Mashriq*
30. Shri Manzoor Ahmed Shah, Chief Editor, *Daily Uqab*
31. Shri Kiran B. Vadodaria, Chairman & MD, *Sambhaav*
32. Shri G.L. Aggarwala, Chief Editor, *Northeast Times*
33. Ms. Anita Saluja, Special Correspondent, *New Indian Express*
34. Ms. Smita Gupta, Special Correspondent, *Times of India*
35. Shri Shekhar Iyer, Special Correspondent, *Hindustan Times*
36. Ms. Shobori Ganguli, Assistant Editor, *Pioneer*
37. Dr. C. Raja Mohan, Strategic Affairs Editor, *The Hindu*
38. Shri K. Subrahmanya, Chief Correspondent, *Deccan Herald*
39. Shri T.R. Ramachandran, Chief of Bureau, *The Tribune*
40. Shri Pranany Sharma, Special Correspondent, *Telegraph*
41. Shri Shekhar Gupta, Chief Editor, *Indian Express*
42. Shri Alok Goswami, Correspondent, *Panchjanya*
43. Shri Seshadri Chari, Editor, *Organizer*

**Statement VIII****Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to Malaysia (May 13-16, 2001)**

1. Shri Sanjeev Thomas, Correspondent, *Doordarshan*
2. Shri Hari Kishan, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Shri Sunil Virmani, Cameraman, *Films Division*
4. Shri N. Sharma, Sound Recordist, *Films Division*
5. Shri A.K. Handoo, Senior Correspondent, *All India Radio*
6. Shri P.D. Somkuwar, Photographic Officer, *Photo Division*
7. Shri Naveen Kapoor, Special Correspondent, *ANI*
8. Shri Akshay Kumar Joshi, Cameraman, *ANI*
9. Ms. Swati Chaturvedi, Chief of Bureau, *Zee TV*
10. Shri Rakesh Negi, Cameraman, *Zee TV*
11. Shri P.R. Upadhyay, News Coordinator, *Eenadu TV*
12. Shri V.S.V.P. Gollamudi, Cameraman, *Eenadu TV*
13. Shri V.P.S. Rama Krishna, Reporter, *Sun TV*
14. Shri D.R. Bollavaram, *Sun TV*
15. Shri Deepak Chaurasia, Special Correspondent, *Aaj Tak*
16. Shri Mandeep Singh, Cameraman, *Aaj Tak*
17. Shri D.D. Gupta, Bureau Chief, *PTI*
18. Shri Partho Sarkar, Staff Photographer, *PTI-Photo*
19. Shri R. Sedhuraman, Special Correspondent, *UNI*
20. Shri Rajiv Pande, Special Correspondent, *Univarta*
21. Shri Taran Basu, Editor, *IANS*
22. Shri Prashant Mishra, Chief of Bureau, *Dainik Jagran*
23. Shri Nidheesh Tyagi, City Editor, *Dainik Bhaskar*
24. Shri Ajay Maroo, Editor, *Ranchi Express*



25. Shri Ranvijay Singh, Resident Editor, *Rashtriya Sahara*
26. Shri Ashwini Kumar, Resident Editor, *Punjab Kesari*
27. Shri Suresh Bafna, Chief of Bureau, *Nai Dunia (Hindi)*
28. Shri A. Thangavel, Special Correspondent, *Dinamani*
29. Shri N. Asokan, Chief of Bureau, *Mathrabhumi*
30. Shri Yogesh P. Jadhav, Managing Director, *Pudhari*
31. Shri Fuzail Jafferey, Editor, *Inquilab*
32. Shri Amir Ali Khan, News Editor, *Siasat*
33. Shri Anwar Saeed, Senior Assistant Editor, *Azad Hind*
34. Shri Shahid Siddiqui, Chief Editor, *Nai Duniya (Urdu)*
35. Ms. Bhavana Vij, Special Correspondent, *Indian Express*
36. Shri P.R. Dash, Economic Editor, *Times of India*
37. Shri Pankaj Vohra, Associate Editor, *Hindustan Times*
38. Shri Chandan Mitra, Editor, *Pioneer*
39. Shri Amit Baruah, Special Correspondent, *The Hindu*
40. Shri K. Subrahmanya, Chief Correspondent, *Deccan Herald*
41. Shri M.J. Akbar, Chief Editor, *Asian Age*
42. Shri A.S. Parashar, News Coordinator, *The Tribune*
43. Ms. Anita Saluja, Special Correspondent, *New Indian Express*
44. Shri Tarun Vijay, Editor, *Panchjanya*
45. Shri K. Sunil Thomas, Senior Correspondent, *The Week*
46. Shri Charu P. Sunder, Special Correspondent, *Kungumam*
47. Shri Rohit Saran, Associate Editor, *India Today*
48. Shri Seshadri Chari, Editor, *Organizer*

**Statement IX***Accompanying Media on Prime Minister's visit to Russia, U.S.A. and UK (4-12 November, 2001)*

1. Shri Sitanshu Kar, Director (News), *Doordarshan*
2. Shri B. Naveen, Cameraman, *Doordarshan*
3. Shri S.N. Patnaik, Cameraman, *Films Division*
4. Shri Bharat Berde, Recordist, *Films Division*
5. Shri R.C. Saldi, News Editor, *All India Radio*
6. Shri Sukhdev Singh, Transmission Executive, *AIR*
7. Shri M. Asokan, Photographic Officer, *Photo Division*
8. Shri V.S. Chandrasekar, Editor, *PTI*
9. Shri Subhash Chander Malhotra, Photo Editor, *PTI-Photo*
10. Shri D.S. Bisht, Assistant Chief Editor, *UNI*
11. Shri M.K. Sathaye, Editor, *Univarta*
12. Shri Tarun Basu, Editor, *IANS*
13. Shri Naveen Kapoor, Special Correspondent, *ANI*
14. Shri Shailesh Seth, Cameraman, *ANI*
15. Shri Prashant Mishra, Chief of Bureau, *Dainik Jagran*
16. Shri Alok Mehta, Editor, *Dainik Bhaskar*
17. Shri Nihar Kothari, Assistant Editor, *Rajasthan Patrika*
18. Shri Suresh Bafna, Chief of Bureau, *Nai Duniya*
19. Shri R. Krishnamurthy, Editor, *Dinamalar*
20. Shri Jayant Ghoshal, Chief of Bureau, *Bartaman*
21. Shri Kunden Vyas, Editor, *Janmabhoomi*
22. Shri Barjinder Singh Hamdard, Chief Editor, *Ajit*
23. Shri Amir Ali Khan, News Editor, *Siasat*
24. Shri N. Asokan, Chief of Bureau, *Mathrubhoomi*
25. Shri O.P. Verma, Chief of Bureau, *Deccan Herald*
26. Shri Shekhar Gupta, Chief Editor, *Indian Express*

27. Shri Dileep Padgaonkar, Chief Managing Editor, *Times of India*
28. Shri Vir Sanghvi, Editor, *Hindustan Times*
29. Shri Chandan Mitra, Editor, *Pioneer*
30. Shri P.S. Suryanarayan, Editor, *The Hindu*
31. Shri M.J. Akbar, Editor-in-Chief, *Asian Age*
32. Shri K.P. Nayar, *Telegraph*
33. Shri Hari Jaisingh, Editor, *Tribune*
34. Shri T. Venkatram Reddy, Managing Partner, *Deccan Chronicle*
35. Shri S.D. Rohmetra, Editor, *Daily Excelsior*.

#### Non-Receipt of Revised Pension Papers

4447. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revised papers relating to Railway Pensioners sent inadvertently to Munger Post Office, Bihar, on November 16, 2000 by Assistant Chief Accounts Officer, Postal Accounts, Patna have yet not been forwarded to B. Deoghar, the pension drawing post office, Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the persons responsible for sending the papers inadvertently to Munger;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against them;

(e) the time by which the revised pension papers are likely to be sent to B. Deoghar; and

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the pensioners harassed for no faults of their own both financially and mentally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (f) As per available records only in one case the revised papers relating to railway pensioner were sent inadvertently to Munger Post Office, Bihar on November 16, 2000. The pension papers have since been sent to the Postmaster of pension drawing Post Office concerned and the amount of pension has been credited in SB Account of the pensioner. Suitable steps have been taken to avoid recurrence of such lapse in future.

#### Optical Fibre Cable

4448. SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the applications were invited for Tender of Optical Fibre Cable Lying work by the Transmission and Installation Directorate in Indore;

(b) whether any permission was given to contractors to apply for the tender more than one;

(c) whether any permission was given to any contractor to apply for the tender without completing or finishing same work;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any complaints have been received against the O.F.C. work to the department;

(f) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(g) the measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 30 (thirty) tenders were floated at different times by DGM Transmission Installations, Indore for Optical Fibre Cable lying works of about 313 sections.

(b) No permission was required since any contractor, if eligible, can be given forms for any number of sections.

(c) No such permission has been given to any contractor.

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

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir. One complaint relating to the quality of OFC work in that area was received and the case is being investigated by the Vigilance Unit of the M.P. Telecom Circle.

[Translation]

#### Self Employment Scheme

4449. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any self-employment scheme for unemployed mechanical engineers to promote self-employment;

(b) if so, the number of beneficiaries in Maharashtra State under this scheme during last two years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make this scheme more effective; and

(d) the details (names) of the above mentioned scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (d) While there is no exclusive Scheme to promote self employment of mechanical engineers only all eligible persons, including mechanical engineers, can obtain loans under the available Schemes for self employment, which include, the margin money Scheme of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), etc. In addition, mechanical engineers are eligible to avail loans from commercial banks under the priority sector for professional and self employed ventures. Separate data on the number of mechanical engineers assisted under these Schemes is not maintained centrally.

[English]

#### **Libraries Abroad**

4450. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Libraries established and maintained by the Government abroad so far, country-wise and location-wise; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on their maintenance during each of the last three years and current year, library-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

#### **CGHS Dispensary at Thiruvananthapuram**

4451. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Homoeopathic Dispensary under CGHS has been opened at Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Telephone Exchange**

4452. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Amarkaran, Maliara, Barjoha and Godardihi exchange are not properly functioning; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the period from 17.11.2001 to 22.11.2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, Amarkaran, Maliara, Barjoha and Godardihi exchanges are functioning properly. However, during 17.11.2001 to 22.11.2001 due to some technical reason, delayed dial tone problem was observed at Amarkaran & Maliara exchanges which was rectified and at present these exchanges are working satisfactorily.

#### **Hospital Facilities to CGHS Beneficiaries**

4453. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement have been arrived between the CGHS Directorate and Maharaja Aggrasan Hospital, regarding the CGHS facilities to be given to the subscribers of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions as well as the procedure following in this regard;

(c) the details regarding the areas which have been defined to be covered under this agreement;

(d) whether the Central Government retired employees have also been covered to take the benefit of medical facilities;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to consider these retired/service citizens (Central Government) employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been entered into by the Government with the Maharaja Aggarasan Hospital on 15.10.2001.

(b) and (c) A copy of the MOA for trust hospitals is given in the statement enclosed which contains the details of the terms and conditions of the Agreement. MOA for trust hospitals was entered into on stamp paper of Rs. 100/- by Director, CGHS for and on behalf of the President of the Union of India with the authorized signatory of the Maharaja Aggrasan hospital. The necessary security deposit was made by the Maharaja Aggarasan Hospital (Trust Hospital) at the time of signing MOA.

(d) Yes, Sir. Retired Central Government employees covered under CGHS can avail medical facilities in the private hospitals recognised under CGHS in addition to facilities in Government hospitals. In non-emergency cases, on production of a valid permission from the CGHS, the private hospitals recognised under CGHS shall provide credit facility to the pensioner beneficiaries of CGHS and shall subsequently submit the bill for reimbursement in the office of the concerned Additional Director, CGHS. In the case of emergency, the private hospitals recognised under CGHS shall not refuse admission or ask for advance and provide credit facilities to all the CGHS pensioner beneficiaries on production of a valid CGHS card and submit the bill for reimbursement subject to the ceiling of approved rate to the concerned Additional Director, CGHS.

(e) and (f) In view of (d) above, the questions do not arise.

### **Statement**

#### *Memorandum of Agreement*

(Format for Trust Hospitals)

An Agreement made and entered into this day of .....2001 between the President of India acting through Dr. P. Panduranga Rao, Director, Central Government Health Scheme, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi (hereinafter called 'CGHS' which expression, unless repugnant to or excluded by context, shall include its successors-in-office

and assigns) of the One Part and.....Trust, through .....in his capacity as official Trustee under General Power of Attorney dated.....from other trustees of.....hospital/diagnostic centre (hereinafter called 'hospital' which expression unless repugnant to or excluded by context, shall include its legal representatives, successors and assigns) of the Other Part.

WHEREAS ..... (name of Corporate body/Firm/ Trust/Owner of hospital/diagnostic centre), had applied for recognition under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) for treatment of the beneficiaries covered under CGHS; and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare proposes to extend recognition under CGHS to.....(name of hospital/diagnostic centre) for treatment of CGHS beneficiaries and Members of their families.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. S-11011/5/2001-CGHS Desk-I/Pt./CGHS (P)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
(Department of Health)

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated the 18th December, 2001.

To

The Director-General of Health Services,  
Nirman Bhavan,  
New Delhi

Subject:— Extension of CGHS facilities to the cities of Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong—Regarding

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the letter of even No. dated 16.11.2001 on the subject mentioned above and to convey the sanction of the Government for transfer of the following posts of the CHS cadre for facilitating early setting up of CGHS dispensaries in the cities of Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong. The six CHS posts which stand transferred are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Name of the city	No. of Posts	Transferred to
1.	MO/SMO/CMO	CGHS, Delhi	2	CGHS, Chandigarh
2.	MO/SMO/CMO	CGHS, Mumbai	2	CGHS, Bhopal
3.	MO/SMO/CMO	CGHS, Kolkata	2	CGHS, Shillong

2. Consequent upon these transfers, the strength of Medical Officers in the cities of CGHS Delhi, CGHS Mumbai and CGHS Kolkata will get reduced to the extent indicated above.
3. A copy of this order has also been endorsed to Deputy Secretary (CHS) for redeploying the requisite number of Senior CMOs of CHS cadre to enable the setting up of CGHS dispensaries in the cities of Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong.
4. DG (Health Services) is requested to make similar redeployment of non-CHS officers/staff out of the sanctioned strength of CGHS for the remaining categories of posts for setting up of the CGHS dispensaries at Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong.
5. This may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours faithfully,  
(B.B. Bhattacharjee)  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

Now, therefore, the parties hereto agree as follows:—

1. ....(name of hospital/diagnostic centre), is recognised under CGHS for treatment of the CGHS beneficiaries and Members of their family subject to the condition hereinafter mentioned.
2. It will charge the CGHS beneficiary or his family members within the ceiling limits as described and contained in the Schedule of approved charges which are detailed in Annexure-I attached hereto.
3. It shall, in no event, charge an amount more than the amount agreed to whose details are given in Annexure-I from any CGHS beneficiary or member of his family for a period of 2 years from the date of signing of this Agreement until such time the prescribed rates are revised by the Central Government.
4. If the hospital normally charges rates for various procedures which are lower than the rates fixed by the CGHS, the reimbursement would be at the actual rates charged by the hospital and not as per the CGHS rates.
5. It shall not discriminate in the provisions of facility and treatment in any manner whatsoever

against the CGHS beneficiary receiving treatment in the hospital as compared to any other patient of equal status and coming for treatment in the hospital.

6. In emergency, the recognised private hospital shall not refuse admission or demand an advance payment from the beneficiary or his family member and provide credit facilities to the patient whether the patient is a serving employee or a pensioner availing CGHS facilities on production of a valid CGHS card and the hospital shall submit the bill for reimbursement as per approved rates to the concerned Dept. in the case of serving employees and to the office of the concerned Addl. Director, CGHS in the case of pensioner beneficiary.
7. The conditions of emergency are as under:—
  - (a) Acute Coronary Syndromes (Coronary Artery Bypass Graft/Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty) including Myocardial Infarction, Unstable Angina, Ventricular Arrhythmias Paroxysmal Supra Ventricular Tachicardia, Cardiac Tamponade, Acute Left Ventricular Failure/Severe Congestive Cardiac Failure, Accelerated Hypertension, Complete Heart Block and Stoke Adam attack, Acute Aortic dissection.
  - (b) Acute Limb Ischemia, Rupture of Aneurism, Medical and Surgical shock and peripheral circulatory failure.
  - (c) Cerebro Vascular Attack-Stroke, Sudden unconsciousness, Head injury, Respiratory failure decompensated lung disease, Cerebro Meningeal Infections, Convulsions Acute Paralysis, Acute Visual loss.
  - (d) Acute Abdomen.
  - (e) Road Traffic Accidents/with injuries including fall.
  - (f) Acute poisoning.
  - (g) Acute Renal Failure.
  - (h) Acute abdomen in female including acute Obstetrical and Gynaecological emergencies.
  - (i) Heat Stroke.
8. The hospital/diagnostic centre shall provide access to the financial and medical records for own assessment and review by medical and financial auditors of the Central Government, as and when required and the decision of

Central Government on necessity or requirement shall be final.

9. The Hospital/diagnostic centre shall also provide reports in the prescribed format to the CGHS in respect of the beneficiaries treated on monthly basis by the 10th day of the succeeding calendar month.

10. Any liability arising out due to any default or negligence in providing or performance of the medical services shall be borne exclusively by the hospital/diagnostic centre who shall alone be responsible for the defect in rendering such services.

Category	Type of hospital	Metropolitan cities	Small capital cities
Category-B	Trust/partnership/Single owner/General Purpose Hospital/Diagnostic Centre (those trusts whose turnover is above Rs. 1.00 crore comes under this category)	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 25,000/-

13. During In-patient Department (IPD) treatment of the CGHS beneficiary, the hospitals would not ask the beneficiary to purchase separately the medicines from outside but bear the cost of its own as the package deal rate fixed by the CGHS at Annexure-I includes the cost of drugs, surgical instruments and other medicines etc.

14. On production of a valid CGHS card and a valid permission by the CGHS pensioner beneficiary, the hospital is required to provide credit facilities to the CGHS beneficiary or his family members and the bills shall be sent directly to the office of the concerned Additional Director, CGHS who will make reimbursement to the hospital within 60 days.

15. This Agreement contains the entire Agreement between the two parties and nothing outside this Agreement shall be valid and binding. This Agreement can be modified or altered only on written agreement signed by both the parties.

16. The agreement shall, remain in force for a period of two years.

17. The agreement may be terminated by 1 calendar month's notice in writing, and the notice given by the CGHS shall be valid if given and signed by the Director, CGHS.

18. The CGHS shall refund the security deposit or such portion therefor as may be available to the hospital on the termination of the agreement. No interest shall be paid on the amount of security deposit.

11. In case of any complaint of overcharging, the CGHS may, after factual enquiry, derecognise.....(name of hospital/diagnostic centre) (whose decision shall be final), without any notice, and this shall be without any prejudice to any other action to be taken as per the terms herein contained including recovery of overcharged amount.

12. The Hospital/Diagnostic Centre shall deposit cash security with the Government as per rates indicated below immediately before signing of this agreement:—

19. Should the hospital get wound up or partnership is dissolved, the CGHS shall have the power to terminate the Agreement but termination of the Agreement shall not relieve the Hospital or their heirs and legal representatives from the legal liability in respect of the services provided by the Hospital during the period when the Agreement was in force.

20. The CGHS shall have a lien and also reserve the right to retain and set off against any sum which may, from time to time be due to and payable to the hospital thereunder, any claim which the CGHS may have against the hospital under this or any other agreement.

21. The CGHS shall be at liberty at any time to terminate this Agreement on giving 24 hours notice in writing to the hospital for breach of any of the terms and conditions of this agreement and the decision of the Director, CGHS in this regard shall be final.

22. In the event of any bribes, commission, gifts or advantage being given, promised or offered by or on behalf of the hospital or any of them for their agent or servant or any one else on their behalf to any officer, servant or representative of the CGHS or any member of the family of any officer, servant or representative of the CGHS in relation to the obtaining or execution of this or any other Agreement with the CGHS, then the CGHS shall without prejudice to their other rights and remedies be entitled notwithstanding any criminal liability which the hospital may incur, cancel this Agreement and any other Agreement entered into by the hospital with the CGHS and to recover from the Hospital any loss or damages

resulting from any such cancellation. Any question or dispute as to the commission of any offence under this clause shall be decided by the Director, CGHS in such manner and in such evidence or information as he shall think fit and sufficient and his decision shall be final and conclusive.

23. Subject as otherwise, provided in this contract, all notice may be given or taken by the Director, CGHS or any officer for the time being entrusted with the functions and powers of the said Director, CGHS.

24. The administrative cost of the hospital and all other expenses required by the hospital for the purpose of this Agreement shall be borne by the Hospital.

25. In the event of any question, dispute or difference whatsoever at any time arising under the conditions of Agreement or in any other manner under this Agreement or in any way relating thereto or the true meaning or interpretation of any of the provisions thereof (except as to any matters for which the decision is specifically provided for in the conditions of the Agreement), the same shall be referred to for decision to a sole Arbitrator who shall be nominee of the Director General of Health Services and the decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on both the parties. It will be no objection that the arbitrator is a Government Servant and that he had to deal with the matters to which the contract relates or that in the course of his duties as a Government Servant he has expressed views on all or any of the matters in question, dispute or difference.

In the event of the arbitrator appointed by the Director General of Health Services dying, neglecting or refusing to act or resigning or being incapable or unable to act for any reason, whatsoever, it shall be lawful for the Director General of Health Services to appoint another arbitrator in place of the outgoing arbitrator in the manner aforesaid.

Subject as aforesaid, the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 or any modification or replacement and the rules thereunder and any statutory modifications thereof for the time being in force shall apply to the arbitration proceedings under this clause.

26. The Hospital shall pay all expenses incidental to the preparation and stamping of this agreement.

27. All notices and reference hereunder shall be deemed to have been duly served and given to the hospital if delivered to the hospital or their authorised agent or left at consent by registered post to the address stated herein before and to the CGHS if delivered to the

Director, CGHS or sent by registered post or left at his office during office hours on any working day.

28. The original copy of this Agreement shall be kept at the office of Director, CGHS and a true copy shall be retained in the office of the hospital/diagnostic centre.

In witness whereof, the Director, CGHS, for and on behalf of the President of the Union of India and the above named 'hospital' have hereinto set their respective hands the day and year first above written.

.....  
Signature of Director, CGHS  
for and on behalf of the President  
of the Union of India

.....  
Witness to the Signature of Director, CGHS

.....  
Signature of Hospital/Diagnostic centre

.....  
Witness to the Signature of Hospital/Diagnostic centre

[Translation]

#### **Bee-keeping Industries in Maharashtra**

4454. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals regarding bee-keeping industries in Maharashtra cleared during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals pending for clearance; and

(c) the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), one bee-keeping project, has been sanctioned in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Application for all projects under the REGP including bee-keeping projects are received by the banks who sanction loans after due appraisal. The margin money is released by the KVIC thereafter. Therefore, information regarding pending applications with banks is not maintained centrally.

*[English]***National Development Council**

4455. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the 49th meeting of the National Development Council, Assam Government have made out a special plea for Central aid and concessions or moratorium in repayment of Central loans;

(b) if so, the details of the financial issues raised by Assam Government representatives therein and the aid and concessions sought for; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central aid and concessions sought by the State Government in the 49th Meeting of National Development Council (NDC) includes the granting of liberalized Central Assistance as 90% grant and 10% loan with retrospective effect from 1969 and enhanced allocation of Central Assistance to the State.

(c) Since these concessions sought by the State Government have implications on Centre's resources, a decision in this regard would depend on the overall resource availability with the Centre.

*[Translation]***Pending Passport Applications**

4456. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:  
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of pending applications in Passport Office, Jammu and Lucknow, has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The number of applications for passport pending with the Passport Offices at Jammu and Lucknow has come down. An application is considered pending after a clear Police Verification report has been received and the application in complete in all respects. The number of passport applications pending with Passport Offices at Jammu and Lucknow at the end of the years 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 (as on 13.12.2001) were as follows:

(i) Passport Office Jammu :

Year	Passport applications pending
1998	1,756
1999	455
2000	1,688
2001 (as on 13.12.2001)	90

(ii) Passport Office Lucknow:

1998	23,332
1999	Nil
2000	3,838
2001 (as on 13.12.2001)	2,728

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Indian Telephone Industry**

4457. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industry (ITI) has now been earning profit;

(b) if so, the total profit earned by ITI during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are making efforts to further improve the performance of ITI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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



(b) The profits earned by ITI during the last three years are as under:

Year	Rs. in crores
1999-1999	27.10
1999-2000	45.79
2000-2001	27.55

(c) and (d) ITI is a Public Sector Undertaking and Government is providing all assistance as per the Memorandum of Understanding to improve their performance, like substantial reservation quota and an advance payment of 75% against Purchase Order.

#### Greenfield Shipping Company

4458. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has decided to make additional investment in Greenfield Shipping company;

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

(c) whether SCI is having required capacity for LNG transporting;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the measures taken to acquire the required capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has decided, in principle, to make an additional contribution of US \$ 11 million in the form of a shareholder loan to the Greenfield Shipping Company.

(c) to (e) LNG transportation is a new area for Indian Shipping and SCI with its participation in the Greenfield Company, is the first Indian Shipping Company to co-own LNG Shipping capacity. Further, SCI along with Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL), Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha (NYK) and Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd. (K. Line) of Japan has formed two joint venture companies for the purpose of construction and operation of two LNG carriers for transporting LNG for Petronet LNG project.

#### CGHS Dispensaries in Uttar Pradesh

4459. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries at present in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the details of the facilities provided in these CGHS dispensaries;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open more CGHS dispensaries in the State;

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

(e) whether the CGHS beneficiaries permitted to get treatment in recognized Hospitals; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The number of CGHS Dispensaries in Uttar Pradesh are:—

Name of the city	Allopathic	Ayurvedic	Homoeo	Unani	Total
Kanpur	09	01	02	—	12
Allahabad	07	01	01	—	09
Meerut	06	01	01	—	08
Lucknow	06	01	01	01	09
					38

Note: In addition to the above, CGHS facilities are also available in the Districts of Ghaziabad and Gautam Budh Nagar (NOIDA) which are under the control of CGHS Delhi.

(b) Out patient care facilities in all systems, emergency services in Allopathic system, free supply of necessary drugs, lab and radiological investigations, domiciliary visits to seriously ill patients. All the Medical Officers are under an obligation to visit the patients who are unable to attend the dispensary. The visits to be entered into a register. Specialist consultation both at the dispensary and hospital level, family welfare services, and treatment in specialised hospitals, both in Government and private hospitals recognised under CGHS.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view constraints of manpower and resources, it will not be possible to open more CGHS dispensaries in Uttar Pradesh at present.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) After obtaining the advice of Government Specialist/CMO In-charge of CGHS Dispensary regarding the treatment procedure, permission is granted to the serving CGHS beneficiaries by the concerned office where the Government servant is working and in the case of pensioner beneficiaries, the permission is granted by the Government specialist or the CMO in-charge of the dispensary to which the pensioner is attached. Reimbursement of medical expenses in respect of serving employees is made by the concerned office from the Service Head and in respect of pensioners, the reimbursement is made from the CGHS Head by the respective Head of the CGHS covered cities.

The names of private hospitals recognised under CGHS in the cities of Kanpur, Allahabad, Meerut and Lucknow is given in the statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### **Allahabad**

1.	Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital	All purpose
2.	Chiranjiv Nursing Home	General & Diagnostics procedure
3.	M/s Devraj Medical Centre Pvt. Ltd.	CT, Ultrasound, Echocardiogram
4.	Kirti Scanning Centre	X-ray, CT, Ultrasound
5.	Saraswati Heart Care	TMT Holter Monitoring

##### **Lucknow**

1.	Sewa Hospital & Research Centre	Urology, Nephrology, Dialysis, General & Diagnostic procedures
2.	Lifeline Hospital & Heart Centre	Cardiology
3.	Avadh Hospital & Heart Centre	General & Diagnostic procedures.
4.	Vivekananda Polyclinic	General & Diagnostic producer
5.	Diagnostic Medical Centre	X-ray, Ultrasound, CT Scan, 2-D Echocardiography, T.M.T.
6.	Uttar Pradesh Medical Centre	Ultrasound, CT-Scan
7.	Sarkar's Ultrasound Centre	Ultrasound
8.	OM Diagnostic Centre	X-ray

##### **Kanpur**

1.	Regency Hospital	Specialised & General & Diagnostic
2.	Kanpur Medical Centre	Specialised & General & Diagnostic
3.	Madhuraj Nursing Home Pvt. Ltd.	Specialised & General & Diagnostic
4.	Sulakshmi Nursing Home	Specialised & General & Diagnostic
5.	Dr. I.R.L.M. Eye Hospital	Ophthalmology

6.	Saral Nursing Home	General & Diagnostic Procedures
7.	Nadhulok Hospital	General & Diagnostic Procedures
8.	Kulwanti Hospital & Research Centre	General & Diagnostic Procedures
9.	Chandrabhal Nursing Home Pvt. Ltd.	General & Diagnostic Procedures
10.	Lilamoni Memorial Hospital (P) Ltd.	General & Diagnostic Procedures
11.	Abha Nursing Home (P) Ltd.	General & Diagnostic Procedures
12.	Laxmi Devi Kishan Chand Memorial Hospital	General & Diagnostic Procedures
13.	Mohan X-ray	X-ray
14.	B.L. Rohatgi Memorial, Diagnostic Centre	X-ray and Ultrasound
15.	Parnde X-ray & Pathological Institute	Diagnostic procedures including ECG, X-ray & Ultr.
16.	Dr. Thawani's Chest Clinic & Diagnostic Centre	Pulmonary function test and X-ray
17.	Sing X-ray and Pathology	X-ray

**Meerut**

1.	Lokpriya Hospital	Specialised & General & Diagnostic
2.	Saral Hospital and Nursing Home	General & Diagnostic procedures.
3.	Meerut Stone Hospital Ltd.	Litnotripsy
4.	Shiva Cardiac Laboratory	Cardiac investigation except Radiology
5.	Neel Kanth Dialysis Centre	Dialysis
6.	United Scans (P) Ltd.	CT Scan
7.	Hormone Care	Hormone analysis
8.	Lions Pathology Laboratory	Diagnostic procedure (Gen. Purpose)
9.	Dr. Pradeep Tyagi Computerised Pathology Laboratory	Diagnostic procedures (Gen. Purpose)

**Postal Superintendent Office**

4460. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of a new Postal Supdt. Office at Punalur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) A proposal was received requesting to bifurcate Pathanamthitta Postal division into Pathanamthitta and Punalur divisions.

(c) The proposal was examined as per norms and creation of a Postal Division at Punalur is not found justified.

[Translation]

**Telecom Facility**

4461. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of poor quality of essential services in the post, telegraph and telecommunication services in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the quality of these services needed to be imported; and

(c) the corrective steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) *Postal Services:*

Postal Services in Gujarat Postal circle are generally satisfactory. However, there are occasional complaints which are attended to promptly. The latest survey of live mail reveals the following:

Mail Segment	Rural (percentage of mails delivered within norms)	Urban
Unregistered Mails	96.5%	97.8%
Registered Mails	95.3%	98.1%
Money orders	87.8%	80.3%

*Telegraph Services:*

No, the quality of telegraph services in Gujarat is not poor. The quality of Telegraph Service measured as percentage of Telegrams delivered within 12 daylight hours has been 97.1% during the year 2000-2001.

*Telecommunications Services:*

Sir, the quality of telecommunications services in Gujarat is generally satisfactory.

(b) and (c) *Postal Services:*

Improvement is an ongoing process and there is always a scope for improvement. The Department has taken the following steps to modernise and improve the postal services in the Circle:—

- (i) 231 Multi Purpose Counter Machines have been installed in various post offices.
- (ii) 4 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) are working. 7 new High Speed VSATs are proposed to be installed during the current year 2001-2002.
- (iii) 52 Extended Satellite Money Order Stations are working and 6 more are proposed to be installed.

(iv) 126 Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras are working in the Circle.

*Telegraph Services:*

The improvement in the quality of service is an ongoing process and continuous efforts are made to improve it.

*Telecommunications Services:*

Improvement of quality of telecommunication services is a continuous process. The following steps are taken in a phased manner for further improvement.

- (i) Replacement of non life expired paper core cable by jelly filled cables.
- (ii) Induction of pair PIJF cable.
- (iii) Opening of more and more internal DPs by laying 5 pair cable upto the subscriber premises.
- (iv) Opening of more and more RLU/RSUs for reducing the serving area of the exchange and correspondingly reduction in cable length.
- (v) Replacement of life expired telephone instrument.
- (vi) Introduction of WLL.

[English]

#### Joint Venture

4462. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia are launching a number of joint ventures for manufacturing telecom equipment and optic fibres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the projects is likely to be commenced?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Vacant Reserved Posts for Disabled

4463. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for disabled/physically handicapped persons in the Ministry and Departments under the Ministry during each of the last three years, post-wise;

(b) the number of posts for disabled/physically handicapped persons lying vacant as on October 31, 2001, post-wise;

(c) the number of these persons given employment on such posts during the period, post-wise; and

(d) the time by which the remaining posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The cadre related functions in respect of Group 'B' & 'C' posts in the different Departments under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions are managed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. During the last three years, 1998, 1999 and 2000, one Group 'D' post of Peon was reserved for the disabled/physically handicapped category in the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances.

(b) One post of Peon has been lying vacant in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances as on October 31, 2001.

(c) During the last three years, two LDCs belonging to the physically handicapped category were posted in the Department of Personnel & Training by Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) The process of filling up of the vacant post of Peon in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has been initiated.

*[Translation]*

#### **Inter Connection Tariff on Private Companies**

4464. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has increased the inter connection tariff on private companies in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the profit that will accrue to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited on this account during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has reverted to the inter connection tariff as per the original Interconnected Agreement in case of the Private Basic Service Operators and to the standing DoT guidelines in case of Private Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Operators in pursuance of the Judgment dated 17th January 2000 of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

#### **Accumulation of Cash**

4465. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to deficient cash management and lack of concrete utilisation plan Mission/Posts in Iran have accumulated huge amount of cash whose interest value is steadily falling;

(b) if so, the amount of cash accumulated in the Mission as on date and the amount of loss suffered by the Mission/Post in Iran during the last three years due to fall in value of the money;

(c) the position of currency in USA after September 11, 2001 with respect to as stated above and the corrective measures the Government has taken or propose to take in this regard;

(d) whether the Embassy of India in Athens has incurred unauthorised expenditure on payment of pay and allowances to a local employee who continued in service irregularly for seven years beyond the date of her superannuation;

(e) if so, whether the responsibility of anyone in this regard has been fixed;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken in our Missions/Posts abroad to avoid recurrence of such things?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Indian Mission/Posts in Iran receive local currency by way of consular receipts, receipts of pensionary payments and legal dues etc. Under the local laws, the local currency is non-convertible and

non-repatriable. Over a period of time these reserves have accumulated and with the fall in the value of the local currency (Iranian Rials) vis-a-vis US dollars/Indian Rupees, the accumulated balance in Rupee/Dollar term with the Indian Mission/Posts in Iran has come down.

(c) Fluctuation in the exchange rate of the local currency with regard to U.S. dollar has not been significant after the September 11, 2001.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. An Audit Report held that the Mission incurred an expenditure on pay and allowances of a local typist which had not been authorized by the Ministry. According to the Mission it was essential to have the services of a typist in the Mission during the period mentioned in the Audit Report. The services of the local typist have since been terminated.

(g) All the Missions/Posts abroad have been directed by the Ministry to strictly adhere to the instructions relating to service matters of local recruited staff and avoid incurring unauthorized expenditure.

#### Termination of Lease of the Building

4466. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff strength of the erstwhile India Trade Centre (ITC) at Brussels was reduced in October, 1995 and merged with the Commerce Wing of the Embassy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Embassy at Brussels did not terminate the lease of the building occupied by ITC and thereby incurred a wasteful expenditure of Rs. 88.22 lakh on rent; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Staff strength of the erstwhile India Trade Centre (ITC) was reduced from 11 to 9 in October 1995. However, actual merger took place in May 1996.

(c) and (d) ITC was accommodated in a rented building till December, 2000 as the main Chancery building did not have enough space to accommodate the ITC personnel. Since July, 2001, after additional space was constructed in the Chancery premises, the Commercial

Wing including the reduced staff of the erstwhile ITC has been functioning from there.

[Translation]

#### Abolition of Tribunal

4467. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sought permission to abolish the Madhya Pradesh State Administrative Tribunal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal for abolition of Madhya Pradesh Administrative Tribunal. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has been advised that only the Government of India can abolish the Madhya Pradesh Administrative Tribunal. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has also been advised that abolition of the Madhya Pradesh Administrative Tribunal is not advisable without an amendment to the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 to provide for, inter-alia, transfer of existing cases.

[English]

#### Clearing of Wrecks

4468. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that wrecks of Vessels in the inner anchorage area of Mumbai Port are posing serious threat to ships approaching Mumbai Port;

(b) if so, whether these wrecks are there for a long period but no effective measures have been taken by the Shipping Corporation of India to clear them;

(c) if so, whether a number of accidents have taken place during the last five years due to the said wrecks; and

(d) if so, the plan of the Government/SCI to clear those wrecks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) There are no wrecks at present in the inner anchorage of Mumbai Port. No accidents have taken place in Mumbai Port Harbour during last five years.

#### **Border Area Development Programmes**

4469. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of North-Eastern States including Sikkim where border areas development programmes are to be implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan, location-wise;

(b) the details of the projects implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan in these States; and

(c) the details of allocation made to implement the projects in these States during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is in operation in the border blocks of all the North-Eastern States including Sikkim.

(b) The Special Central Assistance under BADP is allocated to the state as a whole. The State Level Screening Committee under the chairmanship of the State's Chief Secretary decides the schemes to be taken under the programme. Various schemes have been taken up by the States in sectors such as education, health, roads & bridges, income generation and security etc.

(c) The details of allocations made in the current financial year are given in the statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

#### *Special Central Assistance allocated under BADP in Annual Plan 2001-02*

State	Allocation (Rs. Crore)
Arunachal Pradesh	13.51
Assam	7.48
Manipur	4.16
Meghalaya	4.70
Mizoram	8.32
Nagaland	4.16
Sikkim	5.72
Tripura	12.96

[Translation]

#### **Illegal Phone through Internet**

4470. DR. BALI RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned 'Internet Se Videsh Phone Karane Wale Griaftar Telephone Vibhag ko Kararon ka Chuna' published in the 'Hindustan' dated November 29, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this kind of incident has also taken place in NOIDA during the last six months; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by the Government against the guilty official in both cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. an illegal International Gateway by-passing Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL) was detected in Delhi on 28th November, 2001 during a surprise inspection by DoT/VSNL/MTNL vigilance officers with the help of police. The miscreants had obtained Internet Leased Line through which international voice calls were being received and were being distributed to various subscribers in and around Delhi misusing fixed telephone lines and mobile connections.

(c) No such incident was noticed in NOIDA during last six months, however one case of telephone exchange related fraud of making international calls was detected in September, 2001.

(d) (i) In the case of illegal gateway detected in Delhi, the illegal sophisticated equipment was seized and two persons were caught and arrested by the Police. No departmental official was found involved in this case.

(ii) In the exchange related fraud of making international calls detected at NOIDA, one departmental officer and three other private persons were arrested by the Police. The departmental officer has since been suspended.

*[English]*

#### **Corruption Charges**

4471. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:  
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'CAG indicated for exhibiting malice and personal bias' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 17, 2001;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The matter is subjudice in the Delhi High Court.

*[Translation]*

#### **Irregularities in Payment of Revenue**

4472. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the absence of a provision for conducting the Audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India of the private mobile phone/telephone companies having revenue charging agreement with Government have resulted in the gross irregularities in the payment of revenues by these companies;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any plans for compulsory Audit of these companies by Comptroller and Auditor General;

(c) the percentage of revenue showing these companies have with the Government;

(d) whether the revenue receipt due to the sale of mobile phone instrument and operation fees have also been included in revenue showing; and

(e) the revenue paid by these companies in the year 2000-2001 and the outstanding revenue against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, (Maintenance of Books of Accounts by Service Providers) Rules, 2001, to be promulgated shortly, a provision has been made for enabling audit of the accounting records of all Telecom Operators by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India whenever he so decides, for verifying the correctness of revenue share credited to the Government accounts. Detailed provision for revenue reporting, and its verification has been made in the license agreements also. Till now, no case of irregularity has been noticed.

(c) The percentage of revenue share service-wise is furnished in the statement-I enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The revenue share paid, service-wise, in the year 2000-2001 and the outstandings is furnished in the statement-II enclosed.



**Statement I**

Sl. No.	Name of Service	Percentage of Adjusted Gross Revenue Payable
1.	Cellular Mobile Telephone Service	15% from 1.8.99 to 25.1.2001 and from 26.1.2001 onwards 12% for Category-A, 10% for Category-B and 8% for Category-C Circles.
2.	Basic Service	12%, 10% and 8% for Category-A, Category-B and Category-C Circles respectively.
3.	Radio Paging (Cities)	5%
4.	E-Mail	0.5%
5.	VSAT	10%
6.	Global Mobile Personal Communication Service (GMPCs)	16%
7.	National Long Distance Service (NLD)	15%
8.	Infrastructure Provider-II (IP-II)	15%

**Statement II**

*Revenue share received on self certificate basis and the Outstanding Revenue in the year 2000-2001*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Service	Revenue received	Outstanding Revenue Share
1.	Basic	31.12	Nil
2.	Cellular	511.88	Nil
3.	Radio Paging	7.61	Note 1
4.	E-Mail	0.09	Nil

Note 1: Nine Radio paging (City) licensees have not paid any amount towards Revenue Share from 4th year.

