

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 7, 2003/Chaitra 17, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi.

Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967 representing the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Shri Mengi was a Member of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislature during 1946.

A person with a religious bent of mind, Shri Mengi was President of Jammu and Kashmir Rajya Hindu Sabha and member of Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Jammu and Dogri Sanstha, Jammu.

Shri Mengi was an active social and political worker. He took active part in labour and co-operative movements.

Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi passed away on 11 February, 2003 at Jammu at the age of 89.

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

As the hon. Members are aware, 24 persons were massacred by terrorists at Nadimarg village in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir on 24 March, 2003.

We deeply mourn the loss of lives of these innocent people and strongly deplore this inhuman and cowardly act of violence.

The House may place on record its deep sense of grief on this tragedy.

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

11.01 hrs.

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

11.03 hrs.

SUSPENSION OF QUESTION HOUR

Regarding Situation in Iraq

[English]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, we have given notice for Adjournment Motion on the ongoing crisis in Iraq. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have received several notices of Adjournment Motion and also a notice for suspension of Question Hour has been received by me. The notices on Adjournment Motion are on 'Aggression on Iraq by the United States and UK Coalition Forces'. The notices have been received from the following Members. They are, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Ramji Lal Suman, Shri Subodh Roy, Shri Basu Deb Acharia, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Shri Jaipal Reddy, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Sunil Khan.

There is also a notice from Shri Basudeb Acharia, Shri Ajoy Chakraborty and Shri V. Radhakrishnan regarding an alleged attack by police on Members of Parliament while demonstrating in different parts of Kerala on 17th March, 2003.

Shri Ramdas Athawale also has given a notice regarding killing of a *dalit* in Nandurburg district in Maharashtra.

Shri J.S. Brar has given a notice regarding political murder of the former Home Minister of Gujarat. These are all the notices that I have received.

I have also received several notices regarding suspension of Question Hour for discussing 'Aggression on Iraq by the United States and UK Coalition Forces'. These notices have been given by Shri Basu Deb Acharia, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri M.O.H. Farooq, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri K.H. Muniyappa, Shri E.M.S. Natchiappan and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

I have also received a notice from the hon. Minister of External Affairs. He wants to make a statement in the House on the same subject.

Therefore, when the issue will come up for a discussion here..

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the statement of hon'ble Minister, this matter should be debated and we should be listened to ...*(Interruptions)* I want your protection on the issue. ...*(Interruptions)* I have given a notice of Adjournment motion on this issue, therefore we should be listened first. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Several notices for suspension of the Question Hour have been given. Why the Question Hour should be suspended is the question before us.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia has given a notice for suspension of the Question Hour. Will he please tell me why he wants that the Question Hour should be suspended?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We have given Adjournment Notices also against aggression by the United States of America on Iraq. In spite of our demand, the Government of India has not come forward with a condemnation of this US aggression on Iraq. Today is the 19th day of this aggression. Bypassing public opinion the world over, bypassing the UNO also, the United States of America has unilaterally attacked Iraq. They are destroying and are killing thousands and thousands of people. This is the most urgent matter today before us.

Everywhere people are agitating and demonstrating. In India also, in a number of places, demonstrations are taking place. This is a very urgent matter as a small country with a population of 2.5 crore people is being attacked. It is being bombed everyday killing the people, including children, and destroying the property. Hospitals are being bombed and children are being killed.

This is the most urgent matter. That is why we want that the Question Hour should be suspended and we should immediately take up the Adjournment Motion on this unprovoked attack on Iraq and the failure of the Government of India to take a clear stand on the issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, My Adjournment Motion notice is first in the list ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am discussing only the suspension of the Question Hour. The next name in the list is Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: From the Congress Party we gave the notice today to suspend the Question Hour not with the remote intention to disturb the proceedings of the House, but we felt as the principal Opposition Party that the biggest question on the first day of the resumed Session of Parliament is peace in the Middle-East, specially in Iraq, stoppage of the war and to refer back the entire matter to the United Nations once again in order to ensure the cease-fire.

We felt with great dismay that the Government of India is speaking in different voices through different Cabinet Ministers for the last few days, right from the day of recess till today. They are not attaching due importance to this issue and they have not understood the mood of the Indian people who stood for the freedom of every country and for the sovereignty of every country. The basic thrust of the Non Aligned Movement as enunciated by the first Government of this Republic is non-interference into anybody's political regime, leaving it to the people of the respective countries.

So, our Congress Party, once again makes it clear that war against Iraq violates all accepted canons of international law, and therefore, needs to be condemned.

Even at this hour, the Congress Party appeals that there should be immediate cessation of hostility against Iraq, and the whole matter once again should be referred back to the United Nations to find a peaceful and honourable solution, acceptable to all concerned parties. On the first day of the Session, had it been Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, or had it been Shrimati Indira Gandhi, they would have come to the House and forced the Prime Minister to take the nation into confidence. This is what we expected today. We are sorry, we are missing that

kind of legacy, the tradition that was followed by the Indian Government time and again in the matters of peace, and that too of getting world peace.

I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, Sir, nothing can be more important than this question of war against Iraq. Therefore, we mooted this Motion that the Question Hour should be suspended and the Iraq issue should be taken up, and taken up through Adjournment Motion. The External Affairs Minister should not make a statement. It is the Prime Minister who is collectively answerable to the nation, who should make a statement, and should take the House into confidence. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): The Prime Minister has said that if there is a war then he will come back. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri G.M. Banatwalla.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: House is running in proper manner. I want to know as to why the Members of the Opposition want the suspension of the Question Hour.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice for the suspension of the Question Hour to discuss the Iraq situation.

Sir, the aggression against Iraq by the United States and its Allies has reached a very critical stage. The deplorable aggression is in defiance of all international principles, of all canons of international law, of all world opinion, and of all humanitarian considerations.

Sir, the whole House must rise with a sense of urgency to demand an immediate end of the war and to demand that the United States and its Allied forces immediately withdraw from Iraq.

Sir, the weak, inadequate and ambiguous policy of our Government has rendered India irrelevant to international developments of serious and far-reaching consequences.

Sir, it is necessary that the whole House rises to demand an end to the war. It is necessary that the whole House rises to demand that this aggression must stop and the United States and its Allied Forces withdraw.

President Bush must be tried as a war criminal. That is an absolute necessity. The United States must compensate Iraq. All sanctions against Iraq must be withdrawn. The situation is very critical. I have given an Adjournment Motion, and I would request you to suspend and dispense with this usual Question Hour on a matter of such burning problem, and to take up Adjournment Motion for the purpose of discussion.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir entire humanity is suffering due to the barbarous manner in which the USA has invaded Iraq. Iraq has always supported India on all international fora on all the issue. Humanists all over the world are criticising this barbaric act of the USA and Britain and a number of countries have condemned this action of the USA. It is unfortunate that last time also the entire opposition had demanded time and again that Government should enable the House to condemn the act of the USA by passing a resolution but hon'ble Prime Minister cleverly ducked the proposal of the opposition, thereafter he also called an all party meeting*. It has only raised the morale of countries such as USA.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): He did not say that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will remove those words from the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: My submission is that this act of the USA is being watched by all nations ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Akhilesh ji, the issue before us is as to why question-hour be suspended. Speak only regarding that. Ramdas ji, Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir they are now discomfited by our revealing the truth. They should be brave enough to accept the truth.

*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

Thousands of innocent citizens of Iraq have been killed by the US and British forces. This act of the USA and Britain is nothing short of a criminal act. We ought to declare the US and Britain war criminals and the House should unanimously condemn this action of the USA by passing a resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of Adjournment Motion, wherein I have requested that this issue be discussed by suspending all other business of the House. It is a matter of urgent public importance and is the most burning topic. USA wants to establish its dictatorship all over the world through his war, therefore, please allow this issue to be discussed by suspending all other business of the House.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar): Sir, war against Iraq is war against the human beings of the countries of the world. India, beginning from time of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru till today, is a peace-loving country and the Congress Working Committee has said that the war against Iraq violates all accepted canons of international law and, therefore, needs to be condemned. The Congress Party appeals that there should be an immediate cessation or cease-fire of the hostilities against Iraq and the whole matter should once again be referred back to the United Nations to find a peaceful and honourable solution acceptable to all the concerned parties. This is a serious matter. So, I request the hon. Speaker to suspend the Question Hour at this juncture.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): The entire world is now worried about the activities of the United States of America and the United Kingdom in the name of coalition forces. They are killing unarmed people. Millions of children are killed. Mothers are weeping everyday. Old people are weeping that their total generation is going of be lost by the invasion of the Americans. We want to become the Member of the Security Council, but, at the same time, we, the Indian Government, is not at all worried about it. They have not come forward with a clear statement. They have not asked the NAM to be convened so that, in the name of NAM, we can make the American forces withdraw from the soil of another nation. We are not doing it.

At the same time, we are looking at it as spectators. Our hon. Prime Minister is not coming forward with a clear statement telling that India is for peace, India is for non-invasion of any sovereign country and the people of the world should obey peaceful means. The United

Nations' Charter is to be respected. The legal means which are given in the United Nations' Charter are not at all followed by the so-called superpower. Why should we be afraid of the United States when Pakistan is waived of one billion dollars and when our enemies are given all help? Our people, the Indian people, are killed in Kashmir. Our people are killed in Maharashtra by the so-called ISI.

But we do not have any voice to say to the U.S., 'Look, you are creating all the trouble in our soil and you are creating all the trouble everywhere.' Tomorrow, Shri Vajpayee may be replaced by somebody by America and may say that it is worried about Shri Vajpayee. The Congress Party in its Working Committee has passed a Resolution. I may be permitted to read a portion of it. It says:

"The Congress calls for an immediate end to hostilities to give another opportunity to the United Nations system to secure full adherence to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions by Iraq as repeatedly offered by Iraq itself. The relevant UN Resolutions do not call for regime change but disarmament of Iraq of its remaining Weapons of Mass Destruction, if indeed it has any. The goal is best achieved by the resumption of inspection process which was proceeding satisfactorily until it was interrupted by unilateral military action, not in consonance with the UN Charter and without the UN Security Council authorisation."

Why is the humanity now looking at one force only? Now, the Question Hour has to be suspended because every minute people's life is destroyed by the U.S. Army. That should be stopped. That is why we want to say that the Question Hour should be suspended and this House should be heard. This House which is an apex institution of the biggest democracy should be heard by the entire world and the entire humanity.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, the failure of the Government of India to outright condemn the barbaric military aggression on Iraq and on the Iraqi people, in gross violation of all civilised norms, in violation of the international laws, in violation of the UN Charter, has resulted in our isolation from the world community. This failure to condemn is not only isolating us from our friends but also from the swelling public opinion. Iraq has always been our friend and when such a country is being attacked and so mercilessly bombarded daily for the last nineteen days, the least we demand from this Government is that it should outright condemn this military aggression,

this barbaric aggression, on Iraq. This great nation, which has a great and glorious heritage of anti-imperialist struggle, which has championed the cause of anti-imperialism, is deviating. This Government is practising a marked deviation from that path. It is most regrettable. This Government is getting more and more irrelevant in the world community.

In such a situation, we have submitted an Adjournment Motion so that this matter could be taken up urgently for consideration. We should unitedly voice the opinion and it should be reflected through a Resolution which would not only condemn this military aggression but also urge them to stop this war or act of aggression and that everything should be settled at the United Nations only.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We want a full debate.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan wants to make an argument.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am listening to the argument as to why the Question Hour should be suspended. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan can make his argument.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions) What do they intend to do? They have circulated a Supplementary List of Business saying that the Minister is going to make a statement.

Sir, you have not yet decided on the Adjournment Motion. So, how can they circulate the Supplementary List of Business for making a statement when the whole House desires to have a full discussion on this issue?

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should also be allowed to speak. Same things are being repeated over and over again. You are not allowing us to speak. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, there are eight Members who have given notices for suspension of Question Hour. After allowing all those Members, I am going to permit you.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: We can at least oppose. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first we are discussing the issue whether Question Hour be suspended or not. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is the question before us.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Your secretariat has released a paper regarding statement of the hon'ble Minister on the issue. Now I feel that this matter is before the House, only it has to decide whether it should be taken up as an adjournment Motion or the debate should be preceded by a statement from the hon'ble Minister. This is not proper. ...(Interruptions). I have given notice for the suspension of Question Hour. This issue is not limited to just Iraq and the USA. Just four days ago, we have seen President Bush speaking on TV that, after tackling Iraq he will sort out the issue between India and Pakistan. I would like to tell the External Affairs Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha, that he will not sort out the issue between India and Pakistan, it will neither be done by the Prime Minister of India and President of Pakistan, after the USA wins in Iraq, President Bush propose to solve all issues including that of Kashmir between India and Pakistan on his own terms. At that time, they will not have any moral right to condemn that before the world. Therefore this is not the matter of just Iraq. Iraq has been a friendly country. It is a Muslim country, but irrespective of the fact it has always supported us against Pakistan whenever the need arose. Iraq has also been supplying petroleum products to us at low cost. And now our friendly country is being invaded and we are only preaching. UNO is being flouted there. Its security Council has become totally defunct. Both the Houses and the nation needs to think where do we stand in such a scenario.

I condemn President Bush in clear terms. I have not seen Hitler or Mussolini but the face of President Bush appears even more grotesque than that of Hitler ...*(Interruptions)* Though I condemn President Bush, yet I salute the American people as they have come out on road against their own government. Australian people have also come out. They are gheraoing their own Prime Minister and the Parliament. I have seen on TV what is happening in the Parliament of U.K. The manner in which it has displayed its anger over the issue of Iraq is even worse than what is done here. But I am sorry at the statement of our Prime Minister. He had given his statement on 12th March, when you had allowed him to clarify on his statement as a special case. At the time of clarification hon'ble Prime Minister had said while concluding, "I hope that there is no war and therefore there is no need to reply to it". When several Members asked as to what he would do in case of war and Shri Basudeb Acharia had asked why does he not condemn it. Hon'ble Prime Minister replied, "Mr. Speaker, Sir I believe that there will be no unilateral action, we will condemn it if it occurs. It happened on 12th March and is in record. At that time, hon'ble Prime Minister had said that he would condemn it. Thereafter he called a meeting of Opposition leaders. But even then the resolution regarding condemnation was not passed. To what extent he is prepared to go? He had said that he would condemn if something happens. Today, innocent citizens and children are being killed there. No chemical or other weapons of mass destruction has been found there. Even then, Government of India have dilly dally policy.

I would like to quote poet Dinkar:

"Samar Sesh hai nahin paap ka
Bhagi kewal vyagh
Jo Tatasht hai samay likhega
unka bhi apradh"

So, I would like to say that history will never forgive the NDA Government and its Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The name of his Government will go down in black letters in the history.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRADAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, eyes of all nations are on us. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore Question Hour should be suspended and US war over Iraq should be condemned ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the issue should be discussed by suspending Question Hour and the House should pass a resolution condemning US action ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I allow so many Members to speak. Will you allow me to speak or not ? Please sit down.

[English]

I have heard the hon. Members who have expressed their anxiety about the issue of Iraq. I really understand the importance of this subject. I also understand that normally we do not permit the suspension of Question Hour. I am thinking that the issue being very serious, this particular matter can be taken up on a priority basis. Before I take a decision, since Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has expressed his desire to speak, I am allowing him to speak on the suspension of Question Hour, considering the importance of the problem.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given notice of Adjournment. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Question Hour should be suspended. ..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra, you may speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am going to take a decision on the suspension of Question Hour. Before I take a decision on that, I would permit Shri Mulayam Singh and also Shri Somnath Chatterjee to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I don't want to stop him from speaking ..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh, I would allow you also.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is more than enough.

[*Translation*]

What are you doing? Do you not want that House should function? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you are a member of the panel of Chairmen. You must understand.

[*Translation*]

You do not understand. You are a very senior Member. Please sit down. Malhotra ji, please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER; Only the speech of Shri Malhotra will go on record. Nothing else, including slogans, would go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Raghuvansh ji, please do not think that just because you have a loud voice, you can speak any time your wish. This is not right. I have heard you twice. Now I will not permit you. Malhotra ji, I permit you to speak.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA; Mr. Speaker, Sir, the barbaric action of Britain and US on Iraq has been condemned in no uncertain terms here and I would like to condemn their action even more harshly. The whole country is one on this issue. The USA and Britain have not only invaded Iraq ...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, no one has given the US and Britain right to make the UNO irrelevant.

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Hon'ble Prime Minister should say this.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am putting forth the views of my party. Government would say later what it has to say.

MR. SPEAKER: You speak whether Question Hour be suspended or not.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: That is what I am saying. The US and Britain are not the global police nor

are they its masters. Attacking another country by completely disregarding the UNO is like murdering UNO and is against humanity and civilisation. When the whole country is one on the issue, why do we try to create discord among ourselves. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the proposal should come from the Government ...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He is a member of this House. He has every right to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, whatever you are saying is going on record. Please go ahead.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He has the right to speak. How can it be that only you have the right to speak and he doesn't. Please sit down and let Shri Malhotra conclude.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: When they were speaking, I had not interrupted them. It is not proper that we listen to them and they do not listen to us. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only your speech would be recorded. Please carry on.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Be it Saddam, or Bin Laden or Al Qaeda it was the USA which created them. It was America which created Taliban and Bin Laden and provided them weapons. These 'Bhashmasurs' were created by the USA only. First it creates them and then invades to destroy them. Innocent and children are being killed in Iraq, therefore the war should stop at once. I am surprised that amid reports of small children being killed in the attack we are playing politics. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: This is highly objectionable ...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I totally object to this. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is this going on? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, let me know your opinion about the suspension of Question Hour.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: My party is in Government. ...*(Interruptions)* They demand that hon'ble Prime Minister should condemn it. My party has passed a resolution in Indore. We want the war to stop but whether the USA will stop war only if this resolution is passed and the Question Hour is suspended ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra says.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No slogan should be taken on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Earlier America waived off a loan of one crore dollar outstanding against Pakistan and now it has waived off another debt of Rs. 5 thousand crore—why this has been done. ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I would like to say that we should not involve politics in this matter. The whole country is united and everybody should be allowed to put forth his views. ...*(Interruptions)*, whether we would be able to stop the war by suspending the Question Hour ...*(Interruptions)*. Why politics is being played here? Do not we have sympathy towards the small children dying in Iraq war? Politics is being played even on the killings of children. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh, now it is your turn to speak.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mulayam Singhji, we listen you patiently but when we start speaking, your party members continuously interrupt us.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Let Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, nothing more can be as important as this issue raised before the House today. Now this issue is not confined to Iraq only rather it is a threat to the entire world. America has attacked Iraq ignoring all the modalities of UNO. UNO Inspectors sent their I, II and III reports to Security Council on 27th January, 25th February and 7th March respectively stating that Iraq is fully cooperating them. They also stated in clear terms that they did not find any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Even then Iraq was attacked. No party should play politics on this issue. It is not a matter of a particular party. The point is that the attack is not confined to Iraq only. It was a great insult to our country when America threatened that India cannot attack Pakistan in the name of terrorism. America is playing like a dictator. America would not confine to Iraq only. I agree with Shri Ramdas that it would certainly attack India and give support to Pakistan. Therefore, Malhotraji we are not getting political mileage out of the situation. I want to say that nothing more can be as important as this issue. Therefore, Question Hour should be suspended and the House should move a "Ninda Prastav" against this act of America. Not only "Ninda Prastav" but America should be declared as war criminal. Today India has got an opportunity to unite all the Non-aligned countries under one umbrella and lead them to oppose America's aggression on Iraq. It would encourage the poor and backward countries of the world to oppose America's move. Iraq has always supported India at the time of need. While America has always created confusions over the important matters. Therefore, it is not a question of country's independence but India should unite all the Non-aligned countries and lead them. If the Government fails to do so, we would request the opposition parties to get united and invite all Non-aligned countries in Delhi or at any other place and urge them to stand unitedly against America. Today the country is getting an opportunity to lead but Government is backing out for the reasons known to them only. Their party may pass a resolution in this regard but the entire world is against this criminal act of America. The entire world consider America as a criminal and we also support them. Thousands of innocent people including infants, pregnant women, old and young people are being killed there. People of America, England and rest of the world are opposing the America's move and our Government should

not lose the opportunity to do the same. We should not confine to just "Ninda Prastav". I would submit that the Government at least stop the imports of American goods. It will mount some pressure on America. I further state that if Government fails to do so, then the opposition people should start burning the American goods. America is trying to dominate, we must boycott it. India is not weaker in any manner but the sense of violence is being induced in the minds of the people. There could be no matter more important, serious and dangerous than this one. It is posing a great threat to India. India is going to suffer most due to this war.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, while considering the seriousness of this matter, the Question Hour may please be suspended and discussion should be held on this issue.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is rightly proclaimed that we are the largest democracy in the world. I want to ask everybody most humbly: is there any urgent issue before the world today than this naked aggression which is going on in Iraq for the last 19 days? Why are we asking for an immediate discussion on this issue? What has been our response?

Firstly, it was decided that we want to take a middle path. What can that middle path be? If there is a war, then you have to make your position very clear. The hon. Prime Minister remained non-committal. Then, when the issue came up for condemnation, he said, 'when the war starts, then we shall condemn it.' That did not come forward.

When the All-Party meeting was there, I remember, even the allies of the NDA—Shri Chandra Kant Khaire and many others—almost unanimously said, 'we should condemn and pass a Resolution'. I am sure, my friends, who were present there, will support me. Even then they could only go up to the word 'deplore'. We said, 'no, we are not satisfied with that'. How can we accept the seriousness of this Government's attitude on this issue?

Sir, today, we have got the spectacle. I felt ashamed as an Indian that the Government of America, the U.S. President or Vice-President or somebody is threatening our hon. Minister of External Affairs, challenging his statement and saying, 'no you cannot do this; you cannot take it.' This is their hegemonistic attitude. They can declare anybody as their enemy and can go and walk in there. A friendly nation like Iraq is being decimated. Children and innocent people are being killed.

Sir, what is happening in this great country or ours? We are keeping quite. I find something is coming out, even when there is a difference of opinion. What happened in Indore? However, that is not the response of the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)* Will this country sit quietly? Will the greatest forum of this country sit here quietly and go through the Question Hour? This is not a question of only suspending the Question Hour, but this is a question of expressing the great resolve of this great country. We have repeatedly requested the Government at an All-Party meeting on this important issue during the last Session break and today also we are requesting. But there is a total silence from the Government. I would have understood if they had come forward with a draft Resolution condemning this attack on Iraq and the current situation in Iraq. If the Government had the courage to stand up against America, then they would have come forward with a Resolution condemning this naked aggression. Not only that, this country should have sent, at least humanitarian aid to Iraq. Have they done it? We thought that the Government of India would send the troops for the purpose of protecting people, at least, to show our principled objection to this war. But this Government is sitting quietly and we have to listen to lectures from Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra today, whatever he is talking about. ...*(Interruptions)*

You have to listen because you have to have some senses. This is too much.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You also have to listen.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now today, I would have understood, but the Government is sitting quietly. He may be the BJP's spokesman; he is not the Government's spokesman. What are these Ministers doing? If anybody protests, he loses his job. I congratulate Shri Ram Naik, a good friend of ours, for completing 25 years in Parliament, but he has to take up cudgels for the innocent people of Iraq.

Sir, there is this hegemonistic attitude, this policy, this principle of changing the regime of a country just because America wants it. Is this going to be the international rule? Shri Digvijay Singh attends those meetings and keeps quiet. He does not say anything. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria): I would like to ask Left Parties, what happened in ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, we demand an immediate discussion. We demand a

resolution of this House so that India's view is made clearly known. ...*(Interruptions)* We oppose this, we condemn this and we demand withdrawal of American forces, these forces of aggression on Iraq. Our demand is that this has to be done.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): Sir, these Communists were supporting China openly. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is the attitude. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): Bhartiya Janta Party has condemned the America ...*(Interruptions)* but what you did in 1962 ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the US and coalition forces' attack on Iraq needs to be summarily condemned by any democratic country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, I particularly consider. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Telugu Desam Party considers that expression of virtue of India is already there and it needs to be done. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Venkateswarlu to speak. You are on a point of order, but the Member

of your own Party does not allow you to raise the point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to raise a point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, my point of order is under Rule 58. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: How can he raise a point of order during Question Hour? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour has not started yet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We are discussing whether Question Hour should be suspended.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, TDP in its meeting of politburo and also the State Executive. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: After Prof. Venkateswarlu finishes, I will permit you to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Mr. Speaker Sir, the aggression on Iraq by the coalition forces of United States of America and Britain need to be condemned summarily, at the earliest possible moment. Sir, it is not a question of ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please place the House in order. They are deliberately doing this. When their Government has passed this Ninda Prastav in Indore then what is the problem in passing it here ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please let there be order in the House. Please sit down. Let everybody sit down. Shri Venkateswarlu, I have permitted you to speak. You go ahead.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Venkateswarlu to speak. Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak when discussion on this topic would be held.

[English]

I will allow you to speak when the discussion starts, and not now.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, in the recently convened meetings of the politburo of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), and also the State Executive, they have summarily condemned the attitude of Britain and USA; and their aggression on Iraq. Here this aggression is not merely on the military forces of Iraq, but it is an attack and aggression on the humanitarian aspect of the whole world. It is an aggression to establish the supremacy of some supreme power. Sir, it is an attack which is the outcome of the violation of the UN norms. It is an aggression violating all the international norms and the international laws. Sir, here, the whole world cannot be guided by the norms of the US. So, at the earliest possible time, we will have to condemn this. Sir, TDP would have been happy had the Government called for a Special Session on the very next day of this attack and condemned this issue. This condemnation is an expression of the solidarity of this country on this particular occasion. It is not only a question of postponing the Question Hour, but we will have to do it. There is no other go. Even after reconvening of this Session, if we do not go in for immediate condemnation of this barbaric attitude and just waste our time on procedures like whether the Question Hour is to be suspended or not, then the comity of nations will not forgive us. So, on behalf of the TDP without standing on the issue of procedures, I would like to say that the Adjournment Motion should be admitted, and the issue discussed. We will have to express our solidarity on this issue. It is not only a question of Opposition Parties raising the adjournment issue, but it would have been better had the ruling party itself set a very good convention of coming up with an Adjournment Motion.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am on a Point of Order. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is the Question Hour. I have already told, let the Question Hour be started. Therefore,

there cannot be a Point of Order because during the Question Hour we do not permit a Point of Order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I raised the Point of Order even before you started the Question Hour. You told that you will allow me afterwards. You yourself said that the Question Hour has not started, and that you are only seeking the opinion of the hon. Members as to whether the Question Hour should be suspended. That is what you said, Sir.

12.00 hrs.

You said that you would give me the permission to speak after listening to the views of Prof. Venkateswarlu. Sir, the 'point of order' should get the precedence over other things.

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to raise a point of order regarding the Adjournment Motion, it can be permitted.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: That is what exactly I am raising. My point of order is with regard to Rule 58, and I am reading the Rule.

"The right to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall be subject to the following restrictions, namely:-"

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, have you allowed him to speak?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: What you are quoting pertains to admission of the Notice and not about suspension. Therefore, it is irrelevant. We are discussing about suspension of the Question Hour and not about admission of the Notice of Adjournment Motion. Therefore, it is irrelevant. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Then Sir, come to Para V. The Rule says,

"The motion shall not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session."

We had discussed this Iraq issue on the 17th of February, in this Budget Session, which is continuing. In the first part of the Session, we had already discussed this matter. So, there cannot be an Adjournment Motion on the same subject, which was already discussed on

the first day of the commencement of the Budget Session, that is, on the 17th of February. My point of order is how there can be an Adjournment Motion on the same subject again.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: In the name of Adjournment Motion, already one day has been wasted and everybody had spoken on this issue. Then, what is the necessity of repeating the same thing again? These Members who want to speak on this issue have already spoken. Since the same subject has already been discussed, there is no point in taking up this Adjournment Motion now. This is my point of order and I want your ruling on this.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no substance in your point of order. Please sit down. I now give the floor to Shri Rashid Alvi.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: This issue was already discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: I have gone through the Notice of Adjournment Motion as well as Rule 58, and this is within the purview of the same rule. I have not admitted the Motion and this is not a discussion on the Adjournment Motion. The question before the House is altogether a different question. Therefore, at this stage, I do not find your point of order to be correct.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Then, please allow me to raise this issue again. ...(Interruptions)

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur): Please give me also a chance to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Sir, it is a very serious matter. It is not affecting our country only rather it is posing a threat to the entire world. The entire world is distressed by the aggression on Iraq by America. Our position is more serious. Iraq has a separate identity on world's map. Iraq always stood by us whenever our country faced any crisis. It supported us during the wars of 1965 and 1971. When the Kashmir issue was raised in UNO, Iraq supported us and not Pakistan. Now, at this moment when identity of Iraq is endangered. ...(Interruptions)

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): I am not getting the translation. Please make us understand the meaning of the Urdu word "Muttasir".

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Today, thousands of people are dying in Iraq, innocent women and children are being killed and America is repeatedly saying that it will not spare Iraq even if the whole world stands against it.

Sir, America is saying that it will not care the resolutions of United Nations. It is a very serious matter. How peace would be restored in the world if United Nations loses its mandate? America has ignored rest of the world, it violated all the norms of UNO. With all seriousness, I want to say that Iraq comes next after Afghanistan in US list. But it will not stop there only. After Iraq there comes Syria and Iran in this list. India is also included in this list. At times America has supported Pakistan. Today also it is ready to give an assistance of one billion dollar to Pakistan. We had offered our land, our air space and airports etc. to America when it attacked Afghanistan. But America insulted us, it refused to take any assistance from us.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I felt happy when Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra stated that Taliban and Bin Laden are the creation of America only. I feel that now their views are changing a little. The issue of Iraq should not be politicised. I am sad to say that some political parties are playing politics of vote on this issue of aggression on Iraq by America. There should not be any politics on a sensitive issue like this. We should support the innocent people of Iraq and condemn the war with strong words. Government should protest. ...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on one hand Alvi ji is supporting the Government but on the other hand he is stating that Government should condemn Iraq war. How both things can go simultaneously. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Alvi ji is playing double standards. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Zero Hour has been started. Question Hour is over. I request you to suspend the Zero Hour before initiating this discussion. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We all are discussing a very important subject. I feel there is a need to pass a unanimous resolution on this issue.

[English]

The Government is also considering whether a unanimous resolution can be adopted. Let it be considered.

[Translation]

I am listening to the suggestions of all the Members. Shri Rashid Alvi please conclude your views.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Sir, I will conclude in a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Mr. Speaker, Sir, basically you wanted to know the opinion of the members whether Question Hour should be suspended. Now the Question Hour is over. Therefore, the question is not whether the Question Hour should be suspended but a ruling should come from the Chair whether you are allowing discussion on this matter. If allowing then when and under which rule. The time of the Question Hour is over ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please accept the suspension of Question Hour in principle.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, the notice for suspension of Question Hour has got no validity now because the time for Question Hour is over. Now, the only issue before you is whether the notice of Adjournment Motion can be admitted or not. We are not disputing its validity. ...*(Interruptions)* Let us see what the Government reacts. Then, this issue can be settled. ...*(Interruptions)*. Now, the decision on the Adjournment Motion can be given. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (Cuddalore): Sir, we do also have some sentiments on this issue. Please allow us also to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice regarding Adjournment Motion. Question Hour is over. I request you that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please let him complete his views.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I would like to say on behalf of my party that we should unanimously condemn the aggression on Iraq by America and state that whatever America is doing today is against the Charter of United Nations. America is posing a threat to the global peace. We should strongly condemn it.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, America is being condemned the world over for attacking Iraq. It is a matter of grave concern. An all party meeting was held in this regard ...*(Interruptions)*. You please sit down. I am on my legs. ...*(Interruptions)* During all party meeting, I had elaborated the role of my party Shiv Sena. I had read out Hon. Bala Saheb Thakre's statement in the meeting. I just want to say that the Government should take it very seriously. It has become a matter of concern throughout the country. 19 days back America launched attack on Iraq and it will not be good if we do not discuss as to what has been India's role during these 19 days? The situation is becoming more grave. America is launching all out attack on Iraq with its muscle power, money power, causing concern the world over. I condemn America. It should be seriously debated in the House and I would raise my points during that debate....*(Interruptions)*. Question hour is over, now Zero Hour will also be over. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would request the Government to hold discussion on it urgently ...*(Interruptions)*. Why should we withdraw support? As it is a very important issue hence it should be discussed urgently. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani): Shiv Sena supreme Shri Bala Saheb Thakre is the first person to have condemned it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: He had condemned before him. I would like to say that a discussion on this issue should be held at the earliest ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Sir, India is the largest democratic country of the world ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Two Members of your party have spoken. How many persons should I grant permission to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would take a minute ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government should bring a "Ninda Prastav" and a discussion should be held on that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please remember that the Government is also thinking whether a unanimous resolution can be adopted on this issue. They might be, probably, discussing with others also, and it requires some time. Therefore, I am allowing the Members to speak so that I know the views of each and every section of the House. Please co-operate with me. As soon as we come to a conclusion that we can pass a unanimous resolution, the matter would be decided.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, before passing the resolution, why do you not discuss the Adjournment Motion?

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I am saying. Adjournment Motion may not be required.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: That is a different thing. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, I have given notice for Adjournment Motion. You did not hear me. You should hear me also. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Adhi Sankar to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir you may take it in any form but discussion should surely be held on Adjournment Motion. It is not a simple thing. Hence discussion on Adjournment Motion may be held. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Since it is not a simple thing, I am disallowing Adjournment Motion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You listen to Adhi Sankarji.

[English]

SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Sir, India is the largest democratic country. Our Party, DMK, expressed its views in the All Party Meeting, condemning the activities of USA. Our leader, Kalaingar Karunanidhi condemned the activities of both USA and UK. The war is an attack against the innocent people and not merely on Iraq. It is an attack against humanity. It is an attack against the sovereignty of other countries. Our leader Kalaingar Karunanidhi issued a Press Statement saying that the US Government should withdraw its forces immediately so as to protect the innocent people of Iraq. I request the Government of India, on behalf of DMK Party, to pass a Resolution to request the Government of United States of America to withdraw its forces from Iraq. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, we had a discussion as to why the Question Hour should be suspended. However, we are yet to have a discussion on the Adjournment Motion itself. There is a need to have a substantive discussion on that issue. So, you may kindly permit us to have such a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there can be no other issue more suitable for Adjournment Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, I have give notice for Adjournment Motion ...*(Interruptions)* You allow me to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. V. Saroja. She has become the new leader of her party; kindly let her speak.

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, on behalf of my Party, AIADMK and also my leader Dr. Puratchi Thalavi and CM, I place here, there sentiments expressed by the people of Tamil Nadu, through the Resolution passed by the State Legislative Assembly which I would like to quote.

Sir, I may be permitted to speak in my mother tongue, Tamil so that the exact expression of the people of Tamil Nadu will be properly expressed here.

[Translation]

*Sir, let me read out the unanimous resolution passed in the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on 26th March, 2003.

"The Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu expresses its deep anguish and sorrow at the way in which US had declared a war against Iraq in an unjustified manner ignoring the opposition to it by most of the countries of the world. US had even gone beyond the suggestions offered by the UN. This Assembly is aggrieved to witness the plight of thousands of innocent people of Iraq who are killed in the war. Even without a firm basis, US has unilaterally declared a war setting aside the view of the comity of nations. The Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on behalf of the people of the State seriously condemn the US action to draw Iraq into war with the help of UK and certain other countries.

This unjustified war against Iraq must be ended at once; world peace and justice must be established; pressure must be put on US and its allies; suitable measures in this regard must be taken up by the Union Government and this House through the Government of Tamil Nadu urges upon the Centre to resort to appropriate action in this regard at the earliest. This House calls upon the Union of India to mobilise the support of the like minded nations and through the UN to bring to an end to this unjust war undertaken by US and its allies. Urgent steps to immediately withdraw the allied forces from Iraq must be taken up at the earliest. This Legislative Assembly urges upon the Government of India to take immediate measures in this regard."

On behalf of AIADMK and my party leader Dr. Puratchi Thalavi and on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I place before this august House the unanimous resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

This unjust war against Iraq must cease immediately and the US and allied forces must withdraw forthwith. Our Union Government must act fast on this issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today, entire country and the world is looking at our Parliament and you are occupying the highest place in the House. Today, people in all the countries have come out against American war against Iraq. UNO has been neglected. A war on mankind has been declared. As Iraq has been India's good friend so the Government should clarify its stand at the juncture.

*Original in Tamil.

Why the Government is acting like a coward. Why the Government do not bring a resolution for bringing the war to an end and also a *Ninda Prastav* against war. Hon. Prime Minister had convened an all party meet where political parties have urged the Government to condemn American action as it is a war against mankind. But why the Government is pulling down India in the eyes of the world. It may endanger our future. Our ancestors like Bhagwan Budha, Bhagwan Mahavir and Mahatma Gandhi gave message of world peace to the entire world. During Nehru's era India led non-alignment movement. Today, America has become a world power. So, India should not bow before it and all the remaining countries should get united and fight for world peace and co-existence. But the Government are not taking any initiative. America should be condemned. A resolution for bringing war to an end should be passed and America should be strongly condemned.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: As these words are unparliamentary, these should be expunged from the proceedings.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard the views expressed by Members of different sections of the House. It is enough. I may not be able to accept the Adjournment Motion, since the Government has also said that it is thinking of bringing some sort of resolution before the House, and there is no direct responsibility of the Government for the event.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Contribution of Child Labour to GNP

*341. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether child labour in the country contributes more than 15% of Gross National Product (GNP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of GNP contributed by child labour during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the contribution made by the children during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the extent to which the success has been achieved in eliminating child labour during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (c) Employing children under the age of 14 years is prohibited under the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation Act, 1986. However, child labour continues to exist in various parts of the country. The contribution of child labour to GNP has not been assessed.

(d) The Government is proposing to eliminate child labour through the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs), which were being implemented in 100 districts in the 9th Plan by expanding it to cover additional 50 districts in the 10th Plan.

(e) The Government had implemented the NCLPs to eliminate child labour in 100 districts in the 9th Plan. 4002 bridging schools covering 2.11 lakh children have been set up by the end of the 9th Plan. A total of 1.70 lakh children have been mainstreamed to the formal school system so far.

[Translation]

Industries Polluting Yamuna

*342. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recently pointed out that regular discharge of toxic effluents from the polluting industries located in the adjoining States particularly Haryana has polluted the river Yamuna in Delhi thereby affecting the quality of water for human consumption;

(b) if so, whether the water treatment plants of Delhi Jal Board at Haidapur and Nangloi had to be closed down as a result thereof;

(c) if so, whether thousands of industrial units under the 17 categories of polluting industries have been identified in the country;

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

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the erring States as well as polluting industries to combat such pollution menace?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out survey of Western Yamuna Canal and Yamuna River in January 2003. It has been observed that there is continuous discharge of treated and untreated effluent into the Yamuna River and Western Yamuna Canal from various sources. It was observed that Ammonical-Nitrogen load entering into the Western Yamuna Canal was affecting the desired raw water quality at Delhi's Water Treatment Plants and the plants had to be closed down for a few days.

(c) and (d) State-wise status of the 17 categories of Polluting Industries is enclosed at enclosed statement.

(e) For pollution prevention and its abatement, the concerned State Pollution Control Boards and Committees have been directed to take action against defaulting industries. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has also issued directions to certain industries in this regard.

Statement

State/Union Territory wise list of Industries under 17 categories of polluting industries

S.No.	State/UT	Total No. of Units
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00
3.	Assam	15
4.	Bihar	44
5.	Chandigarh	17
6.	Goa	06
7.	Gujarat	177
8.	Haryana	43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	09
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	08
11.	Jharkhand	18

1	2	3
12.	Karnataka	85
13.	Kerala	28
14.	Madhya Pradesh	61
15.	Maharashtra	335
16.	Manipur	00
17.	Meghalaya	01
18.	Mizoram	00
19.	Nagaland	00
20.	Orissa	23
21.	Punjab	45
22.	Rajasthan	49
23.	Sikkim	01
24.	Tamil Nadu	119
25.	Tripura	00
26.	UT-Andaman & Nicobar	00
27.	UT-Chandigarh	01
28.	UT-Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	00
29.	UT-Delhi	05
30.	UT-Lakshadweep	00
31.	UT-Pondicherry	06
32.	Uttaranchal	17
33.	Uttar Pradesh	207
34.	West Bengal	58
Total		1551

[English]

Increase in Fare

*343. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the domestic airlines are contemplating to increase the fares;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the high rate of tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) makes it several times costlier than foreign Airlines;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation has taken up this issue with Ministry of Finance and the State Governments;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the measures being taken by the Government to bring down the prices of ATF?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Air Sahara have increased their fares on domestic sector by 15% w.e.f. 26/03/2003.

(b) Airline fares on domestic sector are not regulated. Airlines operators are free to charge any fare based on their cost inputs and competitive market scenario. The fare increase was necessitated due to increase in the price of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), security expenditure and aircraft insurance premium etc.

(c) The ATF price in India is substantially higher than the ATF price in foreign countries. In March, 2003, the average ATF Price for domestic flights is Rs. 25,200/-KL as against average price of Rs. 13100/-KL in the Middle East and South East Asian countries.

(d) One of the major reasons for high ATF price in India is high taxation in the form of Excise Duty and Sales Tax. On an average, Excise Duty and Sales Tax together add up to 45% of the basic price of ATF. This Ministry has been taking up the issue of reduction of excise duty on ATF with Finance Ministry. The State Governments also have been requested to reduce Sales Tax on ATF.

(e) Excise Duty has not been reduced. Among the State, Government of Andhra Pradesh has reduced Sale Tax on ATF to 4%.

(f) ATF prices are not regulated by Government.

Shortage of Fodder

*344. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of fodder in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to meet the fodder requirement; and

(d) the details of fodder farms located in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following factors affect the production of fodder:

- i. Rapid urbanization and industrialization.
- ii. Increasing human and animal population.
- iii. Increasing use of high yielding varieties of grain crops resulting in less agricultural residues.
- iv. Occurrence of natural calamities viz. drought, flood cyclone etc.

(c) To enhance the fodder production, Government of India has established 8 Fodder Development Organizations at different locations in the country (Details given at (d) below). These organizations are engaged in producing fodder seeds minikits, organizing demonstrations, farmers' fairs and training programmes. Fodder minikits are supplied to the farmers free of cost.

Besides, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development", Central Government grant at 75% & 100% is provided for establishment of fodder banks and enrichment of straw/cellulosic waste respectively.

(d) There are 7 Regional Stations for Forage Production & Demonstration at Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Gandhinagar (Gujarat), Hissar (Haryana), Suratgarh (Rajasthan), Sehama (Jammu & Kashmir), Alamadhi (Tamil Nadu) & Kalyani (West Bengal) and 1 Central Fodder Seed Production Farm at Hessarghatta, Bangalore.

Development of Dairy Industry

*345. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any specific scheme to develop as well as establish Dairy Industry in backward/tribal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance has been provided for setting up of said industry in the said areas during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) At present Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing the following two Plan Schemes during 10th Plan period for the development of Dairy Industry.

(i) Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas—A Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme providing financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories for specific approved projects on 100% grants in aid basis for dairy development in non-operation flood, hilly and backward areas. Under this Scheme, there is a provision to establish milk chilling and dairy processing facilities on specific requirement of the State Governments.

(ii) Assistance to Cooperatives—A Central Plan Scheme for rehabilitation of District Cooperative Milk Unions/State Milk Federations on 50:50 sharing basis between Government of India and concerned State Governments.

(c) and (d) The details of the assistance provided to various States for development of Dairy Industry during the last three years are enclosed as Statement I and II respectively.

Statement I

Financial Assistance Provided During Last Three Years Under IDDPs Projects in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas

(Amount Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Amount Released		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	A&N Islands (Actual Utilisation by U.T.)	45.90 19.19	45.00 (23.80)	25.00

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Andhra-I	—	—	—
	Andhra-II	191.49	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
4.	Assam	—	149.34	—
5.	Bihar-I	—	—	—
	Bihar-II	—	—	—
	Bihar-III (Kaimur)	—	—	—
	Bihar-IV (Madhubani)	—	—	—
	Bihar-V (Nalanda)	82.89	—	56.79
	Bihar-VI	—	64.47	—
6.	Jharkhand	—	—	160.00
7.	Gujarat	—	—	—
8.	Haryana	—	38.75	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00	200.00	100.00
10.	J&K-Jammu	—	—	25.00
	J&K-Kashmir	—	—	15.00
11.	M.P.-I&II	200.00	—	98.79
	M.P.-IV (M.P.-I, II & IV)	—	—	—
12.	Chattisgarh-I	—	100.00	29.52
	Chattisgarh-II	—	160.20	—
	Chattisgarh-III	—	210.00	—
13.	Maharashtra-I	—	—	—
	Maharashtra-II	645.49	500.00	200.00
14.	Manipur	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya-I	—	—	—
	Meghalaya-II	143.92	—	—
16.	Mizoram-I	—	—	—
	Mizoram-II	—	—	—
	Mizoram-III	—	59.17	72.41
17.	Nagaland-I	—	—	—
	Nagaland-II	62.27	132.07	—
18.	Orissa-I	—	—	—
	Orissa-II	—	—	—
	Orissa-III	143.83	—	200.00
	Orissa-IV	94.60	—	88.21

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Sikkim-I&II	—	84.98	—
	Sikkim-III	134.79	—	90.82
20.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—
21.	Tripura-I	—	—	—
	Tripura-II	—	56.51	—
22.	U.P.-I,II&III	—	—	—
	U.P.-IV	186.30	—	—
	U.P.-V	—	217.58	—
23.	Uttaranchal	—	—	476.59
24.	West Bengal-I	—	—	—
	West Bengal-II	—	—	—
	Total	2031.48	2027.07	1638.13

Statement II*Financial Assistance Provided During Last Three Years Under Assistance to Co-operatives Scheme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Unions	Funds released		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
	Madhya Pradesh			
1.	Gwalior	250.00	—	150.00
2.	Ujjain	235.00	105.00	53.41
3.	Jabalpur	290.00	220.00	145.00
	Chhatisgarh			
4.	Raipur	75.00	—	20.00
	Karnataka			
5.	Dharwad	250.54		
6.	Tumkur	250.00		
7.	Bizapur	—	85.00	40.00
8.	Gulbarga	—	115.00	50.00
	U.P.			
9.	Allahabad	—	260.04	—
10.	Moradabad	173.96	—	351.04

1	2	3	4	5
	Kerala			
11.	Ernakulam	175.50	—	31.10
	Maharashtra			
12.	Pune	—	125.00	125.00
13.	Wardha	—	30.00	34.45
	West Bengal			
14.	Himul	—	150.00	75.00
	Assam			
15.	West Assam	—	15.00	210.00
	Nagaland			
16.	Kohima	—	5.00	5.24
	Punjab			
17.	Hoshiarpur	—	75.00	—
18.	Amritsar	—	24.96	—
19.	Jalandhar	—	210.00	—
	Tamil Nadu			
20.	Villupuram	—	—	150.00
21.	Erode	—	—	225.00
	Total	1700.00	1420.00	1665.24

Note: The above releases are only share of GOI, which is 50%.

[*Translation*]

Research in Agriculture Sector

*346. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the benefits of the research being carried out in the agriculture sector reach the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): The steps taken to ensure that the benefits of the research being carried out in agriculture sector reach the farmers are as follows:

- Establishment of 291 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) for training of farmers and extension personnel, and conducting on-farm trials and frontline demonstrations. Besides, 53 Zonal

Agricultural Research Stations have been strengthened to take up the additional functions of KVKs.

- Launched Institution-Village Linkage Programme for technology assessment and refinement in various farming systems in 70 centres.
- Establishment of 44 Agricultural Technology Information Centres to create a single window support system for providing technology products, diagnostic services and technology information to the farmers.
- Pilot testing of new institutional arrangements of Agricultural Technology Management Agency will focus on strategic planning, participatory approach, integrated extension delivery and application of information technology.

- Improving Research-Extension Linkages through National and State level interfaces.
- Use of print, audio-visual and electronic media.
- Human Resource Development through Training Support to Agriculture.
- Farm Women Development Programme.
- Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Extension.
- Establishment Agri-Clinic by Agriculture Graduate.

[English]

Restructuring Package

*347. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether exports have gone up drastically due to growth in steel industry during 2002-03;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to support the present positive movement;
- (d) whether the Government have announced a restructuring package for Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) during the last two years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the amount released by the Government in the package;
- (f) the performance of the companies after implementation of the package; and
- (g) the new strategies made to further improve the performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) The export of Steel from April 2002 to February 2003 has been estimated to be 38.50 lakh tonnes as compared to 27.35 lakh tonnes during the same period last year, thus registering an increase of 41%.

(c) In a deregulated and decontrolled environment, the market strategy, including exports in primarily decided

by the individual producers. Indian Steel Producers have been taking several steps inter-alia upgradation of technology, improvement in productivity, improvement in quality of products and adoption of an appropriate product-mix to suit the requirements of the international markets. The producers continue with exploration/consolidation of new and non-traditional markets.

(d) No restructuring package for SAIL has been announced during the last two years.

(e) to (g) Do not arise, in view of (d) above.

Research on Utilization of Unutilised Rain Water

*348. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to promote the research on utilisation of unutilised rain water to tackle the problem of water crisis in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have allocated funds for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out scientific studies and research for ground water management and full utilization of surplus monsoon runoff. Based on scientific studies undertaken in various parts of the country, Central Ground Water Board have prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water". This report outlines a broad framework about the feasibility of recharge structures in the country. It envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakh artificial recharge and roof top rainwater harvesting structures. State-wise details of area identified for Artificial Recharge and quantity of surface water to be recharged, as envisaged in the above report, is given in the statement enclosed. The details of funding pattern, implementing agencies, etc. are under discussion.

Statement**State-wise Details of Area Identified for Artificial Recharge and Quantity of Surface Water to be Recharged as Envisaged in the Master Plan**

S.No.	Name of State	Area Identified for Artificial Recharge (sq. km.)	Quantity of Surface Water to be Recharged in MCM
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	65333	1095
2	Bihar & Jharkhand	4082	1120
3	Chhattisgarh	11706	258
4	Delhi	693	444
5	Goa	3701	529
6	Gujarat	64264	1408
7	Haryana	16120	685
8	Himachal Pradesh	—	149
9	Jammu & Kashmir	—	161
10	Karnataka	36710	2065
11	Kerala	4650	1078
12	Madhya Pradesh	36335	2320
13	Maharashtra	65267	2318
14	Orissa	8095	406
15	Punjab	22750	1200
16	Rajasthan	39120	861
17	Sikkim	—	44

1	2	3	4
18.	Tamil Nadu	17292	3597
19.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	45180	14022
20.	West Bengal	7500	2664
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	3
22.	Chandigarh	33	26
Total		448831	36453

Externally Aided Irrigation Projects

*349. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the externally aided irrigation projects under execution in the States;

(b) the progress on each of the project, till date;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to complete some of the projects during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) At present 15 irrigation projects are under execution with External Assistance from the World Bank, European Economic Commission, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Germany. The status of utilization of assistance is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Out of the above 15 on-going externally aided projects 13 projects are scheduled for completion during the Tenth Five Year Plan as indicated in the Statement referred to above.

Statement**Details of Ongoing Externally Aided Irrigation Projects**

S.No.	State	Name of Projects	Funding Agency	Date of Agreement/Completion	Assistance amount in Million Donor Currency	Utilization/disbursement Upto 28.2.2003 Million Donor Currency
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project-III Cr. 2952-IN Ln-4166-IN	World Bank	03.06.1997 31.07.2004	Credit. SDR 108.100 Loan US\$ 130.00	SDR 108.100 Loan US\$ 51.929

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		A.P. Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation component) Ln-4360-IN	World Bank	<u>30.01.1999</u> <u>31.03.2004</u>	US\$ 170	US\$ 78.5
		Modernisation on Kumool-Cuddapah canal project	JBIC Japan	<u>25.01.1996</u> <u>26.5.2005</u>	Yen 16049.00	Yen 8367.577
2.	Karnataka	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project	World Bank	<u>06.06.2002</u> <u>31.1.2009</u>	SDR 80	SDR 1.674
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Rajghat Canal Project	JBIC, Japan	<u>25.02.1997</u> <u>29.5.2006</u>	Yen 13222.00	Yen 6263.862
4.	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Minor Irrigation Project	KfW, Germany	<u>21.12.1998</u> <u>31.12.2006</u>	EUR 23.00	EUR 1.37
		Saline Land Reclamation Project Phase-II	EEC	<u>11.7.1995</u> <u>31.12.2005</u>	EUR 15.50	EUR 1.229
5.	Orissa	Orissa Water Resource Consolidation Project	World Bank	<u>05.01.1996</u> <u>31.3.2004</u>	SDR 194.800	SDR 150.748
		Cr. 2801-IN				
		Orissa Minor Irrigation Project	EEC	<u>3.7.1995</u> <u>31.12.2004</u>	EUR 10.70	EUR 1.108
		Rengali Irrigation Project	JBIC, Japan	<u>12.12.1997</u> <u>31.12.2004</u>	Yen 7760.00	Yen 4830.608
		Lift Irrigation Project	KfW, Germany	<u>19.02.1993</u> <u>30.6.2003</u>	EUR 28.12	EUR 21.79
6.	Pondicherry	Modernisation of Tank Irrigation System	EEC	<u>21.2.1997</u> <u>21.2.2003</u>	EUR 6.65	EUR 1.742
7.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	World Bank	<u>15.3.2002</u> <u>31.3.2008</u>	SDR 110	SDR 4.116
		Cr. 3603-In				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Water Resource Consolidation Project Cr. 2745-IN	World Bank	<u>22.09.1995</u> 31.3.2004	SDR 161.900	SDR 132.713
9.	Uttar Pradesh	UP Water Sector Restructuring Project Cr. 3602-IN	World Bank	<u>08.3.2002</u> 31.10.2007	SDR 117	SDR 4.007

Evaluation of Global Water Resources

*350. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent report of the United Nations on the evaluation of global water resources placing the country's rank at 120th among 122 nations in the world in terms of quality of water available for citizens;

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

(c) the strategy contemplated by the Government to improve the quality of water in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir and Madam.

(b) As per the 'United Nations World Water Development Report—Water for People, Water for life', India has been ranked 120th among 122 nations in the world in terms of quality of water. Belgium is at 122nd rank. The evaluation made in ranking has not been explained.

(c) The National Water Policy (2002) emphasizes on maintaining quality of water. The policy provides that both surface water and ground water should be regularly monitored for quality and effluents should be treated to acceptable levels and standards before discharging them into natural streams. The policy further provides that Principle of 'polluter pays' should be followed in management of polluted water.

Several steps have been taken for improvement/restoration of quality of water bodies in the country and some of them are:

- (i) Ensuring industries, located on the banks of rivers and lakes, set up the requisite pollution control facilities.
- (ii) Issuance of Directives to the defaulting industries for preventing discharge of untreated waste water into water bodies.
- (iii) Formulation and implementation of National River and Lake Conservation Plan for restoration of water quality of the rivers and lakes.

Documentation of Manuscripts

*351. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch a scheme to document Indian manuscripts scattered across the globe;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering setting up a National Manuscripts Library; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) National Mission for Manuscripts has been launched to locate, enumerate, preserve and catalogue Indian manuscripts in India and abroad with a view to enhancing their access and conserving them for posterity.

(c) and (d) As part of the Mission Activities, National Manuscripts Library is to be set up in Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi. The library is to be a central repository for original and microfilm/copies of all Indian manuscripts.

[Translation]

Implementation of Oilseeds Production Programme

*352. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented 'Oilseeds Production Programme' to augment oilseeds production in the country;

(b) if so, the amount spent under this programme during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government make any assessment of the average production rate of the oilseeds;

(d) if so, the increase in the average production rate of oilseeds registered since 1998-99 till 2002-2003; and

(e) the minimum and maximum rate of production of oilseeds assessed in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount spent under Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) during the last 3 years is as under:-

Year	Amount Spent (Rs. In crores)
2000-01	93.62
2001-02	91.22
2002-03	76.00

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The production and productivity of oilseeds has fluctuated since 1998-99 till 2002-2003 due to poor monsoons. In fact the production of oilseeds declined during last three years due to drought conditions prevailing in major oilseeds growing States in the country. The details of production and productivity of oilseeds during the above period are given below:-

Year	Production (Lakh tonnes)	Productivity (Kg./ha.)
1998-99	247.5	944
1999-2000	207.1	853
2000-2001	184.4	810
2001-2002	204.6	897
2002-2003	154.4*	717*

*Estimated.

(e) The Technology Mission on Oilseeds was set up in 1986. In 1985-86 the production of oilseeds was 108.3 lakh tonnes, and the productivity was 569 Kg./ha. The maximum production was 247.5 lakh tonnes with productivity of 944 Kg./ha. during 1998-99.

[English]

Tourism Policy

*353. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

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

(a) whether certain State Governments have prepared and sent to the Union Government any new tourism policy to develop tourist spots and to attract more foreign tourists in their States;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have since accorded approval to the said policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided/proposed to be provided to the State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has not received any new tourism policy for approval from any of the State Governments.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Enforcement of Environmental Laws

*354. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether various environmental laws passed by Parliament are not being enforced strictly by certain States;

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

(c) whether the Government have expressed their deep concern over the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any strategy to get the laws enforced strictly;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the efforts made by the Government to check various kinds of pollution including vehicular pollution and to frame rules for the manufacturers of vehicles adhering to pollution control norms?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The environmental laws are appropriately being implemented by the States. The environmental laws such as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act 1981, the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and rules made thereunder are implemented by the Pollution Control Boards and the Departments of Environment and other concerned agencies of the State Governments.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Ministry has been reviewing on a regular basis, the implementation of Environmental Acts and Rules with the State agencies. The Central Government has also delegated powers to the State Governments, Central and State Pollution Control Boards for enforcement and compliance of environmental laws and rules. Subject specific strategies have been formulated to ensure compliance with the laws and regulations for enforcement of standards and norms.

