

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXIII contains Nos. 21 to 30)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, April 10, 2003/Chaitra 20, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition of potato growing farmers in the country today has become so dismal that he is compelled to commit suicide...(*Interruptions*). It is a very serious matter... (*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the potato grown by them is rotting... (*Interruptions*). The farmer is not getting the remunerative price of potato. It is a very serious matter...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot discuss these things in the House.

[*English*]

Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, you are not permitted to show things like these in the House.

I have received notices of Adjournment Motion from a number of Members. I have also received notices for suspension of Question Hour from a few Members on different issues. I would request all the Members who have given notices to put up their issues during the 'Zero Hour'.

[*Translation*]

Ramji Lal Sumanji, you have given notice regarding suspension of Question Hour. You may make your submissions.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter and earlier also on March 11, I had drawn the attention of hon. Agriculture Minister and the House towards the problem of potato growers through Calling Attention Motion. Sir, the situation is such that the farmer is not prepared to dig out potato from the fields. It is rotting in the field and whatever yield he is carrying to various 'mandis' he is not even getting the price which would make up his cost of transportation.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after Question Hour, then you may put forth your view-point.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what issue can be more serious than the incidents of suicide being committed by the farmers.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter relates to his district and also to the Parliamentary Constituency of Shri Baghel. Although it is a matter which concerns the entire country (*Interruptions*). Not only Bengal but it concerns the entire State. Chaudhary Bhagwan Singhji committed suicide on 29th. Recently Ghanshyam Singh of Nagla Ram Baksh tried to commit suicide. Now for the last 20 days he is struggling for life in the hospital. The reason was that first he did not get price for his potatoes then he managed somehow to get it transported to a different place. The price that he got there was not even so much that could make up his transportation cost. Struck by this grief he came home with the money and hung himself. Doctors have said that he will not survive as the bone has been broken. Sir, what the farmers should do now? We do not wish to suspend Question Hour but we are compelled to do it. The situation has become so critical, if the farmers of the country would commit suicide, how the country would prosper, would remain united. There are so many dangers lurking about in the country. There are apprehensions of terrorism, economic upheavals, social pressures, burden of foreign loans and exploitation by the foreign companies. Can a farmer living in such a dismal state fight all these challenges? That is why Question Hour should be suspended. It is my earnest appeal to you to direct the Government to provide immediate compensation to the farmers. Nothing new is being discussed. I am glad that compensation has been provided in several districts. Compensation should be given from the Government's Exchequer to the next of kin of the farmers who committed suicide. They should be provided compensation to the tune of Rs. 5 lakh. Potatoes are not being tilled and whatever has been tilled shall rot within two-four days. The Government must take this matter in its hands and make arrangements for cold-storage. The families of the farmers who have committed suicide should be given Rs. 5 lakhs each as compensation...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter kindly summon the Agriculture Minister in the House...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have decided to allow you during Zero Hour. You may submit then. I will allow you. Mulayam Singhji please tell your Members that I will allow them during Zero Hour. Then I will accord priority.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, I urge upon you to summon the Agriculture Minister. This matter has been raised in the House...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot give permissions repeatedly on one issue alone. I have requested that I will give permission on priority during Zero Hour. You can raise this matter then. I will give priority during Zero Hour.

[English]

SHRI ADHI SHANKAR (Cuddalore) : Sir, students of Queen Mary's College of Chennai are on strike...*(Interruptions)*. The former Chennai Mayor, DMK youth leader and MLA, Thiru Stalin had gone to the spot to give moral support to the striking students....*(Interruptions)*. At midnight, Thiru Stalin has been arrested. Sir, human rights have been violated...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you to raise this issue during Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Ram Vilasji, I have your notice as well regarding suspension of Question Hour. One minute, I will give you permission.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you hold the discussion during Zero Hour. But please summon hon. Agriculture Minister in the House positively.

MR. SPEAKER : I will see, where hon. Minister of Agriculture is.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Ram Vilasji, you may speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, please direct hon. Minister to remain present in the House while we raise question during Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out whether he is here or out of station.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Sir, you please summon hon. Minister of Agriculture. Their condition is becoming farcical. Farmers are committing suicide...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have disallowed all the notices of Adjournment Motion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House so that I can proceed to the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Ram Vilas Paswanji, you do not wish to make any submissions on this subject. I have given you one minute. Thereafter, I will give you time during Zero Hour.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : I have submitted that I shall not be there during Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER : You will have to stay, if you wish to raise question in the House.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, the question of farmers should be taken seriously...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Sir, it has become everyday matter in the House...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : When the Members from the Opposition raise important issues, he says it is a drama...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down. Let me conduct the House. Let the House be not conducted by other Members.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Suspension notice has been given by Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji, he has been allotted one minute time. Proceedings of the House will commence after one minute. Please cooperate.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : These people can speak during Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER : When we have notice in our hand, we have to take its cognizance.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : They do it everyday, they can make their submissions during Zero Hour...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you give notice, I will listen to you as well....(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, either you conduct the House or he may do so, you may decide.

MR. SPEAKER : I have told him that I will conduct the House. You have appointed me for it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I will take only one minute for making my submission. I had been trying for three days. But the House will be adjourned for 10 days from today. I have raised a question in regard to Shri Haren Pandeya's murder. CBI is inquiring into this case. Father of Shri Haren Pandeya has admitted before the Home Minister that there is a rule of Rawana in Gujarat.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, you can speak during the 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : It is a very serious question, Pandeyaji's father is levelling allegations before the Home Minister...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have disallowed the notices for suspension of Question Hour and also the notices for Adjournment Motion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed discussion on this subject.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Haren Pandeya's father is openly levelling accusations in front of Deputy Prime Minister...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask questions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I will allow you to speak during 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Earnings from Freight and Passenger Fares

+

*402. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of income earned through passenger traffic and freight charges by different divisions of railways zones during the last three years;

(b) whether income of some zones has declined; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, division-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Ministry of Railways maintain accountal of earnings only zonal railway-wise and these earnings include the traffic of all the divisions under their respective jurisdictions. Statement of earnings of all zonal railways through passenger traffic and freight charges (i.e. goods earnings) during the last three years i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 is given in the Annexure attached.

(b) No, Sir. Total Earnings of any of the zonal railway have not declined.

(c) Does not arise.

*Not recorded.

Annexure

Railway	1999-2000					2000-2001					2001-2002				
	Passenger Earnings	Freight Earnings	Other Coaching and Sundry other Earnings	Total Earnings	Total Earnings	Passenger Earnings	Freight Earnings	Other Coaching and Sundry other Earnings	Total Earnings	Total Earnings	Passenger Earnings	Freight Earnings	Other Coaching and Sundry other Earnings	Total Earnings	
Central	1941.82	3228.48	248.07	5418.37	5418.37	2129.43	3363.14	244.58	5737.15	5737.15	2276.61	3961.59	297.98	6536.18	
Eastern	920.02	2589.92	145.75	3655.69	3655.69	991.68	2674.98	126.77	3793.43	3793.43	1080.55	2694.64	139.57	3914.76	
Northern	1906.05	3951.10	364.58	6221.73	6221.73	2075.67	3884.57	341.32	6301.56	6301.56	2140.74	3907.33	527.82	6575.89	
North-Eastern	549.73	417.19	77.07	1043.99	1043.99	590.48	490.20	83.46	1164.14	1164.14	620.15	539.58	81.84	1241.57	
North-East Frontier	185.00	432.27	65.44	682.71	682.71	201.58	512.66	53.66	767.90	767.90	222.60	664.69	69.67	957.26	
Southern	945.15	1186.35	206.77	2338.27	2338.27	1057.17	1317.31	225.79	2600.25	2600.25	1152.47	1219.00	235.50	2606.97	
South Central	871.11	2241.91	121.68	3234.70	3234.70	1012.82	2492.56	119.65	3625.03	3625.03	1119.94	2540.91	136.21	3797.06	
South Eastern	628.35	5214.03	108.01	5950.39	5950.39	674.05	5784.77	103.12	6561.94	6561.94	743.03	6264.76	150.57	7158.36	
Western	1608.39	2799.74	143.80	4551.93	4551.93	1750.31	2784.91	166.58	4701.80	4701.80	1806.16	3052.90	172.26	5031.32	

(Rs. in crore)

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the reply of the Government wherein zone-wise accounts of earnings has been shown. Maximum income is earned through South Eastern Railways through passenger traffic and freight charge (goods earnings). The facilities which should be provided division-wise or zone wise in its proportion are not being provided to Chakradharpur division in proportion to its income. Through you, I wish to submit that the Railway division has maximum earnings from my parliamentary constituency Singhbhum and there are more possibilities of increasing income. Be it earnings from freight charges or from passengers fares, the facilities which are to be given to other divisions from railway administration in proportion to the income earned through them, every little proportion of it is being given to the Chakradharpur Railway Division.

I would like to know from hon. Railway Minister that with a view to increase the income of Chakradharpur railway division whether he proposes to extend the service of MEMU train from Tatanagar to Badbil, extend the Howrah Tatanagar Steel Express from Tatanagar to Badbil and extend the service of MEMU train between Tatanagar-Rourkela.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot ask so many questions, please ask one question.

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Whether the hon. Minister propose to extend the service of above trains.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It is not possible to give its reply. Because the question is related to the income of zones and he is demanding that a train should be started there. Trains are plied as per requirement, in view of demand for a train at a place and availability of rolling stock. If he feels so, we can discuss it separately.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question can be asked for another station as well. Now you may ask supplementary.

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to remind hon. Minister that Chakradharpur division contributes the most as far as income from all other South Eastern Railway division is concerned. But it must also receive the facilities for its passengers in

proportion to the income or there should be further increase in its income. That is why my request is that extension of these three trains would facilitate further income generation.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Facilities are awarded on the basis of necessity, number of passenger traffic and income therefrom. In addition to all these the minimum requirements are fulfilled.