[English]

**Dual use Technology**

4473. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has urged U.S. to lift the restrictions imposed earlier on transfer of dual use technology;

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

(c) the impact of the non-transfer of dual technology on our system; and

(d) the efforts being made to ensure that the country becomes self-sufficient in this technology?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) On 22 September 2001, the United States lifting all sanctions imposed on India after the nuclear tests in May 1998, including the sanction on export of "dual use" technology and products. Export licences of these items to India will now be reviewed on a case-by-case basis in accordance with normal U.S. law in this regard. During their meeting in Washington D.C. on 9 November 2001, Prime Minister and U.S. President

George Bush agreed that the two sides should begin a dialogue with a view towards evaluating the processes for transfer of dual-use and military items from the United States of India, with a view towards greater transparency and efficiency.

(c) and (d) Government has constantly followed a policy of encouraging the indigenous development of sensitive and "dual use" technology in the country, which is demonstrated by the impressive achievements of the Indian scientific community in developing products and technology to meet the economic and security needs of the country, despite a range of international restrictions on transfer of such technology to India.

#### **Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy**

4474. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Questions No. 5423 on 29.8.2001 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the expert committee have since been examined and a decision taken thereon by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the time by which the same is likely to be done;

(c) whether the issue of granting recognition to Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy was also discussed in a meeting held in October, 2001; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Standing Committee of Experts constituted by the Government has since submitted its report. The committee has not recommended recognition to Electropathy. However, these recommendations are receiving attention of the Government.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Governments position was explained to the delegates in the meetings.

#### **Renew Licences for Doctors**

4475. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make mandatory for doctors to renew licences every five years;

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

(c) whether there is also a proposal to make it mandatory that before registering MBBS doctors they have to do practice/work in rural areas for minimum 5 years;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Government have received a proposal from the Medical Council of India (M.C.I.) for renewal of registration of doctors after every five year linked with attending Compulsory Continuing Medical Education. According to M.C.I., the proposal would help them to plan proper medical manpower programme in the country. They have also said that such a renewal of registration after attending compulsory continuing medical education programmes would equip the doctors with the latest knowledge of the subjects in their respective fields to tackle newer problems faced by them in day-to-day practice.

(c) to (e) The Government have asked the Medical Council of India to examine the feasibility of making it mandatory for fresh medical graduates to serve in rural areas for two years before grant of permanent registration.

#### **Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy**

4476. SHRI MAHENDRA BAITHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5802 dated August 29, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the Joint Parliamentary Committee has recommended two separate Councils for proper progress and development of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to establish two separate Pharmacy Councils for pharmacists working under the Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy,

(c) if so, the details for the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) As per

recommendation, two separate councils, namely, Central Council of Indian Medicine and Central Council of Homoeopathy have been established for regulating education and practice of the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.

(b) to (d) The options have been considered and it is felt that a unified council with separate wings to represent ISM (Ayurveda, Unani & Siddha) and Homoeopathy will be suitable.

#### **Telephone Facility**

4477. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are committed to achieve the target of 500 million telephone lines by 2010;

(b) if so, the efforts proposed to be made to achieve the target;

(c) whether any proposals have been put forward to revise the existing target of 150 million lines to 500 million by 2010; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The Government proposes to achieve a status of approximately 174.5 million lines both (fixed and mobile) by the year 2010 with the participation of Private Sector.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### **CGHS Dispensary**

4478. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4362 on August 22, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the Central Design Bureau Directorate General of Health Services has prepared a revised building plan for construction of a CGHS Dispensary at Shalimar Bagh for which land has already been taken over;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target date fixed for the completion of this dispensary building?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Design Bureau has recently prepared revised building plan for construction of CGHS dispensary building at Shalimar Bagh, Delhi. These plans have been approved by the CGHS and the CPWD has been asked to prepare preliminary estimates.

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

(d) No target date has been fixed for construction of the dispensary building as it depends upon availability of resources.

#### **Manned and Coin operated Phones**

4479. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manned and coin operated phones set up in various railway station and all public places in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether most of the phones are always remain out of order and no telecom authority has even visited to rectify them;

(c) if so, the reasons for the same;

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government have also proposed to install some new manned and coined operated phones in various parts of Andhra Pradesh;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which these are likely to start functioning?

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

#### **Extradition of Anderson**

4480. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether extradition proceedings have been initiated against Warren Anderson (USA) of Union Carbide Corporation, Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) The time by which he is likely to be extradited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No request for extradition of Mr. Warren Anderson has so far been sent to the United States.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Visit of Team to Bangladesh**

4481. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an all-party team is likely to visit Bangladesh to get a first hand account of the alleged atrocities being committed on the Hindus as reported in the *Hindu* dated December 6, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) A parliamentary delegation may visit Bangladesh at a mutually convenient time.

[*Translation*]

#### **Fight against Terrorism**

4482. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the recent statement made by U.S. President George Bush "that those nations which are not with us, they are with terrorists";

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

(c) whether apart from India there are other nations also which are opposed to both terrorism and the U.S.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Government has seen the statement by the U.S. President from which the sentence has been quoted in the question.

(b) Government plays a strong role in raising international awareness about the menace of terrorism and in strengthening global cooperation, including in the United Nations, in combating it. Government believes that success in this endeavour would depend heavily on the unambiguous commitment of all nations to abjure sponsoring and supporting terrorist groups and networks and join in the global campaign against terrorism. Further, Government supports the ongoing military campaign against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda network as an important step in the global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Waiving of Visa Charges**

4483. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have waived visa charges for all Sikh and Hindu Afghan Nationals for entry into India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All Afghan nationals including Sikhs and Hindus are issued gratis visas by Indian Missions and Posts abroad and their visas are extended gratis by Foreigners Regional Registration Officers in India. This has been done keeping in view the friendly and traditional relationship with Afghanistan.

#### **Payment of Rent**

4484. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:  
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Embassy of India in Ukraine had purchased ready-built accommodation in September 1995 for housing its office but did not take up repairs and renovative works to make it usable;

(b) if so, whether having failed to repair the property purchased by them, the Mission hired a property at US\$ 15,000 p.m.;

(c) if so, whether the Mission has obtained the sanction of his Ministry in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the total amount of rent paid till date, while keeping the property purchased at Rs. 2.53 crores vacant; and

(f) the action taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, the Government had purchased a built-up property located at No. 4, Zabily Street in Kiev (Ukraine) for US\$ 800,000 equivalent to Rs. 2.53 crores in September 1995. The repair and renovation work to make the property functional, however, could not commence immediately after the purchase mainly due to:

- (i) difficulties encountered in getting required approvals, land registration etc. from the local authorities; and
- (ii) the demand from the local Government to reduce the size of the plot.

Discrepancy in the structural soundness reports furnished by the local Government agencies, call for fresh evaluations and estimations for renovation/reconstruction of the property. The Chancery continues to function from the premises rented in July, 1995. It may be mentioned that the Mission hired the said premises under the delegated powers, rental of the property of US\$ 15,000 p.m. being less than rental paid prior to July, 1995 when Chancery operated from a hotel at US\$ 33,000 p.m.

(e) The total rental paid for the leased premises from August 1995 till 17th November 2001 works out to Rs. 3.7 crores.

(f) The renovation/reconstruction of Government owned properties abroad are taken up keeping in view the local laws and delay in commencing the renovation work may be attributed to discrepancy in structural soundness reports provided by the local Government agencies at different points of time.

[Translation]

PMGY

4485. SHRI RAJO SINGH:  
SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA:  
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised any system to determine the quality of life in the villages;

(b) if so, the criteria selected to assess the level of any village with respect to the quality of life;

(c) whether Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana has been introduced for improvement of villages in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government are aware that the villages are not getting their due benefits under this scheme;

(e) the details of the beneficiaries under this scheme so far, State-wise, district-wise and project-wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to get the evaluation of this scheme done at the Ministry level;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No system or criteria has been devised to assess the quality of life in the villages. However, Planning Commission allocates funds to the Non-Special Category States under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) on the basis of gaps in the levels of attainment in the basic minimum services sectors, namely Primary Health, Primary Education, Safe Drinking Water, Rural Connectivity and Rural Shelter.

(c) Yes, Sir. PMGY has been introduced in the country in 2000-01 to achieve the objective of sustainable human development at the village level.

(d) and (e) The progress of implementation of PMGY has considerably improved during the current year. Detailed guidelines for implementation and monitoring of the Programme have been formulated by the concerned Central Ministries/Departments. The State Governments

and UTs are directly responsible for the implementation of the Programme at the village level.

(f) to (h) No, Sir. No evaluation is being proposed since the Programme has been launched last year.

[English]

**New Companies in the Field of Basic Telephone Facilities**

4486. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new companies functioning in the field of basic telephone facilities; and

(b) the number of connections provided under the private sector upto March 31, 2001, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Details of new licence agreements signed by companies under the Guidelines dated 25.1.2001 for provision of Basic Telephone Service are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) The State-wise number of connections provided by private sector upto March 31, 2001 given in the statement-II enclosed.

**Statement I**

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Licence Agreement signed on (effective date)	Service Areas licensed
1.	M/s Reliance Communications Ltd.	20th July, 2001	Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, West Bengal (including Sikkim & Kolkatta), U.P. (East), Karnataka, Maharashtra (including Mumbai & Goa), Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, U.P. (West) (including Uttaranchal), Orissa, Bihar (including Jharkhand), Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh), Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar.
		26.9.2001	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai)
2.	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	31.8.2001	Delhi, Gujarat, Kamataka and Tamil Nadu
3.	M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd.	8.10.2001	Haryana
		29.10.2001	Kamataka, Delhi, Tamil Nadu

**Statement II**

*State-wise number of connections provided by private sector as on March 31, 2001*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of Private Service Provider	Number of connections provided as on 31.3.2001
1.	Madhya Pradesh	M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd.	1,15,212
2.	Maharashtra (including Mumbai and Goa)	M/s Hughes Telecom (India) Ltd.	89,599
3.	Andhra Pradesh	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	58,560
4.	Gujarat	M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd.	160
5.	Rajasthan	M/s Shyam Teletelink Ltd.	9,119
6.	Punjab	M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd.	13,326
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,65,976</b>

**Ban on Indian News**

4487. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU:  
DR. ASHOK PATEL:  
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:  
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Government had blocked the access of Indian High Commission in Pakistan to the transmission of Indian news channels and the cable transmitting Indian news channels to the High Commission was disconnected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have registered protest with the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) On 23rd September 2001, reportedly under direction from the military regime in Pakistan, the Karachi-based Cable Operators Association announced that they would block distribution of Indian TV news channels on the grounds that these channels were indulging in anti-Pakistan propaganda. The Pakistan authorities, however, denied that they had issued any such instructions. Following the announcement by the Karachi association, Cable Operator Associations in Lahore and Islamabad also cut off distribution of Indian TV news channels. As a result of these steps, officials in the Indian High Commission, Islamabad, were unable to view certain Indian news channels for some time. Since then, however, alternative arrangements have been made to ensure that our officials in the High Commission of India, Islamabad, have full access to Indian news and information.

**Misuse of Diplomatic Passports/Visas**

4488. DR. (MRS.) RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:  
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases of misuse of diplomatic passports have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during the last three years;

(c) whether in certain cases some Indian Foreign Service Officers have got work visas stamped on diplomatic passports of relatives in contravention of rules;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether certain Indian officials holding diplomatic passport disappeared during their posting at Indian Missions abroad;

(f) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years, year-wise, country-wise;

(g) the efforts made to trace them and to ascertain the motives behind their disappearance; and

(h) the fresh steps taken to check the misuse of diplomatic passports and to strictly follow the passport manual in case of officials working in Indian Missions Abroad?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Not applicable.

(g) Not applicable.

(h) Specific instructions have been issued by the Ministry of Indian Missions and Posts abroad for maintaining a tight vigil to avoid any misuse of diplomatic passports.

**Ignorance of BSNL to Disabled Persons**

4489. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has not been heading the three percent reservation for disabled persons mandated under the Disability Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received some complaints in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) BSNL had issued an advertisement for recruitment of 4,000 Graduate Engineer Junior Telecom Officers in Dec., 2000 in which provision for physically handicapped was inadvertently omitted.

(c) and (d) A Case was filed in the Hon'ble Court of Chief Commissioner of Physically Disabled in New Delhi by Shri Kailash Chand Kumawat and the Hon'ble court recommended to BSNL that within 6 months from passing of the order, they should work out the modalities for filling up backlog of 120 vacancies against 3% quota of reservation in jobs for persons with disability. Shri Kumawat has also filed a court case in Hon'ble CAT, Jaipur.

BSNL would make provision for filling up of the backlog vacancies in physically handicapped quota next year.

Also in all future recruitment, Government instructions relevant to PSUs and relating to Physically Handicapped persons will be followed.

#### **Idling of Multi Access Rural Radio Systems**

4490. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether DOT is procuring the Multi Access Rural Radio Systems in spite of proven fault proneness resulting in blockage of Rs. 21.50 crore due to idling of equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have initiated any action against those erring officials involved in creating such a huge loss to the exchequer;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Procurement of Multi Access Rural Radio Systems (MARR) had been stopped from the year 1998 onwards.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

#### **Rent for Building**

4491. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the corporate office of MTNL and the office of Delhi MTNL are functioning in Jeevan Bharati Building and Janpath Hotel respectively have to pay crores of rupees as rent;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Kidwai Bhawan, Khurshid Lal Bhawan and the office of General Manager (Central), MTNL Building, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road have enough place to accommodate both offices presently functioning in Jeevan Bharati Building and Janpath Hotel and crores of rupees of the Corporation could be saved by shifting them;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Corporate Office of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is working only from Jeevan Bharti Building for which a monthly rent of Rs. 31.614 lacs is being paid. CGM, Delhi Telephones is working in their own building at Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Eastern Court and their units are spread all over Delhi both in Departmental and rented accommodation. With expansion of Delhi Telephones, some space has also been hired at Hotel Janpath at a monthly rent of Rs. 3.851 lacs.

(b) No, Sir. The space at Kidwai Bhawan, Khurshid Lal Bhawan and C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road is not adequate to accommodate both offices. However, one branch of Delhi Unit presently functioning in Hotel Janpath is under shift to CGO Complex, Lodhi Road.

(c) Some branches of Delhi Unit are under shifting from Chandernagore Building to Lodhi Road and the vacant accommodation is being made available to Corporate Office.

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



*[English]***Telecom Regulatory Authority of India**

4492. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble High Court have struck down the impugned regulations and implementation of Calling Party Pay (CPP) in the form prevalent at the time of hearing;

(b) if so, whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was to rework the arrangement as clarified by the Hon'ble Judges; and

(c) the details of the revised arrangement for the introduction of CPP regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had announced reduction in Cellular Tariffs alongwith introduction of Calling Party Pays (CPP) vide Telecom Interconnection and Revenue Sharing (First Amendment) Regulation and Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO) (Fifth Amendment) Order of September, 1999. The Regulation was quashed by the Delhi High Court on 17th January, 2000 and thus the CPP regime as envisaged could not be implemented. The Court also clarified that TRAI may consider whether the CPP regime or a free incoming call regime can be introduced within the terms and conditions of the existing licences and within the policy as framed by the Government.

(c) Government has since amended the relevant licence condition which has cleared the way for implementation of CPP regime. TRAI issued a consultation paper which discusses the desirability of the scheme or otherwise, tariff related and technical issues related to CPP. The consultation process has not been completed as yet. TRAI will take a view on the matter, after completion of the consultation process in the due course.

**Evaluation of CSS**

4493. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to make an independent evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof with criteria followed in this regard, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the results for such evaluation, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure complete success of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Independent evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes is already in existence. The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) has been set up as an independent agency for the evaluation of these schemes. The PEO undertakes evaluation of selected programmes/schemes under implementation at All India level as per the requirement of the various divisions of the Planning Commission and Ministries/Departments of Government of India. Evaluation Studies are designed to assess the performance, process of implementation, effectiveness of the delivery system and impact of the programmes/schemes at All India level. The findings of these studies are used for improving the performance of the schemes through mid-course corrections and better design of future programmes/schemes by the concerned Ministries/Departments.

*[Translation]***Election of Residential Welfare Association**

4494. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Government employee can contest election of a Residential Welfare Association;

(b) if so the rules thereof;

(c) whether any complaints against any Residential Welfare Association particularly against Kendriya Vihar Colony has been received during the last three years by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith their pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Model Constitution framed by Department of Personnel and Training for recognised Residential Welfare Associations permits Central Government employees including the employees of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, who become members of the Associations by 31st March of a year to contest election of a Residential Welfare Association.

(c) and (d) There is no Residential Welfare Association by the name of Kendriya Vihar, recognised by Department of Personnel & Training. The complaints against the recognised Residential Welfare Associations, pertaining to their functioning etc. are received in this Department from time to time. These are examined/ investigated and settled by the competent authority in the Department. The records of such complaints, being of routine nature, are not being separately maintained in the Department.

[*English*]

#### **Pending CBI Cases**

4495. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 200 cases are pending with CBI for over 20 years, 6000 cases in trial courts and 1600 cases, still to be investigated;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the expeditious disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) As per the information provided by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), no case is pending investigation with it for more than 20 years. As on 31.10.2001, 1646 cases were under investigation with the CBI and 6250 cases were pending trial in various courts.

(b) Reasons for delay in investigation include stay order granted by courts; delay in getting letters rogatory

to be issued by the competent courts for carrying out investigations abroad and execution thereof which takes time; need to examine large number of documents in several cases and taking consent of the State Governments under Section 6 of the DSPE Act.

(c) Several steps have been taken by the Government for expeditious disposal of cases under investigation. These include making efforts to adhere to the timeframe laid-down for investigation: fixing annual targets for each branch in respect of disposal of cases under investigation; preparing an Action Plan to reduce pendency in investigation of cases pending for over 2 years and monitoring these cases at the highest level in the CBI. Government has also set up special Courts for exclusive hearing of CBI cases and has also been appointing Special Counsels in important cases to expedite the disposal of the cases pending for trial.

#### **Recommendations of Alagh Committee**

4496. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Alagh Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof;

(c) whether these recommendations have been implemented by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to increase the percentage of rural students into Civil Service Exams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) An eight member Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Y.K. Alagh was appointed on 19.7.2000 by the Union Public Service Commission (U.P.S.C.) to review the existing scheme of the Civil Services Examination. The Committee has since submitted its report to U.P.S.C. on 22.10.2001. No specific proposals have been received by the Government from the U.P.S.C. so far on various recommendations made by the Committee.

(f) The scheme of the Civil Services Examination is common to all candidates either from rural or urban areas.

#### **IPCL Land Scam**

**4497. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:  
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigation has not yet completed their enquiry in connection with the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited land scam;

(b) if so, the reasons for the slow progress in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to apprehend the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The preliminary enquiry No. 2 (A)/2001-GNR started by Central Bureau of Investigation Gandhinagar Branch on 2.2.2001 has been completed. On the basis of evidence gained in this enquiry, a regular case has been registered. One of the suspects has already been arrested.

#### **Dumping of Nuclear Waste**

**4498. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nuclear Waste is being dumped in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken to protect the underground water reserves in the area contaminated as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Fight against Terrorism**

**4499. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several persons were sent abroad for mobilising international support against terrorism after September 11, 2001;

(b) if so, the date-wise names of persons sent abroad alongwith the names of the countries visited by them;

(c) whether the persons sent abroad have submitted their reports to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any action plan was formulated and given to them before sending them abroad; and

(f) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (f) Over the last several years, India has played an active role in drawing the attention of the international community to the need for comprehensive, coordinated, sustained and well integrated international cooperation to combat terrorism. In the post September 11 period, there is increased acceptance that terrorism is a global phenomenon; its destructive reach and lethal potential has been enhanced by global networks of illicit trafficking in drugs, money laundering and arms smuggling.

The issue of international terrorism, in particular cross border terrorism, has been taken up in all our bilateral interactions. This issue was discussed during Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's visits to USSR (November 4-7, 2001), USA (Washington November 8-9, 2001, and New York, November 10-11, 2001), UK (November 12-13, 2001), and Japan (7-11 December, 2001). It was discussed also during the visits of External Affairs Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh, to France (September 28-30, 2001), USA (Washington, October 1-2, 2001), UK (October 3, 2001), Germany (October 4-5, 2001), USSR

(November 4-7, 2001), USA (Washington, November 8-9, 2001, New York, November 10-14, 2001), and Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Omar Abdullah to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (September 12-18, 2001), Maldives (October 3-5, 2001), Belgium (October 15-16, 2001), Zambia (October 22-24, 2001), Kenya (October 25-26, 2001), Belarus (November 15-17, 2001), South Africa (November 27-29, 2001), and Ukraine (November 30-December 3, 2001).

As part of our efforts to combat terrorism, India has taken the initiative to circulate a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to plug the loopholes and gaps that arose from the sectoral conventions on terrorism. This draft Convention, aimed at strengthening international cooperation to combat international terrorism, calls on all States to adopt measures to ensure that criminal acts within the scope of the Convention are, under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature. The Convention also calls on all States to take all practicable measures to prohibit the establishment and operation of terrorist installations and training camps, and to either prosecute or extradite terrorists. At the 54th session of the UNGA, in 1999, it was decided that the Indian draft Comprehensive Convention would be taken up for discussion in the Sixth Committee of the United Nations. Three rounds of discussions have taken place since October 2000. Agreement has been reached on most aspects of the Convention. The UN Secretary-General has also held informal consultations to ensure expeditious finalisation of the Convention. Negotiations are continuing.

#### Ransacking of IA Office

4500. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of Indian Airlines in Bangladesh had been burgled and ransacked recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) On the morning of November 17, 2001 the officers and staff of the Indian Airlines office in Dhaka discovered that the office had been burgled and ransacked. It appeared that the burglars had entered from an adjacent office. A formal complaint has been lodged with the area police station. The Indian

High Commission in Dhaka has taken up these attacks strongly with the Government of Bangladesh and has requested for an investigation and increased security.

[English]

#### Clearance Commission

4501. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post Offices in Ghaziabad Circle charge clearance commission on the cheques of local nationalised banks presented to them against P.P.F. deposits etc. on the plea that these cheques are sent to Delhi for clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to rectify this illegal and unjustifiable levy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No clearance commission is charged in Ghaziabad Division, on the cheques of local banks. In past, out-station charges were being levied on the cheques drawn on the local nationalized banks situated at Nodia as their clearing house is at Delhi. Consequently, such cheques were being treated as out-station cheques.

(c) Instructions have, however, now been issued to do away with charging of such commission.

[Translation]

#### Coir Industry

4502. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:  
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:  
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coir Industry is facing serious crisis in India due to high rate of sales tax;

(b) whether this industry is on the verge of closure due to the preference given to imported bedding polyester;

(c) whether polyester bedding are not appropriate in the point of view of pollution and environment; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government for protection of this industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Polyester beddings unlike coir products, are not bio degradable and to that extent these are not eco-friendly.

(d) The Government, through the Coir Board promotes and encourages the use of coir and coir products including coir mattresses. The Government also supports research and development activities in the Coir Sector to make the coir industry competitive.

#### **Diversion of Funds Meant for PMRY**

4503. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that funds allocated under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana are diverted for some other works especially for tribal majority areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the funds are not diverted for any other purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (c) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the Central Government releases funds for Subsidy as well as for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, etc. The funds for Subsidy are authorised to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through the implementing banks. The RBI monitors/regulates the use of these subsidy funds by the implementing banks. The funds for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, etc. are allocated to the States/UTs keeping in view their annual targets under the Scheme. All releases to the States/UTs are regulated on the basis of the utilization certificates received from them.

#### **MNCs in SSIs Sector**

4504. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of multinational companies have entered the small-scale industries sector surreptitiously and in an irregular manner;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaint from the Federation of Small-Scale Industries of India demanding punishment to these companies and stopping reservation of the products reserved for small-scale industries sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government have occasionally received information of violation of reservation policy by some Multinational Companies (MNCs). Action against the violators of the reservation policy is initiated as per the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. Further, no MNC can hold more than 24% equity in any SSI unit.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Illegal use of Satellite Antenna**

4505. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:  
SHRI SAIDUZZAMA:  
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Israeli bap-beta ne avaidh phone exchange se karoron ka chuna lagaya" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated August 23, 2001;

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

(c) the action taken against the guilty persons; and

(d) the further steps being taken by the Government to prevent such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During a joint inspection on 1.8.2001 by officers of VSNL, MTNL, DOT Vigilance with the help of police, an illegal international incoming call racket was detected in Delhi. Subsequently, on the basis of information obtained during the joint inspection, raids were conducted

in Kolkata also. The illegal equipments were seized and case was registered by the police. The main accuses were two Israeli nationals. International incoming calls were being received through an unauthorised Satellite Antenna hooked up with a foreign Satellite. These calls were being distributed through mobile phones to the Local Telephone Network.

(c) Two Indian associates of the Israeli nationals were arrested by the Police.

(d) The following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Instructions have been issued for regular inspections where Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) are working.
- (ii) Surveillance is being done by the field units for detecting such illegal networks.
- (iii) A close coordination between service providers and investigating agencies is being maintained to book the offenders.

[English]

**Construction of North-South and East-West Corridor**

4506. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:  
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL:  
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

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

(a) the progress achieved so far regarding the construction of North-South and East-West Corridor connecting Kashmir-Kanyakumari and Silchar-Saurashtra;

(b) the details of the total stretch of road likely to be covered in each State under this scheme;

(c) the districts in each State through which these national Highways are likely to pass; and

(d) the amount spent by each of the State Government for this purpose so far and total Kilometrage of road constructed in each State and the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Out of the total length of 7,300 km. of North-South and East-West Corridor, a length of 717 km. has been four-landed so far.

(b) and (c) As per the statement enclosed.

(d) The North-South and East-West Corridor is being implemented by the National Highways Authority of India and no amount has been spent by the State Governments for this Project. The total kilometrage of road constructed in each State is given in the statement enclosed. The project is likely to be completed by December, 2007.

**Statement**

*Details of the total stretch of road likely to be covered State-wise, the Districts covered in each State and the total kilometrage of road constructed State-wise under North-South and East-West Corridor.*

Sl.No.	State	Total Length (in km)	Length already 4-landed (in km)	Districts covered
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	405	—	Srinagar, Udhampur, Jammu, Kathua
2.	Himachal Pradesh	14	—	Mandi
3.	Punjab	296	161	Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala
4.	Haryana	180	257	Ambala, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Panipat, Sonapat, Faridabad
5.	Delhi	41	41	Delhi
6.	Uttar Pradesh	816	129	Mathura, Agra, Jhansi (on North-South Corridor), Jhansi, Jalam, Kanpur, Unnao, Lucknow, Barabanki, Faizabad, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria (on East-West Corridor)

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Rajasthan	512	10	Dholpur (on North-South Corridor), Sirohi, Rajsamund, Udaipur, Chittaurgarh, Bhilwara, Bundi, Kota, Baran (on East-West Corridor)
8.	Madhya Pradesh	666	—	Morena, Gwalior, Datia, Sagar, Narsimhapur, Seoni (on North-South Corridor), Shivpuri (on East-West Corridor)
9.	Maharashtra	232	26	Nagpur, Wardha, Yeotmal
10.	Andhra Pradesh	753	—	Adilabad, Nizamabad, Medak, Hyderabad, Mahbubnagar, Kurnool, Ananatapur
11.	Karnataka	125	40	Kolar, Bangalore rural, Bangalore
12.	Tamil Nadu	851	—	Dharmapur, Salem, Namakal, Karur, Dindigul, Madurai, Virudnagar, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari (on North-South Corridor), Erode, Coimbatore (on spur)
13.	Kerala	160	20	Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam,
14.	Gujarat	654	33	Junagadh, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Kachchh, Patan, Banaskantha
15.	Bihar	517	—	Gopalganj, Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Saharsa, Araria, Purnia, Kishanganj
16.	West Bengal	366	—	Utterdinajpur, Darjiling, Jalpaiguri
17.	Assam	758	—	Kokarajhar, Barpeta, Nalbari, Guwahati, Marigaon, Nagon, Karbhianglong, North Cacharhills, Cachar

[Translation]

**Action Plan on Terrorism**

4507. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:  
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether America has invited Indian delegation to chalk out an action plan to wipe out terrorism;

(b) if so, the date on which the said invitation was received;

(c) whether the Government have taken a decision to send the delegation;

(d) if so, the persons selected for inclusion in the delegation; and

(e) the time by which the said delegation is likely to leave for America?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) India and the United States have an ongoing cooperation to combat terrorism through a bilateral Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism. The Joint Working Group provides a forum for the two Governments to discuss ways on sharing experience, intelligence and information, coordinating approaches and action, and building institutional structures and capability in combating terrorism.

During the visit of the Prime Minister to Washington D.C. from 7-9 November 2001, the United States announced its intention to invite the Home Minister to Washington D.C. as part of the process of strengthening counter-terrorism cooperation between India and the United States. The dates for the visit are being worked out through mutual consultation.

[English]

**Special Software Centre**

4508. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to develop the city of Jalandhar as a Special Software Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the expenditure likely to be incurred for the proposed project, alongwith shares of the Central Government and the State Government therein?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Hon'ble Prime Minister during his visit to Punjab on 18.11.2001 has announced setting up of a Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) Centre at Jalandhar. The State Government has been requested by the STPI, an autonomous society under Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India to identify potential location for the Centre.

[*Translation*]

#### Oxygen Cylinders in Hospitals

4509. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of oxygen cylinders in several Government hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some details occurred recently due to its shortage;

(d) if so, the details of the last one year and till date in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the above shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, the information in respect of Government hospitals in States is not available in this Ministry. However, there is no shortage of oxygen cylinders in the Central Government hospitals viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and LHMC & Associated Hospitals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (e) Do not arise.

[*English*]

#### Fake Drugs

4510. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:  
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:  
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4455 on August 22, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the Deputy Drugs Controller and Licensing Authority has submitted the list of the 53 samples and the points of difference between the spurious drug and the original product to the Drug Controller General (India) for follow-up action;

(b) if so, the number of drugs found to be spurious;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 3 samples of ciprofloxacin, which is being touted as a wonder drug to anthrax, were found to be spurious; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government on the list submitted so far?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Police in association with Drugs Control Administration, Government of NCT, Delhi recovered/seized in July, 2001, large stocks of allegedly spurious drugs as unclaimed from unlicensed godowns in Delhi. Out of the said stocks of drugs of questionable quality, 53 drugs were got verified by the Drugs Control Administration, Delhi from the concerned original manufacturers for their genuineness. Out of the 53 samples of drugs, their original manufacturers reported that only 4 drugs were the products manufactured by their companies.

(c) Out of the said 53 samples, 4 samples of Ciprofloxacin were reported by the original manufacturers as products not manufactured by their companies.

(d) As per the feedback available from Drug Control Administration, NCT of Delhi, an intensive survey was carried out in Delhi by the Inspectorate Staff of Drugs Control Department, Government of Delhi. No such drug was found stocked, sold or used by licensed chemists or major hospitals in Delhi. However, the Drugs Controller General (I) has also directed all the State Drugs Controllers to ensure that the Inspectorate Staff under



their control are alerted to keep in strict watch on the possible movement of the said 49 brands/generic drugs in the inter-State commerce.

[Translation]

#### Rural Post Offices

4511. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:  
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural post offices in Bettiah in Bihar and Johardaga in Jharkhand; and

(b) the number of rural post offices targeted to be opened during the current financial year and the number of such post offices opened as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The number of rural post offices in Bettiah in Bihar is 261 and the same in Lohardaga in Jharkhand is 50.

(b) The target for opening of post offices in rural areas in Bihar during the current financial year is 60 and the same in Jharkhand is 32. The number of such post offices opened so far in Bihar is 8. No post office has been opened so far in Jharkhand circle.

[English]

#### Teaching Staff in AIMS

4512. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether teaching in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has suffered due to shortage of teaching staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether very little resource has been allocated for research work;

(d) whether a large complement of teaching staff is employed on ad hoc basis in AIIMS, New Delhi;

(e) whether out of 339 research projects undertaken during the decade 1991-2000, final reports in respect of only 153 projects have been received;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) Ad-hoc appointment at the level of Assistant Professors at the Institute has been restored to due to interim orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 15.11.1994 in a Civil Writ Petition filed by the Faculty of AIIMS on the issue of reservation in faculty posts. At present about 120 Assistant Professors are working on ad-hoc basis. The Hon'ble High Court has since delivered the judgement on 26.11.2001 and as directed by the Hon'ble High Court, AIIMS will take necessary steps to fill up the all posts of Assistant Professor on regular basis.

(e) to (g) Research funds are received by AIIMS through external grants amounting to Rs. 12 to 15 crores every year for research purposes from national/international agencies like the DST, Indian Council of Medical Research, UNICEF, WHO etc. The Institute also has been using a major part of its plan allocation on the purchase of machine & equipment and many of the machines bought are for both research purposes and patient care. AIIMS has undertaken 348 projects during the decade 1991-2000 out of them reports of only 99 are awaited, most of which relate to areas where one project feeds/overlap to the next one.

#### Loss of Interest

4513. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during 1998-99, the High Commission of India, London and the Embassy of the India at Brussels kept Rs. 7.33 crores and Rs. 1.17 crores respectively outside the Consolidated Fund of India for more than 5 years;

(b) if so, whether the total interest loss due to this was a staggering Rs. 6.04 crores;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to enforce strict fiscal measures for their missions abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No funds pertaining to the High Commission of India, London and Embassy of India, Brussels have been kept outside the consolidated fund of India for more than 5 years. No

funds pertaining to the High Commission of India, London and Embassy of India, Brussels, have been kept outside the Consolidated Fund of India. The Comptroller and Auditor General in his report for the year ended 1998 (Para No. 2 of 1999) has pointed out that High Commission of India, London and Embassy of India, Brussels kept Rs. 7.33 crores and Rs. 1.17 crores respectively in non-interest bearing accounts. According to the report, this has resulted in interest loss to the Government to the tune of Rs. 6.04 crores. Since then, the amounts mentioned have been repatriated to the Government accounts.

(c) and (d) Government has instructed all its Missions/ Posts abroad to strictly observe the standing instruction on not holding funds in excess of their six-weeks' requirement. Further, all Indian Missions/Posts abroad have been instructed to close all non-functional/in-operative non-interest bearing accounts and repatriate the funds lying therein.

#### **Involvement of Private Sector**

4514. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission propose to involve private sector in infrastructure development in irrigation sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As per the Constitution, irrigation is a State subject and the responsibility of planning, funding, execution and implementation of irrigation projects primarily lies with the concerned State Governments. However, the Planning Commission constituted a Working Group on the "Private Sector and Beneficiaries Participation Programme" for the formulation of Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07). The recommendation of this Working Group may be considered while formulating the Tenth Plan.

*[Translation]*

#### **Visit of Diplomats to Kashmir**

4515. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign diplomats who visited Kashmir since January 1, 2001 and the purpose thereof;

(b) whether the Government had prior information of their visits;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Government are aware of visits by foreign diplomats stationed in India, to the State of Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India, as part of their diplomatic functions.

*[English]*

#### **Candle Manufacturing**

4516. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether candle manufacturing is job oriented industry in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage this industry by increasing paraffin wax on quota;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to abolish Sales Tax and excise duty on candles; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by the State Government, the candle industry in Kerala has around 1200 industrial units with an estimated employment of about 9000 persons.

(c) and (d) Paraffin wax for candle industry is presently decontrolled and is available in the open market as well as through the Small Industries Development Corporation, Government of Kerala.

(e) and (f) No Such proposal is under consideration.

#### **Cost Based Rates**

4517. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Port Trust suffered a loss of Rs. 6.57 crores due to delay in framing cost based rates and Rs. 2.49 crores by bestowing benefits on a particular firm;

(b) if so, facts thereof alongwith reasons for delay; and

(c) the corrective steps being taken to prevent recurrence and recover the lost money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Computerisation of Post Office**

4518. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:  
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any programme for computerisation and modernisation of post offices in the country;

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

(c) the number of post offices computerised as on date in each State, particularly Andhra Pradesh, State-wise; and

(d) the number of post offices yet to be computerised during the next two years?

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

(b) and (c) Post Offices are being computerised by setting up Multi Purpose Counter Machines providing the public one-hop-stop service, cutting down drastically waiting time at the counter. The Department has also computerised many post offices in a LAN environment which includes Post Office Savings Bank service. In

addition, softwares have been developed for total computerisation of post offices both in front and back office functions with the help of technology. Satellite communication technology is also being used for transfer of money orders from one post office to another.

As on date Multi Purpose Counter Machines have been installed in 95 post offices in Andhra Pradesh. The state-wise details of the number of Post Offices where computerisation has been carried out are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The number of post offices to be computerised during the next two years would depend on availability of resources. The Tenth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	State	Computerised Post Offices
1	2	3
1.	Assam	52
2.	Andhra Pradesh	95
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Bihar	56
5.	Chattisgarh	5
6.	Delhi	107
7.	Goa	7
8.	Gujarat	116
9.	Haryana	40
10.	Himachal Pradesh	65
11.	Jharkhand	7
12.	J&K	19
13.	Karnataka	98
14.	Kerala	83
15.	Madhya Pradesh	143
16.	Maharashtra	164
17.	Manipur	4
18.	Meghalaya	5
19.	Mizoram	2
20.	Nagaland	4

1	2	3
21.	Orissa	51
22.	Punjab	70
23.	Rajasthan	69
24.	Sikkim	2
25.	Tamil Nadu	120
26.	Tripura	4
27.	Uttaranchal	8
28.	Uttar Pradesh	110
29.	West Bengal	62
Total		1569

[*Translation*]

#### Change in Organisational set up of ICCR

4519. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to change the organizational structure of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) No need for further change has been felt since organizational changes were undertaken in pursuance of the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs in 1995-97.

[*English*]

#### Revision of Telephone Rentals

4520. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bi-monthly telephone rentals have been increased recently in Mysore City;

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

(c) the number of consumers so far surrendered their telephones after the recent hike in rentals;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to reconsider the hike; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The bi-monthly telephone rental in Mysore city was increased from Rs. 380 to Rs. 500 from 1.10.2001 in pursuance of the existing tariff policy since the total equipped capacity of Mysore Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) Exchange System crossed 1 lakh lines.

(c) and (d) The number of consumers who surrendered their telephones during October and November 2001 are 793 and 678 respectively. However during the same period 1463 and 1284 new connections were respectively provided, resulting in a net increase of 1276 connections in these two months.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The present structure of rental is uniformly applicable all over the country and is within the ceiling notified by the Telecom Regulatory of India, as statutory body empowered to fix/revise the tariff under clause 11(2) of TRAI Act of 1997.

#### Funds for SCP and TSP under Tenth Plan

4521. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various Schemes and Programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and TSP (Tribal Sub Plan) since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes majority of whom live below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of new schemes and programmes such as allotment a PCO/STC/ISC Booths, Communication/Internet facility Centres for educated unemployed youth from the SCs and STs in pursuance of the constitutional directive as contained under Article 46 of the Constitution;

(c) the amount of funds proposed to be requisitioned during the Tenth Plan from the planning for such schemes/programmes; and

(d) the benefits and targets sought to be achieved under such schemes and programmes during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR):

(a) *Department of Telecommunications:*

The various schemes and programmes of the Department of Telecom (DOT) relate to the telecom development including modernization of the services and expansion of the existing services for the entire country. The telecom services are important infrastructural requirements for socio-economic development and provide essential connectivity among the people across the country as well as between the countries. In this respect, therefore, there is little room for developing telecom services with reference to any particular segment of our population. In view of this, there is no scope for identifying any specific development programme for SCs in the Plan schemes of the DOT. Moreover, special quantification or identification of programmes for SCs does not seem to be necessary in case of telecom services where the organisation as a whole is committed to providing connectivity to all sections of population and among different areas through a policy which provides for preferential treatment for the rural areas where majority of our SCs and other poor population reside.

However, DOT has adopted Tribal Sub Plan to take care of special requirement of tribal areas. The Tribal Sub Plan has been in operation since 5th Five Year Plan benefiting the tribals and bringing about a major of qualitative change in the socio-economic pattern of their lives.

*Department of Posts:*

The plan programmes of the Department of Post are related to operational areas of the post services including expansion of Postal Network, modernisation of services, provision of building for operational needs as also development of new products/services. In fact, the postal service has an important infrastructural element for socio-economic development, provides essential connectivity among the people and areas in the country. In this respect there is little room for developing postal services with reference to any particular segment of our population. In light of this, there is no scope for identify in any specific development programme either in terms of physical or financial targets for SCs in the plan schemes for the Department of Post. Moreover, special quantification or identification of the programmes does not seem to be necessary in the case of postal services where the

organisation as a whole is committed to providing connectivity for all sections of population and among different areas through a policy which provides for preferential treatment for the rural areas.

The Department has, however, adopted tribal sub plan approach to take care of special requirements of tribal areas. The tribal sub plan has been in operation since the fifth five year plan, benefiting the tribals and bringing about a major of qualitative change in the socio-economic pattern of their lives.

(b) *Department of Telecommunications:*

Earlier the DOT has giving preference to SC/ST in allotment of PCOs for SC/ST families. However, these are now provided on first come first served basis to all eligible applicants as in most of the places these are available on demand. These PCO booths are being converted to communication/internet facility centres by the PCO owners wherever they are able to provide the required infrastructure. DOT is extending the internet connectivity as per demand and technical feasibility to these centres.

*Department of Posts:*

The schemes which are being carried out in the tribal areas are as follows:

- (i) Opening of Post Offices with relax norms vis-a-vis normal areas.
- (ii) Installation of Multipurpose Counter Machines.
- (iii) Installation of Extended Satellite Money Order stations.
- (iv) Computerisation of Transit Mail Offices, Registration sorting offices and Head Record Offices.
- (v) Modernization of Mail offices.
- (vi) Upgradation of operational equipment for delivery.
- (vii) Construction of buildings.
- (viii) Purchase of Mail Motor Vehicles.

(c) and (d) *Department of Telecommunications & Department of Posts:*

The Tenth Five Year Plan is still in the process of formulation. The Tribal Sub plans are part and parcel of each annual plan.