(g) Steps taken to check various kinds of pollution including vehicular pollution are:

- (i) Control of Pollution in 17 categories of highly polluting industries.
- (ii) Prevention and Control of pollution in industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes.
- (iii) Setting up of common effluent treatment plants.

(iv) Restoration of environmental quality in critically polluted areas.

(v) National river conservation programme.

(vi) Emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for new vehicles have been notified.

(vii) Unleaded petrol is supplied from 1.2.2000 and diesel with 0.25% sulphur maximum content is supplied from 1.1.2000 in the entire country.

(viii) Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is supplied for automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi and Mumbai to cater to the CNG vehicles.

(ix) Benzene concentration in petrol has been reduced.

(x) India 2000 norms akin to Euro 1 norms for registration of four wheeled private (non-commercial) vehicles were made effective from 1.6.99 in National Capital Region (NCR) and after 1.4.2000 in the entire country.

(xi) Bharat Stage II norms akin to Euro-II norms for registration of four wheeled private (Non commercial) vehicles were made effective from 1.4.2000 in NCR, in Mumbai (including Greater Mumbai) from 1.1.2001, and in Kolkata and Chennai from 1st July, 2001.

(xii) Bharat Stage II emission norms akin to Euro II norms for heavy vehicles has been made effective from 24.10.2001 in respect of National Capital Territory of Delhi and in Mumbai (including Greater Mumbai), Kolkata and Chennai from 31.10.2001.

[English]

Drought Affected States

*355. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have circulated certain criteria for assessment of requirement of foodgrains classifying the drought affected States under A & B categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received some suggestions for allocation of foodgrains for implementation of employment programmes under drought relief by the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) For allocation of foodgrains to the drought affected States for relief employment for the drought of 2002-03, under the Special Component of Sampurna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) scheme, the States have been placed under Category "A" (moderately affected) and category "B" (severely affected). Rajasthan, which is the most severely drought affected State, has been placed under Special Category.

(c) to (e) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for allocation of foodgrains @ 10 kgs. per person per day for two persons from each BPL family for 15 days in a month. The Task Force on Drought Management has, however, approved allocation to the State for coverage of one individual from 50% BPL rural households @ 5 kgs. per person per day for 10 days in months. A total quantity of 16.15 lakh MTs. has been approved by the Task Force for allocation to the State upto June, 2003, for current drought.

Exploitation of Workers in Garment Export Factories

*356. SHRI SUNIL KHAN; Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to State:

(a) whether the workers in most of the factories in the garment exporting sector in the capital are subjected to severe exploitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard.

(c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines pertaining to wage structure/working norms and working conditions of these factories;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have evolved any mechanism to monitor the working atmosphere and welfare of workers in these factories; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (f) The appropriate government in respect of garment factories in the national capital is the Government of NCT of Delhi. Government of NCT of Delhi have informed that it is not correct to say that in most of the factories in the garment exporting sector in the capital, workers are subjected to severe exploitation. However, complaints are received and inspections are carried out to get the irregularities rectified.

The wage structure/working norms are governed by the various labour laws enforced by the Government of NCT of Delhi. Rates of Minimum Wages in the scheduled employment of ready made garments effective from 1.8.2002 are given below:

Category	Rates per months (Rs.)	Rates per day (Rs.)
Unskilled	2679.70	103.10
Semi Skilled	2845.70	109.45
Skilled	3103.70	119.40

Factories Act, 1948 provides for monitoring of working atmosphere and welfare of workers. It is a central act being administered by the Government of NCT, Delhi. It also prescribes provisions pertaining to health, safety, working conditions and welfare of workers employed in factories and inspections to ensure the compliance of these norms are carried out by the factory inspectors.

[Translation]

Target of Various Agriculture Products

*357. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target of various agriculture products and their actual production during 2001-02 and 2002-03;

(b) the reasons for lesser production;

(c) the target fixed for the production of various foodgrains during 2003-2004; and

(d) the outline prepared by the Government in the Tenth Five Year Plan to augment the agriculture production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The targets and estimated production of various agricultural commodities during 2001-02 and 2002-03 are shown in the table below:

(In million tones)

Crop	2001-02		2002-03*	
	Target	Production	Target	Production
Rice	92.00	93.08	93.00	77.72
Wheat	78.00	71.81	78.00	68.89
Coarse Cereal	33.00	33.94	33.00	25.10
Pulses	15.00	13.19	16.00	11.46
Total Foodgrains	218.00	212.03	220.00	183.17
Oilseeds	28.00	20.46	27.00	15.44

*Second Advance Estimates as on 10.2.2003.

(b) Realization of targets depends on a number of factors such as performance of monsoon, technological developments, farm management skills, timely application of inputs, demand of agricultural produce, etc. In particular, the agricultural production in the country is greatly influenced by the extent and spread of rainfall as about 60% of net area sown is dependent on rains for water. Deficient rainfall also adversely affects the irrigation potential. During 2002-03 the targets of production could not be achieved mainly because of severe drought conditions in several States during the year.

(c) The targets for 2003-04 are yet to be fixed.

(d) In order to facilitate achievement of higher growth rate in agriculture, it is necessary to implement policies and programmes aimed at improving agricultural production and productivity. With this object in view, various crop production schemes like Integrated Cereals Development Programmes for Rice, Wheat & Coarse Cereals, National Pulses Development Programme, Sponsored oilseeds Production Programme and Seed Minikit Scheme are being implemented during the Tenth Plan. To reduce water run-off from major catchment areas, improve land capability and moisture regime the Government are implementing the scheme 'Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in Catchments of River Valley Projects/Flood Prone Rivers' and 'Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas'. Besides, the Regionally Differentiated Strategy adopted during the Ninth Plan would be continued during the Tenth Plan. As a new initiative, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' has been launched in March 2002 for the year 2001-02 and the Tenth Five Year Plan. The objective of

the scheme is to exploit ground/surface water, and promote efficient water utilization and management for increasing crop production in eastern India. Apart from these, the Government have launched various other initiatives such as emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. The Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price, procurement by public agencies etc. Moreover, the Tenth Plan document has underscored the importance of adequate thrust on maize, especially the multiplication of high yielding seeds on a massive scale and adoption of improved technology. In addition, thrust on commercialization of hybrid rice on a large scale and application of improved technologies in wheat could further boost foodgrains production. The Tenth Plan document also lays emphasis on crop diversification in to high value/more remunerative crops.

*[English]***Rehabilitation of Evicted Families**

*358. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have issued an order to all the State Governments for removal of all encroachments in their respective forest areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have announced any compensation package in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether certain States including West Bengal and Kerala have submitted any proposals regarding distribution of forest land amongst tribals etc. as well as suggested alternative sites for their rehabilitation;

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

(g) the action taken by the Union Government on each such proposals indicating the efforts made towards rehabilitation of affected families?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Central Government have issued detailed guidelines regarding regularization as well as eviction of encroachments on forest lands in September, 1990. These guidelines were reiterated on 3.5.2002 and 30.10.2002 wherein the State Governments and Union Territories were requested to evict ineligible encroachers from the forest lands in a time bound manner in view of the orders of the Supreme Court of India.

(c) and (d) The operational aspects of the eviction process and the rehabilitation, if any, of affected families are the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Governments.

(e) to (g) The Government of India as a matter of policy do not allow diversion of forest land for rehabilitation of people except in special cases like rehabilitation of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and others who may have to be shifted from the core area of a National Park or a Sanctuary.

During the last three years, only Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for rehabilitation of people on forest land. No such proposal has been submitted by the State of West Bengal. In the case of Kerala, a proposal for diversion of 12196.1829 ha. of forest land for resettlement of tribals in six districts, was submitted by the State Government in January, 2002. Since the proposal was not in tune with the guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, it was returned on 26.2.2002.

Upgradation of Airports

*359. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep cost escalation in the upgradation of international airports in the past few years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to deal with such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The increase in construction cost of airport has not been particularly steep in the past few years.

Dams in Seismic Zones

*360. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to check the stability of dams in seismic zones in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the number of dams under seismic zones; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to set-up alarm system along the banks of the rivers?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) Construction, maintenance and safety of dams are the responsibility of the owners of the dams that is the concerned State Governments etc. The Central Government is not conducting any dam-wise study on the stability of dams in seismic zones in various parts of the country. As per the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Code IS: 1893 revised in year 2002 there are 4 seismic zones. This code provides the criteria and procedure for the seismic design of structures including dams for the various seismic zones. The seismic design parameters vary for each seismic zone with severity being minimum for Zone II and maximum for Zone V. In addition to the general provisions in the above Standard, there is a National Committee on Seismic Design Parameters (NCSDP) for River Valley Projects which is headed by Member (Design & Research), Central Water Commission and includes eminent earthquake experts and various specialists from the other associated organisations. The Committee after careful examination and deliberation, finalises the seismic design parameters to be adopted for specific dam, in the country. The dams are designed using these seismic parameters recommended by NCSDP and as a result of proper design and construction their seismic safety is ensured. The checking of earthquake stability forms a part of overall design of dam. The dams so designed can withstand the earthquake of maximum intensity likely to affect them in respective seismic zones of the country.

In respect of existing dams, the seismic safety is a part of overall safety aspect of dams and is taken care of under the National Dam Safety Programme coordinated by the National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) under the chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission. All the States having significant number of dams are represented in the National Committee on Dam Safety and the Departments of the States concerned arrange

safety reviews, including the seismic reviews, of large dams which are more than 15 metres in height by an independent panel of experts, once in 10 years. Thus the seismic safety of the dams in the country is ensured by adopting proper design by considering appropriate seismic parameters as well as by carrying out safety reviews during the subsequent stage.

India as a whole is divided into 4 seismic zones and all the 4525 large dams of the country (out of which 475 dams are under construction) lie in one or other of these four zones. Seismicity in the vicinity of the recent dam is monitored by suitable instrumentation, observation and analysis by the concerned States. It is upto the owners of the dams to take up alarm system along the banks of the rivers.

Assistance for Repair of Bunds

3491. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Kerala Government to include repair of bunds in Kuttanad and Kole Lands in Kerala for relief/ assistance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time when the approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

National Commission on Cattle

3492. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1665 dated March 3, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted an Expert Group to examine the recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle;

(b) if so, whether said group has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An Expert Group has been constituted in this Department to examine the recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle. The report of the Expert Group is likely to be submitted by the middle of April, 2003.

[*English*]

Right to Work as a Fundamental Right

3493. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to include the 'Right to Work' in the Constitution as a Fundamental Right under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Case against Managing Director of A.T.

3494. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI SUBODH ROY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has registered a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act against Air India's officiating Managing Director as reported in *Asian Age* dated February 5, 2003;

(b) if so, the logic for allowing such an accused person to head the organisation to decide a two billion dollars aircraft's purchase;

(c) the Department of Personnel's guidelines in such a matter;

(d) whether the Government propose to take action as per these guidelines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Department of Personnel's guidelines interalia provide that mere registration of a regular case by CBI against the officer concerned should not be a ground for treating the said officer as one whose conduct is under investigation unless conclusion has been reached about the prima facie guilt of the officer. Until the competent authority arrives at such a conclusion, the officer may be treated at par with others in all administrative matters. The CBI is yet to submit its report to Government in the matter.

[Translation]

Fire in Ship Breaking Yard

3495. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident of fire in a ship in the ship breaking yard in Bhavnagar district of Gujarat was reported on February 22, 2003;

(b) if so, the cause of the fire alongwith the details of loss of life and property;

(c) the compensation paid and the facilities provided to the family members of those killed and injured;

(d) whether any probe is being carried out in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The probable cause of fire was a flammable gas explosion in the engine room of a ship which had been beached for breaking. Entire Engine room and accommodation got burnt due to fire. Seven persons died and three persons were injured.

(c) The ship breaker has paid Rs. one lakh per head to the legal heirs of the deceased. An additional amount will be paid to the legal heirs of the deceased and injured as decided by the insurance company and the Court.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A detailed probe is being carried out by the Gujarat Maritime Board, Forensic Science Laboratory, Factory Inspector and Police Department. According to the preliminary enquiry report prepared jointly by the Fire Officer and the Port Officer, the fire broke out in the engine room of the ship at about 14.15 hours on 22nd February, 2003. Efforts to put off the fire commenced almost immediately by the local fire brigade. Since the extent of the fire was large, help from Bhavnagar Fire Brigade was called for at about 15.30 hours. The joint effort by Alang Fire Station and Bhavnagar Brigade continued from 16.30 hours till 06.30 hours on 23rd February, 2003, when the fire was brought totally under control.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Tribals Affected Due to Bandipur National Park in Mysore

3496. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have assured the National Human Rights Commission that an alternative site had been selected for the rehabilitation of 154 tribal families displaced due to the construction of the Kabini reservoir and Bandipur National Park in Mysore;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have decided to expedite the settlement and assured that action will be taken within 45 days of receiving a fresh proposal from the State;

(c) if so, whether Karnataka urged the Union Government in 2001 to reconsider the proposal by arguing that the proposed rehabilitation area has been excluded from the notified area of the national park; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the Union Government have implemented the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) On directions of National Human Rights Commission, the Karnataka Government submitted a fresh proposal for diversion of 200.00 ha. forest land in favour of Revenue Department for rehabilitation of 154 tribal families displaced by formation of Bandipur National Park and construction of Kabini Reservoir in District Mysore, Karnataka on 27.01.2003. This proposal has been accorded approval on 04.03.2003 under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

In view of above, the question of reconsidering the earlier proposal does not arise.

Identification of Pests Infestation

3497. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Institute for Cotton Research has identified pests infestation due to prolonged drought condition like last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures to be undertaken to control the pest menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur has recorded enhanced incidence of jassids and thrips during July and August due to prolonged drought. Another insect pest hitherto unrecorded on cotton has been identified as stem borer of *Sesbania* namely *Azygohelpe scalaris* infesting the crop during the drought period.

(c) In the central zone the sucking pest namely jasside, aphids, thrips and white fly can be managed by seed treatment with imidacloprid @ 8 g/kg seed. Thereafter chemicals such as endosulfan, Methyl demeton and Thiamethoxam are recommended.

[*Translation*]

Office Expenses

3498. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by various departments and undertakings under his Ministry on publicity, advertisement, reception, catering, inauguration ceremonies, seminars, conferences, tours including foreign, STD and ISD telephone bills, electricity bills (especially air conditioners and coolers) and other official expenses during each of the last three years, head-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to initiate any drive to curtail the expenditure on the above heads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Development of FPI

3499. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Food Processing Industries (FPI) operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of export oriented FP Units and the number of FP Units to meet the local market demand;

(c) whether any specific programmes have been chalked out for setting up food processing industries during the Tenth Plan;

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

(e) the steps being taken to develop food processing industries in the eastern States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) Food Processing Industries operate both in the organised and unorganised sector. Most of the processed food items have been exempted from the purview of licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. Given this position, information on the number of units (whether for local market or export oriented units) is not maintained centrally. However, as per the Annual Survey of Industries for 1999-2000, the total number of factories in the Food and Beverages sector was 23,942.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries gives financial assistance by way of grant upto 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas, which include North-Eastern region including Sikkim, ITDP areas, hilly regions, etc., for setting up/modernisation/expansion of food processing industries. Assistance is also extended for the purchase of raw materials from farmers with whom prior agreement is entered into and subject to certain conditions. These schemes are project specific and not State specific and hence no State-wise specific programmes have been made for setting up of food processing units.

Ratification of Conventions

3500. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ratify the ILO Conventions Nos. 97, 98, 138 and 182 as these conventions have been identified as ILO Human Rights Core Conventions;

(b) if so, the time by when these are likely to be ratified; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):
(a) No Sir.

(b) There is no specific time frame for ratification of these Conventions. As per the past practice, an ILO Convention is ratified only when the national laws and practices are brought fully into conformity with the provisions of the Convention in question.

(c) We could not ratify these Conventions at this stage as our national laws and practices are not yet brought into conformity with their provisions.

Creation of Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone in Maharashtra

3501. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for creation of foot and mouth disease free zone has been received from the Government of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) Government of India has decided to implement an intensive Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMC-CP) in selected areas of the country including Maharashtra during the 10th Plan. The programme will start from the year 2003-04.

Utilisation of Leaves of Trees for Fodder

3502. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government of utilise the leaves of trees like Khejri in Rajasthan for fodder purpose; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) There is no scheme on utilization of leaves of trees for fodder at present. However, under the National Afforestation Programme Scheme during the 10th Plan, fuel wood and fodder tree species can be part of the plantation project under the component of Silviculture Development. The scheme is being implemented through the decentralized set up of Forest Development Agencies under the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Species such as Khejri can also be included. Farmers in Rajasthan have been using Kherji as an excellent source of fodder.

[Translation]

Dispute on Sharing of Chambal River Water

3503. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dispute between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh on sharing of Chambal river water has been resolved;

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

(c) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has stopped the flow of water by unauthorized construction of dam and pond in the command area of Gandhisagar Dam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No complaint under the Provisions of Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956, from the States of Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan has been received by the Central Government about the existence of water disputes between the States about sharing of Chambal river water.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh has constructed a number of irrigation projects in the catchment area of Gandhi Sagar Dam. Thus, there has been reduction in the flow at Gandhi Sagar Dam.

(d) By an agreement reached between the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh in 1973, Madhya Pradesh Inter-State (Irrigation & Power) Control Board (MRICB) was established with headquarter at Kota for ensuring speedy and economical investigation, execution and operation and maintenance of projects of inter-State bearing in Chambal basin. Rajasthan took up the issue with Madhya Pradesh and in the meetings of MRICB. The issue was last discussed in the 73rd meeting of Standing Committee of the Board held on 29.1.2003 at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Yatri Niwas in Bihar

3504. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Yatri Niwas in Bihar at present, location-wise;

(b) the details of proposals received from State Governments including Bihar for construction of Yatri Niwas in the States;

(c) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments for the purpose; and

(d) the time by when the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The following Yatrikas have been sanctioned by the Department of Tourism in Bihar:-

Year	Location	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	Yatrika at Gaya	15.92
1993-94	Yatrika at Deoghar	21.93
1998-99	Yatrika at Singheshwar Asthan	19.39
1999-00	Yatrika at Madhuban	41.65

(b) to (d) In 10th Five Year Plan, there is no separate scheme for construction of Yatri Niwas. However, budget accommodation is permissible under the scheme of Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits. Based on the proposals received from Government of States/UTs, 212 tourism projects have been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 11121.10 lakhs for different States/UTs.

[English]

Tourism Development in Jharkhand

3505. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan for development of tourism in Jharkhand during the last year; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government and the amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 7.50 lakhs for preparing a 20 year Perspective Plan for development of tourism in the State of Jharkhand. Final report has already been received.

Department of Tourism has also formulated scheme for Integrated Development of Tourist centres and Product/ Infrastructure and Destination Development whose guidelines have been circulated to all the States for submitting necessary proposals. So far no proposal complete in all respects has been received from Jharkhand.

EPF Family Pension Scheme

3506. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the employees who were subscribing to EPF Family Pension Scheme from 1971 onwards, but retired from service between 1993 and 1999 are getting only a meager pension of Rs. 400-500 p.m.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any representation has been received from the Pensioners' Association for revision of the minimum pension amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Under the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, 50% of the pay is payable as monthly pension on completion of 33 years of contributory service. The total membership period under Employees' Family Pension

Scheme, 1971 as well as Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are considered for the eligibility period for pensionary benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. The amount of pension is the aggregate of pension calculated on account of past service and the pensionable service.

(c) and (d) The Association had demanded to enhance the minimum pension paid to the pensioners. The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is a self-financing scheme with limited resources. The quantum of benefits extended to the members/families shall depend on the inflow into the fund in the form of contribution and interest earned on them. The minimum amount of pension has been fixed on the basis of actuarial calculation and keeping in view, the affordability and financial viability of the pension fund. There is a provision for evaluation of pension fund and review of pensionary benefits on an annual basis. In the four valuations till date in the EPS, 95, relief has been given @ 4%, 5.5%, 4% & 4% respectively. The Pensioners' Association has been informed accordingly.

Recommendation of Pay Scales

3507. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendation of University Grants Commission (UGC) pay scales has been implemented in totality in the State Agricultural Universities and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith date of implementation;

(c) whether the grant provided by the Ministry for giving non-practicing allowances to the University Teachers having basic qualification of Veterinary Science is being released;

(d) if so, the effective date thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Recommendations of UGC regarding pay scales have been adopted by ICAR for its scientists and teachers of SAUs except enhancement in the age of superannuation.

(b) Copies of the circulars No. 1 (15)/98-Per. IV dated 27.2.99 in respect of ICAR and dated 3.3.99 in respect of State Agricultural Universities are enclosed as statement.

(c) The Non Practicing Allowance is not a part of UGC pay package. The question of giving grant on this account therefore does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

*Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Krishi Bhavan: New Delhi*

F.No. 1 (15)/98-Per.IV

February 27, 1999

To

The Directors/Project Directors of
the Institutes/National Research Centres/Bureaux/
Project Directorates of ICAR.

Sub.: Revision of pay scales of the Scientists of ICAR following the revision of pay scales of Central Govt. Employees on the recommendations of the 5th Central Pay Commission.

Sir,

In furtherance of the cause of Agricultural Research and Education in the country and for its uninterrupted growth the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance and approval of the Competent Authority has revised the pay scales of ICAR Scientists as a follow-up action of recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission for Central Government. While finalising the revised pay scales the Council and the Government of India has taken into cognizance the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission and MHRD notification for revision of the pay scales of teachers of the Universities and Colleges and the recommendations of the ICAR Committee constituted for this purpose. Accordingly the revision of pay scales of ICAR Scientists will be subject to the various provisions of the scheme of revision of pay scales as contained in this letter and the regulations to be framed by the ICAR in this regard. The revised pay scales and other service conditions are as follows:-

1. (I) Pay Scales

A statement showing the existing and revised scales of pay of Scientists in various grades and Research Management Positions in ICAR is given below.

Scales of Pay of Scientists/RMPs in all grades of ICAR

Sl. No.	Category of posts	Existing Scales of Pay (Rs.)	Revised Scales of Pay (Rs.)
1.	Scientist	2200-75-2600-100-4000	8000-275-13500
2.	Scientist (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
3.	Scientist (Sel. Grade).Sr. Scientist	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
4.	Principal Scientist	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
5.	Project Coordinators, Head of Divisions Regional Centres/Stations, Joint Directors of Other than those in the four Deemed Universities & NAARM, Zonal Coordinators.	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
6.	Directors/Project Directors of the Instts./NRC/Project Directorates; ADGs at ICAR Headquarters, Joint Directors of Deemed Universities & NAARM	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400 (Minimum pay to be fixed at Rs. 17300/-on initial appointment).
7.	Dy. Director Generals at ICAR Hqrs., Directors of IARI, IVRI, NDRI, CIFE & NAARM	7600/- fixed	25,000/-fixed

Note I: The pay of Scientists (Selection Grade)/Sr. Scientists with five years service as on 1.1.96 will be fixed at the minimum of Rs. 14940/-

Note II: The revised scale of pay for Experimental Scientists (Rs. 1740-3000) will be issued separately.

A statement showing the existing & revised scales of pay for Professional Chairs is given as under:-

S.No.	Category of Posts	Existing Scales of Pay (Rs.)	Revised Scales of Pay (Rs.)
1.	National Fellows	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
2.	National Professor	7600/-fixed	25000/-fixed

(ii) Incentives for Ph. D/M. Phil

- Four and two advance increments will be admissible to those who hold Ph. D. and M.Phil degrees, respectively, at the time of recruitment as Scientists.
- One increment will be admissible to those scientists with M.Phil degree, who acquire Ph. D. within two years of recruitment.
- A Scientist with Ph.D will be eligible for two advance increments when he moves into the Selection Grade as Sr. Scientist.
- A Scientist will be eligible for two advance increments as and when he acquires a Ph.D. degree in his service career.

(iii) Career Advancement

- Minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Scientist (Senior Scale) would be four years for those with Ph. D., five years for those with M.Phil, and six years for others as a Scientist and for eligibility to move into the Grade of Scientist (Selection Grade)/Sr. Scientist, the minimum length of service as Scientist (Senior Scale) shall be uniformly five years.
- For movement into grades of Sr. Scientist and above, the minimum eligibility criterion would be Ph. D. Those Scientists without Ph. D. can go upto the level of Scientist (Selection Grade).

- (c) A Sr. Scientist with a minimum of eight years of service will be eligible for consideration for appointment as a Principal Scientist.
- (d) For every upward movement, selection process would be evolved, for which appropriate guidelines would be laid down by the ICAR in consultation with the Government.

(iv) Rewarding the Merit

- (a) A super time scale of Rs. 22000-500-24500 will be given to such Principal Scientist of Eminence who are directly recruited and have completed 28 years of service. The eligibility criteria and the selection process will be determined by the ICAR.
- (b) ICAR would prepare a specific scheme in consultation with Government to reward and recognise meritorious Scientists who may not have M.Phil or Ph. D but who have made outstanding contributions in research, education and extension.

(v) Allowances, effective date and fitment formula

- (a) While the revised pay scales will be applicable from January 1, 1996, allowances at the revised rates will be effective from Aug. 1, 1997.
- (b) Pay w.e.f. 1.1.96 in the revised scale of pay will be fixed after giving the benefit of one increment for every three increments earned in the pre-revised scales as stipulated in Rule 7 of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997, and governed by other relevant provisions of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997 as applicable.
- (c) Pay in the revised scales of pay as under para (i) above of this letter shall be fixed at the same stage with reference to the stage admissible vide para (b) above. In cases where the same stage is not available, the pay may be fixed at the stage next above the pay admissible vide para (b) above.
- (d) The payment of arrears will be made in one instalment.
- (e) Scientist will be entitled to Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Transport Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other allowances at the same rates and dates as applicable to the Central Government employees.

- (f) While making payment of arrears on account of revised pay scales, the amount of Dearness Allowances at pre-revised rates and lump-sum amount of Rs. 25,000/-already paid to the scientists will have to be adjusted against the amount of arrears. Further, the payment of arrears may be made only after deducting necessary Income Tax.

(vi) Age of Superannuation

While concurring in the proposal of the Council for enhancement in the age of retirement of Scientists from 60 to 62 years, the competent authority has advised to place it before the Cabinet. Accordingly necessary action has already been taken and after the final approval, separate orders in this regard will be issued. Until such time, the age of superannuation will continue to be 60 years.

2. These orders are subject to the conditions as contained in para 4 of Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 7 (34)/E.III-A/97 dated 2.12.97 on pay revision of employees of quasi-Government/autonomous organisations, statutory bodies, etc., set up and funded by the Central Government.

3. It is requested that necessary action may please be taken to revise the pay scales of the Scientists of your Instt. as per the conditions laid down in the instant letter and the Regulations issued by the Govt. of India and endorsed by ICAR from time to time.

4. Further clarification if any, in the implementation of the scheme may be sought from ICAR.

5. The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully

(G. Prasad)
Director (Personnel)

Copy to:-

1. PS to AM/PM.
2. PS to MOS (A).
3. Secretary, Deptt. of Expr., Ministry of Finance, North Block.
4. Secretary, Deptt. of Personnel & Training, North Block.

5. Secretary, Deptt. of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Secretary, University Grants Commission, Bahadur Shah Zaffar Marg.
7. CPPRO, Krishi Bhawan.
8. All Officers/Sections of ICAR Hqrs/KAB.

(G. Prasad)
Director (Personnel)

Govt. of India

Ministry of Agriculture

**Department of Agricultural Research & Education
Krishi Bhavan: New Delhi**

F.No. 1 (15)/98-Per.IV

March 3, 1999

To

The Chief Secretaries of all the States

Sub: Revision of pay scales of teachers in Agricultural Universities and colleges following the revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Sir,

I am directed to say that in fulfilment of the constitutional responsibility for coordination, determination and maintenance of standards in the field of agricultural education, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on behalf of the Govt. of India has taken from time to time, several measures. It has now been decided that the revised scales as extended to ICAR Scientists may be extended to the corresponding teaching posts in the Central Agricultural University, Imphal and the State Agricultural Universities. There revised Pay Scales, Incentives for Degrees, and Career Advancement Scheme extended to CAU and SAUs will be as detailed in this letter. Copies of the notification issued by the Ministry of HRD vide their letter No. 1-22/87-U.I dated 27.7.98, 22.9.98 and 6.11.98 alongwith its enclosure are also enclosed. (Annexure-I).

2. As regards the non-teaching posts such as Registrar, Librarian, Director of Education, Finance

Officers, Controller of Examination, Director of Physical Education, documentation staff, etc. it has been decided that in case such posts are already covered under the UGC pay package during Fourth Pay Commission their pay scales may also be revised accordingly in accordance with the pay scales notified by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

3. A copy of the letter No. F3 (1)/94-PS dated 24th December, 1998 from Secretary, UGC addressed to Vice Chancellors of all the Universities, Education Secretaries of all the State Universities relating to minimum qualifications for teachers of universities and colleges and measures for maintenance of standards is also enclosed (Annexure-II). This may be adopted in SAUs without any alteration.

4. (I) Pay Scales

A statement showing the existing and revised scales of pay is attached as Annexure III.

(II) Incentives for Ph.D/M.Phil

- (a) Four and two advance increments will be admissible to those who hold Ph.D. and M.Phil degrees, respectively, at the time of recruitment as Asstt. Professors/Lecturer.
- (b) One increment will be admissible to those teachers with M.Phil who acquire Ph.D within two years of recruitment.
- (c) A lecturer/Asstt. Professor with Ph.D will be eligible for two advance increments when the moves into Selection Grade as Associate Professor/Reader.
- (d) A teacher will be eligible for two advance increments and when he acquires a Ph.D. degree in his service career.

(III) Career Advancement

- (a) Minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Lecturer (Sr. Scale)/Asstt. Professor (Senior Scale) would be four years for those with Ph.D., five years for those with M.Phil. and six years for others as Assistant Professor/Lecturer and for eligibility to move into the Grade of Assistant Professor (Selection Grade)/Lecturer (Selection Grade)/Associate Professor/Reader, the minimum length of service as Lecturer (Sr. Scale)/Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) shall be uniformly five years.

- (b) For movement into grades of Associate Professor/Reader and above, the minimum eligibility criterion would be Ph.D. Those teachers without Ph.D. can go upto the level of Assistant Professor (Selection Grade)/Lecturer (Selection Grade).
- (c) An Associate Professor/Reader with a minimum of eight years of service will be eligible for consideration for appointment as a Professor.
- (d) For every upward movement, a selection process would be evolved, for which appropriate guidelines would be laid down by the ICAR.

(iv) Rewarding the Merit

- (a) A supertime scale of Rs. 22000-500-24500 will be given to such Professors of Eminence who are directly recruited and have completed 28 years of service. The eligibility criteria and the selection process will be issued by the ICAR separately.
- (b) The ICAR would prepare a specific scheme in consultation with Government to reward and recognise meritorious teachers who may not have M.Phil or Ph.D but who have made outstanding contribution in teaching and research.

(v) Allowances, effective date and fitment formula

- (a) While the revised scales of pay as contained in the Annexure-III will be given effect from 1.1.96, allowances at the revised rates will be effective from 1st August, 1997.
- (b) Pay with effect from 1.1.96 in the revised scales of pay will be fixed after giving the benefit of one increment for every three increments earned in the pre-revised scales as stipulated in Rule 7 of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997, and governed by other relevant provisions of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997 as applicable.
- (c) Pay in the revised scales of pay as at Annexure-III of this letter shall be fixed at the same stage with reference to the stage admissible vide para (b) above. In cases where the same stage is not available, the pay may be fixed at the stage next above the pay admissible vide para (b) above.

(d) Teachers in SAUs will be entitled to Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Transport Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other allowances at the same rates and dates as applicable in the respective State Governments.

(e) Teachers in Central Agricultural University, Imphal will be entitled to Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Transport Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other allowances at the same rates and dates as applicable to the Central Government employees.

(vi) Age of Superannuation

While concurring in the proposal of the Council for enhancement in the age of retirement of Teachers from 60 to 62 years, the competent authority has advised to place it before the Government. Accordingly necessary action has already been taken and after the final decision, separate order in this regard will be issued. Until such time, the age of superannuation will continue to be 60 years.

5. These orders are subject to the conditions as contained in para 4 of Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 7 (34)/E.III-A/97 dated 2.12.97 on pay revision of employees of quasi-Government/autonomous organisations, statutory bodies, etc., set up and funded by the Central Government.

6. It is requested that necessary action may please be taken to revise the pay scales of the teachers of the State Agricultural Universities and Central Agricultural University, Imphal as per the conditions laid down in the instant letter and the Regulations to be framed by the ICAR.

7. Further clarification, if any, in the implementation of the scheme may be sought from the ICAR.

8. The revision of pay scales is further subject to the following conditions:-

- i. The pay scales and the service conditions of SAU's//CAU's personnel will be determined only by ICAR and that decision taken by UGC in this regard will not be applicable unless they are accepted by the ICAR.

- ii. The ICAR will provide assistance to the State Governments to the extent of 80% of the expenditure involved in giving effect to the revision of scales of pay.
- iii. The assistance to the extent mentioned above will be available for the period from 1.1.1996 to 31.3.2000. The State Governments will meet the remaining 20% of the expenditure from their own resources and will not pass on the liabilities to the State Agricultural Universities.
- iv. The State Governments will take over the entire responsibility for maintaining the revised scales of pay w.e.f. 1.4.2000.
- v. The assistance will be restricted to the revision of pay scales of only those posts which were in existence as on January 1, 1996.
- vi. 80% of the assistance will be given to those States only which give a clear commitment of the State Governments to meet 20% of the expenditure.

- vii. The State Governments will ensure that State Agricultural Universities will abide by the service conditions of teachers/faculties laid down by the ICAR regulations.

Yours faithfully

(M. Aslam)
Director (DARE)

Copy to:-

1. Vice-Chancellors/Registrars of all State Agricultural Universities/Central Agricultural University, Imphal.
2. Secretary, ICAR.
3. FA (DARE).
4. DDG (Edn.)
5. All officers in ICAR/KAB.

(M. Aslam)
Director (DARE)

Scale of pay of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges

Sl.No.	Category	Existing scales of pay	Revised scales of pay
1	2	3	4

University and College Teachers

1.	Lecturers/Asstt. Professor	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
2.	Lecturer (Sr. Scale)/Asstt. Prof. (Sr. scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
3.	Lecturer (Selection Grade)/Reader/Associate Professor	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300 The pay of those with five years service as on 1.1.96 may be fixed minimum at Rs. 14,940/-
4.	Professor	4500-150-5700-200-7300 4500-150-5700	16400-450-20900-500-22400
5.	Principal/Head of College	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400 with initial start at Rs. 17300/-
6.	Director (Research)/Director (Extn.)/ Dean PG/Dean student Welfare	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
7.	Vice-Chancellors	7600/-fixed	25000/- fixed

1	2	3	4
For Universities			
8.	Registrar/Librarian/Director of Physical Education/Controller of examination	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
9.	Dy. Registrar/Dy. Librarian/Dy. Director of Physical Education/Dy. Controller of examination	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
10.	Asstt. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officers (Sr. scale) Asstt. Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
11.	Asstt. Registrar/Asstt. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officer/Asstt. Director of Physical Education/Asstt. Controller of examination	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
For Colleges			
12.	College Librarian (Sel. Grade)/Director of Physical Education (Sel. Grade)	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
13.	College Librarian (Sr. Scale)/Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
14.	College Librarian/Director of Physical Education	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
15.	Demonstrator/Tutors	1740-60-2700-EB-75-3000	5500-175-9000

Annexure I&II

Dr. G.D. Sharma
Secretary

University Grants Commission
Bahadurshah Zaffar Marg
New Delhi-110 002

No. F 3-1/94 (PS)

24 December, 1998

To,

The Vice-Chancellors of all the Universities
Education Secretaries of all the
States/Union Territories.

Sub: Minimum qualifications for the appointment of teachers in universities and colleges, and measures for the maintenance of standards

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed a copy of the UGC Notification, 1998, on the revision of pay scales, minimum qualifications

for the appointment of teachers in the universities and colleges, and other measures for the maintenance of standards. These will be notified as Regulations shortly.

1.0 These shall apply to every University established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, Provincial Act or a State Act, every institution including a constituent or an affiliated college recognized by the Commission, in consultation with the concerned University under Clause (f) Section 2 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, and every institution Deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the said Act.

2.0 These shall come into force with immediate effect.

3.0 **Qualifications and other service conditions:**

3.1 No person shall be appointed to a teaching post in the university or in any institution including

constituent or affiliated college recognized under Clause (f) of section 2 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, or in an institution Deemed to be a university under Section 3 of the said Act, in a subject if he/she does not fulfil the minimum qualifications and other conditions of service as indicated in the notification.

3.2 Provided that any relaxation in the prescribed qualifications can only be made by a University in regard to the posts under it, or any of the institutions including constituent or affiliated colleges recognized under Clause (f) Section 2 of the aforesaid Act, or by an institution deemed to be a university under Section 3 of the said Act, with the prior approval of the University Grants Commission.

4.0 **Consequences of failure of the Universities to comply with the recommendations of the Commission, as per provision of Section 14 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956:**

If any University grants affiliation in respect of any course of study to any college referred to in sub-section (5) of Section 12-A in contravention of the provisions of that sub-section, or fails within a reasonable time to comply with any recommendations made by the Commission under Section 12 or Section 13, or contravenes the provisions of any rule made under clause (f) of sub-section (2) of Section 25 or of any regulations made under clause (e) or clause (f) or clause (g) of Sub-Section (1) of Section 26, the Commission after taking into consideration the cause, if any, shown by the University for such failure or contravention, may withhold from the university the grants proposed to be made out of the fund of the Commission.

5.0 The University Grants Commission expects that the entire scheme of revision of pay scales, together with all the conditions attached to it, would be implemented by the State Governments as a composite scheme without any modifications, except the date of implementation and the scales of pay as indicated in Government of India notification No.F.1-22/97-U.I. dated 27.7.98, 22.9.98 and 6.11.98. It shall be necessary for the Universities and the management of Colleges to make the necessary changes in their statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, etc. to incorporate the provisions of this scheme.

6.0 The UGC has sent the following schemes to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for consideration.

- (1) Scheme for providing incentives to lecturers for professional development.
- (2) Creation of posts of Professors in colleges.
- (3) Scheme for rewarding meritorious teachers.
 - a. Super Time Scale to Professors.
 - b. Meritorious teachers who do not have M. Phil/Ph.D.

As soon as the required approval is received the schemes would be formally notified.

7.0 The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,
(G.D. Sharma)

**UGC Notification on Revision of Pay Scales,
Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of
Teachers in Universities & Colleges and Other
Measures for the Maintenance of Standards, 1998**

The scheme of revision of pay scales, minimum qualifications for appointment, other service conditions of University and College Teachers, Librarians, Directors of Physical Education and Registrars of Universities as a measure for the maintenance of standards in higher education.

1.0.0 Coverage

1.1.0 The scheme applies to University and College Teachers, Librarians, Directors of Physical Education and Registrars of Universities (excluding Agricultural Universities), and Colleges (excluding Agricultural, Medical and Veterinary Science Colleges) admitted to the privileges of the Universities unless they specifically exercise an option in writing to remain out of this scheme. However, the scheme will apply to the Teachers in the Faculty of Agriculture, Medicine and Veterinary Science in the Central Universities.

2.0.0 **Pay Scales**

2.1.0 The revised scales of pay, as decided by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Education) may be seen at Appendix-I.

2.2.0 Pay scales for academic staff of the Departments of Adult and Continuing Education, Women's Studies, Academic Staff Colleges and University Science Instrumentation Centre should be equivalent to those of the Teachers of the corresponding levels and they should have same designation and channel of promotion provided that they have equivalent qualifications.

3.0.0 **Recruitment and Qualifications**

3.1.0 The direct recruitment to the post of Lecturers, Readers and Professors in the Universities and Colleges shall be on the basis of merit through all India advertisement and selections by the duly constituted Selection Committees to be set up under the Statutes/Ordinances of the concerned university. Such Committees should have a minimum of three experts, the head of the concerned Department and the Principal of the concerned College (in case of selection of college teachers).

3.2.0 The minimum qualifications required for the post of Lecturers, Readers, Professors, Principals, Assistant Directors of Physical Education, Deputy Directors of Physical Education, Directors of Physical Education, Assistant Librarians, Deputy Librarians, Librarians, Assistant Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Registrars, will be those prescribed by the University Grants Commission from time to time.

3.3.0 The minimum requirements of a good academic record, 55% of the marks at the master level and qualifying in the National Eligibility Test, or an accredited test, shall remain for the appointment of Lecturers. It would be optional for the University to exempt Ph.D. holders from NET or to require NET, in their case, either as a desirable or essential qualification for

appointment as Lecturers in the University Departments and Colleges. The minimum requirement of 55% should not be insisted upon for Professors, Readers, Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Librarians, Deputy Librarians, Directors of Physical Education, Deputy Directors of Physical Education for the existing incumbents who are already in the University system. However, these marks should be insisted upon for those entering the system from outside and those at the entry point of Lecturers, Assistant Registrars, Assistant Librarians, Assistant Director of Physical Education.

3.4.0 A relaxation of 5% may be provided, from 55% to 50% of the marks, at the masters level for the SC/ST category.

3.5.0 A relaxation of 5% may be provided, from 55% to 50% of the marks to the Ph.D. degree holders who have passed their Master's degree prior to 19th Sept., 1991.

3.6.0 B in the 7 point scale with letter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F shall be regarded as equivalent of 55% wherever the grading system is followed.

3.7.0 The Ph.D. should continue to be a compulsory requirement for the designation of Readers. However, for other categories, like those of Registrars, Librarians and Physical Education, Directors, the Ph.D. should be a desirable and not an essential qualification.

4.0.0 **Direct Recruitment**4.1.0 **Professor**

An eminent scholar with published work of high quality, actively engaged in research, with

10 years of experience in postgraduate teaching, and/or experience in research at the University/ National Level institutions, including experience of guiding research at doctoral level.

OR

An outstanding scholar with established reputation who has made significant contribution to knowledge.

In exceptional cases, the teachers with 15 years of UG teaching/research experience could also be considered.

4.2.1 **Principal (Professor's Grade)**

1. A Master's Degree with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F.
2. Ph. D. or equivalent qualification.
3. Total experience of 15 years of teaching/ Research in Universities/Colleges and other institutions of higher education.

4.2.2 **Principal (Render's Grade)**

1. A Master's Degree with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F.
2. Ph.D. or equivalent qualification.
3. Total experience of 10 years of teaching/ Research in Universities/Colleges and other institutions of higher education.

4.3.0. **Reader**

Good academic record with a doctoral degree or equivalent published work. In addition to these, candidates who join from outside the university system, shall all possess at least 55% of the marks or an equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F at the Master's degree level.

Five years of experience of teaching and/or research excluding the period specified for obtaining the research degrees and has made some mark in the areas of scholarship evidenced by quality of publications, contribution to educational innovation, design of new courses and curricula.

4.4.0 **Lecturer**

4.4.1 *Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, Commerce, Education, Physical Education, Foreign Languages and Law.*

Good academic record with at least 55% of the marks or, an equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F at

the Master's degree level in the relevant subject from an Indian University, or, an equivalent degree from a foreign University.

Besides fulfilling the above qualifications, candidates should have cleared eligibility test (NET) for lecturers conducted by the UGC, CSIR or similar test accredited by the UGC.

4.4.2 *Journalism and Mass Communication*

Good academic record with at least 55% of the marks, or, an equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F at the Master's degrees in communication/mass communication, journalism, from an Indian University, or equivalent degree from a foreign University.

Besides fulfilling the above qualifications, candidates should have cleared eligibility test (NET) for lecturers conducted by the UGC, CSIR, or similar accredited by the UGC.

OR

At least 55% of the marks, or an equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F at the Master's degree level in the Humanities, Social Sciences/Sciences/with at least a second class Bachelor's Degree, or Post-graduate Diploma in communication/mass communication or journalism, from a recognized Indian University/National Institute.

Besides fulfilling the above qualification, candidates should have cleared the eligibility test (NET) for Lecturers conducted by the UGC, CSIR, or similar tests accredited by the UGC.

4.4.3 *Music*

Good academic record with at least 55% of the marks, or an equivalent grade of B in the 7 point scale with latter grades O, A, B, C, D, E & F at the Master's degree level, in the relevant subject or an equivalent degree from an Indian/Foreign University.

Besides fulfilling the above qualifications, candidates should have cleared the eligibility test (NET) for Lecturers conducted by the UGC, CSIR, or similar test accredited by the UGC.

Seven Point Scale

Grade	Grade Point	Percentage Equivalent
'O' = Outstanding	5.50-6.00	75-100
'A' = Very Good	4.50-5.49	65-74
'B' = Good	3.50-4.49	55-64
'C' = Average	2.50-3.49	45-54
'D' = Below Average	1.50-2.49	35-44
'E' = Poor	0.50-1.49	25-34
'F' = Fail	0-0.49	0-24

OR

A traditional or a professional artist with a highly commendable professional achievement in the concerned subject.

For professional subjects like education, social work and performing arts etc., a separate detailed regulation on qualifications would be issued. Till then, the Regulations, hitherto in for direct recruitment to the post of Lecturer, Reader and Professor, will continue.

The minimum qualifications for the post of Librarians, Deputy Librarians, Assistant Librarians may be seen at Appendix-II.

The minimum qualifications for the post of Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrar may be seen at Appendix-III.

The minimum qualifications for the post of Director, Physical Education, Deputy Director, Physical Education and Assistant Director, Physical Education may be seen at Appendix-IV.

5.0.0 Selection Committees

University Grants Commission has separate guidelines on constitution of Selection Committees which may be referred to by Universities/Colleges (copy enclosed at Appendix-V). A representative of the SC/ST, women and physically handicapped persons, should be in the Selection Committee whenever a candidate from any of these categories appears for the interview.

It is optional for the University or College to utilise the Seminar or Colloquium as a method for the selection of Lecturer, Reader or Professor.

6.0.0 Incentives for Ph.D./M.Phil.

6.1.0 Four and two advance increments will be admissible to those who hold Ph.D. and M.Phil. degrees, respectively, at the time of recruitment as Lecturers. Candidated with D.Litt/D.Sc. should be given benefit on par with Ph.D. and M.Litt on par with M.Phil.

6.2.0 One increment will be admissible to those teachers with M.Phil who acquire Ph.D. with two years of recruitment.

6.3.0 A Lecturer with Ph.D. will be eligible for two advance increments when she/he move into Selection Grade/Reader.

6.4.0 A teacher will be eligible for two advance increments as and when she/he acquires Ph.D. degree in her/his service career.

7.0.0 Career Advancement

7.1.1 Minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Lecturer (Senior Scale) would be four years for those with Ph.D., five years for those with M.Phil, and six years for others at the level of Lecturer, and for eligibility to move into the Grade of Lecturer (Selection Grade)/Reader, the minimum length of service as Lecturer (Senior Scale) shall be uniformly five years.

7.1.2 For movement into grades of Reader and above, the minimum eligibility criterion would be Ph.D. Those without Ph.D. can go up to the level of Lecturer (Selection Grade).

7.1.3 A Reader with a minimum of eight years of service in that grade will be eligible to be considered for appointment as a Professor.

7.1.4 The Selection Committees for Career Advancement shall be the same as those for Direct Recruitment for each category.

7.1.5 The existing scheme of Career Advancement for non academic staff namely, Assistant Director of Physical Education, Assistant Registrar, Assistant Librarian would continue.

7.2.0 Lecturer (Senior Scale)

A Lecturer will be eligible for placement in a senior scale through a procedure of selection, if she/he has:

- (i) Completed 6 years of service after regular appointment with relaxation of one year and two years, respectively, for those with M.Phil. and Ph.D.
- (ii) Participated in one orientation course and one refresher course of approved duration, or engaged in other appropriate continuing education programmes of comparable quality as may be specified or approved by the University Grants Commission. (Those with Ph.D. degree would be exempted from one refresher course).
- (iii) Consistently satisfactory performance appraisal reports.

7.3.0 Lecturer (Selection Grade)

Lecturers in the Senior Scale who do not have a Ph.D. degree or equivalent published work, and who do not meet the scholarship and research standards, but fulfil the other criteria given above for the post of Reader, and have a good record in teaching and, preferably, have contributed in various ways such as to the corporate life of the institution, examination work, or through extension activities, will be placed in the Selection Grade, subject to the recommendations of the Selection Committee which is the same as for promotion to the post of Reader. They will be designated as Lecturers in the Selection Grade. They could offer themselves for fresh assessment after obtaining Ph.D. and/or fulfilling other requirements for promotion as Reader and, if found suitable, could be given the designation of Reader.

7.4.0 Reader (Promotion)

7.4.1 A Lecturer in the Senior Scale will be eligible for promotion to the post of Reader if she/he has:

- (i) Completed 5 years of service in the Senior Scale;
- (ii) Obtained a Ph.D. degree or has equivalent published work;

(iii) Made some mark in the areas of scholarship and research as evidenced e.g. self-assessment, reports of referees, quality of publications, contribution to educational innovation, design of new courses and curricula and extension activities.

(iv) After placement in the Senior Scale participated in two refresher courses/summer institutes of approved duration, or engaged in other appropriate continued education programmes of comparable quality as may be specified or approved by the University Grants Commission, and

(v) Possesses consistently good performance appraisal reports.

7.4.2 Promotion to the Post of Reader will be through a process of selection by a Selection Committee to be set up under the Statutes/Ordinances of the concerned University or other similar Committees set up by the appointing authorities.

7.5.0 Professor (Promotion)

In addition to the sanctioned position of Professors, which must be filled in through direct recruitment through all India advertisements, promotions may be made from the post of Reader to that of Professor after 8 years of service as Reader.

7.6.0 The Selection Committee for promotion to the post of Professor should be the same as that for direct recruitment. For the promotion from Reader to Professor, the following method of promotion may be allowed.

The candidate should present herself/himself before the Selection Committee with some of the following:

- (a) Self-appraisal reports (required).
- (b) Research contribution/books/articles published.
- (c) Any other academic contributions.

The best three written contributions of the teacher (as defined by her/him) may be sent in advance to the Experts to review before coming for the selection. The candidate should be asked to submit these in 3 sets with the application.

- (d) Seminars/Conferences attended.
- (e) Contribution to teaching/academic environment/institutional corporate life.
- (f) Extension and field outreach activities.

7.7.0 The requirement of participation in orientation/refresher courses/summer institutes, each of at least 3 to 4 weeks duration, and consistently satisfactory performance appraisal reports, shall be the mandatory requirement for Career Advancement from Lecturer to Lecturer (Senior Scale) and from Lecturer (Senior Scale) to Lecturer (Selection Grade). Wherever the requirement of orientation/refresher courses has remained incomplete, the promotions would not be held up but these must be completed by the year 2000.

The requirement for completing these courses would be as follows:

- (i) For Lecturer to Lecturer (Senior Scale), one orientation course would be compulsory for University and College teachers. Those without Ph. D. would be required to do one refresher course in addition.
- (ii) Two refresher courses for Lecturer (Senior Scale) to Lecturer (Selection Grade).
- (iii) The senior teachers like Readers/Lecturers (Selection Grade) and Professors opt to attend two Seminars/Conferences in their subject area and present paper on one aspect of their promotion/selection to higher level or attend refresher course to be offered by ASCs for this level.

7.8.0 If the number of years required in a feeder cadre are less than those stipulated in notification, thus entailing hardship to those who have completed more than the number of years in their entire service for eligibility in the cadre, may be placed next higher cadre after adjusting the total number of years.

This situation is likely to arise as, in the earlier scheme, the number of years required feeder cadre were much more than those envisaged under this notification.

8.0.0 Counting of Past Service

Previous service, without any break as a Lecturer or equivalent, in a university, or national laboratory, or other scientific organisations, e.g. CSIR ICAR, DRDO, ICSSR, ICHR and as a UGC Research Scientist, should be counted for placement lecturer in Senior Scale/Selection Grade provided that:

- 8.1.0 The post was in an equivalent grade/scale of pay as the post of a Lecturer;
- 8.2.0 The qualifications for the post were not lower than the qualifications prescribed by UGC for the post of Lecturer;
- 8.3.0 The candidates who apply for direct recruitment should apply through proper channel.
- 8.4.0 The concerned Lecturers possessed the minimum qualifications prescribed by them for appointment as Lecturers;
- 8.5.0 The post was filled in accordance with the prescribed selection procedure as laid down by the University/State Government/Central Government/Institution's regulations;
- 8.6.0 The appointment was not ad-hoc or in a leave vacancy of less than one year duration ad hoc service of more than one year duration can be counted provided-
 - (a) the ad hoc service was of more than one year duration;
 - (b) the incumbent was appointed on the recommendation of duly comprised Selection Committee; and
 - (c) the incumbent was selected to the permanent post in continuation to the service, without any break.

9.0.0 Merit Promotion

Merit Promotion Scheme of 1983 which was terminated in 1987 for those who did not opt for it, stands abolished. However, Professors who were governed by the old merit promotion scheme of 1987 would be eligible for full scale of Professor w.e.f 01.01.1996. The University can discuss in its academic body and decide inter-se-seniority between the merit promotees and direct recruits, based on the date of selection, and as per the existing/amended Acts and Statutes of the University.

10.0.0 Rewarding Merit

10.1.0 A supertime scale of Rs. 22000-500-24500 will be given to such Professors of Eminence who will be directly recruited and have completed 28 years of service in accordance with the scheme to be approved by the Government of India.

10.2.0 Meritorious teachers, who may not have M.Phil. or Ph.D. but who have made outstanding contributions, would be rewarded and recognized as per the scheme to be approved by the Government of India.

11.0.0 Period of Probation and Confirmation

11.1.0 Keeping in view the practice in some of the Universities, the minimum period of probation may continue to be 1 year, extendable by a maximum period of 1 more year case of unsatisfactory performance. However, the Universities which are already having probation period of 2 years may continue to do so.

11.2.0 It is optional for the universities to introduce the provision that a teacher may offer herself/himself for assessment at any point of time for confirmation, within the period of two years, but the University may consider a minimum period after which such cases would be considered. At senior positions, it is optional for the university to decide the confirmation at any time from the time of appointment to the end of the statutory period of probation.

11.3.0 The confirmation should not be linked to the completion of orientation course, but efforts should be made to send the teacher either before joining, or immediately thereafter, but in any case, the orientation course should be completed within a period of the first two years.

11.4.0 Since the time required for Career Advancement has now been reduced, an extension may be provided till 31.12.2000 to all candidates for completing refresher courses.

11.5.0 The University may devise a mechanism for ensuring that the Head of the University Department/College Principal sponsors the teacher for the required orientation and refresher course, and such opportunity is not denied to the teacher, except on sufficient

grounds to be specified in writing to the university. The university should also bring to the attention of the UGC any complaints received from university or college teachers that they did not get admission to the courses for which they applied with details (name of teacher, name of institution where employed, course applied for, ASC or Department where applied, dates of course and reasons given for refusal).

12.0.0 Part-Time Teachers

The minimum qualifications for appointment of part-time teachers should be the same as that of regular teachers and selected by regularly constituted Selection Committees. The part-time teachers should be appointed only in exceptional circumstances when it is appropriate to the requirements of the institution in terms of subjects to be taught or workload. They can be appointed on a contract appointment if only for a short period or as permanent half-time/proportionate time employees against half-proportionate salary of the scale (and should include proportionate increments, dearness allowance and any other permissible benefits). Such permanent part-time teachers will also be entitled to the scheme of Career Advancement from Lecturer to Senior Scale Lecturer, Selection Grade Lecturer/Reader, and Professor. However, they will be entitled to half/proportionate amount of the basic of the scale and proportionate increments, dearness allowance and any other permissible benefits.

13.00 Creation of Post

13.1.0 UGC-recognized autonomous colleges may create posts of Professor on the basis of felt needs. In general, 1 post of Professor may be created if there are already at least 4 Readers and 12 Lecturers and it is felt that creation of a post of Professor is academically necessary. The procedure of selection of Professor will be through direct recruitment as in the university. Other colleges of similar standard will be identified by the UGC as per the scheme to be approved by the Government of India.

14.0.0 Teaching Days

The Universities/Colleges must observe at least 180 actual teaching days, i.e., there should be

a minimum of 30 weeks of actual teaching in a 6-day week. Of the remaining period, 12 weeks may be devoted to admission and examination activities, and non-instructional days (e.g. for sports, college day, etc.), 8 weeks for vacation and 2 weeks may be attributed to various public holidays. If the University adopts a 5 day week pattern, then the number of weeks should be increased correspondingly to ensure equivalent of 30 weeks with a 6 day week. The above is summarised as follows:

	No. of Weeks	
	University	College
Teaching	30 (180 days)	30 (180 days)
Admissions/Examinations preparation for Examinations.	12	10
Vacation	8	10
Public Holidays (to increase & adjust teaching days accordingly)	2	2
Total	52	52

In lieu of curtailment of vacation by 2 weeks, the university teachers may be credited with 1/3rd of the period of Earned Leave. However, the colleges may have an option of a total vacation of 10 weeks in a year and no Earned Leave except when asked to work during the vacations for which, as in the case of University teachers, 1/3 of the period will be credited as Earned Leave.