The decision of introducing a train is taken keeping in view the requirement of the area. He is concerned about his constituency. As I have said we can have a separate discussion on this issue.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : As per one report, the expectation of the Railways is to achieve 540 million tonnes freight target by the year 2003-04. Sir, Gujarat is producing more than 70 per cent of the salt in the country. But due to 135 per cent hike in the railway freight in the last Railway Budget, thousands of salt-producing units are closed. About one lakh poor labourers who are working in this trade, have also become jobless. So, my specific question to the hon. Railway Minister is whether he will review this 135 per cent hike in railway freight on edible salt to increase transportation of salt. It was about 18 lakh tonnes of salt which was transported to various parts of the country. Part (b) of my question is, can the Railway Minister consider giving rebate on long distance, that is, more than 1,500 kilometre distance for transportation of salt or not?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the supplementary question raised by the hon. Member is not related to the main question. His question is related to the freight rate of salt. In the past we had rationalised the freight rate. According to it the minimum class is 90. We have included edible salt under it. There are some rules formulated separately regarding rebate. However, the railway freight is based on the telescopic principle. As the distance increases the increase in freight comes down a little. There is no policy of providing any sort of rebate for a particular area. In all the matter there is a single policy for the entire country.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, there is just one small question to the hon. Minister. In his Budget speech, and otherwise also, we are told that there has been a come down of 15 per cent for passengers travelling by train. The targeted freight which could have been reached was 520 million tonnes. Have they been able to achieve this target at least as far as freight of the Railways is concerned?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Our target for 2002-2003 was 510 million tonnes. In the Budget presented for 2003-2004 the revised estimate for 2002-2003 is 515 million tonnes. According to the information received till now we have exceeded that target.

[English]

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is learnt that Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad Divisions in Kerala have the highest passenger earning in the Southern Railway. It is further learnt that passenger amenities in those divisions are quite inadequate. Even the bogies put in service there are outdated. Is there any proposal to provide better passenger amenities in Kerala?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the constant effort of the Railways to improve the amenities. We are making efforts for this. As I said earlier, the amenities provided at railway stations are based on certain criteria. In spite of this according to the request of the Members some stations are selected for providing better amenities and these amenities are provided there.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the statement made by the Minister, there has been a deceleration in freight earnings in Northern and Southern Railway Zones. There was less earning in 2000-01 than what had been earned in 1999-2000. I would like to know as to what are the reasons for less earning particularly in these two zones.

Then, there has been a deceleration in passenger

traffic also during last year. I have seen from the statement of the hon. Minister that there has not been any deceleration in passenger traffic in 1999-2000 and 2001-02, but during last year there has been a deceleration. What was the reason for this deceleration?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire answer to this question has been given in the first part of the Budget Session. There has been no decrease in the number of originating passengers and the long distance passengers. However, there has been a decline in the number of local passengers and daily commuters. And this has been explained. I repeat, there has been no decrease in the number of long distance passengers. I would like to submit that our earnings have increased.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, there has been less earning in freight in Northern and Southern Railways. The Minister has not replied to the first part of my question.

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to the next question. Please take your seat.

Fire in Digboi Refinery

+

*403. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

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

(a) whether the ULFA militants in Assam have recently set fire to petroleum product storage terminal of IOCL located in the Digboi refinery premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof with estimated loss of lives and properties suffered;

(c) whether the safety and security measures being adopted by the Government at various strategic oil installations and refineries are inadequate;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) On 7th March, 2003, at around 2350 hours, suspected ULFA militants fired ammunition at a tank containing 4500 Kilolitres of Petrol at Digboi refinery of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL). As a result, fire broke out in the tank. While, there was no injury to any personnel due to this fire, IOCL suffered an estimated loss of Rs. 14.47 crore which is covered by insurance.

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) The security of oil installations in Assam is looked after by the security staff of the Oil Companies, Central Industrial Security Force and Assam Police. The security status is reviewed on a regular basis in coordination with the State Government. After the recent incident, security has been further tightened. The State Government have also been requested to review the security of oil installations in the State in the light of the incident.

[Translation]

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister that recently the ULFA terrorists had set the Digboi Oil Refinery on fire using bombs. They had done this a couple of years back also. My first question is that in such oil refineries the security is provided by the Central Government. How can the security be breached by the terrorists and the ultras?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view all the factors, adequate security arrangements are made. But, the terrorists are always on the look out for a breach in the security. They threw a bomb on a tank there and set it aflame. The tank had 4500 kiloliters of oil which was all destroyed in fire. However, I must mention that we managed to save the adjoining 10 tanks. Terrorism is a law and order problem. The Army is deployed there against the ULFA terrorists. All safety precautions have been taken. The State Government, the centre and the army are trying

to tackle the ULFA problem there and we are alive to this problem.

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I asked about the security, the Minister replied that adequate security arrangements have been made. Such attacks were there earlier also and there were losses. The Minister in his reply wrote that due to the destruction of this tank they have received Rs. 14.47 crore as insurance. I want to know from the Minister whether there could be a collusion between the businessmen and the officers behind the burning of the tanks to claim the insurance amount and that the blame is put on the ULFA terrorists as in the case of cotton procurement scheme in our state. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you might be aware of it since you have been the Chief Minister of that State.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The thinking of the hon. Member is absolutely wrong. The cotton problem and the ULFA issue are different matters. And setting fire to oil tanks in this way is itself a serious problem. This incident should not be compared to the cotton issue.

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : My thinking is not wrong. I only want to know from the Minister the conclusion of the investigations into the two fire incident so far. The insurance company also belongs to the Government.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Mr. Ram Naik, his thinking is not wrong. Such things do happen.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The investigation concluded that the ULFA was responsible for this attack. After this attack, the army and the police are on the alert there. Efforts are being made to prevent such incidents in future.

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : Recently such an incident took place in Mumbai also.

MR. SPEAKER : You have given the reply.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply to the starred question No. 403. Therefore, I want to ask a supplementary question from the Minister through you. In part 'C' of this question I asked the Minister whether the security and safety arrangements made by the Government for various important oil installations and oil refineries were inadequate. The Minister replied in the negative. Sir, if the security and

safety arrangements, were adequate, how could such a major incident took place on 7th March, 2003 in which the loss to the Government was to the extent of Rs. 14.47 crores. Although the insurance amount has been received it is clear from this incident that the security and safety measures being adopted for the important oil installations and oil refineries are inadequate. Whether the Government intends to make the security arrangement more stringent not only in Assam but in all the oil installations and oil refineries all over the country?

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot read a question in the House, if possible please make your question short. The question can be of any length. But the answer can be short.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are right. Hence I answered that efforts are continuing. Adequate security arrangements are made in all oil installations in the country. But sometimes such incidents occur. Efforts are being made so that such incidents do not happen again.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the hon. Minister has very rightly said that all precautions are taken in co-operation with the State Government and the Central agencies. I would like to know whether you are aware of the fact that, of late, the ULFA and other terrorist outfits in North-Eastern States have developed the art of sending rockets whereby whatever precaution you may have taken in the peripheral area, still they can cause problems as they come from a long distance. It is happening in Tripura also. Keeping that in view, what action are you taking to see that not only the installations, but other peripheral areas are also taken care of? Otherwise, you are helpless if the rocket attack comes from a distance of, say, 500 kilometres or 1,000 kilometres. Anything can happen, and they will destroy more. The insurance cover cannot be the solution.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I just mentioned about the insurance cover to inform the hon. Members that it was insured. It does not mean that if it is insured, any damage should take place. That is not the intention. It is true that whatever we can do within the refinery or depots that security is taken care of by the oil companies. Beyond that,

Army is there and police is there, which take care of all the peripheral areas. That is why, as soon as this incident took place, we sent our Additional Secretary there. He had one meeting with top Army personnel and the Chief Secretary, and they have formulated a scheme. But, ULFA or any other security problems go beyond the oil installation. That is what I would like to say in this.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : Sir, as rightly said by many Members, this is not the solitary incident. It has happened earlier and it is very much presumed that it may happen later also. What I am trying to ask is whether the hon. Minister can assure that this kind of attack will not happen again, and even if it happens, whether it can be tackled. What I am trying to ask is whether you have got any special security plan. It is all right that you have taken cognisance of it and sent the Additional Secretary and said that the security is tightened.

All this bureaucratic reply is well understood. But I would like to know whether you have taken all out efforts to see that a special security programme is made for this purpose to avoid future recurrence of such incidents.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I have said earlier and I am repeating it. As compared to other industrial institutions, since oil is inflammable, there are special security measures taken all over. Not only in Assam, but even in the high-sea and everywhere, wherever oil locations are there, special care is being taken.

[Translation]

Consumer Sale Price of Petroleum Products

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*405. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

(a) whether the consumer sale price of Petrol, Diesel, Naphtha, Kerosene and LPG in the country also includes various taxes levied at various levels by the Government;

(b) if so, the names of the taxes and cess and their

rates already included in the consumer sale price of each of the above products as on March, 2003; and

(c) the details of the taxes and cess out of them imposed by the State Governments and the Union Government, separately?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL

GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The taxes and cess levied by the Union Government on these products during March, 2003, alongwith their rates, were as follows :

	Petrol	Diesel	Kerosene (PDS)	LPG (Domestic)	Naphtha (General use)
(i) Customs Duty	20%	20%	10%	10%	10%
(ii) Excise Duty	30%	14%	16%	16%	16%
(iii) Special Additional Duty	Rs. 6.00/ Litre	—	—	—	—
(iv) Additional Duty (Road Cess)	Rs.150/ Litre	Rs.150/ Litre	—	—	—

In addition to the aforesaid taxes and cess by the Union Government, sales tax is levied by the State Governments on these products at rates varying from State to

State. The rates of sales tax on these products, as on 1st March, 2003 in different States are given in the Annexure attached.