[*Translation*]

### Reviewing Performance of Cultural Centres

4522. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of cultural centres established in foreign countries are proposed to be reviewed by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Council continuously monitors and reviews the activities of these Cultural Centres with a view of make the functioning of the Centres more effective. For this purpose, the Council has instituted a system of monthly reporting by the Centres on their activities. The Council also undertakes special review of the functioning of these Centres in consultation with our Head of Missions in these countries.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

### Unspent Funds

4523. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 281.08 crore provided for development of roads network under capital section during 1997-98 has remained unutilised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Rs. 41.02 crore and Rs. 151.40 crore also remained unspent under works pertaining to national highways, permanent Bridge-Fee fund from 1997-98;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken to tone up the authority responsible for the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As against the total grant of Rs. 2105.86 crore, the actual

expenditure incurred was Rs. 1824.78 crore resulting in saving of Rs. 281.08 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The provision in Permanent Bridges Fee Fund is made having regard to likely collections on various permanent bridges in the country. At Revised Estimate stage, the Budget Estimate of Rs. 83.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 50.00 crore due to less collection. The actual expenditure however, was Rs. 41.98 crore resulting in saving of Rs. 41.02 crore. During 1997-98, the allotment for National Highway (Original) works was reduced to Rs. 1215.78 crore against which the actual expenditure incurred was Rs. 1131.64 crore resulting in saving of Rs. 151.40 crore with respect to the Original Grant of Rs. 1283.04 crore and net saving of Rs. 84.14 crore with respect to actual allotment. This was due to slow down in progress of schemes, delay in the issue of Letter of Credit by some States, land acquisition problems, environmental clearance problems and cutting of trees, etc.

(e) Concerned authorities have been instructed to monitor the flow of expenditure with utmost prudence by keeping in view the progress of work of each project and scheme and taking up the matter with various authorities associated with the jobs. In addition to it, quarterly review meetings on physical and financial progress of schemes are being held.

### Agro based Industries in Newly Constituted States

4524. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up Agro-based industries in newly constituted three States;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of Agro based industries in each of these States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), through its Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), motivates people to set up industries including agro based industries in rural areas including the newly created States.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the REGP, the KVIC provides subsidy in the form of margin money of the borrowers through the banks to promote the setting up of rural industries including agro based industries. The Government has decided to continue with REGP during the 10th Plan also. Moreover, the Government of India has announced a package for the promotion of Khadi and Village Industries Sector on 14th May, 2001 with the prime objective of creating more jobs in rural areas and empowering the women and backward classes. The main features of the package comprise of a rebate policy for five years, option of Rebate or Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building and cluster development.

### **Ayurveda**

4525. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in rural and semi-rural areas, more than 60 per cent of the people prefer Ayurveda to allopathic medicine;

(b) if so, the reasons for not promoting Ayurveda in remotest areas of the country; and

(c) the details of the number of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries and hospitals with number of doctors working in them at present?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Ayurveda is popular in the rural areas. However, no study has revealed that 60 percent of the people prefer Ayurveda.

(b) Majority of Ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries are located in the rural areas. The Government has published essential drugs list of Ayurveda which should be stocked in dispensaries and hospitals. States are being advised to procure drugs of our systems under the funds available under Pradhan Matri's Gramodaya Yojna. IEC activities are also being supported for propagation of Ayurveda in rural areas.

(c) There are 3000 hospitals and 14793 dispensaries under Ayurveda and 308 hospitals and 963 dispensaries under Unani System functioning in the country. As per the available information, there are 427504 doctors in Ayurveda and 42445 doctors in Unani system practicing in the country.

### **IT Task Force**

4526. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed its policies concerning software and hardware sectors with a view to synchronise them with the global trend in the light of recommendations made by IT Task Force, 1997;

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

(c) the details of proposals under consideration for policy change and their present status vis-a-vis other countries;

(d) whether the Union Government have reviewed the policies and progress made by the State Governments in IT sector over the recent years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to involve and encourage State Governments for promotion and development in IT sector to achieve a commanding position at global level?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) A high powered National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development was set up by the Prime Minister's Office on May 22, 1998, with the aim of making India a Global IT Superpower within ten years. This Task Force has made 108 recommendations. The review of policies concerning software and hardware is a continuous process to keep them synchronous with the global trends. A number of proposals related to tariff structure have been taken up by the Ministry of Information Technology with the Ministry of Finance so as to make the Indian IT industry globally competitive.

(d) to (f) A number of State Governments have announced their respective liberalized IT policies. The State Governments review IT policies independently so as to ensure growth of the IT sector in their respective states.

### **Laws to Prevent Brain Drain**

4527. SHRI M. CHINNASAMY:  
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a sizeable number of M.B.B.S. Doctors are migrating to foreign countries to fetch more money though a huge amount is spent on their education and training by the Government;

(b) if so, the number of doctors migrated to other countries from various Government Hospitals during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to make stringent laws to prevent brain drain from the country in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

#### **SCc/STs and OBCs in Services**

4528. SHRI MOHAN S. DELKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in class I (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59% (SCs 10.38% & STs 3.21%) and in Class II (Group B) Services only at 14.41% (SCs 11.73% & STs 2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, the total number of posts in (i) Class I (Group A) Category and (ii) Class II (Group B) Category and equivalents thereof under his Ministry; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST, and (iv) OBC categories working against them including their respective percentage to such posts as ascertained in view of instructions as contained under para 5 of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated July 2, 1997 ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The representation of SCs and STs as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government in Group A services was 14.24% (SCs 10.8% and STs 3.44%) and in Group B services it was 15.37% (SCs 12.35% and STs 3.02%)

(b) and (c) Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries (ARI) was created on 1st Sept., 2001. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is the Cadre Controlling Authority in respect of the posts in Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries (ARI).

#### **Society for Microwave Electronic Engineering and Research**

4529. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 80% of the outlay of the Society for Microwave Electronic Engineering and Research (SAMEER) is expended on wages and salary bills;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the very less amount is left for R&D activities;

(c) if so, the efforts taken or being taken by the Government to minimize its administrative expenditure to save the budgetary allocation for R&D proposes;

(d) whether it is also a fact that scientific manpower of 137 SAMEER 56 such staff have left the organization during the last five years; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by his Ministry to replenish the staff on permanent basis?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As replacement of these 56 scientists, who left during the last 5 years, a total of 84 new scientists have been appointed.

#### **Dawki Bridge on National Highway-40**

4530. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of the National Highway-40E a lifeline for trade and commerce with Bangladesh is deplorable;

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned the construction of the Dawki Bridge connecting Bangladesh on NH-40; and



(d) if so, the reasons for delay in starting the work and the steps taken by the Government to get this important project rolling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Extension of NH 40 (NH 40-E) had been entrusted to State PWD on 28.5.2001. The road requires improvement. Works amounting to Rs. 2.44 crore have been sanctioned for its improvement.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) Work could not be awarded due to non responsiveness of contractors to execute the work as per design.

[Translation]

#### National Drug Policy

4531. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:  
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from various organizations and Doctors to formulate a long-term and National Drug Policy for the patients to get medicines on economic rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The main objective of the present Drug Policy as modified in September, 1994, inter alia, include ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices of essential and life saving and prophylactic medicines of good quality.

[English]

#### Opposition to Fast Breeder Reactor

4532. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether villages at Kalpakkam on East Coast in Chengalpathu district of Tamil Nadu are opposing the up-coming indigenously designed 500 MW fast breeder reactor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) There are no direct instances of opposition to the proposed construction of 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam from the nearby villagers. During the public hearing held at Kancheepuram on 27.7.2001, District Panchayat Member [representing 13 Panchayats, Kancheepuram district (earlier known as Chengalpetu district)] have expressed support for the PFBR. However, representatives of the local villages and some Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) did raise issues pertaining to lack of job opportunities in the Kalpakkam DAE Units, the fear of radiation affecting the health of the people, depletion of water resources and the possibility of reduction in the fish catch. During the public hearing in July, 2001 a very detailed exposition was given by the concerned experts on the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) project indicating all the safety measures taken and the fact that there would be no adverse effects due to radiation on the health of the public, or on the fish catch. That the project will not cause any extra burden on the water resources was also explained.

[Translation]

#### INSAT-3C

4533. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of INSAT-3C proposed to be launched in space in January, 2002;

(b) the benefits that will accrue to common men on this account as the Indian Science is continuously marching ahead in this field;

(c) whether the Government will make efforts to impart-knowledge of space science to the talented students in the country from the secondary level itself; and

(d) if so, the details of efforts made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) INSAT-3C spacecraft has 24 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders 2, S-band broadcast satellite service transponders and 1 Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) transporter.

(b) The benefits to the common man are in terms of availability of larger capacity for all INSAT services-telecommunications, television broadcasting, radio-networking, tele-education, tele-health and mobile satellite communications.

(c) and (d) The initiatives towards imparting knowledge on space science and technology, especially for students at the secondary level and above include: Publication of books aimed at secondary school level students, encouraging private publishers, supporting institutions to bring out publications on science education, encouraging students to participate in international space competitions and training them for the same, conducting special events for students on occasions like National Science Day, organising exhibitions at schools and distribution of pamphlets and posters as well as setting up space displays in planetariums, science museums, etc.

#### **Optical Fibre Cable**

4534. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed for laying Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 alongwith the details of OFC cable laid during the said period;

(b) whether the Government are likely to achieve the target this year;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to formulate a separate plan for laying OFC cable in rural areas; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) In so

far as BSNL is concerned, Targets/Achievements for laying Optical Fibre cable in Jodhpur District during the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is detailed below:

Year	Target	Achievement
1999-2000	571 RKm	70 RKm
2000-2001	705 RKm	143 RKm
2001-2002	840 RKm	193 RKm (upto November, 2001)

(b) to (d) BSNL is not likely to achieve this target due to acute shortage of HDPE & Permanently Lubricated HDPE pipes, for which supply could be received to the extent of 10% so far.

(e) BSNL as government PSU, has been laying OFC cable in rural areas also as per requirement.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

#### **Telephone Facility**

4535. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain complaints regarding non functioning of telephones in Faridabad Telecom Circle are received at circle and other levels;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received from 1 July to 31st October 2001; and

(c) the details of action proposed to be taken in the matter?

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

(b) Details of complaints received in each month from 1.7.2001 to 31.10.2001 are given below:—

Month	No. of complaints booked
July, 2001	25094
August, 2001	29204
September, 2001	28102
October, 2001	20381

(c) Details of action taken are as under:—

(i) Heavy fault prone areas are being identified so as to make them drop wire free.

- (ii) All life expired telephone instruments are being replaced in a phased manner.
- (iii) Opening of more and more remote line units thereby reducing area to be served by each exchange with a corresponding reduction in the size of the outdoor plant.
- (iv) Periodic dressing of external plant.
- (v) Paper core cable is being replaced in phases.
- (vi) There is a plan to use more and more five pair cable.
- (vii) Arrangement for centralized fault booking in small and medium exchanges.
- (viii) Computerization of fault repair service (FRS).

[English]

#### Finance by KVIC

4536. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether out of 8.51 lakh institutions financed by KVIC only 5.81 lakh institutions are working;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to locate the missing institutions; and
- (c) the total amount financed for 8.51 lakh institutions and the amount as well as towards 2.70 lakhs institutions?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. There are only 5599 institutions registered with the KVIC.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Policy of Foreign Investment In Communication

4537. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:  
SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Industrial Policy Department has guidelines for FDI Cap of 49% for particular type of industry;

(b) if so, whether there is a ceiling of 49% FDI in Telecommunication Sector;

(c) if so, the FDI Cap guidelines for financial institution/NBFC/Banking and Insurance Sectors;

(d) whether some loophole have been found to increase the voting power and getting management control by Companies Act;

(e) if so, whether by implementing the provisions of Companies Act regarding voting rights for non-payment of dividend of preferential shares this 49% Cap can be increased to 51% and more;

(f) if so, the details thereof with the reaction of Government thereto;

(g) the steps taken by Government against foreign/ Indian companies for misusing such provision; and

(h) the action taken by Government to pluck such loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Foreign equity participation in basic, cellular, global mobile personal communications services and certain value added services cannot exceed 49%.

(c) In the financial sector, there is a 49% cap in private sector banking and 26% cap on foreign investment in the Insurance sector. As regards the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) sector, while there is no FDI cap on the extent of foreign ownership, there are minimum capitalization norms, which are to be met. For 100% FDI in NBFC sector, minimum capitalization in US\$ 50 million.

(d) to (h) As per present guidelines of the Government and license conditions for operation of telecom services where foreign direct investment is limited to 49%, management control must rest with the Indian shareholders.

Under the Companies Act, the holders of non-convertible preferential shares gain voting rights equivalent to the number of preferential shares held, if dividend is not paid for a period not less than two years. It has been reported that some of the foreign promoters of Indian companies are trying to acquire voting rights, as they are holding non-convertible preference shares and have not been paid dividend by the company for two years.

The Government is aware of above position and shall take appropriate action to plug the loopholes, if any.

*[Translation]***Amount for various Health Scheme**

4538. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:  
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has demanded Rs. 1590 crores from the Government for its various schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) A Plan outlay of Rs. 1600 crores was demanded for various health schemes relating to disease control programmes, central health institutions for medical education, research and training, hospitals and dispensaries during 2001-02. However, the outlay approved was Rs. 1450 crore.

*[English]***E-Governance**

4539. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plans for implementing E-Governance in its various ministries and their departments;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and estimated time-frame for implementing the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Minimum Agenda for E-Governance (as per statement enclosed) has been formulated and is being implemented by various Ministries/Departments. This is an on-going process and Planning Commission guidelines permit each Ministry/Department to use 2 to 3% of its budget for programmes/schemes relating to Information Technology.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement****Minimum Agenda for E-Governance**

- (i) (a) Each Ministry/Department must provide PCs with necessary software upto the Section Officer level.
- (b) LAN must also be set up.
- (ii) (a) 100% training of all staff who have access to and need to use computers for their office work should be ensured.
- (b) For this purpose, *inter alia*, Ministries/Departments should set up or share Learning Centres for decentralized training in computers as per the guidelines issued by the MIT.
- (iii) Each Ministry/Department should start using the Office Procedure Automation software developed by NIC with a view to keeping a record of receipt of dak, issue of letters, as well as movement of files in the department.
- (iv) Pay roll accounting and other house-keeping software should be put to use in day-to-day operations.
- (v) (a) Notices for internal meetings should be sent by email to the officers.
- (b) Similarly, submission of applications for leave and for going on tour should also be done electronically.
- (c) Ministries/Departments should also set up online notice board to display orders, circulars etc. as and when issued.
- (vi) Ministries/Departments should use the web-enabled Grievance Redressal Software developed by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.
- (vii) Each Ministry/Department should have its own website.
- (viii) All Acts, Rules, Circulars should be converted into electronic form and, along with other published material of interest or relevance to the public, should be made available on the internet and be accessible from the Information and Facilitation Counter.

- (ix) (a) The website of Ministries/Departments/Organisations should specifically contain a section in which various forms to be used by citizens/customers are available. The forms should be available for being printed out or for being completed on the computer itself and then printed out for submission.
- (b) Attempts should also be made to enable completion and submission of forms online.
- (x) The Hindi version of the content of the websites should be developed simultaneously, as far as possible.
- (xi) Each Ministry/Department would also make efforts to develop packages so as to begin electronic delivery of services to the public.
- (xii) Each Ministry/Department should have an overall IT vision or strategy for a five year period, within which it could dovetail specific action plans and targets (including the minimum agenda) to be implemented within one year.

#### **Potentiality of Mobile Telephones**

4540. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have made any detailed report on the potentiality and use of mobile telephones in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have any plans to introduce more video-conferencing telecom centres in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to introduce and implement the video teleconferencing system in the rural/semi urban areas of the country?

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

#### **National Physiotherapy Council**

4541. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to create a National Council of Physiotherapy as in the case of Dental Council, Nursing Council etc. to help establish standards in various Physiotherapy Colleges and Training Institutes; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) In order to regulate the various paramedical disciplines including Physiotherapy, there is a proposal before the Government to establish regulatory framework.

[Translation]

#### **Promotion of Agro Industries**

4542. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to promote agro based industries in the country especially in Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(b) the number of agro-industries set up in Maharashtra during the said period and the funds spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) promotes rural industrialization through the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the KVIC. The REGP is applicable throughout the country including Maharashtra. Under this scheme, 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money. For project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections, the margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

Moreover, the Government of India has announced a package for the promotion of Khadi and Village Industries Sector on 14th May, 2001, with the prime objective of creating more jobs in rural areas and empowering the women and backward classes. The main features of the package comprise of a rebate policy of five years, option or Rebate or Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packing and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building and cluster development.

(b) The Government does not set up any industry of its own. However, the number of village industry projects sanctioned under REGP in Maharashtra during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of projects
1998-99	1856
1999-2000	3274
2000-2001	6354

[English]

#### Increasing of Bandwidth Capacity

4543. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to get more bandwidth from Mumbai and Ernakulum gateways to increase VSNL's current bandwidth capacity of 499 MB for Internet services from Bangalore gateway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): Sir, Current bandwidth available from Bangalore for Internet use is 467 Mbps & the peak utilization is around 20%. There is enough Internet bandwidth capacity available at Bangalore to cater to the additional requirement. VSNL takes a stock of the situation on regular basis and initiate move to arrange additional link as and when demand is foreseen.

#### Telephone Connection in Assam Circle

4544. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections pending under Assam Circle till date;

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

(c) the number of proposals for new Exchanges pending;

Year	Sanctioned	Installed	Cancelled	Pending
1997	496	496	Nil	Nil
1998	456	456	Nil	Nil
1999	579	579	Nil	Nil
2000	1059	1059	2	47
2001 (up to November, 2001)	899	558	4	337

(d) if so, the details of the above in respect of Barpeta, Nalbari and Bongaigaon;

(e) whether all the telephone connections in regard to M.P. quota are installed timely;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Total number of telephone connections pending (waiting list) in Assam Telecom Circle as on 30th November, 2001 is 25,862.

(b) District-wise break up of pending telephone connections (waiting list) as on 30.11.2001 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) It is planned to commission 30 Nos. of new telephone exchanges in Assam during 2001-02, out of which 14 have already been commissioned as on 30.11.2001.

(d) Details of the exchanges to be commissioned during 2001-02 in Barpeta, Nalbari & Bongaigaon Districts are as follows:—

District	Station	Remarks
Barpeta	Nil	—
Nalbari	(i) Dhamdhama	—
	(ii) Rampur	Commissioned
Bongaigaon	Nil	—

(e) to (g) All out efforts are being made to install the out of turn connections sanctioned on recommendation of Hon'ble MPs at the earliest. However, sometimes delays occur in technically non-feasible cases. Year-wise details, (since 1997) of MP quota cases sanctioned, installed & pending are as follows:—

**Statement**

*District-wise details of pending Assam Telephone Connections (waiting list) of Telecom Circle as on 30.11.2001*

Sl.No.	Revenue District	Waiting List
1.	Kamrup	968
2.	Dibrugarh	1170
3.	Tinsukia	1268
4.	Cachar	1905
5.	Karimganj	1273
6.	Hailakandi	221
7.	N.C. Hills	327
8.	Jorhat	1330
9.	Sibsagar	2874
10.	Golaghat	2209
11.	Bongaigaon	783
12.	Golapara	456
13.	Dhubri	1446
14.	Kokrajhar	601
15.	Barpeta	2286
16.	Nalbari	1242
17.	Sonitpur	624
18.	Darrang	456
19.	Lakhimpur	775
20.	Dhemaji	297
21.	Nagaon	2104
22.	Morigaon	553
23.	Karbi Anglong	694
<b>Total</b>		<b>25862</b>

**Funding care and Support Programme**

4545. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka State AIDS Society has sent proposals for funding care and support programme for 6 NGO's in the State two years ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation has already given its clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which clearance is expected to be given to Karnataka for further immediate action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Karnataka State AIDS Society has sent proposal for funding Care and Support Programme for 5 NGOs in the State two years ago.

(b) The following five NGOs had sent the proposals for funding of Care & Support Programme:—

- M/s Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society (BIRDS), Distt, Belgaum
- M/s Snehadan, Bangalore
- M/s Samuha-Asha Jyoti Community Care Centre, Raichur
- M/s Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI), Bangalore
- M/s Dakshedte Trust, Mangalore

(c) Yes, Sir. Two proposals have been given clearance.

(d) Proposals of the following NGOs have been sanctioned

1. Snehadan, Bangalore
2. Samuha-Asha Jyoti Community Care Centre, Raichur

In addition to the above, there are other two Care & Support Programmes run by NGO Freedom Foundation at Bangalore and Bellary.

(e) The funding of NGOs has been decentralized and it is now being handled by the respective State AIDS Control Society. However financial assistance for setting up of Community Care Centres for people living with HIV/AIDS in low prevalence states is being provided to the NGOs directly by National AIDS Control Organization.

#### **VSNL Cellular Services**

4546. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the cities in which VSNL is operating its Cellular Services;

(b) whether VSNL has taken steps to extend its Cellular Service net link to some major cities;

(c) if so, the cities where VSNL proposes to operate its Cellular Services in 2001-2002; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) is not operating any Cellular Service in India.

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

#### **Staff Strength of MTNL**

4547. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the MTNL's staff strength and offer VRS; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. No proposal has been formulated in this regard.

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

#### **Misuse of Cellular**

4548. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great danger to the national security due to misuse of Cellular and their basic networks by the anti-national and anti-social elements; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken in this context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, enough safeguards for national security and intelligence problems have been provided in the Licences for operation of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service and Basic Telecom Service. The Licences for operation of Cellular Mobile telephone and Basic telephone Service are governed by the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. Section 5 of the Act makes it obligatory for the Licensees to provide necessary facilities for interception of messages passing through their network.

#### **New National Highway**

4549. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link National Highway-60 with National Highway-6;

(b) if so, whether the road is proposed to be diverted from Muchipara (Durgapur) National Highway-2 through Durgapur Barrage, Barjora, Beliator to link with National Highway-60 will be the shortest route from South India to North-East;

(c) whether this road is likely to be declared as National Highway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) NH-60 is already connected to NH-6 at Kharagpur in West Bengal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The proposal would be considered alongwith similar proposals received from other State Governments after finalization of the Tenth Five Year Plan keeping in view the traffic needs, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

#### **Employment of Nurses**

4550. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the shortage of nurses in India duly trained nurses continue to seek employment, through manpower providing agencies in U.K., USA and other developed countries;



(b) if so, the number of nurses who got employment abroad during 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and the current year so far indicating the source of such employment;

(c) whether any memoranda of understanding have been signed with U.K., USA and other developed nations to bar/restrict Indian nurses seeking employment there; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Medical College in Jammu and Kashmir

4551. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no medical college in Baramula area of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from Jammu and Kashmir Government to open Medical College in Baramula area;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. Out of 4 medical colleges functioning in the State, 2 are at Jammu and 2 at Srinagar.

(b) The Central Government have been permitting establishment of new medical colleges under the provision of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, as amended and Regulations made thereunder. It is for the State Government concerned to decide about the need and location of such college.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### Grants to UP Under PMRY

4552. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of the grants provided to Uttar Pradesh under the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana during the last three years;

(b) the details of the youths benefited from grants in the States; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to raise the amount of grants to Uttar Pradesh in order to promote this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the Central Government releases funds for Subsidy as well as for Training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. While the funds for Subsidy are authorised to the Reserve Bank of India for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through the implementing banks, the funds for Training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. are released to the States/UTs. In turn, the State Governments allocate these funds on their own to their districts. A total of Rs. 1051.19 lakhs has been released to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years i.e. 1998-99; 1999-2000 and 2000-01 under the PMRY.

(b) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India, loans have been sanctioned to 1,33,096 youth in Uttar Pradesh for the last three years i.e. 1998-99; 1999-2000 and 2000-01 under the PMRY.

(c) As on date, Uttar Pradesh State has unspent balances from the previously released amounts. However, request by the State Governments, if any, for enhancement of targets can be considered depending upon their performance *vis-a-vis* allocated targets.

[English]

#### Telecom Facilities by BSNL

4553. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of that there are shortage of staff in BSNL Kerala circle; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by BSNL to give better service for the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a shortage of staff in certain cadre *viz.* JTO, TTA etc. in Kerala Circle.

- (b) (i) Steps are being taken to fill up the vacancies in JTO and TTA cadres.
- (ii) Existing manpower is suitably deployed so that the customer service section is properly manned.
- (iii) Computerization of different activities are also carried out for improving the services and proper utilization of available manpower.

[*Translation*]

#### **Rural Telephone Exchange**

4554. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of rural telephone exchanges in the Mandvi, Gujarat are less than the requirement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of rural telephones are functioning as on date; and
- (d) the number of applicants on waiting list as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. To the extent of meeting present requirement.

(b) New telephone exchanges are proposed to be installed to meet the requirement at the following places by March, 2002:—

1. Jamania
2. Pada-Pardi
3. Dholiaui
4. Devgad
5. Kumkotar
6. Piplod
7. Bahurupa

(c) 45,600 rural telephones are functioning as on date in Mandvi region.

(d) 9,142 applicants are on waiting list as on date.

[*English*]

#### **Wasteful Expenditure**

4555. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up under his Ministry for reducing the existing wasteful expenditure of his Ministry and departments under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of its composition;

(c) the details of recommendations made by this commission so far;

(d) the details of those recommendations which are implemented and yet to be implemented by his Ministry or departments under his Ministry alongwith reasons for not implementing them till date; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Expenditure Reforms Commissions are set up by the Ministry of Finance. Thus, the Ministry of Communications has not set up such a body. The Ministry of Finance monitors the expenditure of the Department of Posts regularly. The operations of the Department of Telecom have been handed over to a Public Sector Company, the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Anti-Rabies Vaccine and Medicines**

4556. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate medicines and anti-rabies vaccine are not available in Government Hospital/States Hospitals for the treatment of increasing dogs bite patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure availability of essential medicines/ rabies vaccine in all Hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, the information in

respect of hospitals in States is not available in this Ministry. However, reasonable stock of essential medicines including anti-rabies vaccine is maintained in the Central Government hospitals.

#### **Homoeopathic Medicine for Cancer**

4557. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the scope of Homoeopathic medicine in the treatment of cancer; and

(b) the number of studies made in this matter and result achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy had undertaken clinical research and also funded clinical trials for treatment of cancer but in both cases the results were not definitively conclusive.

#### **Homoeopathic Medicine for Cancer**

4558. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Homoeopathic doctors are collaborating with the National Institute of Health (NIH), USA on cancer study;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have constituted an expert committee to explore the possibility of use of Homoeopathic medicine in cancer control programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) It has come to the notice of the Government that Dr. Prasata Banerji of the P.B.H.R. Foundation, Kolkata claimed to have collaboration with National Institute of Health (NIH), on cancer study.

(c) to (e) The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy had undertaken clinical research and the results were not definitively conclusive. Accredited institutions have been encouraged to avail of the extramural research programme of the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.

#### **Environment Management Systems Certifications Scheme**

4559. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standardisation Testing Quality Certification Directorate has announced Environment Management Systems Certification Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applicants registered with the STQC Directorate for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) 13 (thirteen) only.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of the Environmental Management System Certification*

**Application:** The client submits dully filled application forms and other required documents along with appropriate fee and Environmental management system documentation.

**Documentation Review:** STQC reviews the submitted documentation, compares to the applicable ISO 14001 standard, and prepared a report detailing its findings.

**Pre-assessment Visit (optional):** Following documentation review, a pre-assessment visit is performed. Visit provides the Lead Auditor with a brief overview of the client's environmental management system and determines if the client is ready for the audit visit. The finding of the pre-assessment visit is documented in a report.

**Two-step assessment:** For ISO 14001 registration, the assessment consists of two steps. Both the stages are conducted at site.

**Stage: I:** In the first stage, in addition to the system document assessment the following issues are assessed.

1. Identification of Environment Aspects
2. Environmental regulations and laws are observed.

3. Internal Environmental Audit and management Review

**Stage II:** On recommendation of the assessment team, the assessment moves to the stage II of the audit, all non-conformities raised at stage I should be closed before going for stage II Audit. The aspects assessed in Stage II are:

1. Operation
2. Implementation
3. Effectiveness

of the Environmental management system of the organization.

**Corrective Action:** The applicant will be requested to take corrective action for any non conformance found before registration can be granted.

**Registration:** STQC will issue a certificate of Registration to the applicant once the corrective action has been implemented and accepted.

**Surveillance:** At approximately 1 year interval, elements of the applicant's Environmental Management System are re-examined at the applicant's location (site).

**Renewal:** At the end of three years, a reaudit of the customer's Environmental Management System is performed for renewal of registration.

[*Translation*]

**Theft in Telephone Exchange Building**

4560. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the theft of Rs. 61 lakh from the locker of telephone exchange building situated at Laxminagar in

Delhi was the result of connivance between the owner of security agency and the officers and staff of the department;

(b) if so, the details of the owners of the private security agencies who are providing security to telephone exchange, officers, colonies, official residences and guest houses;

(c) whether the security agencies have their link with Union leaders and officers working in the department; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to punish the guilty officers, departmental security personnel and the private security agency after conducting inquiry into the entire matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, the case is being investigated by Delhi Police. Police have arrested two persons. Final report is awaited. A separate departmental committee has also been set up by CGM, MTNL, Delhi to investigate the incident.

(b) In Laxmi Nagar Telephone exchange, three gunmen from M/s S.J. Security services and six guards from M/s Commander services as private security are posted round the clock. A complete list of security agencies engaged by MTNL, Delhi is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No link of any security agency with the union leader or any officers working in the department has come to the notice so far.

(d) The security agency whose guards were deployed at Laxmi Nagar at the time of incident have been removed as a matter of precaution and alternate arrangements have been made. However, after completion of detailed enquiry which is in progress if any involvement of officers, staff or security agency concerned is proved/suspected, the appropriate action will be taken against the guilty.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the agency	Owners of the agencies
1	2	3
1.	Flash Security Services	Col. Satpal Arvind
2.	Samsey & Safety Management	Col. Sarin
3.	S.J. Security Service	Col. Sarjeet Singh
4.	Sai Red Alert Service	Col. Ashok
5.	Himalaya Security Agency	Cdr. Thakur

1	2	3
6.	Security cum investigation agency	Capt. Chetram
7.	Swift Security Service	Col. B.K. Dhawan
8.	Col. Security Service	Col. Vinod
9.	Shining Star Security Service	Lt. Col. Madan
10.	Commander Services	Mr. Manvir
11.	Metropolitan Services	Mr. S.C. Anand
12.	C.I.A. Services	Lt. Col. Baldev Singh

[English]

#### International Exhibition and Seminar

4561. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is sponsoring an international exhibition and seminar on telecommunications in New Delhi in 2002 to be organized by Supercom, a foreign organization;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry had consulted Indian exhibition organization about their willingness to undertake the same before inviting Supercom;

(c) if so, whether any other organizations were consulted, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Indian companies have been successfully organizing such exhibitions and seminars for the last several years in New Delhi with foreign firm participation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) There will be an event known as 'SUPERCOR ASIA 2002' which will be held in New Delhi in February, 2002 being jointly organized by M/s. Interads, an Indian company and Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) of America and Times Conferences and Exhibitions, Singapore. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has co-sponsored the event without any financial involvement.

(b) DOT considers sponsoring an event after ascertaining the importance of the event, its advantages to Indian Telecom sector, both in providing exposure to the latest developments in the telecom sector to Indian telecom industry, scientists, educational institutions etc.

and to promote investment in the sector. This does not require any consultation with other exhibitions organizations and the department liberally supports such events by co-sponsoring without any financial involvement.

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

(d) Yes, Sir.

#### Central Health Education Bureau

4562. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: SHRI KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Central Health Education Bureau and its annual budget;

(b) whether the State Governments actively cooperate with the Central Health Education Bureau;

(c) if so, the areas where the Central Health Education Bureau works out joint programmes with State Governments; and

(d) the details of any such current joint programme undertaken with the help of Government of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) CHEB in the Directorate General of Health Services is the nodal agency for health promotion, public education in the country. It is actively involved in the development of health education, IEC material for both print and electronic media and dissemination of health information to the masses. The CHEB promotes through this mass

media campaign, various health issues like oral health, personal hygiene, anti tobacco and anti alcohol etc. The dissemination of information is made in local languages also. Apart from the Government Sector, a number of non-governmental organisations are also involved in health education and health promotion activities undertaken by CHEB. The organization also gives training to health personal, develop health education material and also public awareness lectures. The annual budget for the CHEB for the year 2001-02 is Rs. 170 lakhs (Plan) and Rs. 135 lakhs (Non Plan).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The CHEB undertakes programme in collaboration with the State Governments wherever the demand arises. Presently, it has taken up a Tribal Health Project (Health Education and IEC) for the districts of Kalahandi and Nuapada of Orissa.

(d) No proposal is pending with the CHEB at present.

#### **Indo-EU Campaign against Terrorism**

4563. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and European Union have pledged at campaign against terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India and the European Union are committed to strengthen cooperation against international terrorism. The Joint Working Group on International Terrorism meets bi-annually to review cooperation in this area. In the Joint Communiqué adopted during the Second India-EU Summit on 23rd November 2001 India and the EU reiterated their resolve to fight against international terrorism wherever it occurs and regardless of its motives. It also expressed support for the early implementation of the Indian draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. The Declaration Against International Terrorism issued at the Summit recognized that, given their tolerant character, open, democratic and multi-cultural societies are specially vulnerable to terrorist attacks and reaffirmed that International Terrorism is a threat to peace and security.

#### **Militancy in Jammu and Kashmir**

4564. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per a report of U.S. daily published in the *Economic Times* dated September 11, 2001 under caption "post calls Pak bluff—crackdown on militants in conflict with its designs to foment trouble in Jammu and Kashmir" Musharraf regime is falsely claiming that it has no hand in the terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir;

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

(c) the extent to which USA is convinced that the trouble in Jammu and Kashmir is being fomented Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government has seen several reports in international media pointing to contradiction between Pakistan Government's claims regarding its claims to crack down on terrorists and its continuing support and sponsorship of terrorism in India, including of groups operating from Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) The international community, including the United States, acknowledges Pakistan's links with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The U.S. State Department has observed in its annual report for the year 2000 on Patterns of Global Terrorism that, "Pakistan's military Government, headed by Gen. Pervez Musharraf, continued previous Pakistani Government support of the Kashmir insurgency, and Kashmiri militant groups continued to operate in Pakistan, raising funds and recruiting new cadre."

#### **Chinese Military aid to Pakistan**

4565. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese missile sale to Pakistan in the recent times has become a major threat to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has decided to impose sanctions on a top Chinese arms manufacturer for continued sale of missiles technology and components to Pakistan in defiance of an agreement reached in November 2000 in this regard;

(d) if so, the extent to which it is likely to check the missile sale to Pakistan; and

(e) the steps being taken by India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is aware of numerous reports on continued Chinese assistance to Pakistan's missile development programme. Government constantly monitors all developments having a bearing on national security.

(c) and (d) After the detection of several shipments of missile components from China to Pakistan earlier this year, the US had imposed sanctions on the concerned Chinese and Pakistani entities. It has also been reported that the US has raised this issue of China's continued non-compliance with the November 2000 commitments on non-proliferation at several high level meetings. China maintains that its military co-operation with Pakistan conforms to the existing international regime on non-proliferation.

(e) Government constantly reviews all developments and is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the nation's security in accordance with its own assessments of threats thereto.

#### **Rehabilitation of Ayurveda Hospitals**

4566. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:  
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ayurveda Hospitals in the country, are reeling under administrative problems leading them to gradual extinction;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted on their working and conditions;

(c) if so, the outcomes thereof; and

(d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to protect these Hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) Setting up Ayurvedic Hospitals including their upkeep and maintenance is the responsibility of State Governments. The State Governments have been advised to provide medicines according to an Essential Drug List of Ayurvedic Medicines. The States have also been advised to see that the enormous infrastructure of hospitals and dispensaries is used effectively by filling the critical gaps.

A facility survey for the country has not been undertaken but a survey on 'Usage and acceptability of ISM&H' has been given to Indian Council of Medical Research and its outcome is awaited.

#### **SCs/STs and OBCs in Services**

4567. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59% (SCs-10.38% and STs-3.21%) and in Class II (Group-B) Services only at 14.41% (SCs-11.73% and STs-2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on January 1, 1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, indicate total number of "posts" in (i) Class I (Group A) Category and (ii) Class I (Group B) Category and equivalents thereof under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and

(c) the persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST and (iv) OBC categories working against them including their respective percentage to such posts as ascertained in view of instructions as contained under para 5 of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Est. (Res.) dated July 2, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The representation of SCs and STs as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government in Group A services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs-3.44%) and in Group B services it was 15.37% (SCs-12.35% and STs-3.02%)

(b) The total number of posts in Class I (Group A) Category is 6,778 and Class II (Group B) category is 2,681.

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

#### **Selection of IAS Officers**

4568. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been actively considering to revamp selection process for IAS training and recruitment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the committee constituted by the Government to review the present selection process for higher civil services has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of findings made by the committee; and

(e) the extent to which the recommendations of the committee have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) An eight Member Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Y.K. Alagh was appointed on 19.7.2000 by the Union Public Service Commission (U.P.S.C.) to review the existing scheme of the Civil Services Examination. The Committee has since submitted its report to U.P.S.C. on 22.10.2001. No specific proposals have been received by the Government from the U.P.S.C. so far on various recommendations made by the Committee.

#### **Foreign Service Officers on Deputation Abroad**

4569. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 45 Officers of Foreign Service are on deputation, training/posting or on leave and their workload being shared by other Junior Officers in Headquarters in Delhi as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated September 28, 2001;

(b) if so, the action the Government propose to initiate to call back these Officers who are on leave or on deputation to World Bank Offices abroad;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the services of these officers are much more needed in India than abroad; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A total of 13 IFS officers are presently on deputation and training abroad.

(b) and (c) The deputation/training of IFS Officers abroad is for a specific tenure sanctioned by the Ministry as per prescribed procedures and on completion of the tenure, the officer is automatically reverted back to the Ministry of External Affairs.

(d) and (e) The deputation/training of IFS Officers abroad is processed as per prescribed procedures laid down by the Government of India, keeping in mind the exigencies of public service.

#### **Allocation of Funds under SCP and TSP**

4570. SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and TSP since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes majority of whom live below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by his Ministry under SCP and TSP since their commencement specifying nature, scope and target groups thereof;

(c) the amount of funds requisitioned and procured for such planes during Vith, VIth, VIIth and Ninth Five Year Plans for such schemes/programmes;

(d) the quantified benefits and targets achieved so far in this regard; and

(e) the other Scheme/Programme being implemented by his Ministry for economic empowerment of SCs and STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a)

#### **Department of Telecommunications**

The various schemes and programmes of the Department of Telecom (DOT) relate to the telecom development including modernization of the services and expansion of the existing services for the entire country. The telecom services are important infrastructural requirements for socio-economic development and provide sentinel connectivity among the people across the country as well as between the countries. In this respect, therefore, there is little room for developing telecom services with reference to any particular segment of our population. In view of this, there is no scope for identifying any specific development programme for SCs in the Plan



schemes of the DOT. The organisation as a whole is committed to providing connectivity to all sections of population and among different areas through a policy which provides for preferential treatment for the rural areas where majority of SCs and other poor population reside.

However, DOT has adopted Tribal Sub Plan to take care of special requirement of tribal areas. The Tribal Sub Plan has been in operation since 5th Five Year Plan benefiting the tribals and bringing about a major of qualitative change in the socio economic pattern of their lives.

#### **Department of Posts**

The plan programmes of the Department of Post are related to operational areas of the postal services including expansion of Postal Network, modernisation of services, provision of building for operational needs as also development of new products/services. In fact, the postal services has an important infrastructural element for socio-economic development, provides essential connectivity among the people and areas in the country. In this respect there is little room for developing postal services with reference to any particular segment of our population. In light of this, there is no scope for identify in any specific development programme either in terms of physical or financial targets for SCs in the plan schemes for the Department of Post. Moreover, special quantification or identification of the programmes does not seem to be necessary in the case of postal services where the organisation as a whole is committed to providing connectivity for all sections of population and among different areas through a policy which provides for preferential treatment for the rural areas.

The Department has, however adopted tribal sub plan approach to take care of special requirements of tribal areas. The tribal sub plan has been in operation since the fifth five year plan, benefiting the tribals and bringing about a major of qualitative change in the socio economic pattern of their lives.

#### **(b) Department of Telecommunications**

Under the Tribal Sub Plan DOT has given focussed attention for providing the telephone exchanges, addition of switching capacity, provision of direct exchange lines and village public telephones and the transmission media for providing the connectivity as per the requirement of these areas on yearly basis benefiting the tribal population living in these areas.

#### **Department of Posts**

The schemes which are being carried out in the tribal areas are as follows:

- (i) Opening of Post offices with relax norms vis-a-vis normal areas.
- (ii) Installation of multipurpose Counter Machines.
- (iii) Installation of extended Satellite Money Order stations.
- (iv) Construction of buildings.
- (v) Purchase of Mail Motor Vehicles.

#### **(c) to (e) Department of Telecommunications**

The amount of funds requisitioned and procured under TSP are given below:

Plan	Total outlay in crores	TSP component in crores.
VIth	2950	186.50
VIIth	6000	305
VIIIth	34052.48	1249.26
IXth	83250 (Proposed)	3361

The quantified benefits & targets achieved so far are given below:

#### *Physical Benefits and Achievements under Tribal Subplan till 31.03. 2001*

Sl.No.	Item	Achievement till 31.3.2001
1.	Telephone Exchanges	3763
2.	Switching capacity lines	1264243
3.	Direct exchange lines	961047
4.	Village Public Telephones	40410
5.	Microwave systems (route kms)	13136
6.	Satellite Stations	129

The Department has decided to launch special recruitment drive to clear existing vacancies reserved for SCs/STs in the Department. Further incentives are being provided to accelerate the growth of telecom services in

rural areas where majority of the SC/ST and other poor population is living such as reduction in the registration fee for telephones, more number of free calls and lower rental charges.

#### Department of Posts

Tribal Sub Plan is part and parcel of the respective Annual Plans. Under Eighth Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 8.69 crores was earmarked for Tribal Sub Plan, while under Ninth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 15.53 crores was earmarked towards the Tribal Sub Plan. The targets achieved during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan under various schemes is as follows:

Sl.No.	Scheme/Plan Activity	Target achieved (Anticipated)	
		8th Five Year Plan	9th Five Year Plan
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Branch Offices	514	554
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub Offices	54	54
3.	Installations of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	90	134
4.	Installation of Extended Satellite Money order stations	—	44
5.	Supply of hand stamp cancellors	678	—
6.	Modernisation of Post Offices	17	4
7.	Construction of Post Offices	36	32
8.	Construction of Staff quarters	248	104
9.	Supply of Mail Motor Vehicles	—	11

[*Translation*]

#### Assured Career Progression Scheme

4571. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether long term appointment is treated as approved service under Rule 2 (c) of the Central Secretariat Service Rules;

(b) if so, whether promotee assistants of the Central Secretariat Service have not been promoted to the grade of Section Officers so far despite their rendering 16-18 years of service.