15.0.0 Work Load

The workload of the teacher in full employment should not be less than 40 hours a week for 30 working weeks (180 teaching days) in an academic year. It should be necessary for the teacher to be available for at least 5 hours daily in the University/College for which necessary space and infrastructure should be provided by the University/College. The direct teaching hours should be as follows:

Lecturer/Sr. Lecturer/Lecturer(Sel. Grade)	16 hours
Readers & Professors	14 hours

However, a relaxation of two hours in the workload may be given to the Professors who are actively involved in Research, Extension and Administration.

16.0.0 Superannuation and Re-Employment of Teachers

16.1.0 Teachers will retire at the age of 62. However, it is open to a University or a college to re-employ a superannuated teacher according to the existing guidelines framed by the UGC up to the age of 65 years.

16.2.0 Age of retirement of Registrars, Librarians, Physical Education personnel, Controllers of Examinations, Finance Officers and such other university employees who are being treated at par with the teachers and whose age of superannuation is 60 years, would be 62 years. No re-employment facility is recommended for Registrars, Librarians and Directors of Physical Education.

17.0.0 Superannuation Benefits

17.1.0 The benefit in service, up to a maximum of 3 years, should be provided for the teachers who have acquired Ph.D. degree at the time of entry, so that almost all teachers get the retirement benefits which are available after 33 years of service, subject to the overall of superannuation.

17.2.0 Other conditions with respect to Superannuation Benefits may be given as per Central/State Government Rules.

18.0.0 Leave Rules

The leave rules, as laid down by the University Grants Commission, may be followed by the University and College teachers (See Appendix-VI).

19.0.0 Service Agreement

At the time of recruitment in Universities and Colleges, service agreement should be signed between the University/College and the Teacher which should be lodged with the Registrar/Principal with a copy to the concerned teacher. The self-appraisal performance should be a part of the service agreement.

20.0.0 Code of Professional Ethics

Each University should evolve its own professional ethics after full discussion in the academic bodies and associations and should incorporate it in its Act, Statutes and Ordinances and it should be applicable to all teaching and non-teaching staff including administrators.

21.0.0 Accountability

The self-appraisal of performance should be adopted as a mandatory part of the Career Advancement scheme and should be implemented with the new pay scales within the time-frame of 1 year, if not already implemented. It would be optional for the institution to consider introducing student evaluation as a method of assessment of the teacher, particularly in small institutions, post-graduate departments, professional colleges and autonomous colleges.

22.0.0 Anomalies

Anomalies, if any, may be brought to the notice of the UGC who would consider them with the help of a Committee constituted by University Grants Commission.

Appendix-I

Consolidated statement based on letters No.F.1-22/97 U.I. issued on 27th July, 1998 (Annexure-I), 22 September, 1998 (Annexure II) and 6th November, 1998 (Annexure III) by Ministry of Human Resource Development

Subject: Revision of pay scales of teachers in universities and colleges following revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendation of Fifth Central Pay Commission.

1. (i) Pay Scales

A statement showing the existing and revised scales of pay is attached.

The revised scales of Demonstrators/Tutors is for the existing incumbents only. No fresh recruitment shall be made to the cadre of Demonstrators/Tutors. (Annexure I)

(ii) Incentives for Ph.D./M.Phil. (Annexure I)

- (a) Four and two advance increments will be admissible to those who hold Ph.D. and M.Phil degrees, respectively, at the time of recruitment as Lecturers.
- (b) One increment will be admissible to those teachers with M.Phil who acquire Ph.D. within two years of recruitment.
- (c) A Lecturer with Ph.D. will be eligible for two advance increments when he me into Selection grade as Reader.

- (d) A teacher will be eligible for two advance increments as and when he acquire P.H.D. degree in his service career.

(iii) Career Advancement (Annexure-I)

- (a) Minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Lecturer (Senior Scale) would be four years for those with Ph.D., five years for those with M.Phil, and six years for others as a Lecturer, and for eligibility to move into the Grade of Lecturer (Selection Grade)/Reader, the minimum length of service as Lecturer (Senior Scale) shall be uniformly five years.
- (b) For movement into grades of Reader and above, the minimum eligibility criterion would be PhD. Those teachers without Ph.D. can go up to the level of Lecturer (Selection Grade).
- (c) A reader with a minimum of eight years of service will be eligible for consideration for appointment as a Professor.
- (d) For every upward movement, a selection process would be evolved, for which appropriate guidelines would be laid down by the UGC in consultation with the Government.

(iv) Rewarding the Merit (Annexure I)

- (a) A supertime scale of Rs. 22000-500-24500 will be given to such Professors of Eminence who are directly recruited and have completed 28 years of service. The eligibility criteria and the selection process will be determined by the UGC.
- (b) University Grants Commission would prepare a specific scheme in consultation with Government to reward and recognise meritorious teachers who may not have M.Phil or Ph.D. but who have made outstanding contributions in teaching and research.

(v) Allowances, effective date and fitment formula (Annexure I)

- (a) The revised scale of pay as contained in the Annexure will be effective from 1.1.1996. (Annexure I, II and III)
- (b) The fixation of pay of Lecturers (Selection Grade)/Readers in the pre-revised scale of Rs. 3700-125-4950-150-5700/-who were selected strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations framed by the UGC and who were

in position as Lecturers (Selection Grade)/ Readers as on 1.1.1996., will be made in a manner that they get their pay fixed at the minimum of Rs. 14940/-in the revised scale of Rs. 12000-420-18300 as and when they complete five years in the grade. (Annexure III)

- (c) The pay of Readers and Professors who were in the pre-revised scales of Rs. 3000-5000/-and Rs. 4500-5700/-will be fixed at the appropriate stage of the revised scales of Rs. 10000-325-15200 and Rs. 16400-450-20900-500-22400/- respectively as on 1.1.1996. (Annexure III)
- (d) Pay with effect from 1.1.1996 in the revised scale of pay will be fixed after giving the benefit of one increment for every three increments earned in the pre-revised scales as stipulated in Rural 7 of Central Civil Services (Revised pay) Rules, 1997, and governed by other relevant provisions of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997, as applicable.
- (e) Pay in the Revised scales of pay as at Annexure of this letter shall be fixed at the same stage with reference to the stage admissible vide para (c) above. In cases where the same stage is not available, the pay may be fixed at the stage next above the pay admissible vide para (c) above.
- (f) The payment of arrears will be made in one instalment.
- (g) Teachers in Central Universities will be entitled to Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Transport Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other allowances at the same rates and dates as applicable to the Central Government employees.

(vi) Age of Superannuation (Annexure I)

The age of superannuation of university and college teachers, Reigned Librarians, Physical Education personnel, Controller of Examinations, Finance Officer and such other university employees who are being treated at par with the teacher whose age of superannuation was 60 years, would be 62 years and thereafter no extension in service should be given. However, it will be open to a university or college to re-employ a superannuated teacher according to the existing guidelines framed by the up to the age of 65 years. (Annexure I & III).

(vii) Professors for colleges (Annexure I)

Posts of Professor will be created in UGC recognized Autonomous Colleges in the ratio of 1:4:12 for Professors, Readers and Lecturers. The procedure of selection Professor will be the same as that in the university. Other colleges of similar standard will be subsequently identified by the UGC as per the norms developed by the Commission in consultation with the Government.

(viii) Scheme for professional development incentives to Lecturers

The UGC will formulate a Scheme, in consultation with the Government giving professional development incentives in the form of cash allowances or assistance in kind or both to those Lecturers who register for M.Phil/ Ph.D. and whose pursuit research is considered satisfactory by their guides. (Annexure III)

(ix) Other terms & conditions of service of teachers (Annexure I)

Other terms and conditions of service of teachers shall be notified by the UGC by way of Regulations incorporating the approved pay scales and other related conditions the line of existing scheme(s) with the approval of Government.

Scale of Pay of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges

Sl.No.	Category	Existing scales of pay	Revised scales of pay
1	2	3	4
University and College Teachers			
1.	Lecturer	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
2.	Lecturer (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
3.	Lecturer (Sl. Grade)/Reader	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300

1	2	3	4
4.	Professor	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
5.	Principal of College	(i) 3700-125-4950-150-5700	(i) 12000-420-18300 (Minimum to be fixed at 12840)
		(ii) 4500-150-5700-200-7300	(ii) 16400-450-20900-500-22400 (Minimum to be fixed at 17300)
6.	Pro-Vice Chancellor	5900-200-7300	18400-500-22400
7.	Vice-Chancellors	7600/-fixed	25000/fixed
For Universities			
8.	Registrar/Librarian/Director of Physical Education/Controller of examinations/Finance Officer	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
9.	Dy. Registrar /Dy. Librarian/Dy. Director of Physical Education/ Dy. Controller of examination. Dy. Finance Officer	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
10.	Asstt. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officers (Sr. scale)Asstt. Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale).	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
11.	Asstt. Registrar/Asst. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officer/Asstt. Director of Physical Education/ Asstt. Controller of Examination/ Assistant Finance Officer	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
For Colleges			
12.	College Librarian (Sl. Grade)/ Director of Physical Education (Sl. Grade)	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
13.	College Librarian (Sr. Scale)/Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
14.	College Librarian/Director of Physical Education	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
15.	Demonstrator/Tutors	1740-60-2700-EB-75-3000	5500-175-6000

Annexure

No.F.1-22/97-U.I
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Education)

New Delhi, the 27th July, 1998

To

The Education Secretaries
of all States/Union Territories.

Subject: Revision of pay scales of teachers in Universities and Colleges following revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendation of Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to say that in fulfillment of the constitutional responsibility in coordination, determination and maintenance of standards in higher education, the Central Government and the University Grants Commission (UGC) have taken, from time to time several measures. As a part of these efforts, the Central Government has revised the pay scales of teachers in Central Universities and Colleges thereunder in order to attract and retain talent of the teaching profession. A copy of the letter addressed to the UGC giving details of the revised scales of pay and other provisions of the Scheme of revision of pay scales is enclosed.

2. In discharging its constitutional responsibility, the Central Government has decided to continue to provide financial assistance to the State Governments who wish to adopt and implement the Scheme of revision of pay scales subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The Central Government will provide financial assistance to the State Governments which have opted for these revised pay scales to the extent of 80% of the additional expenditure involved in the implementation of the revision.
- (b) The State Governments will meet the remaining 20% of the expenditure from their own sources.
- (c) The financial assistance, indicated above, would be provided for the period from 1.1.1996 to 31.3.2000.

- (d) The entire liability on account of revision of pay scales, etc., of university and college teachers would be taken over by the Governments w.e.f. 1.4.2000.
- (e) The Central assistance would be restricted to revision of pay scales in respect of only those posts which were in existence and filled up on 1.1.1996.

3. The State Governments, after taking local conditions into consideration, may also decide in their discretion, to introduce scales of pay different from those mentioned in the Scheme, and may give effect to the revised scales of pay from January 1, 1996, or a later date. In such cases, the details of the modifications proposed either to the scales of pay or the date from which the Scheme is to be implemented, should be furnished to the Government of India for its approval and, subject to the approval being accorded to the modifications, Central assistance on the same terms and conditions as indicated above will be available to the State Governments for implementation of the Scheme with such modifications, provided that the modified scales of pay are not higher than those approved under the Scheme.

4. The payment of Central assistance for implementation of the Scheme is also subject to the condition that the entire Scheme of revision of pay scales, together with all the conditions to be laid down in this regard by the UGC by way of Regulations, is implemented by the State Governments as a composite scheme without any modification except to the date of implementation and scales of pay as indicated above.

5. It shall be necessary for the Universities and Managements of Colleges to make necessary changes in their statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, etc., to incorporate the provisions of this Scheme.

6. The detailed proposal for implementation of the Scheme on the lines indicated above may kindly be formulated immediately and sent to the Department of Education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development for examination so that Central assistance to the extent indicated above can be sanctioned for the implementation of revised scales of pay.

7. Anomalies, if any, in the implementation of the Scheme may be brought to the notice of the Department of Education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development for clarification.

8. The Scheme applies to teachers in all Universities (including Agricultural Universities and colleges (excluding Agricultural, Medical and Veterinary Science Colleges) admitted to the privileges of the Universities.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Secretary, University Grants Commission, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
2. Registrars of all Universities.
3. Secretary, Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

No.F.1-22/97-U.I
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Education)

New Delhi, the 27th July, 1998

To

The Secretary,
University Grants Commission,
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi.

Subject: Revision of pay scales of teachers in Universities and Colleges following the revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendation of Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Government of India have, after taking into consideration the recommendations made by the University Grants Commission, decided to revise the pay scales of teachers in the Central Universities. The revision of pay scales of teachers will be subject to various provisions of the Scheme of revision

of pay scales as contained in this letter, and the Regulations to be framed by the UGC in this behalf. The revised pay scales and other provisions of the Scheme are as under:

1. (i) **Pay Scales**

A statement showing the existing and revised scales of pay is attached as Annexure.

The revised scales of Demonstrators/Tutors is for the existing incumbents only. No fresh recruitment shall be made to the cadre of Demonstrators/Tutors.

(ii) **Incentives for Ph.D./M.Phil.**

- (a) Four and two advance increments will be admissible to those who hold Ph.D. and M.Phil degrees, respectively, at the time of recruitment as Lecturers.
- (b) One increment will be admissible to those teachers with M.Phil who acquire Ph.D. within two years of recruitment.
- (c) A Lecturer with Ph.D. will be eligible for two advance increments when he moves into Selection grade as Reader.
- (d) A teacher will be eligible for two advance increments as and when he acquires a Ph.D. degree in his service career.

(iii) **Career Advancement**

- (a) Minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Lecturer (Senior Scale) would be four years for those with Ph.D., five years for those with M.Phil, and six years for others as a Lecturer, and for eligibility to move into the Grade of Lecturer (Selection Grade)/Reader, the minimum length of service as Lecturer (Senior Scale) shall be uniformly five years.
- (b) For movement into grades of Reader and above, the minimum eligibility criterion would be Ph.D. Those teachers without Ph.D. can go up to the level of Lecturer (Selection Grade).
- (c) A Reader with a minimum of eight years of service will be eligible for consideration for appointment as a Professor.

- (d) For every upward movement, a selection process would be evolved, for which appropriate guidelines would be laid down by the UGC in consultation with the Government.

(iv) Rewarding the Merit

- (a) A supertime scale of Rs. 22000-500-24500 will be given to such Professors of Eminence who are directly recruited and have completed 28 years of service. The eligibility criteria and the selection process will be determined by the UGC.
- (b) University Grants Commission would prepare a specific scheme in consultation with Government to reward and recognise meritorious teachers who may not have M.Phil or Ph.D. but who have made outstanding contributions in teaching and research.

(v) Allowances, effective date and fitment formula

- (a) The revised scale of pay as contained in the Annexure-I will be given prospective effect from the date of issue of this letter.
- (b) For the period from 1.1.96 to the day on which these decisions taken effect, pay will be fixed in the replacement scales recommended by the UGC appointed Pay Review Committee as per Annexure-II (withdrawn later vide letter dated 6th November, 1998 of Ministry of Human Resource Development).
- (c) Pay with effect from 1.1.96 in the revised scale of pay will be fixed after giving the benefit of one increment for every three increments earned in the pre-revised scales as stipulated in Rule 7 of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997, and governed by other relevant provisions of Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1997 as applicable.
- (d) Pay in the revised scales of pay as at Annexure-I of this letter shall be fixed at the same stage with reference to the stage admissible vide para (c) above. In case where the same stage is not available, the pay may be fixed at the stage next above the pay admissible vide para (c) above.

- (e) The payment of arrears will be made in one instalment.

- (f) Teachers in Central Universities will be entitled to Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Transport allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other allowances at the same rates and dates as applicable to the Central Government employees.

(vi) Age of Superannuation

The age of superannuation of university and college teachers would be 62 years and thereafter no extension in service should be given. However, it will be open to a university or college to re-employ a superannuated teacher according to the existing guidelines framed by the UGC up to the age of 65 years.

(vii) Professors for colleges

Posts of Professor will be created in UGC recognized Autonomous Colleges in the ratio of 1:4:12 for Professors, Readers and Lecturers. The procedure of selection of Professor will be the same as that in the university. Other colleges of similar standard will be subsequently identified by the UGC as per the norms developed by the Commission in consultation with the Government.

(viii) Other terms & conditions of service of teachers

Other terms and conditions of service of teachers shall be notified by the UGC by way of Regulations incorporating the approved pay scales and other related conditions on the line of existing scheme(s) with the approval of Government.

2. In the meantime, the revised scales of pay including arrears of salary may be given to teachers pending issue of the Regulations by the UGC.

3. The above scheme will be applicable to the teachers in all the Central Universities and Colleges thereunder and the Deemed to be Universities whose maintenance expenditure is met by the UGC. The implementation of the revised scales will be subject to the acceptance of all the conditions mentioned in this letter as well as the Regulations to be framed by the UGC in this behalf. The Universities may be advised to amend their statutes and ordinances in line with the Regulations within three months from the date of issue of this letter.

4. These orders are subject to the conditions as contained in para 4 of Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 7 (34)/E.III-A/97 dated 2.12.1997 on pay revision of employees of quasi-Government/autonomous organisations, statutory bodies, etc., set up and funded by the Central Government.

5. It is requested that necessary action may please be taken to revise the pay scales of teachers in the Central Universities and other institutions as per the conditions laid down in the instant letter and the Regulations to be framed by the UGC.

6. Anomalies, if any, in the implementation of the scheme may be brought to the notice of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development for clarification.

7. The receipt of this letter may kindly acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
[Lalmalsawma]
Director

Copy to:

1. Vice-Chancellors of all Central Universities.
2. Member-Secretary, AICTE.
3. Secretary, Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/
[Lalmalsawma]
Director

Annexure

Scale of Pay of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges

Sl.No.	Category	Existing scales of pay	Revised scales of pay
1	2	3	4
University and College Teachers			
1.	Lecturer	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
2.	Lecturer (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
3.	Lecturer (Sl. Grade)/Reader	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
4.	Professor	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
5.	Principals of Colleges	(i) 3700-125-4950-150-5700	(i) 12000-420-18300 (Minimum to be fixed at 12840)
		(ii) 4500-150-5700-200-7300	(ii) 16400-450-20900-500-22400 (Minimum to be fixed at 17300)
6.	Pro-Vice Chancellor	5900-200-7300	18400-500-22400
7.	Vice-Chancellors	7600 fixed	25000 fixed
For Universities			
8.	Registrar/Librarian/Director of Physical Education	4500-150-5700-200-7300	16400-450-20900-500-22400
9.	Dy. Registrar/Dy. Librarian/Dy. Director of Physical Education	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
10.	Asstt. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officers (Sr. scale)/Asstt. Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200

1	2	3	4
11.	Asstt. Registrar/Asstt. Librarian/Asstt. Documentation Officer/Asstt. Director of Physical Education For Colleges	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
12.	College Librarian (Sl. Grade)/ Director of Physical Education (Sl. Grade)	3700-125-4950-150-5700	12000-420-18300
13.	College Librarian (Sr. Scale)/Director of Physical Education (Sr. Scale)	3000-100-3500-125-5000	10000-325-15200
14.	College Librarian/Director of Physical Education	2200-75-2800-100-4000	8000-275-13500
15.	Demonstrator/Tutors	1740-60-2700-EB-75-3000	5500-175-9000

Annexure-II

No.F.1-22/97-U.I
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Education)

New Delhi, the 22nd Sept., 1998

To

The Secretary
University Grants Commission
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi-110 002.

Subject: Revision of pay scales of teachers in Central Universities following the revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendation of the Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Sir,

I am directed to invite attention to our letter of even number dated 27th July, 1998, on the above subject and to state that certain clarification in connection with the fixation of pay of certain categories of teachers have been sought from some quarters. It is hereby clarified that fixation of pay of such categories of teachers may be done in the following manner:-

1. Vice Chancellor

The revised pay scale of Vice-Chancellor will be Rs. 25,000/-(fixed) w.e.f. 1.1.1996.

2. Pro-Vice-Chancellor

The replacement scale for the pay scale of Pro-Vice-Chancellor will be Rs. 18,400-500-22,400 with effect from 1.1.1996.

3. Principal

Those Principals in the pre-revised scale of Rs. 4500-7300 will be given the replacement scale of Rs. 14300-450-22400 w.e.f. 1.1.1996 and the minimum basic pay will be fixed at Rs. 15,200/- from that date. With effect from 27.7.98, the pay will be fixed in the pay scale of Rs. 16400-450-20900-500-22400 starting with a basic pay of Rs. 17300/-. In the case of other Principals, the revised scale of Rs. 12000-375-18000 will be given w.e.f. 1.1.96 and the minimum basic pay will be fixed at Rs. 12,750/- from the date. With effect from 27.7.98, the pay will be fixed in the scale of Rs. 12000-420-18300 starting with the basic pay of Rs. 12,840/-.

4. Readers and Professors under Merit Promotion Scheme

The pay of a Professor under the Merit Promotion Scheme in the existing scale of Rs. 4500-150-5700 will be fixed in the revised scale of Rs. 14300-400-18300 w.e.f. 1.1.1996. The Commission may take a decision whether the Merit Promotion Scheme as it exists should continue or not after 27.7.1998.

5. Controller of Examinations/Finance Officer

The Controllers of Examinations and the Finance Officers in the Universities will be given the same pay scale as applicable to the Registrars.

6. Payment of arrears in respect of allowances other than Dearness Allowance contemplated under Paragraph 1. (v) (f) of the letter under reference will be admissible w.e.f 1.8.1997. Payment of Dearness Allowance from 1.1.1996 will be from the dates and at the rates as applicable to Central Government employees.

The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

Copy to:-

1. The Education Secretaries of all States.
2. Vice-Chancellors of all Central Universities.
3. Member-Secretary, AICTE.
4. Secretary, Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

Annexure-III

No.F.1-22/97-U.I
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Education)

New Delhi, the 6th November, 1998

To

The Secretary
University Grants Commission
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi-110 002.

Subject: Revision of pay scales of teachers in Central Universities following the revision of pay scales of Central Government employees on the recommendation of the Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Sir,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even number dated 27.7.1998 and in supersession of the letter dated

22.9.1998 on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to say that the matter relating to revision of pay scales of University and College teachers was further considered by the Government and it has been decided to make certain modifications in the scheme already notified by the Government vide our letter dated 27.7.1998. The modifications made in the existing Scheme are as under:-

1. Pay Scales

- (i) The revised scales mentioned in Annexure-I of our letter dated 27.7.1998 shall be effective from 1.1.1996. Accordingly, the Annexure-II enclosed with the letter referred to may be treated as withdrawn.
- (ii) The fixation of pay of Lecturers (Selection Grade)/Readers in the pre-revised scale of Rs. 3700-125-4950-150-5700 who were selected strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations framed by the UGC and who were in position as Lecturers (Selection Grade)/Readers as on 1.1.1996, will be made in a manner that they get their pay fixed at the minimum of Rs. 14940/-in the revised scale of Rs. 12000-420-18300 as and when they complete five years in the grade.

2. Readers & Professors

The pay of Readers and Professors who were in the pre-revised scales of Rs. 3000-5000/-and Rs. 4500-5700 will be fixed at the appropriate stage of the revised scales of Rs. 10000-325-15200 and Rs. 16400-450-20900-500-22400 respectively as on 1.1.1996.

3. Pay scales of Controllers of Examinations and Finance Officers

The Controllers of Examinations and the Finance Officers in the Universities will be given the same pay scale as applicable to the Registrars.

4. Age of Superannuation

The Age of superannuation of 62 years indicated in para 1 (vi) of our letter under reference shall also be applicable to Registrars, Librarians, Physical Education Personnel, Controllers of Examinations, Finance Officers and such other university employees who are being treated at par with the teachers and whose age of superannuation was 60 years.

5. Scheme for professional development incentives to Lecturers

The UGC will formulate a Scheme, in consultation with the Government, for giving professional development incentives in the form of cash allowances or assistance in kind or both to those Lecturers who register for M.Phil/Ph.D and whose pursuit of research is considered satisfactory by their guides.

6. Other terms & conditions

The other terms and conditions mentioned in our letter dated 27.7.1998, except as modified above, will remain the same.

7. The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Education Secretary of all State Governments.
2. Vice-Chancellors of all Central Universities.
3. Member-Secretary, AICTE, IP Estate, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/
(Lalmalsawma)
Director

Appendix-II

Minimum Qualifications for direct recruitment to the posts of Librarian, Dy. Librarian and Asstt. Librarian

(I) Librarian (University)

- i. Master's degree in Library science/information science/documentation with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale and consistently good academic record;
- ii. At least thirteen years as a Deputy Librarian in a university library or eighteen years' experience as a College Librarian;

- iii. Evidence of innovative library service and organisation of published work.

Desirable

M.Phil/Ph.D. degree in library science/information science/documentation/archives and manuscript-keeping.

(ii) Deputy Librarian

- i. Master's degree in library science/information science/documentation with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale and a consistently good academic record;
- ii. Five years' experience as an Assistant University Librarian/College Librarian;
- iii. Evidence of innovative library service, published work and professional commitment, computerisation of library.

Desirable

M.Phil./Ph.D. degree in library science/information science/documentation/archives and manuscript-keeping, computerisation of library.

(III) For the posts of Assistant University Librarian/College Librarian/Documentation Officer

Minimum Qualifications

- i. Qualifying in the national-level test conducted for the purpose by the UGC on any other agency approved by the UGC.
- ii. Master's degree in library science/information science/documentation or an equivalent professional degree with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale plus a consistently good academic record, computerisation of library.

Appendix-III

Minimum qualifications for the direct recruitment to the posts of Registrar, Dy. Registrar and Assistant Registrar

(i) Registrar and equivalent posts

1. A master's degree with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale.

2. At least 15 years of experience as Lecturer (Sr. Scale)/Lecturer with eight years in Reader's grade along with experience in educational administration.

or

Comparable experience in research establishment and/or other institutions of higher education.

or

15 years of administrative experience of which 8 years as Deputy Registrar or on equivalent post.

(ii) Deputy Registrar and equivalent posts

1. A Master's degree with a least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale.

2. Five years' of experience as a Lecturer in a college or a university with experience in educational administration.

or

Comparable experience in research establishment and/or other institutions of higher education.

or

Five years' of administrative experience as Assistant Registrar or in an equivalent post.

(iii) Assistant Registrar and Equivalent Posts

1. Good academic record plus Master's degree with at least 55% of the marks of its equivalent grade of B in the UGC seven point scale.

Appendix-IV

Minimum Qualifications for the posts of Director Physical Education, Dy. Director Physical Education and Assistant Director Physical Education

(a) University: Assistant Director of Physical Education and Sports/College DPEs (Lecturer-scale)

(i) Master's degree in Physical Education (two years course) or Master's degree in Sports or an equivalent degree with at least 55% of the marks or its equivalent grade of B in the UGC 7 point scale plus a consistently good academic record.

(ii) Record of having represented the university/college at the inter-university/inter-collegiate competitions or the State in national championships.

(iii) Passed the physical fitness test.

(iv) Qualifying in the national test conducted for the purpose by the UGC or any other agency approved by the UGC.

(b) University: Assistant DPEs/College DPEs (Senior-scale)

(i) Should have completed six years of service as University Assistant DPEs/College DPEs with a benefit of two years for Ph.D. and one year for M.Phil. Degree holders.

(ii) Passed the physical fitness test.

(iii) Consistently good appraisal reports.

(iv) Should have attended at least one orientation and one refresher course of about three to four weeks' duration each with proper and well-defined evaluation procedure (exemption from one refresher course is granted to Ph.D. degree holders).

(c) University: Assistant DPEs/College DPEs (Selection-grade)

(i) Completed five years of service as University Assistant DPEs/college DPEs in the senior-scale.

(ii) Has attended at least two refresher courses of about three-four weeks' duration with proper and well-defined evaluation procedure after placement in the scale of Rs. 3000-5000.

(iii) Shown evidence of having produced good teams/athletes and of having organised and conducted coaching camps of at least two weeks' duration.

(iv) Passed the physical fitness test.

(v) Consistently good appraisal reports.

(d) University: Deputy DPEs/College DPEs (Reader's scale)

(i) Ph.D. in physical education. Candidates from outside the university system, in addition, shall also possess at least 55% of the marks or an equivalent grade of B in the UGC 7 point scale at the Master's Degree level.

(ii) Five years' experience as University Assistant DPEs/College DPEs, with a benefit of two years and one year for Ph.D. and M.Phil. Degree holders.

- (iii) Evidence of organising competitions and conducting coaching camps of at least two weeks' duration.
- (iv) Evidence of having produced good performance teams/athletes for competitions like state/national/inter-university/combined university, etc.
- (v) Passed the physical fitness test.
- (vi) Consistently good appraisal reports.

(e) University DPEs

- (i) Ph.D. in physical education.
- (ii) Experience of at least ten years as University Deputy or fifteen years as University Assistant DPEs/College DPEs (selection grade)
- (iii) Participation in at least two national/international seminars/conferences.
- (iv) Consistently good appraisal reports.
- (v) Evidence of organising competitions and conducting coaching camps of at least two week's duration.
- (vi) Evidence of having produced good performance terms/athletes for competitions like state/national/inter-university/combined university, etc.

Appendix-V

Selection Committees Recommended by the UGC

Lecturer in a Private College

1. Chairperson of the Governing Body of the college or his/her nominee to be the Chairperson of the Selection Committee.
2. The Principal of the concerned College.
3. One senior teacher/Head of the Department (of the concerned subject) preferably having not less than 10 years of service as a teacher.
4. Two nominees of the Vice Chancellor of the affiliating university of whom one should be a subject expert.
5. Two subject-experts not connected with the college to be nominated by the Chairperson of the governing body out of a panel of names approved by the Vice Chancellor.

For Government colleges, the State Public Service Commissions must invite three subject experts for which the State PSC will involve the University in the selection.

The Principal and Head of the Department should be necessarily included in the Selection Committee.

The quorum for the meeting should be five of which at least two must be from out of the three subject-experts.

For the Post of University Lecturer

At the University level, all selections must be done within the system with the VC as the head of the Selection Committee.

1. The Vice Chancellor to be the Chairperson of the Selection Committee.
2. Three experts in the concerned subject, to be invited on the basis of the list recommended by the Vice Chancellor and approved by the Executive Council/Syndicate.
3. Dean of the concerned Faculty/Head/Chairperson of the Department.
4. An academican nominated by the Visitor/Chancellor.

The quorum should be four out of which at least two outside subject-experts must be present.

For the Post of Reader

The process of selection should involve inviting the biodata and reprints of three major publications of the candidate before interview and getting them assessed by the same three external experts, who are to be invited to interview the candidate. The Selection Committee should have the following composition:

1. Vice Chancellor to be the Chairperson of the Selection Committee.
2. An academican who is the nominee of the Visitor/Chancellor.
3. Three experts in the concerned subject/field, out of the list recommended by the Vice-Chancellor and approved by the Executive Council/Syndicate.
4. Dean of the Faculty.
5. Head/Chairperson of the Department.

At least four members, including two outside experts, must constitute the quorum.

For the Post of Professor

The process of selection should involve inviting the biodata and reprints of three major publications of which one could be a book or research report, before the interview, and getting them assessed by the same three external experts who are to be invited for the interview. The assessment report must be placed before the Selection Committee. The composition of the Selection Committee for the post of a Professor will be the same as proposed for the post of a Reader.

It may be ensured that the process of selection in every case is transparent and credible.

In the case of posts of Readers and Professors in Colleges, besides the Chairperson Governing Body, the Principal of the College, and the Head of the Department, there will be two University representatives, one of whom will be the Dean of College or equivalent position in the University, who will substitute the visitor's Nominee and the VC should be substituted by the VC's Nominee.

Selection Committees for the posts of Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors of Physical Education, Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Librarians, Deputy Librarians and Assistant Librarians shall be the same as that of Professor, Reader and Lecturer respectively, except that the concerned expert in Physical Education or Administration or Library Science, as the case may be, shall be associated with the Selection Committee.

For the Post of Principal

1. Chairperson of the Governing Board as Chairperson.
2. One member of the Governing Board to be nominated by the Chairperson.
3. Two Vice Chancellor's nominees, out of whom one should be an expert.
4. Three experts consisting of the Principal of a college, a Professor and an accomplished educationist not below the rank of a Professor (to be nominated by the Governing Board) out of a panel of experts approved by the Vice Chancellor.

At least four members, including two experts, should constitute the quorum.

The process of selection should involve the following:

- (a) Assessment of aptitude for teaching and research.
- (b) Ability to communicate clearly and effectively.
- (c) Ability to analyse and discuss.
- (d) Optional: Ability to communicate may be assessed by requiring the candidate to participate in a group discussion or by exposure to a class room situation/lecturer, wherever it is possible.

Appendix-VI**Leave Rules Recommended by the UGC for Teachers of the Universities/Colleges****1. Leave admissible to permanent teachers**

The following kinds of leave would be admissible to permanent teachers

- (i) Leave treated as duty, viz.;
Casual leave;
Special casual leave; and
Duty leave
- (ii) Leave earned by duty, viz.;
Earned leave;
Half Pay leave; and
Commutated leave
- (iii) Leave not earned by duty, viz.;
Extraordinary leave; and
Leave not due
- (iv) Leave not debited to leave account-
(a) Leave for academic pursuits, viz.;
Study leave; and
Sabbatical leave/Academic leave
(b) Leave on grounds of health, viz.;
Maternity leave

Quarantine leave

The Executive Council/Syndicate may, in exceptional cases, grant for the reasons to be recorded, other kinds of leave, subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem fit to impose.

2. Casual Leave

- (i) Total casual leave granted to a teacher shall not exceed eight days in an academic year.

- (ii) Casual leave cannot be combined with any other kind of leave except special casual leave. It may be combined with holidays including Sundays. Holidays or Sundays falling within the period of casual leave shall not be counted as casual leave.

3. Special Casual leave

- (i) Special casual leave, not exceeding ten days in an academic year, may be granted to a teacher:
- (a) To conduct examination of a university/Public Service Commission/board of examination or other similar bodies/institutions; and
- (b) To inspect academic institutions attached to a statutory board, etc.

Note:

- (i) In computing the ten days' leave admissible, the days of actual journey, if any, to and from the places where activities specified above, take place, will be excluded.
- (ii) In addition, special casual leave to the extent mentioned below may also be granted;
- (a) to undergo sterilization operation (vasectomy or salpingectomy) under family welfare programme. Leave in this case will be restricted to six working days; and
- (b) to a female teacher who undergoes non-puerperal sterilization. Leave in this case will be restricted to fourteen days.
- (iii) Special casual leave cannot be accumulated, nor can it be combined with any other kind of leave except casual leave. It may be granted in combination with holidays or vacation.

4. Duty Leave

- (i) Duty leave may be granted for:
- (a) Attending conferences, congresses, symposia and seminars on behalf of the university or with the permission of the university;
- (b) delivering lectures in institutions and universities at the invitation of such institutions or universities received by the university, and accepted by the Vice Chancellor;

- (c) working in another Indian or foreign university, any other agency, Institution or organisation, when so deputed by the university;
- (d) participating in a delegation or working on a committee appointed by the Government of India, State Government, the University Grants Commission, a sister university or any other academic body, and
- (e) for performing any other duty for the university.
- (ii) The duration of leave should be such as may be considered necessary by the sanctioning authority on each occasion;
- (iii) The leave may be granted on full pay. Provided that if the teacher receives a fellowship or honorarium or any other financial assistance beyond the amount needed for normal expenses, he/she may be sanctioned duty leave on reduced pay and allowances; and
- (iv) Duty leave may be combined with earned leave, half pay leave or extraordinary leave.

5. Earned Leave

- (i) Earned leave admissible to a teacher shall be:
- (a) 1/30th of actual service including vacation; plus
- (b) 1/3rd of the period, if any, during which he/she is required to perform duty during vacation.

Note:

For purpose of computation of period of actual service, all periods of leave except casual, special casual and duty leave shall be excluded.

- (ii) Earned leave at the credit of a teacher shall not accumulate beyond 300 days. The maximum earned leave that may be sanctioned at a time shall not exceed 60 days. Earned leave exceeding 60 days may, however, be sanctioned in the case of higher study, or training, or leave with medical certificate or when the entire leave, or a portion thereof, is spent outside India.

Note-1

When a teacher combines vacation with earned leave, the period of vacation shall be reckoned as leave in calculating the maximum amount of leave on average pay which may be included in the particular period of leave.

Note-2

In case where only a portion of the leave is spent outside India, the grant of leave in excess of 120 days shall be subject to the condition that the portion of the leave spent in India shall not in the aggregate exceed 120 days.

Note-3

Encashment of earned leave shall be allowed to non-vacation members of the teaching staff as applicable to the employees of Central/State Governments.

6. Half-pay Leave

Half-pay leave admissible to a permanent teacher shall be 20 days for each completed year of service. Such leave may be granted on the basis of medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner, for private affairs or for academic purposes.

Note:

A "completed year of service" means continuous service of specified duration under the university and includes periods of absence from duty as well as leave including extraordinary leave.

7. Commuted Leave

Commuted leave, not exceeding half the amount of half pay leave due, may be granted on the basis of medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner to a permanent teacher subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Commuted leave during the entire service shall be limited to a maximum of 240 days;
- (ii) When commuted leave is granted, twice the amount of such leave shall be debited against the half-pay leave due; and
- (iii) The total duration of earned leave and commuted leave taken in conjunction shall not exceed 240 days at a time. Provided that no commuted leave shall be granted under these rules unless the authority competent to sanction leave has reason to believe that the teacher will return to duty on its expiry.

B. Extraordinary Leave

- (i) A permanent teacher may be granted extraordinary leave when:

- (a) No other leave is admissible; or
- (b) No other leave is admissible and the teacher applied in writing for the grant of extraordinary leave.
- (ii) Extraordinary leave shall always be without pay and allowances. Extraordinary leave shall not count for increment except in the following cases:
 - (a) Leave taken on the basis of medical certificates;
 - (b) Cases where the Vice Chancellor/Principal is satisfied that the leave was taken due to causes beyond the control of the teacher, such as inability to join or rejoin duty due to civil commotion or a natural calamity, provided the teacher has no other kind of leave to his credit;
 - (c) Leave taken for pursuing higher studies; and
 - (d) Leave granted to accept an invitation to a teaching post or fellowship or research-cum-teaching post or on assignment for technical or academic work of importance.
- (iii) Extraordinary leave may be combined with any other leave except casual leave and special casual leave, provided that the total period of continuous absence from duty on leave (including periods of vacation when such vacation is taken in conjunction with leave) shall not exceed three years except in cases where leave is taken on medical certificate. The total period of absence from duty shall in no case exceed five years in the full working life of the individual.
- (iv) The authority empowered to grant leave may commute retrospectively periods of absence without leave into extraordinary leave.

9. Leave Not Due

- (i) Leave not due, may, at the discretion of the Vice Chancellor/Principal, be granted to a permanent teacher for a period not exceeding 360 days during the entire period of service, out of which not more than 90 days at a time and 180 days in all may be otherwise than on medical certificate. Such leave shall be debited against the half-pay leave earned by him/her subsequently.
- (ii) 'Leave not due' shall not be granted unless the Vice Chancellor/Principal is satisfied that as far as can reasonably be foreseen, the teacher will return to duty on the expiry of the leave and earn the leave granted.

- (iii) A teacher to whom 'leave not due' is granted shall not be permitted to tender his/her resignation from service so long as the debit balance in his/her leave account is not wiped off by active service, or he/she refunds the amount paid to him/her as pay and allowances for the period not so earned. In a case where retirement is unavoidable on account of reason of ill health, incapacitating the teacher for further service, refund of leave salary for the period of leave still to be earned may be waived by the Executive Council.

Provided further that the Executive Council may, in any other exceptional case waive, for reasons to be recorded, the refund of leave salary for the period of leave still to be earned.

10. Study Leave

- (i) Study leave may be granted after a minimum of 3 years of continuous service, to pursue a special line of study or research directly related to his/her work in the university or to make a special study of the various aspects of university organisation and methods of education. The paid period of study leave should be for 3 years, but 2 years may be given in the first instance, extendable by one more years, if there is adequate progress as reported by the Research Guide. Care should be taken that the number of teachers given study leave, does not exceed the stipulated percentage of teachers in any department. Provided that the Executive Council/Syndicate may, in the special circumstances of a case, waive the condition of three years service being continuous.

Explanation: In computing the length of service, the time during which a person was on probation or engaged as a research assistant may be reckoned provided-

- (a) the person is a teacher on the date of the application; and
- (b) there is no break in service.
- (ii) Study leave shall be granted by the Executive Council/Syndicate on the recommendation of the concerned Head of the Department. The leave shall not be granted for more than three years in one spell, save in very exceptional cases in which the Executive Council/Syndicate is satisfied that such extension is unavoidable on academic grounds and necessary in the interest of the university.

- (iii) Study leave shall not be granted to a teacher who is due to retire within five years of the date on which he/she is expected to return to duty after the expiry of study leave.
- (iv) Study leave may be granted not more than twice during one's career. However, the maximum of study leave admissible during the entire service should not exceed five years.
- (v) No teacher who has been granted study leave shall be permitted to alter substantially the course of study or the programme of research without the permission of the Executive Council/Syndicate. When the course of study falls short of study leave sanctioned, the teacher shall resume duty on the conclusion of the course of study unless the previous approval of the Executive Council/Syndicate to treat the period of shortfall as ordinary leave has been obtained.
- (vi) Subject to the provisions of sub-clauses (vii) and (viii) below, study leave may be granted on full pay up to two years extendable by one year at the discretion of the university.
- (vii) The amount of scholarship, fellowship or other financial assistance that a teacher, granted study leave, has been awarded will not preclude his/her being granted study leave with pay and allowances but the scholarship, etc., so received shall be taken into account in determining the pay and allowance on which the study leave may be granted. The Foreign scholarship/fellowship would be offset against pay only if the fellowship is above a specified amount, which is to be determined from time to time, based on the cost of living for a family in the country in which the study is to be undertaken. In the case of an Indian fellowship, which exceeds the salary of the teacher, the salary would be forfeited.
- (viii) Subject to the maximum period of absence from duty on leave not exceeding three years, study leave may be combined with earned leave, half-pay leave, extraordinary leave or vacation, provided that the earned leave at the credit of the teacher shall be availed of at the discretion of the teacher. A teacher who is selected to a higher post during study leave, will be placed in that position and get the higher scale only after joining the post.
- (ix) A teacher granted study leave shall on his/her return and re-joining the service of the university may be eligible to the benefit of the annual

increment(s) which he/she would have earned in the course of time if he/she had not proceeded on study leave. No teacher shall however, be eligible to receive arrears of increments.

- (x) Study leave shall count as service for pension/contributory provident fund, provided the teacher joins the university on the expiry of his/her study leave.
- (xi) Study leave granted to a teacher shall be deemed to be cancelled in case it is not availed of within 12 months of its sanction.
- Provided that where study leave granted has been so cancelled, the teacher may apply again for such leave.
- (xii) A teacher availing himself/herself of study leave shall undertake that he/she shall serve the university for a continuous period of at least three years to be calculated from the date of his/her resuming duty after expiry of the study leave.
- (xiii) After the leave has been sanctioned, the teacher shall, before availing himself/herself of the leave, execute a bond in favour of the university, binding himself/herself for the due fulfilment of the conditions laid down in sub-clause (xiii) and (xiv) above and give security of immovable property to the satisfaction of the Finance Officer/Treasurer or a fidelity bond of an insurance company or a guarantee by a scheduled bank or furnish security of two permanent teachers for the amount which might become refundable to the university in accordance with sub-clause (xiv) above.
- (xiv) The teacher shall submit to the Registrar, six monthly reports of progress in his/her studies from his/her supervisor or the Head of the Institution. This report shall reach the Registrar within one month of the expiry of every six months of the study leave. If the report does not reach the Registrar within the specified time, the payment of leave salary may be deferred till the receipt of such report.

11. Sabbatical Leave/Academic Leave

- (i) Permanent, whole-time teachers of the university who have completed seven years of service as lecturer Selection Grade/Reader or Professor, may be granted sabbatical leave to undertake study or research or other academic pursuit solely for the object of increasing their proficiency

and usefulness to the university and higher education system.

- (ii) The duration of leave shall not exceed one year at a time and two years in the entire career of a teacher.
- (iii) A teacher who has availed himself/herself of study leave, would not be entitled to the sabbatical leave.

Provided further that sabbatical leave shall not be granted until after the expiry of five years from the date of the teacher's return from previous study leave or any other kind of training programme.

- (iv) A teacher shall, during the period of sabbatical leave, be paid full pay and allowances (subject to the prescribed conditions being fulfilled) at the rates applicable to him/her immediately prior to his/her proceeding on sabbatical leave.
- (v) A teacher on sabbatical leave shall not take up during the period of that leave, any regular appointment under another organisation in India or abroad. He/she may, however, be allowed to accept a fellowship or a research scholarship or ad hoc teaching and research assignment with honorarium or any other form of assistance, other than regular employment in an institution of advanced studies, provided that in such cases the Executive Council/Syndicate may, if it so desires, sanction sabbatical leave on reduced pay and allowances.
- (vi) During the period of sabbatical leave, the teacher shall be allowed to draw the increment on the due date. The period of leave shall also count as service for purposes of pension/contributory provident fund, provided that the teacher rejoins the university on the expiry of his/her leave.

Note-I: The programme to be followed during sabbatical leave shall be submitted to the university for approval along with the application for grant of leave.

Note-II: On return from leave, the teacher shall report to the university the nature of studies, research or other work undertaken during the period of leave.

12. Maternity Leave

- (i) Maternity leave on full pay may be granted to a woman teacher for a period not exceeding 135 days, to be availed of twice in the entire career. maternity leave may also be granted in case of miscarriage including abortion, subject to the condition that the total leave granted in respect of this to a woman teacher in her career

is not more than 45 days, and the application for leave is supported by a medical certificate.

- (ii) Maternity leave may be combined with earned leave, half pay leave or extraordinary leave but any leave applied for in continuation of maternity leave may be granted if the request is supported by a medical certificate.

Paternity Leave

Paternity leave of 15 days may be granted to male teachers during the confinement of their wives, provided, the limit is up to two children.

Adoption Leave

Adoption leave may be provided as per the rules of the Central Government.

Duty Leave

Duty leave should be given also for attending meetings in the UGC, DST etc. Where a teacher invited to share expertise with academic bodies, government or NGO.

[Translation]

Promotion of Production of Vegetables

3508. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to promote the European and exotic varieties of vegetables in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds to be provided by the Government in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (c) The Government of India is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme on 'Macro-Management of Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts' through Work Plans. Under the scheme States have greater flexibility to pursue various Agricultural development programmes as per their prioritized needs. The States may promote growing of European and exotic varieties of vegetables under the scheme. The scheme provides for improving the production and productivity of vegetables, increase the availability of quality seeds of

high yielding cultivators and to disseminate production & post harvest technologies to farmers through participatory demonstrations and trainings.

Besides, National Horticulture Board under its scheme on "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest management" provide assistance in the form of back ended capital investment subsidy @ 20% of total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakhs for growing of vegetables including European vegetables. This is project based scheme under which farmers/entrepreneurs/States may avail assistance for growing European & exotic vegetables.

[English]

Assistance for Agricultural Production in Punjab

3509. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has sought financial assistance for diversification of agricultural production in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Punjab have submitted two proposals. Under one scheme they have sought financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1280 crores under Crop Diversification for shifting one million hectares of land under rice-wheat system to oilseeds & pulses etc. Another proposal has been submitted by the Government of Punjab for implementation of "Crop Adjustment programme" through contract farming including 25% margin money to buy back the contracted produce for which a financial assistance of Rs. 773.61 crores has been sought.

(c) The proposals have been considered but at present there are no central schemes under which these can be covered.

Promotion of Bee-Keeping Industry

3510. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures undertaken by the Government to encourage Bee-keeping industry;

(b) the number of projects regarding Bee-keeping received from various States including Kerala, during the last two years and thereafter, State-wise;

(c) the number of proposals cleared and pending clearances as on date; and

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) The Government through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has undertaken various measures to encourage Bee-keeping industry. These include setting up of Centres for extension and research in Bee-keeping in the different parts of the country. These centres guide Bee-keepers on various management practices and establish linkage with other organizations, Bee-keeping institutions, farmers and State forest departments and impart training to the interested persons. A Central Research Institute has been established at Pune to do basic research for development of Bee-keeping and honey. For developing Common Facility Centres in various parts of the country honey processing plants have been established. Exposure visits have also been organized for Bee-keepers to successful units.

(b) The number of Bee-keeping projects received from various States including Kerala during the last two years is at statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) 414 Bee-keeping projects have been sanctioned during the last two years. No project is presently pending in KVIC for clearance.

Statement

State Office	No. of Bee-Keeping Projects
1	2
Year 2000-01	
Assam	1
Bikaner-Rajasthan	1
Chennai-Tamilnadu	2
Dehradun-Uttaranchal	15
Haldwani-Uttar Pradesh	15

1	2
Haryana	4
Himachal Pradesh	1
Jaipur-Rajasthan	1
Karnataka	3
Kerala	2
Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh	15
Madurai-Tamilnadu	2
Meerut-Uttar Pradesh	15
Meghalaya	5
Orissa	1
Patna-Bihar	1
Punjab	43
Ranchi-Jharkhand	1
Varanasi-Uttar Pradesh	15
West Bengal	2
	145

Year 2001-02

Assam	1
Bikaner-Rajasthan	20
Chennai-Tamilnadu	7
Dehradun-Uttaranchal	19
Haldwani-Uttar Pradesh	19
Haryana	8
Himachal Pradesh	7
Jaipur-Rajasthan	20
Karnataka	9
Kerala	29
Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh	19
Madurai-Tamilnadu	7
Meerut-Uttar Pradesh	19
Meghalaya	1

1	2
Punjab	58
Ranchi-Jharkhand	1
Tripura	1
Varanasi-Uttar Pradesh	19
West Bengal	5
	269

Delay due to Security Clearance

3511. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a lot of time is consumed in waiting for the security clearance at Hyderabad Airport in the morning;

(b) if so, the reasons for not announcing the departures early by Indian Airlines to avoid long queues and crowd; and

(c) the steps being taken by Indian Airlines to improve its functioning at airports to ensure that passengers are not held up in queues for security clearances at departure lounges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir, Due to shortage of X-Ray machines for screening hand baggage and inadequate number of Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF) personnel posted for carrying out the physical frisking of the passengers there are delays in security clearance of passengers.

(b) Announcement for security check is made 1 hour 15 minutes prior to the scheduled departure of the flight. However, bulk of the passengers report 30 to 40 minutes prior to the scheduled departure of the flight.

(c) In order to avoid long queues at the security check point the following steps are taken:

- Repeated announcements are made, requesting passengers to report for security check in advance.

- Indian Airlines Passenger Facilitation Assistant meets the passengers and request them to proceed for security check to avoid long queues at the security point.

- Floor walkers are available to guide the passengers.

- Information is displayed on the Close Circuit Television (CCTV).

Besides efforts are being made to activate a second X-Ray machine and induct more CISF staff.

Use of Incinerators

3512. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any policy with regard to the use of incinerators for eliminating waste generated by industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to encourage use of incinerators;

(d) whether these incinerators increase air pollution; and

(e) if so, the alternative systems of technology proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Incineration is one of the techniques for treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes generated by the industries. The option for adopting incinerator depends upon the type of waste and the techno-economic feasibility of its treatment and disposal.

(c) and (d) Standards including emission norms, design parameters and operating conditions of incinerators have been specified. Also, pollution control systems are required to be installed in the incinerators to control air pollution.

(e) Several alternative technologies are available. Depending upon the type of the industrial waste, different technologies such as recycling/reprocessing, detoxifications, waste immobilisation and secured landfill could be adopted.

[*Translation*]

Indiscriminate Use of Chemical Insecticides

3513. SHRIMATI RAMA PILOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insects and pests have developed immunity as a result of indiscriminate use of chemical insecticides during the past three decades;

(b) if so, whether the immune system of human beings has also been affected;

(c) if so, whether the scientists of the Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar after testing vegetables and milk have found large quantity of residues of insecticides in them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. In India, 33 insect pests are reported to have developed resistance to various insecticides.

(b) The immune system of human beings is affected wherever there is serious to exposure pesticides. Studies conducted by ICMR's National Institute of Occupational Health at Ahmedabad on sprayers associated with the spraying of malathion and cyfluthrin showed increased levels of serum Immuno globulin G (Malathion group) and serum IgA (Cyfluthrin group). Another study on formulators exposed to combination to pesticides in industrial settings revealed significant elevation in serum IgM and presence of few circulating complexes of IgG and Complement₄ (C₄).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Haryana Agricultural University centre under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Pesticides residue is monitoring the pesticide residues in farm gate samples as well as market samples of vegetables. During 2000 they have analysed 42 farm gate and 60 market samples by using multi-residue analysis method. Insecticides detected were DDT, HCH, endosulfan, organophosphates and synthetic pyrethroids. Out of the sample analysed only 4.7% farm gate samples and 46% market samples were found to contain the residues above tolerance limit (MRL). During 2002, 18 samples from the market were analysed but none of the samples exceeded their MRL values.

During 2000-2002, 58 milk samples were analysed. DDT, HCH, endosulfan and synthetic pyrethroids were detected. However, residues of endosulfan in 23 samples, HCH and DDT in 2 samples only exceeded its MRL value.

(e) The Government is strongly supporting the adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach in the overall crop protection programme of the country. IPM emphasizes biological control, resistant planting material, cultural and other non-chemical methods. Pesticides are used only when cost/benefit analysis show that their use is truly justified and that acceptable alternatives do not exist; their use is supplementary, rather than routine. In this way, IPM prevents pests from rapidly developing resistance to pesticides and lengthens the pesticides period of value for pest management.

Irregularities in Implementation of Yamuna Action Plan

3514. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:
DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that cleaning of Yamuna river and saving it from pollution under the Yamuna Action Plan could be implemented only in 2001 even after strong directives from the Hon'ble Supreme Court and investment of nearly Rs. 75 crore;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to initiate any inquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) A project for cleaning of river Yamuna in Haryana, Delhi and U.P. namely, Yamuna Action Plan Phase-I was approved in 1993. The works under this Plan funded by Japan Bank for International Cooperation have been completed on 19.02.2003. Total expenditure incurred on the project is Rs. 680 crore. Out of the approved capacity of 743 million litres per day (mld) of sewage treatment, a capacity to treat 728 mld has been created. The works for the remaining capacity of 15 mld are under implementation. In addition, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has also taken up works of construction of sewage treatment plants at 17 locations.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Construction of Dams

3515. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the dams under construction in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(b) the year in which the said dams were started and the dam-wise amount estimated to be spent initially and the number of years in which their work was proposed to be completed;

(c) the names and locations of the dams alongwith expenditure incurred by the Union Government and State Governments till-date;

(d) the percentage of work done in respect of dams/canals/sub-canals/power house, dam-wise; and

(e) the time by when these dams are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (e) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. The details of ongoing major/medium irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh alongwith the year of start, original estimated cost, latest estimated cost, expenditure incurred, district benefited and likely date of completion are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement*Madhya Pradesh*

(Potential in Th.ha.)