Annexure

Effective Rate of Recoverable Sales Tax as on 01.03.03

State	Petrol	Diesel	PDS Kerosene	(Percentage)	
				Domestic LPG	Naphtha
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	30.55	19.33	8.00	16.00	12.00
Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	—
Assam	22.00	13.20	4.40	13.20	13.20
Bihar	23.97	19.37	8.17	11.26	13.00
Chhattisgarh	25.00	25.00	2.30	13.80	13.80
Delhi	20.00	12.00	4.00	8.00	20.00
Goa	19.00	17.00	1.00	1.00	18.00
Gujarat	26.52	25.31	0.00	14.00	16.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Haryana	20.00	12.00	10.00	10.00	12.00
Himachal Pradesh	20.00	12.00	8.00	8.00	12.00
Jammu and Kashmir	20.00	12.00	4.20	12.60	12.60
Jharkhand	21.20	16.15	7.06	10.09	13.00
Karnataka	28.00	17.50	4.00	12.00	12.00
Kerala	28.00	24.00	13.80	16.00	25.30
Madhya Pradesh	28.75	28.75	0.00	13.80	13.80
Maharashtra	30.00	34.00	5.90	10.30	15.80
(i) Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai	plus Re.1/ litre	plus Re.1/ litre			
(ii) Other locations	29.00 plus Re.1/ litre	31.00 plus Re.1/ litre	5.90	10.30	15.80
Manipur	20.00	12.00	0.00	8.00	12.00
Meghalaya	20.40	8.16	0.00	8.16	—
Mizoram	20.00	12.00	0.00	8.00	—
Nagaland	24.00	15.00	5.00	12.00	12.00
Orissa	20.00	20.00	0.00	12.00	12.00
Rajasthan	26.70	18.65	9.45	14.05	14.05
Sikkim	20.00	10.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Tamil Nadu	29.40	23.10	4.00	8.00	16.80
Tripura	20.00	12.00	5.00	12.00	5.00
Uttaranchal	20.00	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
Uttar Pradesh	20.00	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
West Bengal	20.00 plus cess Re.1/Ltr.	12.55 plus cess Re.1/Ltr.	4.55	17.00	13.80

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir,
diesel, Naptha and Kerosene oil are essential commodities

nowadays. The Government imposed taxes on these commodities. Some of the taxes imposed by the Government are based on the percentage of the basic

price. Hence, it is very essential to determine the real cost of production of petroleum products. However, the Government in reply to a question has accepted that it does not know the actual cost of production.

MR. SPEAKER : Ask the question.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : I am asking the question only. When the Government is not aware of the actual cost of production and that the tax is based on the percentage of the actual cost of production, how will it be known that they have imposed tax on the actual cost of production because according to the Government all products are produced during processing? It is very difficult to determine this.

MR. SPEAKER : Ask your question. Try to understand the importance of the Question Hour. Ask your question directly.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : I need to give some information before raising the question...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You need not do that. It is mentioned here.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : I want to know from the Government as to how the Government will determine the cost of production since the tax is according to the percentage of actual cost of production? And, what was the actual cost of production of petrol, diesel, naphtha, kerosene, oil, NSG etc. in February, 2000? Also, how was it determined?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cost of production of any product can always be determined. Its selling price is then fixed. This question chiefly pertains to taxes. Information can be given regarding various taxes imposed. I would like to inform the House that for example, the selling price of petrol in Delhi Rs. 33.49 per litre. But the basic selling price.

[English]

Without taxes, without excise duty, without octroi etc. it is only Rs.13.59. The tax on one litre is Rs. 19.90.

[Translation]

Which is 146 per cent of the selling price. If the State Government and the Central Government reduce the excise duty and the sales tax, then the consumer would have to pay less. I have the figures for HSD also. Its selling price is Rs. 13.17. But the excise duty and sales tax constitute 62 per cent. There are different taxes in different States. I accept that these taxes are too high. But we need the cooperation of the State Governments to bring it down.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we belong to Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, the sales tax on petrol is 31 per cent plus one rupee per litre. Since the tax is high the selling price too is high.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the Ministry is doing anything to bring down the excise duty or the sales tax?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member wanted to know whether you have any criteria for imposing taxes?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am helping you. Whether the State Government and the Centre follow any criteria while imposing taxes?

SHRI RAM NAIK : The criteria for imposing excise duty is the price and the revenue required by the country. Apart from this in case of sales tax it is kept in mind as to how much it needs to be imposed. In case of LPG, the sales tax is a little less since it is used by the common man. It is 19 per cent in West Bengal. Different States follow different principles based on which such taxes are imposed.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : It has not been said how the basic price is calculated.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will repeat it. The purchase price of the crude oil, the cost of transportation, the customs duty, the cost of refinery, the cost of transportation from refinery to the depot are considered the basic costs. Thereafter, delivery takes place and in case of production in states sales tax is imposed there. Imposing excise duty on basic cost is the set procedure. On this basis it is worked out.

MR. SPEAKER : Answer to your supplementary question is over.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : This is reply to your question. My second question is that the hon. Minister has himself accepted that after imposing the tax, price of petroleum products like diesel, Naphtha or Kerosene go up by more than 146 per cent, that is 146 per cent increase is registered in basic prices. However, in European countries and in America the range of taxes is from 26 to 29 per cent or from 40 to 42 per cent. What efforts are being made by the Government to prevent the prices of petroleum products from soaring so high? Petroleum products being the fuel, any increase in their prices shall prove detrimental to both agriculture as well as development of the country. Fuel is necessary for the progress of the country. Therefore I am worried to know how the Government propose to bring down the prices of petroleum products to ensure maximum possible benefits to the common people and farmers.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I have said that the Excise duty is determined by the Parliament. If the Parliament decides, this duty can be reduced. Similarly if the state government desires, the sales tax can be reduced.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir our colleague Sushil Kumar Indoraji has asked the hon. Minister about the basis of determining the basic prices of petroleum products. As per news appearing in the edition dated 21.03.03 of the Business Life, the basic price of Petrol is Rs. 15.50 in Mumbai, Rs. 15.25 in Delhi, Rs. 15.45 in Chennai and Rs. 15.75 in Kolkata. I would like to say that taxes are higher than the basic prices in our country. The hon. Minister has himself accepted that taxes are imposed both by the Union Government as well as state governments. In today's edition of newspapers we have report containing the statement of the hon. Minister that the prices of Petroleum products would be reduced. In this regard I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to by when the Government would reduce the prices of Petroleum products.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The A.P.M. has lapsed on 1.4.2002, the prices of petroleum products are determined by the oil companies on the basis of the trends prevailing in the international market. A question in this regard was put to me yesterday. Therefore, the determination of prices of petroleum products has been done by the oil companies. Due to Iraq war, the prices of oil in the Indian market has

gone upto 32.56 dollar per barrel. Consequently, the prices of the same had to be increased for one month. Now, when the Iraq war is coming to an end, the price of oil in the international market has slid from 32.56 dollar per barrel to yesterday's 24.14 dollar per barrel i.e. there is a substantial decrease. Now when the oil companies would assess the prices of oil in the international market on 15th April, then they will take into consideration the interests of the consumers and I hope they would bring down the prices. But only time will say when it would be done.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please let us know the basis on which the hon. Minister is making such statement.

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised a good question. The hon. Minister has replied to this question.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my name may also be associated with Sumanji. I too would have asked the same supplementary question.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister too would have given the same reply.

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, we have been witnessing fluctuations in the consumer price of all these petroleum products. Actually I saw in yesterday's newspapers that they are going to bring down the prices of the petroleum products. You just consider the consumer price because that is the end point. In fact, this Question is about the various proposals of the taxes that are to be included in the certified sale price. But the point is that at the international level, from OPEC side, we have not been seeing fluctuation in the oil prices every week, but here, every week we are seeing it in the price of petrol per litre. In fact, it is going up and down. Yesterday, in fact I saw that it is going to be brought down a little. How long are you keeping that price which you are going to bring down? Again, how are you going to bring it up? That is the question. Now, I am seeking a clarification. In fact, you are fluctuating all these prices every now and then, every week. Why do you not keep that price at least for a month or three months or six months? It was not fluctuating in the past, five or ten years back. Why has this new situation arisen? You please come out with your reply.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, the international market is very volatile. We import 70 per cent of our requirements. If I compare it with the last year, 2001-02, we imported crude oil roughly to the extent of Rs. 67,000 crore. Because of the higher prices and because our consumption has increased by about three per cent, we paid Rs. 84,000 crore of foreign exchange for importing crude oil. Naturally, when the market goes up and when we import 70 per cent of our requirements, a scheme has been drawn that every 15 days – we will not have seven days, as you have said – which is a fair period, under which some decisions can be taken. Earlier, what used to happen for years together, for 40 or 50 years, was that the prices would only increase and they were never coming down. But in the last one year, three times the prices have come down and in this fortnight, the oil companies will again decide and we will have some relief because the prices in the international market have gone down. This is the mechanism with which we are working in the oil sector....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Q.No. 406. Shrimati Shyama Singh.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Is it on account of the Administered Price Mechanism?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, I have gone to the next Question.

Agitation by Employees of PSUs

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*406. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

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

(a) whether as a result of 'go-slow' agitation by the employees of various public sector oil companies, the shortage of LPG and other petroleum products has been reported in various parts of the country, particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government's efforts to resolve the issues with the various unions of oil companies have produced any results;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that consumers to LPG and other petroleum products are not facing any shortages?

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

Statement

(a) The 'work to rule' was resorted to by a section of workmen of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in Northern, Western and Southern Regions during the period 10th March to 21st March, 2003. At some locations, the unions of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) also observed 'work to rule' for a few days. Due to this, LPG backlog of 2 to 10 days and partial dry out of Retail Outlets were reported from some areas.

(b) and (c) The management of IOCL persuaded the unions to withdraw the agitation which was called off by the IOCL unions on 21st March, 2003.

(d) During the agitation period, the market demand was met through the hospitality assistance availed from other Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to supplement the supplies and through the Retail Outlets/LPG distributorships of the other OMCs. The reported backlog has been also cleared.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, as usual, I have got a reply in writing and I am not very happy with that. However, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what was the basic reason for the workers to go on strike.

What were the demands of these fighting workers? Has the Government had any parleys with them? Have they formulated any sort of resolution in order to avoid any such problem which may arise in the future?

SHRI RAM NAIK : They were not on strike. The Indian Oil Corporation people had gone on work-to-rule. There is a difference between work-to-rule and strike.