(c) whether promote assistants are not entitled for benefits under Assured Career Progression Scheme;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to give *in-situ* promotion to the said assistants as has been given to the Section Officers and Under Secretary so as to remove stagnation in their grade;

(e) if so, the time by which the said assistants are likely to be promoted; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Assured Career Progression Scheme issued in 1999 provides for two financial upgradations during the service career and the promotee Assistants, who have already earned two promotions, are not eligible for the benefits under this Scheme.

(d) to (f) The Section Officers (SO's) and Under Secretaries of Central Secretariat Service were given *in-situ* upgradation because there had been no promotion

for them after 1986 and 1993 respectively on account of protracted litigation regarding seniority of directly recruited and promotee SOs. In so far as Assistants are concerned, the Select Lists of this grade are being issued at regular intervals and hence, there is no proposal to grant personal upgradation on *in-situ* basis to the Assistants.

### Haj Pilgrimage

4572. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons have gone on Haj pilgrimages in the name of Sadbhavana Yatra; and

(b) if so, the names thereof alongwith the dates on which they undertook this pilgrimage during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No Sir, no persons have gone on Haj Pilgrimages in the name of Sadbhavana Yatra.

However, Govt. of India sends a Haj Goodwill Delegation to Saudi Arabia during Haj period every year. The delegates are important scholars and public personalities of Muslim community of India. Names of members of the delegations in the years, 1999, 2000 and 2001 are given below:

Name of Delegate	Date of Travel
1	2
<b>1999</b>	
1. Prof. A.M. Khuro, Chairman, Finance Commission (Leader)	21.3.1999
2. Shri K.M. Saifullah, MP (Deputy Leader)	21.3.1999
3. Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, MP	21.3.1999
4. Shri Sharq Sharifuddin, MP	21.3.1999
5. Shri Haider Ali Khan	21.3.1999
6. Shri Roshan Baig, Minister, Government of Karnataka	21.3.1999
7. Smt. Zakiya, Minister, Government of Rajasthan	21.3.1999
8. Shri Rashid Dar, Dy. Chairman, Upper House, Jammu & Kashmir	21.3.1999

	1	2
9.	Shri Ghulam Ahmad Shah Peerzada, Minister of Haj & Awqaf, Jammu & Kashmir	21.3.1999
10.	Shri K. Mohammed Ali, MLA	21.3.1999
11.	Shri Chiraguddin Qureshi, Chairman, Delhi Waqf Board	21.3.1999
12.	Shri Mir Ahmed Ali Khan, National President, BJP Minority Morcha	21.3.1999
13.	Prof. Azfar Shamsi, General Secretary, BJP Minority Morcha	21.3.1999
14.	Shri Suhail Ahmed Khan, Member, National Executive, BJP	21.3.1999
15.	Shri Abdul Rashid Kabuli, Convenor, BJP Unit, Jammu & Kashmir	21.3.1999
16.	Dr. C.M. Habibullah, Osmania University	21.3.1999
17.	Sh. Syed Abdul Bari Chisti, Ajmer Sharief	21.3.1999
18.	Shri Ahmed Shakeel	21.3.1999
19.	Shri Mohammad Zahid Ahmed	21.3.1999
20.	Shri S.A. Khaleel Basha	21.3.1999
21.	Shri Syed Yousuf Ali	21.3.1999
22.	Shri Ahmed Shareef	21.3.1999
23.	Shri Shaik Mohamed	21.3.1999
24.	Shri Irfan Ahmed	21.3.1999
25.	Shri Mohammad Mia	21.3.1999
26.	Dr. M. Wali, former Physician to President	21.3.1999
27.	Shri Mudassir Hussain Zubair	21.3.1999
28.	Shri Abdul Salam Khan	21.3.1999
29.	Prof. Sayeed Manal Shah Alqdiri, Chairman, West Bengal Minority Commission	21.3.1999
30.	Member Secretary: Shri QAISER Shamim, I.T. Commissioner	21.3.1999
<b>2000</b>		
1.	Syed Shahnawaz Hussian, Leader	08.3.2000
2.	Abdul Jabbar	08.3.2000

1	2
3. Kamaluddin Ahmed	08.3.2000
4. Akbar Ali Khandekar	08.3.2000
5. Nusrat Ali Khan	08.3.2000
6. Tanvir Ahmed Usmani	08.3.2000
7. Anwar Khan	08.3.2000
8. Prof. Shaikh Ali	08.3.2000
9. E. Ahmed	08.3.2000
10. Mohammed Mahir Azad	08.3.2000
11. Dr. Mohammed Muslim	08.3.2000
12. Sohail Lokhandwala	08.3.2000
13. Gani Bhai Qureshi	08.3.2000
14. Mirza Ansar Baig	08.3.2000
15. Khwaja Iftikar Ahmed	08.3.2000
16. Maulana Qarik Mufti Alhaj Syed Mohammed Noorur	08.3.2000
17. G.R. Sofi	08.3.2000
18. S.M. Khan	08.3.2000
19. L.R. Lashkar	08.3.2000
20. Mohammed Iqbal	08.3.2000
21. M.W. Haque	08.3.2000
22. Qari Mohammed Main Mazhari	08.3.2000
23. Sheikh Manzoor	08.3.2000
24. Ghulam Rasool Kar	08.3.2000
25. Mohammed Mabisa Khan	08.3.2000
26. Mohammed Salahuddin	08.3.2000
27. Mohammed Nasim	08.3.2000
28. Sheikh Dawood	08.3.2000
29. Nure-Alam Chaudhury	08.3.2000
30. Hassan Khan	08.3.2000

2001

1. Dr. Feroz Abdulah, Chief Minister, Jammu & Kashmir—Leader	25.2.2001
2. Smt. M. Fathima Beevi, Governor of Tamil Nadu	25.2.2001

1	2
3. Maulana Mufti Mukkarram, Shahi Imam, Fatehpuri Masjid, Delhi	25.2.2001
4. Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, Delhi	25.2.2001
5. Allama Mohd. Tauseef Raza Khan, Chief Khateeb, Bareilly Sharif	25.2.2001
6. Pir Qabmhir Shah Sehala, Barmer (Rajasthan)	25.2.2001
7. Shri Ramzan Khan, MLA, Byavar (Rajasthan)	25.2.2001
8. Mohd. Obaidhullah, MLA, Bihar	25.2.2001
9. Justice Bilal Nazki, Andhra Pradesh	25.2.2001
10. Dr. Khurshid Anwar, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	25.2.2001
11. Shri Zaheer Mustafa, Lucknow	25.2.2001
12. Shri B.D. Khan Aghai, Vice President, Janta Dal (U), U.P.	25.2.2001
13. Shri Mehmood Fayyaz, Delhi	25.2.2001
14. Shri Nafish Ahmed, Chief of Bureau (Urdu), UNI, Delhi	25.2.2001
15. Shri Ahmed Syed Maliyawadi, Chief Editor, Azad Hind Daily (Urdu), Calcutta, West Bengal	25.2.2001

*[English]***Re-employment to Retired Doctors**

4573. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some retired Professors of AIIMS has been given re-employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Governing Body/Institute Body of AIIMS can act beyond the scope and provisions of AIIMS Act as enacted by the Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Two retired Professors, viz. Dr. N. Kochupillai and Dr. V.K. Dada have been re-employed to the post of Professor in the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism and Dr. Rajendra Prasad for Ophthalmic Sciences respectively. The re-employment of the said Professors were approved by the President, AIIMS and the same has been ratified by the Institute Body. The Institute Body is empowered to appoint faculty members as per the act.

#### **Calculation/Entry of Interest of NSS Deposit**

4574. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that calculation/entry of interest on deposits made in NSS passbooks for the year ending March, 2001 is not made even after a lapse of eight months after the closing the year in Ghaziabad Post Offices Circle;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaint in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government so far; and

(d) the reasons for such delay in action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. There are two Head Post Offices in Ghaziabad Postal Division namely Ghaziabad Head Post Office and Hapur Head Post Office. Entries of interest in NSS pass books in Ghaziabad Head Post Office was completed on 31.5.2001 and in Hapur Head Post Office, the same was completed on 27.6.2001.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

#### **Targets for Opening of New Telephone Exchanges**

4575. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the targets fixed for opening New Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan have slipped due to poor performance of Private Operators and non supply of essential equipment;

(b) if so, the number of Telephone Exchanges proposed for the year 2001-2002 in Rajasthan during the current financial year, district-wise;

(c) whether 20 Telephone Exchanges were planned for Barmer and Jaisalmer district for 2000-2001 but only two Telephone Exchanges were installed/commissioned in these districts bordering Pakistan having vital importance from Defence point of view; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to black list private operators giving poor performance and non supply of essential components?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Targets were slipped due to poor supply of equipments.

(b) 100 New Telephone Exchanges are planned for Rajasthan during 2001-2002. District-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Total 9 New Telephone Exchanges have been opened in 2000-2001, 4 in Barmer and 5 in Jaisalmer district.

(d) Defective equipments received from the suppliers have been rejected. Payments of the suppliers have also been withheld.

#### **Statement**

##### *District-wise Plan for New Exchanges for 2001-2002*

Sl.No.	District	Plan
1	2	3
1.	Ajmer	1
2.	Alwar	4
3.	Banswara	1
4.	Dungarpur	0
5.	Barmer	7
6.	Bharatpur	4
7.	Dholpur	3
8.	Bhilwara	4
9.	Bikaner	4

1	2	3
10.	Bundi	2
11.	Chittorgarh	1
12.	Churu	10
13.	Jaipur	0
14.	Dausa	0
15.	Jaisalmer	4
16.	Jhalawar	4
17.	Jhunjhunu	3
18.	Jodhpur	11
19.	Baran	4
20.	Kota	4
21.	Nagpur	7
22.	Pali	1
23.	Sawai Madhopur	0
24.	Karauli	2
25.	Sikar	5
26.	Jalore	3
27.	Sirohi	0
28.	Hanumangarh	6
29.	Sri Ganganagar	2
30.	Tonk	1
31.	Rajsamand	0
32.	Udaipur	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

[*Translation*]

### Women Component Plan

4576. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had instructed all the Ministries to prepare Women Component Plan for their ministry during the Ninth Plan period in order to improve the condition of women and make them self-dependent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commission had offered to allocate 30 per cent budget separately for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present status of the said Component Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. While inviting the proposals of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) and the Annual Plan (1997-98) from the Central Ministries, Planning Commission requested them to identify a Women Component Plan in their Schemes and Programmes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Fifteen Central Ministries/Departments are providing funds/benefits under Women Component Plan.

[*English*]

### Introduction of New Schemes

4577. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether new introduced schemes including the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, Janshree Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Sarak Yojana etc. have failed due to weak accountability and poor management system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement these schemes properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya

Yojana, Janshree Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana were launched last year. Given that, these schemes have been in operation for only about a year or so, it is too early to assess the success/impact of these programmes.

A comprehensive system of monitoring is being followed by the concerned Ministries/Departments and the States and UTs to ensure proper implementation of these schemes.

[Translation]

#### **Discount on Security**

4578. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Garud per chhoot pane ke liye upbhokta bhatake rahe" appearing in the *Rashtriya Sahara* dated November 14, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the officers of the booking centres were not informed that the amount of security is fifty percent;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the persons found responsible in this regard and the action likely to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As soon as Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) gave permission to reduce security deposit by 50% and monthly rental by Rs. 100 on 'Garuda' Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) service, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Delhi planned to make these new rates effective before the festival of 'Deepawali'. Therefore, an advertisement in the leading newspapers was immediately released so that all our esteemed customers as well as concerned officers and staff are informed about this change quickly.

Some time was taken for information to formally reach all the '31' booking centres in a big city like Delhi. Still, all the booking centres were informed about this change by noon time. It was not possible to send the information to booking centres unless approval of TRAI was obtained.

[English]

#### **PM Meeting with Pak President**

4579. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hold talks with Pak President by our Prime Minister during the SAARC Summit to be held in January 2002; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Prime Minister could meet the Heads of State or Heads of Government from SAARC countries who attend the forthcoming SAARC Summit at Kathmandu.

India has always been committed to establishing a productive dialogue with Pakistan and has continuously taken the initiative in this regard, including the Composite Dialogue established in 1998 and the invitation extended to President Musharraf for summit level talks which was held at Agra this July. The recent attack against the Parliament of India, by elements of a Pakistan based terrorist group actively sponsored by Pakistan's intelligence agencies has, however, once again underscored the fact that Pakistan's approach and attitude towards India remains unchanged. Pakistan must end its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India in order to create an environment for a productive dialogue.

#### **Security Deposit**

4580. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various telecom circles have neither conducted the review of security deposit of STD/PCO holders nor revised the deposit payable with increase in the revenue of the STD/PCO operators, which led to short realization of security deposits amounting to Rs. 4095 crore for the year ended March, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any review of security deposit of STD/PCO holders has been conducted during the year ending March, 2001; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

[*Translation*]

**National AIDS Control Programme**

4581. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether case of AIDS in India is less as compared to that of in African and Western countries;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Technical Advisory Committee of the National AIDS Control Organisation has been dissolved;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the alternative arrangement made by the Government to ensure effective monitoring of the measures to control AIDS in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cumulative number of reported AIDS cases in India is less as compared to that in Africa and Western countries. This is due to early entry of HIV infection in the population of these countries. However, the number of AIDS cases reported in India is underestimated because of inadequate reporting and diagnostic facilities across the country.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. However, in Phase II of National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) Technical resource groups have been constituted in 11 different thematic areas like Targeted Interventions, Legal & ethical, Prevention in Workplace, Concealing, Blood safety & transfusion services, Prevention & Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections, Research & Development, Clinical management and Hospital infection control, Women, Children & AIDS, Intravenous drug use and Epidemiology & HIV testing to ensure effective monitoring of the measures to control AIDS in the country.

[*English*]

**Theft of Post Office Mail**

4582. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "how safe is your office mail" appearing in the *Pioneer* dated November 25, 2001;

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

(c) the number of theft cases noticed by the Government during the last three years alongwith the money involved and recovered by the Government; and

(d) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

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

(b) The police has registered a case at R.K. Puram Police Station against some officials involved in the theft case.

(c) No separate record of the cases of theft of mail is maintained at the headquarters.

(d) Squads have been constituted at the Regional/ Circle level who make surprise checks at vantage points.

**Reservation in P and T Accounts Service**

4583. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs, STs and OBCs has not reached the level of 15%, 7.5% and 27% respectively reserved for them in Indian P&T Accounts & Finance Service (Group A);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of 'sanctioned posts' in the category of Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service (Group A) including those being conferred on Officers on promotion to certain grades by this Ministry;

(d) the number of persons belonging to (i) SC, (ii) ST, (iii) OBC and (iv) General categories working against such posts including their respective percentage to such posts as on 2nd July, 1997 as ascertained as per the instructions contained under para 5 of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997; and



(e) the fresh vacancies/posts occurred during 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 and year-wise number of such vacancies/posts filled by persons from SC, STs OBCs and General categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) In the direct recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission, the representation of SC/ST and OBCs in the Junior Time Scale of the Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service Group 'A' is ensured to the extent of SC-15%, ST-7.5% and OBC-27%, respectively.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) The total number of sanctioned posts in the category of Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service Group A, is as follows:

Senior Administrative Grade	52
Junior Administrative Grade	356

Senior Time Scale	983
Junior Time Scale	318*

\* Out of these 104 are permanent posts.

(d) The O.M. dated 2.7.97 provides post based roster for SC/ST and OBCs for recruitment to the Junior Time Scale of the Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service, and only for SCs/STs on promotion. In this grade against 104 permanent posts the number of persons working (direct recruit and promotee) as on 2.7.97 and as on date are as follows:—

	SC	ST	OBC	General
As on 2.7.97	11	4	10	79
As on date	15	7	16*	66

\* No reservation for OBCs is prescribed for the promotion quota. All 16 are direct recruits.

(e) Details are as under:—

#### Junior Time Scale

	Occurred					No. Filled up					No. of Vacancies				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
SCs	5	1	1	1	—	4	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
STs	3	3	—	—	—	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OBCs	12	4	2	—	—	12	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Genl.	20	7	4	2	—	20	7	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### Implementation of Projects

4584. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the progress of implementation of ongoing projects in Konkan, Western Maharashtra, Marathwada and Vidarbha regions in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of targets (physical and financial) set and achieved during the last two years and current year in general and Vidarbha Region in particular both for urban and rural areas;

(c) the details of special incentives provided to accelerated promotion and growth of telecommunications, in rural and semi-urban areas in the backward region of Vidarbha in Maharashtra; and

(d) the action plan formulated for the current year and next five years for Vidarbha Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, the planning of projects in Maharashtra circle is done SSA-wise. The review of the progress and implementation of the projects is also done accordingly by BSNL. DOT reviews the performance of BNL as a whole.

(b) The physical and financial targets have been achieved during last two years in the region of Konkan, Marathwada, Western Maharashtra and Vidarbha region. Work is in progress for achieving targets this year also in all the regions. The targets and achievement for Vidarbha region are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Telephone facilities are classified as 'urban' and 'rural' and tariff are fixed accordingly. There is no separate category of semi-urban in the backward region under the existing policy. The tariff fixed for urban and concessional tariff for rural areas of the country are applicable to Vidarbha region of Maharashtra also. Following incentive are provided to accelerate the growth of telecom services in rural areas:

- (i) Registration fee reduced to Rs. 500/- in rural areas.
- (ii) Free calls increase to 250 bi-monthly for rural subscribers.
- (iii) Rental charges are reduced for rural subscribers.

(d) Plans are formulated every year based on demand projections and existing waiting list. The action plan for Vidarbha region for the current year is given below:

Sl.No.	Item	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	Switching Capacity (lines)	90759	33568	124227
2.	Direct Exchange lines (lines)	91935	21565	113500
3.	OFC Routes (Kms)	—	—	4817
4.	Microwave Routes (Kms)	—	—	470

#### *Statement*

#### *Targets and Achievements of Vidarbha region*

Vidarbha Region	1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002 (till 30.11.2001)		
	Targets	Achievements		Targets	Achievements		Targets	Achievements	
		Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural
Microwave systems (in RKMs)	778	320.05	524.1	430	91.8	827.65	470	105.8	434.35
OFC systems (in RKMs)	1568	617.4	532.4	2700	285.48	853.12	4817	14.5	252.61
Switching capacity (lines)	71900	51350	51952	133616	60010	43438	124327	170203	12364
Direct Exch. Lines	58500	50647	62173	87600	60812	56017	113500	23888	12122
Funds allocation (amount in Thousands of Rupees)	1019985			1198381			1574072		

**Antibiotic Drug for Anthrax**

4585. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether US is leaning away from antibiotic drug Cipro to the older drug Doxycycline for the treatment of anthrax;

(b) a team of scientists at JNU Bio-tech Division has developed a cure for anthrax; and

(c) the preventive measures India is adopting to ward off any possible anthrax related crisis?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Drugs for Anthrax are mainly antibiotics like Pencillin, Ciproxifloxacin and Doxycycline. Each patient is treated according to the sensitivity of the organism to the anti-biotics.

(b) Centre for biotechnology, Jawaharlal Nehru University has produced Protective Antigen. As per the information received from JNU, the laboratory scale technology has been transferred to Panacea Biotic Ltd. to undertake animal/clinical trials to assess the efficacy/side effects and get all necessary clearances from the Government to produce this vaccine.

(c) The Government has taken following actions in the context of the present international scenario:

1. A detailed list of biological agents used as weapons prepared by the Indian Council of Medical Research along with signs and symptoms, likely method of dissemination, incubation period, lethality and the availability of vaccines, anti-microbial therapy and treatment has been circulated to Health Secretary and Director of Health Services of all States/UTs, and Central Government hospitals advising them to take precautionary steps.
2. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, 22, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-110054, an Institute under Directorate General of Health Services has been designated as the nodal agency for carrying out the tests of suspected Anthrax samples.
3. CD Alert, a monthly Newsletter of National Institute of Communicable Diseases titled "Bioterrorism—Public Health system to Remain Alert" exclusively on Anthrax has been widely

circulated. It has also been put in the Website of MOHFW (<http://mohfw.nic.in>) for information of general public.

4. Do's & Don'ts has already been published in the leading National Dailies regarding Anthrax.
5. A meeting-cum workshop on Biological & Chemical Terrorism was convened by the Department of Health on 29th October, 2001 in New Delhi. The representatives from the States informed the preparatory measures taken by them and assured availability of drugs in adequate quantity to tackle any situation.
6. The situation is being monitored.

[Translation]

**Software Export**

4586. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has made a heavy export of software during preceding years;

(b) if so, the amount of export made during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the percentage of multinational companies participation in the export during the above period; and

(d) the names of the five countries where maximum software have been exported during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amounts of export made during these years are as follows:

Year	Rupees in Crores.
1998-1999	12,500
1999-2000	17,3000
2000-2001	28,350

(c) No separate data is maintained about software export made by multinational companies.

(d) The top five countries where maximum software has been exported during last three years are: (1) USA, (2) UK, (3) Germany, (4) Singapore, (5) Japan.

[*English*]

#### **Leasing of Chancery Premises**

4587. SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has leased a Chancery premises in Houston in December, 1995 in excess of space prescribed for the purpose for a period of ten years;

(b) whether his Ministry has incurred a loss of about three crores by this deal;

(c) if so, the details therefor;

(d) whether any responsibility has since been fixed in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) The Chancery premises of the Consulate General of India, Houston, consisting of 11,353 sq.ft. was leased with effect from December 1995. In November 2000, Director of Audit, Indian Accounts, Embassy of India, Washington, intimated that the Post had leased an area of 4052 sq.ft. in excess of the Ministry on this issue, proposed to include the draft para in the Annual General Report of CAG of India. The Post has responded that premises was rented by them on functional grounds within the rental ceiling local requirements. In the meanwhile, the relevant para on this issue has been included in the Annual Report of the CAG of India for the year ending 31st March 2000-No. 2 of 2001.

#### **Recommendation of Fifth Pay Commission**

4588. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission had recommended three years study leave for doctors in central health service and officers of Indian Economic Service;

(b) if so, whether post graduation degree in medicine require three years mandatory training and a Ph.D. in economics;

(c) whether the administrative departments has recommended the implementation of the pay commission recommendations made in that regard; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement the said recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Post Graduation degree in Medicine requires three years training. Department of Economic Affairs have informed that Ph.D. in economics may require more than three years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In so far as doctors of Central Health Service are concerned, the matter was considered by Department of Personnel and Training in consultation with Department of Expenditure and they have not agreed to enhancement of study leave from existing two years to three years in view of the fact that all Ph. D/Post Graduation course are of a maximum duration of 36 months and combination of leave of other kind due and admissible up to a total period of 36 months, as also that the period is considered to be sufficient for completing courses leading to grant of Ph.D/Post Graduation courses. Regarding officers of Indian Economic Service, Department of Economic Affairs have informed that the matter has been referred to the Department of Personnel and Training.

[*Translation*]

#### **Discretionary Quota**

4589. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Nos. 2605 on December 6, 2000 and 3592 on March 21, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the requisite information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The requisite information has been collected from Ministries/ Departments and is being laid on the Table of the House in the form of Implementation Reports on 19.12.2001.

[English]

#### **Passport to Smuggler**

4590. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an "Israeli smuggler used Indian passport for two years" as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated November 21, 2001;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) A short validity passport was issued to one Rachel Cyprus Ilavia by the RPO, Mumbai on 3.12.1998 on the basis of a Verification Certificate issued by a Joint Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra. A Verification Certificate, *inter alia*, certifies the bonafides of an applicant. The passport was renewed to its full validity of 10 years, in December, 1999, on police report overdue basis.

The Mumbai police sent a report in July, 2000 to the effect that the particulars of the applicants could not be verified. As this was not a sufficient ground for taking action under the provisions of the Passport Act, 1967, the passport was not impounded/revoked. It was only in October, 2001 that the Delhi Police informed the Passport Office, Mumbai that the applicant was an Israeli National and the passport was revoked thereafter.

(c) The matter is under investigation by the Police Authorities.

#### **Funds for Agriculture and Infrastructure**

4591. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more funds for agriculture and infrastructure during the current year;

(b) if so, whether any programme in this regard have been formulated; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to give a boost to agriculture and also other infrastructure activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Central Plan Outlays for 2001-02 for all Ministries/ Departments, including Agriculture and Infrastructure sectors have already been finalised and indicated in the Expenditure Budget-Vol.—I and II, 2001-02. However, the Ministry of Finance has agreed to post-budget additionalities, of over Rs. 3600 crore, in infrastructure sectors including Railways, Urban Development, Power and Surface Transport, with a view to expediting work on identified ongoing projects.

[Translation]

#### **Additional amount for Bihar**

4592. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of additional financial assistance demanded by the Bihar Government during the last four years; and

(b) the details of total amount allocated during the said period, year-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The details of Year-wise and Scheme-wise additional financial assistance demanded by the Bihar Govt. and allocated by the Planning Commission during the last four years are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

(Rs. Crore)

Year	Name of the Scheme	Additional Financial Assistance	
		Demanded by Bihar Govt.	Allocated by Planning Commission
1997-98	No proposal was received.	—	—
1998-99	R.K. Mission, Vidyapeeth, Deoghar	0.11	0.11
1999-00	(i) Computerisation and Connectivity upto District-level	10.00	10.00
	(ii) To conduct survey investigation preparation of project report for Naxal roads and bridges	10.00	1.00
2000-01	(i) Construction of the building of J.D. Women's College, Patna	17.79	0.50
	(ii) Million Shallow Tubewell Scheme	432.96	25.50
	(iii) Major & Medium Irrigation	59.17	24.00
	(iv) Strengthening of infrastructure gaps in Health and Family Welfare services in the Demographically sensitive districts of Madhubani, Kishanganj, Katihar, Buxar and Paschim Champaran	10.00 (for ten Distt.)	5.00

*[English]***Centre for Development of Telematics**

4593. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Development of Telematics (CDoT) is heading for trouble as its mainstay customer Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has been forced to review its procurement policy in the face of continuous slippage's in technology upgradation and new product development;

(b) if so, whether the representatives of these companies are now running scared over a possible reduction in next year's orders from BSNL; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the DoT in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Government is not aware of any scare amongst the companies. However Centre for Development of Telematics (CDoT) has been asked to expedite its technology upgradation programmes and the progress is being monitored closely.

*[Translation]***Kautilya Award Scheme**

4594. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prizes distributed for writing Original books in Hindi in technical subjects during the last two years under Kautilya Prize Scheme of the Planning Commission;

(b) the extent of amount given to each writer; and

(c) the details of the incentives being given by the Government for writing books on Technical subjects in Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) For writing original books in Hindi on technical subjects, under the Kautilya Award Scheme of Planning Commission, following three awards are given on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee to the writers of the books published or the manuscripts written during a calendar year:—

One first prize	Rs.18,000/-
One second prize	Rs. 12,000/-
One third prize	Rs. 8,000/-

For the year 1999, all the above three awards have been given to the writers of the books selected. For the year 2000 also, all three awards have been sanctioned on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee which will be distributed on 26th December, 2001. There are two writers of the book selected for first prize for the year 2000 and, therefore, as per regulation 4 (5) of the Kautilya Award Regulations, 1998, the amount of the first prize has been divided equally between both the writers.

(c) In pursuance of Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Official Language) O.M. No. 11/20034/79-O.L. (A. 2), dt 28th May, 1979, some Ministries/Departments of the Govt. of India have introduced their own schemes for encouraging the original writing of books in Hindi. The rules, prizes, etc. for those schemes are decided by the concerned Ministries/Departments themselves.

[English]

#### **Vacant Reserved Posts for Disabled**

4595. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reserved posts for disabled/physically handicapped persons in the Ministry and Departments under the Ministry, during each of the last three years, post wise;

(b) the number of posts for disabled/physically handicapped persons lying vacant as on October 31, 2001 post wise;

(c) the number of such persons given employment on such posts during the said period, post-wise; and

(d) the time by which all the remaining posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No post was reserved for disabled/physically handicapped persons in the Ministry during the last 3 years. There are no other departments under the control of this Ministry.

(b) None; and

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

#### **Disposal of Ships**

4596. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the technical/viable report, the Shipping Corporation of India has identified to dispose four of its ships;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have delayed the permission resulting Rs. 5.19 crores loss and also a loss of Rs. 72.48 lakhs for re-tender invitation for the disposal of these ships;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(e) the action taken against the officials responsible in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) had identified four ships viz. m.v. Kasturba, m.v. Harikishin, m.v. Veer Savarkar and m.v. Trimbakeshwar for disposal after a techno-economic study.

(c) and (d) As these vessels had not completed their economic life, SCI was required to obtain Government's approval for disposal of these ships. Government approval was accorded after going through the proposals in detail and after examining all the related aspects. There has been some delay in the process. However the same cannot be said to have led to any loss, as SCI could not have finally disposed of the ships without Government's approval.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Misuse of Red Cross Emblem

4597. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Red Cross emblem is being misused by the doctors, hospitals, chemists and ambulances in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P.THAKUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Promotion of Ayurvedic System

4598. SHRI M. CHINNASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the money the Government has spent out of the total budget allocation on various Indian Medicine Systems vis-a-vis Allopathic System during the year 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001;

(b) the steps the Government have taken to promote the Ayurvedic System during the above period; and

(c) the number of B.A.M.S. Doctors produced in the country during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Budget allocation and expenditure in respect of Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy vis-a-vis Department of Health (which deals with allopathic system) for the 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001) is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) In order to popularize Indian Systems of Medicine namely, Ayurveda, Sidda, Unani, Homoeopathy & Yoga & Naturopathy, the Government established an independent Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy in 1995 in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. For promotion of Ayurvedic system Department has provided financial support to Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha, National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, Institute of Post-Graduate Teaching and Research, Jamnagar and Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth, New Delhi. Besides, the Department has implemented a number of important schemes such as upgradation of under-graduate & post-graduate institutes, scheme for development and cultivation of Medicinal Plants, preparation of Agro-technique, Standardization of Drugs, scheme for Extra Mural Research Project, Information Education & Communication, establishment of Medicinal Plants Board and mainstreaming of Ayurvedic system in the delivery of health care services.

(c) The year-wise number of Ayurvedic colleges, admission capacity and the expected BAMS persist is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

#### Statement-I

#### Budget Estimate of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

(Rs. in Crores)

A=Allocation/E=Expenditure/T=Total

	Deptt. of ISM&H						Deptt. of Health					
	Plan		Non-Plan		Total		Plan		Non-Plan		Total	
	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E
1996-97	23.19	22.20	21.00	21.68	44.19	43.88	772.41	665.08	923.80	874.71	1696.27	1539.79
1997-98	35.30	33.04	21.50	33.35	56.80	66.39	897.26	717.04	1043.74	922.64	1941.00	1636.68
1998-99	49.00	50.02	36.60	40.11	85.60	90.13	1122.16	814.34	1239.53	1087.35	2361.59	1901.69
1999-2000	59.13	49.04	41.83	40.79	100.96	89.83	1139.26	941.16	1309.91	1182.56	2449.17	2123.72
2000-2001	100.00	79.46	43.50	43.51	143.50	122.97	1277.86	1120.44	1296.14	1172.05	2574.00	2292.49



**Statement-II**

Sr.No.	Year	Number of Ayurvedic Colleges	Admission capacity/expected BAMS pass outs
1.	1996-97	143	3929
2.	1997-98	147	3775
3.	1998-99	172	5598
4.	1999-2000	185	6324
5.	2000-2001	198	7085
Total		—	26717

**IT Teacher-Student Ratio**

4599. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IT teacher-student ratio at present stand 1:45;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that it should be 1.15 per the AICTE norms;

(c) if so, the current shortage of teacher and likely to increase by year the 2003;

(d) whether any concerted efforts have been made by his Ministry in consultation with the HRD Ministry to meet the gap to teacher-student ratio in the IT sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) As per the norms and standards prescribed by AICTE, the teacher-student ratio for all the technical courses including IT related course is 1:15. While monitoring the maintenance of norms and standards in technical institutions imparting IT related courses in the country, it has been found that there is a paucity of teachers in IT related courses. The estimated shortage of teachers in such disciplines is around 25% and the shortage is mainly at senior faculty level. However, it is difficult to ascertain exact ratio, since availability of teachers in IT is increasing day by day.

(d) and (e) AICTE has taken several steps to reduce the teacher-student ratio in technical institutions, such as:—

- (i) Early Faculty Induction Programme (EFIP) has been started to encourage the fresh graduates to take up teaching profession in technical institutions.
- (ii) Institutions are encouraged to start Post-Graduate Programmes to provide eligible teachers to the technical institutions.
- (iii) Pay scales have been revised for the teachers in technical institutions based on the recommendations of the Vth pay commission to attract and retain the qualified professionals in teaching profession.

**NPA of CHS**

4600. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dhanoa Committee has again granted N.P.A. of CHS Medical Teachers to AIIMS Teachers after the Fourth Central Pay Commission's recommendations were implemented for CHS Medical Teachers; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not granting the same benefit to CHS Medical Teachers after the Fourth Central Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Prior to 1.1.1986 pay scales of medical faculty of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi were inclusive of Non-Practicing Allowance. After the implementation of the 4th Central Pay Commission's recommendations in respect

of CHS Medical Teachers, on the recommendations of the Dhanoa Committee, pay scales of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi were revised with effect from 1.1.1986 and these revised pay scales being exclusive of Non-Practicing Allowance, All India Institute of Medical Sciences medical faculty members were granted Non Practicing Allowance in addition to basic pay.

(b) Non-Practicing Allowance is already admissible to the officers of the Central Health Service.

#### **Regional Imbalance**

4601. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have a total study of the under-development and economical imbalance of the regions of respective States after the completion of Ninth Plan Period;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to accommodate enough plan support to balance those under-developed regions in the real sense of economic re-juvenation to fight out imbalances in the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details of special attention given by the Government to add the six under-developed districts of North Bengal within the State of West Bengal during the Tenth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Planning and development of an area or region within a state and allocation of funds for the purpose are primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Hence, Planning Commission has not identified any area as backward or underdeveloped per se. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in the development of backward areas through weightage in the formula used for the distribution of Central Assistance.

As far as the six under developed districts of North Bengal within the state of West Bengal are concerned, the Planning Commission has approved a research study on "Comparative backwardness of North Bengal Region" to be conducted by Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), New Delhi.

#### **Gender Selection Method**

4602. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have seen the advertisements by an US company for "Genselect" gender selection method for deciding the sex of a child;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to ban such techniques in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An advertisement about availability of a facility for selection of sex of next child was published in New Delhi edition of the Times of India dated 16.11.2001. Publication of an advertisement about any availability of facility for pre-natal determination of sex of next child is an offence under section 22 of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994. Accordingly, the Appropriate Authority of the Union Territory of Delhi has filed a complaint in the Court under the said Act against the Publisher of The Time of India, New Delhi.

[Translation]

#### **Measures to avoid Strike like Situation**

4603. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi High Court in September, 2001 had instructed all the organisations related to All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi to suggest measures to avoid strike like situation in the AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have provided all the suggestions received from different organisations in this regard to the High Court;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the occurrence of strikes in central medical institutions including AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. On 27th August 2001, a Division Bench of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court took suo moto notice of the on-going strike by doctors and employees of AIIMS, New Delhi. Following the directions of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, the Resident Doctors Association and the AIIMS Karamchhari Union reported back for duty on 28th August, 2001. The Honble Court also asked the Government and the other respondents to give suggestions for avoiding such strikes in future. The necessary affidavit has been filed by the Government of India and the AIIMS, New Delhi.

#### **Disfunctional of Ayurveda Research Institutes**

4604. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Ayurvedic Research Institutes in the country have almost become disfunctional;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have collected samples for testing the Ayurvedic medicines manufactured by the reputed pharmaceutical companies;

(d) if so, the report received after this sampling; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha are functioning through its 36 units. The level of performance is not uniform at places. The corrective actions are being taken from time to time. A broad based Scientific Advisory Committee of experts has been set up to oversee the functioning of the units.

(c) to (e) Collection of samples of medicines for testing is responsibility of the concerned State Drug Licensing authorities. The Government has assisted State Drugs Testing Laboratories to expand testing facilities. The States have been specially advised to collect survey and statutory samples and have them tested for quality to take action where warranted.

*[English]*

#### **AIDS Society**

4605. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guidelines for implementation and execution of HIV-AIDS Programme of Health Ministry through NACO and various authorize State Societies;

(b) the buddget is sanctioned directly to NACO and the State Societies;

(c) the present guidelines and status;

(d) the budget sanctioned and implemented during the last three years to NACO and all these societies;

(e) whether there is any evaluation, internal check system exists within the Department, within the Societies regarding implementation of such programme;

(f) if so, details thereof;

(g) details of the societies are just spending such amount on administrative work;

(h) details about the expenditures, money spent by these societies of Mumbai and Maharashtra for furniture and administrative work for last three years;

(i) the work among the societies, NACO and the Department is coordinated; and

(j) the guidelines and system exists?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) National AIDS Control Programme Phase II (NACP II) is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme implemented in all States/UTs with effect from 1st April, 1999 through State AIDS Control Societies. The guidelines for implementation and execution of HIV/AIDS programme are in pursuance to an agreement with the World Bank and guidelines enunciated therein.

(b) and (c) National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) is a dedicated wing of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and budgetary provisions for implementation of NACP-II is kept in the demand for grants for Department of Health. Out of this budgetary provision, NACO releases funds directly to the States/UTs State AIDS Control Societies. This is done in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the agreement with the World Bank.

(d) The budget provisions and expenditure is as follows:

	B.E.	Expenditure
1999-2000	140.00	135.25 crores
2000-2001	145.00	179.64 crores
2001-2002	210.00	138.00 crores.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. For monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the programme at the central and Societies level, several measures have been introduced namely: Behavioral Sentinel Surveillance, HIV sentinel, surveillance, Computerised information system and Concurrent supervisory visits by the officers from NACO and Societies. Financial statements/expenditure of the State/UT AIDS Control Societies are audited each year by Chartered Accountants approved by Government of India.

(g) and (h) State AIDS Control Societies are sanctioned funds based on annual action plans submitted by them and reviewed by NACO. Details of furniture and administrative work by Mumbai and Maharashtra societies:

	Furniture	Administrative work
<i>Maharashtra</i>		
1999-2000	2.82 lacs	82.81 lacs
2000-2001	1.50 lacs	14.06 lacs
2001-2002	—	73.99 lacs
<i>Mumbai</i>		
1999-2000	3.03 lacs	4.39 lacs
2000-2001	3.17 lacs	88.40 lacs
2001-2002	—	108.41 lacs

(i) and (j) Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

#### **Indian Postal System**

4606. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Postal System is entering into financial and commercial sector by adopting modern technology and marketing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether commercial units have been set up to achieve targets through this technology; and

(d) if so, the name of the technology and the manner in which it is likely to be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) The Department of Posts is leveraging its physical and electronic infrastructure to provide value added financial services such as International Money Transfers, Sale of Mutual Funds and Electronic Fund Transfer through the Post Offices. The Department's VSAT Network provides the basic technology to operate these new financial and commercial services.

[*English*]

#### **Exploitation of Radioactive Elements**

4607. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to locate radioactive elements in the country;

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

(c) whether the country's nuclear plants are fed with indigenously excavated/produced radioactive elements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) of the Department of Atomic Energy conducts survey, exploration and evaluation of radioactive elements of Uranium and Thorium in various parts of the country. The uranium resources in the country are located in parts of Jharkhand, Meghalaya, and Andhra Pradesh whereas most of the thorium deposits are located along the coastal places deposits of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and few other Coastal States.

(c) and (d) Presently, there are fourteen nuclear power reactors operating in the country. Out of these, twelve reactors are based on Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) technology and use natural uranium available indigenously. The remaining two reactors are based on Boiling Water (BWR) technology and use imported low enriched uranium.

[Translation]

### **Internet Facility**

4608. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Departments/Ministries of the Central Government have been connected to internet and all the websites are completely secure from hackers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the arrangements made on the websites to receive complaints and suggestions from the public;

(d) whether the entire information of the department are put/kept on websites and are updated and corrected;

(e) if so, whether the information available on the websites are also available in Hindi language;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government to make available information in Hindi;

(h) whether the Government propose to provide E-mail facility to the Government officials;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) All the Central Government Departments have been provided Internet connectivity.

All the Central Government websites are hosted at one place. They are placed in a secure zone, which is protected using the available technologies.

(c) The Web Enabled Complaints Monitoring Systems is in place for most of the departments wherein citizens can send their grievances/suggestions on to the website which is then processed by the respective departments.

(d) to (g) The websites cater to the information needs of the citizen and these do not contain entire information of the department. Information is updated/corrected by concerned Ministries/Departments. As a part of a Minimum Agenda for a e-Governance, all the Central Government Ministries or Departments are to provide Hindi version of website content. Department of Official Language has already issued suitable instructions in this regard.

(h) to (j) E-mail facility is provided to all the Government officials as per the requirement. More than 75000 E-mails have already been provided to the Government offices/Officials across the country.

[English]

### **Requirement of Bandwidth STP**

4609. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of bandwidth requirement of Software Technology Park of India, State-wise with location thereof;

(b) whether any complaint has been received about the constraints felt due to inadequate bandwidth;

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

(d) the steps taken to keep pace with the contemporary development in the field of data communication?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Presently, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) is providing 137.69 Mbps bandwidth from their Centres spread all over the country. The bandwidth available at the STPI centres, State-wise, is given in the statement enclosed. This bandwidth is sufficient to meet the existing requirements of the software industry.