S.No.	Project Name	Started in Plan	Estimated cost		Cumulative Expenditure upto end of IX Plan		Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto IX Plan (Anticipated) 3/02	Target for Completion (Anticipated)	Districts benefited
			Original	Latest	Amt.	%				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Major Projects										
1.	Bansagar (IS) Unit-I	V	91.31	1054.96	478.30	45.34	—	—	2006	—
2.	Bansagar (IS) Unit-II	V	46.15	742.50	189.54	25.53	249.00	5.00	2006	Rewa, Satna, Sidhi, Shahdol
3.	Bhandar Cana:	I	2.04	27.79	10.88	39.15	44.50	44.50	X Plan	Datia, Bhind, Gwalior
4.	Bargi Div. (NVDA)	VIII	1101.23	1554.50	29.46	1.90	376.51	—	2014	Jabalpur, Satna, Rewa
5.	Bariarpur LBC	V	18.40	231.65	69.33	29.93	43.80	0.00	XI Plan	Chhatarpur
6.	Barna	II	5.55	34.26	30.24	88.27	60.50	60.50	X Plan	Raisen, Sehore
7.	Bawanthadi (IS) Unit-I	VI	6.66	165.98	93.07	56.07	—	—	2007	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8.	Bawanthadi (IS) Unit-II	VI	5.16	149.19	—	0.00	29.40	0.00	XI Plan	Balaghat, Bhandara
9.	Indira Sagar (NVDA)	VI	752.16	1574.00	1492.80	20.97	169.00	—	2014	Khandwa, Khargaon
10.	Jobat (NVDA)	VI	30.75	67.23	35.65	53.03	12.50	—	2005	Dhar
11.	Kolar	IV	25.75	195.60	178.99	91.51	47.30	34.00	2004	Sehore
12.	Mahan	VI	19.00	155.10	53.44	34.46	19.70	0.00	2007	Sidhi
13.	Mahi	VI	27.10	266.00	75.29	28.30	26.40	0.00	XI Plan	Dhar, Jhabua
14.	Man (NVDA)	VI	44.10	96.13	121.41	87.41	17.70	0.00	2003	Dhar
15.	Omkareshwar (NVDA)	VIII	350.00	755.00	49.93	1.54	283.32	0.00	2012	Khandwa, Khargaon, Dhar
16.	Pench Division	VIII	91.60	549.65	9.65	1.76	78.50	0.00	XI Plan	Chhindwara
17.	Rajghat (IS) Unit-I	V	62.00	160.00	141.33	88.33	—	—	2003	—
18.	Rajghat (IS) Unit-II	V	46.15	645.66	445.66	69.02	116.60	16.30	2005	Guna, Shivpuri, Datia, Tikamgarh, Bhind
19.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (Bargi) (NVDA)	V	566.34	759.00	694.61	64.44	219.80	27.46	2005	Jabalpur, Narsimhapur
20.	Sindh Ph.I	IV	4.93	74.00	58.86	79.54	44.90	39.20	2004	Gwalior, Shivpuri
21.	Sindh Ph.II	VI	185.00	607.67	192.45	31.67	162.00	8.70	XI Plan	Shivpuri, Gwalior, Datia
22.	Thanwar	78-80	4.92	36.40	25.50	70.05	18.20	18.20	X Plan	Mandla
23.	Upper Wainganga	V	50.66	253.25	243.66	96.21	105.30	67.00	2007	Seoni, Balaghat
24.	Urmil (IS)	V	6.41	26.80	25.64	95.67	7.70	6.90	2005	Chhatarpur
Medium Projects										
1.	Bah	VI	19.38	54.30	3.70	6.81	13.60	0.00	XI Plan	Vidisha
2.	Banjar	V	2.09	17.25	15.11	87.59	2.40	2.40	2003	Balaghat
3.	Barchhar	VIII	3.50	23.00	18.96	82.43	2.40	2.40	2003	Sidhi
4.	Chandora	78-80	2.92	19.93	16.97	85.15	3.80	3.80	X Plan	Betul

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5.	Dolawad	78-80	4.64	30.00	25.28	84.27	6.50	6.50	X Plan	Ratlam
6.	Dudhi	78-80	2.86	27.50	28.19	(+)1.03	3.70	3.70	2005	Raigarh
7.	Gopad Lift	VII	3.44	21.20	20.32	95.84	5.70	5.70	2003	Sidhi
8.	Kaliasote	78-80	7.84	69.52	68.44	86.94	4.50	4.50	2003	Bhopal
9.	Kunwari Lift	VI	1.03	5.31	0.28	5.27	3.90	0.00	XI Plan	Morena
10.	Kalisarar		0.81	8.11	7.16	88.29	1.20	1.20	NA	
11.	Lakhundar	VI	4.27	45.50	44.68	98.20	8.30	4.80	X Plan	Shajapur
12.	Mahuar	VI	18.67	57.68	4.39	7.61	13.80	0.00	XI Plan	Shivpuri
13.	Rampur Kurd	78-80	1.51	34.00	30.70	90.29	3.10	2.30	X Plan	Sehore
14.	Sagar	VI	10.68	31.99	1.29	4.03	12.50	0.00	XI Plan	Vidisha

(Potential in Th.ha.)

S.No.	Project Name	Started in Plan	Estimated cost		Cumulative Expenditure upto end of IX Plan		Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto IX Plan (Anticipated) 3/02	Target for Compilation (Anticipated)	Districts benefited
			Original	Latest	Amt.	%				

ERM Schemes

1.	Chambal Lift	VII	3.98	25.80	4.21	16.32	0.00	0.00	2007	Bhind, Morena
2.	Chambal Ph.II	VII	4.25	9.07	8.85	97.57	0.00	0.00	X Plan	Bhind, Morena
3.	Mod. of Harsi	VII	1.38	24.80	10.23	41.49	0.00	0.00	2006	Gwalior
4.	Sindh Rewova Link	VII	5.96	21.71	9.17	42.24	7.30	0.00	2007	Gwalior

New Major Projects

1.	Halon (NVDA)	IX	80.00	160.00	0.40	0.27	NA	—	2012	Mandla
2.	Lower Goi (NVDA)	IX	98.05	164.45	0.56	0.34	13.76	0.00	2012	Karagaon
3.	Upper Narmada (NVDA)	IX	52.88	211.92	—	—	18.61	0.00	2012	Shahdol, Mandla

New Medium Projects

1.	Sutiapat	IX	17.32	17.32	—	—	5.2	0.00	NA	Rajnandgaon
2.	Upper Beda (NVDA)	IX	89.51	89.51	0.71	0.79	13.37	0.00	2010	Khargaon

Grand Total

11352.19

5065.29

2276.27

385.06

*Financial & Physical Details of Ongoing Major, Medium & ERM Projects
Chhattisgarh*

(Amount Rs. in crore) (Potential in Th.Ha.)

Sl. No.	Project Name	Started in Plan	Estimated Cost		Cumulative Expenditure upto end of IX Plan 3/02		Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto IX Plan	Target for completion (IX Plan or Beyond)	District Benefitted
			Original	Latest	Amount	%				
Major										
1.	Jonk Diversion	IV	4.13	64.33	30.38	47.23	14.57	7.48	2003	Raipur
2.	Mahanadi Reservoir	IV	15.33	629.20	382.19	60.74	264.11	241.56	2007	Raipur, Durg
3.	Hasdeo Bango	AP-78-80	115.30	1122.00	745.36	66.43	327.84	204.35	2006	Bilaspur, Raigarh
Medium										
1.	Barnai	VI	5.23	25.32	23.00	90.84	2.80	2.00	2003	Sarguja
2.	Bilaspur Diversion	VI	0.96	13.84	0.48	3.47	13.60	0.00	2006	Bilaspur
3.	Gej	VI	8.97	58.31	11.38	19.52	4.40	4.00	2007	Sarguja, Ambikapur
4.	Koserteda	VI	6.01	58.31	5.97	10.24	11.10	0.00	2007	Bastar
5.	Shivnath Diversion	V	0.42	24.20	0.28	1.16	5.90	2.34	2003	Rajnandgaon
6.	Sutiapat	IX	17.32	19.05	0.70	3.67	5.20	0.00	2007	Rajnandgaon
7.	Upper Jonk	IX	1.89	2.08	—	0.00	1.19	0.00	2007	Raipur

**Dispute on Construction of Embankment
on Ganga River**

3516. DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dispute between the Governments of Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh has deepened further on the construction of embankment on Ganga river; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith steps taken by the Government to settle the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of Uttaranchal has reported that the matter regarding the proposed bound in Khaddar area

of Khanpur Block, District Hardwar has been taken up with the Government of Uttar Pradesh for their consent.

[English]

Ganga Action Plan (Phase-II)

3517. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal suggesting some alternative schemes and certain modifications to the Ganga Action Plan (Phase-II) scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A proposal comprising works like solid waste management, river front development, action plan for Mahananda river in Siliguri and works in 5 new towns amounting to about Rs. 126.00 crore has been received from Government of West Bengal. All these works are not being considered since these are beyond the scope of the presently approved scheme of Ganga Action Plan Phase-II.

International Conference on Water

3518. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister attended the International Conference on water in Japan recently;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held in the Conference;

(c) the countries which participated in the Conference; and

(d) the decision taken in the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Representative of 167 countries and 43 International Organizations participated in the Ministerial Conference held on the occasion of Third World Water Forum from 16th to 23rd March, 2003 held in Kyoto, Osaka and Shiga, Japan. Indian delegation, which participated in the Conference, was led by Shri Arjun Charan Sethi, Union Minister for Water Resources.

(d) During the conference, two Ministerial Declarations were adopted. The Irrigation Ministers meet adopted recommendations on 'Water, Food and Agriculture' on 21 March, 2003 at Shiga, Japan. The Ministers-in charge of Water Resources held discussions during 22-23 March, 2003 at Kyoto on five major theme namely Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation, Water for Food and Rural Development, Water Pollution Prevention and Ecosystem Conservation, Disaster Mitigation and Risk Management and Water Resources Management and Benefit Sharing. Ministerial Declarations adopted during the conference are attached as statement I and II respectively.

Statement-I

Ministerial Recommendation

Adopted by the Ministerial Meeting on Water for Food and Agriculture

Third World Water Forum

Otsu, Shiga Prefecture, Japan, 21 March 2003

We, Ministers responsible for water for food and agriculture and the representatives of international organizations assembled at the Ministerial Meeting on Water for Food and Agriculture in Otsu, Shiga Prefecture, Japan on 21 March 2003, at the invitation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations.

We assert herein our common recognition to implement the recommendations adopted at the World Food Summit in Rome, the declaration of the First World Water Forum in Morocco, and the ministerial declaration of the Second World Water Forum in the Hague, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

We recognize that water is essential for broad-based agriculture and rural development in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals to improve food security and poverty alleviation.

Three challenges

(Food security and poverty alleviation)

1. To improve the development and management of water for agriculture to meet the growing and changing demand for food, alleviate poverty and sustain economic growth.

(Sustainable water use)

2. To balance the use and development of water with the available water resources; to preserve water quality in order to achieve sustainable patterns of water use through integrated approaches linking water management with the conservation and sustenance of ecosystems; and to maintain the integrity of land and water systems upon which agricultural production depends.

(Partnership)

3. To enhance the cooperation and partnership of all stakeholders in all aspects of agriculture water use, development and management; to increase access to water resources; to improve the productivity of rainfed and irrigated farming systems; and to equitably share benefits and risks.

Basic recognition

4. We recall that in the latter half of the 20th century, significant public and private investment in agriculture water development has resulted in much needed productivity gains and has narrowed food security gaps and has contributed to poverty alleviation.
5. We recognize that agricultural production and its water uses are influenced by agro-climatic zones that have resulted in a diverse array of agricultural practice and agricultural economy in the World.
6. We recognize that agricultural water is not only vital for food production, but also provides a broad spectrum of services related to society, culture and the environment. It is instrumental in improving economic and social benefits to vulnerable people, particularly women and children. These multiple roles and values of agricultural water must be recognized, evaluated and taken into account for the development and management of water resources.
7. We recognize that the development and management of agricultural water resources needs to take into account a variety of other uses, including water supply for urban and rural communities, industry, hydroelectric power generation, navigation, recreation, tourism and fisheries, and conserving ecosystems.
8. We note that in some regions agricultural water demand and use exceed the long term rates of resource replenishment and may require the development of alternative water sources, while looking for innovative means and appropriate actions to achieve sustainable water resource management. In other regions, water resource availability offers scope for further development.
9. We emphasize that achieving the objectives of food security and poverty alleviation for an increasing world population will require the

mobilization of all sources of financing and increased investment in water-related infrastructure, research and development in order to sustain productivity gains and create new opportunities for the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources.

Plan of concrete actions

10. We continue to pursue efforts to develop water resources in a sustainable manner while improving the operation, maintenance and rehabilitation of irrigation schemes.
11. We reaffirm our determination and commitment for progressive modernization and improvement of agricultural water use effecting transition of emphasis from supply-to demand-driven agricultural water management.
12. We are determined to increase substantially agricultural water productivity through participatory approaches, appropriate regulations and cost-recovery mechanisms, development and dissemination of research findings, capacity-building and institutional reforms, which are adapted to local climatic, environmental and socio-economic conditions.
13. We will promote governance of agricultural water use through integrated water resources management including non-agricultural water use. This process should be efficient and equitable. It would involve the active participation of all user groups, including women and the poor in local water resources settings.
14. We will give due consideration to the environmental aspects in respect of agricultural water use, and seek to maintain productive ecosystems through progressive and innovative approaches to sustainable use of water. An important tool in this process would be environmental impact assessment.
15. We will undertake research and development, including traditional knowledge, to improve the management and availability of limited water resources in water-scarce areas, through improved crops and development of new and non-conventional sources of water for agriculture.
16. We will continue to make efforts to foster international cooperation and partnerships between and among developed and developing countries, through financial and technical

assistance and knowledge, and to encourage private sector involvement in agricultural water development and management.

Statement-II

The 3rd World Water Forum

Ministerial Declaration

*...Message from the Lake Biwa and
Yodo River Basin...*

23 March 2003

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation, assembled in Kyoto, Japan on 22-23 March 2003, on the occasion of the 3rd World Water Forum. Building upon the outcomes of the Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), and the United Nations Secretary General's Water, Energy, Health, Agriculture and Biodiversity (WEHAB) initiative as well as other water-related events, we assert our common resolve to implement the appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the internationally agreed targets and goals including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Taking note of the thematic and regional statements and recommendations from the 3rd World Water Forum, we declare the following:

[General Policy]

1. Water is a driving force for sustainable development including environmental integrity, and the eradication of poverty and hunger, indispensable for human health and welfare. Prioritizing water issues is an urgent global requirement. Each country has the primary responsibility to act. The international community as well as international and regional organizations should support this. Empowerment of local authorities and communities should be promoted by governments with due regard to the poor and gender.

2. Whilst efforts being undertaken so far on water resources development and management should be continued and strengthened, we recognize that good governance, capacity building and financing are of the utmost importance to succeed in our efforts. In this context, we will promote integrated water resources management.

3. In managing water, we should ensure good governance with a stronger focus on household and neighbourhood community-based approaches by addressing

equity in sharing benefits, with due regard to pro-poor and gender perspectives in water policies. We should further promote the participation of all stakeholders, and ensure transparency and accountability in all actions.

4. We are committed, in the long term, to fortify the capacity of the people and institutions with technical and other assistance from the international community. This must include, among others, their ability to measure and monitor performance, to share innovative approaches, best practices, information, knowledge and experiences relevant to local conditions.

5. Addressing the financial needs is a task for all of us. We must act to create an environment conducive to facilitating investment. We should identify priorities on water issues and reflect them accordingly in our national development plans/sustainable development strategies including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). Funds should be raised by adopting cost recovery approaches which suit local climatic, environmental and social conditions and the polluter-pays" principal, with due consideration to the poor. All sources of financing, both public and private, national and international, must be mobilized and used in the most efficient and effective way. We take note of the report of the World Panel on Financing Water Infrastructure.

6. We should explore the full range of financing arrangements including private sector participation in line with our national policies and priorities. We will identify and develop new mechanisms of public-private partnerships for the different actors involved, while ensuring the necessary public control and legal frameworks to protect the public interests, with a particular emphasis on protecting the interests of the poor.

7. As water situations differ from region to region, we will support established regional and sub-regional efforts such as the vision of the African Ministerial Conference on Water (AMCOW) to facilitate the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the Central American Integration System (SICA), and the implementation of the program of action in favour of Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Recognizing the uniquely fragile nature of water resources in Small Island developing states, we support specific programs of collaboration such as the Caribbean Pacific Joint Program for Action on Water and Climate in Small Island Countries.

8. We reaffirm the necessity for countries to better coordinate monitoring and assessment systems at local, basin and national levels, with development of relevant national indicators where appropriate. We call upon the United Nations, *inter alia* through the Commission on

Sustainable Development, to take a leading role and cooperate with other organizations involved in the water sector to work in a transparent and cooperative way. We welcome the willingness of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and other organizations to periodically inform the international community of aid activities in water-related areas. Ways to track progress on water issues may be usefully explored on the basis of existing facilities and relying upon information from countries and relevant UN agencies, regional development banks and other stakeholders, including civil society organizations.

9. We welcome the proposal to establish a new network of websites to follow up the Portfolio of Water Actions that will publicize actions planned and taken on water-related issue by countries and international organizations in order to share information and promote cooperation.

[Water Resources Management and Benefit Sharing]

10. As we aim to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, we will assist developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, by providing tools and further required assistance. In this context, among others, we encourage regional development banks to take a facilitating role. To this end, we invite all stakeholders, including private donors and civil society organizations, concerned to participate in this process.

11. Recognizing that cooperation between riparian states on Trans boundary and/or boundary watercourses contributes to sustainable water management and mutual benefits, we encourage all those states to promote such cooperation.

12. We will further encourage scientific research on predicting and monitoring the global water cycle, including the effect of climate change, and develop information systems that will enable the sharing of such valuable data worldwide.

13. We will promote measures for reducing losses from distribution systems and other water demand management measures as a cost-effective way of meeting demand.

14. We will endeavour to develop and deploy non-conventional water resources by promoting innovative and environmentally sound technologies, such as the

desalination of sea water, water recycling and water harvesting.

15. We recognize the role of hydropower as one of the renewable and clean energy sources, and that its potential should be realized in an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable manner.

[Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation]

16. Achieving the target established in the MDGs to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water by 2015 and that established in the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015 requires an enormous amount of investment in water supply and sanitation. We call on each country to develop strategies to achieve those objectives. We will redouble our collective efforts to mobilize financial and technical resources, both public and private.

17. We will address water supply and sanitation in urban and rural areas in ways suitable for the respective local conditions and management capacities, with a view to achieving short-term improvement of water and sanitation services as well as cost-effective infrastructure investments and sound management and maintenance over time. In so doing, we will enhance poor people's access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

18. While basic hygiene practices starting from hand washing at the household level should be encouraged, intensified efforts should also be launched to promote technical breakthroughs, especially the development and practical applications of efficient and low-cost technologies tailored to daily life for the provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation. We encourage studies for innovative technologies to be locally owned.

[Water for Food and Rural Development]

19. Water is essential for broad based agricultural production and rural development in order to improve food security and eradicate poverty. It should continuously contribute to a variety of roles including food production, economic growth and environmental sustainability. We are concerned with increasing pressure on the limited fresh water resources and on the environment. Noting that a diverse array of agricultural practices and agricultural economies has evolved in the world, we should make every effort to reduce unsustainable water management and improve the efficiency of agricultural water use.

20. Through effective and equitable water use and management, and extending irrigation in areas of need, we will promote neighbourhood community based development, which should result in income-generating activities and opportunities and contribute to poverty eradication in rural areas.

21. We encourage innovative and strategic investment, research and development and international cooperation for the progressive improvement of agricultural water management, by such means as demand-driven management including participatory irrigation management, rehabilitation and modernization of existing water facilities, water-harvesting, water-saving/drought-resistant crop varieties, water storage and dissemination of agricultural best practices.

22. Inland fisheries being a major source of food, freshwater fish production should be addressed through intensified efforts to improve water quality and quantity in rivers and protection or restoration of breeding areas.

[Water Pollution Prevention and Ecosystem Conservation]

23. We recognize the need to intensify water pollution prevention in order to reduce hazards to health and the environment and to protect ecosystems, including control of invasive species. We recognize traditional water knowledge and will promote the awareness of positive and negative impacts of human activities on watersheds for the entire water cycle through public information and education, including for children, in order to avoid pollution and unsustainable use of water resources.

24. To ensure a sustainable water supply of good quality, we should protect and use in a sustainable manner the ecosystems that naturally capture, filter, store, and release water, such as rivers, wetlands, forests and soils.

25. We urge countries to review and, when necessary, to establish appropriate legislative frameworks for the protection and sustainable use of water resources and for water pollution prevention.

26. In view of the rapid degradation of watersheds and forests, we will concentrate our efforts to combat deforestation, desertification and land degradation through programs to promote greening, sustainable forest management, the restoration of degraded lands and wetlands, and the conservation of biodiversity.

[Disaster Mitigation and Risk Management]

27. The growing severity of the impacts of floods and droughts highlights the need for a comprehensive approach that includes strengthened structural measures such as reservoirs and dikes and also non-structural measures such as land-use regulation and guidance, disaster forecasting and warning systems and national risk management systems, in harmony with the environment and different water uses, including inland waterway navigation.

28. We will cooperate to minimize damage caused by disasters through enhancing the sharing and exchange, where appropriate, of data, information, knowledge and experiences at the international level. We encourage the continuation of collaboration between scientists, water managers, and relevant stakeholders to reduce vulnerability and make the best prediction and forecasting tools available to water managers.

29. Finally, we thank the Government and people of Japan for hosting this Ministerial Conference and the Forum.

Coconut Water

3519. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to market coconut water as a soft drink; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Coconut Development Board in collaboration with Defence Food Research Laboratory, Mysore has developed technology for packing and preserving Tender Coconut Water. This technology has been transferred to 7 entrepreneurs. Three companies have launched their branded products. One of them is marketing packed tender coconut water commercially all over the country. Besides, the Board has provided financial assistance for 18 mobile carts in different States as part of marketing promotion activities. 31 kiosks have also been sanctioned under the Technology Mission on Coconut for promoting coconut products including tender coconut. The Board is promoting tender coconut water as natural health drink through print and electronic media. The Board has participate and organized market promotional activities for tender coconut water through state level, national and international level trade fairs, exhibitions and food expos.

As a result of these efforts, the demand for tender coconut water is growing in northern part of the country.

National Dairy Development Board

3520. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board (NADDB) Mother Dairy's (fruits and vegetables) plant at Mangolpuri has been wasting huge amount on advertisement and on hiring of vehicles such as trucks/matador etc., each year;

(b) if so, the total amount spent on advertisements and on different transporters during the last five years, year-wise and transport company-wise; and

Head	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Advertisement	1.67	1.66	2.46	2.87	3.01
Payment to Transporters	6.44	8.27	9.09	10.58	14.72

The details of payment made to the transporters, company-wise during last five years are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The expenditure on advertisement and transportation are normal business requirement and is not wasteful.

National Water Forum

3521. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the proceeding of two day National Water Forum organized by Navdanya as a culmination of the People's Padyatra at India International Centre recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated in the improvement of water sector;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to encourage the peoples initiatives to overcome future water challenges; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop such wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The Fruit & Vegetable Unit of Mother Dairy Food Processing Ltd. at Mangolpuri is hiring vehicles for procurement and distribution for sale of fresh fruits and vegetables and its products. The advertisement is done to make the consumer aware of its products, which is a normal business requirement. The expenditure on hiring of vehicles etc., is also essential for movement of products from one place to other.

(b) The amount spent on hiring of vehicles and advertisements during the last five years is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Head	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Advertisement	1.67	1.66	2.46	2.87	3.01
Payment to Transporters	6.44	8.27	9.09	10.58	14.72

Water Resources have not received the proceedings of the National Water Forum from Navdanya.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Water Policy, 2002 has been adopted by the National Water Resources Council under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 1st April, 2002. An Action Plan has been formulated by the Ministry of Water Resources for implementation of this Policy. The Action Plan has been discussed inter-alia with the Non-Governmental and Voluntary Organisations.

(d) and (e) Involvement and participation of beneficiaries and stakeholders has been emphasized right from the project planning stage in the policy as well as Action Plan. Further, participatory approach in water resources management has been focused.

The National Water Policy, 2002 provides that management of the water resources for diverse uses should incorporate a participatory approach, by involving not only the various governmental agencies but also the users and other stakeholders, in an effective and decisive manner, in various aspects of planning, design, development and management of the water resources schemes. Necessary legal and institutional changes should be made at various levels for the purpose, duly ensuring

appropriate role for women. Water Users' associations and the local bodies such as municipalities and gram panchayats should particularly be involved in the operation, maintenance and management of water infrastructures/facilities at appropriate levels progressively, with a view to eventually transfer the management of such facilities to the user groups/local bodies.

The National Water Policy, 2002 further provides that formation of Water Users' Association with authority and responsibility should be encouraged to facilitate the management including maintenance of irrigation system in a time bound manner.

Also, the year 2003 is being observed as Freshwater Year. The objectives include, inter-alia, increasing awareness among stakeholders regarding scarcity value of freshwater, conservation & efficient use of freshwater and community partnership for informed decision making in meeting future water needs.

Corruption/Irregularities against Director, Hostel

3522. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry received several complaints of corruption and irregularities against Director, CAO, Warden (Hostel) and other officials of Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered in view of these complaints; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As given vide statement enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In respect of complaints at Sr. No. 1 to 10 of statement-I it was found that the allegations made were baseless and no substance was found in the complaints.

Regarding complaint at Sr. Nos. 11 and 12 of statement-I received subsequently also nothing irregular has been found.

Statement

Details of complaints received in respect of IASRI

Sr. No.	Nature of Complaints
1.	Checking of late attendance of a Scientist by a Junior Officer.
2.	Misuse of published material in submission of fresh papers of publication.
3.	Deputing a Technical Officer for checking the later attendance at the gate of the Institute.
4.	Harassment of a Principal Scientist by issue of warning to him.
5.	Irregularities in the appointment of Warden and allotment of a bungalow to him.
6.	Tours of the Director.
7.	Slackness in holding an inquiry.
8.	Not providing full working facilities to a Scientist.
9.	Excess expenditure in purchase of furniture.
10.	Lack of knowledge in running a project by the Director.
11.	Non-issue of a vigilance clearance certificate to a Scientist and arbitrary transfer of staff of his Division.
12.	Air travel to Mumbai for cancer treatment of Chief Administrative Officer.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Idols

3523. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

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

(a) state-wise details of incidents of theft and smuggling of rare idols under Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), reported during the last two years;

(b) whether there has been a spurt in the theft and smuggling of idols during the said period; and

(c) the measures being taken to check the same and the details of action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) A few thefts have been reported from the protected monuments/sites under the Archaeological Survey of India during the last two years. The State-wise detailed information is placed at the statement.

(b) No, Sir. There is no spurt in thefts and smuggling during the said period.

(c) Measures have been drawn up by the Archaeological Survey of India in consultation with the enforcing agencies like the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Customs and the State Governments to check the theft of antiquities and their smuggling by stepping up vigilance and intensifying checking at the Customs

exit points, as well as by strict enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. Armed guards have also been deployed at selected centrally protected monuments and museums under the Archaeological Survey of India.

Furthermore, apart from its own Watch and Ward staff, the Archaeological Survey of India, also engages the services of private security agencies for protection of the centrally protected monuments, sculpture sheds and museums, to provide security & keep a watch over the antiquities housed in these monuments, sites and museums. The case of thefts, as indicated in the statement, are under investigation.

Statement

*The number of theft cases during the last two years
(State-wise from 1st January, 2001 to till date)*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of Monument/sites & the District	Description of the objects	Date of theft	Status of the case	Action taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Sri Kapoteswara Swamy temple, Chejerla, Nakarikallu Mandal, Distt. Guntur	Small stone sculpture of Nandi	11/12.3.03	FIR lodged	Under investigation
2.	Bihar	Jain temple Vaibhav Hills, Rajgir	Three sculptures (1) standing Mahavir (2) standing Mahavir (3) Parasnath	15.8.2001	FIR lodged and out of three, one has been recovered from nearby bushes	-do-
3.	Gujarat	Open Sky Museum, Patan, Distt. Mehsana	Two idols (1) Standing Ganesha (2) Brahma with his consort	9.11.2001	FIR lodged	Preliminary enquiry conducted and responsible Monument attendants suspended.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Karnataka	Ruins of Hampi, Distt. Bellary	Lower left hand of Sasivekalu Ganesh	9.7.2001	FIR lodged	Under investigation
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Mohaj Mata Temple, Terahi, Distt. Shivpuri	One sculpture of Ganesha	15.9.2001	FIR lodged	-do-
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Shiv Temple (Kakanmath Temple) at Sunahia, District Morena	One Sculpture of Apsara	20.12.2001	FIR lodged	Under investigation
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Inside the Temple, Garhi Surwaya at Surwaya, District Shivpuri	1. Heads of both images of Lakshmi Narayan 2. Fixed image of Shiv-Parvati	24.1.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Rukmani Math locally known as Ambabai temple, Kundalpur, District Sagar	Standing couples of Jain God and Goddess	5.2.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Sculpture shed Gyaraspur, District Vidisha	1. Head of female 2. Icon of Jain Tirthankar Mahavir	2.3.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Bajramath, Gyaraspur, District Vidisa	Head of female	8.8.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Mahadev temple, Village Pali, Bandari Distt. Sagar	Sculpture of Dikpal	12.8.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
12.	Rajasthan	Ashtamata temple Badoli, Distt. Chittaurgarh	Two female figures carved on pilaster	27.1.2001	FIR lodged	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Rajasthan	Undeshwar temple, Bijolia, Distt. Bhilwara	One stone sculpture	24.2.2001	FIR lodged	Under investigation
14.	Rajasthan	Ruins of temple, distt. Baran	One stone sculpture	13.2.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
15.	Rajasthan	Nav Durga temple, Chandrabhaga Jhalrapattan, Distt. Jhalawar	One standing of Chamunda	28.8.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
16.	Tamilnadu	Siva temple, Valikanthapuram, Distt. Perambalur	Five bronzes	2.3.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
17.	Tamilnadu	Jaina temple, Mettupudur, Distt. Erode	Five stone sculptures	21.7.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
18.	Tamilnadu	Apathsahayes vara temple, Sendamangalam, Distt. Villupuram	One stone sculpture	14.11.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
19.	Tamilnadu	Kadambarkoil Narthamalai, Distt. Pudukkottai	Three stone sculptures	27.1.2003	FIR lodged	-do-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Garwa Fort, Allahabad	One headless standing sculpture of Buddha	21.4.2002	FIR lodged	-do-
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Temples of Akona, distt. Mahoba	Stone Sculpture	2.2.2003	FIR lodged	-do-
22.	Uttaranchal	Shiva Temple, Lakhamandal, Distt. Dehradun	Three sculptures from sculpture shed	24.2.2001	FIR lodged	-do-
23.	West Bengal	Basuli Devi temple, Nanoor, Distt. Birbhum	Image of goddess Bishalakshi	17.3.2001	FIR lodged	-do-

Excess Use of Chemicals and Fertilizers

3524. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to excessive use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides there is decline in the fertility of the land and dangers of the underground water being polluted;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey to find out the decline in fertility of land in various parts of the country; and

(c) the remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The average consumption of fertilizers and pesticides in the country is only 90.12 kg/ha and 0.57 kg/ha (active ingredient), respectively during 2001-02. This level of consumption is not considered to cause decline in fertility of land and pollution of underground water.

(b) No systematic survey has been made to ascertain the decline in soil fertility due to excessive use of fertilizers in the country. However, there are few instances of decline in soil fertility due to imbalanced use of fertilizers.

(c) The Government is promoting the soil test based balanced and integrated use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manures & biofertilizers and also integrated pest management practices.

Impact of Globalisation Farmers

3525. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are being adversely affected due to price fluctuation in the international market;

(b) if so, whether easy availability of cheaper and affordable imported goods has economically hit the farmers; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to protect the interest of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) international prices affect farmers through changes in domestic prices as well as imports. In order

to minimize the impact of fluctuations in prices on the Indian farmers, the Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major crops. MSPs enable the farmers to sell their produce at remunerative price whenever the market prices fall below the MSP. However, relatively lower prices of agricultural commodities can lead to increase in imports, thereby affecting the welfare of Indian farmers, especially in the wake of the removal of quantitative restrictions. Experience, however, shows that there has been no significant increase in imports. The value of agricultural imports in aggregate terms came down from US\$2.8 billion in 1999-2000 to about US\$1.8 billion in 2000-01, and went up only marginally to US\$2.3 billion in 2001-02. To ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and is committed to providing adequate protection to the Indian farmers through various measures, including appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within bound levels, recourse to trade remedies, and governmental support consistent with the provisions of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

[English]

Committee on Protection of Coastal Ecology and Environment

3526. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to constitute a high level committee of experts to survey and study India's Coast Line for the protection of coastal ecology and environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Difference in Fare

3527. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines charges a higher Cargo Tariff and Passenger Fare on Kolkata-Port Blair sector than Chennai-Port Blair sector though the distance covered and the time taken is less;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government are considering any proposal for removing the disparity in fare in the two sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The distance and the basic cargo rates between Port Blair-Kolkata and Port Blair-Chennai are as follows:

Sector	Distance (in Kms.)	Cargo Rates per kg. (in Rs.)	Basic Passenger fares for economy class
Kolkata- Port Blair	912	40.35	7985
Chennai- Port Blair	944	40.85	7340

Passenger and cargo fares on Indian Airlines domestic sectors are generally based on various market factors. The market factors include seasonality, strength of Indian Airlines versus competitors, the supply and demand equation etc.

Regulatory Authority for Privatised Airports

3528. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering setting up a regulatory authority for privatised airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering constructing helipads in various parts of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The matter is at conceptual stage.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Promotion of Tribal Cultural Tourism

3529. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to promote tribal cultural tourism in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism extends financial assistance every year to State Governments/UT Administrations for development of tourist infrastructure and promotion of tourism including tribal cultural tourism. There is no separate scheme for any State including Madhya Pradesh.

[*English*]

Unemployed Persons in Employment Exchanges

3530. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with employment exchanges during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of said persons provided employment through these employment exchanges during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the fresh measures taken so far by the Government to provide employment to these persons to solve the problem of unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) State-wise number of registrations made and placements effected by the employment exchanges during 2000, 2001 and 2002 are furnished in the statement enclosed.

(c) The approach to Tenth Plan focuses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities like Information Technology, Tourism, Financial Services etc. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.

Government is implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. These include Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SJGSY), Jawahar Gram Smridhi Yojana (JGSY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Pradhan Mantri

Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and Food for work programme. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) is also being implemented to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth.

Statement

Number of Registrations made and Placements effected by the Employment Exchanges

(In Thousands)

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Number of Registrations made during			Number Placed during		
		2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(A)	States						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	365.9	297.9	377.8	4.7	2.4	4.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.4	4.3	2.9	@	@	0.1
3.	Assam	137.2	171.6	180.4	1.3	0.9	2.6
4.	Bihar	509.6	163.5	164.4	7.4	0.9	0.4
5.	Chhattisgarh	\$	130.5	120.3	\$	0.6	1.0
6.	Delhi	115.6	78.8	125.0	0.3	@	0.2
7.	Goa	11.4	13.6	12.2	0.3	0.4	0.8
8.	Gujarat	371.1	269.2	220.9	69.4	69.2	70.6
9.	Haryana	230.8	187.5	147.6	4.7	5.4	4.5
10.	Himachal Pradesh	132.1	137.0	130.6	2.3	3.0	2.0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	33.2	20.7	21.5	2.8	8.0	@
12.	Jharkhand	**	179.8	84.0	**	4.3	1.1
13.	Karnataka	380.9	371.0	227.7	8.5	4.1	2.9
14.	Kerala	619.6	499.6	434.9	16.8	15.1	10.4
15.	Madhya Pradesh	398.2	437.9	399.6	3.9	2.7	1.8
16.	Maharashtra	749.4	575.9	573.1	17.4	12.1	8.3
17.	Manipur	10.5	17.4	11.7	●	—	●
18.	Meghalaya	11.8	10.7	9.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
19.	Mizoram	15.2	5.8	3.9	0.3	●	●
20.	Nagaland	9.4	9.0	7.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
21.	Orissa	161.6	126.5	127.1	2.3	2.2	2.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Punjab	111.8	112.4	84.4	2.4	2.2	1.7
23.	Rajasthan	107.6	125.0	145.9	1.6	1.1	1.1
24.	Sikkim*	—	—	—	—	—	—
25.	Tamilnadu	603.9	638.1	467.9	13.2	17.4	9.7
26.	Tripura	23.8	30.1	36.5	0.9	1.1	0.9
27.	Uttaranchal	#	98.3	96.6	#	0.8	2.1
28.	Uttar Pradesh	407.8	337.7	381.1	4.0	3.2	3.0
29.	West Bengal	481.6	465.3	433.3	11.7	10.0	7.7
(B) Union Territories							
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.9	4.6	4.5	0.3	0.3	0.9
31.	Chandigarh	12.6	12.2	12.6	0.5	1.0	0.6
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.6	0.7	0.5	⊙	⊙	0.3
33.	Daman & Diu	1.7	1.2	1.2	⊙	⊙	⊙
34.	Lakshadweep	0.9	1.4	1.0	⊙	⊙	⊙
35.	Pondicherry	15.9	17.1	16.1	0.2	0.4	1.1
(c) CEE							
Total		6041.9	5552.6	5064.0	177.7	169.2	142.6

Note: *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

\$Information included in Madhya Pradesh.

**Information included in Bihar.

#Information included in Uttar Pradesh.

⊙ Figures less than fifty.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

[Translation]

Hasdeo Bango Irrigation Project

3531. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of assigning the construction work alongwith drawing and design of the canal at the left bank of Hasdeo Bango Project of Chhattisgarh to private sector on a turnkey basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government is empowered to make arbitrary changes in the drawing design approved

by the Central Water Commission (CWC) and the Union Government; and

(d) if not, the basis on which the approved drawing Hasdeo Bango Project is being altered?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. It has been reported that the Government of Chhattisgarh has awarded to a private agency the balance works of Hasdeo Bango Multipurpose

Project consisting of canal system of Phase III and Phase IV to cover irrigation for nearly 62 thousand hectare on turnkey basis at a cost of Rs. 173.70 crore in February, 2002 with completion period of 15 months.

(c) and (d) The Central Water Commission (CWC) appraises the project proposals received from the State Governments for investment clearance. The Central Design Organisation of the States provide the design details in the detailed project report which are examined by the CWC as per requirement. The revised estimate of Hasdeo Bango Multipurpose project (Chhattisgarh) estimated to cost Rs. 1043.88 crore received in CWC on 12.1.2001 is in the various stages of appraisal.

[English]

Development of Morni Hills in Panchkula

3532. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Tals (ponds) of Morni Hills in Panchkula district are historically famous from tourism point of view;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for development and beautification of Morni Hills; and

(c) if so, the amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the year 2001-02 a project for development of Morni Hills and Tikkar Tal area has been sanctioned for financial assistance of Rs. 25.00 lakhs.

Civil Aviation Security Academy

3533. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the Government of Karnataka has offered to provide 50 acres of land for the proposed Civil Aviation Security Training Academy;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to establish the proposed Civil Aviation Security Academy in Bangalore; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) A decision has since been taken to set up the Academy in Delhi on the land allotted for this purpose by Airports Authority of India.

Production of Milk

3534. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:
SHRI J.S. BRAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of milk in different States/Union Territories during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government are providing financial assistance to boost production of milk during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether the Government have extended assistance to Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the target of the production of milk achieved in the State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) As given in statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) State-wise release of funds under two major schemes are given in statement-II.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As given in statement-III.

(f) The targets of the production of milk have been fully achieved in the State during the said period.

Statement-I*Estimates of Milk Production—1999-2000 to 2001-02—State-wise*

(000' tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	1999-2000*	2000-01*	2001-02**
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5122	5521	5145
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	45.5	55
3.	Assam	733	738	894
4.	Bihar	3740	3878	4068
5.	Goa	43	44	47
6.	Gujarat	5255	5317	5573
7.	Haryana	4679	4849	4976
8.	Himachal Pradesh	741	760	810
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1286	1037	1088
10.	Karnataka	4473	4598	5357
11.	Kerala	2673	2771	2907
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5600	5806	6091
13.	Maharashtra	5706	5850	6024
14.	Manipur	67	69	73
15.	Meghalaya	62	64	71
16.	Mizoram	18	14	11
17.	Nagaland	49.5	50	54
18.	Orissa	847	875	865
19.	Punjab	7700	7984	8375
20.	Rajasthan	7260	7455	6330
21.	Sikkim	35	35.5	46
22.	Tamil Nadu	4574	4899	4629
23.	Tripura	49	51	53
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14153	14840	16506
25.	West Bengal	3465	3470	4079
26.	A&N Islands	23	24	25
27.	Chandigarh	42	44	46

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Daman & Diu	10	10	11
29.	D&N Haveli	1	1	1
30.	Delhi	290	292	321
31.	Lakshadweep	1	1	1
32.	Pondicherry	36	37	38
All India		78779	81430	84570

*Provisional.

**Anticipated Achievement.

Source: State/UT Animal Husbandry Departments.

Statement-II

*Release of funds under National Project on Cattle & Buffaloes Breeding
during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.48	891.25	741.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	140.00	0.00
3.	Chhatisgarh	0.00	0.00	274.00
4.	Gujarat	30.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Haryana	535.07	523.00	323.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	481.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	243.35	0.00	0.00
8.	Karnataka	525.49	0.00	0.00
9.	Kerala	198.79	27.50	209.75
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	331.34	829.47
11.	Maharashtra	10.96	10.48	0.00
12.	Manipur	127.35	67.75	0.00
13.	Mizoram	64.70	0.00	18.93
14.	Nagaland	13.27	0.00	97.30
15.	Orissa	376.94	0.00	40.00
16.	Punjab	378.15	501.00	0.00
17.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	559.30

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	168.93
19.	Tamil Nadu	26.54	0.00	0.00
20.	Tripura	116.78	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	248.00
22.	West Bengal	156.79	0.00	677.02
	All India	3305.66	2492.32	4187.45

Statement-III*Release of funds under Integrated Dairy Development Project during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02*

S.No.	States	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	191.49	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	33.62	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	149.34
4.	Bihar	48.60	82.89	64.47
5.	Chhatisgarh	0	0	479.2
6.	Haryana	0	0	38.75
7.	Himachal Pradesh	157.00	100.00	200.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	108.20	0	0
9.	Madhya Pradesh	0	200.00	0
10.	Maharashtra	517.02	645.49	500.00
11.	Meghalaya	0	143.92	0
12.	Mizoram	89.49	0	59.17
13.	Nagaland	53.15	62.27	132.07
14.	Orissa	0	238.43	0
15.	Sikkim	64.26	134.79	84.98
16.	Tripura	0	0	56.51
17.	Uttar Pradesh	0	186.30	217.58
18.	A&N Islands	20.00	45.90	45.00
	All India	1091.34	2031.48	2027.07

Passenger Amenities at IGI Airport

3535. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the poor passenger amenities such as non-functional escalators, absence of duty officers at luggage and customs collection centres and unsanitary condition at arrival lounge at IGI Airport, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to bring some improvements in the passenger amenities provided at IGI Airport;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the said work has been completed;

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

(f) by when the remaining work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Escalators are functioning properly at the airport and for better efficacy and passenger safety the escalators are shut down for routine maintenance from time to time as per schedule. No case of absence of official at luggage and custom collection centre has been reported. Deficiencies in service standards are taken up with the respective agencies and reviewed in the monthly 'Airport Facilitation Committee' meetings. All efforts are made to ensure high standard of cleanliness.

(b) to (f) Several measures for improving the overall aesthetics and service standards have been initiated like improved seats provided at Transit area, security hold area and arrival hall of Terminal-II, providing quality coaches for Airport transfer and their synchronization with flight timings, a large aquarium provided in transit area of terminal-II, replaced old entertainment TVs and CCTV monitors, new system of seamless transfer of transit passengers through airside have been completed and action is on hand to provide ATM at Terminal-IB, renovation of ITDC/DTTDC counters, internet kiosk in visitors areas and transit area, refurbishment of retiring rooms, provision of state-of-the-art Telecom Centre, new railway reservation counter at domestic terminal, refurbishment of Baggage conveyor system in arrival hall and provision of belts with additional length, setting up of world class fast food outlets and induction of additional

passenger baggage trolleys which are progressing as scheduled and majority of the actions on hand are in the final stage of completion.

Vacancy of Reserved Posts

3536. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have strictly followed the reservation policy in appointment and promotion in autonomous institutions as well as attached offices under his ministry particularly in the Gazetted jobs or Class I and Class II employments;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in the reserved category;

(d) whether the Government find it difficult to fill up the Class I and Class II vacancies designated for the purpose belonging to SC/ST and OBC; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts immediately?

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

Increase of flights on Metro Routes

3537. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase Indian Airlines Flights on various metro routes;

(b) if so, the proposals mooted during 2003-04;

(c) by when the additional flights are proposed to be introduced on those metro routes; and

(d) the details of the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Beautification of Banks of Ganga River

3538. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for beautification of the banks of Ganga river;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds likely to be spent on the said scheme; and

(d) the benefit likely to accrue to the Government and the people therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) No separate scheme for beautification of banks of Ganga river has been formulated. However, a proposal for development of Garhmukteshwar-Brijghat amounting to Rs. 2.21 crores has been received from the Uttar Pradesh Government. They have been requested to submit further details. This Department has also sanctioned Rs. 4.93 crores for landscaping and development along the Ganga river at Rishikesh and development of Green Great Vista for Haridwar.

[*English*]

Theft of Idols

3539. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the theft of priceless statues of British period from Kingsway Camp, Delhi;

(b) if so, the action being taken to retrieve these important art pieces;

(c) whether a move is being considered to shift these statues to a place near the National Museum in Central Delhi to safeguard them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information furnished by the Director General of Works, CPWD, no theft of statue is reported.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Social Security for Unorganised Sector

3540. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the comparison between the benefits that are accruing to the workers in the organised sector and the unorganised sector;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to ensure that the various benefits and social security cover being provided to the workers in the organised sector is made available to the workers in the unorganised sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when this scheme is likely to be implemented alongwith the number of employees likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (d) As per the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) there are about 39.6 crore workers in the country out of which about 36.9 crore in the unorganised sector. The existing Social Security legislations like the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 etc. are applicable to all workers.

The Employees State Insurance Act providing medical care is applicable only to the workers in the organised sector. The Welfare Funds constituted by the Ministry of Labour provide medical benefits to certain workers in the unorganised sector like beedi workers, cine workers and non-coal mine workers. The unorganised sector workers is also provided social protection under various schemes like National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Janshree Bima Yojana etc.

The State Governments also operate schemes and programmes for workers. However keeping in view the

inadequacy of social protection measures to the workers of unorganised sector the Government propose to bring a legislation for the unorganised sector workers to ensure their minimum social protection.

[English]

Regulation on Use of Ground Water

3541. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to regulate utilization of ground water through framing of rules and regulations;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether a model Ground Water Regulation Bill was circulated to all the States/Union Territories for adoption some years ago; and

(d) if so, the response of the State Government/ Union Territories on the Bill?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) Water being a State subject, suitable legislation to regulate utilisation of ground water has to be enacted by the State Governments/Union Territories. However, in pursuance of orders of Supreme Court of India, the Central Government has constituted the Central Ground Water Authority under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate and control, management and development of ground water in the country and to issue necessary regulatory directions for this purpose.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has circulated a Model Bill to regulate and control the development of ground water to all State Governments/Union Territories in 1970 and re-circulated it in 1992 and again in 1996 for adoption.

(d) So far the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Union Territory of Lakshadweep have enacted legislation on the lines of Model Bill and State Governments/Union Territories of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi, Pondicherry and Daman & Diu have initiated action in this direction.

Fish Production

3542. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is decline in catching of fish in the Indian seas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve fish production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There was a slight decline in marine fish production during 2000-01 over the previous year. However, the subsequent year has shown a trend of recovery as per figures furnished below:

Year	Marine fish production (Lakh metric tonnes)
1999-2000	28.52
2000-01	28.10
2001-02	28.30

(c) Optimum utilisation of the oceanic resources, augmenting aquaculture and sustainable development of coastal marine resources are the steps identified to improve fish production.

Proposals to Set up FPIs

3543. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from the State Governments to set up FPIs in the States including Scheduled Districts during the last three years, till date;

(b) if so, the number of proposals pending/under consideration of the Government, State-wise;

(c) by when the proposals are likely to be accorded approval; and

(d) the financial assistance proposed to be provided to the State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) No application from any State Government for the setting up of a food processing unit (including scheduled districts) has been received. However, the State Nodal Agencies, designated as such by the respective State Governments for the purpose, have been forwarding proposals from NGOs, private sector, etc., from their respective States. These proposals are considered, provided they are technically feasible and financially viable. The number of proposals for consideration, thus, depends upon the feasibility. No specific time frame could be indicated as these involve detailed appraisal from both the aforesaid angles.

(d) No direct financial assistance is provided to State Governments in this regard.

Airport at Mandvi

3544. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to construct 1500x40 meters air strip to augment the construction of an Airport at Mandvi in Gujarat (Kutch);

(b) if so, the complete details of the proposals; and

(c) by when it is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) There are two airports near Mandvi. Bhuj airport and Kandla airport, which are located at an aerial distance of 90 K.M. and 55 K.M. respectively, from Mandvi. As per the existing policy, no greenfield airport can normally be allowed within an aerial distance of 150 K.M. from an existing airport. As such Airports Authority of India has no proposal to construct an airport at Mandvi (Kutch).

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Manuscripts

3545. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the smuggling of ancient Indian manuscripts to European

countries as reported in 'Nav Bharat Times' dated February 14, 2003;

(b) if so, the total number of ancient Indian manuscripts smuggled out of India so far alongwith the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are making efforts to bring them back;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any special statutory provision for trying the smugglers of these ancient heritages;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, whether the Government propose to bring any legislation whereby smuggling of these old-heritages can be prevented; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) Prior to Independence, a large number of cultural objects including manuscripts had moved from the Indian subcontinent to different parts of the world. These objects are scattered among innumerable museums and private collections. There was no international covenant for the restitution of such objects. Further because of partition of the Indian subcontinent, there would be competing claims about the country of origin of these objects. In view of this, building a complete record of such objects is not only time-consuming and problematic but also unlikely to yield practical result so far as restitution is concerned.

(e) to (h) The Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947 was promulgated in 1947, which was succeeded by the enactment of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. Under this Act, illegal export is a crime. Moreover, registration of manuscripts is mandatory under this Act. Further, in respect of the countries which are signatories to the UNESCO Convention on "Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Imports, Exports and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property", action can be initiated as per the provisions of the Convention. India is a signatory to this Convention. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been taking action wherever instances of objects taken illegally out of the country have come to its notice.

*[English]***Increase in Ceiling of Expenditure**

3546. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government including Government of Gujarat have made request to the Union Government to increase the ceiling of expenditure of the ESI Scheme per I.P. family unit per annum; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Several State Governments including the Government of Gujarat have requested for an increase in the financial ceiling on medical care from the present ceiling of Rs. 600 per IP family unit per annum. Recently a decision has been taken to increase the ceiling to Rs. 700 per I.P. family per annum.

*[Translation]***Bokaro Steel Plant**

3547. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has pointed out allotment of land to various organisations providing them any kind of financial assistance by Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP) and refund of loan or interest amount;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on March 15, 2003;

(c) whether the Ministry or Management of BSP has taken any action thereon;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Principal Director of Commercial Audit, Ranchi had written to Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP) regarding

provisions of land at nominal rent and loan at highly subsidized rate of interest to eight institutions by BSL.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Repayment of loan is being vigorously pursued by BSL and the institutions have been cautioned that continuing default would warrant serious measures, including cancellation of lease.

International Services from Babatpur

3548. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce new international air services to Singapore, Tokyo, Bangkok and Saudi Arabia from the Babatpur airport of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to introduce new international operations to Singapore, Tokyo, Bangkok and Saudi Arabia from Varanasi.

*[English]***Development of Tourism Circuits**

3549. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to develop tourism circuits by connecting cultural and tourism hubs in Darjeeling, Jaldapara and Coochbehar in West Bengal and also at Gangtok in Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has formulated schemes for the development of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits and Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development in the States/UTs during the Tenth Plan. In the first year of the Tenth Plan-2002-03, the following works have been sanctioned for development of Darjeeling as tourist destination:-

Sl. No.	Item of Work	Amount Sanctioned (Rupees)
1.	Integrated Development of Shrubbery, Nightingale Park, Darjeeling	1,45,16,835.00
2.	Illumination of Historical Monuments, Darjeeling	39,47,425.00
3.	Beautification and construction of View Points near Peshok Wayside Inn, Darjeeling	7,68,220.00
4.	Beautification and construction of View Point near Dilaram Wayside Inn, Darjeeling	6,42,000.00
5.	Car Park below Silver Fir, Darjeeling	2,36,000.00
Total		2,01,10,480.00

The following works has also been sanctioned for development of Sikkim as tourist destination:-

Sl. No.	Item of Work	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Tourist Lodge at Chopta Valley.	63.21
2.	Tourist Information Centre at Lachen	8.87
3.	Development of Tourist Infrastructure at Rumtek.	74.00
4.	Development of Tourist infrastructure at Durpeneydara at Chakung	82.30
5.	Purchase of Paddle Boats	7.20
Total:		235.58

No project has been sanctioned for Jaldapara and Coochbehar in the year 2002-03.

Animal Park

3550. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Zoo Authority have issued any notice to Dr. Prakash Amte for running an animal park and orphanage as zoo;

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

(c) whether the Department has reviewed its decision; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Central Zoo Authority (CZA) had refused recognition to Dr. Prakash Amte's animal park and orphanage on 20-5-1997 as the housing and upkeep

of animals did not conform to the norms prescribed under the "Recognition of Zoo Rules". Consequently, notice was issued by the Deputy Wildlife Warden, Bhamaragarh (Maharashtra) to Dr. Prakash Amte to hand over the animals to Forest Department.

(c) and (d) CZA in its meeting held on 4.12.2002 has decided to reconsider all cases of derecognized zoos for their possible revival and re-recognition. Pursuant to this decision, CWLW, Maharashtra has already been requested by the CZA vide its letter dated 6.2.2003 to review cases of derecognized zoos in the State, including Dr. Amte's Orphanage.

Decline in Foodgrain/Agriculture Production

3551. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that agriculture production of the country has declined from 18.3% to 13.9% during the 2002-2003 as compared to previous year;

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

(c) whether the Government would conduct a study to find out the reasons;

(d) whether there will be any crisis of foodgrains in this year due to decline in foodgrains; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure increase in agriculture production and also to provide other facilities to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) According to the estimates released by C.S.O, the growth rate of Agriculture Sector including Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fishing declined from 5.7 per cent in 2001-02 to (-) 3.1 per cent in 2002-03. According to the production estimates released in February, 2003, the foodgrains production has declined to 183.17 Million Tonnes in 2002-03 from 212.02 Million Tonnes in 2001-02, registering a decline in the growth rate to (-) 13.6 per cent in 2002-03 compared to an increase of 6.3 per cent in 2001-02.

(c) There is no proposal to conduct a special study to find out the reasons for the decline. However, the Crop Weather Watch Group in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, consisting of experts from the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Water Resources, Indian Meteorological Department etc. meet every week to continuously monitor the crop prospects. The estimated decline in agricultural production in 2002-03 is due to severe drought which affected several States in the country.

(d) In view of availability of adequate stock of foodgrains well above buffer stock norms, there will not be any crisis due to decline in foodgrains production.

(e) In order to increase agricultural production, various crop production schemes like Integrated Cereals Development Programmes for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals, National Pulses Development Programme, Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme and Seed Minikit Scheme are being implemented during the Tenth Plan. To reduce water run-off from major catchment areas, improve land capability and moisture regime the

Government are implementing the schemes, 'Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in Catchments of River Valley Projects/Flood Prone Rivers' and 'Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas'. Besides, the Regionally Differentiated Strategy adopted during the Ninth plan would be continued during the Tenth plan. As a new initiative, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'On Farm Water Management for Increasing crop Production in Eastern India' has been launched in March, 2002 for the year 2001-02 and the Tenth Five Year Plan. The objective of the scheme is to exploit ground/surface water and promote efficient water utilization and management for increasing crop production in eastern India. Apart from these, the Government have launched various other initiatives such as emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. The Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price, procurement by public agencies etc.

[Translation]

Cold Storage

3552. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for setting up of cold storages in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is no cold storage in any tribal dominated area; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a scheme, namely, "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" through the National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous body of this Department. Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of back-ended capital investment subsidy is provided @ 25% of the project cost not exceeding Rs. 50.00 lakh per project and

@ 33.33% of the project cost upto a ceiling of Rs. 60.00 lakh per project for North Eastern States. The NHB has assisted establishment of 680 cold storages in the country, including tribal dominated areas, during 1999-2000 to 2002-2003.

(e) Question does not arise.

New Irrigation Projects for Farmers

3553. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement new irrigation projects for the benefit of small and marginal farmers of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government for the smooth implementation of the said projects; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated by the Central Government to the State Governments during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 for the said purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme concerning irrigation projects for the benefit of small and marginal farmers namely, On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India is being implemented since March, 2002 in ten Eastern States viz; Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Bihar, parts of Uttar Pradesh, parts of West Bengal, Mizoram, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhatisgarh. The Scheme provides financial assistance to small and marginal farmers for construction of shallow tube wells with pumping sets, community lift irrigation points, electric/diesel water pumping sets and dug wells in Plateau Regions.

The scheme is being implemented through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), with financing pattern of 20% contribution from beneficiaries, 30% assistance from Government of India and remaining 50% loan to beneficiaries.

For effective implementation and monitoring of scheme, there is a State Level Monitoring Committee chaired by Agriculture Production Commissioner/Principal Secretary (Agriculture) and, at National level, there is a Central Level Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation with the representatives from NABARD, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Rural

Development and the Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture/Minor Irrigation of the concerned States.

(c) The funds are allocated to the States keeping in view the Project proposals and availability of funds. An amount of Rs. 15.00 crore was released to NABARD during 2001-02 as Government of India share. Also during 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 115.00 crore was provisionally allocated as a Government of India share to the States covered under the Project. The State-wise details of provisional allocation for 2002-03 are enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the States	Provisional Allocation (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Assam	897.00
2.	Bihar	4140.00
3.	Jharkhand	1225.00
4.	Chhatisgarh	537.00
5.	Orissa	1380.00
6.	Uttar Pradesh (Eastern)	1917.00
7.	West Bengal	920.00
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	173.00
9.	Manipur	173.00
10.	Mizoram	138.00
Total		11500.00

Percentage of Child Labour

3554. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the percentage of child labour as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to accept foreign assistance to abolish child labour; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) In 1991, the total working population in the country was 314 million, out of which the number of working children was 11.28 million, which works out to 3.59%.

(b) and (c) During the period 1992-2001, budget allocation and commitment for India given under IPEC was US\$ 6.9 million. The amount disbursed during this period is of the order of US\$ 5.6 million.

Death of Animals and Birds

3555. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest census records of important wild animals like lions/Asiatic lions, tigers, tigresses, bears, rhinos, elephants etc. and birds in the country, State/Sanctuary-wise;

(b) the extent of increase/decrease recorded in their population during each of the last five years;

(c) whether a large number of these animals and birds have been killed or died during the last three years as well as current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, category-wise and National Zoological Park/Sanctuary/Reserve-wise;

(e) the outcome of inquiries conducted, if any, and the action taken by the Government in each of the incidents; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their conservation and protection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Estimated population of important species of wild animals for the last three consecutive census is given in Statement-I.