Secondly, they went on work-to-rule agitation. One of their demands was that they wanted computer advance and also reimbursement for its maintenance. The other demands are, review of rationalisation adjustment allowance,

review of restructuring in the Marketing Division, outsourcing contractors on perennial jobs, and identification of core group of management. These were the demands. The discussions were going on with the management. Finally, they gave the notice to go on work-to-rule. It had some impact, but not much. For about 2 to 10 days, the LPG cylinders in some places were not that readily available. Since everybody is having two cylinders, that impact was not felt in the houses. The point is that when the management discussed with them, I also discussed with the Indian Oil Corporation employees on 21st March, and I told them that they should not put the consumers to inconvenience. They appreciated my argument and they withdrew the agitation. Now the supplies are normal.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Was disinvestment a part of the agitation?

MR. SPEAKER : I will treat this as a supplementary.

SHRI RAM NAIK : So far as the work-to-rule agitation is concerned, that was undertaken by the Indian Oil Corporation only. Then, so far as disinvestment and the agitation about disinvestment are concerned, basically, the employees of Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum went on agitation from 25th to 27th March. So, this has nothing to do with the work-to-rule agitation...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete and give the full information.

Though disinvestment is not a part of this Question, since she has asked, I have given the information that I had. Discussions are going on with 26 employees' unions of Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum about their demands. Only last week, on 5th April, we had discussions and the discussions are going on.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : That was my clarification. Now I will ask my supplementary.

Considering that LPG is something very vital to the people living in this country, both in the rural and in the urban areas, I still feel that in the rural areas of India, we are in short supply of LPG. Why do you not think of distributing it? Why do you not think of disinvesting that and giving it into the private hands so that at least the people in the rural areas are going to be

benefited by the LPG? Also, it will have far-reaching effect on the environment and the ecological balances in the country.

SHRI RAM NAIK : We are aware that LPG needs to be given to the rural areas also. That is why, presently we are covering nearly 36 per cent of the total population of the country by the LPG.

In the last three years, we have given 3.5 crore new connections and most of them are in the rural areas. So we are taking cognisance of giving LPG to the people at large.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Adhir Chowdhury—He is not there.

Now, Shri Ramdas Athawale.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : You put your question in poetry.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Athawaleji you can ask your question in poetic style.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hindustan Petroleum and the Bharat Petroleum companies are in the Mumbai campus. More than one lakh crore rupees are involved in these companies. The employees of these companies had launched an agitation with the demand that these companies should not be privatised. Shri Ram Naikji has completed 25 years of people representation, Shri Advaniji also attended the programme which Naikji held in this regard. There is a protest against privatisation bid of those two companies. I would like to ask...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You should ask the question.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I am asking the question only. The Hindustan Petroleum and the Bharat Petroleum companies are profit making concerns which is a matter of pride for the country. Therefore there should be no privatisation of these two companies. On the occasion of completing 25 years of public life, you should give a gift to the country in the form of accepting this demand. I also spoke in the aforesaid programme and asked them to raise their voice. If Atalji and Advaniji do not pay any

heed to your concern, then you should let us know this. You have worked a lot for your party. These two companies should not be privatised; you should make efforts in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : I have disallowed the question. *[English]* This does not arise out of the main question. *[Translation]* This is not concerned with the main question.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the employees of the Hindustan Petroleum and the Bharat Petroleum including the employees of other oil companies were on three days' strike. This strike was supported by the communist parties, the Bhartiya Majdoor Sangh, the Bhartiya Kamgar Seva of the Shiv Sena etc. The strike also had the support of the local Lokadhikar Samiti of Mumbai. The employees are apprehensive. The hon. Minister is, however, not telling what would be done with them after disinvestment of these companies. Nearly nine thousand Marathi employees of Maharashtra are involved. There is a fear in their mind as to what would happen with them after disinvestment particularly when they have taken loans for houses, vehicles and for education of their children. What would the policy of purchasing companies in regard to them after disinvestment. They have been served with notices from their management.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is coming to an end. You can ask your question straightway.

SHRI CHANDERKANT KHAIRE : I want to confirm whether they have really been served the notice following which they went on the strike.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire House is aware that the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj had stated during the previous session that unless there is discussion on this subject in the Lok Sabha, there would be no change in the character of these companies. We will discuss on the issue and then decide the future course of action.

[English]

Quality of Petrol and Diesel

*407. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector oil companies have undertaken any measures to improve the quality of Petrol and Diesel in the past few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investments made by the oil companies to improve quality of Petrol and Diesel in the past three years;

(d) whether the improved quality of Petrol and Diesel is not available in cities and towns other than metropolitan cities; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The measures taken by the public sector oil companies to improve the quality of petrol and diesel in the past few years, inter alia, include :

- (i) phasing out of lead from petrol;
- (ii) reducing sulphur content in petrol and diesel;
- (iii) increasing the octane number of petrol;
- (iv) increasing the cetane number of diesel; and
- (v) introducing benzene content limit in petrol.

(c) The investments made by the oil companies to improve the quality of petrol and diesel have been of the order of Rs. 10,000 crore including around Rs. 2,430 crore during the last three years.

(d) and (e) The quality improvements stated in reply to parts (a) and (b) above apply to petrol and diesel available throughout the country. Further, petrol and diesel with ultra low sulphur content (0.05%) is available in four metropolitan cities and Hyderabad/Secundarabad. From 01.04.2003, this fuel has also been introduced in Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Agra, Pune, Kanpur and Surat.

[Translation]

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed that keeping in view the environmental pollution, the oil companies have invested

ten crore rupees for quality improvement and Rs. 2430 crore have already been invested during the last two years. Yet, the common people are not getting pure diesel and petrol in the market. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that materials like plastic by-products, kerosene etc. are mixed in petrol and diesel in huge quantity. This racket is going on in the entire country. What action the hon. Minister would like to take in this regard?

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is true that this type of adulteration is going on at many places in the country. The Government is trying to check this with a fair amount of success. Just as there are incidents of theft in society, in the same manner there are cases of adulteration. We are trying to curb it. I have always sought the cooperation of the House in this task....(Interruptions) If you kindly inform me about the places where this kind of adulteration is being done, I shall be taking direct action.

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, despite having spent ten thousand crore rupees, pure petrol is available only in the four metropolises as well as in Hyderabad, Sikandrabad. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether efforts would be made to ensure the availability of pure and good quality petrol and diesel in rest of the big cities of the country.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have formulated a scheme to ensure pure petrol everywhere by the year 2005. That will require Rs. 19536 crore and the oil companies would be required to mobilise this amount through their own sources. The Government would try to provide pure oil to the people all over in the country. [English] The investment is Rs. 19,536 crore upto 2005.

National Policy for Old People

*408. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had announced a National Policy for Older Persons in 1999;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the amount spent during each of the last three years to protect the elderly persons in the country and the provisions made for the purpose in the budget for 2003-04;

(d) whether the Union Government provides financial grants to the States to protect elderly persons with equal attention being given to the rural and urban poor;

(e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise, State-wise;

(f) whether the State Governments have enacted an legislation to protect the elderly people; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have announced the National Policy on Older Persons in 1999 which, inter-alia visualizes support for financial security, health care and nutrition, shelter, emphasis upon education, training and information needs, provision of appropriate concessions and discounts etc. to Senior Citizens and special attention to protect and strengthen their legal rights such as to safeguard their life and property.

(c) The financial assistance given as grant-in-aid to the non-governmental organizations by this Ministry under the two grant-in-aid schemes for the welfare of older persons during the last three years i.e. 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 is given as under :

Sl. No.	Scheme	Grant-in-aid released during (Rs. in crores)		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons (Plan Scheme)	12.39	14.61	16.50
2.	Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for construction of Old aged homes etc. (Non-Plan Scheme)	0.72	1.14	1.14

Budget Estimates for the year 2003-04 under Integrated programme for Older Persons (Plan Scheme) is Rs. 17.80 crores and for Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for construction of Old Age Homes etc. (Non-Plan Scheme) is Rs. 1.14 crores.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development has been administering the National Old Age Pension Scheme under which central assistance @Rs.75/- per month/per persons was provided to the States/UTs for providing pension to destitute older persons aged 65 years and above. This Scheme has been transferred to the State Plan from year 2002-2003.

(e) The year-wise allocation for the above Scheme for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 & 2001-2002 is given in the Annexure attached.

(f) and (g) The Government of Himachal Pradesh has enacted the Himachal Pradesh Maintenance of Parents and Dependents Act, 2001, for providing maintenance to inter-alia, dependent old parents and relatives.

Annexure

Amount released to the States/UTs by the Government of India under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) for the year 1999-2000 to 2001-02

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Amount released		
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4361.76	4360.76	4355.65
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.07	66.60	45.42
3.	Assam	745.87	2344.31	2482.52
4.	Bihar	5761.09	4268.85	4801.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	1005.13	965.47
6.	Goa	27.94	27.94	19.54
7.	Gujarat	320.92	370.53	338.63
8.	Haryana	498.94	450.14	453.89

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	233.29	200.12	199.72
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	299.545	228.02	162.54
11.	Jharkhand	—	1250.95	1174.43
12.	Karnataka	2959.63	2899.69	2581.38
13.	Kerala	1274.72	947.96	1096.62
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4610.76	3056.14	3297.74
15.	Maharashtra	3047.39	3161.48	2560.97
16.	Manipur	87.71	251.00	315.92
17.	Meghalaya	94.79	297.33	281.00
18.	Mizoram	29.20	91.62	91.62
19.	Nagaland	41.02	221.75	206.28
20.	Orissa	3573.63	2962.35	3837.36
21.	Punjab	317.91	429.15	329.25
22.	Rajasthan	1420.79	1390.60	1441.85
23.	Sikkim	14.90	94.57	94.12
24.	Tamil Nadu	3158.57	3086.94	2894.07
25.	Tripura	178.18	497.93	539.42
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7315.09	6629.80	7840.17
27.	Uttaranchal	—	385.00	329.02
28.	West Bengal	4216.81	2965.01	3208.91
29.	A & N Islands	8.69	0.00	7.81
30.	Chandigarh	13.66	8.83	5.87
31.	D & N Haveli	0.00	10.62	10.60
32.	Daman & Diu	2.48	1.95	1.93
33.	NCT Delhi	124.79	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.93	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	49.05	24.53	43.84
Total		44797.125	43987.60	46014.80

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the fate of the National Policy regarding Senior citizens which was formulated by the Union Government in 1999. I asked about a mount of central assistance provided during the last three years. The hon. Minister stated in reply that under the Integrated Programme for older persons a sum of Rs. 12 crore and 39 lakhs had been provided during the year 2000-01, a sum of Rs. 14 crore 61 lakhs during 2001-02 and a sum of Rs. 16 crore 50 lakh has been provided during 2002-03. This is under plan scheme. And under non-plan scheme Rs. 72 lakh was given during 2000-01 and during the current Budget year Rs. 1 crore 14 lakh have been given. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many senior citizens have been covered statewide under the said National Policy. And whether the amount of Rs. 17 crore earmarked for the purpose is sufficient for this purpose? The hon. Minister is requested to enhance this amount. There are a large number of senior citizens in the country and their pension has been fixed at only Rs. 75/- per mensem in rural area. Whether the Government propose to raise that amount?