(d) STPI is keeping pace with contemporary developments in the field of data communication to provide the necessary bandwidth in future.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	STPI Centres	States	Bandwidth (Kbps)
1.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa	2752
2.	Bangalore	Karnataka	36224
3.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	6144
4.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	1024
5.	Gandhinagar	Gujarat	10816
6.	Guwahati	Assam	512
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	28544
8.	Mohali	Punjab	1728
9.	Mysore	Karnataka	182
10.	Manipal	Karnataka	768
11.	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	5632
12.	Noida	Uttar Pradesh	34496
13.	Pune	Maharashtra	10240
14.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir	128
15.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	768
16.	Vizag	Andhra Pradesh	1024
		Total (Kbps):	140992
		Total (Mbps):	137.6875

(1 Mbps = 1024 Kbps)

**Latest Infrastructure in Hospitals**

4610. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware that Karnataka Government has decided to equip Medical Colleges and attached hospitals in the State with latest infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether Karnataka State intends to get the financial assistance from external funding agencies at a concessional credit to the tune of 15 million American Dollars; and

(c) if so, the response of the Centre in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received so far from the state of Karnataka.

(c) Does not arise.

**CATS says Hospitals Don't Care**

4611. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "CATS says hospitals don't care" appearing in the *Times of India* Delhi dated November 20, 2001;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make the Centralised Accident and Trauma Services more effective with the cooperation of hospital authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It alleges lack of coordination between the CATS and the hospital authorities under the Government of NCT of Delhi and under utilization of wireless sets. The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that in order to further improve patient care in respect of Trauma/Accident victims, wireless sets were installed in the following hospitals of Government of NCT of Delhi:—

1. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Hospital.
2. Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital.
3. Lok Nayak Hospital.
4. Sushruta Trauma Centre.
5. Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital.

Since the system has been introduced in recent past, it is having teething problems. Government is, however, determined to improve the system and mainly the following steps are proposed to be taken in this regard:—

1. These sets shall be in the main casualty wing of the hospitals and will be attended to either by CMO or a responsible official concerned with the casualty section of the hospital.
2. The hospitals concerned shall provide the list of officers/officials to CATS for further training in the wireless communications.
3. A register shall be maintained by the concerned hospitals to record the receipt of the calls through the wireless sets which shall be checked by an officer of an appropriate level.
4. Medical Superintendent/Deputy Medical Superintendent of the concerned hospitals shall regularly monitor the proper use of wireless sets.

*[Translation]*

#### **Tender for Underground Cables**

4612. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tenders invited for underground cables in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan during the last two years;

(b) whether the cables have been laid at the places for which these cables were purchased;

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

(d) whether some tenders have been rejected; and

(e) if so, the number of tenders rejected alongwith the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 34 tenders were invited for laying underground cables in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan during 1.1.2001 to 1.12.2001.

(b) Cable allocated to Jodhpur Secondary Switching Area (SSA) has been laid in Jodhpur SSA.

(c) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Five tenders were rejected due to abnormally high rates quoted by the tenderers.

#### **Statement**

*Details of places & Cable laid during  
1.1.2000 to 1.12.2001*

S.No.	Name of Station	Total Cable laid in CKM (Conductor Kilo Meter)
1	2	3
1.	Jodhpur City	123355.80
2.	Borunda	3675.08
3.	Pipar City	667.86
4.	Nudsar	1216.22
5.	Bhopal Garh	1706.64
6.	Pipar Road	1118.54
7.	Ramawas	899.65
8.	Khangta	751.90
9.	Ransigaon	2227.42

1	2	3
10.	Buchkalla	1785.64
11.	Khawaspura	1045.98
12.	Khejarla	1048.36
13.	Bala	1324.00
14.	Bhawi	518.10
15.	Khatia Mithapur	1598.44
16.	Kaparda	1426.02
17.	Pilwasni	3181.72
18.	Bilara	6746.12
19.	Bhandu	1760.00
20.	Shiv Gaon	1293.90
21.	Osian	2392.90.
22.	Jud	1159.18
23.	Tinwari	3721.36
24.	Dhawa	970.00
25.	Harlai	277.54
26.	Shergarh	317.80
27.	Boranada	940.00
28.	Jhawar	1100.00
29.	Khedapa	1155.56
30.	Chuba	597.80
31.	Birai	573.40
32.	Chroi	936.42
33.	Kharabera Purothian	1381.78
34.	Mathania	280.00
35.	Guda Bisoni	63.50
36.	Manai	250.00
37.	Setarwa	682.00
38.	Balarwa	2501.80
39.	Soyala	76.38
40.	Balesar	1760.00
41.	Bauri	814.00

1	2	3
42.	Bhikam Kore	111.60
43.	Gangani	495.30
44.	Lohawat	3316.60
45.	Lordia	412.20
46.	Baori Kalla	512.12
47.	Phalodi	11969.16
48.	Agloi	722.96
49.	Sanwra Gaon	40.70
50.	Daijar	1999.92
51.	Bambore	61.40
52.	Salawas	41.10
53.	Sokinkiya Tala	59.70

[English]

**Violation of O.M. by Kendriya Bhandar**

4613. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has abetted MTNL in violating DOP&T OM dated August 14, 1981 by taking part in the tender floated by them for purchase of towels worth Rs. 65 lakhs recently, when Government departments are required to make such purchases from Kendriya Bhandar or the NCCF;

(b) if so, the reasons for violating the said OM;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against officials; and

(d) the reasons for the delay in reviewing the said O.M. and not imposing discipline in the Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) There is no DOPT OM dated 14.08.1981. However, OM



dated 14.07.1981 (as amended) relates to local purchase of stationery and other articles by Central Government Departments etc. from Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF. Ministries/Departments were requested to bring these instructions to the notice of Public Sector undertakings etc. under their control for compliance. MTNL being a public sector undertaking has its own procedures for purchase etc. and accordingly had floated tender. Thus Kendriya Bhandar has not abetted MTNL to violate DOPT OM dated 14.7.1981 (as amended).

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

(d) The OM dated 14.07.1981 (as amended) which has wider implications is being reviewed in consultation with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

[Translation]

#### PCO in Delhi

4614. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCO booths functioning at present in Mayapuri under the MTNL;

(b) the number of PCO booths in which coin machines have been installed;

(c) whether some PCO booths are operating without coin machines; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The details of Public Call Office (PCO) booths working in Mayapuri area are as under:

Type of PCO	Number of PCO
Handicapped PCOs	12
Private PCOs	54
Departmental PCOs	03

(b) Coin Collecting Box (CCB) machines have been installed in 40 PCOs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to non-availability of CCB type instruments earlier, some PCOs were opened by providing push button

telephone instruments. All these PCOs are being replaced with CCB type in phased manner. .

[English]

#### Homoeopathic Medicines by Dentists

4615. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of dentists are using Homoeopathic medicines in their practice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to conduct organized research on the use of Homoeopathic medicines in Dentistry and its development and propagation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) According to Central Council for Research in Homoeopathic (CCRH) many dentists use Homoeopathic medicines for teeth and gum related problems which do not require surgery and a post-extraction treatment for promotion of faster and uneventful healing.

(c) to (e) Central Council for Research in Homoeopathic undertook a study in collaboration with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the years 1976-79 according to which Homoeopathic medicines were found effective in the management of simple post-extraction of the tooth and trigeminal neuralgia.

[Translation]

#### Construction of Telephone Exchange in UP

4616. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone exchanges under construction at various places in Ajamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh as on November 30, 2001;

(b) the date from which construction work on the said telephone exchanges is started;

(c) the date on which the said work was to be completed alongwith the total cost completed at that time; and

(d) the amount spent as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The details of telephone exchanges under construction in Azamgarh and Mau districts of are as under:

Azamgarh District	Tarwan Singhpur Kaptanganj
Mau District	Amila

(b) The details are as under:

Tarwan	15.05.2000
Singhpur	12.11.2000
Kaptanganj	14.04.2001
Amila	10.11.2000

(c) The details are as under:

Tarwan	14.01.2001/Rs. 15.66 lacs
Singhpur	12.11.2001/Rs. 20.09 lacs
Kaptanganj	13.04.2002/Rs. 28.46 lacs
Amila	09.09.2001/Rs. 24.63 lacs

(d) The amounts spent upto 30.11.2001 are as under:

Tarwan	Rs. 8.6 lacs
Singhpur	Rs. 18.8 lacs
Kaptanganj	Rs. 14.9 lacs
Amila	Rs. 19.5 lacs

[English]

#### Telecom Commission

4617. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether abolition of Telecom Commission is under consideration in view of the de-regulation in Telecommunication; and

(b) if not, the role of the commission in the present situation?

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

(b) The Telecom Commission was set up, inter-alia to promote rapid development in all aspects of telecommunications, including technology, and it is continuing to discharge these functions.

#### Fast Breeder Reactor

4618. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposal to install a "Fast Breeder Reactor" of 500 MW at the existing plant at Kalpakkam for the second phase of India's nuclear power programme;

(b) if so, whether the cost of this reactor would be approximately 2600 crores of rupees;

(c) if so, whether the cost is comparatively very high;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to reduce the cost of this 500 MW reactor;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of measures proposed by the AEC to ensure that nuclear power is produced at cheap rates and efficiently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have a proposal to install a Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) of 500 MWe capacity at Kalpakkam, as the second stage of India's Nuclear Power Programme.

(b) The cost of this reactor would be around Rs. 2800 crore, as per current estimates.

(c) No, Sir, it is not very high. In fact, it is comparable to the cost of nuclear power plants under construction in the country.

(d) to (f) In the design of PFBR, all efforts have already been made to reduce its cost considerably without compromising safety, by decreasing the number of components, adopting compact plant layout and increase in fuel burn-up. Efforts are being made to construct more reactors at a given project site, where the infrastructure facilities already exist, so that the cost could be further reduced.

#### **Reconstruction of Afghanistan**

4619. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide about 3 billion dollars for the reconstruction of Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the strategies finalized in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As part of its commitment to provide humanitarian assistance and to contribute to the reconstruction and rehabilitation in post conflict Afghanistan, Government has taken several concrete actions. On 21st November 2001, a team of doctors and paramedics, along with a consignment of medicines, was sent to Afghanistan to revive our cooperation with the Indira Gandhi hospital in Kabul. Additional doctors and paramedics, with another consignment of medicines, were sent on 12th December 2001. The Government has also pledged to provide one million tonnes of wheat for internally and externally displaced Afghans, and those in need. We have also declared our intention to provide a line of credit of US\$ 100 million to Afghanistan for reconstruction and rehabilitation, once the situation in Afghanistan has stabilized.

#### **High Prices of Consumer Items In Kendriya Bhandar**

4620. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumer items available in Kendriya Bhandar particularly in Sector 3, R.K. Puram, are substandard and the prices thereof are higher as compared to the other branches of Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints in this regard during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the quality of consumer items and also ensure equal prices in all these branches of Kendriya Bhandar respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government is not aware of any complaints about individual outlets of Kendriya Bhandar. Since this is part of the day-to-day functioning of Kendriya Bhandar, the Government would not normally intervene in such matters.

(d) Following steps have been taken by Kendriya Bhandar to improve the quality of goods etc:—

- Generally consumer items of reputed brand or the brand demand by the customers are purchased.
- Sample of all the goods are subjected to test in lab before distribution in the stores to ensure quality of goods.
- Random samples are also picked up from the shelf of the stores for lab testing.
- Pre-paid suggestion cards have been provided in all the stores for complaints/suggestions by the customers for corrective action.
- surprise visits are also made by officers of the society to check malpractice, if any.
- Goods are sold in stores through code number and the cash receipts are issued to, customers through electronic cash machine.
- Prices of goods are displayed on the notice board.
- Prices of goods are also printed in the print media on weekly basis.

#### **Stock Exchange**

4621. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL has got itself listed on the New York Stock Exchange recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits of such activity on the New York Stock Exchange for MTNL;

(d) whether all options and potential embarrassments to the country have been considered; and

(e) if so, the details of safeguards taken to ensure that speculators do not play with MTNL stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Mahanagr Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has been officially listed on the New York State Exchange (NYSE) on 8th November, 2001.

(b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has been listed on a foreign stock exchange since December, 1997. The present transaction has, merely, been a de-listing from the London Stock Exchange where the Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) were previously listed, to listing on the New York Stock exchange.

(c) The benefit to list on New York Stock Exchange is increased liquidity/wider exposure of the MTNL Stock, and for future fund-raising activity. Whereas the GDR can be traded only on the London Stock Exchange, the American Depository Receipts (ADRs) can be traded on the NYSE as well as the London Stock Exchange.

(d) the best Option has been considered and no embarrassment to the country is expected.

(e) the stock exchange regulators and the Securities Exchange Commission of USA provide the necessary safeguards, for similar stocks.

#### **C-DoT Project**

4622. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh had allocated about 30.00 acres of land to telecom department for establishing Research Units of C-DoT in 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has decided to utilize this land for training centre instead of research centre;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to Union Government to either establish research center or refund the land to Andhra Pradesh for some other purposes like Computer Courses; and

(f) if so, the decision taken or being taken by the Union Government to establish research centre of C-DoT on this land?

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

(b) TRC society had purchased 30 Acres of land at Gachilowli, Hyderabad from Andhra Pradesh Government by paying an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs on 31st March, 1989. The land got transferred to C-DoT IN 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) No decision has been taken by the Government to establish Research Centre of C-DoT on this land.

#### **Breach of Canal**

4623. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has conveyed its concern to the Nepal over the frequent breaching of the Gandak canal by Nepali citizens and assault on a Kosi Project employee by the Royal Army of Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Nepal thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Instances of breach of the Gandak canal were brought to the notice of the Government of India in July, 2001. The concerns of the Government of India were conveyed to His Majesty's Government of Nepal. His Majesty's Government of Nepal has since informed that the concerned authorities in Nepal had been instructed to ensure necessary security in this regard.

#### **Probe of Funding to Terrorist Groups**

4624. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigation has set up a team to work with E.D., I.B., D.R.I. and I.T. Departments to probe funding of all terrorist groups operating in the country and their links with other international terrorist groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide Legislative power to this team to keep a tab on various suspicious accounts of terrorists groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) No such team has been set-up. However, for investigation of three cases registered against Hurriyat Leaders under FCRA, 1976, Central Bureau of Investigation held meetings with officers of Intelligence Bureau, Research and Analysis Wing, Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Enforcement Directorate, for exchange of information on foreign contribution.

[Translation]

#### Production-Linked Bonus

4625. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new scheme to provide productivity linked bonus to the employees of Ports is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be cleared;

(d) the details of the bonus to be provided to employees of Ports and Docks under the aforesaid scheme;

(e) whether the above scheme would also be implemented in all the main and the small ports; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No new scheme no Productivity Linked Bonus is

pending with the Government at present. The employees of the Major Ports and Dock Labour Boards have been paid Productivity Linked Reward according to a settlement signed on 8.2.1996 between the Indian Ports Association (IPA), representing the major Ports management, and the major Federations of Port and Dock Workers. The IPA has formulated a new scheme on Productivity Linked Reward and they are yet to finalise it in consultation with the major Federations of Port and Dock Workers.

(e) and (f) Any Productivity Linked Reward scheme made by the Central Government would be applicable only to the Major Ports and Dock Labour Boards and not to the non-major ports which come under the purview of the respective State Governments.

[English]

#### Asprin for Heart Patients

4626. SHRI RAJESH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Disprin gets a make-over" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 29, 2001 as also to a public notice captioned "For Public Information" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated September 7, 2001;

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

(c) the time by which a low dose Aspirin would be available in the market for the Heart Patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) M/s. Reckitt Benckiser (India) Ltd. through the *Hindustan Times* dated Sept. 7th 2001 had drawn attention of the general public that in order to meet the growing demand for low dose Aspirin, the firm is scheduled to launch another 100 mg Aspiring brand as a prescription drug for heart ailments.

(c) The firm has clarified that low dose Aspirin under another brand name Disprin CV under low dose cardiac segment has been postponed, however colsprin 100 (a low dose Aspirin which was launched since 1994) would continue to be marketed as a prescription drug for heart ailments for which stocks are freely available.

#### Long Distance Services by Bharti Telecom

4627. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharti Telecom has started providing long distance services without having any license;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the circumstances under which the BSNL and MTNL have failed to take legal action against Bharti Telecom; and

(d) the action taken against the accused officials as well as Bharti Telecom in this regard?

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

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

#### **Tenders for Supply of Towels**

4628. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar had not participated in the tender invited by IDTC for the supply of towels, bed sheets etc. in their hotels;

(b) if so, the reasons for the Bhandar to participate in the tender floated by MTNL, New Delhi for the supply of towels;

(c) whether the Bhandar did not purchase the towels from the Banda Textile Mill Sholapur which authorised it as their authorised distributor but purchased the towels from a supplier;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) the criteria adopted in the selection of the said supplier and were the supplier of Bombay Dyeing supplying towels in Kendriya Bhandar taken into confidence and if not, the reasons thereof;

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government into this matter;

(g) whether there is any proposal to order a CBI inquiry in this regard; and

(h) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES

AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Kendriya Bhandar did not participate in the tender invited by ITDC as it was not aware about their tender notice.

(b) Kendriya Bhandar participated in the tender floated by MTNL since advertised tender enquiry published in Newspaper came to the notice of Kendriya Bhandar.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Bhandar submitted the authorisation letter from M/s Banda Textiles, Sholapur through registered supplier along with quotation to MTNL tender to fulfil the requirement of terms of tender enquiry. However, physical supply of towels was obtained from M/s. AIM Traders, New Delhi, who are the registered suppliers as this was more convenient.

(e) Four registered suppliers of Kendriya Bhandar were asked to submit their willingness to jointly participate in open/advertised tender floated by MTNL. Only one supplier M/s AIM Traders gave his willingness to participate in open/advertised tender floated by MTNL. Other three suppliers, including supplier of Bombay Dyeing; did not give their willingness.

(f) to (h) As there is no *prima facie* irregularity in the supply of towels to MTNL by Kendriya Bhandar, the question of any inquiry in the matter does not arise.

#### **SC/ST/OBC**

4629. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Departments/Sub-ordinate & Attached Office, Public Sector and Autonomous Organizations/Corporations under the Ministry of Information Technology are not nominating Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs are required under MHA OM No. 16/17/67-Est (C) dated 10.4.1968 (DOPT OM No. 36022/5/67 dated 27.5.1976) for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matters of reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor, alongwith the names of such offices/Organisations?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) All Attached/Subordinate Offices, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Societies under Ministry of Information Technology have nominated Liaison

Officers of SC/ST/OBC except two Autonomous Societies viz. C-MET & CLCR where action has already been initiated for nomination of such officers.

**Project by ICMR**

4630. SHRI SURESH KURUP:  
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has failed to complete a project of immense relevance to national security even after more than 2 decades;

(b) if so, whether the project conceived in June, 1997 and after an expenditure of about 13 crores is still complete; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) There has been tremendous technological advances in setting up bio-safety laboratories, since the original plan of Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) was conceptualized by ICMR in 1977. Bio-safety level 1 and 2 safeguards are already available in National Institute of Virology, Pune to protect the workers from Laboratory infections. It is now proposed to set up a state of art BSL-3 Laboratory in the Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) of NIV, Pune for handling viruses belonging to P 3 and P 4 categories and the Laboratory is likely to be ready approximately in 18 months.

*[Translation]*

**International Services by Private Companies**

4631. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:  
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:  
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission to the private telephone companies to start international services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date from which this service is likely to be started; and

(c) its likely effect on the consumers and the public sector companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Government has accepted the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in respect of opening of International Long Distance Service to private sector from 1st April, 2002. So far, no licence has been granted to any private company. The salient features of the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, which were sought in accordance with the provisions of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 for grant of licence for International Long Distance Service, are enclosed as statement.

(c) Introductions of competition in international voice traffic is expected to enable the public sector to provide more efficient and better quality of service at more affordable rates to the subscriber.

**Statement**

*Salient features of recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for grant of licence for International Long Distance.*

- \* Unrestricted entry.
- \* All bearer services to be provided by the Licensee.
- \* Entry fee of Rs. 25 crores.
- \* Net worth of applicant company: Rs. 25 crores.
- \* Performance Bank guarantee of Rs. 25 crores.
- \* Annual Licence fee 15% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).
- \* Licence period of 20 years.
- \* Roll out obligations:
  - A minimum of four Points of Presence (POPs) i.e. one in each Region of the country i.e. Eastern, Western, Northern & Southern will need to be established within three years of signing the licence agreement.
  - Delivery of traffic to all the countries in the World to be ensured through atleast four Direct Routes i.e. one each to North America, Gulf Region, Europe and any one location in South East Asia, Far East and Oceania within three years of signing the licence agreement.

- \* Interconnection of International Long Distance (ILD) network; Access provider may be allowed to interconnect with the International Long Distance Operator (ILDO) directly in situations where ILD Gateway switches and that of Access Provider's (GMSC/Transit Switch) are located at the same station.
- \* Two types of Quality of Service (QoS) are permitted.

1995-2000 in telecom factories at Jabalpur and Mumbai;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether scrapped material and screened out machines worth Rs. 3.79 crore were lying for disposal at Jabalpur factory for last several years as on March 31, 2000 and surplus raw material and plant/machinery worth Rs. 1.30 crore at Mumbai telephone factory;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was a shortfall in production of some items due to reasons indicated below:

[English]

#### Telecom Factories

4632. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a shortfall in the production of number of items ranging upto hundred percent during

#### Telecom Factory Jabalpur:

Item	Percentage of shortfall					Reasons for shortfall
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-200	
Bracket channel Iron	Nil	Nil	7	10	18	Less Requisitions from field units.
Microwave Towers	30	45	60	29	46	Less Requisitions from field units.
SS Mast	25	71	83	15	Nil	It was a new item and its demand was fluctuating.
LJU	99	1	Nil	Nil	19	It was a totally new item for the Hardware Factory.
Support Bracket	Nil	89	64	34	31	It was a new item. Production level increased continuously.

#### Telecom Factory Mumbai:

CD Cabinet	15	24	15	Nil	Nil	Less Requisitions from field units.
Modems	Nil	20	85	82	Nil	Less Requisitions from field units.
Coin Box Telephone	Nil	80	73	47	Nil	Feedback from the field indicated some modifications in the model hence production was restricted.
LJU	34	50	Nil	46	Nil	Due to mid term change in specifications



(c) Yes, there is scrap worth Rs. 3.79 crores lying for disposal at Telecom Factory Jabalpur but more than 80% of this scrap was generated in the year 1999-2000. There is scrap worth Rs. 1.3 crores lying at Telecom Factory, Mumbai. Since 1998-99, Telecom Factory, Mumbai has disposed scrap worth Rs. 2.5 crores.

(d) Disposal of scrap material & machines is a continuous & time consuming process. Although scrap was offered for disposal periodically but it remained unsold due to reasons like low price received in the tender/auction etc.

(e) In order to expedite the disposal of scrapped material and screened out machines an agreement has been entered with Metal Scraps Trading Corporation (MSTC), a PSU, who are having professional expertise in disposal/sale of scraps.

#### **Unproductive Expenditure**

4633. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the year 1999-2000, the loss/overpayment/short recovery/other recoveries and ideal/unproductive expenditure amounted to Rs. 263.89 crore out of financial implication of Rs. 987.38 and Rs. 201.29 crore out of Rs. 232.57 crore in the Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts respectively;

(b) if so, the corresponding figures for 2000-01 for both the Department separately;

(c) the reasons for such a heavy loss; and

(d) the Government's plan to curb such unproductive expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) These were the figures pointed out by the CAG in his report for 1999-2000.

(b) The CAG's Report for the year ended 31st March, 2001 is not yet available.

(c) Some of the major reasons as pointed out by CAG in its report for such a loss in Department of Telecommunications are non-recovery of dues from MTNL, expenditure on use of armoured cable, procurement of digital microwave terminals, 8-megabit optical line equipments and HDPE pipes and in case of Department

of Posts are non installation of Multi Purpose counter Machines, short realization and non-recovery of revenue/pension payments.

(d) From time to time Government has been reviewing the systems and procedures for streamlining the same to avoid such unproductive expenditure.

#### **Issuance of Passport to Persons of Dubious Credentials**

4634. SHRIMATI SANDHYA BAURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Interpol is seeking to verify particulars of passports issued from Lucknow passport office to some persons of dubious credentials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Irregularities in Medical Entrance Examination**

4635. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities in the recent Medical entrance examination conducted by CBSE and Universities particularly by the Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that leakage of CBSE questions paper at Meerut and the Bharati Vidyapeeth have issued another roll numbers to some candidates and demanded against examination fee for the said examination;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have inquired into the matter and if so, the outcome thereof and the action thereon; and

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to control and ensure fair conduct of such examination in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Definition of Indian Goddess**

4636. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goddess Lakshmi in a museum in Australia has been defined in objectionable terms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Recently, it came to the notice of the Government of India that in the Gold Museum in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, there were captions describing Goddess Lakshmi which were objectionable.

(b) In the Simon Pavilion of the Gold Museum, on a panel on old Indian coins, adjectives such as 'sensuous' and 'seductive' were used while describing Goddess Lakshmi.

(c) Our High Commission in Canberra did take up the matter with the Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives, Hon'ble Neil Andrew MP and with the Sovereign Hill Museums Association (the Gold Museum is an entity within the Association). The Museum authorities have now confirmed to our High Commission that the panel, where the objectionable descriptions appeared, was removed about a month ago and is not on public display any longer.

#### **Border Dispute with Bangladesh**

4637. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry have taken any concrete steps to resolve the border dispute with Bangladesh;

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

(c) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs has been unable to fence the Bangladesh border; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of India is keen on an early settlement of all boundary-related matters with Bangladesh in accordance with the terms of the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974. The Governments have agreed to constitute Joint Boundary Working Groups to address all pending matters. The first meeting of the India-Bangladesh Joint Boundary Working Groups on Border Demarcation, and on Enclaves and Adversely Possessed Territories was held in Dhaka from July 2-4, 2001. In the meeting both sides presented their respective positions on these matters in order to facilitate a clear understanding of each others' points of view and to address the issues in a pragmatic and time-bound manner.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken a decision to fence the India-Bangladesh border. The length of the India-Bangladesh border fenced is 854 km and the balance 2432.8 km is scheduled to be fenced by 2006-2007.

*[Translation]*

#### **PGIMER Chandigarh**

4638. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether PGIMER Chandigarh has filed any case against any employee for their misconduct, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any court had instructed the PGIMER administration to stop unconstitutional action against the employees of the institution;

(d) if so, whether the PGIMER administration has complied with these instructions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The list of cases filed by PGIMER, Chandigarh during the last three years, i.e. from the year 1999 to 2001 against its employees for their misconduct is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name & Designation of the Employee	Nature of misconduct	FIR No & Date of filling the case
1.	Shri Ashok Kumar, Safaiwala	He misbehaved with his Incharge, Shri Basant Kumar, Sanitary Inspector	107/151 Cr. P.C., Police Station Sector 11, Chandigarh on 2.5.2000
2.	Shri Tilak Raj, Clerk	Consumed alcohol during duty hours and misbehaved and also assaulted the Hostel Manager as well as other employees of the Branch.	436 under Section-323, 332, 353 and 506 IPC, Police Station Sector 11, Chandigarh on 5.11.2001

*[English]***Report of View**

4639. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report of Vision Improvement Experts Working Council (VIEW), that a large number of students/people are suffering from weak vision;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Assistance of World Health Organisation**

4640. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the Health Projects/Schemes being run with the assistance of World Health Organisation and other foreign countries in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such Projects/Schemes, State-wise;

(c) the actual amount received and spent on each Projects/Schemes;

(d) the contribution of Central and State Governments towards implementation of these Projects/Schemes;

(e) whether most of these Projects/Schemes are running late;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

**Wireless Planning and Coordination Licence Fee**

4641. DR. V. SAROJA:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cellular licences have not been paying wireless planning and coordination royalty and licence fee;

(b) if so, the total dues as on date; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to recover the said dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, some of the Cellular Licencees have not made full payments against the royalty and licence fee dues for wireless frequency usage. Against the 41 licences, in 20 cases full payments have been received and in the remaining cases part payments have been received. Out of total dues of (approx.) Rs. 511 crores, the outstanding dues at present are (approx.) Rs. 183.36 crores.

(c) The Government has taken a serious view of default in payments and sent notices to the operators to clear all the outstanding dues. However, the operators filed a petition before the TDSAT (Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal) and the matter is presently subjudice.

#### **Population Control**

4642. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to supply of sub-standard contraceptives to States, particularly to Uttar Pradesh the State Governments are unable to achieve the target set for population control under the family welfare programme;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure population effective check on population in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. The supplies of contraceptives are made to the states on the basis of norms which prescribe that at the time of inspection, the stocks offered for inspection should not have crossed more than 1/6th of the total life and should have a total shelf life not less than 4 years (48 months) from the date of manufacture.

In addition, the contraceptives being supplied are meticulously tested first at the manufacturer's end and thereafter at designated laboratories authorized by the

Government. A network of Regional Directors at field level are authorized to conduct field tests (also known as Stage-II test) of supplies on a random basis.

The States are fully authorized to return the stocks if these are found sub-standard or of short expiry within a month of such instances coming to their notice. In such cases, the entire batch of the said contraceptive is to be replaced by the manufacturers/suppliers at their cost.

Since first April 1996, the Family Welfare Programme is being implemented all over India on the basis of Target Free Approach. The demand of the community for quality services is the driving force behind the programme making it a people's programme. This approach is now called the Community Needs Assessment Approach (CNAA). There are no targets fixed for States including Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India has already adopted a comprehensive National Population Policy, 2000 that has brought in an integrated approach to the provisioning of reproductive and child health care. The birth rate in Uttar Pradesh and elsewhere is already declining. The steps taken to bring down birth rate are:—

- i. An integrated and comprehensive programme of Reproductive and Child Health, which includes Maternal Health, Child Health and Contraception.
- ii. Publicity of fertility regulation methods, which include sterilization both for male and female, spacing methods namely, IUD inceptions, oral pills and condoms.
- iii. Fulfillment of unbent needs for quality reproductive health services through provision of integrated services delivery at village levels.
- iv. Popularising No Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV), which is considered safe, simple and painless procedure of vasectomy, so as to ensure male participation.
- v. Creating awareness about the benefits of small family through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Programmes.
- vi. Provision of additional inputs in weaker States/districts, to strengthen the primary health care infrastructure.
- vii. Inclusion of diverse health care providers.

- viii. Community based social marketing of contraceptives.
- ix. Giving focussed attention to eight demographically weak States namely, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgrh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa by creating an Empowered Action Group in the Department of Family Welfare to monitor and implement Health & Family Welfare Programmes in these States.

#### **Vidya Vahini**

4643. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a scheme known as 'Vidya Vahini' to provide information technological training in 60 thousand schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the States have been consulted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Information Technology is in the process of developing a project—Vidya Vahini Network for setting up computer labs and providing Internet connectivity of 64/128 Kbps to the Government funded schools in the country. The project is envisaged to be implemented in two phases. In the first phase, it is proposed to set up labs and provide internet connectivity to 60,000 Government funded Senior Secondary Schools. The rest of the schools are proposed to be covered in the second phase. The project also envisaged Teacher Empowerment Programme through training of teachers in use of computers, effective teaching techniques, creating lessons, building teaching tools and usage of technology in the classroom. The project would be implemented in association with the State Governments.

#### **Missile Shield**

4644. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russian President has cleared a proposal to build a missile shield for India as reported in the *Indian Express* dated October 29, 2001;

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

(c) the way it is likely to help India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Cellular Phone Operators over charged from Subscribers**

4645. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cellular phone operators have over charged from the subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has issued orders to the cellular phone operators to refund the excess money charged from the subscribers; and

(d) if so, the number of subscribers to whom excess charged money has been refunded alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, effective from 1st August, 1999, the basis of licence fee for Cellular Operators was changed from fixed licence fee to a licence fee as a percentage of revenue. While giving its ruling in the case relating to the introduction of Calling Party Pays, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi had observed in its judgement dated 17.1.2000 the since consequent to change in licence fee regime there was a reduction in the total amount of licence fee payable by cellular service providers to the Government, TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) would ensure passing on of this benefit to the consumers.

(c) Following the observation of Delhi High Court, TRAI notified on 25th January, 2001 the Telecommunication Tariff (12th Amendment) Order requiring the cellular operators to make the refunds mentioned above; BSNL does not have the powers to issue such orders.

(d) The details as per the information provided by TRAI are given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Details about number of cellular subscribers and amount of refund for excess charges for the period August, 1999 to July, 2001*

Sl. No.	Name of Licensee Company	Service Area	Maximum number of subscribers due for refund in any one month during the said period.	Total refund amount involved. (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Delhi	161230	201080504.00
2.	Sterling Cellular Ltd.	Delhi	95775	131234130.03
3.	BPL Mobile Communication	Mumbai	36741	36502488.40
4.	Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd.	Mumbai	168554	65668639.00
5.	Spice Cell Ltd.	Calcutta	11626	12757455.00
6.	Usha Martin Telecom Ltd.	Calcutta	2717	2914623.00
7.	RPG Cellular Services Ltd.	Chennai	6640	3430412.00
8.	Skycell Communications (P) Ltd.	Chennai	2310	1468178.00
9.	Aircell Digilink India Ltd.	U.P. (East)	0	0
10.	FASCEL Ltd.	Gujarat	23	2036.98
11.	Hexacom India	Rajasthan	0	0
12.	Bharti Mobiles Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	35	21161.28
13.	Bharti Mobiles Ltd.	Karnataka	153	114789.56
14.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	UP (East)	0	0
15.	Tata Cellular Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	2	1255.00
16.	Escotel Mobile Communications Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	2	2676.77
17.	Escotel Mobile Communications Pvt. Ltd.	UP (West)	0	0
18.	Escotel Mobile Communications Pvt. Ltd.	Kerala	92	8913.00
19.	BPL Cellular Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	3312	645294.00
20.	BPL Cellular Ltd.	Kerala	29	7296.00
21.	BPL Cellular Ltd.	Maharashtra	2886	5299603.00
22.	Bharati Telenet Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	18	50390.00
23.	RPG Cellcom Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0
24.	Birla AT&T Communications Ltd.	Gujarat	20273	2624720.00

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Birla AT&T Communications Ltd.	Maharashtra	44057	10707434.00
26.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	6	2761.89
27.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	West Bengal	1874	997347.55
28.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Assam	3140	695034.69
29.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Bihar	169	38247.01
30.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
31.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	North East	26	4376.73
32.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Orissa	71	17713.29
33.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Karnataka	136	214718.93
34.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Punjab	32731	4243184.00
35.	Aircel Limited	Tamil Nadu	26	15635.00

[English]

#### Trial Report on Net-N

#### Indo-Pak Co-operation

4646. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Government has banned any assistance or cooperation between Pakistani and Indian educational, Professional and Research Institutions with immediate effect;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India has also taken likewise decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) There have been some reports in the Pakistani press, indicating that the Government of Pakistan has instructed Pakistani educational, professional and research institutions to end any links they may have with Indian institutions. As per available information, the Government of Pakistan has not issued any formal public statement in this regard. It is well known that Pakistan's establishment, as part of its negative and hostile policies towards India, seeks to impede people to people contacts between India and Pakistan.

4647. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:  
SHRI P. MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any international trial reports on Net-N;

(b) if so, action strategy of Government if any serious side effects are reported in any case;

(c) whether the long acting injectable contraceptives are not recommended in any Medical text books as a standard procedure, till date;

(d) if so, the Government contemplating/thinking it to introduce as such;

(e) whether there is any report of this drugs on non-human experiments;

(f) the Pharmaceutical companies or commercial institutions behind such trial programmes;

(g) whether in early 80's the phase 3 trial of ICMR was discontinued due to serious side effects; and

(h) if so, details of the rational instituting such trial again?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. The NET EN is an injectable contraceptive containing 200 mg./ml. of Norethendrone Enathane. Review of all available national and international literature in both developed and developing countries on pre-clinical and clinical experiences of use of a particular drug/device is done before a clinical trial with the drug is conducted in the country.

NET EN 200 mg two monthly injectable contraceptive is registered in over 60 countries; available in both public and private sector and there are more than 1 million women using this contraceptive.

(b) No serious side effects have been reported with the use of NET EN 200 mg two monthly injectable contraceptive in studies conducted in India or globally. The commonest side effects in the form of menstrual abnormalities including amenorrhoea, are transient in nature and disappear after the treatment is discontinued. This contraceptive is available through the private sector in the country where women desiring of using this method can obtain it on the prescription of qualified medical doctor (Gynaecologist).

(c) Long acting injectable contraceptives are included in the list of available options for contraceptives in the standard Medical text books.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Based on animal studies, the Toxicology review panel of WHO has recommended that current and planned studies of NET-EN could continue and that it could be introduced into Family Planning Programmes.

(f) The injectables in the clinical trials carried out by the ICMR were provided by the Special Programme for Research in Human Reproduction, World Health Organization, Geneva. The drug is being marketed by M/s German Remedies in India.

(g) No sir, the ICMR phase III trial was not discontinued due to serious side effects. NET EN was evaluated for its efficacy as a two monthly or three monthly injectable contraceptive and NET EN was found to be efficacious as a two monthly injectable contraceptive.

(h) Not applicable. The present study to be conducted by the Institute of Research and Reproduction, Mumbai, an ICMR research Institute is aimed to assess the demand/acceptability and logistical requirements for NET EN 200 mg two monthly injectable contraceptive under programme condition.

### **AIDS Drug Immunoforte**

4648. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that Dr. Kaushal Jain, Homoeopath from Vadodara (Gujarat) had invented a drug-Immunoforte on AIDS who requested the State Government for financial assistance for carrying out the trials, but all the vain, ultimately a pharmaceutical company-Zenufa Laboratories based in an African Country, has decided to carry out clinical tests of the drug and given Dr. Jain a green signal to peruse his venture; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to encourage and develop the talents of our local people in the ventures under various fields especially medicines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### **Non-Representation of Indians**

4649. SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian settlers in Fiji have not been given representation in the Country's new Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to see that interests of the Indian settlers are safeguarded there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) General elections were held in Fiji under the 1997 Constitution from 25 August to 1 September 2001. The Fiji Labour Party, led by Mr. Mahendra Chaudhry, which represents the majority of Fijians of Indian origin, emerged as the second largest party in the House of Representatives. The Constitution of Fiji stipulates the formation of a multi-party Government with the representation of all political parties with at least 10% of the seats in the House of Representatives. In apparent disregard of its constitutional provision, Mr. Laisenia Qarase, the new Prime Minister and leader of the largest party, SDL, in the House of Representatives, did not include the Fiji Labour Party in the new



Government. The Fiji Labour Party has taken the matter to the court in Fiji. The ruling of the court is awaited.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have been in touch with the international community regarding the situation in Fiji, and have emphasized the urgent need for a constitutional Government in which the political and economic rights of all citizens of Fiji are safeguarded. India has maintained that until such time that a constitutional Government is in place, Fiji should not be readmitted to the Councils of the Commonwealth. The Government have also taken steps such as provision of loans by Bank of Baroda for the resettlement of displaced farmers of Indian origin and an increase in the number of scholarship and training slots made available to Fiji.

#### **Eviction of Indian Nationals from Bhutan**

4651. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians, settled in Bhutan legally have been evicted from there by the Bhutanese authorities without assigning any reasons and paying any compensation;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Bhutan;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to help the evicted persons?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise, Sir.

#### **Credit Facilities to CGHS Beneficiaries**

4652. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware the CGHS employees only are entitled for credit facilities for CGHS beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing the similar facilities to other CGHS beneficiaries;

(c) whether there is a great resentment amongst the Central Government Employees on this account; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide the same similar facilities to all other Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per para Nos. 10 and 11 of the Dept. of Health's O.M. No. Rec. 24/2001/JD(M)/CGHS/Delhi/CGHS(P) dated 7th September, 2001, the private hospitals/Diagnostic centres recognised under CGHS, Delhi will provide credit facilities to the following categories of CGHS beneficiaries holding a valid CGHS cards and on production of a valid permission letter:—

1. Freedom Fighters.
2. Ex-Members of Parliament.
3. Ex-Governors/Ex-Vice Presidents of India/Former Prime Ministers.
4. CGHS Employees.
5. Pensioners (and their dependents).

Further, in case of an emergency, the private hospitals recognised under CGHS shall not refuse admission or demand advance from the beneficiary and shall provide credit facilities to the concerned patient on the production of a valid CGHS card and submit the bill for reimbursement subject to the ceiling of approved rate to the respective department/office of CGHS.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Credit facility is provided to all Central Government Employees who are beneficiaries of CGHS for taking treatment in emergency condition in any of the private hospitals recognised under CGHS, Delhi.

Further, in non-emergency cases/planned treatment, the CGHS beneficiary can draw 90% medical advance as per the Govt. rates/package deal rates or actual estimates given by the recognised hospital, whichever is less, from their respective parent office/department.

[Translation]

#### **Recovery of Departmental Supply**

4653. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recovery Barmer Unit of Khadi Gramodyog industry is outstanding from a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken for the recovery of such outstanding dues and amount to be recovered with break up since 1988-89;

(c) whether it is a fact that the supply of goods was made to the institutions/organisations against whom a huge amount is still outstanding; and

(d) if so, the details of the officials responsible for it and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has taken the following steps for the recovery of such dues:—

- (i) To purchase saleable fast moving Khadi goods from those institutions/units against whom outstanding is pending.
- (ii) To deduct the outstanding dues from any outgoing payments, like rebate to reduce the outstanding dues.

The exact quantum of amount to be recovered with break-up since 1988-89, is yet to be finalised, as some of the outstanding dues are in the process of recovery.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Formation of Government in Afghanistan

4654. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details about the UN efforts towards formation of a Government in Afghanistan and the role of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): The United Nations, under its auspices, organised a meeting of various Afghan groups in Bonn on 27th November, 2001. The meeting concluded on 5th December 2001 with the signing of Agreement for Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions. The Provisional Arrangements in the Bonn Agreement provide for (a) setting up of a Interim Authority, which would be set up upon transfer of power and consist of **Interim Administration, A Special Independent Commission and a Supreme Court of Afghanistan** (b) An Emergency Loya Jirga to be convened by the Special Independent Commission with in six months of the setting up of the

Interim Authority, leading to the establishment of (c) Transitional Authority and (d) A Constitutional Loya Jirga shall be convened within 18 months of the establishment of the Transitional Authority. The Interim Authority is scheduled to assume charge on 22nd December, 2001.

United Nations has also convened meetings of the Group of 21 countries on Afghanistan in New York on 16th November and again on 6th December, 2001, to discuss the political and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan.