(c) and (d) State-wise reported cases of poaching in respect of tiger, leopard, lion, rhino, elephant and peafowl are at statement-II. Number of deaths of tigers, lions, bears, elephants, rhinos and birds in National Zoological Park, Delhi for the last three years is as follows:

Sl.No.	Year	Tiger	Lion	Bear	Elephant	Rhino	Birds	Total
1.	1999-2000	Nil	1	2	Nil	Nil	36	39
2.	2000-01	7	3	1	Nil	2	35	48
3.	2001-02	Nil	2	Nil	1	2	18	23

Apart from death due to disease associated with old age, major causes of death of these animals are: gastroenteritis, injury due to infighting, lung infection and tuberculosis.

(e) and (f) The responsibility of detection, investigations and prosecution of the offenders in poaching cases lies with the State Governments. However several steps have been taken by the Government for conservation and protection of animals and birds. A detailed list is at Statement-III.

Statement-I

Population Census of Important wild Animals

State-wise Details

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Tiger			Leopard			Lion			Elephant			Rhino			Sanghai		
		1993	1997	2001-02	1989	1993	1997	1995	2000	2001	1993	1997	2001	1991	1993	1998/99	1995	1996	1997
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil			55	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh	197	171	192	301	152	138	Nil	Nil	Nil	46	57	73	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Arunachal Pradesh*	180	180	NR	121	98	98*	Nil	Nil	Nil	2500	2102	1607	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
4.	Assam	325	458	354	123	246	246*	Nil	Nil	Nil	5500	5312	5312	1250	1440	1684	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Bihar/Jharkhand	137	103	76	134	203	203*	Nil	Nil	Nil	550	618	618	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Chattisgarh	n/a	n/a	227	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Goa/Daman&Diu	3	6	5	18	31	25	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Gujarat	5	1	Nil	702	772	832	304	310-320	322-332	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Haryana*	Nil	Nil	Nil	19	25	25*	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Himachal Pradesh*	Nil	Nil	—	199	821	821*	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Jharkhand	n/a	n/a	34	n/a	n/a	n/a	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Karnataka*	305	350	401	283	455	620	Nil	Nil	Nil	5500	6088	6088	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Kerala	57	73	71	27	16	NA	Nil	Nil	Nil	3500	5737	5737	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
14.	M.P./Chattisgarh	912	927	710^	2036	1700	1851	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Maharashtra	276	257	238	580	417	431	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	152	143	147
17.	Meghalaya	53	63	47	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2750	1840	1840	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Mizoram	28	12	28	38	49	28	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	28	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Nagaland*	83	83	23	72	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	147	147	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Orissa	226	194	173	279	378	422	Nil	Nil	Nil	1750	1827	1827	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Rajasthan	64	58	58	461	475	474	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Sikkim*	2	2	NR	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.	Tamil Nadu	97	62	60	119	138	110	Nil	Nil	Nil	2400	2971	2971	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Tripura*	Nil	Nil	NR	37	18	18*	Nil	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A	40	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	UP/Uttaranchal	465	475	284^^	1095	711	1412	Nil	Nil	Nil	845	1984	85***	N/A	12	13	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Uttaranchal	n/a	n/a	251	—	n/a	n/a	Nil	Nil	Nil	n/a	n/a	1507	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	West Bengal	335	361	349	108	108	108*	Nil	Nil	Nil	200	327	327	N/A	44	120	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	15	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		3750	3836	3642	6767	6828	7273	304	310-320	322-332	25541	29010	28274	—	1486	1817	152	143	147

NR-Not reported by State. *Population census in Arunachal, Nagaland and Sikkim have not been done.

n/a-Not Applicable.

N/A-Not Available.

The census fig. quoted by these States during 1993 has been incorporated in 1997 also.

**Population census as conducted in 1991.

^M.P. only

^^ U.P. only

***U.P. only

Statement-II**Reported Cases of Poaching**

S.No.	Name of the State	Year	Tiger	Lion	Elephant	Leopard	Rhino	Peafowl
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1999	2	—	—	1	—	—
		2000	4	—	—	5	—	—
		2001	1	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		Total	7	—	—	7	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	2	—	—	—
3.	Assam	1999	—	—	4	—	19	—
		2000	4	—	6	2	17	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	10	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	2	—
		Total	4	—	10	2	48	—
4.	Bihar	1999	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	4	—	—	—
5.	Delhi	1999	1	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	2	—	—	2	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	3	—	—	8	—	—
6.	Chhatisgarh	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	1
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	—	—	—	1
7.	Goa	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	1	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	—	1	—	—
8.	Gujarat	1999	—	2	—	1	—	1
		2000	—	1	—	—	—	6
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	5
		Total	—	3	—	1	—	18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1999	—	—	—	5	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	12	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	7	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	—	24	—	—
10.	Jharkhand	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	3	—	—	—
11.	Karnataka	1999	—	—	21	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	19	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	12	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	3	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	55	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12.	Kerala	1999	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	3	—	—	—
		2001	3	—	5	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	5	—	—	—
		Total	3	—	14	—	—	—
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1999	9	—	—	15	—	3
		2000	4	—	—	9	—	9
		2001	4	—	—	2	—	6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	17	—	—	26	—	18
14.	Maharashtra	1999	3	—	—	2	—	—
		2000	4	—	—	5	—	1
		2001	17	—	—	6	—	3
		2002	3	—	—	1	—	—
		Total	27	—	—	14	—	4
15.	Meghalaya	1999	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	5	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	1999	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	2	—	—	—
17.	Orissa	1999	1	—	9	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	11	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	7	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	2	—	—	—
		Total	1	—	29	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18.	Punjab	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	—	8	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Total	—	—	—	8	—	—
19.	Rajasthan	1999	—	—	—	4	—	—
		2000	2	—	—	1	—	—
		2001	—	—	—	2	—	—
		2002	1	—	—	2	—	—
		Total	3	—	—	9	—	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	1999	2	—	8	1	—	—
		2000	—	—	7	—	—	—
		2001	—	—	5	26	—	3
		2002	—	—	3	1	—	—
		Total	2	—	23	28	—	3
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1999	14	—	—	56	—	—
		2000	12	—	—	166	—	—
		2001	20	—	1	28	—	2
		2002	1	—	—	—	—	1
		Total	47	—	1	250	—	3
22.	Uttaranchal	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2000	—	—	6	2	—	—
		2001	—	—	2	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	4	—	—
		Total	—	—	8	12	—	—
23.	West Bengal	1999	6	—	14	—	1	—
		2000	7	—	4	—	1	—
		2001	2	—	7	3	1	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		Total	15	—	25	4	3	—
Grand Total			129	3	181	404	51	47

Statement-III

Steps taken by the Government for protection and conservation of wildlife are as under:

(1) State level:

- (i) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (ii) State Wildlife Authorities carry out regular checking of the stocks of dealers of animal products and birds.

(2) National level

- (i) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent.
- (ii) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (iii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iv) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.
- (v) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (vi) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.
- (vii) A Wildlife Action Plan 2001-16 and Wildlife Conservation Strategy 2002 has been prepared and adopted.

(3) International Level

- (i) Government of India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- (ii) Bilateral agreements have been signed with Nepal and Republic of China for controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife.
- (iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

[English]

Scheme for Transfer of Water

3556. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for transfer of water amongst States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether State Government have been consulted for proper implementation of the scheme;
- (d) if so, whether some State Governments have demanded monetising water transfer; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (e) National Perspective Plan for transferring water from water surplus basins to water deficit areas was prepared in 1980. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was established in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and other studies and prepare feasibility reports. NWDA has identified 30 links under the National Perspective Plan for Preparation of the feasibility reports and has completed feasibility reports of 6 links under Peninsular Component. The Central Government has set-up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri Suresh Prabhu, Member Parliament (Lok Sabha) on December 13, 2002 with the following term of reference:-

- (i) Provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects in respect of economic viability, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and preparation resettlement plans;

- (ii) Devise suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States;
- (iii) Prioritize the different project components for preparation of Detailed Project Reports and implementation;
- (iv) Propose suitable organizational structure for implementing the project;
- (v) Consider various modalities for project funding; and
- (vi) Consider international dimensions that may be involved in some project components. The Task Force is working to suggest and guide the task of achieving the goal of interlinking of rivers by the end of 2016.

Setting up of Ecological Parks

3557. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of ecological parks sanctioned by his ministry during the last three years and thereafter, location-wise;
- (b) whether any requests/proposals for setting up ecological parks during the said period have been received from certain States including Maharashtra;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the number of proposals out to them approved and rejected, separately, State-wise;
- (e) the details of such proposals still pending consideration of the Union Government, State-wise; and
- (f) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved with particular reference to Chandrapur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (f) This Ministry has no scheme to sanction Ecological Parks in the country.

[Translation]

Joint Project Office

3558. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a joint project office to facilitate the construction of multi-purpose

dam on Koshi, Kamla and Bagmati rivers originating from Nepal and flowing to Bihar and implementation of projects in water catchment area of Nepal;

(b) if so, the details indicating the budget allocation proposed for the Tenth Plan; and

(c) the time frame, if any, fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes Sir. There is a proposal to set up a Joint Project Office to take up field investigations and preparation of the Detailed Project Report for the Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme. However, there is no such proposal at present in respect of Kamla and Bagmati rivers.

(b) An amount of Rs. 29.34 crore has been provided during the 10th Plan for the field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report for the above project.

(c) The field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report are proposed to be completed in 30 months after opening of Joint Project Office.

[English]

Near Mid Air Collision

3559. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Right" message to 'wrong' aircraft" appearing in the 'Hindu' dated January 10, 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a lapse;

(c) whether any step have been taken so that such lapses do not occur in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On December 27, 2002, an airmis incident occurred between Royal Jordanian Airlines aircraft and British Airways aircraft in the Flight Information Region (FIR), Mumbai, Another Yemenia Yemen Airways aircraft operating in this region was not meeting the separation

requirements with Royal Jordanian flight while crossing on different routes at 33,000 feet over BISET. As the Air Traffic Controller was not in direct contact with Yemenia aircraft, he advised High Frequency (HF) Operator to instruct Yemenia aircraft to descent to 29,000 feet. But, he advised Jordanian aircraft to descend to 29,000 feet. This resulted in an airmiss incident between the two flights which were operating on 31,000 feet on the same route in opposite direction.

(c) and (d) As per the procedure, the officer on duty was taken off from the duties and de-rostered. He has to undergo corrective training procedure under a qualified officer and to qualify in the Proficiency Assessment Practical Examination, as advised by the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Besides, work experience for written examination, proficiency check are also being considered for implementation as per advice of DGCA.

Amendment in Draft Seeds Act, 2000

3560. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Some State Governments requested to the Union Government for introducing certain amendments to the draft Seeds Act, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions given by the State Governments, State-wise;

(c) the details of amendments proposed by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) by when the said draft Act is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are enclosed at Statement-I.

(c) The details are enclosed at Statement-II.

(d) The draft Seeds Bill has been submitted to the Ministry of Law for vetting.

Statement-I

Consolidated details of suggestions given by the State Govt. State-wise

Delhi

- The provision available in the present Seeds Act and Seeds (Control) Order with regards to regulating the sale and quality control of seeds are to be included in the proposed Seeds Act as such.

Haryana

- Provision is to be incorporated for issuing licence to the person who is handling agriculture inputs including seeds.

Himachal Pradesh

- Licence fee, renewal fee, penalty for not renewing the licence in time under Seeds (Control) Order are to be increased to the tune of Rs. 1500/-, Rs. 500/-and Rs. 250/-from Rs. 50/-, Rs. 20/-and Rs. 25/-respectively.

Karnataka

- State Seed Board has to be created
- Definition of seed development should include varietal development.
- Registration of variety should be based on VCU test.
- ICAR institutes, State Agricultural University, private and public sectors are to be accredited to conduct VCU test.
- Seed health has to be elaborated as free from designated pests and diseases.
- Power to be decentralised to cancel the registration by the State Govt.
- Maintenance of register and records by the dealer should be dealt as per the direction of State Govt./Board.
- While directing the dealer to sell the seed, any losses occurred during the distribution of seed by the agency should be made good by the Govt.

- State Govt. should maintain the list of registered seed dealers and seed producers at district level.
- Lot numbers are to be furnished in the cash receipt.
- Principal certificate to be issued.
- State Govt. may be permitted to use low germination seed in case of shortage for multiplication purpose.
- Appeal is to be disposed within 45 days.
- No prosecution should be launched on State Govt. officials who is on deputation to Seeds Corporation and other organisation without prior permission of the State Govt.
- Imported seed should undergo three years trial.
- Exemption clause to be deleted.
- Major and minor offences to be defined.
- Application fee for certification is to be increased.
- Time limit for testing the seed under Seeds (Control) Order to be modified as within 30 to 60 days.
- Licence fee under Seeds (Control) Order should be increased from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100/-.

Madhya Pradesh

- Criteria for registering the variety are to be prescribed in consultation with the State Govt.

Maharashtra

- Definitions on agriculture, seed analyst, seed producer, self-certification, truthful label or labelled seed are to be defined.
- Transfer of new process and procedure in processing and packing are to be incorporated.
- Provision for re-registration should be included.
- Maximum variation with regards to moisture while packing the seed should be incorporated.
- Power to be extended to State Govt. and National Seeds Board to oversee the maintenance of books, accounts, etc. relating to seed production and distribution.

- Self-certification for production of foundation seed should not be considered.
- Seed certification should be made compulsory in the event of introducing self-certification.
- Appellate authority should deal all aspects of dispute arising during seed production.
- Procedure to be followed by Seed Inspector should be incorporated.
- Provision for seed analyst to be incorporated.
- Recognition of seed certification agencies of foreign countries should be incorporated.
- Delegation of powers to State Govt. to relax the standard to be considered.

Orissa

- Director of Horticulture, Orissa stated that the revised Seeds Act embraces into its fold, the most essential aspect to evolve a workable Seeds Act which is very exhaustive and leaves no room for views and recommendations.

Punjab

- Director of Horticulture of the State should be included as a member in the proposed National Seeds Board.

Pondicherry

- Seeds Act and Seeds (Control) Order are to be subsumed.
- Appointing two types of Seed Inspectors for Seeds Act and Seeds (Control) Order are to be merged.
- Definition on agriculture should include horticulture and medicinal plants.
- Traditional strains which are not claimed as variety and whose pedigree is not known may be exempted from registration.
- Issuing licence for selling the seed may be considered.
- Power to be given to National Seeds Board/ State Govt. to direct the dealer to sell the seed in a specified manner.
- Dealer should display the stock etc.

- Provision of self-certification should not be considered.

Rajasthan

- Act should ensure the availability of genetically and physically pure seed.
- Registration should be based DUS testing.
- Breeder seeds are to be brought under the purview of legislation with prescribed standards.
- Certification Inspectors are also to be nominated to draw samples for implementation of seed law enforcement.
- Forms to be used by the Seed Inspectors for seed law enforcement should be updated.
- There should not be any discrepancy in the standard for labelling and certifying the seed.
- All seed testing lab should follow the guidelines of ISTA.
- Grow-out test procedures are to be updated.
- CSTL is to be equipped with grow-out testing facilities.
- A legal cell should be established to handle the prosecution matters.

Tamil Nadu

- Definition of agriculture should include fodder, green manure, horticulture, forestry, medicinal and aromatic plants.
- Definition on certification agency.
- Definition on misbranded seed.
- Accreditation of seed certification agency may be deleted.
- Accreditation of State seed testing laboratory to be modified as per the State Govt. procedure.
- Registration of kind/variety is to be based on VCU test and accreditation of institute for conducting VCU test.
- Exclusion of certain kind/variety from registration.
- Power to specify minimum limit of germination and purity.
- Power of deregistration.
- Regulation of sale of seed.

- Maintenance of list of dealers and seed producers.
- Dealers to follow procedure.
- Grant of certificate by certification agency.
- Penalty.

West Bengal

- Act should be implemented throughout the country instead of mentioning as "Act will be implemented for different date and different areas etc."
- Director of Agriculture, Horticulture, Certification Agency, Seeds Corporation of the State Govt are to be included as member in the Board.
- Self-certification should not be considered.
- State Seed Board is to be considered.
- Power to be given to State Seed Board for export and import of seeds.
- Recommendation of National Seeds Board is obligatory for establishment of State Seed Testing Laboratory.
- Registration of variety based on multilocational trails and minikit trials etc.
- State Agricultural Universities are also to be accredited for conducting VCU trials.
- National Seeds Board should act on the basis of State Seed Board for directing the producer/dealer who sell the seed.
- Exemption of farmers who sell the seed to be deleted.
- State Seed Certification Agency has to be encouraged.

Suggestions have not been received from other State Governments.

Statement-II

Consolidated details of amendments proposed by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

- The word 'production' has to be incorporated in the Act as Act to provide for regulating the "production", the sale, import and export of seeds.

- Establishment of State Seed Board should be incorporated.
- Power to direct a dealer to sell or distribute seed in a specified manner should be defined.
- Maintenance of list of dealers, seed producers by way of issuance of registration certificate by competent authority of State Government should be incorporated.
- Seed dealers to have a minimum degree in agriculture should be incorporated.
- Dealers to follow procedure i.e. issue of cash or credit memo containing germination percentage and its validity may be deleted.
- Producers to furnish the information on seed production programme.
- Period of registration of kind/variety should be defined.
- State Government to establish enforcement mechanism for implementation of the Act.
- Description of major and minor offences should be defined.
- To award compensation to the affected farmers in case of supply of spurious seed/losses are to be incorporated.

[*Translation*]

New Research Scheme in Agriculture

3561. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to pass on the benefits of new research in the field of agriculture being conducted in the country to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have formulated a number of schemes to pass on the benefits of new research in the field of agriculture to the farmers. The details are as follows:

- Establishment of a network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) for training of farmers and extension personnel, and conducting on-farm trials and frontline demonstrations.

- Launched Institution Village Linkage Programme for technology assessment and refinement in various farming systems.
- Establishment of Agricultural Technology Information Centres to create a single window support system for providing technology products, diagnostic services and technology information to the farmers.

[*English*]

Sardar Sarovar Project

3562. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made on the construction of Sardar Sarovar Project alongwith expenditure incurred so far;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat had agreed to a revised rehabilitation package of Rs. 239 crore for the dam oustees of Madhya Pradesh and to provide free electricity to Madhya Pradesh in lieu of power loss likely to arise as a result of Irrigation By-Pass Tunnel (IBPT) constructed without concurrence of participating State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) The progress made so far in the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project is as below:

Dam: The spillway blocks of the Sardar Sarovar dam (block No. 30 to 46) have been raised up to Elevation 95 metre. 3 metre high humps have also been constructed over block Nos. 31 to 45 of this truncated portion of the spillway keeping in view the safety of the dam. Other blocks are at various higher levels.

Power House: The Canal Head Power House of the project is completed in all respects and test run for some units has also been done. The works of River Bed Power House are in progress.

Canals: The canal lining works in the reach 0 to 263 Km of Narmada Main Canal are almost complete and the remaining reach upto Rajasthan border is under various stages of construction.

Expenditure: An amount of Rs. 14,056.46 crore has been spent on the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project upto 31st January, 2003.

(b) and (c) As per the information received from the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, the Government of Gujarat had agreed to an additional liberalized rehabilitation package and financial assistance of Rs. 201 crore for the displaced families of the project in Madhya Pradesh. As per the request of the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Gujarat has provided Rs. 165 crore to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as rehabilitation package to expedite the Resettlement & Rehabilitation works in Madhya Pradesh. The issue of construction of Irrigation Bye-Pass Tunnel (IBPT) at Sardar Sarovar Project had been discussed among the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and Ministers of Rajasthan & Maharashtra. Accordingly the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh agreed to the construction of IBPT provided the Government of Madhya Pradesh is compensated at free of cost for the loss of hydro power for all the water passing through IBPT and this loss should be converted into the million units of energy lost. Based on these discussions, the Review Committee of Narmada Control Authority in its 9th meeting held on 18.08.2001 decided that:

1. The Narmada Control Authority (NCA) decision on IBPT is endorsed and the construction IBPT should be completed.
2. Government of Gujarat shall compensate Government of Madhya Pradesh, free of cost, for the loss of power due to running of IBPT, which will be calculated in million units.
3. The reservoir water level shall not be depleted below the Minimum Draw Down Level (MDDL) of elevation 110.64 metre.
4. The NCA shall evolve a mechanism to control and ensure that the reservoir water is not drawn through the IBPT below the MDDL.

Deo Irrigation Project in Orissa

3563. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent on Deo Irrigation Project in Orissa;
- (b) the irrigation potential of the project; and
- (c) the progress made on the project, till-date?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Deo Irrigation Project in Orissa with latest estimated cost of Rs. 135.91 crore

envisages ultimate irrigation potential of 15.64 thousand hectares. An expenditure of Rs. 49.67 crore has been incurred up to the end of IX Plan. X Plan outlay for this project is Rs. 86.96 crore. The Project is likely to be completed by 2006-07.

Reclamation of Arable Land

3564. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of arable land affected due to water logging and floods in the country including Orissa;
- (b) the programme for reclamation of arable land in Irrigated Command Area; and
- (c) the allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Development Programme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) The National Commission on Agriculture (in 1976) assessed that an area of about 6 Mha was waterlogged in the country in irrigated as well as unirrigated lands out of which the areas in Orissa is 0.06 Mha.

Ministry of Agriculture (in 1984-85) estimated that an area of 8.53 Mha was suffering from water logging in both irrigated and unirrigated areas which includes an area of 0.06 Mha in Orissa.

Working Group of Ministry of Water Resources (in 1991) estimated that an area of 2.46 Mha was suffering from the problem of water logging in irrigation commands out of which an area of 0.196 Mha is in Orissa.

Regarding arable lands affected due to floods, on an average (1953 to 2000), 3.55 Mha of cropped area is affected by floods in the country annually out of which average cropped area affected in Orissa is 0.275 Mha.

(b) A Component of reclamation of water logged areas in irrigated commands covered under CAD Programme has been introduced under the Centrally Sponsored CAD Programme since 1.4.96. Under this component, Central assistance is provided to States in the form of grant on matching basis (i.e. in the ration of State: Centre: 50:50) subject to the limit of Rs. 6000 per ha. of reclaimed area as Central share.

(c) No separate funds are allocated for reclamation of waterlogged areas. However, Central Assistance under this activity is provided out of funds allocated for Centrally

Sponsored Command Area Development Programme under which a sum of Rs. 15023 lakhs has been allocated during the year 2002-03.

Orders for baggage Trolleys

3565. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airport Authority of India (AAI) had placed orders for baggage trolleys though there was no requirement from any of the airports in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the total amount sanctioned for this purpose;

(c) whether the firm which was selected for supply of baggage trolleys failed to deliver the baggage trolleys as per the approved specifications; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the defaulting firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Beef in Tinned Food

3566. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain fast food companies and restaurants are using beef in tinned non-vegetarian food;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the companies involved therein;

(c) whether mixing of beef in non-vegetarian fast food is legal;

(d) if not, whether the department has taken action against such companies/restaurants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) Mixing of buffalo meat in certain meat products is permissible under the Meat Food Products Order (MFPO), 1973. But the type of meat and other ingredients used are to be mentioned clearly on the levels of these meat products. However, no fast food company or restaurant has been granted licence under MFPO for manufacture of tinned non-vegetarian products using beef.

Improvement in Tourism

3567. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL:

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

(a) whether the Government have launched any programme for promoting India as a tourist destination in the world;

(b) if so, the funds proposed to be spent for the purpose during 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Promotion of India's tourism products in the overseas markets is an on going process and this is done through various marketing tools which includes advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organising of seminars and workshops, inviting of media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers under the hospitality programme, dissemination of information through brochures, CD Roms etc.

(b) As per Budget Estimates 2003-04, Rs. 56.00 Crores have been allocated for Overseas Promotion and Publicity.

Development of FPI in Bihar

3568. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to explore the possibilities of development of Food Processing Industries (FPI) in Jahanabad district of Bihar;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct such a survey at an early date and encourage the State Government or farmers organisations to set up industries based on food products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No such survey has been conducted at the instance of the Ministry of FPI.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have requested all State Governments to conduct detailed studies, which could assist them in formulating action oriented policies for the development of processed food sector as also for devising action plan & strategies for the development of the sector.

[English]

Protection of Monuments

3569. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ancient monuments declared Centrally protected in the country during the last two years, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the recent discovery of ancient Amar Nath Caves and rock sculptures near Chandan Wari in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering to declare these caves as monument of historical or national importance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The details of ancient monuments declared as of national importance during the last 2 years are at statement enclosed. No monument has been declared as of national importance in the State of J&K.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) As per the information made available by the field office the cave remains inaccessible for about 4 to 5 months during winter. Based upon its archaeological, historical, and aesthetic potential only, cave will be considered for Central protection.

Statement

List of Ancient Monuments Declared as of National Impotance During the Last two Years

S.No.	Name of the Monument	Locality	District	State	Year of Protection
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Apathasahaswara-swamy Temple and Gateways with horses	Sendamangalam	Sendamanagalam	Tamil Nadu	2000-2001
2.	Swarneshwara, Ramalingeswara, Narasimha and Kalameshwara Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000-2001
3.	Ramalingeswara Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000-2001
4.	Narasimha Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000-2001
5.	Kamaleshwara Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000-2001
6.	Mazar of Mohd. Zuque	Central	Dariya Ganj	Delhi	2000-2001

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Fortification Wall, Chalta Bazar, Gates, Baoli and Moat of Red Fort, Delhi	Red Fort	Central	Delhi	2002-2003
8.	City wall of Shahjahanabad (Near Darya Ganj) from Link road connecting Ansari Road and Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg to Samta Sthal (Intact Portion)	Ansari Road, Darya Ganj	North	Delhi	2002-2003
9.	Salimgarh Fort comprising the main gate on north ancient structure and the entire fortification wall	Bela Raod	North	Delhi	2002-2003
10.	Currency Building	Dalhousie Square	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002-2003
11.	Asiatic Society Building	Park Street	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002-2003
12.	Maghen David Synagogue	Ward No. 45	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002-2003
13.	Institute de Chandannagar, Dupleix Palace	Chandan Nagar	Hooghly	West Bengal	2002-2003
14.	Beth-el-Synagogue	Pollock Street	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002-2003
15.	Patal Bhubaneswar Cave Temple	Bhubaneswar	Didihat, Pithoragarh	Uttaranchal	2002-2003
16.	Aga Khan Palace Building	Pune	Pune	Maharashtra	2002-2003

Abstract

2000-2001	6 Monuments
2001-2002	Nil
2002-2003	10 Monuments
Total:	16 Monuments

Animals In Private Captivity

3570. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

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

(a) whether the Farm Houses in Delhi and nearby States have become a heaven for keeping wild animals in captivity;

(b) if so, the details of cases and persons arrested during each of the last three years in Delhi and nearby

States under the Wildlife Protection Act and other related acts for keeping wild and endangered animals in captivity;

(c) whether the Government propose to start a survey to find out the exact numbers of wild animals being kept in captivity in these Farm Houses;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However a few cases of keeping wild animals in captivity have been reported from Delhi and nearby States. As per the available information details of major cases are as under:

State	2000-01		2001-02		2002-2003	
	Animal seized	Persons arrested	Animal seized	Persons arrested	Animal seized	Persons arrested
Delhi	Barking deer-2	1	Indian soft shell turtle-18	2	Black buck-1	1
	Falcons-5	1	Spiny tailed lizard-1		Python-1	1
	Falcons-3	1	& snakes-5	1		
	—	—	Black buck-1	—	Black buck-2	—
Haryana	—	—				

(c) to (e) Unauthorized keeping of wild animals in captivity is an offence under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Based on the intelligence collected/information received raised are conducted and action is taken.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts Under OBC Category

3571. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under the category A, B, C and D in the departments and undertakings under his ministry at present, category-wise;

(b) the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs in the Union Government services;

(c) whether the reservation quota of OBCs has been completely filled up in the departments and undertakings under his ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by when reservation quota for the said classes is likely to be filled up;

(f) whether there is a provision of reservation for the OBCs at the time of their promotion also;

(g) if so, whether the posts reserved for OBCs are filled up by general category candidates in case the candidates belonging to OBC are not available; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The category-wise position of the total number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Ministry including the Undertaking is as follows:

S.No.	Category	No. of employees belonging to OBC
1.	Group 'A'	1
2.	Group 'B'	2
3.	Group 'C'	16
4.	Group 'D'	12

(b) 27% of the posts in civil posts and services under the Government of India, to be filled by direct recruitment, are reserved for the Other Backward Classes.

(c) to (e) No Sir. Reservation for OBCs applies only to direct recruitment and not to promotion and deputation. The Ministry effects direct recruitments only for Scientific Group A, and for Group D posts. The provisions for reservation for OBCs are kept in view while effecting recruitments to above-stated categories. It is difficult to specify the precise time-frame within which the reservation quota for OBCs would be filled up.

(f) There is no reservation for OBCs in promotions.

(g) to (h) Do not arise.

[English]

Production of Cotton

3572. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of cotton in the cotton production countries of the world is 550 kg per hectare, while in India, it is approximately 260 kilograms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment to production per hectare of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. It is true that the average productivity of cotton in the world is higher than the productivity of cotton in India.

(b) The comparative statement of cotton productivity of world average and India during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is as under:

	(kg lint/ha.)	
	1999-2000	2000-01
World	554	572
India	225	190

(c) With the objective of improving the production, productivity and quality of cotton in the country, the Mini Mission-II under Technology Mission on Cotton is being

implemented in 13 cotton growing States of the country. Under Mini Mission II, assistance is being provided for the transfer of improved technologies through field and IPM demonstrations, training of extension personnel and farmers as well as assistance for supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers, sprinkler/drip irrigation systems, pheromone traps, bio-agents etc. Besides assistance is also provided to States for establishment of bio-agent production units, seed-delimiting plants and surveillance of disease and pests.

[Translation]

New Airports in Jharkhand

3573. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new airports in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has not plan, at present, to construct new airports in the State of Jharkhand.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No airline operator has requested AAI to start air service from new stations in the State of Jharkhand.

VRS in AI

3574. DR. ASHOK PATEL:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government have given approval to the Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the date from which the scheme would be implemented;

(d) the number of Air India employees expected to accept VRS alongwith the savings likely to accrue as a result thereof; and

(e) the extent of financial burden to be borne by the Air India due to the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for Air India employees subject to the condition that the same shall not deviate in any manner from the DPE's existing guidelines on Gujarat pattern of VRS. All permanent and confirmed employees of the Company who are on Indian scales of pay and have completed 10 years of service in the Company or who have completed 40 years of age on the date of closure of the Scheme, will be eligible except (i) employees in licensed categories such as Pilots, Flight Engineers, Aircraft Engineers; (ii) employees in technical & operational categories such as Technical officers, Simulator Maintenance Engineers, Service Engineers (Aircraft Non-Licensed), Aircraft Equipment Operators, etc.; (iii) employees on contract; (iv) employees who are on 2-Years Leave without Pay/Allowances/PLI extendable upto 5 years; and (v) Government servants/others on deputation. The scheme is effective from February 24 to April 25, 2003 or till such time the Management deem fit on the basis of the response to the scheme. It is expected that about 1000 employees will avail of VRS under the scheme. The financial burden likely to be faced by Air India would be about Rs. 57 crores (approx.) for different categories and the company is expected to achieve a saving of about Rs. 31.01 crore per annum.

[English]

Farmers Living Below Poverty Line

3575. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers living below poverty line in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of schemes being implemented for the farmers;

(c) the details of funds released by the Government during 2000-01, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, scheme-wise, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the number of farmers benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty line at

national and State level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The occupation category wise estimates of poverty are not available. Based on the data from the latest large sample survey of the 55th Round on household consumer expenditure conducted by NSSO, the Planning Commission has estimated 193.24 million persons, including farmers, living below poverty line in rural areas in the country in 1999-2000. The number of persons living below poverty line in rural Maharashtra is 12.51 million in the same year.

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

Unused Air Strip in Maharashtra

3576. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADoba MANDLIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of air strips and airports are lying unused in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the period for which they have been lying unused;

(d) whether there is any plan to revive them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI)'s airstrips located in districts of Kolhapur, Sholapur, Akola and at Hadapsar in district Pune in the State of Maharashtra are lying unused by any airline operator.

(c) M/s Jet Airways had used Kolhapur airport during the year 2001. Akola, Hadapsar and Sholapur Airports have not been used by any airline operator from many years.

(d) and (e) These airports are already fit for aircraft operation. No airline has requested AAI for operation of their scheduled flights through these airports. Airlines provide air-services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.

Training in Agriculture to Women

3577. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a National Centre for imparting training in agriculture to women at Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have given any preference for imparting training in agriculture in tribal areas in favour of tribal women; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Madhya Pradesh Women in Agriculture (MAPWA), a Danish Government supported Farm Women Project under implementation in 13 reorganized districts of Madhya Pradesh, including Shahdol, does not envisage setting up of a National Centre for imparting training in Agriculture to Women. However, one of the components of the Phase-II of the Project is establishing a Women Resource Centre within the State Agriculture Training Centre, Bhopal to impart training to women farmers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Four out of thirteen districts covered under MAPWA are tribal districts. These are Mandla, Shahdol, Dindori and Umaria.

The target beneficiaries of MAPWA are small and marginal women farmers. Amongst them, tribal women farmers are given preference.

Shifting of Head Office of SAIL

3578. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift head office of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) from Kolkata to Rourkela; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The head office of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is at New Delhi and there is no proposal to shift it.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in Water Level in Coastal States

3579. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in ground water level in the coastal States during the last decade;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Government have launched any comprehensive plan to recharge the ground water to avoid salinity and overcome water crisis in the country; and

(d) if so, the funds allocated/released to State Governments during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board, under the Ministry of Water Resources, regularly monitors the ground water levels in various parts, including coastal areas of the country. The names of the districts in coastal States having pockets with fall in water level in the last decade (1992-2001) are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources including rain water harvesting and to arrest salinity ingress. The Central Government has initiated following measures to recharge the underground water source:-

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (iv) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (v) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(d) The Central Ground Water Board implemented demonstrative rainwater harvesting and recharge projects in the country under its Central Sector Scheme for "Study of Recharge to Ground Water". Under this scheme, funds amounting to Rs. 619.55 lakh, 1408.36 lakh and 780.37 lakh were released to State Governments for implementation of the approved projects during the years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 respectively.

Statement

Name of the Districts (in parts) of coastal States showing fall of Water Level of More than 4 m.in Last decade (1992-2001)

(Pre-monsoon Period)

Sl.No.	States	Fall in Water Level@ more than 20 cm per year)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	West Godavari, Nellore, Prakasam, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam,
2.	Gujarat	Kutch, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Ahmedabad, Kheda, Baroda, Bharuch, Surat, Valsad.
3.	Karnataka	Dakshin Kannada, Uttar Kannada.
4.	Kerala	Kannur, Kozhikode, Trichur, Thiruvananthapuram.
5.	Maharashtra	Nil
6.	Orissa	Ganjam, Cuttack, Balasore, Kendrapara, Jagatisinghpur.
7.	Tamil Nadu	Kanya Kumari, Tirunelveli.
8.	West Bengal	Medinipur, South 24 Parganas.

Declining of Oilseeds Production

3580. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sharp decline in oilseeds production during the Ninth Plan period has resulted in increasing export of edible oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether centrally sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) failed to have any impact on production of oilseeds;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts made or being made by the Government to encourage the farmers to opt for more oilseeds production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. The declining in oilseeds production during last three years was mainly due to drought conditions prevailing in the major oilseeds growing States of the country.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) are in implementation in various States of the country to increase the production of oilseeds. Under both these schemes financial assistance are provided on various critical inputs in order to motivate farmers to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale.

War Risk Insurance for Civil Aviation

3581. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangkok based International Civil Aviation Organisation has formulated a scheme of global war risk insurance for air travellers;

(b) if so, whether India is considering to adopt this system on its domestic sectors as also on flights originating from India; and

(c) if so, the salient features of this scheme and the fiscal impact when this scheme becomes operative in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has proposed to set up a Global Aviation War Insurance scheme for third party war insurance cover in excess of US\$ 50 million presently offered by the commercial insurance market. The scheme provides for a pool of

funds based on payment of premium per passenger and a Government guarantee for each joining country based on a proportion of its subscription to ICAO amounting to total of US\$ 15 billion. This scheme will apply to both international and domestic sectors. India is considering the pros and cons of the scheme.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3582. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI A. NARENDRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each centrally Sponsored Scheme under his ministry;

(b) the criteria adopted for allocating funds under each scheme to State and corresponding Central share; and

(c) the details of proposals, received from each State in this regard, funds released and utilized by State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (c) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report on Pollution in Water Bodies

3583. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the C&AG's report of 2001 certain States have not achieved the objectives to prevent and control pollution of water bodies as provided for in the Water Act;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to control and prevent the pollution of water bodies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) The Report of the Controller and Auditor General of 2001 has pointed out that large number

of industries are operating without valid consent or requisite pollution control facilities. The Central Pollution Control Board accordingly, has issued directions under section 18 (1) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and the Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) to identify industries operating without valid consent or without the requisite pollution control facilities and to take appropriate legal action against all such industries. The State Pollution Control Boards have also initiated various steps including prevention, promotion and mitigation measures to control water pollution.

Delay in Approval of Training Institute

3584. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation has received any complaint regarding intentional delay for grant of approval to start flying training institute by M/s Yash Air Limited;

(b) if so, the period that the application is lying pending with the DGCA;

(c) the reason for the delay; and

(d) the action being taken on the application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has already granted a "No Objection Certificate" to M/s. Yash Air Limited for starting flying training institute at Sirpur in Maharashtra. The delay occurred due to requests made by M/s. Yash Air Limited for shifting its base from one place to other, scrutiny of antecedents of its Board of Directors and granting security clearance by Ministry of Home Affairs.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Unemployed Persons

3585. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in number of unemployed persons during the last decade in comparison to previous decade;

(b) if so, whether the decline in employment opportunities for women is more in comparison to men; and

(c) if so, the action plan formulated to arrest this trend?

in the year 1983, 1987-88, 1993-94 and 1999-2000 are given in the statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) As per the sample surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation from time to time, estimated unemployment in the country in the year 1983, 1987-88, 1993-1994 and 1999-2000 was of the order of 60 lakh, 90 lakh, 75 lakh and 90 lakh respectively.

(b) Estimated employment for the males and females

(c) The approach to Tenth Plan focuses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the montiorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.

Statement

Year	Estimated employment (in millions)				Total
	Male	Percentage increase (simple average) per annum	Female	Percentage increase (simple average) per annum	
1983	200.13	—	102.19	—	302.75
1987-88	217.50	1.74	107.11	0.96	324.29
1993-1994	252.76	2.70	121.63	2.26	374.45
1999-2000	273.98	1.40	123.04	0.19	397.00

[English]

Daily Wages Workers of Indian Airlines

3586. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regular employees and other employees like daily wages workers/contract workers engaged by Indian Airlines alongwith the number of such employees at Agartala;

(b) whether the Government propose to regularise the employees who are presently working on daily wages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The number of regular employees and other workers on casual/daily wages basis in Indian Airlines as on

28.02.2003 was 19357 (excluding 209 Short Haul Operations Department employees whose seniority has not been merged).

In addition to the regular employees of Indian Airlines, casual employment is resorted to, primarily, in the category of Commercial Helper, Engineering Helpers, Safaiwalas, Drivers etc. against the leave vacancies or against the additional workload of emergent and short-term nature, unplanned absenteeism or on account of operational requirements. The number engaged on casual basis is approximately 1450 in the total network of Indian Airlines consisting of 64 stations. The number of casual workers engaged vary on day-to-day basis depending on requirement.

The number of regular employees and others on casual/daily wages at Agartala as on 01.03. 2003 was 42 and 6 respectively.

Job contract has also been awarded to two private contractors for providing two workers for day-to-day

servicing of ramp equipment and cleaning of Indian Airlines vehicles.

(b) and (c) Casual/daily wages workers at various locations have approached various Courts seeking permanent employment/regularization. The Courts have held that the casuals have no right for automatic regularization or permanent employment. The Courts, however, have taken a view that the airline should consider such employees when it recruits employees on regular basis.

[*Translation*]

Declaration of Separate Sugarcane Price

3587. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has declared a separate sugarcane price of its own besides the price already announced by the Union Government thereby creating friction between sugarcane growers and sugar mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for every season under the provisions of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966. For the current sugar season, the Central Government has fixed the SMP of sugarcane at Rs. 69.50 per quintal linked to 8.5% recovery. On 12.11.2002, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has announced the cane price in respect of U.P. State Sugar Corporation and Cooperative Sugar Mills at the same level as fixed for the last sugar season.

[*English*]

Purchases of Sub-Standard Items by DMS

3588. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the purchases of sub-standard and unbranded costly items by the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) through NCCF, Noida during 2001-2002 and its diversion to other places;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) the cost of the items involved and the purpose for which the items were diverted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government are aware about the irregularities in the procurement of items by DMS through NCCF, Noida during 2001-2002.

(b) to (e) A preliminary inquiry ordered by the Government is in progress. The appropriate action will be taken as soon as the report is received.

Use of Spurious Fertilisers

3589. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers all over the country including Andhra Pradesh have been incurring huge losses because of spurious fertilizers;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) To ensure adequate availability of quality fertilizers to the farmers, the Government have enacted Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985, under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The order provides that only such fertilizers which meet the standards laid down in the said order, are manufactured/imported and sold to the farmers. There are 66 laboratories in the country with an analyzing capacity of about 1.20 lakh samples per annum to test the quality of fertilizers. The State enforcement agencies periodically draw samples from manufacturing units and their dealers to test the quality and take necessary action against offenders under the provisions of Fertiliser (Control) Order/Essential Commodities Act.

Project on Farm Mechanization

3590. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) is currently running any project on long-term strategy for farm mechanization;

(b) if so, the details of the project alongwith title, name of PI, funding agency, cost of the project, amount charged by IASRI, date of launch, date of completion as per project proposal, practical utility and actual/expected date of completion;

(c) whether the project has been delayed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether above PI had previous experience of project on energy utilisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are enclosed in the statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable, Sir.

(e) and (f) Dr. K.K. Tyagi, Principal Scientist has previous experience of project on energy utilisation. He is the Project Leader of the Institute research project entitled "Pilot Sample Survey for Estimating the Energy Utilisation for Different levels of Adoption of Modern Technology in Agriculture". The objective of the project was to develop suitable sampling methodology for estimating the energy utilisation for different levels of adoption of modern technology in terms of labour and inputs like irrigation, fertilizers etc. The field data collection work was undertaken in Meerut district in Uttar Pradesh State. The sampling design adopted was stratified multi-stage random sampling with tehsils as the strata, and villages and cultivators as the primary and secondary stage sampling units respectively under the Agronomic and Agro-economic Enquiry. For Yield Estimation Surveys, villages, cultivators, fields and plots of 5*5 metres

constituted the primary, secondary, tertiary and fourth stage-sampling units.

Statement

Title: Study Relating to Formulating Long-Term Mechanisation Strategy for each Agro-Climatic Zone/State.

Name of the PI: Dr. K.K. Tyagi, Principal Scientist

Funding Agency: Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DOAC), Ministry of Agriculture, GOI.

Cost of the project: Rs. 1 crore 30 lakh (as sanctioned)

Amount charged by IASRI: As Institutional Charges: Rs. 2.70 lakh.

Date of launch/start: 01.07.2000

Date of completion as per project proposal: Three years w.e.f date of start.

Practical utility: Policy framed by the GOI on the basis of this project report may be of use for the all round development of agriculture in each State/Agro Climatic Zone of the country.

Actual/expected date of completion: 30.06.2003.

About the Project

The programme envisages the conduct of an in-depth study, at micro-level, of the socio-economic, agro-climatic, agronomic, infrastructural and other relevant factors prevailing in the different agro-climatic zones of the country, which have a bearing on the spread of agricultural mechanisation, agricultural productivity therein; and formulation of appropriate long-term farm mechanisation strategies for the respective zones. It is likely that for a number of Zones/States, a single set of strategy/programme may not be uniformly conducive to the spread of farm mechanisation and all-round and sustainable agricultural development there. As such, appropriate packages of agricultural mechanisation strategies and programmes for the different Zones/States need to be formulated according to the present status, potential and future needs of agricultural mechanisation there.

Sampling Design

The study is being conducted for each Agro-climatic Zone/State covering about 20% of the districts representing a mix of developed, developing and least developed pockets. The basic purpose is to have complete insight of the situation and future needs in the

direction of achieving full mechanization in a suitable time frame.

The sampling design adopted is Stratified Multi-stage Random Sampling. At present, the total number of districts in India is about 585, out of which a sample of 120 districts has been selected randomly with due consideration to mechanisation index of different districts within strata (State or group of States), following proportional allocation. From each selected district, a random sample of 40 villages has also been selected. Accordingly, the total number of selected villages is 4,800. Keeping in view the level and adoption of mechanisation (holding-size wise), out of each selected village, a sample of 10 households has been selected. Hence, the total number of randomly selected Households is 48,000. The reference year is the agricultural year 2000-2001.

Objectives of the Project

- (i) To study the soil types, land topography.
- (ii) To study the socio-economic conditions (financial status) of the farmers and farm labourers and assess their capabilities for acquiring and adopting the needed agricultural equipment/machinery.
- (iii) To study the present status, ultimate potential, the gaps, highlighting critical ones; for equipment used in various agricultural operations starting right from tillage to the post-harvest operations.
- (iv) To study the types and utility of various agricultural equipment, both conventional and improved ones, presently in use and those needed in future, for different crops/cropping systems in the Zones.
- (v) To study the impact of farm mechanisation on employment of labour.
- (vi) To study the cropping pattern, both agricultural and horticultural, in the Zones, yields in relation to the national average, and their growth potential.
- (vii) To study and assess the use of farm power per hectare, ultimate requirement, ways and means to fulfil the gaps for various farm operations.
- (viii) To study the infrastructural facilities for the manufacture, marketing, after sale service/repairs availability etc. of agricultural equipment.
- (ix) To study and assess the adequacy and the requirement of infrastructure at the Central and

State levels, for planning, promotion, execution and extension of the various plan programmes on agricultural mechanization.

- (x) To identify new/improved farm equipment that may be needed by the farmers during next 20 years i.e. by the year 2020, for carrying out different farm operations.
- (xi) To formulate strategies and programmes that may be required for mechanisation of agriculture during the period 2001-2005, 2005-2010, 2010-2015, 2015-20.

[Translation]

All India Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Cooperation

3591. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an All India Conference of the Ministers of Agriculture and Cooperation of the State was held on December 11, 2002 in Delhi;

(b) if so, the matter discussed therein alongwith the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken so far by the Government for their implementation; and

(d) the date by which all the resolutions and the decisions taken in respect of crop insurance will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Issues relating to expanding availability of agricultural credit, rationalization of interest rates on agricultural loans, revamping of cooperative credit structure, implementation of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) etc. were discussed.

(c) The Resolution passed in the Conference have been sent to all State Governments and concerned Ministries of Government of India for taking necessary action in the matter.

(d) No time limit has been fixed for implementation of the Resolutions and decisions taken in respect of crop

insurance. However, the matter is being pursued with all concerned including the Ministry of Finance for early implementation.

[English]

Delay in Repayment of PF in Mumbai

3592. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in payment of Provident Fund to employees in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Union Government to the concerned department for repayment at the time of retirement;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken in this direction;

(e) whether the department has received complaints from MPs and employees in this regard; and

(f) if so, the action taken against erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for the delay are:

- Not getting claim forms countersigned by the employer or authorised person.
- Non-readability due to correction in the Bank's Saving Bank Account No. and the Bank's name and address.
- Not affixing the Revenue Stamp and signature thereon to the effect of advance receipt as required in the claim form.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Union Government has issued guidelines through provisions contained in Para 72 (7) of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 and Para 17A of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. The guidelines provide that the claims complete in all respects submitted along with the requisite documents shall be settled and benefit amount paid to the beneficiaries within 30 days from the date of its receipt by the Commissioner.

As a step to ensure prompt settlement of claims, the staff members of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have been sensitised with proper instructions and the Front Office functioning has been strengthened. The employer and the members are also educated through Seminars and other forums about the specific requirements in the schemes.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Wherever delay is found on the part of the erring officials, appropriate action has been taken.

Groundnut Disease

3593. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the groundnut crops in the Karnataka have been affected with disease (caused by the 'Surulipoochi' mite);

(b) if so, the total groundnut production lost in the State; and

(c) the assistance provided to Karnataka by the Union Government in checking this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to timely plant protection measures taken by the farmers as per advice of the State Department of Agriculture, there was no loss in production.

(c) No separate financial assistance was provided for this disease. However, during the year 2002-03, a lumpsum financial assistance amounting to Rs. 120.00 lakh was released to the State of Karnataka under the Oilseeds Production Programme, a Centrally Sponsored scheme, for development of various oilseed crops including Groundnut incorporating activities such as Integrated Pest Management, Plant Protection equipment and Plant Protection chemicals.

Joint Venture Project for Deep Sea Tuna Fishery

3594. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought approval of Central Government for joint venture project for deep sea tuna fishery with a New York, USA based company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the permission for the same has been accorded;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and by when permission is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project proposal is for the setting up a joint venture with World Tuna Development International Inc. (WTDI), USA with 50:50 equity with Government of Andhra Pradesh and WTDI. Under the project Government of Andhra Pradesh is to import 12 tuna longliners. The proposed project is an integrated project with technical and managerial assistance with WTDI including land facilities for chilling, processing, handling and packaging of the catches.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Certain further clarifications have been sought on the proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh and other concerned Ministries.

[*Translation*]

Office Expenses

3595. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by various departments and undertakings under his ministry on publicity, advertisement, reception, catering inauguration, ceremonies, seminars, conferences, tours (including foreign), STD and ISD telephone bills, electricity bills (especially air-conditioners and cooler bills) and other office expenses during each of the last three years, head-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to initiate any drive to curtail the expenditure on the above heads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The information is given below:

(Rs. In lakh)

Head of Account	Ministry of Steel			Public Sector Undertakings		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Other charges	1.96	5.80	6.22	551.08	833.26	590.23
A. Publicity						
B. Advertisement						
2. Hospitality	2.31	4.14	3.05	889.80	928.94	946.12
A. Hotels						
B. Hospitality						
C. Catering						
D. Inaugurations						
E. Functions						
F. Meetings						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
G. Seminars						
H. Conferences						
3. Tours	28.52	40.17	42.00	5586.15	4699.15	4645.61
A. Domestic						
B. Foreign						
4. Office Expenses	105.84	120.07	105.90	105991.35	113708.77	151069.22
A. Telephones						
B. Electricity						
C. Other office Expenses						

(b) to (d) The Government, apart from strictly adhering to 10% cut in the overall expenditure under various Heads, makes continuous efforts to cut down avoidable expenditure wherever possible.

[English]

Survey on Development of Agro-Rural Industries

3596. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in states of Eastern India for developing agro and rural industries during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and nature of agro and rural industries operating in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the potential of agro and rural industries development in Orissa and planning for their development during the said period alongwith financial involvement, sources of funding and physical targets for such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The number of agro and rural industries operating in the country is at statement-I. The details of nature of agro and rural industries operating in the country is at statement-II.

(d) There is potential for the development of agro and rural industries in Orissa especially in food processing, forest based industry, fibre industry, medicinal plants, bee-keeping industry, rural engineering, bio-technology etc. The Tenth Plan, target of 4887 agro and rural industry projects in the State would mean a financial involvement of around Rs. 97.00 crores, to be provided by the Banks together with margin money assistance from the Union Government.

Statement I

Statewise Agro and Rural Industry set up as on 31.03.2002

S.No.	States/Union Territories	Projects financed
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9955
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	317
3.	Assam	425
4.	Bihar	529
5.	Goa	1931
6.	Gujarat	682
7.	Haryana	3509
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1068
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5754
10.	Karnataka	10326
11.	Kerala	5592

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16779
13.	Maharashtra	16805
14.	Manipur	623
15.	Meghalaya	2784
16.	Mizoram	732
17.	Nagaland	4665
18.	Orissa	1467
19.	Punjab	7363
20.	Rajasthan	20365
21.	Sikkim	18
22.	Tamil Nadu	3484
23.	Tripura	48
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11704
25.	West Bengal	11416
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	162
27.	Chandigarh	139
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	8
29.	Delhi	203
30.	Lakshdweep	01
31.	Pondicherry	899
32.	Jharkhand	197
33.	Chhattisgarh	218
34.	Uttaranchal	313
Total		140481

Statement II

Industry-wise Agro and Rural Industry set up since 1995-96 to 2001-2002

Sl.No.	Industry	No. of Projects
1	2	3
1.	Agro Based & Food Industry	29355
2.	Engineering & Non Conventional Energy	22862

1	2	3
3.	Forest Based Industry	30273
4.	Mineral based Industry	18007
5.	Polymer & Chemical Based Industry	22238
6.	Service Industry	11359
7.	Textile Industry	6387
Total		140481

National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding

3597. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra had submitted a project under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) to the Union Government for their approval in October 2001; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for implementation of the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding in Maharashtra was received. However, Notification on constitution of the State Implementing Agency for the Project and Utilisation Certificate in respect of the funds provided under National Bill Production Programme, which are a pre-requisite to the appraisal of the proposal are still awaited from the State Government.

[Translation]

Agri-Marketing Programme

3598. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes being implemented by this ministry under Agro-marketing for farmers and criteria for providing loan, grants and financial aid alongwith details of contribution of State Governments therein; and

(b) the funds allocated in Rajasthan under Agri-marketing programme during last five years, since April 01, 1998, year-wise, programme/scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Ministry is implementing the following programmes for the development of agricultural marketing in the country:

In order to increase the storage capacity of the farmers in the rural areas, a Central Sector Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Renovation/Expansion of Rural Godowns is being implemented by this Ministry. Under this Scheme, the entrepreneurs are free to construct/renovate rural godowns outside the municipal corporation area anywhere in the country on the basis of their commercial judgement. 25% back-ended subsidy on the capital cost of the project is provided by the Central Government and in the case of entrepreneurs belonging to North-Eastern States, tribal and hilly areas and SC/ST, the subsidy provided is at a higher rate of 33.33%. Out of the total cost of the project, 50% of the project cost has to be raised from Banks/Financial Institutions as term loans and remaining 25% is to be borne by the entrepreneurs. No contribution is required to be made by the State Government under this Scheme.

Under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Agricultural Marketing Information Network', a nationwide information network is being established for speedy collection and dissemination of market data for its efficient and timely utilization and to ensure flow of regular and reliable data to the farmers, traders and consumers to derive maximum advantage out of their sale and purchases etc. The computer facilities and Internet connectivity have been provided to important agricultural markets in the country and Offices of the State Agricultural Marketing Departments/Boards at State Headquarters. The markets are selected in consultation with the State Governments. The State Governments are required to provide infrastructure facilities and manpower to establish information centres. No financial contribution is required from the State Governments under this scheme. A Technology Mission for development of Horticulture in the North Eastern States including Sikkim with a component for development of markets/States Grading Laboratories (SGLs) under Mini Mission-III has been set-up since 2001-02. Under the scheme, assistance is being provided to the North Eastern State Governments for development of Wholesale Markets, Rural Primary Markets/Apni Mandies and SGLs.

(b) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has sanctioned 22 projects for construction of new rural godowns with a capacity of 1850 tonnes in Rajasthan during 2002-03.

Under the scheme of Agricultural Marketing Information network, hardware computer facilities have been provided to Rajasthan Agricultural Marketing Board, Director of Agricultural Marketing, Government of Rajasthan and 11 Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) during the year 2000-01. During the year 2001-02, 37 markets in the State have also been provided with computers and peripherals.

Schemes for Bihar during Ninth Plan

3599. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the civil aviation schemes introduced during the Ninth Five Year Plan in Bihar;
- (b) the progress made under these schemes as on date;
- (c) whether the work on these schemes is going on as per schedule;
- (d) if so, the amount spent on these schemes; and
- (e) the amount sanctioned for these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (e) During the Ninth Five year Plan, the following Civil Aviation Schemes for upgradation of airports were introduced in the State of Bihar:-

At Gaya airport, works of strengthening of runway, construction of apron and taxiway etc. were completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.50 crore and works of construction of boundary wall was completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.17 crore. At Patna airport, works of construction of terminal building and technical block was completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.93 crore.

Further, Rs. 2.62 crore have so far been spent on construction of new Terminal Building etc. at Gaya airport and Rs. 0.50 crore has been spent on works for making provision of shoulders and improvement of runway strip at Patna airport. AAI has also acquired 5.42 acres of land at Patna airport for improving runway usability length at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.72 crore.

Except the work relating to provision of shoulders and improvement of Runway strip at Patna, where there is delay, all items of work are on schedule.

Rs. 34.44 crore have so far been spent on above mentioned projects, out of sanctioned amount of Rs. 99.46 crore.

[English]

Steel Authority of India Limited

3600. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have decided to tie up with the Gujarat State Agro Industries Corporation (GSAIC) for marketing its steel products in the rural Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such tie up arrangement is also contemplated to be made with the other State Governments so as to enhance its marketing network in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken by SAIL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. SAIL had approached Gujarat State Agro Industries Corporation (GSAIC) in July 2000 for supplementing marketing efforts for some of its steel products in rural areas. However, no arrangement has been finalised.