DR. SATYANARAYANA JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question it has been clearly mentioned in part 'D' that the Union Government has been providing Rs. 75 per mensem as pension. But from the year 2002-03 this scheme has been transferred to states. So kindly pension scheme has been shifted to states. Moreover, I would like the Government to give maximum assistance for the programme and schemes formulated for old persons. So that they may be benefited. In this way you will notice that we have enhanced the amount from Rs. 12 crore to Rs. 14 crore and from Rs. 14 crore to 16 crore.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Giving Rs. 12 to 16 crore for Senior Citizens in the entire country is nothing but a joke. On the one hand you claim to have formulated a national policy and on the other hand you allocate only Rs. 14 crore for the entire country. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to have your protection before asking as to whether the Government want to mock at the poor or Senior Citizens. I have asked the specific question whether this amount would be raised by it?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take this issue seriously. There are 402 old age homes functioning in the country including 376 day care centres, 82 mobile medical units. There are 861 units in total through

which we are providing protection and care to the aged persons in the entire country. I would like to assure that if we get allocations I would definitely raise the amount meant for this purpose.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a supplementary question to ask.

MR. SPEAKER : The question you asked was your supplementary question.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 409, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma – Not present.

Shrimati Reena Choudhary – Not present.

Q. No. 410, Shri Ramsheth Thakur – Not present.

Shri A. Venkatesh Naik – Not present.

Q. No. 411, Shri Bhupendrasinh Solanki – Not present.

Shri Tufani Saroj – Not present.

Q. No. 412, Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi

Committee to Monitor Projects under Rail Vikas Yojana

+ ,

*412. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up any Committee to monitor the progress of works under the National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of works of Golden Quadrilateral and port connecting projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways has setup a Committee to monitor the progress of works under the National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY).

*No supplementary was asked

(b) The Committee comprises of Additional Member/Planning, Railway Board, Additional Member/Works, Railway Board, Additional Member/Budget, Railway Board and Additional Member/Commercial, Railway Board. The Committee will monitor all aspects of implementation of National Rail Vikas Yojana including raising of non-budgetary resources.

(c) The Golden Quadrilateral and Port Connectivity projects have been identified. Some of the projects have been sanctioned and are under implementation. Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. has been setup to implement Golden Quadrilateral and some of the Port Connectivity projects.

(d) if so, the details of new LPG bottling plants approved/sanctioned and where work on the project is at various stages of execution;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up LPG bottling plants at various places in the country with private participation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) LPG bottling plants are set up by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of packed LPG of the area and proximity to consumption centres.

(b) At present, 159 bottling plants of OMCs with a total installed bottling capacity of 6,813 Thousand Metric Tonnes Per Annum (TMTPA) are operating in the country. State-wise details of bottling capacity and number of bottling plants are given in Annexure.

(c) and (d) The present bottling capacity of OMCs is sufficient to meet the present market demand. However, in order to meet the future packed LPG demand, OMCs have drawn up plans to augment the LPG bottling capacity in the country to 8,087 TMTPA during Tenth Plan as given in the statement attached.

(e) and (f) At present, there is no plan for setting up of bottling plants by OMCs with the assistance of private companies.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

LPG Bottling Plants

*404. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for installing LPG bottling plants;

(b) the details of LPG bottling plants functioning at present in the country alongwith their capacity, State-wise;

(c) whether LPG bottling plants are sufficient to cater to the needs of LPG consumers;

Statement

State/UT	Installed bottling capacity by OMCS in various States as on 1st April, 2003		Bottling Plants to come up in the remaining period of Tenth Plan	
	No. of Bottling Plants	Bottling Capacity in TMTPA	No. of Bottling Plants	Bottling Capacity TMTPA
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	10	574	2	66
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	1	5
Assam	8	198	—	—
Bihar	4	91	1	66*
Chhattisgarh	1	44	1	44

1	2	3	4	5
Delhi	2	220	—	—
Goa	2	32	2	32
Gujarat	8	440	2	66
Haryana	5	374	1	66*
Himachal Pradesh	1	22	2	32
Jammu & Kashmir	4	79	—	—
Jharkhand	3	120	1	22
Karnataka	9	366	4	132
Kerala	5	222	1	88*
Madhya Pradesh	7	320	—	10*
Maharashtra	17	970	5	170
Meghalaya	—	—	1	5
Manipur	—	—	1	10
Mizoram	—	—	1	5
Nagaland	—	—	1	5
Orissa	4	196	—	—
Pondicherry	1	12	—	—
Punjab	5	322	1	22
Rajasthan	12	340	—	—
Sikkim	1	5	—	—
Tamil Nadu	14	557	4	110
Tripura	1	5	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	22	846	4	105
Uttaranchal	3	66	1	44
West Bengal	10	392	3	142
Total	159	6,813	40	1,247

Note : (1) Two bottling plants at Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands (5 TMTPA) and Bokaro, Jharkhand (22 TMTPA) are mechanically complete; yet to be commissioned.

(2) *indicates capacity augmentation also at existing plant(s).

Grand Total – No. of bottling plants (159+2+40) = 201

Grand Total – Bottling capacity in TMTPA (6,813+27+1,247) = 8,087

**Solar Energy Programme with
Central Assistance**

*409. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some solar energy programmes are being implemented in the country with central assistance/ grants;

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

(c) the funds released to each State during the last two years and current financial year; and

(d) the results achieved in each State so far under these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing various programmes in the country for harnessing solar energy through the solar photovoltaic (SPV) route for electricity generation and the solar thermal (ST) route for heating applications. Under the SPV programme, installation of different types of SPV system like solar home systems, street lighting systems, water pumping systems and power plants is being supported for providing lighting, water pumping and other facilities and for electrification of remote villages. Solar water heating systems and solar cookers are being supported under the ST programme. In addition, the Ministry is supporting the establishment of 'Aditya' solar shops in the selected cities of the country. The Ministry provides central subsidy, soft loan packages and other incentives for the installation of these systems. The solar energy programmes of the Ministry are being implemented through the State renewable energy development agencies, selected NGOs, manufacturers, a few public sector banks and the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Limited. The details of the state-wise funds released under the solar energy programmes of the Ministry during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are given in statement-I attached. No funds have so far been released to any State during the current year i.e. 2003-04.

(d) The state-wise details of SPV systems installed

till 31.03.2003 are given in statement-II attached. The State-wise details of sale of solar cookers and establishment of "Aditya" solar shops till 31st March 2003 are given in statement-III attached. The State-wise details of remote villages electrified through SPV systems and power plants during 2001-02 and 2002-03 is given in statement-IV attached.

Statement-I

*State-wise Release of Funds for Solar Energy
Programmes during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69.20	286.67	348.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18.53	3.53	151.69
3.	Assam	55.14	1.26	89.50
4.	Bihar	6.20	0.33	4.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	197.00	249.70	629.17
6.	Delhi	14.11	0.76	17.88
7.	Goa	0.50	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	310.71	87.43	306.06
9.	Haryana	255.35	233.44	523.44
10.	Himachal Pradesh	131.25	135.44	120.91
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	75.25	772.06	715.83
12.	Jharkhand	-	3.41	133.98
13.	Karnataka	78.54	115.15	125.45
14.	Kerala	323.61	851.10	38.82
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.80	34.53	112.25
16.	Maharashtra	46.28	46.09	29.12
17.	Manipur	2.40	44.75	738.23

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
18.	Meghalaya	58.00	9.68	340.92	26.	Tripura	110.87	205.80	399.09
19.	Mizoram	165.55	19.95	57.33	27.	Uttar Pradesh	616.41	794.62	747.50
20.	Nagaland	8.68	0.00	0.80	28.	Uttaranchal	208.60	261.37	587.19
21.	Orissa	34.02	65.00	0.00	29.	West Bengal	359.73	793.44	688.04
22.	Punjab	57.36	650.56	1043.57	30.	A & N Islands	10.15	66.00	88.93
23.	Rajasthan	187.61	592.25	667.98	31.	Chandigarh	0.80	13.94	12.71
24.	Sikkim	2.59	36.92	20.90	32.	Lakshadweep	257.00	572.49	392.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	75.66	55.50	73.75	33.	Pondicherry	-	3.78	14.94

Statement-II*State-wise Details of Solar Energy Systems installed as on 31.3.2003*

Sl. No.	State/UT Others	Home Lighting Systems (Nos.)	Street Lighting Systems (Nos.)	Power Plants & Other Systems (kWp)	Water Pumping Systems Nos.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1161	3648	296.66	603
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	750	738	17.10	1
3.	Assam	2787	98	7.50	45
4.	Bihar	679	490	0.00	128
5.	Chhattisgarh	3612	1237	76.65	5
6.	Goa	51	69	1.72	15
7.	Gujarat	2552	1764	24.90	43
8.	Haryana	9666	612	24.20	268
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11948	1494	1.50	6
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	25317	389	40.00	18
11.	Jharkhand	102	135	0.00	6
12.	Karnataka	6135	1009	48.91	339