India has been actively associated with and participated in all international efforts, including those by the United Nations, aimed at addressing the political and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. India participated in meetings of the Group of 21 countries. We also participated in the UN sponsored Bonn meeting as observer. India has supported all efforts aimed at establishing a broad-based and multiethnic Government in Afghanistan, which does not radiate extremism and fundamentalism.

[English]

#### Funds for PHCs

4655. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the huge funds are being allocated to Primary Health Centres, to provide basic medical facilities to the villagers but these funds are not utilized properly; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve the plight of the villagers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the deficiencies in the Primary Health Centres in States/UTs. While public health is primarily a state subject in terms of implementation and management, the Central Government is providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the programme. States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps on priority, to address the unmet need. Government have initiated innumerable innovative interventions to expand outreach and coverage so that even the remote areas are adequately served.

Under the State Health Systems Project, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals are being upgraded and better equipped to provide quality health services to people in rural and backward areas.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, specific provisioning has been made towards repairs and renovation of the public health infrastructure, purchasing of drugs and essential consumables, and contingencies.

Areas Development Projects are also being implemented with financial assistance from external agencies for strengthening of health and family welfare infrastructure. One of the main activities of Area Projects includes construction of buildings for sub-centres, primary health centres and community health.

Under the Reproductive & Child Health Programme, the following steps are being taken to strengthen the primary health care institutions.

1. Major Civil Works for repair/construction of OT/Labour Room.
2. Provision of equipments/medicine for emergency, obstetrics at selected first referral units.
3. Financial assistance for contracts/appointments/hiring of anaesthetists/Gynaecologists etc. wherever not available.

Efforts are also being made to increase the outreach of health care services through Swasthya Meals and Reproductive and Child Health camps etc.

#### **Education and Research Network**

4656. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Information Technology Department has proposed to ensure 2 mbps connectivity for Universities, Engineering Colleges and medical colleges in the country under Education and Research Network; and

(b) if so, the number of Universities, Engineering Colleges and medical colleges in Karnataka proposed to be provided with 2 mbps connectivity by December 31, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Information Technology is in the process of developing a project-Gyan Vahini Network for upgradation of Information Technology infrastructure at the higher learning institutions in the country. The project is proposed to be implemented in

two phases of three years duration each. In the first phase of the project, IT infrastructure at all the Central/State Government funded Universities, Colleges (Engineering, Medical, Dental and Degree) and Polytechnics, including those in Karnataka would be upgraded. These institutions will be provided Internet connectivity of minimum 2 Mbps through Education & Research Network (ERNET), the Education & Research Network, operated under the aegis of Ministry of Information Technology.

#### **Losses in Indian Missions**

4657. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Missions in Europe incurred a substantial revenue loss towards visa and consular fees during the past two years;

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

(c) the reasons for revenue loss and the action taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) As per information available, Indian Missions in Europe have incurred a loss of revenue of Rs. 2,09,049 during the last two years.

(c) This loss occurred due to mis-application of some of the instructions of the Ministry which was not international, and hence no action against any official has been taken.

#### **Telephone Numbering System**

4658. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given an assurance that the numbering systems and network of land and mobile telephone operators newly licensed under the privatization process propose to allow public use of Telephone Number '1919' access neighborhood eye banks all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The telephone no. '1919' is allocated at present for

accessing eye banks. The license conditions for the private basic and mobile telephone operators do not specifically mention 1919 for eye bank services. However, all the telephone operators, are supposed to follow this numbering arrangement.

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

#### **Funds for Software Knowledge**

4659. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance to the North-Eastern States including Sikkim for providing software knowledge;

(b) if so, the details of the financial assistance provided to each of these states during each of the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Ministry of Information Technology has a scheme for computer education in North-Eastern areas to impart Software Knowledge. The objective of the "Employment Generation Training Scheme" is to harness potential of Electronics and Information Technology in providing employment oriented training for educated youth.

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

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Courses (Institutionwise) & GIA Approved*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Institution Name	Course	GIA
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	Assam Engg. Instt. Guwahati	"O" level RMPC	15 11
2.		Tezpur University	"O" level "A" level RMCE	15 24 11
3.		Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh	"O" level RMPC RMCE	15 11 11
4.		ITI, Srikona	"O" level	15
5.		ITI, Jorhat	RMCE	11
6.		AMTRON, Guwahati	RMCE	11
7.		AMTRON, Jorhat	"O" level	15
8.		AMTRON, Chhayagaon	RMCE	11
9.		ETDC, Guwahati	"O" level	15
10.		LCBC College, Maligaon	"O" level	15
11.		IASST, Guwahati	"O" level	15
Sub-Total				221

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Meghalaya	St. Anthony College, Shillong	"O" level	15
			"A" level	24
			RMPC	11
			RMCE	11
13.		St. Edmunds College, Shillong	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
		Sub-Total		87
14.	Tripura	ETDC, Agartala	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
			RMCE	11
		Sub-Total		37
15.	Nagaland	CECE, Kohima	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
			RMCE	11
16.		Patkai Chri College, Chumukedima	"O" level	15
		Sub-Total		52
17.	Maniur	CEDT, Imphal	"O" level	15
			"A" level	24
			RMCE	11
18.		Manipur, University, Imphal	"O" level	15
19.		Women, Income Gen, Thoubal	"O" level	15
20.		Nupi Khunai, Oinam	"O" level	15
		Sub-Total		95
21.	Mizoram	ACEC, Aizwal	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
22.		ACEC, Lunglai	"A" level	24
			RMCE	11
23.		Golden Republic IT Centre	"O" level	15
		Sub-Total		76

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Sikkim	CCCT, Gangtok	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
25.		CCCT, Mangan	"O" level	15
		Sub-Total		46
26.	Arunachal	NERIST, Itanagar	"O" level	15
			RMPC	11
			RMCE	11
		Sub-Total		37
Total 1 (NE States)				Rs. 651 Lakhs

### Pornographic Website

4660. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:  
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any knowledge of the link of the Indian Mission in Oman to a pornographic Website;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made into it;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Government has checked the contents of the official website of the Embassy of India in Oman at [www.indemb.-oman.org](http://www.indemb.-oman.org) and has found to link to any pornographic website or any other website having objectionable material.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Foreign Tour

4661. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by him during the last two years;

(b) the agreements signed during these visits; and

(c) the total amount spent on these foreign tours and the benefits accrued/likely to be accrued to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Names of countries visited by him during last two years are:

Mexico, Nepal, Japan, China, Brazil, South Africa, Switzerland, U.S.A., Australia and New-Zealand.

(b) Nil.

(c) An amount of Rs. 47 lakhs (approximately) was spent on these visits (This includes expenditure on the entire delegation) which were undertaken for attending various conferences/meetings. Participation in international conferences is always desirable as it keeps us updated on latest developments in the medical sciences.

### Ban Drug in Cancer Treatment

4662. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints that some cancer hospitals are using several banned medicines for treatment of cancer;

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

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government to check the banned drugs in the future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram had undertaken the clinical trial with two experimental anti-cancer drugs in collaboration with John Hopkin's University, USA. Following reports that drugs banned in USA have been used in the trial, an enquiry team consisting of representatives from Dte. General of Health Services, ICMR and Central Drug Control Organization was constituted to investigate the matter. As per the findings of this team, the Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram has not used any banned drug. However, there have been some procedural lapses for which action has been taken and the Director, Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram has been directed to suspend all ongoing clinical trials for a period of six months. They have also been directed to reconstitute the Institutional Ethics Committee, and co-opt a member from IMCR on it.

[English]

#### **Call Traffic through PSTN Switches**

4663. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:  
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to allow call traffic through PSTN switches on capacity leased out to private parties, whereby consumers can benefit from considerably cheaper tariffs as reported in Statesman of June 28, 2000; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The news item referred here appeared in the Statesman dated June 23, 2001. As per the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in respect of opening of International Long Distance Service to private sector, which has been accepted by the Government, resellers are not permitted.

#### **Procurement of Trimmers**

4664. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Haldia Dock Complex acquired trimmers for use by coal shiploaders in July, 1991 but the trimmers were finally fitted in November/December 1998 to the shiploaders and an amount of Rs. 91.72 lakhs was paid for seven years as pointed out by the CAG in their Report 4 of 1999 on page 95;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken against the authorities responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Haldia Dock Complex had placed an order, after due process of tenders, for delivery of two modified Trimmers for use by coal shiploaders at Berth No. 4 at a cost of Rs. 91.72 lakhs and payment was made in July, 1991 and September, 1992. During trials in February, 1993 the Trimmers were found to have certain design defects and were sent to the firm for rectifying defects which was completed by the firm in November, 1996 at their own cost. The security deposit of the firm has been with held for delay in rectifying the defects as per relevant terms of the contract for guarantee against satisfactory performance.

#### **Enquiry Committee for Burn Department (Safdarjung)**

4665. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Enquiry Committee was constituted to inspect the functioning of the Burn Department of Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) if so, the terms of references of the said Committee and its composition;

(c) whether the said committee inspected the operation theatre of the Plastic/Burn operation theatre of the Safdarjung Hospital;

(d) if so, the findings, of the Committee; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) In view of reply to (a) above, do not arise.

#### **Theft/Traffic of Nuclear Materials**

4666. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of theft or traffic of nuclear materials and radio active resources in the country during the past three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) There have been no cases of theft of nuclear material from nuclear installations. However, there were a few instances of alleged thefts from hospitals/industrial units of nuclear materials (depleted uranium) and radioactive sources during the past three years. Depleted uranium was recovered in all the cases (3 nos.) and radioactive sources were recovered in four out of six cases. The details are as follows:

#### *Nuclear Materials (Depleted Uranium)*

1. Trombay Police arrested two persons from Chembur, Mumbai on May 1, 2000 and recovered 8.4 kg. of depleted uranium.
2. Hyderabad Police is reported to have apprehended two persons possessing depleted uranium. The total amount was 25.9 kg.
3. Police at Kochi, Kerala on November 11, 2000 arrested eight persons with about 2.2 kg. of depleted uranium.

#### *Industrial Radiography*

1. In September 1999, 74 GBq Ir-192 source in SPEC-2T exposure device was sent to Trombay for disposal. The source was lost in transit and could not be recovered.

2. On May 2, 1998, an Ir-192-296 GBq source was stolen from the storage at Bharuch. It was recovered from a scrap dealer's shop by Police after two days.

3. In January, 1999 an Ir-192 source of 165 GBq activity was stolen from storage room at site. It was recovered by Police after two days.

4. In January 1999 an Ir-192 source of 1.295 TBq was stolen from storage at Haldia. It was recovered after ten days after extensive search.

#### *Nucleonic Gauge*

5. In October 1998, 1.85 GBq Am-241-Be neutron source of a moisture depth gauge was stolen from field laboratory and not recovered.

#### **Backlog to SC/STs**

4667. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'backlog/carried forward vacancies reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs' are required to be treated as a 'separate and distinct group' as provided under Article 16 (4) B of the Constitution to overcome 50% ceiling limit on vacancies to be reserved in an year;

(b) if so, the details of 'backlog/carried forward vacancies' ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997 in respect of (1) SCs, (2) STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on 29th August 1997 in the Ministry of Planning when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

(c) the details of such carried forward vacancies filled during each of the last four years and those which remain unfilled; and

(d) fresh vacancies/posts accrued to reserved classes in all categories of posts during the last four years as per 'post based rosters'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) According to the information supplied by the Department of Personnel & Training ceiling of 50% on filling up of



reserved vacancies would apply only on the reserved vacancies which arise in the current year and the backlog and carried forward reserved vacancies for SCs/STs of earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and would not be subject to any ceiling. This provision will not apply to the vacancies reserved for Other Backward Classes.

(b) and (c) Not applicable as DOPT's OM dated 2.7.97 referred to herein pertains to initial operation of the post-based roster and identifying the excess/shortfall in respective categories in the cadre and not about backlog and carried forward vacancies.

(d) A large number of the posts in the Planning Commission are encoded in various organized services like I.E.S., I.S.S., CSS etc. and reservations in these posts are applied by the respective cadre controlling authorities. In respect of the posts which are within the purview of the Planning Commission, the requisite information is given in statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Details of Vacancies/Posts accrued to Reserved Classes in All Categories of Posts during the last Four years as per Post Based Rosters*

Group	SC	ST	OBC
<b>1998</b>			
A	—	—	1
B	—	—	1
C	—	3	12
D	—	—	11
<b>1999</b>			
A	—	—	2
B	2	—	1
C	—	7	13
D	—	—	—
<b>2000</b>			
A	—	—	—
B	—	—	—
C	2	2	4
D	—	—	—

Details of vacancies/posts accrued to reserved classes in the year 2001 will be worked out after completion of review of the Annual Recruitment Action Plan.

**Fourth Cellular Licence**

4668. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:  
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has "vitiated" the licensing process and granted licences to only three companies without considering applications of other for fixed-line service licence and allowed defaulting firms to bid for fourth cellular licence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Department of Telecommunications are creating unfair competition;

(d) whether there selection process is also lack of transparency;

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal to hand over the matter to CBI for investigation;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, the licensing process has been transparent and has not been vitiated. In the case of licences for Basic Service (Fixed Line Service), all the applications received were considered and processed; Letters of Intent were issued to six companies towards grant of licences. Out of the six companies, licences were granted to the three companies who complied with the requirements of the offered Letters of Intent and in other cases the offers were cancelled for non-compliance of the conditions. In the case of Cellular Licences, there was no bar for bidding for the licences even if any company was a defaulter; however, the default, if any, was to be cleared by the successful bidder before grant of any licence.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Do not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

[*Translation*]

### Construction of Infrastructural Facilities by China

4669. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is constructing roads and other infrastructural facilities near line of actual control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been taken up with China; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) India and China are seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through peaceful consultations. The Agreement on Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1993) and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field, along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1996), provide the institutional framework for the maintenance of peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas.

The India-China border has been largely peaceful, but from time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the Line of Actual Control, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided had the agreement on LAC clarification been completed.

Government regularly takes up such matters with the Chinese side and underscores the need for both sides to respect the LAC. Such matters are raised through the established mechanisms—the Joint Working Group and the Expert Group, through Border Personnel Meetings and Flag Meetings between the armed forces of the two sides, as well as through diplomatic channels from time to time.

Government remain vigilant and take all necessary and appropriate measures to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

[*English*]

### Socio-Economic Development

4670. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Union Government for socio-economic development of North-Eastern States including Sikkim during the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated to each of those States during each of the last three years for the purpose;

(c) whether the funds earmarked to these States have been released;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) The Government of India have taken the following measures to accelerate the process of socio-economic development of North Eastern Region and Sikkim:—

- (i) Implementation of the Agenda for Socio-Economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim as announced by the Prime Minister in January, 2000 at Shillong. The status of implementation of programmes and schemes of Prime Minister's Agenda for Socio-economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim announced at Shillong on 22nd January, 2000 can be seen at website: pmindia. nic. in.
- (ii) North Eastern States and Sikkim are categorized as Special Category States where 90% of the Central Assistance for the plan is given as grant from Central Government.
- (iii) Central Assistance is provided to support the State Development Plan. Details of central assistance provided during last three years 1998-99 to 2000-01 are given in the Statement-I enclosed.
- (iv) 10% of the Plan Budget of all the Central Ministries is required to be spent in the North Eastern Region except for a few exempted Ministries.
- (v) From the shortfall in the spending of 10% by Union Ministries a Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources have been created for financing of infrastructure projects in the North Eastern Region and Sikkim. Total release for projects under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(vi) Setting up of North Eastern Council for funding of inter-state and regional infrastructure projects, mainly transport, communication and power

development. Details of expenditure undertaken by North Eastern Council are given in the Statement-III enclosed.

**Statement I**

*Central Assistance approved for the Annual Plans of North Eastern States during the last Three Financial Years*

(Rs. in crores)

States	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Arunachal Pradesh	534.82	574.17	609.50
Assam	1443.13	1616.11	1686.56
Manipur	456.27	506.08	565.86
Meghalaya	376.31	421.77	393.59
Mizoram	335.56	384.67	401.26
Nagaland	347.40	394.76	424.59
Sikkim	251.52	329.92	263.81
Tripura	598.75	656.12	633.70

**Statement II**

*State-wise/year-wise release of funds from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources*

(Rs. in crores)

State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	19.65	43.96
Assam	28.81	105.86	69.31
Manipur	20.34	121.67	23.85
Meghalaya	8.79	3.00	32.63
Mizoram	9.00	62.15	27.06
Nagaland	20.01	44.08	15.91
Sikkim	10.00	32.01	23.78
Tripura	10.00	22.50	67.08
Common to North Eastern States and Sikkim	—	9.00	9.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>121.95</b>	<b>419.92</b>	<b>313.04</b>

**Statement-III**

*Details of Funds allocated by the North Eastern Council during the last three financial years to the North Eastern States*

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
	Funds allocated	Funds released	Funds allocated	Funds released	Funds allocated	Funds released
Arunachal Pradesh	1692.00	1087.40	1308.00	1449.50	1447.95	1401.90
Assam	1641.00	1689.90	2264.00	2109.76	3354.91	3401.91
Manipur	280.00	247.67	233.65	152.72	506.16	490.01
Meghalaya	612.50	555.66	683.00	625.34	1095.30	1088.85
Mizoram	1370.67	1161.27	1174.00	1375.97	847.78	871.53
Nagaland	635.00	299.20	690.00	1022.70	1503.30	1492.30
Tripura	756.33	841.28	840.00	1020.70	2014.99	2014.30

**Kala-Azar National Eradication Programme**

4671. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kala-azar has been included in the National Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the institutions agencies, NGOs, Scientific Laboratories, etc. in Bihar, which has been selected/identified for undertaking this programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR) (a) to (c) The ongoing Kala-azar Control Programme is being implemented through Primary Health Care System. However, an Expert Committee constituted by this Ministry in its report submitted in December, 2000 has indicated feasibility as well as strategy for Kala-azar elimination from the country.

In has been decided, in principle, to provide operational cost besides drugs and medicines to the Kala-azar endemic States from the current financial year.

**Computer Literacy Rate**

4672. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present computer literacy rate in the country;

(b) whether out of 6,00,000 primary schools in the country note even due per cent have computers;

(c) if so, the whether Government have formulated any scheme to increase the computer literacy rate in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Currently computer penetration in India is estimated at 6 per 1000 people. On this basis, estimate of computer literacy in India could be about 30 per 1000 taking approximately 5 users per computer.

(b) Precise data is not available.

(c) and (d) Working Group on Information Technology for Masses set up under the Ministry of Information Technology in May 2000 has made several recommendations, which inter-alia include, providing about 100 million internet connections by the year 2008, establishing about 1 million Internet enabled IT Kiosks/ Cyber-cafes, establishing IT infrastructure in 60,000 schools and to launch mass awareness campaign through IT Yatras.

In addition, under the newly launched National Programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, there is a provision of Rs. 15 lakhs per district for computer education under "Innovative activities".

#### **Purchase Advisory Committee**

4673. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have received any complaints regarding corruption in purchase and approval of Unani Medicines by the Purchase Advisory Committee and Inspection Committee of Medicines for CGHS Unani system of Medicines during the year 2000-2001 and till date,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by CGHS authorities on each of the said complaint; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Two complaints have been received. One of the complaints could not be substantiated and therefore the case has been closed. In the case of other complaint, an Inquiry Officer has already been appointed to investigate the complaint regarding corruption in purchase and approval of Unani Medicines by the Purchase Advisory and Inspection Committee (Unani). The report of the Inquiry Officer is awaited.

#### **Eradication of Malaria**

4674. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists fighting Malaria are preparing the ground for one of the most audacious attempts to wipe out disease, genetically modifying an entire animal species in the wild;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps propose to be taken by the Government to completely wipe out Malaria in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Scientists from

Imperial College, London and European Molecular Biology Institute at Heidleberg, Germany are reported to have developed genetic transformation system for the mosquito (anopheles stephensi) causing malaria. The study is at experimental stage only.

Steps taken for control of malaria in the country include:—

- Early case detection and prompt treatment.
- Selective Vector control.
- Promotion of personal protection methods.
- Early detection and containment of epidemics.
- Information, Education and Communication towards personal prevention and community participation.
- Institutional and Management Capacity Building, Trained Manpower Development and efficient Management Information System (MIS).
- Issuance of advance warning to States/UTs suggesting all the preventive and control measures.

#### **Doctor-Laboratories nexus**

4675. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news captioned "nexus between capital's Doctors and Laboratories" appearing in the *Times of India* dated June 14, 2001 in this regard;

(b) facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to safeguard the interests of the poor patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the 'Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics Regulations, 2001' approved by the Ministry of Health (currently with the Ministry of Law for vetting, a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting

or refunding of any fee for medical, surgical or other treatment. This shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician or any person, specimen or material for diagnostic purposes or other study/work. The violation of any of the provisions of the said regulations will invite disciplinary proceedings.

—————

*Statement Correcting Reply to Unstarred Question  
No. 2548 Dated 5.12.2001 Regarding Amount  
Released under PMRY in Bihar*

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA):

1. The fourth and fifth sentences of part (a) & (b) of the reply may be substituted as under:—

“Rs. 17.26 lakhs was released to Bihar State during 1998-99, Rs. 13.74 lakhs during 1999-2000, and, Rs. 44.52 lakhs was released during 2000-2001.”

“However, no funds could be released to Bihar State so far during 2001-2002 for want of utilization certificates for the funds already released to the State.”

Authenticated

(Kariya Munda)

Minister of Agro and Rural Industries.

11.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board for the year 2000-2001.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board for the year 2000-2001.

—————

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4805/2001]

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Information Technology (Certifying Authority) Regulations, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 512 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2001 under sub-section (3) of Section 89 of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4806/2001]

- (2) 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 the Semiconductor Complex Limited, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Semiconductor Complex Limited, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4807/2001]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the C.M.C. Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) Annual Report of the C.M.S. Limited, New Delhi for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4808/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4809/2001]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Electronics Design and Technology of India, Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Electronics Design and Technology of India, Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4810/2001]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4811/2001]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4812/2001]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Pune, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Pune, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4813/2001]

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting the reply given on the 5th December, 2001 to Unstarred Question No. 2548 by Shri Aun Kumar regarding amount released under PMRY in Bihar.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4814/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): Sir, 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 the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4815/2001]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4816/2001]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4817/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4818/2001]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4819/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Biologicals, Nodia, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Biologicals, Nodia, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4820/2001]

6. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4821/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4822/2001]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Highways Authority of India for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts under section 24 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Highways Authority of India for the year 1999-2000.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4823/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for Training of Highway Engineers, New Delhi for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4824/2001]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Vasundhra Raje, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4825/2001]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Grih Kalyan Kendra, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Grih Kalyan Kendra, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4826/2001]



(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4827/2001]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4828/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4829/2001]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and small Business Development, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and small Business Development, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4830/2001]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of

the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4831/2001]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar) New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar) New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4832/2001]

(9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4833/2001]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4834/2001]

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4835/2001]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4836/2001]

(13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4837/2001]

(14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National M.S.T. Radar Facility, Gadanki, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National M.S.T. Radar Facility, Gadanki, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4838/2001]

(15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4839/2001]

(16) 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 the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4840/2001]

(b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4841/2001]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Antrix Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Antrix Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4842/2001]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on the assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during various sessions of Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth Lok Sabha:—

#### TENTH LOK SABHA

1. Statement No. XXX Thirteenth Session, 1995.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4843/2001]

#### ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

2. Statement No. XXV Second Session, 1996.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4844/2001]

3. Statement No. XXIII Third Session, 1996.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4845/2001]

4. Statement No. XXIV Forth Session, 1997.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4846/2001]

5. Statement No. XXI Fifth Session, 1997.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4847/2001]

6. Statement No. XVII Sixth Session, 1997.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4848/2001]

#### TWELFTH LOK SABHA

7. Statement No. XX Second Session, 1998.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4849/2001]

8. Statement No. XV Fourth Session, 1999.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4850/2001]

#### THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

9. Statement No. XIII Second Session, 1999.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4851/2001]

10. Statement No. XII Third Session, 2000.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4852/2001]

11. Statement No. VIII Fourth Session, 2000.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4853/2001]

12. Statement No. VI Fifth Session, 2000.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4854/2001]

13. Statement No. V Sixth Session, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4855/2001]

14. Statement No. II Seventh Session, 2001  
(Vol. I & II)

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4856/2001]

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shripad Yasso Naik, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001, along with Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4857/2001]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2000-2001, along with Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4858/2001]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tuticorin Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001, 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 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4859/2001]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4860/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2000-2001, along with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4861/2001]

- (6) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham, for the year 2000-2001 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4862/2001]

- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4863/2001]

- (c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4864/2001]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 2000-2001, along with Accounts under section 24 of the Inland Waterways, Authority of India Act, 1985.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4865/2001]

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section (3) of Section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967:—

- (1) The Passport (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 576(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2001.
- (2) The Passport (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 527(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th July, 2001 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 879(E) dated the 5th December, 2001.
- (3) The Passport (Third Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 817(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4866/2001]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): Sir, 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 the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4867/2001]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4868/2001]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4869/2001]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the H.T.L. Limited, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the H.T.L. Limited, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4870/2001]

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the I.T.I. Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the I.T.I. Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4871/2001]

- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the H.T.L. Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4872/2001]

- (6) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the I.T.I. Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4873/2001]

11.04 hrs.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTING OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Eighth Report presented to the House on 18 December, 2001 have recommended that leave of absence from the sittings of the House be granted to the following members for the period mentioned against each:—

- (1) Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao — 10.08.2001 to 31.08.2001
- (2) Shri S.D.N.R. Wadiyar — 19.11.2001 to 10.12.2001
- (3) Shri Ashok Kumar Singh Chandel — 06.08.2001 to 31.08.2001  
and  
19.11.2001 to 19.12.2001
- (4) Dr. Nitish Sengupta — 05.12.2001 to 19.12.2001

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted. The members will be informed accordingly.

11.05 hrs.

## PARLIAMENTARY PAY COMMITTEE ON ALLOWANCES, AMENITIES, FACILITIES, ETC. AND OTHER ISSUES IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYEES OF RAJYA SABHA AND LOK SABHA SECRETARIATS

### Second Report

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: I beg to lay on the Table the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Parliamentary Pay Committee on allowances, amenities, facilities etc. and other issues in respect of employees of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariats which was presented by the Chairman of the Committee to the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 30th August, 2001.

1.05<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

### Study Tour Reports

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Study Tour Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings in respect of the following Public Undertakings:—

- (1) National Textile Corporation (TN&P) Limited
- (2) Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited
- (3) National Fertilisers Limited
- (4) Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited
- (5) Kochi Refineries Limited.

11.07<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

#### Thirteenth and Fourteenth Report and Minutes

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution:—

- (1) Thirteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Tenth Report on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Department of Consumer Affairs (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution).
- (2) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Eleventh Report on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Department of Food and Public Distribution (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution).

11.06 hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

#### Tour Report

*[Translation]*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Mahajapur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Taur Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

11.06<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

#### Twelfth Report

*[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I beg to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

11.07<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

#### Twentieth Report

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, I beg to present the Twentieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (13th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Chemicals (2001) on 'Demands for Grants' (2001-02) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

11.07 hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

#### Minutes

*[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the First to Twenty-ninth Sitzings of the Committee on Petitions (Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

11.08 hrs.

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE PATENTS  
(SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1999**

**Report**

*[Translation]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999.

in the 46th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on the memorandum of understanding (MOU) system in Telecom. Sector pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises;

(3) 62nd Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 48th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Demands for Grants (2001-2002), pertaining to the "Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises"; and

(4) 63rd Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 49th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) pertaining to the "Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries."

11.08<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS**

**Eighty-third Report**

*[English]*

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Eighty-third Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Personnel Policies of Central Industrial Security Force and Central Secretariat Service.

11.09 hrs.

**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

**Terrorist Attack on Parliament House**

*[Translation]*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, no words shall suffice to condemn the terrorist attack on Parliament. But it is evident that our country is a great country.

*[English]*

We are a great nation.

*[Translation]*

and no one can frighten, brow beat this country. Undoubtedly, the security forces, the Watch and Ward and other agencies have done a great job. They have protected the Parliament by risking their own lives.

This act is appreciable and praise worthy. We salute them all. By the grace of God, the terrorist attack has been foiled. There is no doubt that it is a great achievement. We have foiled the attack but at the same time, we should ponder over this aspect also that how could they attempt this attack. We should consider it so that necessary course of action and necessary steps could be taken. You cannot deny this fact that luck has favoured

11.08<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY**

**Sixtieth, Sixty-first, Sixty-second  
and Sixty-third Reports**

*[English]*

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Industry:—

- (1) 60th Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 44th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on "Performance Review of the BYNL Group of Companies."
- (2) 61st Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained

us to a great extent. There were certain coincidence which played a very vital role in averting a disaster otherwise it sends a shudder down one's spine to imagine the dreadful consequences. Five or six terrorist and a car loaded with explosives could come in the premises. The Voice President was about to leave. His guard and his staff were alert. A bit of confusion was among the terrorists and they could not start their car. No blast could take place due to defect in the wiring of the car. For this all we shall thank God. But we have to consider these coincidents and take necessary steps. It is a very important and significant matter. It is a fact that there were lapses.

Now hon. Home Minister has given a statement. What type of a statement it is. When he was reading out his statement in the House, it appeared that he was reading a preliminary report of a local tabloid. There was no indication towards any important point. This statement is silent about the important aspects of incidents about which so many assumptions are being made. The statement finds no mention about which gate the terrorists got entry. When was the army called, called or not, and when it got back and what was the situation. These things find no mention in the statement. Whether CBI was involved in the investigation or not and what points were given to it for investigation. These things also find no mention in the statement. As we have come to know, a conspiracy was being hatched for so long. POTO was with you and what course of action was followed, has not been mentioned in the statement. This statement is silent almost on all aspects of the incidents. What is being done on diplomatic front? It is a matter of happiness and satisfaction that the High Commission of Pakistan was called and cautioned but what else is being done. This statement is silent on diplomatic front. One or two odd statements from the Home Minister and the Prime Minister about the action to be taken have been given which signify nothing.

I do say that the statement given by the Prime Minister was more important than the statement made by him at a meeting of the BJP MPs. Probably that forum is more important for him than Parliament. How is this form being dealt? Mr. Speaker, Sir, today while saying this, I would like to say clearly that the Government should take a decision in this regard as to what steps Government want to take. There can be no two opinions that we shall stand by the Government. It is up to you to take a decision with deep insight and prudence considering all the aspects and consequences.

Nobody should have a doubt that the country as a whole with full unity will stand by the Government for

whatever decision is taken by the Government. But we have failed to get anything from the Statement as to what is the thinking of the Government. The Government had to present others to assure us again and again and the Members from the treasury bench kept rising from their seats and kept assuring the House that necessary action will be taken in this regard, while making clarifications about the lapses and lacunas in the statement. Whatever it be, it should be considered with full consultations keeping in view all the aspects and consequences. Our suggestion is for taking precautions and we assure our full backing to any decision taken by the Government. When I say this, it means that the country is united against terrorism. But it is the duty of all of us to maintain this unity but the Government have to share much more duty to maintain and secure this unity. Controversial matters should not be raised today.

I would like to say that unity and harmony should be maintained keeping aside controversial matters. It should be totally wrong to make an attempt to link terrorism with Islam or Muslims. Special orders be issued and full attention be paid for this end that minorities and the Muslims should not be harassed or put in trouble in the name of eliminating terrorism. I want to say clearly that today we are feeling anxiety and we are anxious.

*[English]*

Anxiety is writ large on the faces of the Muslims and the minorities.

*[Translation]*

We have previous instances in our memory whether they happened during the period of any Government and we also know that today those people are having dominant part in power who have faith in the theory of communal and fascist state.

*[English]*

The predominant element in the ruling coalition consists of those who believes in communal fascist raj.

*[Translation]*

That's why the anxiety is that you should now make an effort to win the hearts of the people of the country and the solidarity should be ensured. So many matters relating to POTO, Ayodhya, Bangladesh immigrants and Madarsas were raised here. We have been told that the terrorists are taking shelter in the Madarsas and terrorism is being taught in Madarsas but not even a single example could



[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

be quoted. We have requested a number of time that there is any such list that should be laid on the table of House but no concrete proof could be given. A propaganda is being made continuously presenting a very sad state of Affairs. A mention about Indo-Nepal border was made that a number of Madarsas have been opened there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall remind that I had submitted statistics regarding them on the Indo-Nepal borders in the Consultative Committee.

[English]

There is no significant increase in the number of Mosques or Madarsas.

[Translation]

No single Mosque, Madarsa is found if one walks the distance of 10-10, 15-15 kms on this 800 km long border. It is known here that there is no significant increase.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, please conclude.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Yes, I will be concluding.

[Translation]

When there is an increase in the population, the requirements also increase. But during the last thirty years, the number of Mosques has increased from 74 to nearly 146. In comparison to the increase in population the number of Madarsas had increased from 61 to 123 during the last thirty years. When I put more statistics regarding Mosques and Madarsas before the Home Consultative Committee, I was given a very strange answer. Home Secretary answered to me, Banatwallaji, "When we say that there is significant increase on the Indo-Nepal border, thereby we mean the Nepal side of Indo-Nepal border not Indian side of the border. A strange answer was given in the Consultative Committee. But here a propaganda is being steered. The Government should deal with it seriously and sternly. The Ayodhya issue and the threat for 12 March is constantly being given. There is no fear of the Supreme Court and the Government is silent. Sangh Pariwar is free to...*(Interruptions)*. These are different issues ...*(Interruptions)*. I say that controversial issues should not be raised. The unity and solidarity should be maintained. We shall proceed forward unitedly to combat terrorism and take action against it.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject being discussed today is not only of national importance but is also a serious matter of international importance. First of all, I would like to pay tribute to the security personnels or employees of our Watch and Ward service who sacrificed their lives in the terrorist attack on Parliament on 13th December and saved the Parliament and express my deep condolences towards their bereaved families. They have done a heroic deed by staking their lives, which is certainly a matter of great appreciation. The way in which they have shown their dutifulness with valour and courage, is praiseworthy. The more the terrorists attack on Parliament is condemned, the less it is. The terrorists could not materialise their plan fully. Had the wire of RDX detonator not broken, the scene of devastation would have been a different one. I want to say this because I was present in the lobby at that time and many of my hon'ble Member were also present there. Shri Ram Nagina Mishra ji was present and Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were also there in your chamber. I want to describe the situation that I witnessed at that time. There was panic everywhere. An atmosphere of insecurity was there among the hon'ble Members and at that time after leaving his room hon'ble Home Minister was going towards the room of Minister of Parliamentary Affairs passing through the Central Hall and lobby. At that time Ram Nagina Mishraji was under such a panic in the lobby which I cannot explain. He expressed his anger and saw the soldier of SLR who used to be present here after the closure of the House. He was under a great panic and I don't want to explain that. Prabhu Nath Singh ji told and there was a rumour also that some terrorists have been killed but one terrorist has succeeded in entering the Parliament House after breaking the security circle. It was being said on Gate No. 4 that find out such a place where we could be saved because nobody is going to be left alive now. Firing and bombardment was going on, cross-firing was going on and I don't want to explain the scene which was created after the firing because it is a matter that could only be felt and not explained. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were also witnessing all this on the channel in your chamber and hon'ble Home Minister, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi ji, there is no need to explain that scene which was witnessed at 12 o'clock. I want to say with courage that where there is truth, courage should also be there. Hon'ble Home Minister, Sir, if there has been any lapse in the security, it should be admitted because it is the matter which is connected with the national security of the entire country. It is a matter of sovereignty of the entire country and there is no need of any kind of hitch in this connection. Whatever has happened, should be admitted.

Sir, I want to say something about the discussion which is being made here. Everybody is trying to turn the discussion in his own direction. It is a matter of great sorrow. I want to say this with pain that the direction of this discussion is not towards the issue of Hindu-Muslims. The direction of the discussion should be towards foreign terrorists who have dared to challenge the security of the country. The Foreign terrorists have made an attack on our Parliament which is the biggest institution of our country and also the biggest building of democracy. The discussion should be made on this subject. The direction of the discussion should not be towards Hindu-Muslim. The foreign terrorists, whether they are Hindu or Muslims or related to any religion, have attacked the democracy of our country and also the biggest building of democracy. The discussion should be made in this direction. Therefore, I would like to say that there is a need for the entire country to get united so far as this attack and the issue of national security is concerned.

Today, there is the need to bring a resolution in the House. There is also a need to get ourselves united against the terrorist activity and also against the countries who are backing the terrorist activities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a fanatic person whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim is a terrorist. The people who gave shelter to those terrorist, were they Muslims? Who was the landlord of that House where they had stayed? It is not known that for how many years Gilani was carrying out these activities. It is a serious question. It is said here with arguments and logic that the security personnels gave them a tough fight with great courage and did not allow them to enter the building. We should not see any courage in this episode and should consider it very seriously and if there is any lapse in this regard from our side, we should admit this lapse and discussion should be made on the issue that why did such a lapse occur. Our country is a liberal nation and liberalisation and secularism are the pride of our country. There is no room for extremism and terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today I want to say on the issue of security of the citizens of our country that there are certain countries in the world who are talking about sensitivity and diplomacy and also preaching to India. These preachers adopt double standards. Will there be two types of policies to combat the terrorism? Will there be two different kinds of criterion against terrorism and extremism?—one for America and Israel and the other would for India and for the countries of third world? It is a matter that needs urgent consideration. We have been given a sermon to have patience. Why didn't they had patience? There is a need to give a thought on this matter. There is no need to accept the policy of double

standard. What our country needs today is "khudi ko karo buland itna ki har takdeer se pahale khuda bande se pooche ki bata ten raza kya hai". We should display our strength against the terrorism in such a firm manner that the world could understand and accept our power.

Sir, I would like to urge the Minister of Home Affairs that it is good that you prepare an action plan but that should be prepared with due consideration. You should prepare an action plan to combat terrorism. If all your alternatives on the diplomatic methods have not exhausted as yet, you please try to exhaust them and use the diplomatic methods which are there. Do not hesitate in making a strategy keeping in view the sentiments of the public and security aspect to combat the terrorism by uniting the entire country because the issue of national interest is the most sensitive one.

Sir, there are certain leaders in this House who are brain-oriented. But we are heart-oriented. I would like to request the brain-oriented and heart-oriented leaders that an unanimous voice should emerge from India for the entire world that the action against terrorism should be stringent. No scope should be left for the terrorism to attack India and attack our sovereignty in the present democratic set-up. Whatever steps are considered necessary for this purpose, those should be taken up. Home Minister, Sir, terrorism could not be combatted by uttering mere poems or giving only statements. Whatever strategy is made to combat it, the feelings of the countrymen should be taken into consideration. This House does not comprise the entire country, there are people who are there outside the House also. We are only representatives but the people outside the House want to crush the terrorism. We have to fight against the terrorism with our full strength, that is why keeping in view the feelings of the people I would like to request that the Government should not show any laxity in this regard...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Yadav ji, other hon'ble Members also have to speak, you please conclude now

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding but, at least I would like to say this.

In the wake of continuing terrorist attacks in this country from Red Fort to Kashmir Legislative Assembly, the recent attack on the Parliament building is an attack on our democracy, what are we waiting for? I want to tell one thing. A person was travelling in a train with his family. When beaten by another person he said that he will see him if he beats his son. That person beat his

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

son also. Then he said that he will see him if he beats his wife. He beat his wife too. Thus, his entire family got beaten up. Then he said that though the other man has beaten his family, yet the latter will be dealt with if he beats any other person. Where we are going? There is no need to see now. An all-out action is what is needed now. With these words, I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody is looking upwards. Nobody is looking towards the Chair.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the attack made on the Parliament is an attack on the existence and democracy of the country. It is a shock to the people of the country. This could have led to a serious situation but the courage shown by our security personnel and their colleagues is praiseworthy, I commend them and I want to pay my tributes to those who laid down their lives. I have heard the views of many colleagues as also of some security personnel on the issue which has been under discussion here since yesterday. Even suggestions about admitting of some of the loopholes were also given to the Home Minister. I feel that considering the circumstances in which this attack took place, it will not be appropriate to find faults in the security. It was an Ambassador car bearing Parliament Pass with a red light on its top and Home Ministry's sticker pasted on the windscreen. Therefore, it was not easy for the security personnel to stop the car. How they could have stopped it? Today, the MP's need to think as to who enjoys the right to put a red light on his car? Do all the members who enter the Parliament premises with red light on their vehicles have the right to have red lights? We take the law in our own hands and put and use red light and there is no need to tell how angry the members feel when stopped by a security personnel. Hence, we will have to accept the security arrangement first. The security personnel will feel strong enough to improve the security frame-work here only from the day we start accepting it properly.

An effort is being made to create a new situation in the whole country for the last few days after 13 December. Some political parties, organizations and leaders have started preparations to create communal tensions. I believe that it is not in the interest of the country to try to alienate any community by this communal tension. At the moment, we will have to take action for the country's interest and if struggle against terrorist powers is needed then we will have to strive to bring together all the people of the country and work hard. We will need to give more attention to this.

Many things have come out of that situation. Many organizations gave some information to the Government, some suggested the need to attack the neighbouring country by holding it responsible for that situation. Many people came out with some other suggestions.

11.41 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

But I feel that the day the Government arrives at the decision that there is need of proper action to be taken by the Government in today's situation, then we will need to give our full assistance to the Government. There is no need for giving suggestions in the House about what they should do and how they should do it. We will be a loser in that process. We are the representatives of a country running a matured democracy. There is maturity in this society. What has to be done, how and when it is to be done, can not be discussed in the House there is a council of Ministers for that. If needed, the Prime Minister can take advice from more colleagues and can take action intelligently keeping in view the interest of the country. Today, the only thing needed is for us to show solidarity through this House to boost up the inner power of the countrymen.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, that country gets the respect in the world which shows its courage and strength. The world never accepts the language of non-violence from the mouth of weak people. But there should be some basis for the language of non-violence, or for that matter the language of attack or that of reply. There is need for patient thinking in this regard. There is need to sincerely get ourselves acquainted with the situation and then take action after carefully applying our brains. Through this House, I would like to tell the Government that whatever steps they will take for safeguarding the interests of the country, they will get support from all of us. With these words, I take your leave.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi): Madam, this Session will go down in the annals of our parliamentary history because of the dastardly attack which took place on the 13th of December. It was not merely an attack on the magnificent edifice, our Parliament House, it was an attack on a magnificent institution, the symbol of all those values that we cherish, the symbol of our parliamentary democracy. Democracy, in our vicinity, the meaning of this word, the meaning of democracy, can never be understood. In our vicinity, they can never pride themselves in such an institution. On a number of

occasions, when attempts were made to establish democracy, those attempts have been invariably stepped upon and crushed by the heavy military boot. In this House and outside, we remain beholden to and we salute all those in the Security Department of Parliament, the paramilitary forces and the Delhi Police who laid down their lives in the line of duty on that dreadful day.