(c) to (e) Such tie up arrangements are also being contemplated with other State government agencies. However, no firm arrangements have been concluded till date.

Fire In Forests

3601. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to frequent forest fires in western ghats of Maharashtra in the wildlife sanctuaries of Chandoli and Koyana wildlife is under threat; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such forest fires in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The incidences of forest fires in Chandoli and Koyana wildlife sanctuaries are rare. However, to prevent forest fires in these sanctuaries, regular fire prevention and control measures are undertaken and intensity of patrolling in vulnerable areas during summer season is increased by stepping up the mobility of field staff in the region.

Depletion of Bullock Stock

3602. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of bullocks has been depleting fast, with advent of Tractors/Tillers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage the farmers for the use of bullocks for agriculture purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The population of bullocks has not been depleting fast and is fluctuating during various censuses.

The bullock population (cattle and buffaloes) from 1982 to 1997 as per Quinquennial Livestock Census is given below:

	(in million)
Year	Bullock Population
1982	66.90
1987	65.10
1992	70.60
1997*	63.50

*Provisional.

(c) and (d) In view of concerns for indigenous breeds and need for Draught Animal Power, the cattle and buffalo breeding policy is under review.

[Translation]

Setting up A Paddy Research Centre in Sheikh Pura

3603. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Paddy Research Centre in Sheikh Pura and Lakhi Sarai districts of Bihar with the purpose of improving the quality and production of paddy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has no proposal to set up a paddy research centre in Sheikh Pura and Lakhi Sarai districts of Bihar. At present ICAR has three All India Coordinated Rice Research Centres under Rajendra Agricultural University, Bihar at Patna, Sabour and Pusa. These centres are assigned the responsibility of conducting locations specific research including quality improvement to cater to the needs of the State.

[English]

Delay due to Fog

3604. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether flights were delayed due to thick fog at Kolkata Airport during December/January;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to deal with this problem;

(c) whether Instrument Landing System (ILS) has been installed only at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in the capital;

(d) whether AAI was to install the Category III ILS at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport to improve visibility to avoid flight delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, Instrument Landing System (ILS) Category-I is provided at Kolkata airport. Necessary

equipment for Category-II compliance has already been installed. Action has been initiated for upgradation of the associated ground lighting facilities to upgrade the airport for Category-II operations.

(c) No, Sir. ILS is in operation at 34 airports all over the country and there are plans for installing ILS at 6 more airports.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Training to Forest Officials

3605. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain tribal districts in Madhya Pradesh were selected for better fore- station under a World Bank Project;

(b) if so, the number of forest personnel from the State of Madhya Pradesh who were given special training by World Bank for the purpose; and

(c) the details regarding the progress and performance made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) A World Bank aided 'Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project' was implemented in the entire State of Madhya Pradesh including the areas now forming part of Chhattisgarh State from 1995-96 to 1999-2000. The main objectives of the project were to (a) increase forest cover and productivity through joint forest management, (b) human resource development, ((c) use of improved technologies and (d) biodiversity conservation. Against estimated project cost of Rs. 245.94 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 215.512 crores was incurred on the project. About 289933 hectares area was covered under various components of the project.

(b) and (c) No forest official of Madhya Pradesh was imparted special training by the World Bank. However, one hundred and sixteen forest officials received overseas training in various fields such as management development, improved nursery practices, biodiversity conservation etc. The training programmes have helped in the satisfactory implementation of the project.

*[Translation]***Air link for Tourist Spots**

3606. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI ADHI SANKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and various other airlines propose to link various tourist places in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the tourist places linked by air service since 2000 till date and the amount spent for the purpose; and

(c) the amount of money likely to be spent during 2003 and 2004 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) At present, the details of the cities airlinked by the scheduled airlines including private airlines in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu are as under:

Stations	Indian Airlines/ Alliance Air	Jet Airways	Sahara Airlines
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Jamagar, Rajkot, Vadodara	Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Rajkot, Vadodara, Porbandar, Bhavnagar.	
Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy.	Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, (Madurai since Dec. 2001)	Chennai (since 2002)

The details of amount spent for the purpose is not centrally maintained. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines.

*[English]***Carrying of Snake in Flight**

3607. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a passenger had travelled in flight recently with a live snake from Goa to Chennai;

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

(c) the steps being taken to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri Hagime Chadda holding ticket No. 2262171841 dated 10.02.2003 travelled Goa-Chennai by flight IC-576 dated 08.03.2003. En-route he asked for milk from the Airhostess, who got suspicious. She found that the passenger took out a small bag/box from his hand bag and started feeding a snake carried by him. The airhostess informed the Commander who offloaded the passenger at Kochi. It was reported that the passenger was booked under the "Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act" at Kochi.

(c) Director General of Civil Aviation has issued detailed guidelines indicating 'Condition for Carriage of Animals in Aircraft' under rule 24-C of Aircraft Rules, 1937.

School of Archives

3608. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of Schools of Archives functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have set up some more schools of Archives during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up new schools; and

(e) if so, the location-wise details including the total amount allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There is only one School of Archives viz. School of Archival Studies run by National Archives of India, New Delhi in the country at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Refusal to accept MCOs

3609. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the offices of Indian Airlines at Delhi Airport refuse to accept Miscellaneous Credit Orders (MCOs) issued by Indian Airlines for purchase of tickets by passengers;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure acceptance of MCOs of Indian Airlines by sales offices of Indian Airlines at airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The Miscellaneous Charges Order (MCO) is issued/accepted in Rupees by Indian Airlines for payment of transportation charges, payment of excess baggage, issuance of Pre-paid Ticket Advice (PTA) and for purpose of refunds at all its offices in India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Services under National Carriers

3610. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airlines under his Ministry operating both on international and national-routes;

(b) the prescribed age for retirement of pilots, navigators and air hostesses working in the airlines under his Ministry;

(c) the names and designations of the persons re-appointed/appointed on contract basis, provided extension of service after their retirement on the basis of recommendations alongwith names of the persons making such recommendations and the reasons therefor;

(d) the date alongwith the pay scales in which these persons were re-employed; and

(e) the rules under which such approvals/extensions were given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Air India and Indian Airlines under the Ministry of Civil Aviation are being operated both on international and national-routes. The age for retirement of pilots, navigators and air-hostesses in Air India and Indian Airlines is 58 years.

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

[English]

Appointment in A.A.I.

3611. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of appointments made in Group C and D posts in Northern and Southern Regions of Airports Authority of India (AAI) (NAD) during the last three years, region-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of employment exchanges from where the names of these appointees/candidates were received, region-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the laid down rules regarding appointment as prescribed in Recruitment rules of AAI (National Airport Division) were followed in respect of Age, Educational Qualifications and Experience; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) In

Northern Region, 34 persons in Group C and 8 persons in Group D were appointed during the year 2000. Similarly, 46 persons in Group C and 3 persons in Group D during the year 2001 and 6 persons in Group D only during the year 2002 were appointed. No appointments were made in Southern Region during the said period in National Airports Division of Airports Authority of India.

(b) The appointments have been made through open market by open advertisement in National Daily and Employment News.

(c) and (d) Detailed information is being collected from Airports Authority of India.

Allotment of Mother Dairy Booths

3612. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria of allotment of Mother Dairy's booths in the capital;

(b) the number of said booths functioning at present;

(c) whether many Mother Dairy's booths are being run by those persons who are not original allottees; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to cancel such allotments of booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) As a normal practice Mother Dairy enters into commercial agreement with ex-servicemen for running its booths as concessionaires whose names are forwarded by the Directorate General of Resettlement, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi, and are found suitable and willing to act as concessionaires.

(b) At present 671 Mother Dairy Booths are functioning in Delhi and its surrounding areas.

(c) No, Sir. However, as per the terms of the agreement a concessionaire can depute his authorized representative for running the booth in case he is to remain absent for a short duration, after taking prior permission from Mother Dairy.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

Meeting of National Water Development Agency

3613. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of National Water Development Agency was held on March 26, 2003;

(b) if so, the names of participating States and the details of deliberations held alongwith outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to cooperate for river linking project;

(d) if so, the reaction of each State Government thereto; and

(e) the time frame, if any, fixed by the Union Government for completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) The 19th Annual General Meeting of National Water Development Agency (NWDA) Society was held on 26th March, 2003 Shri Arjun Charan Sethi, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources and President, NWDA Society presided over the meeting. Shri T.M. Jacob, Minister of Water Resources, Government of Kerala attended the meeting. Representatives from States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajashtan, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh participated in the meeting. The agenda items related to progress of work done by NWDA during the year 2002-2003 (upto December, 2002), Constitution of Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers, Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memo for discussions, the Society noted/approved the Agenda items placed before the meeting.

(c) State Governments have been requested for their co-operation.

(d) and (e) As per the programme drawn up by Central Government, implementation of the project of Inter-linking of rivers is scheduled for completion by 31.12.2016.

[*Translation*]

Accident in Murpar Coal Mine

3614. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the accident that occurred in the Murpar Coal Mine under Umred Vekoli on January 28, 2003 in which a number of people were killed;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any investigation to ascertain the causes of accident;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount being paid as compensation to the family of each deceased; and

(e) the action taken against the persons found responsible for the accident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):
(a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) Statutory enquiry under the Mines Act, 1952 has been conducted by the Directorate General of Mines Safety. The accident has occurred in a surface Coal Handling Plant when an overhead bunker filled with coal collapsed and fell down while persons were engaged for it's repair underneath. Four persons were killed and one injured in the accident. The preliminary report of the enquiry had revealed that prime facie the accident took place due to failure of welding in the bunker. Sample has been sent to Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institutes, Durgapur to ascertain the cause of failure.

(d) The amount of compensation and gratuity paid to the families of deceased workers by the management is as given below:-

I.	Shri Arvind Khandekar	Rs. 4,49,093/-
II.	Shri Rajanand Ramnath	Rs. 4,51,884/-
III.	Shri Abdul Salem	Rs. 4,67,297/-
IV.	Shri Kushwaha Ramashary	Rs. 4,51,884/-

(e) The action against the persons found responsible for the accident will be decided after the receipt of final report on the basis of failure analysis report from the Central Mechanical Research Institutes, Durgapur.

Flood Control in Himachal Pradesh

3615. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted study to ascertain the causes of the devastating floods which hit Kinnaur, the border district of Himachal Pradesh three years ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to check the recurrence of such incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) The river Sutlej originates from Rakas/Mansarovar lakes from Tibet region in China. It traverses a long distance in Tibet before entering into India with large catchment areas lying in Tibet region. Attempts made to ascertain the cause of unprecedented flash flood which occurred in the river Sutlej in August 2000 indicated that there were no corresponding wide spread rains in the upper catchment in the Indian side. It was therefore conjectured that the flash flood could be due to sum cloud burst in the upper catchment or a lake burst due to some avalanche in the Tibet region.

The National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) Hyderabad in its studies suggested that there could be high possibility of cloud burst in Tibet region causing heavy rainfall. Also water accumulation due to some isolated blockades adding to the heavy rainfall is also one possibility of heavy floods.

An inter-ministerial team which visited the flash flood sites from 7th August to 9th August observed that the flash flood, more likely, could have been caused by failure of water impounding system in Tibet resulting in a way of water racing down the course of river.

(c) and (d) The Government of India entered into a dialogue with the Government of China to explore the possibility of transfer of hydrological information for the rivers originating in China so that advance warning is issued and such catastrophic incidents could be avoided. As a consequence to this, a Memorandum of Understanding for sharing of hydrological information for river Brahmaputra has been signed with the Government of China but regarding sharing of data for river Sutlej, presently no such agreement has been arrived at.

[English]

Dilapidated Condition of Barrages

3616. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of barrages are in dilapidated condition in the country;

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

(c) the preventive steps taken by the Government to improve their conditions?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Maintenance and safety of dams including Barrages is the responsibility of the owners of the dams and barrages that is the concerned State Governments. The Central Government is not conducting any dam-wise or brrage-wise study on their conditions. However, the Central Government has taken measures for implementing a unified Dam Safety Programme in the country through the Central Water Commission on large dams which includes a few barrages confirming the norms of large dams. Among the above barrages, only some minor deficiencies have been reported for Kota Barrage in Rajasthan and Gandak and Kosi Barrage in Bihar. Remedial measures have been suggested for these barrages after the inspection.

Minimum Wages to Child Labour

3617. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make provision of fixation of different rates of wages in respect of child labour so as to discourage employment of children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fix minimum wages for child labour;

(d) whether there is any proposal to make provision for penalty for violation of wage payment and working hour norms by the employers;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) (a) to (c) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides for fixation of different rates of minimum wages for adults,

adolescents, children and apprentices. Since this tends to encourage engagement of child labour, the Government has been exploring deletion of the relevant section of the Act. In the proposed integrated draft Law on Wages based on the recommendation of the Second National Commission on Labour, there is no mention of different rates of minimum wages for children. However, given the steps and procedures involved, it is not possible to specify any time frame for finalisation of the proposals.

(d) to (f) In pursuance of the statutory provisions of the Act, the enforcement is secured through the enforcement machinery both in the Central and the State spheres. The officers of these machineries appointed as Inspectors under the Act, conduct regular inspections and advise the employers to implement provisions of the Act whenever they come across any violation like non-payment or less payment of minimum wages, non-adherence to the number of hours constituting a normal working day etc. There are legal and penal provisions like fine and imprisonment against the defaulting employers.

Population of Snakes

3618. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to dwindling population of snakes, the rat menace has increased in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decrease in the population of snakes;

(c) whether any latest census has been made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect and maintain the population of snakes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) There are no reports to suggest that the rat menace in the country has increased due to dwindling population of snakes. However due to qualitative and quantitative decline in habitat decrease in population of snakes can not be ruled out.

(c) and (d) Due to borrowing habit and secretive nature of snakes their census is technically not feasible.

- (e) The steps taken to protect snakes include:
- (i) Hunting of snakes has been banned under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
 - (ii) Habitats of snakes are getting protection under network of national parks and sanctuaries.
 - (iii) Regular patrolling of the area to control poaching and illegal trade in wild animals and their products is done.
 - (iv) Management of the wildlife habitats is done on scientific lines for betterment of wildlife.
 - (v) Financial assistance is provided to State Governments for effective management of wildlife habitat in national parks and sanctuaries.
 - (vi) Creation of awareness about the importance of Wildlife conservation.
 - (vii) National Wildlife Action Plan, 2002-16 and Wildlife Conservation Strategy 2002 have been framed and adopted in January 2002.

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

3619. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to the drought situation in the country during the years 2002-03 the production of foodgrains is estimated to be lowest in the last seven years; and
- (b) the details of arrangements made by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) During the last seven years 1995-96 to 2001-02, the lowest production of foodgrains at 180.42 million tonnes was recorded in 1995-96. The estimated production of foodgrains in 2002-03 is 183.17 million tonnes, which exceeds the foodgrains production in 1995-96.

(b) As the stock position of rice and wheat in the country is much above the buffer norm, there is no crisis. However, in order to enable the farmers to achieve higher level of production and productivity, a number of initiatives have been taken by the Government. Taking into account the increase in input costs caused by drought in 2002-2003, the Government have announced onetime Special Drought Relief Price varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 per quintal for various crops, over an above the Minimum

Support Price. Other measures include promotion of watershed development, development and promotion of new technology etc.

[English]

Grievances of Employees in BALCO Corba Plant

3620. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Committee comprising officials from the ministries of Disinvestment and Labour visited BALCO Corba Plant to look into the grievances of the employees;
- (b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The team has yet to visit some other project also and thereafter the team will submit the report.

Promotion of FPI in Drought Prone Areas

3621. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to promote Food Processing Industries (FPI) in the drought prone districts;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in Orissa, especially in the KBK districts; and
- (c) the details of specific proposals mooted to set up FPI in Tenth Plan in the KBK districts which are prone to drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Government does not directly set up food processing industries. The Ministry of Food

Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes, which envisage provision of financial assistance in the form of grant to cooperatives, NGOs, public sector undertakings, private sector, R&D institutions, etc., for the development of food processing industries. These plan schemes are not State or area specific. Approval of financial assistance is given on the basis of technical and financial viability of the proposals, including from KBK District of Orissa, received in a financial year and the amount is released as per availability of funds. In view of the position brought out, specific action of State Government of Orissa has not been maintained.

Snag in Aircraft

3622. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(b) whether some parts of one of the engine of Air India ferry flight AI 3803 to Jeddah fell off during its take off from the Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport recently and the flight had to be called back;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted for fixing responsibility for the laxity in checking the aircraft before certifying its air worthiness;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) On 25th February, 2003, just after take-off of Boeing

747-200 aircraft on Mumbai/Jeddah sector, Airports Authority of India staff, found several pieces of side cowls (which provide streamlined cover for the engine) on main runway. The aircraft was called back to Mumbai. During inspection, both the side cowls from No. 2 engine were found missing.

(c) to (e) The detailed investigation is being carried out by Air India's Permanent Investigation Board (PIB). Necessary action will be taken based on the findings and recommendations of PIB report.

[Translation]

Additional Assistance to Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka

3623. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka for additional assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund and foodgrains to combat drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the required amount is to be released and foodgrains provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Details of assistance sought from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and requirement of foodgrains for relief employment (under the Special Component of Sampooma Grameen Razgar Yojana), by Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, for current drought and that provided by the Central Government is indicated below:

State	National Calamity Contingency Fund (Rs. in crore)		Foodgrains for Relief Employment (lakh MTs)	
	Amount Sought	Amount Released	Requirement Projected	Quantity allocated upto June, 2003
Karnataka	1562.85	207.65	11.09	6.65
Madhya Pradesh	819.62	171.66	8.50	6.56

Employment Opportunities

3624. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether new employment opportunities have been generated during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the industries and agriculture or services sector in which these new employment opportunities have been generated during each of the said years;

(c) the total number of persons who were working in all these sectors by the end of each of the said years; and

(d) the names of the schemes implemented by the Government to generate new employment opportunities in each of the said sectors during the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). As per these surveys estimated employment on usual status basis has gone up from approximately 37.4 crore in 1993-94 to 39.7 crore in 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) Industry wise distribution of workers is given in the statement.

(d) Employment in the economy is generated through normal growth process as well as by implementing special programmes. The special programmes being implemented by the Government include Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SJGSY), Jawahar Gram Smridhi Yojana (JGSY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and Food for work programme. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) is also being implemented to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth.

Statement

Industry	Total Employment (in crores)	
	1993-94	1999-2000
1	2	3
Agriculture	24.2	23.8
Mining & Quarrying	0.27	0.23

1	2	3
Manufacturing	4.25	4.80
Electricity, gas & water supply	0.14	0.13
Construction	1.17	1.76
Trade	2.78	3.73
Transport, Storage & Communication	1.03	1.47
Financial Services	0.35	0.51
Community Social & Pers. Services.	3.51	3.32
Total Employment	37.45	39.70

Note:-Total may not tally due to rounding off.

[English]

Closure of Indraprastha Power Plant of Delhi

3625. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the Power Ministry to close down the Indraprastha Power Plant of Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of New Mini Steel Plant

3626. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up new mini steel plant at Alang Port of Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Union Government do not propose to set up new mini steel plant at Alang Port of Gujarat.

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

(c) In the New Industrial Policy announced in July 1991, steel industry has been de-licensed and removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector subject to certain locational restrictions. No industrial licence is, therefore, required for setting up of iron and steel plants and the entrepreneurs are free to set up such plants anywhere in the country except in the restricted locations based on their commercial judgement.

[*Translation*]

Legislation for Agricultural Labourers

3627. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to bring a Central legislation for the welfare of agricultural labourers is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a bill in this regard is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) A proposal regarding enactment of a Central legislation for the welfare of agricultural labourers had been under consideration of the Government. Due to lack of consensus amongst the State Governments on various components on the draft Bill, the matter could not be processed further. However, the Government is contemplating introducing in the Parliament an umbrella legislation on unorganised sector workers. The category of workers proposed to be covered, inter-alia, include agricultural labourers.

Amendments to EIA Notification

3628. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request to amend Schedule-I of the Environmental Impact Assessment (E.I.A.) Notification so as to get E.I.A. of new capital cities, big residential schemes and all the schemes involving acquisition of more than 400 hectares of land;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of the proposed scheme of the Chhattisgarh Government to build a new city for 7 lakh population on 5,000 hectares of land;

(d) if so, whether environmental clearance under the E.I.A. has been obtained for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) A request has been received in the context of development of a new capital city for Chhattisgarh State. At present, environmental clearance is not required for development of capital cities under the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 1994 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 4th December 2001 in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 725 of 1994 with IA Nos. 20, 21, 1207, 1183, 1216 and 1251 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 4677 of 1985, have directed the Ministry of Environment and Forests to examine and consider amending the Rules under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, so as to require environmental impact assessment for the purposes of the Town Planning Acts. The Ministry of Urban Development have constituted a Committee to examine the need for Environmental Impact Assessment along with other issues.

Revenue Earned in Tourism Sector

3629. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by State Governments in tourism sector during the last three years including the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons for fall in revenue; and

(c) the measures contemplated by the Government to promote tourism during 2003-2004 and in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Revenue earned by State Governments in the tourism sector is not compiled. The foreign exchange earnings from tourism are, however, compiled and during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 the foreign exchange earnings from tourism are Rs. 14,238 crores, Rs. 14,344 crores and Rs. 14,420 crores respectively.

(b) There has been no fall in foreign exchange earnings during the last three years.

(c) The following measures are contemplated:

- position tourism as a major engine of economic growth;
- harness the direct and multiplier effects of tourism for employment generation, economic development and providing impetus to rural tourism;
- provide a major thrust to domestic tourism which will act as a spring board for growth and expansion of international tourism;
- position India as a global brand to take advantage of the burgeoning global travel and trade and the vast untapped potential of India as a destination;
- acknowledge the critical role of private sector with government working as an active facilitator and catalyst;
- create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilisation, heritage and culture in partnership with States, private sector and other agencies;
- ensure that the tourist to India gets physically invigorated, mentally rejuvenated, culturally enriched, spiritually elevated and "feels India within him".

[English]

Study on Impact of Climate Change

3630. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Rs. 10 crore project to study the impact of climate change on agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some research institutes have been asked to study the impact of whether change on agriculture that need to be adopted to protect hilly areas, coastal eco-system and rained crops in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether study on impact of climate change on agriculture has taken off in Karnataka; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The objectives of the project are:

- (i) To conduct basic, applied and strategic research for quantifying the vulnerability of Indian agriculture to increasing climate variability and climate change.
- (ii) To develop adaptation strategies for minimizing their negative impacts.
- (iii) To provide policy support to the Government and other stakeholders on issues related to climate change and agriculture.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Various ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities located in various agro-ecological zones of the country including hilly, coastal and rainfed ecosystems are collaborating in the project.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad are already working on this aspect.

Environmental Clearance to Edible Oil Processing Unit in Andhra Pradesh

3631. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh for environmental clearance of an edible oil processing unit to be set up at Kakinada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Central Government has received a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking environmental clearance for edible oil processing unit within Coastal Regulation Zone area of Kakinada port limits.

(c) The provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification prohibit setting up of new industries within Coastal Regulation Zone Area.

[*Translation*]

New Airports

3632. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme for construction of some more major airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the foreign capital investment being made in the country for construction of airports;

(d) the names of the leading foreign companies which have shown keen interest in construction of airports in the country; and

(e) the names of the places where work has been started under the said scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK). (a) and (b) The Government has, in principle, approved the proposals of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Goa for construction of airports of international standards at Shamshabad near Hyderabad, Devanahalli near Bangalore and Mopa in Goa, respectively.

(c) The Bangalore International Airport is being implemented under joint venture. Airports Authority of India and Karnataka Government will together hold 26% of equity whereas joint venture private partner will hold the balance 74% of equity which also includes foreign capital investment. Similar equity participation as above has been envisaged for Hyderabad International Airport project.

(d) A number of leading international airport operators/companies showed interest for the above two projects and took part in global bidding process. Finally State Government of Karnataka selected a consortium led by Siemens, Germany with Unique Zurich, Switzerland and Larsen & Toubro, India as preferred bidder for the Devanahalli Project. Government of Andhra Pradesh also

selected the consortium led by GMR Vasavi, India with Malaysian Airport Holdings Berhad (MAHB), Malaysia as preferred bidder for the airport project at Shamshabad.

(e) Physical construction work has not started in the above projects.

[*English*]

Expansion of Fleet

3633. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of existing aircraft's, category-wise and organisation-wise and the total value thereof;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred during the last five years for the purchase of new aircraft's by Indian Airlines and Air India, year-wise; and

(c) the details of expenditure for the maintenance of the existing aircrafts during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There are a total of 1110 aircraft registered in India. Of these, 141 aircraft are operated by scheduled air transport operators; namely Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Air India, Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines. The details are given in the statement enclosed. The remaining aircraft are operated by Non-scheduled operators, Private Operators, State Governments and flying training institutes.

As on 31.3.2003, the net value of aircraft belonging to Air India and India Airlines/Alliance Air is Rs. 2628.38 crores and Rs. 1733.54 crores respectively. Information regarding value of the aircraft belonging to private scheduled/non-scheduled airlines/other operators is not centrally maintained.

(b) Indian Airlines and Air India have not purchased new aircraft during the last five years.

(c) The details of expenditure incurred by Indian Airlines/Air India for the maintenance of their fleet during the last five years are given below:-

Year	Expenditure by Air India	Expenditure by Indian Airlines (Rs. In Crores)
1998-99	246.14	498
1999-00	236.05	588
2000-01	388.77	685
2001-02	428.55	609
2002-03 (Provisional)	445.00	695

Statement*Aircraft operated by Scheduled Operators in India*

S.No.	Name	Aircraft Type	No. of Aircraft	Registration No.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Airline Allied Services Ltd.	B737-200	11	VT-EGG, VT-EGI, VT-EGH, VT-EHG,-VT-EHH, VT-EGF, VT-EHE, VT-EGJ, VT-EHF, VT-EGE,VT-EGM
		ATR42-320	4	VT-ABD,VT-ABB,VT-ABA VT-ABC
2.	Air India Ltd.	A310-304	9	VT-EJG,VT-EJH,VT-EJI VT-EJJ, VT-EJK, VT-EJL
		B747-237B	4	VT-EQS, VT-EQT, VT-EVI VT-EFU, VT-EGA, VT-EGB VT-EGC
		B747-337B	2	VT-EPW, VT-EPX
		B747-437B	6	VT-ESM, VT-ESN, VT-ESO VT-ESP, VT-EVA, VT-EVB
		B747-400	1	VT-EVJ
		A310-300	8	VT-EVE,VT-EVF,VT-EVG VT-EVH,. VT-EVU, VT-EVY VT-EVW, VT-EVX.
3.	Indian Airlines	A-300	1	VT-EFX
		A-300B4	4	VT-EHC, VT-EHD, VT-EVD VT-EVC
		A-320	36	VT-EPB, VT-EPC, VT-EPD VT-EPE, VT-EPF, VT-EPG VT-EPH, VT-EPI, VT-EPJ, VT-EPK, VT-EPL, VT-EPM, VT-EPO, VT-EPP, VT-EPQ, VT-EPR, VT-EPS, VT-EPT, VT-ESA, VT-ESB, VT-ESC, VT-ESD, VT-ESE, VT-ESF, VT-ESG, VT-ESH, VT-ESI, VT-ESJ, VT-ESK, VT-ESL, VT-EVR, VT-EVO, VT-EVQ, VT-EVR,VT-EVT, VT-EVS VT-EIO, VT-EJO
4.	Jet Airways	B737-400	8	VT-JAE, VT-JAF, VT-JAM VT-JAN, VT-JAR,
		B737-700	12	VT-JAS, VT-JAT, VT-JAU VT-JNE, VT-JNF, VT-JNG VT-JNH, VT-JNP, VT-JNQ VT-JNS, VT-JNT, VT-JNU VT-JNV, VT-JNW, VT-JGB

1	2	3	4	5
		B737-800	13	VT-JNA, VT-JNB, VT-JNC VT-JND, VT-JNJ, VT-JNL VT-JNM, VT-JNN, VT-JNR, VT-JNX, VT-JNY, VT-JNZ, VT-JGA,
		ATR 72-500	5	VT-JCA, VT-JCB, VT-JCC VT-JCD, VT-JCE
		ATR 72-212A	3	VT-JCF, VT-JCG, VT-JCH
5.	Sahara Airlines (R)	B-737-300	2	VT-SIW, VT-SIX
		B-737-400	2	VT-SID, VT-SIQ
		B-737-700	5	VT-SIG, VT-SIR, VT-SIS VT-SIU, VT-SIV
		B-737-800	2	VT-SIJ, VT-SIK
		CL-600-2B19	1	VT-SAP

Workers in Asbestos Cement Products

3634. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of a recent survey conducted by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) wherein asbestos is believed to be responsible for death of a lakh workers annually across the world;

(b) if so, the number of workers at present engaged in manufacture of asbestos based cement products; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) The Government have not received any report from International Labour Organisation (ILO) relating to recent survey conducted by them wherein asbestos is believed to be responsible for death of a lakh workers annually across the world.

(b) As per the details collected by Labour Bureau, Shimla about 8321 workers are engaged in the manufacture of asbestos cement and other cement products.

(c) The manufacture, handling and processing of asbestos and its product has been one of the industries

involving hazardous processes as given in the First Schedule under the Factories Act, 1948. The provisions under Chapter IV-A of the Factories Act relating to hazardous processes therefore become applicable to this class of industry. The permissible threshold limit of asbestos has also been indicated in the second Schedule of the Factories Act.

Under Section 87 concerning dangerous operation, the State Government are empowered to make rules applicable to any factory or class or description of factories on dangerous operations where the State Government is of the opinion that any manufacturing process or operation carried on in a factory exposes any person employed in it to a serious risk of bodily injury poisoning or disease. The State Governments have also framed rules under Section 87 and Schedule on Handling and Processing of Asbestos, Manufacture of any Article of Asbestos and any other process of manufacture or otherwise in which asbestos is used in any form has been notified by them on the basis of Model Rules prepared by Director General, Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI).

Rationalisation of Routes

3635. SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the differences between the Air India and Indian Airlines, the Ministry has put on hold

the plan for division of domestic/over seas routes among the two;

(b) if so, whether an internal committee has been appointed to look into the issue;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the committee has given some suggestions;

(e) if so, the steps being taken to implement them; and

(f) by when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (f) A three-member Committee has been constituted to examine the issue of route rationalisation between Air India and Indian Airlines for their common international operations taking into account their views and keeping in view the short term/long term interests of the two airlines etc. The Committee is presently at the initial stage of its functioning.

Oilseeds Based Bio-Diesel

3636. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has prepared an action plan to launch pilot projects to promote the use of oilseeds based bio-diesel as an alternative fuel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the plants identified for extraction of bio-diesel;

(d) whether the Union Government have also directed the State Governments to increase the production of oilseeds to meet the demand of oil seeds based bio-diesel;

(e) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard; and

(f) the assistance Government propose to give to State Governments to boost the production of oilseeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Action Plan to launch the pilot project for organizing compact plantation, oil extraction, esterification and its marketing of *Jatropha curcas* (Ratanjyot) has been prepared to promote the oilseeds based bio-diesel. The Marketing arrangements are being explored with Ministry of Petroleum.

(c) *Jatropha curcas* (Ratanjyot) and *Pongamia pinnata* (Karanja) have been identified for extraction of bio-diesel.

(d) to (f) The concept is at initial stages.

Erosion Due to Ganga and Padma Rivers

3637. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of erosion due to Padma and Ganga rivers;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the cause of erosion due to such rivers; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to prevent the same?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The erosion in banks of Ganga/Padma is a natural phenomenon being a meandering river. The intensity of erosion varies with location and also from year to year.

Flood Management including river erosion being a State subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Government. The Central Government renders assistance which is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Ganga Flood Control Commission had prepared comprehensive Master Plans for flood management for all the 23 river systems of Ganga basin including the main Ganga river. These Plans have been forwarded to the concerned State Governments for follow up action.

In 1996, the Planning Commission had appointed an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri G.R. Keskar, the then Member, Central Water Commission to study bank erosion problem in Ganga/Padma river in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad in West Bengal. The Committee had recommended various short term and long term measures. The Planning Commission released an amount of Rs. 30.00 crore during the year 1998-99 to the Government of West Bengal as additional Central assistance for taking up of the above works. Thereafter in December, 1999, Government of India constituted a Central Team headed by Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission based on whose recommendations, a scheme for implementation of critical anti erosion works in Ganga basin was formulated by Government of India. Since January, 2001, an amount of Rs. 23.48 crore has been released to West Bengal for taking up anti erosion works in Malda and Murshidabad districts along the river Ganga/Padma.

The above scheme for providing Central Assistance is also being continued during 10th Five Year Plan for which an Expert Committee has been constituted by Government of India which includes representative from West Bengal which will also look into the recommendations of earlier Committees including that of Keskar Committee.

Aerodrome at Hassan

3638. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared the project for construction of Aerodrome at Hassan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have acquired 300 acres of land for the purpose; and

(c) if so, by when the work of construction is likely to commence and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Government of Karnataka had acquired about 145 acres of land during 1967-69 and about 324 acres during 1999-2000 for construction of an airport at Hassan. However, Government, of India has not cleared this project as there is no plan, at present to construct an airport at Hassan.

Delay in Privatisation

3639. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of privatisation in Civil Aviation sector has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the progress made in this regard so far;

(d) whether any specific time frame has been fixed for the completion of the process;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of India, in January 2000, approved the restructuring of the airports of Airports Authority of India(AAI) through long term leasing route as and when found suitable. At the first instance, the international airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata were taken up for this exercise. Accordingly in November 2000 Airports Authority of India (Amendment) Bill 2000 was introduced in the Parliament to provide for an enabling provision in the Act for leasing out the airports of AAI. The Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. The Committee submitted its report in November 2002 suggesting a number of Amendments in the Bill.

(c) Steps have been taken to obtain the approval of the competent authority to introduce the comprehensive amendment Bill. Government has also announced in the Budget for the year 2003-04, the proposal to develop Delhi/Mumbai airports to world class standards by forming separate companies under the Airports Authority of India. These companies will be allowed to induct joint venture partners.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Fishermen in U.P. and W.B.

3640. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have submitted their proposals to the Union Government for development of fishermen and for providing other facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of proposals received from Govt. of U.P. and West Bengal and the action taken by the Govt. is given in the (Statement) enclosed.

Statement

Uttar Pradesh

1. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted proposal for Central Assistance for the benefit of Fishermen during 2002-03 and Central assistance of Rs. 103.50 lakhs was provided to the State Government during 2002-03.
2. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Fisheries Training and Extension", Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted proposal for Training of Farmers, Establishment of one Fish Farmers Training centre at Meetli Fish Farm in District Baghpat, organisation of State level Seminar, Production of one documentary Film, Publication of Hand book and Publication of one training and Extension manual, during 2002-2003 and Rs. 13.97 lakhs was released to the State Government.

West Bengal

3. The Government of West Bengal submitted proposal for Central Assistance for the benefit of Fishermen during 2002-03 and Central assistance of Rs. 60.00 lakhs was provided to the State Government during 2002-03.
4. Central share released to the State for Development of Fresh Water Aquaculture (FFDAs) and Development of Brackish Water Aquaculture (BFDAs) was Rs. 291.63 lakhs and Rs. 80.00 lakhs respectively during 2002-03.
5. The Government of West Bengal submitted two proposals for construction of two landing Centres at Maya Goalini Ghat in 24 Parganas district and Jalda Kuthi in Midnapore district and sought for 50% Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Fishing Harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports.

After scrutiny of the proposal, the State Government have been requested to confirm (i) availability of land with the concerned Department of the State Govt. for the development of the proposed fish landing centre (ii) completion of environmental clearance from the competent authority for implementation of the projects and (iii) adequate budgetary provision in the State budget to share 50% capital cost of the projects.

[English]

Improvement in Financial and Social Condition of Child Labour

3641. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any initiatives for studying the nature, complications and magnitude of the problems of child labourers of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of new strategies and action plan formulated for rapid improvement in the social and financial conditions of child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Child Labour is a complex and multi-dimensional socio-economic problem. The data on child labour is generated through the decennial census. The National Sample Survey Organisation also conducts surveys on various aspects including child labour at regular intervals. During the Xth plan, a provision has been made for conducting two surveys on child labour.

(b) The new strategy proposed to be adopted during the Tenth Plan for the elimination of child labour is as follows:

- Policy and programmes for elimination of child labour would be continued in a more focused, integrated and convergent manner.
- The National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) would be expanded to cover 150 child labour endemic districts.
- Child Labour efforts would be linked with the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Education

for All) of Ministry of Human Resource Development to attempt to ensure that children in the age group of 5-8 years get directly linked to schools and the older children are mainstreamed to the formal education system through the rehabilitation centres of NCLPs.

- Efforts will be made to strengthen the formal education mechanism in the child labour endemic areas in the country both in terms of quality and numbers in such a manner as to provide an attractive schooling system to the child labour force and its parents so that motivational levels of both the parents and such children are high and sending these children to school becomes an attractive proposition.
- It is also proposed to engage master vocational trainer for each NCLP for training of vocational teachers of the NCLP schools in order to lay emphasis on vocational training.
- Convergence with the ongoing schemes of the Dept. of Education, Rural Development, Health and Women & Child Development would be critical for the ultimate attainment of the objective of elimination of child labour in a time bound manner.
- A provision to attach a Medical Doctor for every 20 schools to take care of the primary health needs of the children has also been provided.

The problem of child labour requires to be dealt through sustained efforts over a period of time. Government is committed to the goal of eradication of child labour in all its forms. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem a gradual and sequential approach has been adopted to withdraw and rehabilitate child labour beginning with the children working in hazardous occupations.

Development of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries

3642. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any new schemes for the development of Animal Husbandry and fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the development of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and the welfare of fishermen community in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has proposed number of new schemes for implementation during 10th Five Year Plan. These are Feed and Fodder Production Enhancement Programme, Building Infrastructure for AH Extension Programme, Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds, Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund, Development of Marine Fisheries and Strengthening of Database and Information Networking for Fisheries Development.

(c) to (e) The State Government of Kerala has submitted various proposals during 2002-03 for release of funds under various schemes of the Department. The details of the proposals received and funds released against them are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of proposals received and funds released to Government of Kerala during 2002-2003

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Proposal amount	Fund released
1	2	3	4
1.	National Project on Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	3179.42 (for three years)	230.00
2.	Assistance to States for Poultry/Duck Farm	118.24	85.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.	362.00	362.00
4.	Professional Efficiency Development	30.00	30.00
5.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	60.00	17.13
6.	Integrated Sample Survey for Livestock Production.	42.34	42.34
7.	Livestock Census	9.98	9.98
8.	National Welfare of Fishermen	200.00	200.00

[Translation]

Functioning of Khadi Gramodyog Boards

3643. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Khadi and Gramodyog Boards functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the details of losses suffered by these boards during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to wind up these boards; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) There are 32 State/UT Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIB) functioning in the country. State-wise list is at enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) As setting up of Khadi and Village Industries Boards is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration, the details of losses suffered by these boards are not maintained centrally. Their continuation or winding up rests with the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State KVI Boards
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2
3.	Assam
4.	Bihar
5.	Goa
6.	Gujarat
7.	Haryana
8.	Himachal Pradesh
9.	Jammu & Kashmir
10.	Karnataka
11.	Kerala
12.	Madhya Pradesh
13.	Maharashtra
14.	Manipur
15.	Meghalaya
16.	Mizoram
17.	Nagaland
18.	Orissa
19.	Punjab
20.	Rajasthan
21.	Sikkim
22.	Tamil Nadu
23.	Tripura
24.	Uttar Pradesh
25.	West Bengal

1	2
26.	Andaman & Nicobar
27.	Chandigarh
28.	Delhi
29.	Pondicherry
30.	Lakshdweep
31.	Chhattisgarh
32.	Uttaranchal

Land Erosion

3644. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are not rehabilitated due to land erosion along the Ganga river in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the roads are also affected due to erosion;

(c) if so, whether a sum of Rs. 39.50 crore was sanctioned/released to the State Government to tackle this problem; and

(d) if so, the details of funds utilized by the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Land erosion being a State subject, anti-erosion schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The Central Government renders assistance that is technical, catalytical and supportive in nature.

Anti erosion works in the critical reaches, which inter-alia and inhabited by people are carried out to protect land erosion.

(b) The possibility of roads getting affected due to land erosion caused by river Ganga cannot be ruled out. As per the information available, out of the 8 schemes taken up by the State Government under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States" a stretch of about 400 meters of Ganga Darjeeling road in respect of one of the schemes is reported to be affected due to erosion.

(c) Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 39.50 crore towards Central share has been earmarked for the State of Bihar

to take up anti erosion works in the critical reaches under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States", against which an amount of Rs. 34.91 crore has so far been released to the Government of Bihar.

(d) Against the Central share of Rs. 34.91 crore released to the Government of Bihar, the State Government has submitted utilization certificates amounting to Rs. 32.30 crore which also includes 25% share of the State Government, as well.

[English]

Study on Impact of Human River Irrigation Project

3645. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun has been asked to carry out a study on the impact of Human River Irrigation Project in District Chandrapur, Maharashtra on wildlife;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received the said study report from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) if not, by when the said report is likely to be received from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Wildlife Institute of India was entrusted with the task of conducting an impact assessment study, for an appraisal of wildlife habitat use, the present habitat availability, and the impact of the proposed project on such an availability and use.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The study makes an appraisal of the project area, highlighting the impact of the proposed project on the wildlife habitat and use by the wild animals, apart from suggestions for mitigation planning. No formal decision on the report has been taken.

(e) Question does not arise.

**Improvement in Marketing, Transport and
Communication System**

3646. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to improve the marketing, transport and communication system in the food processing sector; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard during the Ninth Plan and Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, through its plan schemes provides financial assistance for the development of processed food sector. Infrastructure bottleneck in the food-processing sector has been identified as an area requiring attention. A number of plan schemes and interventions for infrastructure development are implemented in this regard. Besides these, assistance for generic advertisement is given to promote markets. Financial assistance has also been envisaged for refrigerated vans, etc.

Announcement of MSP for Oil Palm

3647. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to bring "Oil Palm" under the ambit of market intervention scheme and announce Minimum Support Price (MSP) to producers of oil palm;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the MSP announced for oil palm during the present year;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for announcing MSP for oil palm growers in the State; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government has brought Oil Palm under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), and has not

announced Minimum Support Price (MSP) since Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs) are perishable in nature and their Fair Average Quality (FAQ) specifications cannot be determined.

(d) and (e) The Union Government received a letter from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for announcing MSP for Oil Palm to safeguard the interest of Oil Palm growers in Andhra Pradesh. Since Oil Palm FFBs are perishable in nature and their FAQ specifications cannot be determined, the item has not been covered under MSP. However, to safeguard the interest of Oil Palm growers, the Government has implemented MIS for Oil in Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000/2000-2001 and 2000-2001/2001-2002 and procured 65000 tonnes and 39,301 tonnes of Oil Palm during these years respectively. No request for MIS has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 2002-2003.

Coastal Zone Management Plan

3648. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

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

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal to the Central Government in November 1998 for according approval to the Coastal Zone Management Plan for Mumbai and Navi Mumbai; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government, after examination of the proposal, approved the revised Coastal Zone Management Plan of Greater Mumbai on 19th January, 2000 with certain conditions. The revised Coastal Zone Management Plan of Navi Mumbai was not agreed to since the proposal did not meet the norms laid down in the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991, as amended from time to time.

Tourist Potential of Gopalpur Sea Beach in Orissa

3649. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tourist potential of Gopalpur Sea Beach in Orissa;

(b) whether tourist potential of this sea beach has not been fully tapped; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to fully exploit the tourist potential of the sea beach?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The tourist potential of Gopalpur has been tapped to a considerable extent.

(c) the following projects have been sanctioned for development of tourism at Gopalpur Sea Beach:-

Year	Name of project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	Tourist Complex at Gopalpur	38.23
1997-98	Public Convenience at Gopalpur	13.12

The State Government has reported that it has started preparation of master plan for Gopalpur as a tourist destination in accordance with the National Tourism Policy, 2002.

Conservation of Manuscripts

3650. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Mission for Manuscripts has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister recently;

(b) if so, the details of the plans to document and preserve 35 lakhs manuscripts lying with private and non-Governmental Organizations, in different parts of the country;

(c) the number of Sanskrit Scholars to be engaged during the first phase of the programme since most of the manuscripts are in Sanskrit; and

(d) the procedure for procurement of the manuscripts from private citizens in national interest?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Under the National Mission, manuscripts shall be documented and preserved by adopting a multi-pronged strategy, which include public awareness, surveys, extending need based infrastructural support to the major custodial institutions, conservation, micro-filming/digitization,

cataloguing and setting up a National Manuscripts Library. A National Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister-in-charge of Culture and the Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Culture) have been constituted to provide policy advice, guidance, prepare action plans and evolve procedures for implementation of the objectives of the National Mission for Manuscripts.

[Translation]

Service of Agricultural Scientists and Graduates

3651. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the services of Agricultural Scientists and Agricultural Graduates have been categorised in Agriculture Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether uniform policy is adopted in all Agriculture Universities of the country;

(d) if so, whether the promotion policy of Agricultural Scientists and that of Agricultural Graduates are different;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed new rules of promotion due to which previous promotion policy has been affected; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Only the services of Agricultural Scientists are categorized.

(b) Services of Agricultural scientists have been categorized as Assistant Professor and its equivalent, Associate Professor and its equivalent and Professor or its equivalent for the services rendered for teaching, research and extension education programmes.

(c) to (e) State governments, through statues governing Agricultural Universities, regulate their policies and programmes according to the UGC guidelines as adopted by ICAR.

(f) and (g) The Merit Promotion Scheme of the UGC, that was applicable to the SAUs ceased to exist w.e.f 3.3.99 and was replaced by the UGC with the Career

Advancement Scheme w.e.f 27.7.98 in SAUs to the benefit of teachers and research scientists by and large.

Farmers Benefited Under NAIS

3652. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of the farmers benefited in Bihar under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) during the last three years, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Bihar is implementing the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) from the year 2000-2001. Statement indicating district-wise number of farmers benefited under the scheme in Bihar during last two years is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Name of the district	No. of farmers Benefited	
	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3
1. Patna	463	22
2. Nalanda	2297	1721
3. Gaya	63	109
4. Nawadah	1961	388
5. Aurangabad	431	87
6. Bhojpur	160	358
7. Rohtas	94	0
8. Saran	47	37
9. Siwan	1137	8
10. East Champaran	0	100
11. Muzaffarpur	14	265
12. Vaishali	0	704
13. Sitamarhi	34	77
14. Darbhanga	490	0
15. Madhubani	0	1153
16. Samastipur	35	1143
17. Begusarai	4012	164

	1	2	3
18. Munger		13	104
19. Bhagalpur		522	474
20. Saharsa		0	0
21. Purnea		0	1104
22. West Champaran		0	104
23. Katihar		0	0
24. Gopalganj		0	0
25. Khagaria		3549	2290
26. Madhepura		0	143
27. Jehanabad		0	0
28. Kishanganj		0	114
29. Ararea		1532	527
30. Banka		641	17
31. Bhabhua		25	17
32. Buxar		0	340
33. Jamui		202	1199
34. Supaul		0	128
35. Shivher		96	0
36. Lakhisarai		1	5
37. Sekhpura		0	0
Total		17819	13302

Vacant Posts Under OBC Category

3653. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under category A,B,C, and D in the departments and undertakings under his ministry at present, category-wise;

(b) the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs in the Union Government services;

(c) whether the reservation quota of OBCs has been completely filled up in the departments and undertakings under his ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by when reservation quota for the said classes is likely to be filled up;

(f) whether there is a provision of reservation for the OBCs at the time of their promotion also;

(g) if so, whether the posts reserved for OBCs are filled up by general category candidates in case the candidates belonging to OBC are not available; and

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

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

[*English*]

Setting up of Nurseries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3654. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has any scheme/programme for production of budding and grafting of Citrus and Mango locally to reduce importing of planting materials from main land and encourage the Entrepreneurs to set up Nurseries locally; and

(b) if so, the details of physical and financial targets fixed in the Annual Plan 2002-2003 and during Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) The Agriculture Department is implementing a scheme for development, rejuvenation and multiplication of plantation, spices and horticulture crops in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Under the scheme there is provision for promotion of budding, grafting to reduce importing planting materials from mainland and encourage nurseries locally by entrepreneurs with buy back arrangements.

(b) The physical and financial target fixed in the Annual Plan 2002-03 and during the Tenth Five Year Plan are as under:

Items	2002-03	
	Physical (Nos.)	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
Mango grafts	5000	0.20
Other fruits Plants	20,000	
	Tenth Plan	
Fruits plants including mango, citrus and others	1,25,000	2.00

[*Translation*]

Development of Animal Husbandry in Jharkhand

3655. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes relating to the development of Animal Husbandry being implemented in Jharkhand during the last three years;

(b) the target fixed and achievements made in this regard during the said period;

(c) the arrangements made to make available fodder in drought hit areas of the country particularly Jharkhand during the last two years and till date alongwith the amount incurred thereon;

(d) whether due to the scarcity of fodder in drought hit areas the cattle breeders have shifted their cattle to other States;

(e) if so, the facilities/assistance provided to these cattle breeders; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to set up cow sheds (gaushalas) in the State and provide grants in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying is implementing number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Animal Husbandry in Jharkhand. The Department release funds on the basis of viable proposal

received from the State Government. The details of funds released to Jharkhand during the last three years are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The Government of India have been assisting the State Governments in their drought mitigation efforts through various means such as release of funds under Calamity Relief Fund, NCCF, distribution of fodder minikits etc. The Government of Jharkhand has been provided

4,500 and 6600 numbers of minikits during 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively.

(d) and (e) The Government has received no information about any large scale shifting of cattle from Jharkhand to other States due to drought.

(f) There is no provision for setting up of cowsheds under any Schemes implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

Statement

Details of funds released to Jharkhand for development of Animal Husbandry

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Fund released in Rs. Lakhs		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Assistance to States for Poultry/Duck Farms.	0.00	35.78	25.48
2.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.	0.00	11.20	5.96
3.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	0.00	7.00	20.00
4.	Integrated Sample Survey Live stock Production	2.00	2.00	5.50
5.	Livestock Census*	—	—	17.36
6.	Integrated Dairy Development Project	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Development of Freshwater Aquaculture	0.00	51.97	3.64
8.	National Welfare of Fishermen	0.00	31.00	20.00

Note: *The Scheme has been transferred to Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying from 2002-03.

Automated Landing System

3656. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently installed sophisticated automated landing system at major international airports of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said automated landing system has been made functional; and

(d) the amount spent on the said system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The sophisticated Instrument Landing System Category IIIA has been installed at Runway 28

of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi and made operational from December 25, 2001. With the help of this system, an aircraft can land when Runway Visual Range is equal to or more than 200 meters.

(d) The total amount incurred on this system is to the tune of Rs. 43 crore.

[English]

Plight of Farmers

3657. COL (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct survey regarding indebtedness of agricultural farmers in rural areas due to failure of their crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of small and marginal farmers are compelled to sell their holdings to repay loans and thereby becoming landless agricultural labourers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise especially in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per available information, no such incidence has been reported so far.

(d) Does not arise.

Crops Brought Under M.S.P.

3658. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of crops which are presently under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme;

(b) whether some more crops are likely to be brought under the MSP scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) At present 25 crops are covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme. These are paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, wheat, barley, gram, arhar (tur), moong, urad, masur (lentil), sugarcane, cotton, groundnut in shell, jute, rapeseed/mustard, sunflower seed, soyabean, safflower, toria, tobacco (VFC), copra, sesamum and nigerseed.

(b) to (d) Presently there is no proposal under consideration to bring more crops under the MSP Scheme.

Coverage of Farmers Under M.S.P.

3659. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of farmers benefited under the Minimum Support Price (MSP);

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the coverage of farmers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by the Government for different crops are in the nature of a guarantee to the farmers that in the event of glut in the market consequent in excessive supply, the prices will not be allowed to fall below remunerative levels. All the farmers producing the 25 crops covered under the MSP Scheme therefore stand to benefit from the MSP. The farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market at prices which may be higher than the MSPs fixed by the Government.

(b) to (d) At present, there is no proposal under consideration to increase to coverage of commodities under the MSP Scheme.

Promotion of Tourism in Orissa

3660. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated by the Government for promotion of tourism in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) the funds earmarked/released for the purpose during the said period; and

(c) the funds utilised by the State Government out of the funds allocated?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The following projects have been sanctioned for promotion of tourism in Orissa during the last three years:

Year	No. of Projects	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)
2000-01	4	156.94
2001-02	4	38.05
2002-03	1	40.00

In addition, Department of Culture has sanctioned Rs. 203.00 lakhs for three projects pertaining to development of Jain monuments in Orissa.

[Translation]

Forest Cover and Forest Settlement

3661. DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of percentage of forest land in the country and the nature of changes occurred in the condition of forests after the control of forests came under the Union Government under Forests Act;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to enact a law for forest settlement on the lines of land settlement to identify the total area of forest land as well the forest land under cultivation in the country;

(c) if so, whether the forest land utilized for cultivation can be termed as revenue land; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The State-wise percentage of recorded forest area as compiled in the State of Forest Report, 1999 is given in the statement enclosed. The subject 'forest' is not in the Union list. It has shifted to Concurrent list from State list after 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976. As per the State of Forest Report, 1999, the total forest cover of the country is 637,293 sq.km. and it has increased by 3896 sq.km. as compared with the preceding assessment done in 1997.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages that 33% of the geographical area of the country should be under tree/forest cover, while the area under forest cover in the country is only 19.39% as per the State of Forest Report, 1997.

Statement

State/UT	Geographic area	Total Forest	Percentage
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	275,068	63,814	23.2
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	51,540	61.54
Assam	78,438	30,708	39.15
Bihar	94,163	6,078	6.45
Chhattisgarh	135,194	59,285	43.85
Goa	3,702	1,424	38.46
Gujarat	196,024	19,393	9.89
Haryana	44,212	1,673	3.78
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	36,407	63.6
Jammu & Kashmir	222,235	20,182	9.08
Jharkhand	79,714	23,148	29.04
Karnataka	191,791	38,724	20.19
Kerala	38,863	11,221	28.87
Madhya Pradesh	308,252	95,212	30.89

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	307,690	63,842	20.75
Manipur	22,327	15,154	67.87
Meghalaya	22,429	9,496	42.34
Mizoram	21,081	15,935	75.59
Nagaland	16,579	8,629	52.04
Orissa	155,707	57,184	36.73
Punjab	50,362	2,901	5.76
Rajasthan	342,239	31,700	9.26
Sikkim	7,096	2,650	37.34
Tamil Nadu	130,058	22,628	17.4
Tripura	10,486	6,293	60.01
Uttar Pradesh	240,926	17,001	7.06
Uttaranchal	53,485	34,662	64.81
West Bengal	88,752	11,879	13.38
A&N Islands	8,249	7,171	86.93
Chandigarh	114	31	27.19
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	203	41.34
Daman & Diu*	112	—	0.62
Delhi	1,483	85	2.83
Lakshdweep*	32	—	0
Pondicherry*	493	—	0
Total	3,287,263	765,253	23.28

Source: State/UT Forest Departments

**Not Available*

[English]

Scheme to Recharge Ground Water

3662. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme of recharging the ground water with an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has since been submitted to the Planning Commission for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any consultations were held with State Governments before reformulating the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and by when the scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Water Resources had formulated a Central Sector Scheme on 'Artificial Recharge to Ground Water' at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore for implementation during X Five Year Plan. The scheme envisaged construction of 2344 recharge structures in 'over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks as well as drought prone and water scarcity areas of the country.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission, however, suggested that the scheme may be modified as a *Centrally Sponsored Scheme* with funding pattern of 75:15:10 between the Centre, State and beneficiaries.

(e) and (f) As the scheme proposed was a Central Sector Scheme, consultations with State Governments were not held. Keeping in view the suggestions received from Planning Commission, the Ministry has prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 3000 crore with funding pattern of 90:10 between the Centre and beneficiaries for implementation during X Five Year Plan and referred it to the Planning Commission for their 'in principle' approval. It is not possible, at this stage, to indicate the time frame for the clearance of the scheme.

Crop Weather Watch Group

3663. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Crop Weather Watch Group under the Ministry of Agriculture has submitted its inspection report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) in the Ministry of Agriculture generally meets every week on Monday. The Major issues discussed in the CWWG are:

1. Rainfall & weather situation in different parts of the country and its likely impact on agricultural operations and crop prospects;
2. Review of water availability in the major reservoirs and its implications for irrigation etc.;
3. Review of progress of cropping of important crops;

4. Review of supply position of inputs such as seeds, fertilizers etc.;
5. Review of pest & disease situation;
6. Agronomic practices in case of excessive rainfall, drought and other climatic aberrations. The reports and minutes of CWWG meetings are finalized and disseminated on priority basis

Renovation of Jantar Mantar and Red Fort

3664. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI J.S. BRAR:

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

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has initiated a project to renovate and repair the Jantar Mantar and Red Fort in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the work being undertaken;

(c) the amount of funds being made available for these projects;

(d) whether ASI propose to undertake similar projects in other parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the details of such projects proposed to be undertaken in the Country during 2003-2004 by the ASI?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Under an integrated programme of synthesizing elements of culture, tourism and clean civic life, the Archaeological Survey of India has undertaken work on several individual monuments as well as general areas of the Red Fort, Delhi for conservation, chemical treatment and horticultural activities on which a sum of Rs. 133.55 Lakh have already been spent during 2002-2003 and on Jantar Mantar, Delhi, the amount spent is Rs. 8.11 lakhs.