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Kerala	18679	1090	69.74	737
14.	Madhya Pradesh	159	5714	361.40	78
15.	Maharashtra	721	3388	191.40	189
16.	Manipur	650	370	11.00	12
17.	Meghalaya	540	593	42.00	5
18.	Mizoram	1645	315	0.00	37
19.	Nagaland	143	271	6.00	
20.	Orissa	2937	5665	36.52	4
21.	Punjab	2870	1766	346.00	1533
22.	Rajasthan	34864	6473	75.80	268
23.	Sikkim	465	132	0.00	
24.	Tamil Nadu	471	2272	237.00	760
25.	Tripura	2238	760	24.57	10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	50938	550	454.20	234
27.	Uttaranchal	37854	250	80.03	10
28.	West Bengal	26890	1461	525.00	48
29.	A & N Islands	405	358	217.00	5
30.	Chandigarh	275	0	0.00	12
31.	Dadra & N Haveli	0	0	0.00	1
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0.00	
33.	Delhi	0	301	15.00	86
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	735.00	
35.	Pondicherry	13	62	0.00	21
36.	PSUs (BEL, BHEL, CEL)	109	0	0.00	
37.	NGOs (AIWC, SWRC, WRST)	3186	0	0.00	

Statement-III

*State-wise Cumulative Sale of Box Type
Solar Cookers & "Aditya" Solar Shops
Established Till 31.03.2003*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Sale of Solar Cookers (Nos.)	"Aditya" Solar Shops
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11984	1
2.	Assam	80	1
3.	Bihar & Jharkhand	730	
4.	Gujarat	67011	
5.	Haryana	19615	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	27277	1
7.	Karnataka	250	1
8.	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	178204	1
9.	Maharashtra	55734	1
10.	Orissa	3169	2
11.	Punjab	22050	1
12.	Rajasthan	36600	2
13.	Tamil Nadu	1355	1
14.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	52409	7
15.	Delhi	27990	1
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	345	1
17.	Kerala	194	3
18.	West Bengal	7929	4
19.	Chandigarh	1523	
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	530	1
21.	Goa	1499	

1	2	3	4
22.	A & N Islands	59	
23.	Lakshadweep	0	
24.	Pondicherry	88	1
25.	Manipur	365	1
26.	Meghalaya	1164	
27.	Nagaland	0	
28.	Dadar & N. Haveli	81	
29.	Mizoram	110	1
30.	Tripura	79	1
31.	Sikkim	20	1
32.	Daman & Diu	0	
33.	AIWC	383	
34.	KVIC	0	
35.	Direct marketing	11200	
Total		5,30,500 (Approx.)	35

Statement-IV

*State-wise Details of Remote Villages Electrified
through SPV Systems and Power Plants
during 2001-02 and 2002-03*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Villages Electrified
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
2.	Assam	36
3.	Chhattisgarh	120
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	57
5.	Uttaranchal	80
6.	West Bengal	504
Total		800

Power Production Capacity

*410. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the likely annual rate of increase of power production capacity during the Tenth Five Year Plan as compared to the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the rate of annual power production during the Ninth Five Year Plan was commensurate with the increase in the requirement;

(c) whether the annual rate of production has declined during 2002-2003 as compared to preceding years;

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

(e) the target set for increase in the rate of annual production of power during 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : (a) Yes, Sir. During the Ninth Five Year Plan, the annual rate of increase of power production capacity was 4.4%. In comparison, the annual rate of increase during the Tenth Five Year Plan has been envisaged as 7.8%.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) During 2002-03, there was a drought which resulted in shortfall in hydro power generation of 13.8%. There was, however, an increase of 6.3% in thermal power generation which mitigated the adverse impact of the drought leading to an overall increase of 3.1% in power generation.

(e) The generation target for the year 2003-04 has been tentatively fixed at 572900 MUs an increase of 7.8% in comparison to actual generation of 531430 MUs achieved during 2002-03.

[Translation]

Non Completion of Hydel Power Projects

*411. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are several Hydel power projects which have not yet been completed despite according approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to take concrete steps to complete such projects;

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

(e) whether there is any such project in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, the cost of which is constantly escalating due to time over run; and

(f) if so, the name of the projects and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : (a) There are 42 hydro-electric project in the country with an installed capacity of 15,216 MW which have been accorded approval and are to be completed.

(b) Year-wise/State-wise details of hydro-electric projects sanctioned during the last three years along with their completion schedule are in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) The progress of various approved projects particularly those identified for capacity addition during the 10th Plan is reviewed periodically by Central Electricity Authority and Ministry of Power.

(e) and (f) There is no hydro-electric project under implementation in Uttar Pradesh.

Work on Sardar Sarovar Project (6x200 + 5x500 = 1450 MW), a multi-purpose Inter-State project on river Narmada in Gujarat, remained held up for nearly 5 years on account of the writ petition filed in the Supreme Court of India. The Canal Head Power House (250 MW) is ready for commissioning. Six units of River Bed Power House (1200 MW) are now scheduled for completion progressively by May 2006.

Statement*Hydro Electric Projects approved during 2000-2003.*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Sector	State	Capacity (MW) Investment	Date of CCEA/	Benefits (MW)	Benefit Year
Year 2000-2001							
1.	Koteshwar (THDC)	Central	Uttaranchal	4x100	10.04.2000	400.00	2005-06
Year 2001-2002							
2.	Madhikheda	State	M.P.	2x20	11.05.2001	40.00	2004-05
3.	Dhamvari Sunda	Private	H.P.	2x35	06.07.01	70.00	2006-07
4.	Kashang	State	H.P.	2x33	11/01	66.00	2006-07
5.	Almati Dam	State	Ktk.	1x15 + 5x55	08.03.02	290.00	2004-06
Year 2002-2003							
6.	Priyadarshni Jurala	State	A.P.	6x39.1	24.05.02	78.20	2006-07
7.	Parbati (NHPC)	Central	H.P.	4x200	11.09.02	800.00	2009-10
8.	Kol Dam (NTPC)	Central	H.P.	4x200	10/2002	800.00	2008-10
9.	UHI-III	State	H.P.	2x50	19.09.02	100.00	11th Plan
10.	Allain Duhangan	Private	H.P.	2x96	20.08.02	192.00	2008-09

*[English]***Export of films by Foreign Countries**

*413. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the USA, France and Japan intend to Export their films to India in a large scale so as to develop better relations in the film industry;

(b) if so, whether there is any such proposal under consideration of the Government to allow the film industries of these countries to export their films to India on reciprocal basis; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The Import policy for cinematograph films in India freely permits import of foreign films from all countries into India so long as the imports are in conformity with all applicable Indian laws governing the distribution and exhibition of films including the requirement of obtaining a certificate for public exhibition prescribed under the Cinematograph Act of 1952. Import of unauthorized/pirated films is prohibited.

Similarly, export of films from India is freely allowed. Decisions on normal import/exports are taken on commercial considerations by the film trade and not by Government.

Discussions with National Highways Authority

*414. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have held any discussions with the National Highways Authority of India to ensure that there is better connectivity between Railways and the developing highway system in the country;

(b) if so, details of such discussions and outcome thereof;

(c) whether Railways have offered any financial contribution to the NHAI to implement a different route system to enhance rail-road connectivity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of agreed projects between the Railways and the NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Power Sector Reforms

*415. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was the consensus at the Chief Ministers Conference two years back to speed up the power sector reforms and their implementation;

(b) if so, the achievements made by State Governments in this direction thereafter, State-wise;

(c) the States which failed to achieve required momentum along with reasons; and

(d) the support being provided by Union Government to State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The status of implementation of power sector reform in the States is given in the statement attached.

(d) The Central Government is fully supporting the States in their reform efforts. Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) scheme, the Central Government is providing funds for investment for turn around of identified distribution areas and also incentivising the bridging of the gap between revenue and cost per unit in the States through grants. Substantial relief has also been given to the State Utilities through the securitisation of past dues to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) under the Tripartite Agreement.

Statement

Status of Reforms

Sl. No.	Name of the State	MOU/ MOA	SERCs Functional/ Non-functional	Tariff Orders issued	State Reforms Act	Unbundling & Corporatisation	Anti-theft law
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Orissa	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	
2.	Haryana	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Gujarat	Yes	Functional	Issued			Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Maharashtra	Yes	Functional	Issued			Yes
7.	Assam	Yes	Functional	Issued			
8.	Chhattisgarh	Yes	Notified	—			
9.	Punjab	Yes	Functional	Issued			
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Functional	Issued			
11.	Uttaranchal	Yes	Functional		Yes	Yes	
12.	West Bengal	Yes	Functional	Issued			Yes
13.	Tamil Nadu	Yes	Functional	Issued			
14.	Delhi	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	
15.	Rajasthan	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	
16.	Goa	Yes	Notified				
17.	Karnataka	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	Functional	Issued	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Bihar	Yes	—				
20.	Jharkhand	Yes	—				
21.	Kerala	Yes	Functional				
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes					
23.	Jammu & Kashmir	Yes					
24.	Manipur	—					
25.	Meghalaya	Yes					
26.	Mizoram	Yes					
27.	Nagaland	Yes					
28.	Sikkim	Yes					
29.	Tripura	—					

BG Agreement to operate Panna-Mukta and Tapti Oil and Gas Fields

*416. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether British Gas Exploration and Production (India) Ltd., ONGC and Reliance Industries have agree to jointly operate Panna-Mukta and Tapti Oil and Gas fields;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the role of BG Group in the entire agreement/ contract; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to the ONGC in this Joint-Operation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The three consortium partners, i.e. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and BG Exploration and Production India Limited (BGEPIIL), have informed the Government on 28/02/2003 that they have reached a broad understanding to operate the Panna-Mukta and Tapti fields through a joint operating model. The operations will be through an "Operator Board" having Chairman on 2 years rotation basis with the representatives of ONGC, RIL and BGEPIIL becoming Chairman, in that order. Any change in the operatorship is required to be approved by the Government as provided in the respective Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs).

(c) As per the understanding reached amongst the three partners, the lead responsibility of BGEPIIL will be Technical and Operations.

(d) As per their understanding, ONGC representative would be the first Chairman of the Operator Board for two years and during this period, additional development plans are expected to be implemented. ONGC would also gain experience of working in E&P projects through the joint operatorship model.