The task before the Government and before all of us belonging to different political parties is to ensure that their families are given the support they deserve from a grateful nation.

Madam, the incident, which took place on the 13th December, uncovers many issues relating to the security of the nation and the security of our people. I sincerely hope that the Government will look into and share with the nation the reasons why the terrorists could make all preparations unhindered and actually enter into the precincts of Parliament and literally knock at the doors of Parliament House, despite of course, prior intimation.

11.45 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I regret to point out that the Government's statement on the incident is more notable for conspicuous omissions rather than for new revelations. It is obvious that the security arrangements in Parliament and in other numerous sensitive places need to be reviewed and revamped.

Sir, at this critical juncture, the need of the hour is for the Government and for all political parties to rise above partisan considerations. The need of the hour today is for all concerned to desist from using this occasion to raise contentious issues that divide our plural society. This is a moment when the entire country must stand together in solidarity. The responsibility for creating that solidarity lies mostly on the shoulders of the Government.

I wish to assure the Government, through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that the Congress Party will back the Government in its effort to track down and bring to justice terrorists who threaten the nation's integrity today. We also believe that the Government must keep in touch and must consult and interact with all other political parties. On key strategic issues, we believe, it is necessary to think through all the pros and cons.

Finally, we feel that much greater efforts are required at this moment to mobilise world opinion in our favour. Since we have been at the receiving end of terrorism for

so many years culminating, of course, with the dreadful incident on the 13th of December, we should certainly be able to embark upon a very concerted diplomatic offensive and garner the full support of the international community for our nation's just cause.

[*Translation*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the august House is discussing a matter on which the division between the ruling and the opposition parties gets blurred, if not erased. In such a scenario, people who are neutral and unbiased should provide right direction to the country and boost its morale.

Yesterday's speech of Shri Chandra Shekhar was reminiscent of Arjun of Mahabharata. Going to war or not is not the issue. The issue we need to discuss is the circumstances in which the war should take place, whether we need to go to war or not. Nobody wants war in the country.

I had written a poem, 'Jung na hone denge', but Kargil war took place soon after that. If the country had not been ready and prepared but only absorbed in the poem 'Jung na hone denge' then a gross injustice would have been done to the nation. I had gone there with the message of peace, but could not succeed. Now I am being asked why did I go at all? It is a no win situation. If I go I am criticised for that and if I don't go even then I am criticised. But this discussion has centred on a positive approach.

I would like to thank leaders of all the parties. As I said at the outset, this is not the time to stick to our party lines. The need is of finding a way out collectively. We have always tried to consult all. As for the incidents occurring in the Parliament House complex, initially we could give no information as the Government and the administration were trying to gather full information. Initially we had no information except what was already being disseminated by the media and the newspapers. That is the reason for delay in calling the all party meeting. We remained in contact even though there were holidays in between. The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs would elaborately throw light on this point. The House is indeed facing a grave situation. So far, the menace of terrorism was limited to Jammu and Kashmir. Now it has come knocking at the gates of Parliament House. I congratulate the jawans of our security forces and the Watch and Ward staff who defended Parliament House at the cost of their lives.

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

How the terrorists managed to reach Parliament needs to be thoroughly investigated and at the same time we should not undervalue the sacrifice and grit and resolve of the security forces and the Parliament's Watch and Ward staff and our administration. I believe that nobody in the House has the intention to derive political mileage from the incident.

As I have said in the beginning, it is not the time to play politics as the existence of our country, our sovereignty has been challenged. Why Parliament House at all there are other places in the country, too. Parliament House was deliberately chosen, since the terrorists know that the Parliament is the core of Indian Republic, the axis of our unity, the symbol of our democracy and represents the whole country. They wanted to attack everything which symbolises and guarantees democracy. It has been done deliberately. I don't think the attack was unplanned and spontaneous. I don't think that the gun-wielding terrorists had come just to commit suicide and the people who sent them, had not pondered over this question. They have taken this dangerous step deliberately. This is a challenge to the whole country and we have to face it squarely.

I congratulate the hon. Members for their speeches during the discussion. Shri Shivraj Patil spoke in a positive manner and I would like to quote one thing from his speech I am quoting the words of Shri Patil:—

"Sir, we had opposed the earlier moves to strengthen the security of the Parliament which we should not have done. We should keep at least that in mind today. Action has not been fully taken on the plans chalked out for the security of the Parliament."

It is a matter of pleasure that the hon. Speaker said in a meeting this morning that following the incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, he had appointed a committee which is expected to submit its report shortly and all the recommendations contained in it would be implemented and the security of the House strengthened. But we still face difficulties, obstructions.

12.00 hrs.

We are still novice to act and express our views in the present atmosphere of insecurity. Perhaps it is because of our attitude towards life. Our ideology is that everybody has to die one day, so what is the need of making umpteen efforts to save this life. However, this attitude is not correct. Every life is precious. Terrorists are trying to spread terror among the people to attain their objectives and designs. We have to fail their designs.

Every effort made for security should be implemented firmly. Time and again, this issue should be discussed in the House, cutting across the party lines, as representatives of the highest body of the country and not as Members of ruling party or opposition. The issue of safety and security is uppermost. It is not only the question of safety and security of Parliament and this House but it is the question of safety and security of the country. A crisis is looming large over the country and those who are responsible for it are playing a dangerous game.

Now we are being given sermons that we should act in a controlled and restrained manner. We have always behaved in a restrained manner but our attitude was taken as our weakness. Our country is a democratic country where people's feelings should be respected. Also there is a need to judge what is wrong and what is right. Nobody in our country is pressurising for war and war should not be there. Decisions regarding war and peace are not taken in haste. A policy would be formulated in this regard. Keeping in view the whole scenario and after reviewing the options before us, the country's interests will be safeguarded while taking such a decision. Further, cooperation of all would be sought. No party can take such a decision all alone. That would be the decision of the country.

I congratulate the members of the Congress Party. I heard the speeches of various members alongwith Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. Shri Omar Abdullah put forth the Government's views very effectively. Every step in this regard would be taken keeping in view the country's interests. Shri Mulayam Singh ji should not have any misunderstanding and misconception in this regard. But it would be inappropriate to mix the two varied issues of election and terrorism. Elections would be held on time. Democracy is our biggest assets, our biggest strength. That's why they targeted Parliament. They hatched this conspiracy to disintegrate the country. There are some elements in Pakistan who talk about ancient history; proclaim to unfurl the flag over the entire nation. When the country was once divided, we accepted it.

On my visit to Lahore I got an opportunity to visit Minar-e-Pakistan. I was advised not to go there but I said that it would be wrong if I did not visit. I visited the same and said that we needed a neighbour that could prosper, progress and at the same time, is powerful. At times the weakest develop a tendency of misadventure. Pakistan has developed such a complex that India has not accepted the partition of the country. This is a wrong perception. I had told General Musharraf that the chapter was closed for us but desired to know whether he has

accepted the partition of the country or not. Though unfortunate, the partition took place. We were opposed to it. Today, we are following the same because it has become the policy of the nation. Government of Pakistan are aware that there are such elements active in Pakistan. We also know it following this incident, we have asked Pakistan to take action against the terrorist organisation which was involved in undertaking and planning this misadventurous act. We hope that action would be taken but, at the same time, we are not depending only on diplomatic process. We are creating world opinion as has been suggested and the public opinion on this issue is in our favour. We should have this self confidence and self reliance. Meanwhile, I have undertaken journeys to a number of countries. The world is looking to India with confidence. Indian democracy is a prospering democracy. India can face challenges which is becoming obvious but we will have to fight terrorism on our own. All the countries of the world have been apprised of our position in this regard. These countries agree that we have every right as well as permission to take steps for our self defence but, at the same time, the same nations ask us to take action with restraint. We are taking all the steps wisely. In future also, we will take every step after considering each aspect in this connection but those talking about restraint, should ask our neighbour as to how long it will continue this game. If they want a neighbour then the neighbour wants that terrorism is rooted out. An international alliance has been formed for this purpose with most of the nations as its members. Does terrorism in India need any proof? The bullet marks on Parliament House, dead bodies of the terrorists lying outside Parliament House, the fact that they were Pakistanis—all these are proof in itself. There is no question of joint investigation. The Security and the sovereignty of our nation has been challenged. We are ready to face it and expect the support of all the vigilant nations of the world. We don't look forward to any nation to fight on our side. I reiterate what I have already said, we will root out terrorism on our own. But other nations in the world too are to understand that terrorism cannot be seen in isolation. It cannot be defined differently. Terrorism cannot be divided into fragments. One cannot presume that terrorism takes one form in one nation and another in the other. A move is going on in the world to root out terrorism. The incident that took place that day was a stark expression of terrorism. We believe, other nations will realise our feelings in this regard and extend their support. We have already had fight with terrorism. We have since got victory over terrorism in Punjab. There was a situation when all had apprehensions about the future of Punjab. There was a situation when unity and integrity of the nation was at stake. Such were the apprehensions. But firm measures were taken and

terrorism was crushed. Today peace and brotherhood prevails in Punjab. The people of Punjab deserve an applause for this. We know how to deal with terrorism and we will deal with it. But on this occasion, other nations in the world are put to acid test too. They are being exposed as to what they say and what they do. There cannot be different standards. There will be only one standard to gauge terrorism.

India is a democratic nation. Ours is a multi-party democracy. When I went abroad, I told the guests abroad that we had very old relations with Afghanistan. I visited Afghanistan twice as Minister of External Affairs. We have started a hospital there. We are planning to give more aid. After the emergence of Taliban regime, all situations were turned into such a state that the people were deeply shocked. Therefore, we are supporting the steps taken to finish Taliban. An attack was carried on Parliament of India about which several Hon'ble Members have detailed discussions that anything could have happened that day. However, due to the preparations made to fight terrorism, we succeeded in averting a tragedy. Terrorists were not able to succeed in their plan. We should not ignore those arrangements and we should point out the shortcomings. Suggestions are welcome to overcome these shortcomings, but this is not a question of ruling party and opposition party. The first thing is to ensure peace and brotherhood in the country. If anybody tries to take benefit of the situation arisen in the country or if any organisation or party tries to create enmity among the communities, they are working against the country's interest. We will not tolerate such activities. We hope that good sense will prevail among the people. This is a testing time. That day we escaped perhaps only to perform our duties in future. I am confident that the attitude shown today during discussion in this House will strengthen our efforts. The entire world, all the countries are looking towards us. Party politics will continue as it has its own place, but this country has a special characteristic that at the time of crisis, the entire country, unites leaving behind all differences and faces the challenge unitedly.

Sir, when I was in opposition, I congratulated Smt. Indira Gandhi on independence of Bangladesh. The feelings expressed by me were not only mine, but of all of us. We have shown much restraint. Now we are trying to solve the problem diplomatically and we will take the decision after going through all the options. I hope the august House would support the Government and its policies in this regard.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Jainagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an attack on Parliament on 13th December is a blow on the democracy of India. I strongly condemn the act on behalf of my party.

I pay my tribute to those security personnel and the people of Watch and Ward service who have sacrificed their lives to protect the dignity of Parliament of India.

One thing I want to say clearly that when the terrorists succeeded in entering the Parliament House and after that incident a statement from the Government that the security arrangements were alright, I want to know from the Government that if there were no security lapses then why the Security Personnel did not stop the terrorists at gate No. 1. I would like to say one or two things in this regard. The present security arrangements in Parliament House should be strengthened. The security arrangements for Rashtrapati Bhawan, Supreme Court, North Block, South Block should be further strengthened. These terrorists do not belong to India. Therefore, the people of India, general public and all the political parties should face the terrorism collectively and Government should also take concrete steps in this regard.

12.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

It was also expressed in the House that the terrorist camps which are active outside our country should be attacked by crossing the LoC. In this connection it is my suggestion that if we have to hold talk with our neighbouring country we should go for that. We should also take the assistance of other countries on this issue so that they could support us.

POTO is also referred here whereas full scale discussion is yet to take place on it. I would like to say that even after promulgation of POTO, an attack was made on Parliament. Such incidents can not be stopped by POTO. I suggest that we must strengthen our intelligence system and provide more sophisticated arms to our security personnel. Only then the morale of our security personnel can boost.

My Party R.S.P. will fully support the steps to be taken by the Government against terrorists.

Besides that I would suggest that the opposition should be taken into confidence. With these words, I thank you and conclude.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I on behalf of Shiv Sena pay my tribute to the Personnel of Watch and Ward service and

other security agencies, who laid down their lives on 13th December to save the pious shrine of Indian democracy. All the members have said that they should fight unitedly. But some of the speeches which, heard disappointed me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when there were attacks on WTC and Pentagon, all the people of America and the senate stood with America and they passed the Anti-terrorism Bill. Despite killing of our two respected Prime Ministers Smt. Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi, this Bill is being opposed here I don't know why it is so. Our Home Minister had a narrow escape in Coimbatore...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Sir, there is some noise.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is a lot of noise, Shrimati Kailasho Devi, you are moving from one end to the other, Please sit at one place.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Hon'ble Prime Minister and Home Minister have said that now the fight has come to decisive stage. It also seems that the terrorist activities have also come to final stage, that is why they have reached to the doors of Parliament House. I would like to tell you that WTC was also attacked in 1993 and that attack was made at the behest of Osama Bin Laden. Thereafter another attack was made on W.T.C. in 2001. In the first attack six persons were killed but in the recent attacks whole the Pentagon and W.T.C. building were razed to ground. So, I request the House that we should fight unitedly. But it is unfortunate that there are still many differences. The Hon'ble Home Minister has used the term "AAR PAAR" which means crossing the border. Pakistan have entered in our country, now it is our term to cross the border and demolish the terrorist camps situated in P.O.K. America reacted immediately after their attacks, then why should we not act in the same way.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would like to place before the House the views expressed by Shri Bala Saheb Thakre. He said that we should not play cricket with Pakistan. His idea was opposed in this House. He said all this because the people of Pakistan and the I.S.I. are spreading terrorism and killing of innocent people. So we should not play cricket with them. I am happy that the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee have agreed to it. After that Shri Balasaheb opposed the decision of cease-fire during Ramjan and on behalf of Shiv Sena we

placed our views before the House. We are glad that the hon'ble Prime Minister had accepted it later. Thereafter Shri Bala Saheb Thakre said that we should not hold talks with Pakistan until it stops operating terrorism in our country. He opposed this talk because Pakistan was killing innocent persons and our soldiers through terrorism.

Our Prime Minister also accepted it and stopped army action. Today everybody knows about Shiv Sena Chief Bala Saheb Thakre that whatever he speaks later on proves to be true. I would request the Prime Minister how long we shall count the dead bodies? Today I have figures with me. Today the Pakistan is saying that he has not done anything. There are as many as 47838 incidents of attacks. These are official figures. In these attacks, 11,241 Civilians, 14,000 terrorists and 4035 security personnel were killed. Today Musharraf is talking about the proof. In this way by putting blame on other he is befooling all. "Chor Machaya Shor". Are these not proofs? We have got figures. They are engaged in terrorist activities since 1988. I have figures from 1990 onwards. No incident took place in 1990. Out of total 550 terrorists who were killed none of them was a foreigner. But after 1997, 1075 terrorists were killed and of them, 250 were foreigners. This percentage comes to 24.2%. In the year 1998, 1999 Terrorists were killed and of them 406 were foreign terrorists which constitutes 40.06% of the total. In 1999, 1082 terrorists were killed and 540 of them were foreigners. In 2000, 1612 terrorists were killed and 870 of them were foreigners which constitutes 53.9 percent. In 2001, 1742 terrorists were killed and of them 1032 were foreign terrorists which constitutes 58.9 percent. Today they are asking us to provide proofs. If the Government has proofs then why it is hesitating? Why it is not taking action? I request the Home Minister that the Pakistan has to be taught a lesson as we did during Kargil War. The whole country and this House are with you. You please take steps in this regard.

Musharraf Saheb had come to India. When he visited India, he told that the terrorist activities in Kashmir are freedom struggle. While he was holding talks with our Prime Minister, there was firing at our borders and our 17 soldiers were killed. Where is justice in it? Pakistan is encouraging terrorism and we have evidence of its involvement. The Prime Minister told that Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad have carried attack with the help of ISI. We have evidence of it. Pakistan feels that it is promoting terrorism on the Indian soil and Indian Soldiers are being killed in these activities. Today, I would like to request the Minister of Home Affairs that the statement of Gilani of Hurriyat Conference should be investigated. On 8 December he had held a Press Conference in which he had warned about the prospective incident of

12 or 13 December in India. He should investigate into the matter. Shaukat and Mohammed who have been arrested today... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now. There are a lot of Members to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about America. Osama Bin Laden had attacked America in 1993. He had called for an Islamic Jihad.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Osama Bin Laden has worked for spreading Islamic poison. Thereafter, while Bill Clinton had gone to Phillipine in 1994 he was attacked. American forces were attacked while they were returning from Somalia and had stayed in a hotel. Americans were attacked in Kenya and Tanzania. So America was aware that Osama Bin Laden might attack America. He had announced in 1998 that he was against America and every American was his enemy and thus he had declared war against America and attacked it on 11th of September.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, whatever happened was not good. It is not appropriate to blame security personnels for this. Osama Bin Laden trained terrornts in various terrorists camps located in Afghanistan and provided them with arms and money. When Parliament House was attacked, Gazi Baba was in Pakistan at that time. However, the main culprit Mohammed had rung up Gilani to know about the number of MPs and Ministers present in the House. however, due to some unknown reasons Gilani did not ring back and the terrorists entered the Parliament premises. If he would have rung back and had the terrorists succeeded in entering into the House, God know what tragedy would have happened. however, that was averted. I want to say that it is not the fight of one person alone rather the entire House and the country together should fight against it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the head of the Islam religion of our country, Shahi Imam and his son openly say that they are agents of ISI, however, the Government do not take any action against them. The son of the Imam said that he was proud of ISI or the Pakistani terrorists who are fighting in Kashmir, however, the sorrowful state of the affairs is that our Government is not taking action against them. We fight against the terrorism but our Government do not take any action



[Shri Mohan Rawale]

against the head of the Islam religion of the country for his anti-national statement.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mulayam Singhji is not present here, however, Akhileshji and the other leaders of his party are present here. I would like to tell them that our party, Shiv Sena is not against any Muslim, however, we are against those who propagate and promote terrorism, we are against ISI. If it would not have been the case, then Imam Bukhari and other Muslim leaders of the country would have gathered on one platform to denounce the attack on Indian Parliament. Why did not they denounced the attack on World Trade Centre of America on 11th September and the Parliament of India on 13th December?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today I would like to clarify in the House that our party Shiv Sena is not against Bengali people. We want that the people of Bangladesh who have entered into Indian territory should go back to Bangladesh. I do not know why Somnath Chatterjee is crossed with us. We never opposed Bengali people. We want that Bangladeshi people who have entered into the seven north eastern states of Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh should be repatriated to Bangladesh. The terrorism which is being promoted in the region by Pak sponsored ISI should be checked. Our demand is that Bangladeshi people should be repatriated to Bangladesh. Politics to vote should not be played in this matter. It should not be said that we are against the people of Bangladesh. The Members belonging to Somnathji's party are sitting here. They should tell me whether I am telling anything wrong.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Member that he has amply clarified the position of his party and we fully understand the intention of his party. Now he should conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mohan Rawaleji, now you please conclude.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Pakistan is spreading the poison of terrorism in our country through ISI. Yesterday, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra speaking about POTO and madarsa, had said that if Pakistan indulges in propagation of terrorism through madaras then such madrasas should be closed. As America have enacted such laws and as Pandian was telling that had we passed the POTO Bill, then probably such incident would not have happened. So, I submit to the opposition that we have stood to fight against terrorism and we should fight against it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mohan Rawaleji it is enough, now conclude in one sentence.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thus I conclude my speech. I extend my thanks to you that you gave me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I extend my thanks to you for having given me this opportunity to participate in the most significant debate of Lok Sabha in recent years.

Sir, 13th December will go down in the annals of the history of parliamentary democracy as a day of stupendous supreme sacrifice of our security personnel and members of the parliamentary staff.

The hon. Prime Minister very aptly stated that with a deliberate design and plan, the ISI of Pakistan engineered this atrocious and audacious assault on Parliament of India, using the terrorist outfits of LeT and Jem. The terrorists with a deliberate design might have planned to storm the gates using AK-47 rifles and grenades by claiming the lives of the security personnel there and to enter the inner gates of Parliament, to achieve their treacherous and nefarious ends.

I shudder to imagine what would have happened had both the Houses of Parliament on that day not adjourned, had the hon. Prime Minister been present in the Rajya Sabha as usual on that day during Question Hour, and had the terrorists entered the Upper House. I shudder to imagine what would have happened had the terrorists-especially the suicide bomber, Mohammad-entered the Central Hall where all the Opposition leaders and other Members of Parliament usually gather. I shudder to imagine further as to what would have happened, because a tragedy of monumental proportion would have occurred which would have resulted in a devastating consequence, paralysing the whole country. That was thwarted and prevented by the security personnel and Watch and Ward staff of Parliament; otherwise, the terrorists could not put one foot, one step inside Parliament. Braving the bullets and getting injured, at the same time, without getting panicky, not only the security personnel but also the members of the staff who are not armed, were trying to protect the Members of Parliament.

They did their patriotic duty. Shri Matbar Singh received bullet injuries; and with that, he bolted Gate No. 11, there by preventing the terrorists from gaining entry into Parliament House. I salute their bravery and I salute their patriotic courage and dedication.

With all pain and anguish my heart goes out to the bereaved members of those families. Our condolences or homage would not erase the tears of the mothers, widows and their orphaned children. But in this mortal world, they will live as immortals. The flame of the supreme sacrifice of those martyrs will glow for years in the hearts and minds of the people.

We may recall the attack on the twin towers of WTC on 11th of September. The whole world was stunned to see the totally destroyed twin towers. Within 45 to 60 minutes the terrorists were able to attack Pentagon, the most powerful military headquarters of the United States of America. Even then there was not an iota of whisper or murmur from any quarter, either from media or from any Opposition Party. We may say that to search the culprit it has gone all over the world, particularly beyond the borders of Pakistan.

We are a vibrant democracy. Even on 13th December, till five minutes past eleven of the clock we could hear acrimony or wordy quarrels inside the House. But if the Pakistanis had thought that they would create some dissent in the country, I think they are living in a fool's paradise. In contrast, what happened when the challenge was thrown; when the enemy, the Pakistani nationals, threw gauntlet at the gates of the Parliament? We all, forgetting our differences, stood as one nation. This is the message that should go from this august House to Pakistan. Whenever there is a grave challenge, in this case the bugle of confrontation was blown by the enemy at the gates of the Parliament, people belonging to different religions—Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist—have stood as one to protect the unity of the country. This is the message that should go to Pakistan.

During our deliberations yesterday, a point was raised that we could cross the Line of Control. It was discussed in the electronic media also. It is the right of a sovereign country to defend itself. In the case of United States of America, when its right was violated, it extended its action up to Kabul, Kandahar and Tora Bora Hills in Afghanistan. India also has that right. We cannot forget history. During the days of John Kennedy when the crisis of Bay of Pigs was there, the United States of America had the audacity to tell the whole world that they would waylay the Soviet ships in the Atlantic Ocean and would target the bases of Cuba, another sovereign country, risking another war of catastrophe and nuclear destruction.

Therefore, could we cross the Line of Control? We have restrained. We have fought four wars. In the year 1947, we could have chased them; we could have occupied the whole territory; and we could have occupied the Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, I will take four to five minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already taken much time.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, it is a very important discussion. This is not for any party politics. It is an important and a significant discussion. I am not a person who speaks on every debate. When I feel to speak on important issues, I have to speak. Sir, kindly permit me.

Sir, we have restrained ourselves, in 1965 war when Lal Bahadur Shastri was there. We had restrained again in the year 1971 during Bangladesh war. We had the magnanimity to release the surrendered, 100,000 prisoners of war. We had shown restraint during the Kargil conflict. We could have targeted and attacked them. We could have crossed the Line of Control. But we had restrained ourselves. But, Sir, what action should be taken? Appropriate action will be taken by his Government at the appropriate time. We had given a befitting reply during Kargil war.

Today, Mr. Pervez Musharraf is a prisoner of military and ISI which is his own creation. Sir, there are two voices from Pakistan. One voice comes from its Foreign Office, and a contradicting voice comes from military spokesman. Therefore, most of the years, Pakistan has been under the spell of military dictatorship. They would try to have any misadventure but today the message is very clear. When there is a crisis, this country will rise as one nation, and proper lesson will be taught to the enemy at the appropriate time. Therefore, I am happy and proud about our Indian Parliament and the political parties. At this moment, everybody has forgotten the differences. Yesterday and today, what we heard is the voice of Parliament, and this is the voice of the Indian Parliament to the world.

Sir, today, when Taliban are on the run, I apprehend running Taliban joining hands with the terrorists of these outfits. They could be hand-in-glove with the ISI and try to send their agents for provocation inside India. They will try to target not only Parliament but also the other important places throughout India.

Sir, a great challenge is there. But the internal vigil is there. That is the need of the hour. We extend all our solidarity and support to the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He has stated that a decisive phase has come. We have a battle which has reached a decisive phase. The hon. Home Minister who spelt out a resolution

[Shri Vaiko]

adopted by the Cabinet that we will liquidate terrorists wherever they are and whoever they are. Let us stand unitedly by the side of the Government. In the hour of crisis, the same spirit which is being witnessed today and yesterday, should be continued. This is my appeal to all sections and all the political parties.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the very outset, I would like to pay my respectful homage to the memory of those friends, those security personnel and those who have made the supreme sacrifice to save the lives of us all. They have saved the lives of the hon. Speaker, hon. Deputy-Speakers, hon. Ministers, hon. Members of both the Houses of Parliament and the lives of the officials of this august body. They have not only saved the lives of these people, but also the dignity and the prestige of this highest institution of democracy of this country. At this moment, with my full voice, I condemn the attack of terrorists on Parliament.

Even after all these discussions, one thing cannot be denied that there were some security lapses. How the terrorists could come to the inner premises of the Parliament House itself remains a question mark. Even so, this is a critical juncture and at this critical juncture, definitely Members of both the Houses and the people of the country at large should be united. There is no doubt about it.

At the same time, I would like to know whether this unity is possible by dividing the country on the lines of caste and creed. I would like to make it very clear that it is not possible. On the one hand the NDA partners have been giving slogans like let there be Ram Janambhoomi Movement, the temple should be built by 12th March 2002, etc., and on the other hand the Government says let us be united. Some of them are saying that only Muslims are responsible for all this and some others are saying let us be united. How is this possible? All are patriots. Patriot is a Hindu, a Muslim and a Christian and all of them should be united at this critical juncture.

There have been some security lapses; we cannot deny it. After what happened very much the same way in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly building, the Government should have taken some measures. Moreover, there have been news-items by a number of media sources that Parliament may be attacked. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister as to what measures he has taken after receiving all this information. I feel there has been some messing

up of the intelligence collection. If so, what are the reasons for this and what measures have been taken by the Government so that such an incident does not recur in future?

I do not want to comment on the patriotism of the hon. Home Minister; nor that of the hon. Prime Minister. Definitely they are nationalists. Even then they may have to clarify this not just to us, but to the countrymen in general as to why this has so happened.

There has been an opinion expressed and a hue and cry raised in the NDA quarters and outside also that let there be a war if—of course they have mentioned it—war is the only alternative. I think, if we have to fight terrorists, we must have to go through the history of terrorism, particularly its recent history. Who is Osama Bin Laden? Can we forget the role of the United States of America?

13.00 hrs.

Osama Bin Laden has been designated as a terrorist throughout the world. It is the creation of USA. You cannot deny that. If it is so, we should not be guided by whatever USA may say today. Mr. Home Minister, through you, I would like to warn the Government. Do not take the so-called assurance, the so-called suggestion and advice of the USA in this manner. What role did they play in Pakistan and what role they are playing in India? We should study all these things since 11th September till today. It is easy to say anything. Ultimately, it will not be just a war or shellings or anything else but it will be a nuclear war because both Pakistan and India possess nuclear weapons. If it is so, we must be cautious of it. Before that, through you and the Home Minister, I would like to put a question to the hon. Prime Minister.

13.01 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

It is stated and admitted that the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is a very nice diplomat and a good statesman. I would like to know very clearly from the hon. Prime Minister whether he has exploited and exhausted all options of diplomacy not only regarding this crisis but also of the relationship between India and Pakistan. If it is so, please let us know about it. The country should know what diplomatic relations you have made so far and what diplomatic channels you have got so far. At this critical juncture, I would like to know whether you are going in the right path. Definitely, we are patriots and I have personally fought for Independence. Today also, we are for India's

Independence and unity. I would like to share my views along with you and I support all your causes if they are in the right path.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the brutal attack that took place on the Indian Parliament on 13th December, 2001 is an attack not merely on the very structure of Parliament but on the whole Indian democracy and the sentiments of every Indian was wounded by the terrorists. With this incident, the patriotic spirit of every citizen has now been roused. We have been looking at the spirit and tenor of all the speeches of the political leaders since yesterday. In one voice, everybody is telling that India is one and Indians are united.

In times of crisis, India will not hesitate to unitedly curb this terrorism and show these conspirators, abettors and promoters, who are from Pakistan, their place. The statement made yesterday by the hon. Home Minister has categorically mentioned that this terrorism has been supported and promoted by Pakistan by extending support to terrorist outfits like *Lakshar-e-Toiba* and *Jaish-e-Mohammad*. Pakistan cannot escape from the evils of its own actions. If not today or tomorrow, it has to pay a price for promoting this kind of terrorism on some day.

We must congratulate the hon. Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the Government of India on having taken the ready initiative in nabbing these conspirators, on arresting the people who are abetting this conspiracy, and on securing the technical clues as to why and how this terrorist activity has taken place. Necessary proof and evidence have also been sent to Pakistan. This is really a feather in the cap of the Government of India as it has taken the steps immediately. Here, everyone of our leaders and others who spoke have paid encomiums for the supreme sacrifice that has been made by our security forces on the day of the incident, that is 13th December, 2001. They, very boldly, obstructed the terrorists from entering inside Parliament. It is their timely action which had averted the major catastrophe in this country. As such, everyone of the security forces need to be congratulated on having risen to the occasion. We must also salute the security persons who have laid down their lives in the hour of crisis.

The moment our Chief Minister came to know of this incident in Hyderabad, he had immediately called on the phone, the hon. Prime Minister, hon. Speaker and other senior leaders of this country and expressed solidarity of the Telugu Desam Party. He had categorically stated that the Party would be with the Government in every action and decision that it takes. The security forces by averting this major catastrophe have lived up to the expectations.

Sir, whatever assistance given to the families in the name of ex-gratia should be increased to the extent of Rs. 50 lakh. Even this cannot compensate the loss of lives. But they deserve this and this has been to be increased to this extent.

While the incident took place between 11.40 a.m. and 12.20 p.m., immediately, the hon. Prime Minister and the other senior leaders visited the place of the incident. Even when the incident had happened in the U.S.A. on 11th September, Mr. Bush did not act so immediately. But our hon. Prime Minister acted immediately to inculcate confidence in the security forces...(*interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, in this type of a discussion, let us not be just going on giving the warning bell. I think let it take a few more hours. What is there?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga): We are supporting it. Let him speak. What is wrong in that?

I think the hon. Home Minister will agree that since this matter has got a larger proportion, he would agree to our request to extend the time of this discussion because many hon. Members, sitting either on this side or that side, are eager to participate in the discussion. Why should he scuttle this? We know that the hon. Home Minister is going to give his reply around Two of the Clock. But let us extend the time by another two hours. What is wrong in that? Let us agree to that suggestion so that more hon. Members can speak. Will the hon. Home Minister agree to this suggestion?...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): There is no objection from my side. It is in the hands of the Chair. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Let it continue for the whole day. What is wrong in it?...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: At least, in this discussion, let opinions be expressed freely from all the quarters so that it will be helpful to the Government also.

Coming to my point, I would like to say that when the incident took place, several apprehensions have also come out saying whether there are any failures of the intelligence network, whether there are any failures of the security forces, and whether the Government has shared the information or not. All these things have come

[Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu]

up. All these things are only mere suggestions to plan for the future.

When the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly was attacked, immediately there were messages saying that several democratic institutions in this country are going to be attacked. The hon. Speaker in the Parliament has also constituted a Committee to review the whole security of Parliament House. The Committee has given its report. The Committee has also made certain recommendations. I think, the hon. Speaker has also accepted all the recommendations. The security of Parliament House is also going to be beefed up. Under the Chairmanship of the hon. Deputy-Speaker, the Budget Committee of Parliament has also met and made additional allocations to meet the expenditure of the additional security forces. So, as far as providing security is concerned, there are no two opinions about it. Everybody is one. There is no doubt about it. The security of this House and the Indian democracy and Indian Parliament is supreme. The Government of India is also coming forward to do it....*(Interruptions)*

Here, we must make a mention about the media persons also. In spite of this type of terrorism that was prevailing at that point of time, the media people, particularly the photographers and videographers, had been trying to capture the scenes of terrorism without any fear. Really, it would provide the total information about what had happened. In the process, they did not even hesitate to risk their lives. Several people had got injured. All that must be appreciated for their act of bravery at that point of time.

The hon. Prime Minister really deserves to be congratulated for having roused the morale of the people in Parliament House. This is a time when every Indian has to come together....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time allotted to each party is limited.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 15 minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, I would take another four or five minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

The militancy and the domestic terrorism which were prevailing all these days have taken very costly lives in this country, right from Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi,

Rajiv Gandhi and the Chief Minister of Punjab. The extreme activity of militancy and other activities took all these lives. Added to this, cross-border terrorism and international terrorism have posed a different type of threat to attack all the democratic institutions and strategic institutions across the globe. This is where we have to unitedly condemn the activities of these terrorists and also condemn the activities of the promoters, negotiators, abettors and conspirators of these terrorist activities.

I do not know as to how Pakistan has come up with a new theory of a joint probe when it is pampering the terrorists and when it is responsible for these types of activities. It is now advocating that a joint probe is to be instituted. I do not know as to what exactly is meant by joint probe when we are the people who suffered at this and when Pakistan is promoting these types of activities. How is it possible? This has to be summarily rejected. This is not to be accepted and we cannot pledge our sovereignty by accepting a joint probe with Pakistan.

Yesterday, after hearing the spirit of the speeches of the leaders in this august House, yesterday even the United States of America has said that it is concerning the sentiment of the country and whatever action that the Government of India is going to take in self-defence, it is going to be one with them.

Lastly, we may have to take certain steps in regard to the security arrangements prevailing here by watching some of these events that have been taking place against these institutions. The Parliament House should have closed circuit televisions not only inside the building but also all around the building so that the total movements can also be videographed and the same is kept for records. The Telugu Desam Party feels that there is need for earlier solution with regard to the issue of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, organising training camps and the evil plans that are being hatched.

Even for entering into Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir, as the hon. Prime Minister has very rightly said, we have to take very balanced and correct steps, at the correct time. We have the greatest confidence in this Government and in the hon. Prime Minister that the Government would certainly take a correct step and a correct decision at the right time. It has been evidently proved at the time of Kargil war when we were very successful.

Sir, we are quite confident that we would be able to face terrorism and India will be one in this regard. The Telugu Desam Party will support the decisions and actions that are going to be taken by the Government from time to time in this respect and POTO is one such thing in

this context. So, in the light of the recent events, POTO also has to be supported by all the parties.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to participate in this debate. At the very outset, I pay my tributes and homage to the martyrs who have laid down their lives to protect this Parliament building, hon. Members of Parliament, Ministers, staff and others who were present in the building at the time of the terrorist attack.

Sir, in his statement, the hon. Home Minister said that this terrorist assault on the very bastion of our democracy was clearly aimed at wiping out the country's top political leadership. He said it very rightly. So, we condemn this attack and my party also condemns this attack.

Today, I listened to the speech of the hon. Prime Minister very carefully and I appreciate him for that. The fight against terrorism is a must. Terrorism cannot be tolerated. No civilized country can tolerate terrorism. The urgency of the unity of all the political parties and the urgency of the unity of the people of our country is a must. The whole country is united in its fight against terrorism and there is none to dispute it in this august House. All the political parties of different shades are united in order to fight the menace of terrorism. But, in this context, the people of our country have got every right to know about the performance of the Government. It is known to us and it is known to everybody that before the 13th December, our hon. Prime Minister and Home Minister had declared publicly that Parliament is under threat of attack by terrorist. They had some prior information. So, we would like to know from the Government as to what steps they have taken before the 13th December, to counter the threat of terrorist attack, as they had got adequate information from intelligence agencies, Mumbai Police and other sources.

Sir, today also, the hon. Prime Minister had admitted that there was a security lapse. Even the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Omar Abdullah said that yesterday, but this is not enough. In each and every case, the Government invariably says that there was a security lapse. We cannot forget the assassination of our former hon. Member, Shrimati Phoolan Devi, which happened during the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

We cannot forget the strike on the Red Fort. We cannot forget the attack on pilgrims to Amamath. So many events have been there. In each and every case, our Government is playing one record that a lapse in security was there. Is it a proper reply? Are they serious in taking the expectations of the people? They are asking

the people to be united. But what are they doing? So, only the lapses in security are not sufficient. The country has every right to know why such a lapse was there as they had adequate information before hand.

I am not going to cover more and more points. But I must say something in a positive manner. I shall make some positive approach before the Government. Yesterday, I listened to the speech of the Minister of State, Shri Omar Abdullah, I must say that he could not satisfy me. He is the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs. What is he doing about the diplomatic initiatives? What steps has he taken? In this respect, our Government should come forward to mobilise the world opinion. I am not dealing with whether Parliaments of different countries have sent their messages here. This is not the point. The point is that almost all the countries sent their messages. They have extended their support. This is enough. We should try to mobilise them.

What about the UNO? I would like to know whether the Government is making any contacts with the UNO. Some hon. Members of this august House referred to the USA. They referred to the happenings of 11th September in New York. Do we want to fight terrorism on the lines of the USA? Do you think that Mr. Bush in the USA or Mr. Tony Blair would be mentors of our country? I agree with the Prime Minister that we would fight terrorism in our own style. We must fight terrorism in our own way. The 'own way' is to mobilise the world opinion. 'Our own way' is to mobilise all the people of this country. The 'own way' is to take the House into confidence. The 'own way' is to take all the political parties into confidence. This should be done. The terrorist outfits are supposed to be comprising the Muslims.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA. Sir, I am a new Member. Please allow me to speak for some time here.

It is seen that the USA is continuing its fight against Osama Bin Laden. They are continuing their fight against the Talibans. Not a single Islamic country has opposed it. Not a signal Islamic country has supported Osama Bin Laden. Why is not our Government willing to mobilise all the Islamic countries so that they could pressurise and restrain Pakistan? I think, they should do it.

Lastly, I must say that this might be a long—not the last—occurrence that has taken place here. In the coming days, there may be so many happenings. I hope that, at least, next time the Government will not play such a record that only a lapse in security was there.

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

Security is the most important thing. We must have tight security in all respects, particularly in the places of the sensitive areas.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as you are not allowing me to speak more, I conclude my speech and I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the suicidal attack of terrorists on Parliament on December 13, was an attack on the integrity and unity of the country and an effort to disturb the sense of love and brotherhood prevalent in our country. Our party condemns this attack and pays homage to the jawans of security forces who sacrificed their life for protecting the Parliament, they played an important role in protecting the democracy and unity and integrity of the nation. We express our gratitude to the families of the security forces and pay our homage and respect to the martyrs.

There is no two opinion about the fact that such incidents do took place and it cannot be said that it would not take place in future whether it is the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly or the largest institution of Democracy, the Parliament House. Such a people resort to such activities in order to create terrorism. But it is the duty of security forces, leader of the country and the people to see that damage to life and property is done least. It is a fact that America a country which is most affluent and powerful and whose intelligence agencies are known to be very powerful, could not protect Pentagon and World Trade Centre from attack. Our security forces deserves felicitation for the least damage done. If we go through the previous incidents, we will find lapses. We should strengthen intelligence agencies and network. We should create a network to get information correct and in time. If there is any lapse in our intelligence network, we should take effective steps to strengthen the entire network.

The leader of opposition and ruling party and the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee today said in their speech that it is a fact that this country preaching non-violence and as ideal nation of Mahatma Gandhi has exercised extreme restraint. Some countries are advising us to have restraint but we would like to say that there is always a limit to restraint and when the limit is cross it creates the reaction which gives solution to all problems. Our Prime Minister said that we have to fight a final war against terrorism. I would like to remind the Prime Minister that the time for final war has come now and our neighbouring countries including Pakistan should not be under any misgiving that it would endanger their existence.

Terrorists should understand that it would endanger them existence and the existence of land where terrorism grows. We are not in favour of war but if need arises for the safety of the country we would not remain behind. Every citizen of the country is ready to fight to save the borders of the country. The peoples feeling is that terrorism should be routed out. If you go through history you will find that this country was ruled by people like Chanakya. We should play the card of political diplomacy. If we remember Shivaji, we will find that he had won a number of war diplomatically by preparing a guerrilla war system with a very little of army. We can show our enemies that we are no less to them in any area.

We have to make our borders strong. The terrorist enters our borders. I would like to submit that if 10-15 kilometre long belt is constructed where our army is always deployed terrorists cannot enter there and thereby we would be able to control terrorism.

Before you ring the bell for concluding the speech, I would like to submit that there is a saying that barking dogs seldom bite but if we have made up our mind to deal with terrorism we will definitely root it out. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the list of Speakers is over. Government will give a reply after lunch break.