(d) and (e) ASI, has identified 578 centrally protected monuments in the country for structural conservation, chemical treatment and environmental development with an allocation of Rs. 18243 lakhs for the 10th Five Year Plan.

Milk Based Industry

3665. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken to establish and develop milk based industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): There is no restriction for establishing new processing capacity for milk-based industry under the provisions of Milk and Milk Product Order 1992.

Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, at present is implementing the following Plan Schemes for the development of Dairy Industry:

- (i) Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly & Backward areas:- A Centrally Sponsored Plan scheme under which assistance is provided to the State Governments for specific approved projects on 100% grant basis for dairy development in Non-operation Flood, Hilly & Backward areas.
- (ii) Assistance to Cooperatives: A Central Sector Plan scheme which aims at rehabilitation of cooperative Milk Unions/Federations on 50:50 sharing basis between Government of India & the concerned State Government.

Employees Under ESI Scheme

3666. SHRI A NARENDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of employees covered under ESI scheme in 2002-03 till date as compared to the previous year;
- (b) the reasons for the decline in the number of patients covered under ESI Scheme during 2002-2003 till date; and
- (c) the steps taken to reduce this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)
(a) As on 31.3.2002, 71,59,350 employees and as on 31.3.2001, 80,03,800 employees were covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme.

(b) and (c) The decline in the coverage of employees is due to the ceiling of wage limit prescribed under the ESI Scheme. The ESI Scheme is being gradually extended to new geographical areas and new sectors of employment. The quality of services under the ESI Scheme is also being constantly improved and monitored to make it attractive to the workers.

Allocation of Land to Flying Clubs

3667. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have allotted land/hanger at the rate of Re.1/-per annum to some flying clubs;
- (b) if so, the purpose of allotment of land/hanger at only Re.1/-per annum to these flying clubs;
- (c) whether the airport authorities propose to charge normal commercial rate from these flying clubs;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the action being initiated to enhance the rate;
- (f) whether the DGCA has received complaints of illegal and unauthorised operations by Bombay flying club;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Flying/Gliding Clubs including those owned by State Governments were allotted land/hanger space at a nominal rate of Re.1/-per annum by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to promote aviation activity. Airports Authority of India (AAI) after its formation in 1986 has further allotted land to private flying clubs at the market rate of licence fee.

(c) to (e) There is a proposal to charge market rate of licence fee and not commercial rates from all flying clubs viz Government subsidized as well as private flying clubs operating at AAI Airports.

(f) Yes, Sir. Two complaints have been received.

(g) and (h) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Awareness Campaign for Water Conservation

3668. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has launched awareness Campaign for water conservation in the State;

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

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide assistance to the State Government to make it successful and result oriented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh have launched an intensive Water Conservation Awareness Campaign named "Jalchaitanyam" in the State from 22nd March, 2003 to 14th April, 2003 on the occasion of World Water Day. The campaign includes workshops, seminars and training programmes, exhibitions, publicity with wall posters, wall writings, Kaljathas and rallies on water awareness. It is expected that with the active participation of the people from villages and towns, awareness on water conservation would be enhanced in the State.

(c) and (d) The above programme has been initiated by the Government of Andhra Pradesh with their own resources.

Projects Without Practical Utility

3669. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether development of statistical methodology for conducting agricultural experiments/investigations is part of work-mandate of Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institutes;

(b) if so, whether the Institute conducted a number of projects with their costs running into several crores of rupees during last three years for developing the methodology;

(c) if so, the details of these projects including title, cost involved, statistical methodology developed, papers published and practical utility, project-wise and year-wise during the last three years; and

(d) the efforts made to increase the efficiency of the Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As given in the enclosed statement.

(d) A suitable monitoring mechanism has been put in the position and is being operated regularly.

Statement

During the last three years the Institute has initiated the following research projects:

- *A statistical investigation on the long term effects of fertilizers on productivity of cereal crop sequences (Institute Funded)*

To estimate the overall fertilizer treatment effects for each crop sequences.

To study the effects of long-term fertilizer use on the yield of different crops.

To develop methodology for determining optimal fertilization practice for each the crop sequences.

To develop yield prediction models for crops included in different sequences.

- *A diagnostic study of Design and Analysis of Field Experiments (Institute Funded)*

To conduct a diagnostic survey of several experiments for identifying different experimental situations so as to provide appropriate methods of analysis of data for each possible situation as well as to develop methodology for data analysis are not available or suitable.

To evolve appropriate and modified methods of combined analysis of data from experiments conducted at different locations and/or years by using the concept of nested models.

To use the concept of multivariate analysis of variance to analyse the data of experiments with multiple responses.

To develop an appropriate but exact method of estimation of variance components from an unbalanced data obtained from block designs with possibly unequal block sizes and varying replications.

3. *Statistical Investigation on the fertilizer use efficiency in relation to cultural practices (Institute Funded)*

- To carry out the combined analysis of cultural cum manurial experiments over years/locations for various crops

- To develop fertilizer response models based on cultural cum manurial trials.
 - To obtain output input ratios at a various levels of cultural practices of crops.
4. *Design and Analysis of on Station and on Farm Agricultural Research Experiments: A Revisit AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 8.95 Lakhs)*
- To develop suitable methodology by using data of uniformity trials and past experiments in deciding the shape and size of irregular plots and blocks for future experimentation.
 - To develop efficient designs and appropriate methods of analysis of data by exploiting the principle of resolvability, fractional factorials and nested models for experiments on Farm Research.
5. *Three-associate class partially balanced incomplete block designs and their applications to partial diallel crosses (Institute Funded)*
- To obtain some methods of construction of three associate class partially balanced incomplete block designs and to prepare a catalogue of the available PBIB (3) designs along with those constructed.
 - To develop a computer module to catalogue, generate and analyse three associate class partially balanced incomplete block designs.
 - To identify the efficient plans for partial dialler crosses obtained through schemes and to develop computer modules for generation of these plans along with their analysis in completer and/or incomplete block settings.
6. *Statistical study on completion effects among neighbouring units in field experiments (Institute Funded)*
- To study the characterization properties of the designs for investigating competition effects among neighbouring units.
 - To obtain (construct) designs for estimating competition effects in one-way and two-way elimination of heterogeneity settings.
 - To study the optimality aspects of the designs obtained for competition effects and to prepare a catalogue of the optimal (efficient) designs for these situations.
- To study the competition effects among neighbouring units using the data generated through simulation techniques.
7. *Design and Analysis of Agroforestry Experiments (Institute Funded)*
- To evolve and document general methodologies for the statistical analysis of data already generated through agroforestry experiments.
 - To obtain appropriate designs alongwith the layout plans and methodology for the analysis of the experiments under agroforestry system to be suggested to the collaborative centre(s).
 - To study the relationship among the various components (trees and crops) in agroforestry.
8. *Planning, Designing and Analysis of Experiments relating to Soil Test-Crop Response Correlations (Institute Funded)*
- To improve the existing methodology for analysis of on-going STCR experiments.
 - To carry out planning and designing for the conduct of new set of experiments and subsequently to carry out the analysis of data.
 - To develop data base for STCR experiments.
9. *Planning, Designing and Analysis of Experiments planned on stations under the Project Directorate for Cropping System Research (Institute Funded)*
- To identify the suitable statistical designs for conduct of experiments according to the technical programme formulated in the annual workshop of the project.
 - To develop suitable method of analysis for the identified designs.
 - To statistically analyse the data of experiments conducted at 37 cropping system research centre.
10. *Planning, Designing and Analysis of "On Farm" Research Experiments planned under Project Directorate for Cropping System Research. (Institute Funded)*
- To provide suitable sampling plan and design for layout of experiments on cultivator' fields.

- To identify the appropriate statistical methodology for the analysis of data collected under the programme of experiments on cultivator's field and to undertake the analysis of the data of experiments conducted.
 - To finalise the results of experiments conducted on cultivator's fields for inclusion in the Annual Report of the project.
11. *Planning, Designing and Statistical Analysis of data relating to Experiments conducted under AICRP on Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments*
- To plan and design long-term experiments.
 - To try alternative approaches for analysis of data.
 - To coordinate the work relating to statistical aspects of the project and also to provide necessary information to the Project Coordinator (LTFE) and ICAR.
12. *Study of Land Use Statistics through integrated modelling using Geographic Information System AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 20.33 Lakhs)*
- To obtain land utilisation statistics with the help of survey and remote sensing technique.
 - To study the qualitative aspect of land utilisation statistics obtained through different sources i.e. Census, Survey and Remote Sensing.
 - To develop model for integration of statistics obtained through different sources.
13. *Development of GIS based technique for identification of potential agro-forestry area (Institute Funded)*
- To identify the important factors responsible for growth of agroforestry.
 - To construct the suitability index using Spatial-Analytic Hierarchy Process.
 - To compare the above mentioned index with the Composite development index.
14. *Pilot study on forecasting of brood-lac yield from *Buteamonosperma* (Palas) AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 0.40 Lakhs)*
- To identify the factors affecting yield of broodlac.
 - To develop models for forecasting the yield of broodlac from palas tress.
15. *Forecasting Sugarcane Yields Using Multiple Markov Chains (Institute Funded)*
- To develop models for forecasting sugarcane yields based on higher order Markov Chains.
 - To develop feasibility of use of data of more than one point of time through growth indices and Principal Component Analysis.
 - To investigate the usage of lumable Markov Chains in forecast models.
 - To investigate the behaviour of the proposed and also the existing models for forecasting sugarcane yields after increasing the size of the baseline data set.
 - To forecast the sugarcane yields from the developed models and compare them with those obtained from the existing methods.
16. *Forecasting the loss in yield due to weeds (Instituted Funded)*
- To examine the growth behaviour of weeds which affect significantly the crop yield under study.
 - To find out the relationship between crop yield and weed parameters and to develop methodology for forecasting loss in yield.
17. *Development of weather based forewarning system for crop pests and diseases NATP (Cost Rs. 10.83 Lakhs)*
- To generate weather based forecasting models for insect pests and disease development.
 - To validate the forecasting models.
18. *Studies on bioecology and population dynamics of major pests of mango (hoppers, fruitfly webber & inflorescence midge and guave (fruit borer) (in collaboration with CISH, Lucknow) (Institute Funded)*
- Identification of the underlying law the fruitfly follows in natural way of its own.
 - The establishment of the relationship of fruitfly population with various relevant lag weather variables/fruitfly population by fitting appropriate models.
 - Development of final model by using individual functions fitted above.

19. *Assessment of harvest and post-harvest-losses-a mission mode project*

NATP (Cost Rs. 189.00 Lakhs)

- To conduct a pilot study to assess the harvest and post harvest losses of oilseeds, milk, wool, meat, edges and poultry meat, marine and inland fishery at different levels (Producer, consumer and market)

20. *A pilot study on cost of production of Coconut in Kerala-Funded from Coconut Development Board, Kochi, Kerala (Collaborative with Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod, Kerala)*

Coconut Board (Cost Rs. 8.10 Lakhs)

- To build reliable and efficient estimates of cost of cultivation of coconut.
- To study the agricultural practice in Coconut.
- To utilise the information collected in the objective (to study the agricultural practice in Coconut) on input details to formulate more remunerative cultivation practice.

21. *Estimation of wool production-emerging data needs and a methodological reappraisal (Collaborative with Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute (ICAR), Avikanager (Rajasthan)*

AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 6.00 lakhs)

- To modify the existing sampling methodology for estimation of wool production.
- To estimate the breed-wise sheep number, average wool yield and total wool production at district/State level with a reasonable precision.
- To study the socio-economic status of farmers engaged in sheep rearing.

22. *Jai-Vigyan National Science and Technology Mission on Household Food and Nutritional Security for Tribal, Backward and Hilly Areas (NATP) (Cost Rs. 7.88 lakhs)*

- To document socio-economic conditions and food security status of the targeted population,

- To assess cost of differential technological interventions in various target domains,

- To identify possible constraints for diversification and wider adoption of improved life support crop species and allied enterprises,

- To quantify the potential benefits of improved technologies and diversification on poverty alleviation, food security, income and sustainability of resource base in the target domain,

- To assess implications of improved technology interventions on gender related issues, and

- To examine role of government intervention through on-going programmes for wider adoption and larger impact of improved technologies in tribal, backward and hill areas.

23. *Study of Lac Marketing in India AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 19.00 lakhs)*

- To study existing marketing channel and price spread in lac marketing.

- To examine extent of market integration in lac markets.

- To suggest remedial measures for improving marketing environment of lac in India.

24. *An econometric study of technological dualism in egg production (Institute Funded)*

- (i) To study the extent of technological dualism and change in egg production.

- (ii) To study effect of technological dualism and technological change on functional income distribution.

- (iii) To examine allocate efficiency under different levels of technology.

25. *Study to formulating long term mechanisation strategy for each agro-climatic zone/State Funded by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture) (Cost Rs.130.00 lakhs)*

- To study the soil types, land topography.

- To study the socio-economic conditions (financial status) of the farmers and farm labourers and assess their capabilities for acquiring adopting the needed agricultural equipment/machinery.

- To study the present status, ultimate potential, the gaps, highlighting critical ones; for equipment used in various agricultural operations starting right from village to post-harvest operating.
 - To study the types and utility of various agricultural equipment, both conventional and improved ones, presently in use and those needed in future, for different crops/cropping systems in the Zones.
 - To study the impact of farm mechanisation on employment of labour.
 - To study the cropping pattern, both agricultural and horticultural, in the Zones, yields in relation to the national average, and their growth potential.
 - To study and assess the use of arm power per hectare, ultimate requirement, ways and means to fulfil the gaps for various farm operations.
 - To study the infrastructural facilities for the manufacture, marketing, after sale service/repairs availability etc. of agricultural equipment.
 - To study and assess the adequacy and the requirement of infrastructure at the Central and State levels, for planning, promotion, execution and extension of the various plan programmes on agricultural mechanisation.
 - To identify new/improved farm equipment that may be needed by the farmers during next 20 years i.e by the year 2020, for carrying out different farm operations.
 - To formulate strategies and programmes that may be required for mechanisation of agriculture during the period 2001-2005, 2005-2010, 2010-2015, 2015-2020.
26. *Technical Efficiency Analysis of Rice-Wheat System in Punjab* AP Cess Funded (Cost Rs. 5.63 lakhs)
- To estimate the farm level technical efficiency of rice-wheat system in Punjab.
27. *On some robust estimation heritability (Institute Funded)*
- To examine the influence of non-normality and other assumptions on the estimation of heritability.
- To study the effect of aberrant values on the estimates of heritability.
 - To identify and develop procedures for robust estimation of heritability.
28. *Empirical investigations on the influence of fixed effects on the estimates of heritability (Institute Funded)*
- To study the effect of non-genetic factors on the estimation of heritability and its precision.
 - To compare the different methods of correction of data by applying the method of fitting constants.
 - To compare mixed model technique with the above methods for estimation of variance components and consequently heritability.
29. *Studies on data processing techniques for statistical analysis of large field variability in hilly and salt regions) NATP (Cost Rs. 16.59 lakhs)*
- To consolidate in a comprehensive manner the data processing techniques for statistical quantification of the large field variability in hilly and salt affected soils.
 - To finalise the algorithms and develop softwares for computerised data processing of the natural variability present in the plantations carried out in uncultivable lands.
 - To develop computerised techniques for the construction of the fertility gradient maps of examined soil characteristics field variability obtained by using different concepts of statistical methodology.
 - To formulate computerised data processing technology for correlating the plant growth traits performance with that of soils characteristics.
30. *Study of Nonlinear time series modelling in agriculture (Institute Funded)*
- To study relative merits and demerits of various tests of linearity.
 - To investigate properties of autoregressive conditional heteroscedastic, self-exciting threshold autoregressive and bilinear model from the family of parametric nonlinear time series models.
 - To develop relevant computer programmes for fitting of above models and to apply these to react data from the fields of entomology, fishery, agricultural economics etc.

31. *Studies on growth pattern and heritability of fitness traits in Indian breeds of goats (Institute Funded)*
- To compare different methods of estimation heritability of fitness traits.
 - To compare the adequacy of different non-linear models utilized for studying growth pattern.
32. *Development of statistical procedures for selecting genotypes simultaneously for yield and stability (Institute Funded)*
- To construct new indices for selecting genotypes simultaneously for both yield and stability.
 - To make comparison among the indices developed, based on standard statistical techniques and on techniques involving simulation.
 - To develop a computer program for judging desirable genotypes.
33. *Development of Software for On-line Information System on Personnel Management in ICAR (Institute Funded)*
- To design and develop database required for manpower of ICAR set up.
 - To design and develop user interface for online data entry and updating.
 - To design and develop reports and queries for manpower information management.
34. *Development of web-site for National Seed Project (N.S.P.) (Institute Funded)*
- To identify the information to be kept on web.
 - To design and develop the database.
 - To design and develop the web application.
 - To configure network for web site and database server.
35. *Agricultural Field Experiments Information System (Institute Funded)*
- Collection of data of Agricultural Field Experiments form.
 - Different Research Stations/Argil. Universities/ ICAR Institutes in the country.
 - To develop various software for creation, validation and updation of database and for retrieval of information.
 - To maintain the database and update it at regular intervals.
36. *Institutionalization of Research Priority Setting, Monitoring and Evaluation and Networking of Social Scientists. NATP (Cost Rs. 276.13 lakhs)*
- Development of monitoring mechanism.
 - Development of monitoring indicators at different operative levels.
 - Development of Project Information and Management System (PIMS) and linking it with Internet.
 - Training and workshops on monitoring and PIMS Establishing network of agricultural statisticians and economists.
37. *Integrated National Agricultural Resources Information System (NARIS)*
- NATP (Cost Rs. 335.44 lakhs)**
- To integrate existing databases of crops, plant genetic resources, horticultural and plantations crops, spices, animal genetic resources, fish genetic resources, socio-economic resources, agro-forestry system, water resources, agricultural farm mechanization etc.
 - To develop and develop comprehensive data base on the above agricultural resources.
 - To develop resource maps based on various databases through GIS.
 - To develop warehouse of the above databases.
38. *Expert System of Extension NATP (Cost Rs. 3.51 lakhs)*
- To categorize agriculture in sub-areas and collect relevant information of these areas to feed into database (At IARI)
 - To make decision rules to process the information (At IARI)
 - To design & develop the web based expert system in extension (At IASRI)
 - To provide required information to the farmers and extension workers to take decisions before starting the agricultural enterprise (At IARI)

39. *National Information System on Agricultural Education on Internet (NISAGENET) (CAS)*

- Development of a computerized information system related to National Agricultural Education in India with a data bank containing data collected from all the SAUs and Deemed Universities of ICAR.
- Specification for how best the data collected from primary and secondary sources be stored in the database.
- Development of suitable modules for updation, modification and expansion in the database structure.
- Development of application programs for different Report and Queries to meet users requirements.

40. *Short Term Training Programms in Information Technology (Cost Rs. 40.00 lakhs) Revolving Fund Scheme.*

- To train manpower in the field of information Technology.
- To expose the scientist of NARS to latest Developments in Information Technology.

41. *Development of Statistical Package for Agricultural Research (Windows Version)-SPAR 2.0 Institute Funded*

- To design and develop the windows version of the SPAR1.
- Development of few additional modules which are not available in the SPAR1.

42. *Development of Expert System on Wheat Crop Management (EXOWHEM) Institute Funded.*

- To collect and compile the information from the experts for Wheat Crop Management.
- To develop the knowledge base for the Expert System.
- To develop inference engine for the expert system.
- To develop and implement expert system on Wheat Crop Management.

43. *Statistical Evaluation of Agricultural Field Experiments conducted in Maharashtra State Institute Funded*

- To prepare indices for evaluation of different types of agricultural field experiments.

- To suggest corrective measures for increasing the precision of the experimentation of the basis of indices.

44. *Statistical Package for Animal Breeding Data 2 (SPAB 2) Institute Funded*

- The immediate objective or Phase 1 of the project will be to develop Window based Version of SPABD using a Programming Language, which should make the software platform independent.

The following projects are completed during the past three years. The details alongwith methodology developed, practical utility and paper published are given below:

1. A study for estimation of area and production of important vegetable crops on the basis of partial harvest.

- Developing a suitable theoretical frame work for sampling from two dimensional populations spread over space and time with particular reference to vegetable crops
- To apply and test the theory on secondary data collected under earlier vegetable surveys at IASRI in order to develop suitable methodology for estimating the production of vegetable crops.
- To estimate the total production of important vegetable crops and their yield rates on the basis of partial harvest.

Methodology Developed:

Vegetables are short duration crops with multiple pickings. In a selected field (space unit) the pickings are spread over time dimension. In a way the data forms a two-dimensional populations spread over space and time. Fields form the space units and pickings at different points of time form the time units. One way is to completely observe all the pickings thereby reducing the two-dimensional population to usual one dimensional population for which conventional theory of sampling is applicable. But this alternative is not convenient as it restricts the movement of the investigators since they have to observe all the pickings for selected fields and thus it is cost prohibitive method. Therefore method based on partial harvest data, taking sampling on both the dimensions seems to be useful and cost effective for getting the estimates of production of vegetables. Keeping these things in view the present study was planned.

The study was carried out in two phases. In the first phase, the problem was tackled as sampling from two

dimensional populations where, in one dimension selection of sampling units were considered while in the other dimension sampling was spread over time in which the selected units were observed. An approach for a variety of sampling designs associated with sampling over time was developed using the varying probability sampling methods. For estimating the variance of Y (HT) Horvitz-Thompson estimator of population total (Y), we considered the case of r_1r_1 (aligned random sampling in both the dimensions) as an approximation to the case of r_1s_1 (aligned random sampling along the space dimension while systematic sampling along time dimension) due to non-feasibility of unbiased estimation for systematic sampling situation. This method was tested on secondary data in which different duration of time intervals on which the data was to be collected and also the periodicity for the systematic sampling interval were tackled. It was found that a span of 7 days in the gap of 14 days was a suitable plan for observing partial harvest data for different vegetable crops. In the second phase, a survey was conducted in rural areas of Delhi during 1995-96 through which the methodology developed for estimation of vegetable production based on partial harvest data has been demonstrated.

Practical Utility

Vegetables are short duration crops with multiple pickings. Estimation of extent of cultivation and production of vegetables poses several methodological problems. Realising the need a series of pilot surveys were conducted by the Institute and the methodology for estimation of area and production at district level has been developed. However, this methodology is based on observing all enumerators as pickings are to be attended in the selected plots as and when it takes places. Keeping this in view some studies were conducted on the basis of secondary data to examine the feasibility of estimating the production of vegetable crops based on partial harvest data. This study has shown the feasibility of utilising partial harvest data in developing the estimates of production. However, the study was limited to identifying pickings/intervals which contributed substantially to the total production and have got highest correlation with the overall yield of the field. The technique of double sampling was used to improve the estimates. The earlier method involves considerable time and more expenditure and also it is difficult to observe all the pickings. Therefore a method based on observing few pickings will be very useful and which involves less time and less expenditure. This methodology will be very useful for estimating the production of crops/commodities with multiple observation over time.

Papers/Reports published/communicated

1. A Study for estimation of Area and Production of important vegetable crops based on partial harvests, an IASRI report 2000 (published).
2. Estimation of production of vegetable crops based on partial harvest data (submitted for publication-Haryana Economic Journal Karnal).
3. Pilot sample survey to develop a sampling methodology for estimation of poultry meat production.
 - To estimate the poultry meat production through organised farms.
 - To estimate the poultry meat production through existing integrated sample surveys for estimation of livestock products and.
 - To develop a suitable sampling technique for estimating the poultry meat production integrating the result obtained under (i) and (ii).

Methodology Developed:

A statistical sampling methodology have been developed by which poultry meat production through poultry farms and back yard of Households in village in any area at village/block/district and state level can be estimating at my point of the year with a research degree of precision.

Practical Utility:

The sampling methodology developed is useful for estimating of poultry meat production in any area at village block/district or state level. The main advantage is that this can fit into the integrated sample survey for the estimator of production of major livestock products like milk, egg, meat and wool etc.

Paper Published:

Nil

3. Estimation of flow and change in dynamic populations (Institute Funded)
 - To estimate the structural changes in the population due to cross-movements of units in various classes between two occasions under general development phenomenon.
 - To estimate the structural changes in the population due to various casual factors.

- To estimate the parameter for characteristic of interest in respect of a stationary population and structural changes occurring in that population and.
- To estimate the changes in the parameter for the characteristic on account of the structural changes occurring in the population due to cross-movements of units in various classes between two occasions.

Statistical methodology developed:

The change and the consequent multi-dimensional flow of an event occurring in any subject field are characteristics of a natural dynamic phenomenon. As such there is no natural static phenomenon in general because every phenomenon is subjected to dynamic characteristics over time. The estimation of flow occurring in an accessible subject field/population as a result of multifarious development' persistence subject to both natural process and generated devices/programs in operation/execution is often felt needful in the impact/evaluation studies such as poverty alleviation programs, etc. There is renewed interest world over on studies on poverty. This interest has arisen from the growing realization in developing as well as developed countries that fruits of rapid economic growth, through various developmental programs have not reached the poor to the extent possible. Core cause of its improper distribution seems to be the basis for the absence of proper need based classification of the population. Keeping this in view the present investigation was carried out wherein the estimators for compositional changes leading to the flow of dynamic population units due to cross movements thereof in two classes over the two occasions and the estimators for a population characteristic were developed under general developmental phenomenon and various casual factors by adopting the Projective Geometry and Transition Probability Matrix approach.

Practical Utility:

The study would be useful in a variety of ways for example, in considering the probabilities of certain types of mating in genetics, in studying the yearly mobility of labour force and in the fields of agriculture and planning from the view point of knowing the socio-economic status of various classes of the farming community. Broadly the findings can be used for spatially and temporally reorganizing the available/generated manpower/resources in various sectors identified for the development.

Papers Published:

Singh, Jagbir and Ramesan, P.M. (2000). Inter classificatory Cross Movements in a dynamic population,

Souvenir, International Conference on Teaching and Research in Statistics for the 21st century jointly organized by University of Akron (USA), ISI and University of Delhi at the North Campus of University of Delhi pp.30 (Also presented).

4. Sampling procedures for selection of representative samples of fertilizer from ships (AP Cess Funded)

- To develop sampling methodology for selection of representative samples of fertilizer from ships for the purpose of quality check.

Methodology Developed

This study was undertaken in pursuance of decision taken by the expert committee on specification of imported fertilizer. Appropriate methodology has been developed for the purpose of quality check of fertilizers imported by the Govt. of India for drawl or representative samples of fertilizer from ship arriving at major as well as minor ports.

Paper Published:-

Practical Utility

An objective procedure has been developed for drawl of representative samples of fertilizer from ship for the purpose of quality check.

5. Use of remote sensing technology in crop yield estimation surveys.

- To test the methodology of stratification based on satellite data in the form of vegetation indices in crop yield estimation surveys.
- To obtain improved estimator of crop yield from crop yield estimation surveys using post stratification based on satellite spectral data.

Methodology developed.

The results of the project have shown that when the remote sensing satellite data is used in the general crop estimation surveys (GCES) based on crop cutting experiments, the estimator of crop yield estimator is considerably more efficient compared to the usual estimator. These results suggest that the number of crop cutting experiments in GCES can be reduced by about one third without affecting the present precision for crop yield estimation at district level. This could alternatively be used for small area estimation of crop yield at block

level. Two small area estimators namely (i) The Direct Estimator and (ii) The Synthetic Estimator have been developed and the standard error of most of the estimators at block level is less than 7-8 per cent. Also crop yield forecast model has been developed using the yield data from GCES, satellite data in the form of vegetation indices and the farmer's eye estimates of yield.

Practical Utility

The results of these studies provide an integrated approach for crop yield estimation at district level and small area estimation of crop yield at block level by combining the application of remote sensing satellite data in the existing GCES. Also reliable crop yield forecasting model using satellite data and farmer's eye estimates can be developed which can provide reliable forecast of crop yield about 6-8 weeks before actual harvest.

Papers published

1. "Small area estimation of crop yield using remote sensing satellite data". (with Semwal et al) International Journal of Remote Sensing, 2002 Vol. 23, No. 1, 49-56.

2. Land use statistics and extent of floods during 1997-98 for District Rohtak, Haryana, using remote sensing satellite data. NNRMS bulletin, NNRMS (B) 26 June 2001, NNRMS Department of Space, Govt. of India, 81-85.

Papers Submitted for Publication:

Randhir Singh (2002) "Use of satellite data and farmers eye estimate of yield for crop yield forecasting" submitted for publication to the JISAS.

6. Use of discriminate function of weather parameters for developing forecast model of rice crop.

- To categorise the year into three groups on the basis of weather parameters.
- To develop yield forecast model using the discriminant score of weather parameters and the input variables, and
- To examine the validity of forecast model.

Methodology Developed:

The technique consists of development of weather score through discriminant analysis and development of forecast model for rice yield using discriminate score of weather variables alongwith inputs and trend. The model was developed for rice in Raipur district.

Practical Utility:

The technique is useful in classifying the crop year into congenial, normal and adverse year with respect to crop yield. The model developed can forecast crop yield two months before the harvest.

Paper Published: Nil

7. Pilot study for developing Bayesian probability forecast model based on farmer's appraisal data on wheat crop.

- To develop the bayesian probability model for forecasting the wheat crop yield.
- To enlist the factors affecting the crop yield based on farmers' appraisal.

Methodology Developed.

Bayesian approach of obtaining yield forecast involves the collection of expert opinion data from farmers who are actually engaged in raising the crop regarding their assessments about the likely crop production. The past survey data of actual yield and farmer's forecast in the previous years and current year are taken into account while making the Bayesian forecast for wheat crop for the current year.

Practical Utility:

The study provides an alternative method for forecasting crop yield based upon the expertise of the farmers attained due to their engagement in raising the crop.

Paper published: Nil.

8. Development of forewarning system for aphids, *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer) on Potato.

- Development of forewarning techniques to identify aphid free and low period and area for seed production.

Methodology Developed:

- (i) Non-linear models are developed. Aphid population in different weeks are taken as dependent variable and lagged weather variables are taken as independent variables.
- (ii) Complex polynomials using Group method of data handling technique.

Practical Utility:

Developed methodologies are capable of giving predicted aphid population two weeks in advance. Thus appropriate protection measures can be taken. Thus the present methodologies will reduce the load of pesticide.

Paper published: Nil.

9. Development of early warning and yield assessment models for rainfed crops based on agrometeorological indices.

- To prepare agrometeorological indices for early warning and yield assessment of rainfed crops.
- To develop models using agreement indices for early warning and yield assessment.
- To validate the models and provide early yield assessment.

Methodology Developed:

Since water/moisture availability is the limiting factor affecting the crop growth and ultimately yield of rainfed crops, water balanced technique was used to develop crop yield assessment model. Improvement in the technique was made by assigning weights to the stress/surplus depending upon the stage at which it occurs while preparing the stress index. crops covered were sorghum, maize and rice for selected districts. Models were validated with recent years' data.

Practical Utility:

The models so developed can be used for monitoring crop growth and forewarning (if any) at any stage of the crop cycle in addition to pre-harvest crop yield assessment. Similar models can be developed for other crops, districts, zones, etc.

Paper published: Nil.

10. Forecasting fish production from ponds.

- To develop appropriate methodology for forecasting fish production from pond.

Methodology Developed:

- (i) Linear multiple regression models are developed taking fish weight at harvest as dependent variable and fish weight at seventh month, dissolved oxygen, free carbon-di-oxide, pH value and water temperature as independent variables.

- (ii) Non-linear statistical models taking monthly fish weights.

Practical Utility:

Methodology developed helps in reliable and timely forecasts of fish production which is important for planners and policy makers. Such an advance information is useful in formulating import and export policies are for exercising several administrative measures for storage and marketing of fish production.

Paper published: Nil.

11. Studies on growth pattern and heritability of fitness traits in Indian breed of goats.

- To compare different methods of estimation of heritability of fitness traits.
- To compare the adequacy of different non-linear models utilized for studying growth pattern.

Methodology Developed:

The heritability estimates of female and male animals for each genetic group are obtained for stayability at one month, three months, six month, nine month, twelve month and type of birth by half-sib analysis and by heterogeneity chi-square method. The results of the study has shown that heritability estimates obtained from heterogeneity chi-square may be taken as more appropriate this method should be used for estimation of heritability of threshold trait as compared to half-sib method.

The data for body weight from birth to twelve month of age was adjusted for different non-genetic effects and adjusted monthly data was used to fit different non-linear growth curves. These were tried for each genetic group for each sex separately. On comparing the performance of those curves it was formed that monocular gave the best fit which is closely followed by Gompertz curve. Since, the monocular curve has the drawback that it does not provide the point of inflexion, it was recommended to use the Gompertz curve to obtain the optimum age and maximum growth rate at point of inflammation for different genetic groups of goats.

Practical Utility:

The knowledge of heritability of fitness traits such as stayability at different stages of age of animals, type of birth etc. would be useful for breeders for preparing suitable selection plans for improvement of goats.

The development of suitable growth models that describe the growth pattern of herd can be used to apply selection pressures at discrete point to alter the growth curve pattern to move advantageous types. These curves are useful as they relate age of the animal to its body weight through biological related parameters such as growth ratio. It also provided the optimum age at which the farm animals of different breeds and crosses can be disposed of economically and maximize the profits of the farmers.

Research Paper Published:

Lal Chand, S.D. Wahi & V.K. Bhatia (2001) "Inheritance of fitness traits in goats" *Jour. of Res. (BAU)*, 13 (2).

S.D. Wahi, Lal Chand & V.K. Bhatia "Study on growth pattern in crosses and pure Indian Breeds of goats: communicated to *Ind. J. Animal Sci. (ICAR)*.

Lal Chand, S.D. Wahi & V.K. Bhatia (2002) "Studies on growth pattern and heritability of fitness traits in Indian breeds of goats" Project Report IASRI, New Delhi.

12. A statistical investigation on the long term effect of fertilizers on productivity of cereal crop sequences (Institute Funded) Year 2001.

- To estimate the overall fertilizer treatment effects for each crop sequences.
- To study the effect of long term fertilizer use on the yield of different crops.
- To develop methodology for (a) determining optimal fertilization practice for each of the crop sequences and estimation of average annual net returns for the crop sequences.
- To develop yield prediction models for crops prediction models for crops included in different sequences.

Statistical methodology developed

The regression analysis was modified to accommodate the situation of repeated observations on explanatory variables. An unbiased estimator of mean returns per hectare per annum over the fertilizer cost at constant prices for a treatment was proposed under a specific error structure and its variance expression was obtained. Moreover, a unbiased estimator of the variance of the average returns was also worked out. Besides, a linear unbiased predictor was proposed for the situation with repeated observations on the explanatory variables

when (a) errors are identically independently distributed, and (b) the errors follow AR (1). The methodology was applied to analyze the data of experiments conducted at four centers of the All India Coordinated Research Project on Cropping Systems, PDCSR.

Practical Utility

The methodology developed will be useful for analyzing the data from long-term trails conducted by ICAR or SAUs in particular and agricultural scientists in general.

Papers published/accepted for publication/communicated

V.K. Sharma, Rajinder Kaur and A. Sharma. A statistical investigation on integrated nutrient supply system in a long-term experiment on rice-wheat cropping sequence, *J. Farming, Systems Research and Development*. Accepted for publication.

V.K. Sharma and Rajinder Kaur. Analysis of a long-term experiment on rice based cropping systems, *Indian J. Agril. Sci.* Under referring.

13. Design for fitting response surfaces in Agricultural Experiments. AP Cess Funded (Cost: Rs. 4.99 Lakhs) Year 2001.

- To obtain response surface designs for response optimization and slope estimation when factors are with equispaced levels and/or have unequal dose ranges for both symmetrical as well as asymmetrical factorials.
- To obtain response surface designs for qualitative-cum-quantitative factors.
- To study the robustness aspects of response surface designs against non-availability of data on some point(s)
- to prepare a catalogue of response surface designs suitable for agricultural experiments.
- to develop a computer software for the analysis of the designs obtained and catalogued and to illustrate empirically.

Statistical methodology developed

Response surface designs both for response optimization and slope estimation for factors with equispaced levels and/or have unequal dose ranges both for symmetrical and asymmetrical factorials have been

obtained and catalogued. Robustness of response surface designs against single missing observation has been studied and the designs obtained therein have been reported. A computer programme to carry out the analysis of response surface designs has been developed.

Practical Utility

The designs obtained are useful to the research workers in agricultural, horticultural and allied sciences. Some of the designs developed have been used in NARS.

Papers published/accepted for publication/communicated

M.N. Das, Rajender Prasad and V.P. Manocha (1999). Response surface designs, symmetrical and asymmetrical, rotatable and modified. *Statistics and Applications*, 1 (1), 17-34.

Abhijit Kar, Pitam Chandra and Rajender Prasad (2001). Osmotic dehydration of banana (Dwarf Cavendish) slices. *Journal of Agricultural Engineering*, 38 (3), 9-17.

14. Design and analysis of agro-forestry experiments (Institute Funded) Year 2002

- To evolve and document general methodologies for the statistical analysis of data already generated through agroforestry experiments.
- To obtain appropriate designs along with the layout plans and methodology for the analysis of the experiments under agroforestry system to be suggested to the collaborative centre (s).
- To study the relationship among the various components (trees and crops) in agroforestry system.

Statistical methodology developed

The designs and analytical techniques useful for agro-forestry experiments have been described. These techniques have been applied to analyze the data from the experiments conducted at IGFRRI, Jhansi.

Practical utility

The designs identified and statistical methodology developed for analyzing the data from agro-forestry experiments will provide meaningful inferences to research workers and practicing statisticians conducting such experiments involving several factors.

Papers published/accepted for publication/communicated

Seema Jaggi, V.K. Gupta and V.K. Sharma (2001). Design and analysis of agro-forestry experiments:

An overview. *Jour. Ind. Soc. of Agroforestry*, 3 (2), 120-129.

D.P. Handa, Seema Jaggi, A.S. Gill and N.P. Singh (2001), *Impact of fruit trees on the yield of wheat crop* *Ind. Jour. of Forestry. Under referring.*

D.P. Handa, Seema Jaggi and A.S. Gill (2002). Path analysis technique to assess the relationship of wheat yield with its components under agroforestry system. *Ind. Jour. of Forestry. Under referring.*

D.P. Handa, Seema Jaggi, A.S. Gill and N.P. Singh (2002). A correlation and path coefficient analysis of wheat components under multipurpose tree species. *Ind. Jour. of Forestry. Under referring.*

15. Fertilizer response ratios for different crops in India (Ministry of Agriculture) (Cost Rs. 5.626 lakhs) year 2001.

- To devise suitable statistical procedures for obtaining the response ratios for various crops in different regions of the country.
- To obtain the response ratios for different regions based on farmers' field trials.

Statistical methodology developed

The study was undertaken with the objective to devise suitable statistical procedure for obtaining the fertilizer response ratios for various crops in different regions of the country. The methodology was used to obtain response ratios for major cereals, pulses, oil seeds and cotton crop using farmers' field trials data at the agro-climatic regions of the country as identified by the Planning Commission and at the State level.

Practical Utility

The study was conducted at the request of Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India and is useful for assessing fertilizer requirement of the country. The project report entitled Fertilizer response ratios for different crops in India was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture.

16. Study of demand for agricultural products and its implication for food security in India (Institute Funded)

Statistical Methodology: The study is based on Secondary data published from various sources. The data from consumers expenditure surveys of National Sample Survey Organization have also been utilized. The relation between consumption changes with income has been depicted using Engel's Curve. Income elasticities of demand for various food items in different States of India has been worked out.

Paper Published: Nil

Practical Utility: The finding of the project are useful in planning foodgrains production and distribution. The results will also be useful for researchers and policy makers.

(D) The efforts made to improved the efficiency of the Institute.

The progress of the programmes and projects are being monitored regularly and periodically.

Funds for A.P. Livestock Development Agency

3670. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request of Rs. 1236.18 lakhs for Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency under the Buffalo Breeding Programmes for 2002-2003 is pending with the Union Government;

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

(c) the present status of the request and by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. A sum of Rs. 934.57 lakh has been provided to the Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency during 2002-2003 for implementation of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

Revival of Malvika Steel in Jagdishpur

3671. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take over the management of Malvika Steel in Jagdishpur, Uttar Pradesh in view of their failure to clear the loan liability of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI);

(b) whether IFCI have approached the Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) and Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for taking over the company and its revival;

(c) if so, whether TISCO and SAIL have agreed to take over the Malivika Steel and on what conditions;

(d) whether IFCI propose to provide further loan facilities to TISCO and SAIL for the revival of Malvika Steel;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by IFCI to recover the outstanding amount due to Malvika Steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Government do not propose to take over the management of Malvika Steel Ltd. (MSL).

(b) to (e) As part of the efforts for revival of MSL, Financial Institutions (FIs)/Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) held informal discussions with Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) and Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). However, they have not evinced interest. As such there is no proposal with IFCI to provide further loan facilities to TISCO and SAIL for the revival of MSL.

(f) In order to recover its dues, IFCI has already recalled its loans, invoked corporate and personal guarantees and has filed a recovery suit in Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT), Delhi on 15th July, 2002. The DRT has since appointed a Receiver and has passed orders for interim sale of assets of MSL on 3rd October, 2002. Besides, IFCI is also making efforts to identify a party interested in providing necessary support for revival of MSL.

Agricultural Assistance by IFAD

3672. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance provided to India for agricultural development during 2001-2002 and 2003 by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), an institution of United Nations Organisation;

(b) the States to whom this assistance has been provided, alongwith the quantum of amount provided;

(c) the details of work accomplished in these States for the Development of agricultural industries by the said assistance; and

(d) the details regarding the fixed targets and achievements of progress made in the agricultural industry by means of such assistance, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Department of Economic Affairs is the nodal department for IFAS-assisted-Projects. As intimated by that Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) provides assistance to poverty

alleviation and livelihood improvement projects. These projects have several components, such as capacity building and empowerment of communities, agriculture, horticulture, livestock and livelihood development as well as provisions for strengthening delivery systems, training, etc. Agricultural development, being one of the several components of the IFAD projects and given the flexible nature of IFAD funding, it is difficult to pinpoint the exact outlay for this component. However, among the livelihood activities taken up in most IFAD assisted projects, agricultural development form a major component. Details of the IFAD assistance utilized in 2001-2002 are given in the statement enclosed. This information for 2003 is not available with the Department of Economic Affairs.

(c) and (d) Nil.

Statement

Agricultural Assistance by IFAD

Project	State	Amount (Rs. Thousand)
AP Participatory Tribal Development Project	Andhra Pradesh	219427.10
Rural Women Development & Empowerment Project	Bihar, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal	98145.17
North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project	Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur	21719.64
Mewat Area Development Project	Haryana	61317.81
Maharashtra Rural Credit Project	Maharashtra	191429.63
Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme	Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh	47190.00

[Translation]

Development of Airports

3673. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI ADHI SANKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airports in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat where developmental work was carried out since 2000 till date;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of them during the said period;

(c) the names of airports in the States proposed to be developed during 2003-04 alongwith the details of the plan formulated and the amount to be spent thereon;

(d) the names of airports in the States where direct foreign air services are proposed to be introduced; and

(e) the names of airports from where flights were undertaken directly to Mecca and Medina and the names

of airports where from direct flights to Mecca and Medina are proposed to be introduced during 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The airports developed since 2000 are Ahmedabad, Porbandar, Bhavnagar, Bhuj, Vadodara and Jamnagar in GUJARAT and Chennai in TAMIL NADU.

(b) The expenditure incurred on development of above airports are as follows: Rs. 49.23 crore at Ahmedabad, Rs. 2.06 crore at Porbandar, Rs. 3.60 crore at Bhavnagar, Rs. 13.27 crore at Bhuj, Rs. 4.37 crore at Vadodara, Rs. 0.97 crore at Jamnagar and Rs. 194.33 crore at Chennai.

(c) The airports propose to be developed during 2003-04 alongwith the formulated plans and the amount proposed to be spent are as follows: GUJARAT- Construction of new Domestic Departure Building, Control Tower-cum-Technical Block & Link Taxi-Track at 05 end of Apron and extension of International Terminal Building for Rs. 4.65 crore at Ahmedabad, Resurfacing of Runway and other associated works & construction of new Terminal Building for Rs. 4.00 crore at Porbandar, Resurfacing of Runway for Rs. 4.00 crore at Bhavnagar, Resurfacing of Runway and Isolation Bay for Rs. 0.11 crore at development wok for Rs. 30.87 crore at Chennai, Construction of new Terminal Building, strengthening & extension of Runway and associated works for Rs. 0.20 crore at Coimbatore, Construction of Fire Station, Peripheral Road & new Terminal Building, strengthening and extension of Runway and associated works for Rs. 1.70 crore at Madurai, Construction of new Terminal Building, strengthening and extension of Runway and associated works for Rs. 0.20 crore at Trichy.

(d) Direct foreign air services are proposed to be introduced from Trichy in Tamil Nadu and Ahmedabad in Gujarat.

(e) During Haj 2003, flights were operated from Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Ahmdabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Calicut, Kolkata, Lucknow, Srinagar, Nagpur and Gaya airports. The proposal for flights is worked out in coordination with the centralized committee and airlines prior to movement for Haj every year. Flights for Haj 2004 is likely to be decided accordingly.

Permission for Private Planes

3674. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted certain State Governments, Union Territories, Departments under the Union Government, Private companies and individuals to purchase aircrafts and helicopters;

(b) if so, the details regarding seating capacity, make alongwith the manufacturing company, the country and the price in each case; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The requisite details are given in the enclosed statement for the year 2002.

Statement

Permission given for purchase/import of private planes in 2002

S.No.	Owner	Case forwarded to DGFT on	Type	Seating capacity	Manufacturing Co.	Country of Make	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Raymond Ltd.	18.4.2002	R44 helicopter	4	Robinson	USA	US\$ 232,000
2.	K.P. Hindu Inter College	22.4.2002	Cessna 206A/c	6	Cessna	USA	US\$ 366,900
3.	Grasim India Ltd.	26.12.2002	Gulf Stream 100 A/c	8	Gulf Stream	USA	US\$ 11.89 million
4.	Reliance Ind. Ltd.	27.12.2002	BD700 IA10 A/c	16	Bombardier	Canada	US# 40 million
5.	Ravi Mahubani	01.01.2003	L-33 Solo Glider	1	Letecke Zavody	Czech	US\$ 25,700

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	HY Grade Patters Ltd.	31.1.2003	Falcon 900B A/c	15	Falcon	France	US\$ 21.5 million
7.	TVS Motor Co.	18.11.2002	B200A/c	6	Beechcraft	USA	US\$ 2,690,000
8.	Essar Investment Ltd.	22.5.2002	B200 A/c	7	Beechcraft	USA	US\$ 2,950,000
9.	U.P. Govt. Lucknow	23.1.2003	King Air-B-200 A/c	7	Beechcraft	USA	US\$ 5,829,723

Out of the above companies, only M/s Grasim Industries have imported an aircraft bearing registration Sl. No. VT-BAV, Gulf Stream 100 as on date.

[English]

Fire Brigade Vehicles for Airports

3675. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) propose to acquire or have already acquired/purchased Fire Brigade vehicles (TARTARA) for all the airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether global tenders have been/were invited in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies/corporations from which the tenders have been received and prices quoted by them;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the AAI has arranged for training its fire personnel on these vehicles before going in for mass purchase;

(g) if so, the details of training given, period of training, cost of training and countries where this training was given; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) had invited global tenders for procurement of 43 Airfield Crash Fire

Tenders (ACFTs) in June-July 2000. Tenders were received from following 11 firms; WAWRZASZEK, Poland; SOMATI EQUIPMENT NV, Belgium; VOLVO TRUCK CORP, USA; SIDES, France; IVEKO MAGIRUS, Germany; ROSENBAUER INTERNATIONAL, Austria; CARMICHAEL INTERNATIONAL, UK; TOVARNA HASICI TECHNIKY, Czech Republic; REYNOLDS BOUGHTON, England & SITECO LTD, Korea. Finally commercial bid of 4 firms namely SIDES, France, IVECO MAGIRUS, Germany, ROSENBAUER INTERNATIONAL, Austria & TOVARNA HASICI Techniky, Czech Republic were opened. Their quoted price were 18032524.87, 16992724.29, 19328379.27 & 16764929.08 INR per landed unit respectively. AAI placed orders on the lowest tenderer Tovarna Hasici Techniky, Czech Republic on June 21, 2001. First lot of 13 ACFTs have been received during January 2003. Second lot of 12 and balance lot of 18 ACFTs are expected to be delivered in June and September-October 2003.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Operation training to the fire personnel is imparted at the time of induction of crash tenders. For the first lot of 13 ACFTs the operation training was arranged through the supplier at Delhi in February 2003.

[Translation]

Setting up of National Milk Grid

3676. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a national milk grid;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the milk producers face difficulties in marketing their milk and do not get even remunerative prices;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to ensure marketing facility and remunerative prices of milk to the milk producers; and

(e) the quality of milk taken from Bihar to Kolkata, Delhi and other neighbouring States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up a National Milk Grid. However, milk flow takes place from surplus area to deficit area through infrastructure set up under cooperative and private sector.

(c) and (d) Milk producers who are members of cooperatives do not generally face difficulties in marketing their milk and getting remunerative prices. There are around 1,00,000 numbers of dairy cooperatives at the village level which are linked to about 177 milk plants spread all over the country for processing and marketing of milk and milk products. This ensures regular and remunerative market for member milk producers of the dairy cooperatives. However, there are some difficulties some times in flush season.

(e) The quality of milk from Bihar to Kolkata, Delhi and other neighbouring States supplied by the cooperatives is generally as per the standards laid down by the receiving processing plant.

[*English*]

Development of Tourism

3677. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the details of assistance provided to the State Governments for development of tourism during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the extent to which it is higher than that of Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the proposed outlay for Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) the number of spots developed by the Government during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(e) the number of proposals sent by the State Governments to the Union Government for assistance during the current financial year; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government do clear the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations sanctioned 1563 projects involving an amount of Rs. 372.43 crores while it was Rs. 157.96 crores for 963 projects during Eighth Five Year Plan. The Planning Commission has indicated a Plan Outlay of Rs. 2900.00 crores for the 10th Five Year Plan.

(e) and (f) Based on the proposals received and consultation held with the State Governments/UT Administrations, 212 projects involving an amount of Rs. 111 crores have been sanctioned during the year 2002-03 for development and promotion of tourism in the country.

[*Translation*]

Growth Rate in Agriculture Sector

3678. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had decided to achieve more than 4 per cent growth rate in the agriculture sector every year in the National Agriculture Policy announced in July, 2000; and

(b) if so, the area of land reclaimed and the per year growth in the agriculture production registered since July, 2000 till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) The National Agriculture Policy announced in July, 2000 envisages achievement of over 4 per cent growth in the agricultural sector.

(b) Reclamation of land for cultivation gets reflected in the increase in the area of cultivated land consisting of net sown area and current fallow land. According to the latest Land Use Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture at the national level, the cultivated area has

increased from 129 million hectares in 1950-51 to 156 million hectares in 1999-2000. However, there was no increase in cultivated area in the 1990's. Therefore, due to the limitation on the further expansion of land for cultivation, agricultural growth depends mainly on measures aimed at raising the productivity of land.

The State-wise growth in agricultural production measured in terms of contribution of agriculture to State Domestic Product at 1993-94 prices for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Growth rate of Contribution of Agriculture to State Domestic Product at 1993-94 prices

State	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	(-) 7.0	13.6
Arunachal Pradesh	6.6	8.8
Assam	(-) 0.1	(-) 2.5
Bihar	(-) 7.6	0.9
Jharkhand	2.7	N.A.
Goa	12.5	(-) 10.7
Gujarat	(-) 31.5	(-) 13.8
Haryana	5.0	1.5
Himachal Pradesh	(-) 7.7	12.9
Jammu & Kashmir	4.9	(-) 0.9
Karnataka	15.0	2.5
Kerala	1.7	1.8
Madhya Pradesh	6.8	(-) 32.4
Chhattisgarh	(-) 6.4	N.A.
Maharashtra	1.8	(-) 13.5
Manipur	0.4	3.8
Meghalaya	15.8	(-) 4.8
Mizoram	N.A.	N.A.
Nagaland	13.7	N.A.
Orissa	(-) 8.8	(-) 6.8
Punjab	7.0	2.0

1	2	3
Rajasthan	(-) 13.1	(-) 9.7
Sikkim	18.4	N.A.
Tamilnadu	(-) 5.1	2.3
Tripura	3.4	2.9
Uttar Pradesh	9.1	(-) 1.9
Uttaranchal	N.A.	N.A.
West Bengal	1.6	(-) 2.2

N.A.: Not Available

Source: Central Statistical Organisation.

[English]

Sale of Centaur Hotel

3679. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centaur Hotel was acquired by Batra Hospitalities for Rs. 83 crores but was resold for around Rs. 115 crores to the Sahara Group in October 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to enquire into the matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Centaur Hotel, Mumbai Airport was sold to M/s. Batra Hospitality Private Limited (BHPL) on a consideration amount of Rs. 83/-crores. The entire shareholding of M/s BHPL was sold by the Batra Group to Sahara India Group at a consideration of Rs. 115 crores. The matter was referred to the learned Attorney General of India through Law Ministry for his opinion. Learned Attorney General has opined that no violation of the agreement has taken place. In view of this, Government has not instituted any enquiry in to this matter.

Irrigation Projects of Orissa

3680. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether target dates were fixed for completion of irrigation projects in Orissa during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names and the number of projects;

(c) whether any of these projects have been completed as per schedule;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (e) The details of ongoing major/medium irrigation projects of Orissa identified by the Ministry of Water Resources for completion during IX plan are given in the statement enclosed. The main reasons for delay in completion of these irrigation projects are paucity of funds and delay in land acquisition.

Statement

Ongoing Major and Medium Projects of Orissa identified by Ministry of Water Resources for completion during IX Plan

(Amount Rs. in crore)/(Potential in Th.Ha.)

Sl. No.	Project Name	Started in Plan	Estimated Cost		Cumulative Expenditure upto end of IX Plan Amount	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto IX Plan	Completion Date	District Benefited
			Original	Latest					
Major Projects									
1.	Potteru	IV	14.81	162.86	174.37	109.88	102.62	*	Malkangiri
2.	Upper Kolab	V	24.05	492.32	298.24	88.76	84.44	2003	Koraput
Medium Project									
1.	Baghua St. I	AP 78-80	0.83	91.75	1.35	4.05	—	*	Ganjam
2.	Badnala	VII	15.36	105.88	121.10	13.74	11.00	*	Koraput
3.	Birupa Genguti Island Irrigation	VII	4.03	11.46	12.99	6.92	4.09	*	Cuttak
4.	Sapuabadajore	VI	14.87	59.03	22.11	3.75	5.10	*	Dankanal
5.	Satiguda	VII	—	4.52	1.77	13.59	12.02	*	Malkangiri

* Projects yet to be completed.

[Translation]

Promotion of Aquaculture in Madhya Pradesh

3681. SHRI VIJAY KUAMR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval for promotion of aquaculture in fresh water in Madhya Pradesh during 2002-2003; and

(b) if so, by when the amount of the centre' share is likely to be released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Freshwater Aquaculture, a sum of Rs. 82.65 lakhs has been revalidated to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during 2002-03 which was available

with the State Government as an unspent balance of Central share.

[English]

Science City Near Rajkot

3682. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to set up a science city near Rajkot; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Formulation of Agricultural Policy

3683. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate agricultural policy with 20 per cent as budgetary support and 25 per cent of the total loans earmarked for the said sector by commercial banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also setting up an Agricultural Finance Corporation in each State;

(d) if so, the salient features of the proposed corporation; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Central Assistance to Develop Cattle Breed in Karnataka

3684. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance to Karnataka to develop cattle breed in the State;

(b) if so, the amount released so far;

(c) the details of the places where the said scheme is being implemented in the State; and

(d) the progress of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 9th Plan a sum of Rs. 525.49 lakh was provided under Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and National Bull Prediction Programme for development of cattle and Buffalo in Karnataka.

(c) The Scheme was implemented in the entire State of Karnataka.

(d) Out of Rs. 525.49 lakh a sum of Rs. 183.02 lakh was revalidated during 2002-03 which is still to be utilized. Therefore, the achievement of physical targets are also incomplete.

Inland Tourism

3685. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inland tourism has been affected due to Eco-Sensitive Zones declared by Ministry of Environment and Forests in various parts of the country;

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

(c) whether any protests have been made against Eco-Sensitive Zones to safeguard Inland tourism; and

(d) if so, the details and the steps taken to boost Inland tourism in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Union Ministry of Environment and Forests have so far issued three Notifications declaring Dahanu Taluka, Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani and Matheran all in Maharashtra as Eco-Sensitive Zones under

the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State Government of Maharashtra have informed the Central Government that no effect on Inland Tourism activity has been reported.

(c) The State Government of Maharashtra informed that there has been no protest on record from any agency.

(d) The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that a Zonal Master Plan for Eco-Sensitive Zones which includes a Tourism Master Plan as well, is under preparation for developing Inland Tourism in the notified areas.