Revision of Railway Safety Rules

*417. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revise railway safety rules based on detailed work study observations in view of the present frequency of accidents;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Review of Safety rules, governing maintenance of fixed and mobile assets viz. rolling stock, track, bridges, signalling, traction and general operation etc. is a continuous process. Instead of specific work study covering very large variety of assets and practices, the relevant rules are amended from time to time depending upon the changing needs, technological inputs, modifications and recommendations made by various accident inquiry committees.

The number of consequential train accidents has been coming down and the train accidents per million train kilometers have come down from 0.65 during 2000-2001 to 0.55 in the year 2001-2002.

Amount to Recover from Oil Companies

*418. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount Railways has to recover from various oil companies, coal companies and private companies etc. including the interest;

(b) the measures the Railways has taken or propose to be taken to recover that amount with interest;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed on officials for not recovering the amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) The total amount Railways has to recover from various Oil Companies, Coal Companies and Private

Companies as on 28.02.2003 was Rs. 233 Crore. Railways neither levy interest on their freight and other related dues nor pay any interest on refund and claims for compensation.

(b) The measures taken by Railways to recover the dues are as under :

- (i) Co-ordination meetings are conducted with various Oil Companies, Coal Companies and Private Companies at the Divisional and Headquarters level. Staff as well as officers at senior level periodically contact major defaulting parties in this regard.
- (ii) Railways' outstanding dues are adjusted from dues of these defaulters.
- (iii) In addition to above, a review will be made on the issues relating to outstanding dues of Railways after closing of the current financial year and plan of action will be finalized in this regard.

(c) to (e) Billing and recovery of dues is an on going process. The matter of recovery of dues is being pursued vigorously at all levels. Therefore, fixing of responsibility on officials of Railways does not arise.

ADB Loan for NRVN Projects

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

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has approved loan for three Rail Vikas Nigam projects recently;

(b) if so, the details of the project with the funds allocated to each;

(c) the terms and condition of the loan; and

(d) the time by which the works on these projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) ADB has approved a Loan of US

\$ 313.6 million. This loan will be used primarily for funding of projects identified under the initiative of Strengthening of the Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonals. Four projects have been appraised by ADB so far under this loan. These projects will be transferred to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, a special purpose company, for execution. The details are as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount allocated (in million US \$)
1.	Gooty-Pullampeta: doubling	66.6
2.	Keonjhar-Tomka of Daitari-Banspani new rail link	37.7
3.	Mahanadi second bridge	18.0
4.	Bhatapara-Urkura of Bilaspur-Urkura third Line	30.9

Major projects will be posed to ADB for funding under this loan.

(c) The loan shall be available as per the provisions of an approved loan agreement with ADB to be entered into by the Ministry of Finance, on behalf of Govt. of India. It has loan covenants relating to the Loan, Use of Proceeds of the Loan, Particular Covenants, Suspension, Cancellation, Acceleration of Maturity, Loan Effectiveness and Delegation of Authority. These conditions have been finalized between the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Railways and the ADB.

(d) Work has already been taken up and papers for pre-qualification tenders have been processed.

Ban on Opinion Polls/Exit Polls

*420. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to ban the Opinion Polls conducted by the various Print and Electronic Media in the country before the elections as well as the exercise of 'Exit Polls';

(b) if so, whether they influence the voting decision of voters and affect the concept of free and fair election;

(c) if so, whether the Government have obtained the views of the Election Commission in this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (e) Ministry of Law has informed that the Election Commission of India had laid down guidelines for publication and dissemination of results of opinion polls/exit polls in January, 1998 during General Election to Lok Sabha and certain Legislative Assemblies in 1998-99. However, these guidelines were withdrawn by the Election Commission of India in September, 1999. Opinion of Attorney General has been sought on the Constitutional validity of banning publication of results of exit polls.

NCE Projects

*421. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :

DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of non-conventional energy projects commissioned during each of the last two years and for the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the share of wind, solar and tidal power in the total power generated through non-conventional energy;

(c) the target fixed for production of power during the Tenth Plan;

(d) whether any incentives are being given to private power producers for setting up of non-conventional energy projects in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The details of major non-conventional energy projects for power generation from wind, small hydro, solar, biomass and urban & industrial waste commissioned during the last two years, i.e., 2001-02 and 2002-03, State-wise are given in the statement-I attached. A target of 470.75 MW capacity addition from these sources has been fixed for the current financial year, i.e., 2003-04.

(b) A total capacity addition of 3955 MW through non-conventional energy sources has been achieved as on 31.03.2003, which includes 1860 MW from wind power and 2.50 MW from solar power. There is no contribution from tidal power since the latter technology is yet to be demonstrated commercially in India.

(c) A target of 3100 MW capacity addition through various non-conventional energy sources has been fixed for the 10th Plan period.

(d) and (e) The Ministry is providing financial incentives for the installation of power plants based on non-conventional energy sources like solar, biomass and small hydro. The details of financial incentives provided under these programmes are given in the statement-II attached. Fiscal incentives, vis., depreciation, relief from taxes and duties and soft term loans are provided to attract private sector participation in this area. Besides, policies relating to wheeling, banking, buy-back and third party sale of power have been introduced in 15 States to encourage private investment in power generation through non-conventional energy sources.

(f) An amount of Rs. 71.97 crores, Rs. 102.66 crores and Rs. 89.01 crores has been provided for 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively for generation of power through non-conventional energy sources.

Statement-I

Details of non-conventional energy projects commissioned during 2001-02 and 2002-03

Sl. No.	State/UT	Wind Power		Solar Photovoltaic		Small Hydro		Biomass Power		Biomass Gasifier		Energy from Wastes	
		2001-02 (MW)	2002-03	2001-02 (kWp)	2002-03	2001-02 (MW)	2002-03	2001-02 (MW)	2002-03	2001-02 (kWe)	2002-03	2001-02 (MWe)	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.70	-	100.00	-	11.90	4.90	47.50	58.85	100.00	-	4.25	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	-	5.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	7070.00	-	0.45	-
7.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	3.56	1.40	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	8.11	9.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Karnataka	24.00	46.50	-	-	14.55	25.02	12.00	33.78	500.00	-	-	-
11.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	5	-	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	209.40	2.00	-	-	2.00	3.00	15.50	-	-	-	0.90	-
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	0.75	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	-	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	16.00	0.60	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Punjab	-	-	-	200.00	1.00	4.20	-	10.00	-	-	-	-
20.	Rajasthan	8.80	45.60	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	44.90	132.70	-	-	2.10	2.50	8.00	-	-	100	0.20	1.75
23.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1000.00	-	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	-	-	660.00	1015	-	2.00
25.	West Bengal	0.60	-	25.00	-	-	3.00	-	-	1685.00	250	-	-
26.	A & N Islands	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28.	Dadra & N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-	200.00	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	0.80	6.00	-	-	500	-	-
34.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	6.45	-	-	-	-	-	-
36.	Common for all States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		288.40	231.80	375.00	500	65.22	70.62	89.00	102.63	1115.00	2070.00	5.80	3.75

MW = Mega Watt; kWp = Kilo Watt peak; kWe = Kilo Watt Equivalent; Mwe = Mega Watt Equivalent.

Statement-II*Details of financial incentives provided under various non-conventional energy programmes*

Sl.No.	Name of Programme	Details of subsidies
1	2	3
1.	Biomass Gasifier	60% for general States 90% for North East Region and Sikkim and Special Category States.
2.	Small Hydro Programme Capital subsidy Upto 500 kW	90% cost upto Rs. 0.75 lakh per kW for NE States Equipment cost +50% of civil cost upto Rs. 45,000 per kW for middle Himalaya, Ladakh and A & N and Rs. 30,000/kW for other areas (only notified hilly regions)
	Above 500 kW to 1 MW	90% cost upto Rs. 0.60 lakh per kW for NE States Equipment cost +50% of civil cost upto Rs. 45,000 per kW for middle Himalaya, Ladakh and A & N and Rs. 30,000/ kW for other areas (only notified hilly regions)
	Above 1 MW to 5 MW	75% cost upto Rs. 4.50 crores per MW for NE States Equipment cost +25% of civil cost upto Rs. 3 crores per MW for middle Himalaya, Ladakh and A & N and Rs. 1.50 crores per MW for other areas (only notified hilly regions)
	Above 5 MW to 15 MW	Equipment cost +25% of civil cost upto Rs. 22.50 crores per project for NE States Equipment cost +25% of civil cost upto Rs. 15 crores per project for middle Himalaya, Ladakh and A & N and Rs. 7.5 crores per MW for other areas (only notified hilly regions)
	Interest subsidy	2% to 7.5% (Floor rate applicable = 7.5%)
3.	Wind Power	
	(i) Land based demonstration project	Upto 60% of equipment cost.
	(ii) Wind Diesel Hybrid Projects	Full cost of the equipment subject to benchmark of Rs. 70 lakh per kW. In addition, 90% for laying new or existing lines for electrification in remote and difficult areas.
4.	SPV Power (grid connected)	Maximum upto Rs. 2 crores / 100 kWp
5.	Biomass Power/Cogeneration	
	Interest subsidy	3% - 5% (Floor rate applicable = 8%)

1	2	3
	a. Bagasse Cogeneration	
	Projects by Cooperative/Public/Joint Sector Sugar Mills 60 bar and above (40 to 80 bars and above)	2% - 3% (Floor rate applicable = 8%)
	Projects in IPP mode in Cooperative/Public sector sugar mills (60 to 80 bar and above)	2% - 3% (Floor rate applicable = 10%)
	Projects by private sugar mills (60 to 80 bar and above)	2% - 3% (Floor rate applicable = 8%)
	b. Biomass Cogeneration	
	Commercial projects (60 to 80 bars and above)	Additional interest subsidy @ 2%. (Floor rate applicable = 8%)
	c. Biomass Power	
	For NE States	
	Commercial projects (60 to 80 bars and above)	2% - 3% (Interest Subsidy) (Floor rate applicable = 10%)
	MW-scale projects with 100% producer gas engines	Capital subsidy of Rs. 1 crore per MW
	Advanced Biomass Gasification	Capital subsidy of Rs. 1 crore per MW
6.	Power from urban & Industrial Wastes	
	Capital subsidy	Upto 50% of capital cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 3 crores per MW for innovative demonstration projects.
	Interest subsidy	Interest subsidy for reducing the rate of interest to 7.5% subject to Rs. 0.50 crores to Rs. 2.00 crores per MW depending upon type of projects and category of waste for commercial projects (Floor rate applicable = 7.5%)

MW = Mega Watt; kWp = Kilo Watt peak; kW = Kilo Watt Equivalent; PV = Photovoltaic.