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13.37 hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

### Twenty Sixth Report

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to lay 26th Report (Hindi and English Edition) of Standing Committee Urban and Rural Development regarding Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a number of Members are still to deliver their speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now they will speak after lunch break.

13.38 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Forty Minutes past Fourteen of the clock.*

14.42 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at Forty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 may be laid on the Table of the House.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

- (i) **Need to connect National Highway No. 12 at Sultanpur with National Highway No. 86 at Rahatgarh and declare it as a National Highway.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (*Vidisha*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Raysen district is one of the most backward districts of Madhya Pradesh. National Highway No. 12 passes through Sultanpur Jod. National Highway No. 86 connects Vidisha, Rahatgarh and Sagar. If National Highway No. 12 is connected to National Highway No. 86 at Rahatgarh via Sultanpur Jod connected to Nakwara, Dehgaav, Garatganj, Begumganj, it would help in speedy development of these backward districts. Both these highway which connect both national highways should be declared a National Highway. Please give directions for that.

- (ii) **Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Madhya Pradesh for drought relief in the State**

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (*Mandsaur*): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while the rainfall this year is less than average in various States, Madhya Pradesh is in grip of drought due to scanty rainfall for three consecutive years. The rainfall is even lower than the average this year in many districts and the situation today is that those districts

are facing water crisis. The ground water level in Ratlam, Mandsaur and Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh has gone below 500-600 ft. due to scanty rainfall during previous years and it is being apprehended that it will go down to 1000 ft. this year because of fast degrading rainfall. The amount made available by Central Government to the State Government was also not utilised by the State Government. It seems that Ratlam, Mandsaur and Neemuch districts may again reel under severe drought as it has experienced last year.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take immediate action to deal with the prevalent drought condition in the above said districts and direct the State Government to take action on war-footing keeping in view the imminent crisis and make adequate funds available to the State for it.

- (iii) **Need to improve telephone services in Giridih, Dhanbad and Bokaro Districts in Jharkhand**

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (*Giridih*): Mr. Speaker Sir, a number of telephone exchanges are not working properly in Giridih, Dhanbad and Bokaro Districts of Jharkhand, due to which STD and general services at telephone exchange in Gomia, Beramon, Giridih, Topchanchi etc. remain obstructed.

Amount for telephone connection was deposited and all the formalities were fulfilled by the consumers two year ago in Dharkiro village in Baghmash block of district Dhanbad. But telephone services were not made available to them till date. In response to a complaint the department sends a wrong reply to the Ministry.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to constitute a high level inquiry in this regard and telephone services be restored at the above mentioned places.

- (iv) **Need to exempt marble industry from excise duty in Rajasthan**

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (*Ajmer*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Dolomite and Serpentine minerals are swan by the marble industries of Rajasthan. Dolomite and Serpentine minerals are much cheaper than marble. Marble is extracted only in Makrana and Dolomite and Serpentine minerals are swan at other places and these are used for construction of buildings. Due to heavy excise duty imposed by Central Government on Dolomite and Serpentine sawing industries the condition of these industries is very miserable whereas such other minerals like granite are exempted from excise duty. Besides excise duty, royalty and sales tax are also collected from them

\*Treated as laid on the Table.



[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

due to which their production becomes very costly. Most of the units saw luffer and blocks got from mines which comes under processing. Most of the industries come under small scale industries and small scale industries are exempted from excise duty but excise duty has been imposed on marble industry of Rajasthan which is the only support of Rajasthan.

Therefore, Government of India is requested to exempt marble industry from excise duty with immediate effect as it provides livelihood to lakhs of people of Rajasthan.

**(v) Need for effective steps to preserve and protect the art objects of Timangarh Fort in Rajasthan**

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Timangarh Fort in Karoli district of Rajasthan is a unique museum of precious craft and sculpture. This fort is situated in dacoit affected Dang area. Smuggling of precious and rare statues is going on for the last few decades from this historic fort. Stories of stealing of statues in and around Karoli district have occupied the head lines of leading newspapers and magazines during the last month. The statues of Gods and Goddesses published in last edition of India Today are worth crores of rupees. International value of one statue of Goddess has been assessed two crore rupees. Archaeology of the country and particularly in Karoli district should be preserved by taking appropriate measures to protect and preserve such matchless and rare pieces of art.

Therefore, through you, I demand Centre's intervention for the protection and preservation of this invaluable heritage by the Department of Art and culture and request the Department of Archaeology should take immediate and appropriate steps for the protection of Timangarh fort and artifacts kept in it.

**(vi) Need for early conversion of rail line between Chhindwara and Nainpur in Madhya Pradesh into broad gauge**

SHRI RAM NARESH TRIPATHEE (Seoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, preliminary engineering transport survey of Chhindwara-Seoni-Nainpur (140 k.m.) rail line in Madhya Pradesh for the gauge conversion, under the South-Eastern railway is sanctioned. Engineering field survey has been completed and its report and estimates are in final stage. Statistics of transportation is being collected from agencies like District officials, revenue officials, forest officials and food corporation which are also in final stage. By this gauge conversion, tribal dominated areas of Seoni-Mandla-Balaghat, Chhindwara of Mahakaushal area will

be connected with broad gauge which were so far lagging behind in the field of development in spite of this area being rich in minerals and natural resources. We hope that the Government will provide adequate funds in the budget of this year and will ensure the development of this backward region by immediately starting the work of gauge conversion.

The gauge conversion from Prasia to Chhindwara has already been completed. If the Government provide sufficient amount for the completion of Chhindwara to Seoni (70 kms.) gauge conversion work then one more District Headquarters will be connected with broad gauge.

[English]

**(vii) Need for opening up of new broad gauge rail line between Kapadwanj and Modasa in Western region for traffic in Gujarat**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): The Railway Ministry has laid a new broad gauge line between Kapadwanj and Modasa in Western region of Gujarat. Though the work has been completed since long and even the trial run has been done, the new railway line is still to be opened for movement of passengers and goods. The hinterland for this railway line, can provide enough business. The traders, the farmers, the small industries would be benefited. I request the Union Government to take note of this and open the railway line early.

**(viii) Need to provide special grant to the Government of Maharashtra for providing better civic amenities at Nagpur city**

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): Nagpur which is the second capital of Maharashtra has been one of India's fastest growing city. The population of Nagpur has grown tremendously during the last few years which is now more than 34 lakhs. It has become the regional centre for higher education and many important judicial and financial institutions and scores of blue chip companies have established their office in the city.

With the growth in the industrial and trade activities, there has been a large migration of population from the adjoining districts and from the rural areas to Nagpur in search of livelihood. Consequently, large number of slum clusters have come up all over the city to accommodate these poor migrants. This has put great stress on the authorities to maintain its neat, clean, green and beautiful city because of the scarce resources at its disposal.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to come to the rescue of the Nagpur administration to provide a special grant of Rs. 100 crores as has been done in the case of Mumbai so that the Nagpur city does not lack in providing the required essential services to the people.

**(ix) Need to take steps for early completion of Gulbarga-Bidar new railway line project in Karnataka**

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): Gulbarga-Bidar New Railway line foundation stone laying ceremony was performed at Bidar on 29.7.2000 by the then Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways. Since, then, no progress has been made on this project. A meagre amount was sanctioned in the budget of 2000-01. Although the 2001-02 budget is also under completion, this project is lying as it was. This Gulbarga-Bidar new railway line should be completed early as this new line would help the people to save a lot of time while traveling to Gulbarga and other connecting places.

On completion of this project, there will be a saving of five hours time in traveling between Delhi and Gulbarga. This line will be of a great importance to the people of Gulbarga, which is my constituency and the people of Gulbarga are demanding for its early completion.

I, therefore, urge the Railway Minister to kindly see that some progress is made before the completion of this budget and some provisions should be made to complete this project in the next financial year also.

**(x) Need for early clearance of the proposal for construction of Dharmadam bridge on proposed Telichery-Mahe bypass in Kerala**

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): The Government of Kerala has submitted a project for the construction of Tellicherry-Mahe Bypass on NH-17, at an estimated cost of Rs. 3710 lakhs. This project includes the construction of two bridges namely Dharmadam and Anjarakandy Bridges. But on the basis of feasibility Study Report regarding the construction of the Project in BOT Scheme (Build, Operate and Transfer), the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has kept this project in abeyance. In this connection, I submitted that the Dharmadam Bridge on the NH-17 is more than 60 years old and is in a very dilapidated and dangerous condition. As the bridge is on the NH, the pressure of traffic, especially from heavy vehicle is very high. After the Kadalundy Rail Bridge tragedy, Dharmadam Bridge has become a nightmare for the people who travel through this bridge. Under these circumstances, I urge upon the

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to take up the construction of Dharmadam bridge as a separate project and execute the work at the earliest.

**(xi) Need to take concrete steps for effective implementation of poverty alleviation programmes in the country**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the Government version there are 25 crores of people living under poverty line and every year the Government spends 350 billions of rupees under various schemes to improve their living standard for the last so many years. If this amount is provided directly to the people living under the poverty line then they can purchase 3 kg of wheat at the rate of Rs. 50/- every day thereby rooting out this problem forever. But it is being seen that the Government are spending money and on the other hand poverty is increasing. The employment opportunity in the country from 1983 to 1993, has increased at 2% every year but this has come down to 1% during 1993 to 2000 and because of this, the yearly unemployment which used to increase at the rate of 6.03% per year has increased to 7.32% in the last year. The main impediments in implementation of such schemes is corruption and spending the allocated funds in schemes other than the schemes for which this fund was meant for.

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate effective steps for the implementation of such development work specially which are related to poverty alleviation programmes so that the result of such schemes percolate down to the grass root level.

**(xii) Need to review the implementation of drought prone area programme in Chitrakut and Banda districts of Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, there is dire need for improvement in implementation of D.P.A.P. (Drought Prone Area Programme) in Chitrakut and Banda districts of Uttar Pradesh. This programme still lacks active involvement of beneficiary farmers at all. The beneficiary farmers have no complete knowledge of constitution and functions of committees. No MPs and other people's representatives are consulted in this regard. People are not informed about the rural areas and villages covered under this programme. They are also not informed of the number of phases completed and the funds released to them by the Government of India to each field and also the name of governing body of the Government and semi-government having the control and maintenance of these committees.

[Shri Ram Sajivan]

Therefore, there is need to review this scheme at administration level. The progress report should be evaluated after carrying out on the spot inspection, importance should be given to the consultation with the hon. Members of Parliament and the process of reform should be implemented expeditiously.

**(xiii) Need to implement the scheme of social security for women farm workers throughout the country particularly in Tamil Nadu**

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Social Security for farm workers through Self Help Groups, Ministry of Labour, Government of India and LIC proposed a novel scheme in 50 districts in Rajasthan to empower the women through Self Help Groups and Micro Credits System. They will be covered with Insurance policy. Government of India, Ministry of Labour and LIC will pay Rs. 735 and the individual will pay Rs. 365 per year. Will the Government of India come forward to extend the scheme to all the States. 20 lakh women registered under self help in Tamil Nadu may be provided with the Insurance cover besides empowering them economically.

**(xiv) Need to revive textile mills in Pollachi Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu**

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): My constituency Pollachi consists of several Textile Mills and lakhs of workers are suffering due to closure; and unprecedented crisis in Textile Industry. The crisis afflicting the Textile Industry is not only a cause of worry for us in Textiles but for the whole economy also.

Several representation were already made by South India Small Spinners Association, South India Mill Owners Association and all party trade unions for revival steps from Textile and Finance Ministry.

If this trend and crisis continues, lot of unemployment and starvation by the suffering employees will occur in my constituency. I request the honourable Minister for Textile and Finance to take necessary remedial measures on war footing to avoid unemployment and starvation of the employees of these mills and revenue loss to the Government.

**(xv) Need to provide better telecommunication facilities in Sunderbans area, West Bengal**

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): I would like to bring the attention of the Government about the ineffectiveness of the MARR System in the Sunderbans

areas. I have raised this issue many times. Even though there has been promise to introduce WLL technology from the Government, so far no action has been taken. The MARR System is totally defunct in the Sunderban areas. The communication network has almost been collapsed. The topography of the Sunderbans is such that telephone network is essential for the people of the region. As the communication has virtually collapsed the people have been put to tremendous hardships.

Therefore, I would urge the Government to replace the MARR system with WLL immediately so that communication network can be restored. The Government should give top most priority as it has already promised for the replacement of MARR. But no work has so far been started. In view of this, the Government should take immediate steps for the early commencement of the work.

14.43 hrs.

**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

**Terrorist attack on Parliament House—Contd.**

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the proceeding will not be complete as without Ramdas Athawale. Please give him two minutes to put his words.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Ahtawale, two minutes, please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I condemn the attack on Parliament. I pay my homage proudly to those who sacrificed themselves in the efforts of saving us.

Atalji Aap Kab Laroge Aar Par Ke Larai,  
Aap to maar rehein hain khali-pili barai,  
Aap jaldi se Pakistan par karo Charai,  
Nahin to hum Karengē tumhare sath larai,  
Atankwadiyon ne apne desh ki asmita jilai hai,  
Hum sub ke ek rahane main hi desh ki bhalai hai,  
Hamare Lokantra Ki chhavi urfnhone mitti me milai hai,  
Aap ne apani sarker kahe ko chalai hai,

Mantri jee desh ko luto aaps main,  
 Poto lao tum kam karo, Poto,  
 Aur ek dusare ko aaps mein kato,  
 Hamare satta mein aane ka pura karo motto,  
 Phir hum nahin layenge poto,  
 Hum kaam nahin kareng khoto.

What has been said here that we should be united in the time of crisis is correct. We should protest strongly the acts done by terrorists.

When election comes we will think what you should do and what we should do, then we will play our role. But today, we should speak in one voice. There is need to warn Pakistan. If General Musharraf thinks that he has sent Pakistanis to attack on Parliament then we will not tolerate that, we love peace certainly but we will have to attack the terrorists' camps in Pakistan and you should plan for that.

America has been attacking Afghanistan for the last two month after Pentagon and World Trade Centre were attacked. If you care for the country, you should attack Pakistan and if you are not ready to attack then leave this Chair. We will declare war. We fully support war and Mr. Advani we would like to remind you that all people of this country are with you, take action; we would try to give you support. If you do not take action then we will do it. We condemn this terrorism. The whole country is united. You are united on your side and we are also united in our side. Both sides need to be one for the country. On behalf of my party I wish you success, but there is need for better performance otherwise it is time to remove George Fernandes and now Advani jee has become the devotee of Ataljee. Therefore, we support him. With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Prime Minister replied just after the leader of opposition expressed her views, I thought this debate should have been ended. The statement on which this debate was initiated in a way, read in its last paragraph:

[English]

"The Prime Minister, in his address to the nation on the 13th December, 2001, has declared that the fight against terrorism has reached a decisive phase. The supreme sacrifice made by the security personnel who lost their lives in this 13th December incident will not be allowed to go in vain. Those behind the

attack on Parliament House should know that the Indian people are united and determined to stamp out terrorism from the country."

[Translation]

This is the concluding part of the speech which has been debated upon here. I thought that the debate would conclude after the speech of the leader of opposition and the speech of the Prime Minister thereafter. The message contained in the last paragraph will reach the nation and the world at large that as representatives of Indian nation, the Parliament have decided to crush terrorism. The sacrifice of the persons won't be allowed to go in vain and on this issue all of us are united and determined.

This message has been conveyed, in my opinion, from the discussions held yesterday and today.

The debate was initiated by Shri Mulayam Singh followed by Mr. Shivraj Patil. The undertone of even those who might have criticised the Government on certain aspects, was positive. All were unanimous that terrorism should be wiped off. We are determined and it is an opportunity for unity of the country. Some of my friends also agreed on for not raising contents issues in the wake of fostering unity. However, contentious issues were raised, either from this side or that side. Such issues came for discussion. We have been able to convey the desired message to one and all through both the statements i.e. one of the leader of the House and the leader of opposition. This message has reached across the border as well. I was surprised to see news headlines in the morning that Islamabad had found my statement inflammatory. I thought they might be referring to some of my other statements. They might have objection to my statement made two days earlier on Television. The objections may also be raised on two of the paragraphs prior to the tenth paragraph, as quoted by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi also. This is my analysis. Pakistan, ever since 1947, has not been able to reconcile to the fact that it had caused partition of the country on 'Two Nation Theory.' Going by their yardstick Pakistan should have become a Muslim country and India, a Hindu nation. But, India became a secular nation. When Indians go abroad and inform foreigners that except Indonesia, India is the only country which has the largest Muslim population in the world. The people there are taken aback by this startling fact. That is why I have put forth both the aspects, democracy and secularism. We reject theocracy as well as authoritarian rule. They are started at the fact that despite being a secular and democratic country, India is marching ahead and is still united. They have been saying all along during wars fought in the

[Shri L.K. Advani]

past and the one going on at present that this country is going to disintegrate and it cannot remain united. Earlier Western scholars and thinkers used to say that this country can remain integrated and united till Shri Nehru is and once he is no more neither the democracy nor the unity of the country could be sustained. Many a book have been written whereas this thing has been put forth but this country has remained united. Though the incident of 13th December is very painful as it is an attack on our democracy wherein several of our security personnel lost their lives yet the way this country has conducted itself on this occasion, is commendable. This unity is good though the incident which took place was one of the worst. I thank and congratulate all the Members who have spoken and expressed solidarity yesterday and also today

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said that this discussion is the most important discussion in the history of Parliament.

I was pleased to hear his statement. He has very rightly said.

[English]

It is a very important debate in the history of Parliament. Perhaps he said 'the most important debate.' But something of that kind was right.

[Translation]

I remember when terrorism, security is discussed. Personally it is the second opportunity to be a part of the Government for me. About twenty five years back. Morarji Bhai's Government was in power and, some time I compare the present position of security with the security of those days. It surprises me and pains me as well. In those days the ministers were not provided any security cover. Even Prime Minister used to have no security receipt one or two PSOs. There was no problem.

Sir, I was born in Karachi. I went to Karachi only for once in these fifty years. I went there during that time. They had invited me when I was the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. Military rule was there and General Zia Ul Haq was ruling the country. Military personnel would be seen all around. I do not know how much security the MPs and the Ministers of Pakistan had with them I had gone there during that time. I went in my school in Karachi. Then I visited my home. I stayed there for two days. People asked as to who am I? The employees and officers of Pakistan who were with me, told that I was a Cabinet Minister of the Government of India. They were surprised to see that I had no security. It was in the year 1978. Today black commandos and a

number of security man are with me wherever I go. Now the situation has completely changed.

So if somebody says that I was not concerned about the Parliament though I said that there may be an attack on Parliament and I did nothing. It is not correct to say that I was not concerned and we were apathetic to it. Patilji mentioned it which has been referred by the Prime Minister in his speech. It has earlier been discussed as to how the security of the Parliament can be improved. A committee has been formed under the direction of Mr. Speaker for this purpose. I am having a copy of it. Its complete report has been submitted to Mr. Speaker. It was formed on 10th of October. Mr. Suresh Rai, the Joint Commissioner of Police, New Delhi Range, New Delhi, is its Chairman. The security officer from this office are also in the committee. Mr. Mahipati who is in charge of Parliamentary security, is also a member of the committee. A report submitted by an expert committee seems to be prophetic, if you go through it. Whatever we have witnessed on 13th December has been explained therein in full details as to how it can happen. I would not read it because it is a secret report. I would not like that its recommendations should reach our foes. It is in the rules of the Parliament that if somebody quotes something from any document and if any member asks for it, it would be laid on the Table. That's why I am not doing so, otherwise I could tell you. If somebody goes through it, he would understand that the Government was not apathetic. Mr. Speaker was worried about it and he formed a committee and the committee told that today's arrangement is quite inadequate. The steps to be taken and not to be taken has been envisaged in it. The Prime Minister publicly said that there may be an attack, so Advaniji said that there may be an attack.

15.00 hrs.

When I talked about attack, it was based on the statement made by Afroz who had been apprehended in Mumbai. He has given his statement in the court yesterday which has not been published. But it seems to me that it is that very statement which he had earlier made to the police officials in which he said that when the plan to attack the world trade centre and the pentagon on 11 September was made, a plan to attack the House of Commons and the Parliament of India was also made. Are the investigations made so far on the basis of his statement and his statement that he had taken flying training in Australia are true? After investigation it proved to be correct. Other things he has said are also being investigated. Australia, America and the U.K. were also informed that we are investigating the case and they should also investigate it. Parliament of India can also be attacked this has been said by the person caught in

Mumbai. I have not said this with a reference to the fall that a five member suicide squad would come and attack the Parliament. Although this type of attack has been mentioned in the secret report.

Today entry in the Parliament is not very difficult. A number of white Ambassador cars come to Parliament House and if somebody uses beacon light on it and uses false sticker by down loading it from web-site, and uses Home Ministry's sticker, then how many security personnel will we dismiss on this basis. Will we be able to do justice? So as far as security is concerned, we have made adequate arrangements for security keeping in view the nature of terrorism of today. Somebody asked me as to how many security personnel are engaged in security of the Parliament. I have been told that seven companies of CRPF, two hundred fifty men of Delhi police, two platoons of CRPF lady police have been deployed for the Parliament House. Besides, whatever security was demanded by the Secretary General in his letter has been given by the Government of India. There was never any shortage in providing security personnel. We know that the attack on Parliament is a serious matter and its impact will be felt world, over. Therefore I can say this much that.

[English]

It is always easy to be wise after the event.

[Translation]

It would have been better had we implemented these decisions earlier. But in today's circumstances, the facts in toto are before me. I cannot complain of security on the basis of those facts. I feel that the security personnel have done a commendable job and we should applaud it. 11 September may be a gloomy day for the security men of USA but 13th of December is a Day of Pride for Indian Security personnel. They have accomplished a big task and we have to recognise that.

[English]

Terrorism through the agency of suicide squads.

[Translation]

is entirely an new phenomenon which is not easy to be countered.

Mr. Salman Rushdie faced it and he had to go in hiding for years together. He could not make public appearance and the British Government made necessary

arrangements for this. Can anyone of us accept such an arrangement and is it in tune with the spirit of Democracy? After this incident, some people have expressed the view that entry of visitors of the Visitors' Gallery should be banned. I said how it could be possible-this is a democratic country after all!

I am reminded of one thing. It was then when a number of bomb explosions had occurred a casual suggestion was made that the visitors' Gallery should be provided with bulletproof glass-protection on all sides. But Democracy has its own parameters. Openness is required to some extent and it is essential nevertheless. Anyway, today I was mentioning about Pakistan's reaction towards this incident and it is quite natural. I have seen in 'The Times of India' or in some other newspaper that they are nourishing grudge against us for our levelling allegations against 'Jaish-e-Mohammed' and 'Lashkar-e-Taiyyaba'.

[English]

"Pakistan Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Sattar has rejected the charges made by Advani holding the two Pakistani based organisations, Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba responsible for the Parliament attack."

[Translation]

And he has rejected the charges saying that.

[English]

"This is a prejudiced and biased allegation in order to defame the freedom struggle in Kashmir as Terrorism"

[Translation]

As per their explanation, these two organisations are running their activities there in the name of 'freedom struggle! Allegations have been levelled against them only in order to defame the 'freedom struggle! I am reminded of the event when five-six months back the President of that country came to Agra for discussion on the invitation of our Prime Minister. If that discussion could not bear any fruit, or could not bring about any result its main reasons was the public announcement made by him that day that whatsoever violence had been taking place in Kashmir, was a 'freedom struggle'. He made a statement on the Television that we people, too, had sent our 'Muktivahini' to support one such struggle in the past in Bangladesh. There were many other factors too but, this statement on his part was the main contributing for the failure of the discussions.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we thought that Pakistan had changed its ideology when they decided to join the Global Coalition against terrorism under America's auspices after the 11th September incident. Though, Pakistan left Taliban's company, atleast formally-whom they accompanied and spread terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir using them as a tool for it but everyone knows the reality. We expected a sincere change in their ideology, in their thinking. But, looking at Shri Abdul Sattar's statement published today I do not see that there could be any change. We have proved our credentials time and again that we want stable friendship between India and Pakistan. When Prime Minister Shri Vajpayee went to Lahore by bus, he took an extremely extraordinary initiative. After that, we invited him to India though he had usurped the power by toppling the elected government. But we still thought very positively as regard the talks; we did not even dispute his position of a military dictator coming for talks! But look at the results of all those positive initiatives! Today, they are saying that a combined probe may be initiated, how it is possible? All the five slain militants are Pakistanis. Their accomplices named 'Jaish-e-Mohammad' to be responsible for the incident. Any Government, which has faith in its sovereignty and strength can never accept any such proposition.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when General Musharraf came here, I got an opportunity to meet him. I told him that there was one thing common between me and him. He was also a student of the same school wherein I had studied. Furthermore, I told him that I had come to know during my visit to Turkey that he had passed his childhood days there and was very good at Turkish. And, I visited Turkey not just for sight-seeing at Istambul and Ankara, but to sign extradition treaty there. Genuinely, we need an extradition treaty with Pakistan, not with Turkey. And, further, I asked him as to if some killer murders someone or snatches away 5 crores rupee amount from some person after kidnapping him and after doing all this, seeks refuge in Pakistan—don't you think, there should be some extradition—treaty for such cases?

[English]

Why not? Why should we not have an extradition treaty? This was his response. But the moment I mentioned.

[Translation]

that 300 people were killed in bomb explosions in Mumbai in 1993 and the main convict is sitting in Pakistan.

[English]

He immediately changed.

[Translation]

His attitude changed. Today, I want to say that Pakistan has nothing to do with terrorism. If it is to be proved, not only action would have to be taken against Jaish-e-Mohammad and Laskher-e-Taiba, but terrorists like Dawood Ebrahim and Maula Masood Azhar, who have taken shelter there should have to be extradited.

[English]

These are the bases on which whether they are honestly against terrorism or not is going to be judged.

[Translation]

Its not that they said that they are against terrorism-even the words they used for those five Pakistanis were not terrorist by armed intruders when they criticised the incident, they were called intruders. I am mentioning it because most of the people have said that we should have a long term, short term strategy

[English]

to deal with the problem of terrorism.

[Translation]

Hon. Member Shri Shivraj Patil said that he has been saying for many days that there is no probability of war but terrorism would continue. Since I mentioned General Zia, when I went to Pakistan in 1978 General Zia was ruling there. Around the same time he declared his strategy that they have fought many wars with India and have been defeated. Therefore, they have to formulate a new strategy which he mentioned in a meeting with Army Commanders. He said in the meeting that

[English]

"We must adopt those methods of combat which Kashmiri mind can grasp and cope with. In the past we have opted for ham-handed military options, and, therefore failed."

But now we have to do political subversion on the basis of intrigue and a low level insurgency against the regime so that it is under siege but does not collapse as we would not—that is on Kashmir—yet want central rule imposed by Delhi and then he

mentioned Punjab. He said, "In brief our plan for Kashmir which will be code named as operation Topac, will be as follows."

[*Translation*]

Shri Shivraj Patil mentioned a little bit in his speech that we are fighting this kind of war for many years. Therefore when some one says that we want war. I say that there have been 3-4 normal wars. But the war going on in the name of operation Topac, is more painful. So there is no question of taking a decision. Only we have to decide as to how to answer the war which have been thrust upon us for so many years by Pakistan. As we have been giving response till today—they attack us, explode bombs here and then we search, apprehend and punish them. We should continue like this or think of any other strategy. Specially this time when they have attacked on Parliament. We have to think whether they have crossed the limit by attacking the Parliament. The incident of 11th September became a watershed for America. Efforts were made earlier and we have been making efforts consistently. During the last three and half years Prime Minister went there, the Foreign Minister went there. I also got this opportunity. We always discussed with them regarding terrorism that there is terrifying situation in India with regard to Jammu and Kashmir. There are innocent citizens who are being murdered, no matter what they are—women, men, or children, they are being killed every day. We need their cooperation in this matter, and it is not that the same has not been extended to us earlier.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, some one said that we have been isolated, no one is with us now a days. I want to inform that the President of America and Russia, Prime Minister of Nepal, King of Bhutan called up Prime Minister, criticised the incident and assured that they are with us against terrorism.

[*English*]

The Foreign Minister of China, Turkey, Germany, France, Oman are among the many who sent messages. Our External Affairs Minister also had talks on the telephone with the Foreign Ministers of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and also with the British Foreign Secretary and the US Secretary of State. The Commonwealth Secretary General, the European Union, all of them have condemned it. It is often said that terrorism can not be justified on any ground. Including China, all of them said that terrorism has to be stamped out from the whole world.

[*Translation*]

After all that as the Hon'ble Prime Minister said in the morning that we have to solve our problem on our own. If we think that America would solve our problem. UK would solve our problem, it would be self deception, it is not going to happen. Had America lacked self confidence, they would not have attacked Afghanistan.

They didn't believe in the coalition, they have done it of their own. In the same way we have to fight the Pakistan sponsored terrorism, no one else will do this for us. But how to fight it out. Somebody criticised us that I didn't tell this or that in my statement. It is all right, I didn't tell because I was not in a position to do so. There are so many inputs involved in this decision. There may be intelligence inputs, army inputs, inputs from you people, inputs from common people, inputs from international community and after considering all these inputs, the Prime Minister will take a decision in consultation with his advisor. And after the decision, we will make a statement about that.

15.19 hrs.

[*MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair*]

You think that after the incident of 14th, the Home Minister will make a statement and at the end of that statement, he would say, we will do this or that, these type of things must not be expected and so many people didn't expect that. Therefore, it has not been mentioned there. When people express their prior consent with your decision then it is inherent in their consent that the decision will be taken after sound deliberations. And it does not mean that they are against any stringent measure. I don't think so. Whatever success we have achieved in containing terrorism in our fight against terrorism, it is because of these strong measures. But I would like to add that despite these strong measures at the time of Kargil war, there was a tremendous pressure on this Government. It was said that when a neighbour intrudes into your boundaries, then it is very much legitimate to fight it out with hot pursuit under international laws and conventions all over the world.

You are free to chase them and destroy them in their own house. Such pressure on the Government of India was at its peak during Kargil war, specially Air force had dwelt upon many difficulties faced by them in carrying out its operation. They said Government directive was not to cross the L.O.C. and they had to attack those hills while remaining within the L.O.C., it was so difficult, but in spite of all these difficulties they followed the policy



[Shri L.K. Advani]

laid down by the Government of India. Hot pursuit was also legitimate at that time but we didn't follow that. I cannot say what we will or will not do now, I can not say. It depends on several factors. But the thing I can say certainly that, the 13th December incident, and I have since said allowed it in my statement.

[English]

"This is the most audacious, and also the most alarming act of terrorism in the nearly two-decades long history of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India. This time the terrorists and their mentors across the border had the temerity to try to wipe out the entire political leadership of India, as represented in our multi-party Parliament."

It means that the limit would have been crossed. This was the temerity. This was the danger that these brave security men had averted. It could have been a disastrous day in the history of India. I really shudder to think what would have been the consequences if even two of them had managed to come inside.

[Translation]

That has been avoided but our responsibility has increased after it and it is that.

[English]

We cannot just regard it as one more terrorist incident. No, it is not. It is far more serious than that.

[Translation]

And the Government will take any decision keeping in view its gravity. Today the whole country is concerned about it, they are expecting something concrete and that expectation is not unnatural. But on the other hand, as the Prime Minister has stated, such decisions are not taken merely on the basis of the feelings, all pros and cons will have to be weighed, all consequences and aspects have to be taken into consideration before taking such decisions. Therefore, I have said that the decisions could be taken only after the receipt of all types of inputs.

Anyway, I feel that yesterdays and today's debate will be very helpful in decision making. I want to say one thing more that if anyone takes it just as a Hindu and Muslim issue, then it is very wrong and would weaken the strength of India. India is the country where 15-16 crore Muslims live with equality and confidence. This is the second largest Muslim population in a single country after Indonesia. If they feel insecure because of any statement made by us, then it will bring a bad name for

us. This is wrong. It should never happened. So, I want to assure those people who have expressed such apprehension that this is not a war between Hindu and Muslim. Even I wish that this should not be a war between India and Pakistan. It should be a war between a civilised community and a barbarian society.

[English]

Terrorism is 'asabhyata'. Terrorism is barbarism. Civilization Vs barbarism is the kind of struggle,

[Translation]

and if there can be another aspect of it then it can be Democracy Vs. terrorism and this can be one aspect and one of the specific features of Democracy is that there are one hundred crore 110 crore in India and all of them are equal. This is the specific feature of democracy.

They could be from any religion, caste, sect there is no discrimination in it. Therefore, the Muslim brethren of India should rest assured, at least from Govt. side they should be rest assured that there is no place for such thinking in India Nevertheless, I would like to say to my Muslim brethren that the way in which incidence of 11th September, 2001 happened in America and Bin Laden turned out to be a symbol of terrorism for them—if somebody appreciates the actions of Bin Laden then by such actions he creates doubts in the mind of people. Only Osama Bin Laden knows as to how much he is responsible for these incidents but some people become icon of it and he has become icon for them. When he has become the icon of terrorism then—terrorism which is going on in Jammu-Kashmir—many people keep on writing positively about it but more the people become vocal about such issues more the confidence will be there in society as a whole and people will feel confident about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that democracy and secularism are two strong pillars of India because in a country like India...(Interruptions) I would not explain that today. I would not like to debate on it as it is not a suitable time for it, but if a discussion on secularism is to be done then I am ready for it. It is not an ordinary issue. When tension between Hindus and Muslims was at peak at that movement the country was divided. At that time the Congress Party was against partition but due to pressure of Muslim League the country was divided. Dr. Ambedkar had said that when the country had been divided then exchange of population should also take place but we did not agree to that...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Excuse me Hon. Home Minister, there are many people responsible for the partition of the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Today, we are not discussing the partition of the country. That can also be analysed as to why and how partition took place. But today it is not the time for it.

When Gen. Musharraf Saheb visited India, at that time I had a conversation with him. At that time I mentioned to him that what an irony that you were born in Delhi and yet you visited Delhi for the first time in 54 years and whereas I was born in Karachi but I visited Karachi only once in 54 years. I told him, "don't you think that this situation should change." I also said that in the time of the Prime Minister Vajpayee ji it is appropriate to do so and such an opportunity was never there and will not be there in future too. Therefore, the situation should be changed. I said that we should make efforts to change the situation if we can, to avoid tension and war between India and Pakistan which has been and still a regular feature. It is sure that differences would be there between us.

We have differences over Jammu-Kashmir. I am a Member of Parliament, and being a Member of Parliament under the Constitution of India I take an oath Jammu-Kashmir does not mean only that portion which is under your control *i.e.* Pak occupied Kashmir but it also means that portion which you have given to China. We take an oath for that and I also know that many people in Pakistan, including may be you, think that Pakistan was created on the basis of two nation theory. Jammu-Kashmir was a Muslim majority area. How it was included in India it should be part of Pakistan

*[English]*

and you may feel that it is not right that Jammu and Kashmir is with India but, how are we going to resolve this difference between our perspectives?

*[Translation]*

It was decided in Shimla that whatever the differences be, they will be resolved through dialogue. Tomorrow, we will go to Agra. I had this conversation in Delhi. I said that we will go to Agra and you decided with Vajpayee Ji there that

*[English]*

we will talk; we will talk; we will talk and talk and try to reduce this gulf between our perspectives. But meanwhile we shall not be held hostage to the resolution of these difference

*[Translation]*

let us, resolve then he replied there and then that as for peace is concerned that there freedom struggle in going, this is happening, that is happening. In general so far as India is concerned India and the Government of India want that the relation between India and Pakistan should improve.

If this kind of terrorism continues and such attacks on Parliament take place then there can be no peace and we have to find some other method to deal with such a situation.

Something such as they entered from iron gate No. 1 or iron gate No. 2, there were five or six people have been mentioned. All these things are of such nature which would be looked into by those who are conducting the enquiry. The CCTV of Speaker's tells one thing where as there are other version also.

*[English]*

Which do not really relate to the statement that I have made today, but by and large I tell you that it is a matter of great success for the Delhi Police.

*[Translation]*

They have come out with such results within three days, culprits have been traced and apprehended and on the basis of it complete picture has been placed before us.

15.32 hrs.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

### Security Arrangements in Parliament House complex

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as mentioned by the hon. Home Minister, I may inform the House that in the aftermath of terrorist attack on the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on the 1st October 2001, under my directions, an Expert Group of security professionals comprising representatives from the Delhi Police, the Special Protection Group and CRPF, the Intelligence Bureau and the Parliament Security was constituted on the 10th October 2001.

[Mr. Speaker]

The Expert Group has had as many as ten meetings and has since presented its report. I have discussed the report with the Lt. Governor, Delhi; Secretary (Internal Security); Commissioner of Police, Delhi; Director, Intelligence Bureau; and Inspector-General of the Special Protection Group. I propose to constitute a Steering Committee of officials and a Parliamentary Committee of hon. Members to guide the Steering Committee for speedy implementation of the report.

I may also add that during the last two months, after the attack on Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, field inspections of the Parliament Complex have been taken by me, the Secretary-General and the Expert Group. All arrangements for strengthening the security in the Parliament House are being taken by us from time to time.

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15.34 hrs.

## VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have had a very meaningful discussion on a subject of crucial concern for the nation as a whole. It is a matter of satisfaction for all of us that the discussion was marked by consensus and unanimity. We are all united in our resolve to safeguard the unity and integrity of the country. I have had discussion with Leaders of Parties where a consensus emerged that it will be in the fitness of things to conclude our last Session of this year in a spirit of unanimity and national consensus, and that the House may adjourn *sine die* today. I am inclined to accept this suggestion. Thus, today, we come to the end of the Eighth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha—indeed, one of the most eventful in the life of our Parliament and the nation.

This Session and more particularly, 13th December, 2001 will ever remain etched in our collective conscience in the wake of the terrorist attack on this supreme institution of the country. This attack on the nation and its elected leadership was defeated by the timely and courageous action of our security forces belonging to the CRPF, Delhi Police, ITBP and of course, the officers of the Parliament Watch and Ward Service. In their attempt to save the ultimate symbol of Indian democracy, some of them laid down their lives. We once again pay our tributes to the memory of those brave souls.

All of us here realise the magnitude and seriousness of the challenge posed to the nation's unity and integrity

by the terrorists and their collaborators. That makes our resolve all the more strong to make safe and secure what the terrorists were trying to destroy—in this case, the Parliament of India which is the epitome of the largest working democracy in the world. We take it as not merely an attack on the most important institution in the country but as an attack on our political system, our ethos and values and on our very way of life. But, in the days to follow, we have shown to the world that we stand as one in ensuring the unity and integrity of our motherland.

During the Session which commenced on 19th November, 2001, the House had a total of 21 sittings spread over about 80 hours. In the course of the Session, the Lok Sabha transacted several important items of financial, legislative and other business. The Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for the year 2001-2002, Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for the year 1998-99, Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2001-2002 and the Budget in respect of the State of Manipur were passed with the full cooperation of the House.

In the legislative sphere, the Lok Sabha gave approval to 11 Bills. The House passed the Constitution (Eighty-fifth) Bill, 2001 to amend article 16A of the Constitution to provide for restoration of consequential seniority in the case of promotion to the Government servants belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The historic Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 2001, also passed by the House, sought the insertion of a new article 21A, conferring on all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years the right to free and compulsory education; substitution of a new article for article 45 to provide that the State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years; and to amend article 51A of the Constitution with a view to providing that it shall be the obligation of the parents to provide opportunities for education to their children. Two other important Bills passed by the Lok Sabha were the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001 and the Explosive Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

The House had fruitful debates on four matters of public importance under Rule 193. Besides the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs regarding the terrorists attack on Parliament House on which the discussion was completed today, the other discussions were on : (i) the problems being faced by farmers; (ii) the Ayodhya issue; (iii) the statement made by the Minister of Commerce and Industry regarding the Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO held at Doha.

Two important matters were raised by Members by way of Calling Attention and the concerned Ministers made statements thereon. These were on the situations arising out of the influx of religious minorities from Bangladesh to India and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto; and on the situation arising out of the denial of a financial package to the Government of Bihar by the Central Government. Eleven Statements were made by Ministers on different issues of urgent public importance.

As regards the Question Hour, out of 420 Starred Questions listed, 38 were orally answered in the House. Replies to the remaining 382 Starred Questions and 4675 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

Insofar as the Private Members' Business is concerned, twelve Bills were introduced during this Session. One Private Member's Resolution moved during the last Session was further discussed and withdrawn by leave of the House. Another Resolution remained part discussed.

Members raised 148 matters under Rule 377, while ninety matters of public importance were raised by Members during the 'Zero Hour'.

During this Session, the Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented thirteen Reports.

Hon. Members, we have always endeavoured to see to it that the proceedings of our Legislative Bodies are conducted in an orderly manner. As you are aware, an all-India Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies, Chief Ministers of States, Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs and Leaders of Parties and Whips was convened in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 25th November, 2001 to discuss 'Discipline and Decorum in Parliament and Legislatures of States and Union Territories in India'. The hon. Vice-President of India, hon. Prime Minister, hon. Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Presiding Officers of State Legislatures, Chief Ministers and other dignitaries attended the Conference and shared their views on this issue of vital concern to all of us. The Conference adopted a Resolution encompassing a Code of Conduct for Members of all our Legislative Bodies. I need hardly emphasize that we not only enhance our own dignity but also that

of the Institution of Parliament when we conduct the proceedings of the House in a disciplined manner. It is my firm belief that the positive ideas that emerged out of the Conference will guide the conduct of our elected representatives in the days ahead.

I am extremely grateful to the hon. Leader of the House, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders and Deputy Leaders of various Parties and Groups in the House as also their Chief Whips and Whips and indeed to each and every Member of the House for their kind cooperation to me and to my colleagues, the hon. Deputy Speaker and Members of the Panel of Chairmen in conducting the proceedings of the House in a smooth and orderly manner during this Eighth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. I would also like to express our appreciation and thanks to the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and allied agencies for their valuable support in this regard. I also thank the Members of the media for the cooperation extended by them.

At the end, let us once again reiterate our resolve to stand united in the face of any threat to the unity and integrity of our country and pay our homage to all those who made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of the nation.

May I now wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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15.43 hrs.

### NATIONAL SONG

MR. SPEKAER: Hon. Members may now rise in their seats as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

*(The National Song was played.)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stand adjourned *sine die*.

15.44 hours.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*

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