Conservation of Monuments

3686. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any high-level advisory board or standing committee for the restoration, conservation and good maintenance of protected monuments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the committee and the State-wise representation;

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred for the conservation and maintenance of protected monuments in the country during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have invited various institutions pioneering in conservation of monuments for counselling and providing technical expertise to carry out the task of maintaining the monuments in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Government have constituted Central Advisory Board of Archaeology (CABA) which is reconstituted every four years for the purpose of close interaction of the Archaeological Survey of India with the representatives of all the State/Union Territory Govts, Indian universities and learned societies in the field of archaeological research and training in addition to two Members of Lok Sabha and one from Rajya Sabha. The CABA also forms a Standing Committee by electing five members from amongst themselves.

(c) The details are given in enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) Over the years, the Archaeological Survey of India has invited/engaged for monument-related specific scientific investigation various specialized institutions such as the Geological Survey of India, Nagpur; the Central Water Power Research Station, Pune; the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee; the Regional Engineering College, Warangal; and National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad; the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, etc.

Statement

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/Union Territory	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	136.29	114.39	417.16
2.	Assam	120.18	99.58	89.49
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	1.80	0.39
4.	Bihar	134.00	86.48	112.21
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	16.70	5.75
6.	Delhi	219.96	277.14	996.75
7.	Daman & Diu	15.00	23.61	15.69
8.	Goa	39.77	50.61	82.57

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Gujarat	100.67	99.59	35.36
10.	Haryana	60.00	91.85	141.00
11.	Himachal Pradesh	80.00	91.11	44.45
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	112.60	145.03	121.23
13.	Jharkhand	—	4.33	8.07
14.	Karnataka	248.13	476.19	1143.68
15.	Kerala	79.50	75.12	18.26
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1.64	250.51	317.31
17.	Maharashtra	153.00	828.49	308.05
18.	Manipur	0.50	1.42	0.27
19.	Meghalaya	2.00	4.94	4.44
20.	Nagaland	3.00	5.67	12.92
21.	Orissa	56.03	114.73	1021.69
22.	Pondicherry (U.T.)	15.00	3.30	1.63
23.	Punjab	23.00	57.92	40.14
24.	Rajasthan	174.69	235.00	240.22
25.	Sikkim	20.00	27.60	32.99
26.	Tamil Nadu	110.80	187.79	233.20
27.	Tripura	5.00	17.05	—
28.	Uttar Pradesh	297.11	385.13	710.64
29.	Uttaranchal	—	36.52	64.13
30.	West Bengal	80.70	146.13	260.18

Unregistered Builders

3687. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether builders across the country have not registered themselves with the authority concerned for cess collection under Building and Other Construction Worker's Welfare Cess Act, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the States where the Welfare Authority has been set up from the funds raised from cess collection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) (a) There is no provision under the Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 for registration of an employer engaged in construction work. However, under Section 7 of the Building & Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service), Act, 1996, every employer of an establishment to which this Act applies on its commencement shall get himself registered.

(b) and (c) The Building & Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996 is implemented by both the

Central/State Governments/UTs in respective spheres. The Central Government have framed rules, notified the authorities for the implementation of the Act in the establishments in Central sphere. Only State Governments of Kerala & Delhi have adopted and started implementing the Act. Government of Tamil Nadu are implementing their own similar Act. Other State Governments like Punjab, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh are in the different stages of adoption of the Act like framing of rule or constitution of Welfare Boards. The Government is regularly requesting the State Building & Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996.

Policy on GM Crop and Food

3688. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to redraft the policy on GM Crop and Food;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the GM Crop and Food policy adopted earlier was ineffective to deal with various problems faced by the Government; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The release of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) into the Environment is governed by the "Rules for manufacture, use, import, export and storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells". The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has been constituted for approval of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production as well as approval of proposals relating to release of Genetically Engineered Organisms and products in to the environment including experimental field trials. With a view to synergise various efforts and activities of the relevant Ministries/Departments and maintain effective coordination and implementation of the existing policy, an Inter-Ministerial Meeting on G.M. Crop/Food Policy was held in the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 26th February, 2003, in which it was decided to constitute a smaller working group with representatives from the relevant Ministries/Departments to address these issues.

International Airport at Bangalore

3689. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of land acquisition for constructing an international airport at Bangalore has been completed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) As per the information available from Bangalore International Airport Limited, the process of acquisition of land is completed. Government of Karnataka has taken further action for acquisition of additional land, which is required for runway re-orientation.

[Translation]

Protection of Monuments in U.P. and Delhi

3690. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an immediate need to repair/restore and develop many archaeological monuments located in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for the repair, restoration and development of the said monuments;

(c) whether the amount required for some of the monuments has already been sanctioned even though repairing/restoration works have not yet started; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) Archaeological conservation, upkeep and maintenance are an ongoing process and the Archaeological Survey of India has prepared perspective plan for comprehensive and integrated conservation and development of the monuments identified throughout the country including Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

The funds spent during the last two years in respect of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi amount to Rs. 1095 lakh and 1274 lakh respectively.

*[English]***Economy Depend on Performance of Agriculture**

3691. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether overall growth of Indian economy has depended much upon the performance of agriculture;

(b) if so, whether over the years, not much public investment has been made on its development;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to give due attention towards the investment in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The overall growth of the economy, measured in terms of GDP, depends on growth of both the agricultural and on-agricultural sector. Though the share of Agriculture Sector in GDP has fallen to 22 per cent in 2001-02, it is significant enough to affect the overall growth of the economy.

(b) to (d) The Gross Capital Formation (GCF) from public investment in agriculture in real terms during the years from 1998-99 are as under:

Public Sector GCF in Agriculture

(Rs. Crore at 1993-94 prices)

Year	GCF
1998-99	3870
1999-2000	4222
2000-01	3919
2001-02	4794

Public investment in agriculture consists mainly of expenditure on irrigation projects. As may be seen from the above table the declining trend of public investment was reversed in the year 2001-02. The investment by the public sector helps in the augmentation of irrigation and other facilities by the farmers. Consequently, the private investment in agriculture which is predominantly due to investment by the individual farmers has been on

the increase over the years. The total GCF consisting of both public and private sector investments in agriculture has therefore increased from Rs. 14,895 Crore in 1998-99 to 18057 Crore in 2001-02.

*[Translation]***Right to Clean Environment as Fundamental Right**

3692. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to include the right to clean environment in the fundamental rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Campaign Against Child Labour**

3693. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Campaign Against Child Labour has organised three-day national event in Mysore to force the issue back on the political and public agenda; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) and (b) The Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) had organized a three-day event in Mysore, which focused on generating public opinion against child labour, specially girl child labour.

Women Workers in Night Shifts

3694. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to lift the ban on women working on night shifts in factories;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure that women working in the night shifts would be provided sufficient protection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to ensuring optimal utilization of the installed capacity, promotion of export and generation of employment opportunities for women, Government had decided to ratify Protocol of 1990 to the ILO Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1948 to provide flexibility in the matter of employment of women during night and related amendment to the Factories Act, 1948.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir., The occupier of the factory shall be responsible for providing adequate safeguards as regards to occupational safety and health, equal opportunities, adequate protection to their dignity, honour and safety and their transportation from factory premises to nearest point of their residence.

Augmentation of Tourism in Eastern India

3695. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the important places of tourist attractions in Eastern India, State-wise;

(b) the number of domestic/foreign tourists visited such places during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the comprehensive packages proposed for Tenth Plan to augment tourism in such places, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Some of the important tourist attractions in Eastern India State-wise are as follows:

1. **Bihar:** Bodhgaya, Gaya, Madhubani, Nalanda, Patna, Pawapuri, Vaishali.
2. **Jharkhand:** Baidyanath, Dau (Deogarh), Parasnath, Ranchi, Rajgir.
3. **Orissa:** Bhubaneswar, Chilka Lake, Cuttack, Chandipur, Gopalpur-on-sea, Hirakud, Kanaru, Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri, Udaigiri, Puri, Sambalpur, Taptapani, Khandagiri.

4. **West Bengal:** Bakkhali, Kolkata, Darjeeling, Durgapur, Digha Beach, Kalingpong, Kurseong, Mayapuri, Murshidabad, Maldagour, Pandua, Mirik, Shantiniketan, Japardeep, Vishnupur.

(b) The details of domestic/foreign tourists visited these States during the last three years are as under:-

State	Year	Domestic	Foreign
Bihar	2000	5520589	73321
	2001	6061168	85673
	2002	2755154	164098
Jharkhand	2000	N.A.	N.A.
	2001	353177	2979
	2002	313134	2244
Orissa	2000	2888392	23723
	2001	3109976	22854
	2002	3289205	23279
West Bengal	2000	4737112	197061
	2001	4943097	284092
	2002	8503573	5313335

(c) Central financial assistance is now provided for Integrated Development of tourist circuits and Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development projects. These circuits/destinations are identified in consultation and interaction with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Stipend to Apprentice Trainees

3696. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for apprenticeship training in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of amount of stipend given to apprentice trainees diploma holders and graduate engineers;

(d) whether the Government have now made some reduction in the stipend money and thus the State Governments are not getting adequate funds for the scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps the Government have taken to increase the amount of stipend to be given to apprentice trainees for ITI trained diploma holders and graduate engineers;

(g) whether there is any proposal to make it compulsory for all ITI trained persons to get apprenticeship training; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) The Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Human Resource Development operate Apprenticeship Training Scheme (ATS) for Trade Apprentices and Graduate/Technician/Technician (Vocational) Apprentices respectively. The total funds allocated during the last three years were as follows:

(Rs. in lakh)

Funds allocated for operating ATS for	Year		
	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Trade Apprentices	361.53	360.66	368.07
Graduate/Technician/ Technician (Vocational) Apprentices	2400.00	2400.00	2350.00

No funds are however allocated by the Central Government to the State/UT Governments towards Apprenticeship Training Programme.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Rates of stipend payable to different categories of apprentices are as follows:

Rs. 820 p.m. for 1st year, Rs. 940 p.m. for 2nd year, Rs. 1090 p.m. for 3rd year and Rs. 1230 p.m. for 4th year for Trade Apprentices.

Rs. 1970 p.m. for Graduate, Rs. 1400 p.m. for Technician (Diploma Holders) & Rs. 1090 p.m. for Technician (Vocational) apprentices.

(d) No Sir, the rates of stipend have not been reduced.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The rates of stipend are revised every two years based on the Consumer Price Index.

(g) There is no proposal to make it compulsory for all Industrial Training Institute (ITI) trained persons to get apprenticeship training.

(h) The National Trade Certificate awarded on successful completion of training is a recognized qualification for the purpose of employment. The ITI pass outs also have the option to undergo apprenticeship training.

Polluting Mines

3697. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified any mines in Sukinda Valley in Orissa which are causing air and water pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the menace of pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) There are fourteen operating mines in Sukinda Valley in Orissa out of which eight are causing water and air pollution. To prevent and control pollution from these mines, Orissa State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) is monitoring the mining areas and the quality of near by water bodies. OSPCB has taken steps for setting up requisite pollution control facilities in the mines.

Increase In Malaysian Airlines Flights to Hyderabad

3698. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to increase flight frequency of Malaysian Airlines to Hyderabad from 1 to 7 per week;

(b) if so, whether this issue was discussed during the bilateral talks between the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia;

- (c) if so, the outcome and the details thereof; and
(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) During the last round of bilateral air services talks between the Government of India and the Government of Malaysia held on 22-23 January, 2003 in New Delhi, the designated airlines of Malaysia has been permitted to operate two additional frequencies per week to/from Hyderabad, subject to a commercial agreement with the designated airlines of India, in addition to one service being operated by them at present, as requested by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Promotion of Poultry

3699. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have introduced any Central Scheme to promote poultry;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the States where said scheme has been introduced;
(d) the number of beneficiaries availed the Central Scheme in Orissa during the last three years; and
(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) This Department is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to State Poultry Farms" in all the States/UTs of the country the Xth Plan (2002-03 to 2006-07). The pattern of assistance is 100% for North Eastern States including Sikkim and on 80:20 Centre to State basis for other States. Under the scheme one time financial assistance is provided to selected State poultry farms to suitably strengthen them for strictly maintaining low-input technology breeding stock.

(d) and (e) The assistance provided to the States including Orissa under this scheme is as under:

State	Amount sanctioned (Rupees in lakhs)
1	2
Assam	170.00
Chhattisgarh	68.00
Himachal Pradesh	59.87

1	2
Jharkhand	25.48
Kerala	85.00
Madhya Pradesh	68.00
Meghalaya	85.00
Mizoram	70.00
Orissa	68.00
Rajasthan	77.79
Tripura	85.00
Uttar Pradesh	68.00
Uttaranchal	68.00
West Bengal	68.00

Coastal Protection Development Advisory Committee

3700. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coastal Protection Development Advisory Committee (CPDAC) was formed in 1995;
(b) if so, the steps taken to protect degradation and development of coastal region in the country including Orissa; and
(c) the financial outlay proposed for Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Beach Erosion Board (BEB) constituted in 1966 under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission (erstwhile CW&PC), was reconstituted and renamed as Coastal Protection and Development Advisory Committee (CPDAC) by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India in April 1995 under the Chairmanship of Member (RM), Central Water Commission.

(b) The National Coastal Protection Project (Phase-I) estimated to cost Rs. 1095.911 crore for protection of vulnerable coastal reaches from sea erosion incorporating proposals as received from the States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamilnadu, West Bengal and UT of Pondicherry has been prepared and is under process for identifying the funding agency.

Also a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical anti erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" was repropoed to the Planning Commission for implementation during X Plan, who have given some observations which are being attended to.

(c) the financial outlay of Rs. 30 crore has been provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical anti erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" for implementation during X Plan.

[*Translation*]

Employees in EPF Scheme

3701. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of employees in Bihar who are covered under the employees provident fund scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): The number of employees in Bihar covered under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 is 3,42,366 as on 31.03.2002.

Vacant Posts Under OBC Category

3702. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under category A,B,C and D in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry at present, category-wise;

(b) the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs in the Union Government services;

(c) whether the reservation quota of OBCs has been completely filled up in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by when reservation quota for the said classes is likely to be filled up;

(f) whether there is a provision of reservation for the OBCs at the time of their promotion also;

(g) if so, whether the posts reserved for OBCs are filled up by general category candidates in case the candidates belonging to OBC are not available; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) There are 5 employees belonging to OBCs which include 1 in Group 'A', 3 in Group 'B' and 1 in Group 'C' category who have been recruited by this Ministry after introduction of reservation for OBCs.

(b) As per the Government Orders the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs is 27% in the Union Government Services.

(c) to (e) The points reserved for OBCs are filled up as per Post Based Reservation Roster. One post of Inspector [Fruit and Vegetable Preservation (F&VP)] reserved for OBC has already been notified for nomination from the Staff Selection Commission. Regarding one post of Senior Inspecting Officer (F&VP) reserved for OBC candidate, nomination of UPSC has already been received for appointment.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Supply of Tractors/Power Tillers to PRIs/PACs

3703. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme viz, "mechanized farming and maintenance of workshop facilities" with an outlay of Rs. 564.00 lakhs is being implemented by the Agriculture Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands under which 10 Nos. Tractors and 20 Nos. Power Tillers were to be supplied to the PRIs/PACs;

(b) if so, the number of Tractors and Power Tillers procured and supplied to the PRIs/PACs upto October 2002; and

(c) if not, by when the same will be procured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Union Territory Administration of Andaman and Nicobar have informed that a provision has been made to provide 10 nos. of tractors and 20 nos. of power tillers each year, during the Tenth Plan Under the scheme "Mechanised Farming and Maintenance of Workshop Facilities".

(b) and (c) A total of 34 tractors have been supplied during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, to the PRIs. The Union Territory Administration have further procured 15 tractors and 20 power tillers for supply to the PRIs, which will be supplied soon.

[*Translation*]

Worship Places as Tourist Sites

3704. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of worship places developed as tourist sites in various States including Jharkhand during the last two years; and

(b) the funds allocated to the State Governments for the purpose during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with State Governments/UT Administrations sanctioned 572 projects which includes projects related to places of worship involving an amount of Rs. 142.57 crores to all the States/UTs in the country including the State of Jharkhand during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02.

(b) A Statement Showing State-wise financial assistance sanctioned during the last two years i.e. 2000-01 and 2001-02 is annexed.

Statement

State-wise Central Financial Assistance Sanctioned During the Years 2000-01 and 2001-02

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	2000-2001		2001-2002	
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amt. Sancd.	No. of Project Sancd.	Amt. Sancd.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	299.50	6	167.85
2.	Assam	12	338.35	7	397.50
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	49.75	14	321.90
4.	Bihar	13	324.48	1	1.35
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	120.28	3	35.00
6.	Goa	10	93.30	9	93.73
7.	Gujarat	18	469.20	11	305.50
8.	Haryana	6	123.31	7	125.44
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19	397.29	12	157.64
10.	J&K	12	474.93	3	65.50
11.	Jharkhand	6	206.49	2	80.00
12.	Karnataka	19	489.30	8	254.76
13.	Kerala	14	717.60	11	680.08
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12	262.33	11	256.37
15.	Maharashtra	10	282.69	10	1128.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	18	782.77	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	5	105.59	5	87.87
18.	Mizoram	14	311.19	6	73.25
19.	Nagaland	8	156.53	5	41.54
20.	Orissa	4	156.94	4	38.05
21.	Punjab	6	203.50	3	17.50
22.	Rajasthan	22	454.96	2	5.00
23.	Sikkim	31	368.62	5	108.83
24.	Tamil Nadu	9	122.83	20	533.67
25.	Tripura	12	333.23	5	114.40
26.	Uttaranchal	7	70.19	3	65.51
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18	423.74	5	55.74
28.	West Bengal	23	432.99	17	229.85
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	1.78	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	5	22.13	2	8.00
31.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	1	8.00	1	3.70
32.	Delhi	2	17.70	6	55.01
33.	Daman & Diu	0	0	1	5.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	17.00
35.	Pondicherry	3	26.18	3	78.61
Total		363	8647.67	209	5609.35

[English]

Forest Land Scam in Gujarat

3705. COL. (RETD). SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Rs. 2000 crores forest land scam in Gujarat as reported in the *Times of India* dated February 12, 2003;

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

(c) whether encroachment of over 60,000 acres of forest land comes under Badodra, Bharuch and Panchmahals districts only;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct survey of forest land encroachment in other district of Gujarat also;

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

(f) the action taken by the Government against the guilty persons involved in the said land scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) A news item had appeared in the national daily 'The Times of India' dated: 12.2.2003, first para of which reads-"The Gujarat Forest Department has unearthed the scam in the State estimated at over Rs.

2000 crores. It involves encroachment of over 60,000 acres of land belonging to sanctuaries, reserved forests and protected forests in the districts of Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahals". Taking note of this, Central Government sought report from the State Government on 14.2.2003.

(c) to (e) The State Government has informed on 20.3.2003 that an area of about 36556.40 ha. has been reported under encroachment in different circles of the State.

(f) Government of Gujarat have informed that the State Government have constituted a District level Committee under the chairmanship of District Collector with District Superintendent of Police and Deputy Conservator of Forests as members to oversee the operation of removal of encroachments. Out of 36556.40 ha. encroached forest area, 14416.8585 ha. area has been evicted so far as on date 20.3.2003.

The Government of Gujarat have also constituted a State Level Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary to monitor the situation regarding encroachment on forest lands. The Committee while monitoring the situation will also fix responsibility of field formations including the revenue officers for their failure to prevent/evict encroachment.

Hyderabad as Heritage City

3706. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that UNESCO has recognized many cities in the world as World Heritage Cities;

(b) if so, whether any Indian city particularly Hyderabad features in the list;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to include some Indian cities in World Heritage List;

(e) whether Hyderabad meets all the requirements for being included in the World Heritage List; and

(f) if so, steps proposed to be taken for inclusion in the list?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No city in India has yet been nominated to the World Heritage List.

(d) to (f) A proposal has been formulated to include more sites from India, including Hyderabad City in the revised tentative list for World Heritage Status. However, Golconda Fort already figures in the existing tentative list of UNESCO.

Irrigation Schemes

3707. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed 10 new schemes for irrigation during the Tenth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in spite of starting Tenth Plan the Ministry has not been able to submit detailed proposals to the Planning Commission for these schemes; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to submit proposals to the Planning Commission for early clearance and to start work?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) The Ministry has proposed to introduce ten new schemes during the Tenth Five Year Plan, which are not specifically meant for irrigation development projects. The schemes are mainly intended for capacity building and facility creation in some of the technical organisations of the Ministry as well as for augmenting ground water resources, flood control, drainage improvement and anti-erosion works in various parts of the country.

(b) to (d) The ten new schemes proposed to be introduced during Tenth Plan along with their status and the steps being taken to get the schemes approved are indicated in the Table below:

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Status of approval and steps being taken therefor
1	2	3
1.	Water Quality Assessment Authority.	The 12-Member Authority is headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Commissioner (Water Management), Ministry of Water Resources is the Member-Secretary. The Second Meeting of the Authority is scheduled to be held on 8.4.03 to finalise the action plan of the Authority. The formulation of the scheme to carry out the activities of the Authority will be taken up after the action plan of the Authority is finalised.
2.	Upgradation of facilities and skills in Central Water Commission regarding Dam Safety and Rehabilitation.	The proposal for the scheme as formulated by the Central Water Commission was sent to the Planning Commission for in-principle approval. Subsequently in response to certain issues raised by the Planning Commission, the Ministry has submitted its views on the issues and requested to the Planning Commission for according in-principle approval.
3.	Setting up specialized units in Hydroelectric Designs, Pump Storage and strengthening of Instrumentation Directorate of Central Water Commission.	The Planning Commission has accorded in-principle approval to the scheme. The scheme is now waiting for final approval of the competent authority in the Ministry, for which the Finance Wing of the Ministry is completing necessary processes.
4.	Modernisation and upgradation of Research facilities in Central Water and Power Research Station.	Following the in-principle approval accorded by the Planning Commission, the scheme has been approved by the SFC in March, 2003.
5.	Improvement of Canal Control through modern techniques and technology.	The scheme as formulated by the Central Water and Power Research Station has envisaged an external funding support under the Indo French Financial Aid Programme. Further processing of the scheme is held up for want of firm commitment of the French Government in this regard. The Commitment of French Government for the scheme is being ascertained before further processing for in-principle approval of the Planning Commission.
6.	Development of Ground Water Resources and Rain Water Harvesting in major cities.	The proposal for the scheme was sent to the Planning Commission, which did not support it on the grounds that the activities proposed can be covered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water. Accordingly, the Ministry has formulated the proposal for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water which was sent to the Planning Commission in February 2003 for its in-principle approval. The matter is being pursued with Planning Commission for early clearance of the scheme.
7.	Improvement of Drainage in the country including Mokama Tal area.	The Ministry has invited proposals from the States as per their needs. As the beneficiary States have not yet sent their proposals to be included under the scheme, the formulation of the scheme is delayed and the Central Water Commission has been entrusted the work to formulate a suitable scheme to avoid further delay.
8.	Critical anti-erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga Basin States.	The Ministry formulated the scheme on the basis of proposals received from some of the beneficiary States and sent to proposal to the Planning Commission for its in-principle approval. The Planning Commission has made certain observations, which are now being looked into.

1	2	3
9.	New Schemes for Majuli Islands in Assam, Dibang project etc.	One component of the scheme involving construction work relating to avulsion on the Brahmaputra at Dholia-Hathiguli has been approved for an estimated cost for Rs. 10.47 crore and is under execution by the Brahmaputra Board. The complete scheme containing other components will be formulated separately.
10.	Flood Control in Brahmaputra Valley	The Ministry invited the list of prioritised schemes from the North-Eastern States including Sikkim and West Bengal (for the areas of North Bengal falling within the Brahmaputra Basin) for formulation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for supporting critical flood control/anti-erosion activities in the Brahmaputra Barak Valley. There was delay in submission of the prioritised schemes by most of the North-Eastern States. However, only the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Nagaland have so far submitted the details of prioritised schemes, whereas the States of Sikkim, Manipur and Mizoram have asked for lump sum provisions. Meghalaya and West Bengal have not yet responded. In order that the scheme is not delayed further, the Ministry has formulated the scheme proposal on the basis of information received from the State Governments and is going to submit it to the Planning Commission for its in-principle approval.

Representations on Forest Depletion

3708. SHRI A BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations on the depletion of forests due to products such as agarbathies and incense stick;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of the study; and

(e) the quantum of wood and bamboo used every year to make combustible products like agarbathies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received regarding the destruction of forests due to use of agarbathies and other traditional incense sticks.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The information on the quantum of wood and bamboo used every year to make combustible products like agarbathies is not available.

Temple Survey

3709. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has a separate organisation to undertake temple survey work;

(b) if so, the details of the various old temples being currently surveyed by the said organisation;

(c) the details of the supervisory authority for the temple projects in the Country; and

(d) the funds provided for the temple projects during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has two separate offices at Bhopal and Chennai for undertaking temple survey work.

(b) Details are given in the statement.

(c) Each of these two offices is supervised by the concerned Superintending Archaeologist.

(d) The funds provided for the temple survey project offices at Bhopal and Chennai are Rs. 26.15 lakh and Rs. 27.60 lakh, respectively.

Statement

Details of Currently Surveyed Temples

I. The temple Survey Project, Bhopal carried out the architectural survey of brick temples of Orissa in the upper Mahanadi and Prachi Valley, assigned to the Gangas and Somavamsis.

The details of a few important temples are given below:

Pataleswar temple, Buddhi Komna, Distt. Nuwapada

The brick temple at Buddhi Komna, locally known as Pataleswar temple, dedicated to Lord Siva, is composed of *duel*, *antarala* and *jagamohana*. The elevation of the temple shows components of *pitha*, *jangha* and *gandi*. The two-storied *jangha* is decorated with *chaitya* motifs, while the *gandi* with *anka sikhara* followed by larger *amalaka* and *kalasa*. The door frame of the temple is decorated with three *dvara sakhas*; the lintel is decorated with *navagraha* panel. *Gajalkshmi*, *Ganga* and *Yamuna*. On stlistic ground, the temple may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Indralath temple, Ranipur-Jarial, Distt. Bolangir

Indralath temple, on plan, consists of *duel*, *antarala* and *jagamohana*. The elevation shows components of *paga*, *jangha*, *gandi*, *amlaka* and *kalasha*. The temple originally dedicated to Lord Vishnu is now converted as a Siva temple. Its *devakosthakas* contain images of *Narashimha*, *Lakulisa*, *Hunuman*, *Trivikrama* and *Chamunda*. Stylistically, the temple may belong to circa 10th or 11th century A.D.

Siva Temple, Belkhandi, Distt. Kalahandi

Dedicated to Lord Siva, the temple on plan cosists of *duel*, *antarala* and *jagamohana* and elevation-*adhithana*, *jangha* and *sikhara*. Because of extensive local renovation work, the ancient structure has totally lost its architectural features.

Siva Temple, Titilagarh, Distt. Bolangir

The brick temple of Lord Siva is located on the hill top, datable to circa 8th or 9th century. On plan, it has

a *garbhagriha* and small *mandapa*. The ancient structure has recently been renovated with the help of ancient bricks strewn at the site.

Brick Temple, Patnagarh, Distt. Bolangir

A brick temple, constructed over laterite stone *jagati*. has new *duel* and *antarala* on plan and *adhithana* and a part of *jangha* in elevation. Stylistically the temple may be dated to circa 8th or 9th century A.D.

Kusaleswar Temple, Baidyanath, Distt. Boudh

The east facing temple is situated on the left bank of *Tel* river, dedicated to Lord Siva, locally known as *Kusalesvara*. The temple largely renovated, shows in the pillars of the *jagamohana* original decorative elements of lion capitals and the figures of *Nagas* and *Naginis*. The *adhithana* of the *mandapa* shows the mouldings of *kura*. *kumbha*, *patti* and *karnika*. The *jangha* is decorated with *devakosthakas* and *vajramundi* designs. It may be assigned to circa 10th Century A.D.

II. The Temple Survey Project, Chennai, carried out architectural Survey of structural temples of Imperial *Rashtrakutas* scattered in *Bagalkot* district of *Karnataka* State.

The details of a few important temples are given below:

Temple No.3. in Kuntigudi, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple belongs to *Chalukyas* of *Aihole*. In the central portion of the hall stand four massive and highly decorated pillars, whereas, in the periphery less decorated pillars and pilasters of equal massiveness, support the drooping slabs of the roof. The central back by of this hall is converted in to main shrine having an independent *adhithana* of its own. The *garbhagriha* has an *ashtasakha* entrance doorway having images of *dvarapalas* and *Ganga-Yamuna* on either side.

Temple No.53 In Galangantha Group of Temples, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

This temple No.53 facing west on plan, has a *garbhagriha* and an open *mukha-chatushki*. The temple stands on a *kapota bhanda adhithana*. The walls of the *garabhagriha* are relieved by *bhadras*, *karnas*. The *bhadra* portion bears *makara toranas*. An interesting feature of this temple is the presence of *ashta-dikpalas* and other divinities on the lower portions of the walls on all the three sides. Whereas, the upper levels of the walls are

the figures of Gods like Narashimha, Ram, Vishnu riding Garuda, Garuda and other musicians, mendicants etc. Stylistically, it is datable to circa 10th century A.D.

Hall Basappa Temple, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple is dedicated to Lord Siva and faces east. On plan this temple has garbhagriha and a square guda mandapa. The interesting feature is the main entrance doorway of the hall. It is a three sakha door jamb, having on either side river Goddesses Yamuna and Ganga standing on their respective vahanas. On stylistic ground, the temple may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Chandrasekhara Temple, Pattadakal, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple dedicated to Siva, locally known as Chandrasekhara temple, faces east. On plan it consists of a garbhagriha, a narrow antarala and a gudamandapa. All these three components stand on a common kapota bandha adhisthana. The garbhagriha is relieved by kudyastambhas. There exists no superstructure on the garbhagriha. The temple is assigned to circa 10th century A.D.

Melgudi Jain Temple, Hallur, Distt. Bagalkot

This south facing temple stands on kapota bandha adhisthana. The exterior walls of the both garbhagriha and gudamandapa show karna, pratibhadra and bhadra parts with salilantara recesses in between and relieved by bramha kanta pilasters. Originally the temple was dedicated to Jain faith, but presently it enshrines a linga and nandi, Stylistically, the temple is dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Visveswaragudi, Halluru, Distt. Bagalkot

Locally known as Basavesvara temple stands on kapota bandha adhisthana. The exterior walls are relieved by kudyastambhas, thus dividing into bhadras and karmas. There exists a hamsamala beneath the prastara kapota. Two upper talas have usual but plain haras. The temple complex may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Bachalingesvara temple, Bachenagudda, Distt. Bagalkot

The square vimana temple enshrines a Sivalinga. The interesting feature is the presence of kuta topped devakostas on the subhadra. These devakostas contain images of Brahma (north) Ugra Narasimha (west) and Lakulisa (south). The temple may be dated to circa 8th century A.D.

Bhairavesvara Temple, Mahakuta, Distt. Bagalkot

This tritala Dravida vimana has, on plan, a square garbhagriha, an antarala and a gudhamandapa. The temple dedicated to Siva, faces east. It has a unique architectural feature in the form of four central pillars and as many as twelve pilasters existing within the garbhagriha. Besides, there is standing image of Lord Vishnu in samabhanga which stylistically belongs to north Indian style. This temple may be dated to circa 10th century A.D.

Makaratorana in Galaganatha Temple complex, Distt. Bagalkot.

A makara torana, stylistically attributed to the Rashtrakuta period. bear two makaras showing foliated tails. Each makara has two warrior-riders. From the mouth of the makaras issue out a rajju motif. The central two arches are occupied by Gajalkshmi and Ganesa. The other two arches are occupied by rampant vyalas. Stylistically, it may be dated to circa 10th century A.D.

A secular structure with Rashtrakuta inscription in Galaganatha Temple complex, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

A Rashtrakuta inscription of Krishna III reign was found engraved on the slab resting over the doorway of a cell. The inscription refers to Monibattara, a sage, residing in the cell. The inscription is dated Saka 868, Prajapati Samvatsara i.e. 946 A.D.

Construction of Dams/Barrages on Rivers

3710. SHRI A. NARENDRA. Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dams/barrages constructed on major rivers in the country;

(b) the studies conducted on the adverse impact of dams in downstream areas resulting in silting of riverbeds causing floods; and

(c) the outcome thereof and the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) There are about 4050 completed large dams in the country and 475 dams are under construction which include a few barrages which conform to the norms of the large dams.

(b) and (c) The river valley projects are appraised by various appraising agencies before the Planning

Commission provides investment clearance to the State concerned for investment. The adverse impacts of dams are studied under the environmental impact assessment which include negative aspects like submergence of forest and agricultural land, displacement of people, land degradation, soil erosion, water logging, effect on flora and fauna, etc. The impact of the dam on the down stream river regime is studied as part of appraisal and the necessary preventive measures are taken by the implementing organisations as per the stipulations made by the appraising agencies.

[Translation]

Provision of Loans to Farmers

3711. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers in Bihar provided agricultural loans during the last three years and current year, category-wise;

(b) the amount of loan so far recovered from the farmers of each category; and

(c) the details of the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to speed up recovery of loans from the big farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The number of farmers (Category-wise) who availed agricultural loans from Commercial Banks during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Small farmers/ Marginal farmers	Other Farmers
June, 1999	474356	122787
June 2000	486193	106532
June 2001	443111	110841

In addition 35.74 lac borrowing members of Cooperative Credit Institutions (CCI) and Regional Rural Bank (RRBs) also availed of this facility as on 31 March, 2000.

(b) As per the available information, the amount of loan recovered by CCI and RRBs during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Amount of loan recovered (Rs. in lakhs)
1999-2000	25964.98
2000-2001	32075.99
2001-2002	40220.56

The recovery performance of Commercial Banks ranged between 44.14% to 46.83% during the same period.

(c) Some of the steps taken for speeding up the recovery of bank loans including those of big farmers are as under:-

- Many State Governments have enacted legislation to implement recommendations of Talwar Committee relating to recovery of loans.
- Instructions have been issued for implementation of the One Time Settlement Scheme (OTS) for recovering the old overdues.
- Banks have been permitted for settlement of their dues through Lok Adalat. The RRBs have been allowed to effect recovery through Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT).
- The Cooperative Banks recover the overdues as per provisions of the respective State Cooperative Societies Act.
- Recovery of overdues particularly under Government sponsored programmes is done with the help of Government Department concerned.

Vacant Posts of SCs/STs

3712. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any posts of scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in different categories in various departments and undertakings of his Ministry are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees working in the said departments and undertakings have been promoted and fresh appointments have been made during the last three years;

(d) if so, the year-wise and category-wise details of appointments made under the various categories during the said period and the current year till date;

(e) whether the prescribed rules have been followed regarding the recruitment and promotion of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people; and

(f) if not, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Jaggery Board

3713. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Jaggery Board on the lines of Tea Board and Coffee Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have explored possibility of Jaggery export; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Jaggery is exported from India.

(d) The export of Jaggery during last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity exported (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. In lakh)
1999-2000	1173.46	144.05
2000-2001	1155.29	1292.55
2001-2002	839.12	432.51

Supply of Polluted Raw Water

3714. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether supply of polluted raw water to Delhi by Haryana has resulted in shutting down of water treatment plants;

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

(c) whether Haryana Government is not providing the required quantity of raw water to Delhi under the Inter-State water sharing agreement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) As informed by Delhi Jal Board, the pollution in raw water received through western Yamuna Canal has resulted in shutting down of Water Treatment Plants at Haiderpur and Nangloi for about 6-8 hours on nine different occasions during the past five months.

(c) Delhi Jal Board has also informed that Haryana Government is supplying raw water to Delhi as per the Inter-State Water Sharing Agreement.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Evacuation of Indian Workers

3715. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flights operated by Indian Airlines, Air India and other Airlines to evacuate Indian stranded in Iraq and neighbouring countries following US invasion, location-wise and airlines-wise.

(b) the number of Indians evacuated from gulf and number of those who are still stranded;

(c) whether as a humane gesture the Government have decided to subsidise these flights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total subsidy to be borne by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) No evacuation of Indian citizen from Iraq and neighbouring areas has been undertaken as no such

situation has arisen so far. However, during the period 18th March to 31st March, 2003, a total of 5705 passengers have been carried on Indian Airlines and Air India normal scheduled and extra section commercial flights from Kuwait on payment of normal fares.

[English]

Development of Greenery/Tree Plantation in Drought Prone Area

3716. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to develop greenery/tree plantation in the country particularly in the drought prone area particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests has no specific scheme to develop greenery/tree plantation in the drought prone areas of the country.

(b) Does not arise.

Mismanagement of IASRI Hostels

3717. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 5798 dated August 30, 2001 given in Lok Sabha and state:

(a) whether his Department received any complaints about irregularities in the management of trainees hostels at Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of action taken on these complaints;

(c) whether before the appointment of 'Megha Caterers' no proper accounts of boarding charges collections were being maintained by concerned officials; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken against those responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Investigations have been made and the report is under consideration.

(c) Before the contractual system of catering, the institute was not providing catering service.

(d) No action was needed.

Inter-State Water Disputes

3718. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of Inter-State water disputes involving Orissa relating to sharing of Godavari Waters pending for settlement;

(b) the progress made on each dispute, till-date; and

(c) the steps taken to settle these disputes expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) No complaint under the Provisions of Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956, from the State of Orissa has been received by the Central Government about existence of water disputes relating to sharing of Godavari waters. However, as per the agreement between Orissa and Madhya Pradesh (MP) in 1979 the State of Orissa shall ensure 45 Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) of water to flow down at the Orissa-Madhya Pradesh border in the Indravati sub-basin of Godavari basin. The agreement does not stipulate the monthly distribution of annual quantum of 45 TMC. Besides, there is some natural flow across the Jaura-Nallah to Sabari river just upstream of Orissa-Chhattisgarh border. Consequently, there has been difference of opinion between the Government of Chhattisgarh and Government of Orissa with regard to monthly distribution of annual flows and construction of diversion structure across Jaura-Nallah and main Indravati river. The construction of diversion structure has been resolved under the aegis of Central Water Commission. However, there is no consensus about monthly distribution of flows between Chhattisgarh and Orissa.

Tourism Development in Gujarat

3719. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism projects for development of Chotila, Palitana, Dakor, Dawarka, Somnath, Ambaji, Sankeshwar, Saputara, Junagadh, Mahudi, Patan and Vadnagar in Gujarat are pending with the Union Government for approval; and

(b) if so, by when the approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. There are no such projects pending with the Department of Tourism, Government of India. However, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects for development of tourism in Gujarat during the year 2002-2003:

- (1) Development of infrastructure at Udwada.
- (2) Development of Vadnagar.

The Department of Culture has also sanctioned the following projects for development of Jain monuments in Gujarat in commemoration of 2600 years of Tirthankara Mahaviras Janma Kalyanak:

- (1) Jain Temple Bhiloda.
- (2) Jain Temple, Umata.
- (3) Kumbharia.
- (4) Jain Temple Boria Nes
- (5) Jain Temple Sherisha Mehsana
- (6) Jain Temple at Wankaner.
- (7) Jain Temple at Taranga Hills
- (8) Jain Temple at Palitana.
- (9) Jain Tirth, Gimar.
- (10) Rashtraiya Swabhimani.

(b) Does not arise.

Review of Labour Laws

3720. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any action for the review of the existing labour laws so as to

accelerate the growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and also to speed up liberalisation process of economy;

(b) if so, the specific laws identified for the review and the guidelines set for the purpose; and

(c) the step taken by the Government to mete out justice to the labourers in the changing economy during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) Review/update of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness, employment generation and to update the provisions of labour laws, a need has been felt to make amendments in certain labour legislations and steps initiated accordingly. Thus amendments in the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Cine Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 1981 were carried out. Meanwhile, the Second National Commission on Labour has submitted its Report to the Government. The Commission has made wide ranging recommendations on various facets of labour viz. review of laws, social security, women & child labour, skill development, wages, labour administration, unorganised sector etc. The Ministry has held consultations and interactions with the workers' representatives, employers' organizations, experts, professionals etc. The recommendations of the Commission were discussed in the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29 September, 2002 National Seminar on Un-organized Sector Workers held on 7-8 November, 2002 as also in a Tripartite Committee Meeting held on 18-19 February, 2003. Such steps are being taken to bring about a workable consensus for implementation of the recommendations of the Commission. The amendments to various labour laws are brought about keeping in view the requirements of the social partners and after ensuring that the workers' interest is fully protected.

MR. SPEAKER: I adjourn the House for Lunch upto 2 O'clock. After that we can meet again at 2 O'clock.

12.22 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
fourteen of the Clock.*

14.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at two minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER IN *the Chair*)

REGARDING SITUATION IN IRAQ—*Contd.*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, a discussion should be held on the Adjournment Motion.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): Sir, a discussion should be held on this motion.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the morning everybody put forth his view point on the Iraq issue. I, on behalf of my party request that the Government should tell us as to what they want to say in the leaders meeting to held at 5.00 O'clock so that we can deliberate upon it and then proceedings can be resumed. I wish that a full fledged discussion should be held on this issue and no division may take place. The House may therefore, be adjourned till 5.00 O'clock in the evening.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a serious issue that demands unanimity of views in the entire country and of course in the House too. We have no problem if such thing happens here. Secondly, an all party meeting is going to be held at 5.00 O'Clock as told by Dasmunsiji, both the Government and opposition should sit together to discuss the issue in the meeting. My view is that a unanimous message should be sent to the entire country. This role can successfully be played by your goodself. I, therefore, wish that the House may be adjourned till five O'Clock. Objection, if any, during the motion brought by the Government, would be expressed by us at that time only. We wish that a unanimous motion is brought.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, from the very beginning we are trying to put up a united view of the whole country on this very important issue. Certain observations have been made today by Shri V.K. Malhotra. We have again been trying on that. But since we spoke and the House was adjourned, we have not heard anything from the Government. I understand from

the whispers that some sort of preparation is being made on the Government's side. But so far we have not been taken into confidence, and certainly we shall respond to that.

We are repeatedly requesting the Government to put up a united stand so far as this House and the country are concerned. If that attempt is being made, we shall welcome it. Sir, I believe that your initiative is essential. Now since there is no response from the Government, I endorse the request made by Shri Dasmunsi and Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, and request you to adjourn the House till 5 o'clock.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue has been raised in the House since morning. I thank you for convening a leader's meeting at 5.00 p.m. The Government should have held a meeting in advance in order to deliberate on the resolution in this regard. The Government is thinking that the opposition would endorse any action taken by them. This is not possible. It is a matter involving national interest and the dignity of the entire country. That is why we have given an 'Adjournment Motion' in which I was supposed to speak first as my name was listed first but you have rejected it. It is under your jurisdiction but I wish that any resolution should be properly debated. It is not the question of Treasury Benches or the Opposition but as stated by Malhotraji, in strong words, if the Government agrees to even ten percent of it, this would solve the problem.

[*English*]

"Thundering clouds seldom rain"

[*Translation*]

It should not happen. I would therefore, request you to adjourn the proceedings of the House till five O'clock. We would hold meeting at five o'clock and decide accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to the leaders of the House. I was also thinking that the entire House needs to be unanimous on such a serious issue. We have discussed it with other leaders too. Government have presented a draft also. I feel that one more meeting is required to be held for giving final shape to the draft on this subject. I give my consent to your suggestion. The meeting is at five O'Clock in my Chamber. Leaders of all the parties would come there and discuss the issue. I

would be very happy if one unanimous draft is passed by all. It is a big issue before our country and unanimity of thought is very much required in the House.

I adjourn the House till five O'Clock.

14.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Seventeen of the Clock.

17.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *In the Chair*)

[*English*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the White Paper on Safety on Indian Railways (Hindi and English versions),

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7264/2003]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2001-2002.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7265/2003]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, 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 West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, for the year 2000-2001.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7266/2003]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad, 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 North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad, for the year 2000-2001.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7267/2003]

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934:-

- (1) The Aircraft (Carriage of Dangerous Goods) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 206 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 2003 together with an explanatory note thereto.
- (2) The Aircraft (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 207 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 2003 together with an explanatory note thereto.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7268/2003]

17.01 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to make an announcement. I have to inform the House that the hon. Speaker has received the following message dated the 17th March, 2003 from the hon. President:

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the Lok Sabha for the

Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 17th of February, 2003.”

17.02 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Eleventh Report

[English]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar): I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of External Affairs.

17.03 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Reports

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Information Technology:-

- (1) Forty-Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications).
- (2) Forty-Seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Information Technology).
- (3) Forty-Eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts).

17.04 hrs.

**INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS
(AMENDMENT) BILL* 2003**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Council of World Affairs Act, 2001.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That level be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Council of World Affairs Act, 2001.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to know from the hon. Members whether Matters under Rule 377 be taken up individually by inviting each Member to read out the matter or I can treat them as read.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: if you want to take each matter separately Member by Member, I will call out each Member's name. Otherwise, I will treat them as read.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad): Mr, Chairman Sir, what happened to my Adjournment Motion?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is regarding Matters under Rule 377. Members have given notice. I want to know from the Members whether they are particular in raising the matters individually or whether I can treat them as read.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am constrained to say that Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

17.05 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377[@]

- (i) **Need to introduce a local train between Ahmedabad and Abu Road and extend Arawali Express up to Mumbai Central.**

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY (Banaskantha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 7.4.2003.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[@]Treated as laid on the Table.

Government towards the need of rail services in my constituency, Banaskantha. Many express rail services are operational between Ahmedabad and Abu Road but no local train service is there as a result of which on the one hand people have to pay extra fare and on the other many hurdle are created in travelling as problem reservation of tickets is there. Travellers will be greatly benefited if a local train service is provided between Ahmedabad and Abu Road and also if the Aravali Rail Service operating from Jaipur to Bandra is extended up to Mumbai Central.

Through this august House, I request the Government to immediately fulfil the said demands.

(ii) Need to withdraw excise duty and sales tax under VAT imposed on powerloom industry in Rajasthan.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan presently, is experiencing severe drought. Kishangarh, Byawar, Pali and Balotara etc. are industrial areas of Rajasthan which have given employment to 30 thousand people. After agriculture, it is the powerloom industry which provides some employment opportunities to the labourers in textile production. Machineries installed in powerloom factories in the form of very small industrial unit cost Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2 lakh rupees. This textile industry running through powerloom in already in a bad condition. It has declined all the more in the present competitive environment. Now a new provision has been made under which 4 per cent Sales Tax under the VAT Act on powerloom industry and 10 per cent excise duty by bringing cotton textile industry under the purview of excise duty would be charged. This industry will be totally ruined with the implementation of these provisions.

I, therefore, request the Government that 10 per cent excise duty and 4 per cent Sales Tax under VAT Act on textile production in the new Budget proposals may be repelled with immediate effect in order to save the powerloom industry, preventing it from ruination and safeguarding the jobs of labourers.

(iii) Need to ensure proper utilisation of funds for development of forest land particularly in Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests to the fact that since the implementation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980, whereas forest land or trees are put to use for development work, with special mention to Himachal Pradesh, the works department as per the assessment

of Forest Department, deposits lakhs and even crores of rupees in forest circles. e.g. concerned agencies deposited crores of rupees with the forest circle officer, Shamshi (Parvati division), Director, The Great Himalayan National Park, district Kullu for implementing project of National Hydroelectric Corporation Limited and Malana Hydroelectric power project.

Whether it is the basic aim of the Forest Act to deposit the funds in the consolidated fund of the State instead of spending them on the losses incurred due to deforestation process or use of forest land for developmental work in any forest area. As a result of which the said funds are spent for some other purposes instead of making good losses incurred in forests.

I demand that the Government come out with complete details from States especially Himachal Pradesh, in this regard and ensure that the said funds could be utilised in the concerned forest circle for making good the losses incurred by the forests.

(iv) Need to develop Wilson Hill in Dharampur area of Balsar Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat as place of tourist importance.

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI (Bulsar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many such places in various parts of the country which have scenic beauty but are becoming insignificant in the absence of any development work although our Government are paying special attention in developing tourist places, still there are many places where developmental work has not taken place. Wilson Hill, located in Dharampur area of my constituency Balsar, is one such spot. Keeping in view its scenic beauty. People as also their representatives have been making demand since long for development of the said area. In fact, twenty to twenty five years back, the Government keeping in view the demands of the people, had come to see this hill and had assured of developing it. Whereas on the one hand, income of the Government would increase with the development of the social area on the other, it would provide employment opportunities to Harijans, tribals, unemployment, educated youth.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Tourism to develop the tribal, Harijan people dominated area of Wilson Hill from tourism point of view on top priority basis so that the people of this area could be benefited.

(v) Need to set up food processing Industries in Domariaganj Parliamentary Constituency, U.P.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (Domariaganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir my constituency, Domariaganj in district Siddharthnagar,

[Shri Rampal Singh]

U.P. is a very backward area. It has no industries as a result of which people from these areas have to go to other cities of Punjab, Delhi, Mumbai etc. in search of livelihood.

I, therefore, demand the Government to make a package for the development of the region so that the people of this area may not have to go to other cities for search of livelihood and such industries may be established for which raw material could be made available in the district itself e.g. food processing plant for vegetables and fruits can be installed here so that fruits and vegetables could be prevented from getting rotten and people could accrue benefit out of it.

(vi) Need to ensure proper maintenance of National Highway No. 28A between Indo-Nepal border and Raxaul in Bihar.

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Betiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, highway No. 28A from Indo-Nepal border upto Raxaul was constructed involving an expenditure of crores of rupees last year. The said highway is in a bad shape as the raw material used in its construction was not of good quality. It is damaged to such an extent that movement of traffic can prove to be dangerous. It is in the interest of the people to review and conduct an enquiry into the work done by the engineers in this regard.

I therefore, through this House, request that the work of the said highway be enquired into and its construction work may entrusted to the Border Roads Organisation.

(vii) Need to upgrade the old Kanpur Railway Station as a major station.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the trains running between Delhi and Howrah run on a single track from Kanpur Chandari Railway Station to Kanpur Central Railway Station due to which traffic get disrupted between Delhi and Howrah and the road traffic in the city is also affected because of closure of railway crossing. There is only one way out that the passenger trains may be allowed to pass from Chandari railway station to old Kanpur railway station. Old Kanpur railway station should be upgraded and made a major station between Delhi and Howrah and the trains proceeding to other routes may continue to pass through Kanpur Central railway station. Similarly Mandhana station should be connected with Panki station so that 13 railway crossings, falling within Kanpur city, would automatically be free for traffic.

Directions to this effect may kindly be issued to the Ministry of Railways for taking necessary action in this regard.

(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Orissa for upgradation of Angul-Tikarpara road in Orissa.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Angul-Tikarpara road in Orissa which is 47.5 km. in length is an important State road or economic importance connecting Tikarpara, an important tourist spot of river Mahanadi, the epicentre of the unique ecosystem and biosphere reserve the Mahandi Gorge Sanctuary containing the UNIEP Gharial Crocodile breeding centre with Angul, district headquarter on National Highway 42, containing Mahanadi Coal Field, NALCO, NTPC, Super Thermal Power Plant, BHEL and Heavy Water Plants spread all around.

The economy of the people of these areas depends on this road for marketing their produce in the form of agriculture, marine and handicrafts product as well as attracting large number of domestic and foreign tourists.

Therefore, I request the Government that this crucial road of economic importance should be developed immediately as an all weather upgraded communication system by generous funding from the Government of India as well as external funding, if need be.

(ix) Need to provide better telephone facilities in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts, Rajasthan.

[Translation]

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the slow progress in providing telephone connections under VPT Scheme particularly in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Western Rajasthan.

In 1997-98, the Government had announced that by 2001-2002, all villages including panchayat headquarters will be linked with VPT. The country has progressed a lot in spreading telecom network during last 5-6 years. VPT facility has already been provided in all the villages of several States.

But there is much imbalance with regard to VPT facility in States and districts. Rajasthan is one of the largest States of the country. In some of its districts 70% villages have been provided with VPT facility whereas in the deserted districts of Barmer and Jaisalmer only 45% villages have been covered.

Therefore, my request to the Government and Minister of Communications is that appropriate action should be

taken to reduce this imbalance in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts, which are situated on Pakistan border and are very sensitive from security point of view so that this remote and backward area could be developed. The Government should also provide WLL and other facilities in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts during the year 2003-2004 so that VPT imbalance could be reduced at district level.

(x) Need to take steps to solve the problems faced by depositors of Postal Savings Accounts in Kerala.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): In many post offices in Kerala, posting in the Recurring Deposit Pass book remains pending for months. This causes delay in the payment of maturity amounts to depositors. Shortage of staff is one of the reasons for this. A solution may be made so that the mobilization of small savings is not adversely affected.

At present, there is a ceiling on Rs. 50,000 fixed for SAS agents to remit in cash at the post offices at a time received from the investors. This ceiling causes much inconveniences to the investors. This ceiling fixed may be raised to at least Rs. 1,00,000.

This issue of account payee cheques for maturity amounts above Rs. 20,000 causes much inconveniences to the people in villages who have no accounts in banks to encash the cheques. This payment in cheques may be raised to Rs. 1,00,000 and above.

An exclusive scheme for institutional depositors may be formulated as many institutions are now not allowed to invest their surplus funds in National Savings securities.

I request the Government to open at least one branch of exclusive savings branch of post office in all District Headquarters.

(xi) Need to consider the alternative proposals of the Government of West Bengal for construction of East-West Corridor of the National Highway running through northern part of Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): According to the present planning, Government is to construct a new East-West Corridor of the National Highway, running through the mountainous region of Northern part of Jalpaiguri District in West Bengal along the Metre Gauge Railway Line parallel with a number of Railway bridge over the mountainous rivers and jhoras.

It is apprehended that a large number of forest lands and tea gardens will be adversely affected, entailing a blow to the State's economy too. More alarming is that the alignment will run through the flood-prone areas of Dooars and Terai regions without having any remedial measure to weed out dislocations and disruption in both the road and rail transportation, due to water-logging as experienced for a decade. It is reality that cost of this project will be much more higher than the estimated cost.

In consideration of the problems to be faced, an alternative proposal was sent to Government highlighting the starting point of the proposed road, advantages for transportation of agricultural products, minimization in the number of bridges and culverts, avoidance to damage to the Forest Lands and Teas Gardens and the facilities of the bilateral trade agreement between India and Bangladesh.

I request the Government to look into the matter.

(xii) Need to provide additional Central assistance for Welfare of tribals in Parvathipuram Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO (Parvathipuram): Parvathipuram Parliamentary Constituency in Andhra Pradesh is one of the most backward areas comprising poor tribals. Two ITDA (Integrated Tribal Development Authorities) are functioning there to cater to the needs of the tribals, and improve their social-economic conditions. The financial support rendered by the both Central and State Government is not sufficient enough to address the multitude of problems there. So people are reeling under poverty and illiteracy. In addition to that there has been severe drought in the area for the last three consecutive years. So, I would request the Central Government to come forward with more financial assistance for implementing the welfare projects and long term strategy to alleviate the poverty of the poor tribals of the said Parliamentary Constituency. Also render them all possible help for their up-liftment and end their exploitation.

(xiii) Need to have a transparent policy on disinvestment.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, one after the other allegations are being levelled against the Government as it was unable to frame transparent and well-considered policy with regard to disinvestment. Whether it is a case of C.M.C. or Centaur Hotel, the common man of country is now convinced that the people in power are bent upon benefitting their own men. The proposal of the Government to sell the units of

[Shri RamjiLal Suman]

Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum has further strengthened this belief of the people. The Government, in reply to above mentioned allegations, says that it will neither allow misutilisation of country's fund nor provide an opportunity to Government functionaries to loot in the name of trade. It is paradoxical that the Government are handing over BPCL and HPCL to private sector and allowing the Government companies like ONGC, GAIL, Power Grid Corporation, Oil India Limited for Capital investment not only in the country but in foreign countries also.

Hence, my request is that the Government should clearly determine the Disinvestment Policy and follow it properly so that the people may have faith that it can serve the country in a better manner.

[English]

(xiv) Need to expedite completion of oil refinery project at Paradeep, Orissa.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur): Paradeep Oil Refinery was approved by the Cabinet in 1998. The Hon'ble Prime Minister, laid the foundation stone of the refinery at Paradeep and gave a clean and emphatic assurance to complete the project in all respects by March, 2003. However, only land has so far been acquired and some development of land has been done. The work has now come to a grinding halt or at least can be said to have been slowed down. I urge upon the Government of India, to expedite the process of execution done by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. to complete the work by March, 2004. People of Orissa are agitated by the slow down in the execution of the project and are apprehending that the project may be closed down. The Government of India must come out with a clear statement regarding the current status of the oil refinery project at Paradeep and re-schedule the programme for completing the project.

(xv) Need to open more post offices in Ponnani and entire district of Malappuram in Kerala.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): The need for adequate number of post offices and sub-post offices and adequate postal facility in my Parliamentary constituency Ponnani in Kerala and the entire district of Malappuram deserves special attention of the department

and the Government. This need is reinforced by the hilly terrain, heavy rains and great pressure on postal facilities as large number of people work outside Kerala and even outside the country for their livelihood. Considering these and other special factors obtaining in the district, it is absolutely essential that required relaxation be made in the general norms for provision of post offices and postal facilities. Requests are often turned down by postal authority pointing to the general norms. Humanitarian consideration demands that in view of the special features of the area, there should be relaxation of norms. Fresh surveys should be conducted and adequate number of post offices, sub-post offices should be opened in these areas.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to transact business or the House to be adjourned? The House is convened to transact business. The House is not convened to adjourn. What do you say?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, what happened to our Adjournment Motion, we have given the notice. You please tell us about that.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is convened to transact business. What do you say?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on 8th April, 2003.

17.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 8, 2003/Chaitra 18, 1925 (Saka).

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