Inclusion of Kansara Caste in OBC List

4050. SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

on 2.5.2002 and 1.7.2002 respectively from some Members of Parliament from Gujarat regarding inclusion of 'Kansara Caste/Community' in the Union Government's list of OBCs in the State;

(a) whether the Government have received a letter

(b) whether the Government have also received a

representation from Kansara Community of Gujarat in this regard;

(c) whether he and the Prime Minister replied to the MPs on 28.6.2002 and 5.7.2002 respectively giving any assurance in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken thereon alongwith the outcome thereof; and

(f) the time by which the Kansara Caste is likely to be included in the Central List for Other Backward Communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In the letter dated 28-06-2002, the Hon'ble MP was informed that the representation of Kansara caste/community of Gujarat has been forwarded to National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) for necessary action. The Prime Minister vide his letter dated 05-07-2002 has simply acknowledged the receipt of MP's letter dated 01-07-2002 regarding inclusion of Kansara caste/community in the Central List of OBCs for Gujarat.

(e) As per provision under Section 9(1) of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993, the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward class in the lists and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists and tenders such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate. In view of this, the above representation has been forwarded to the NCBC for necessary action. The Government of India decides cases for inclusion/amendment in the Central Lists of OBCs based on the advice tendered by NCBC and details thereof are notified. The NCBC has not yet tendered any advice to this Ministry for the inclusion of Kansara caste/community in the Central List of OBCs for Gujarat State.

(f) As soon as the advice of NCBC is received, the Government will initiate action for its notification.

Deccan Odyessey Train

4051. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether permission given by the Ministry to start the Deccan Odyessey Trains schedule to be delayed;

(b) whether due to lack of coordination between Department of Tourism, MTDC and Railway the project has suffered;

(c) if so, the details about the feasibility study, project cost, difference occurred, action taken and proposed schedule; and

(d) the cost for the commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The tariff will be decided by the MTDC.

Wagons for Transportation of Foodgrains

4052. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has assured that immediate arrangements would be made for dispatch of wagons to transport foodgrains under various schemes of the Central Government to different parts of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the total wagons provided during January and February 2003 for transport of foodgrains; and

(c) the extent to which they were fully utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) As a National carrier, Railways are committed for transportation of foodgrains and other essential commodities. Railways provide rakes for loading and transportation of foodgrains as per the indents registered, keeping in view the operational considerations. During January 2003, 127 rakes and during February 2003, 122 rakes were provided

for transportation of foodgrains to Karnataka for Public Distribution System (P.D.S.) and welfare schemes.

ROBs Projects in Kerala

4053. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for the approval of single agency execution for the construction of 50 Nos. Railway Overbridges in Kerala through the Roads and Bridges Development Corporation of Kerala Limited (RBDCK) as its agent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for approval of said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) In all, proposals for 40 works of ROBs from State Govt. were received between 2001-02, out of which, 20 works proposals received in one lot in 2001, were given to Roads and Bridges Development Corporation of Kerala Ltd. (RBDCK) for execution of complete ROBs and for remaining 20 works, proposals for which were received in one lot in 2002 Railway has decided to execute its portion of work itself an approaches work to be got done by State Govt. as per extant practice.

[Translation]

Construction of Overbridge at Khelari Railway Station

4054. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an overbridge at Khelari Railway Station and a foot bridge at Rai Railway station in Ranchi have not been constructed so far:

(b) if so, the schedule fixed for completion of these projects:

(c) whether these projects are lagging behind the schedule;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the completion of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Foot over Bridges exit at both these stations. One Road Over Bridge (ROB) near Khelari Railway Station in lieu of Level Crossing No. 6/B/T has been included in Works Programme, 2003-04 at a cost of Rs. 5.94 crore (Out of Rs. 5.94 crore, Railways' share is Rs. 2.86 crore and State Government's share is Rs. 3.08 crore).

(b) Railway constructs bridge proper across tracks and State Governments construct approaches of Road Over Bridges. Efforts are made by Railway to complete its portion before or along with approaches by State Government. The overall completion of ROB shall depend on taking up of approaches by the State Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Out of Railways' share of Rs. 2.86 crore, Rs. 2.00 crore have been allotted during the current financial year for early completion of this work.

[English]

Conversion of Defence Land into Private Land

4055. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded sanction in respect of a defence land measuring 6.10 acres and located at Tarbund Secundrabad Cantonment for amendment of GLR of Secundrabad Cantonment thereby converting the valuable defence land into private free of cost;

(b) if so, whether this amendment was contradictory to the advice of Director General of Defence Estate;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and present market value of the land;

(d) whether GLR is amended in every case after referring the matter to Ministry of Law;

(e) if so, the number of cases in which GLR has been amended to convert Defence land into private free of cost during last three years, year-wise;

(f) whether the Government have received any complaint in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details with the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) In view of a dispute over the title of B.No.205 Tarbund, in Secunderabad Cantt., the case was examined in the Ministry in consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) and it was decided to declare the said property as private property. The current market value of the subject property has been assessed by the Defence Estates Office as Rs. 14.87 crores.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Ministry of Law are consulted whenever considered necessary. No case excepting the property mentioned above has been declared as private property during the last three years.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. As the decision in this case was taken on the advice of Ministry of Law, no further action was considered necessary.

Power Supply to States Through NCES

4056. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are supplying power to deficit States through NCES; and

(b) if so, the extent to which power has been made available through non-conventional energy sources to Madhya Pradesh and other States during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) A total power generation capacity of 3935 MW from non-conventional energy sources has been

installed in 29 deficit States and Union Territories, upto 31.03.2003.

(b) A total capacity of 412 MW was installed during 2002-03. No non-conventional energy based power project was installed in Madhya Pradesh during 2002-03. No project has so far been commissioned in any State during the current financial year.

Investments Made on Location of New Gas Reserves

4057. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made investments in inspection of reserves of natural gas at various places including coastal areas in the country during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) National Oil Companies (NOCs), i.e. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL), as also private/joint venture companies have invested in onland and offshore areas for exploration of hydrocarbons, crude oil and natural gas.

(b) Information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pending Power Projects of Rajasthan

4058. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some projects sent by the State Government of Rajasthan to the Union Government for approval are still pending;

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

(c) the present status and the time by which these projects are likely to be considered and given approval; and

(d) the details of the anticipated cost of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) As per available information, proposal for setting up Mathania Integrated Solar Combined Cycle (ISCC) Thermal Power Project (140 MW) at a cost of US \$ 47.06 M plus Rs. 509.571 crores has been received in the Central Electricity Authority for grant of Techno-Economic Clearance. Sanction to the project is held up for want of fuel tie up.

Railway Hospital in Dhanbad

4059. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proper treatment is not given to the patients in the main railway hospital in Dhanbad of Dhanbad Division under East-Central Railway due to the shortage of doctors and old machines and equipment;

(b) the details of the total requirement of the doctors and doctors actually working in various departments of the hospital at present;

(c) the details as to how old these important equipment such as X-Ray machines, colour dopler, Ultra-sound machine etc.;

(d) the details of new machines and equipments made available to the hospitals during the last three years;

(e) whether any proposal to modernize this hospital is under consideration; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir. Proper treatment is being imparted to patients as per needs in the main Railway Hospital of Dhanbad under East-Central Railway. Medical officers are available in all basic specialities. All the required machinery and equipment are in working condition.

(b) The sanctioned strength is 21 medical officers

of which 05 slots are vacant as on date. Details are given in the statement-I attached.

(c) There are 15 items of vital equipment at Railway Hospital Dhanbad all in working condition. Details are given in the statement-II attached.

(d) Details of important equipment procured during the last three years :

(i) Operation Table.

(ii) Horizontal Sterilizer/Autoclave machine.

(iii) Pulse Oxymeter.

(iv) Boyles Apparatus.

(v) 300 MA X-ray machine.

(e) and (f) From time to time, as per various schemes, such as annual machinery and plants programme, works programme and under the Divisional Railway Manager's schedule of powers the assets & equipments are modernised/replaced which is an ongoing process. There is also a working arrangement with Bharat Coking Coal Limited Hospital, Dhanbad and other institutes for conducting sophisticated investigations etc. on payment. Costly equipment whose use is not frequent and where sophisticated expertise is required, is not usually purchased in Railways due to rapid obsolescence. Such services are obtained from outside agencies wherever available.

Statement-I

Position of Doctors

Sanctioned Strength - 21

Vacancies :-

Gynecologist and Obstretician	-	01 (2nd post)
Paediatrics	-	01
Male OPD	-	01
Casualty Unit	-	02
Total	-	05

Statement-II

S.No.	Name of Equipment	Date of Receipt
1.	300MA X-ray Machine	30.01.90
2.	50 MA Mobile X-ray Machine	03.08.77
3.	Dental X-ray Machine 20 MA	16.03.90
4.	Pulse Oxymeter	02.05.96
5.	Endoscopy Machine	23.03.98
6.	Ultra Sonography Machine	16.06.94
7.	Odelca Camera	04.09.80
8.	Operation Theatre Table	20.12.02
9.	Horizontal Sterilizer Autoclave Machine	20.12.02
10.	Boyles Apparatus	10.12.02
11.	300 X-ray Machine	31.03.03
12.	Semi Auto Analyzer	10.11.94
13.	Carl Storz Single Puncture Laproscope	05.02.88
14.	Cardiac Difibrilator Monitor	25.07.98
15.	Pulse Oxymeter	25.03.00

All the above equipment are in satisfactory working condition.

[English]

Complex at Chitpur

4060. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken a project of Rs. 78 crore to build up a new Complex at Chitpur over a wide area under Tala Bridge;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released for the project so far

(d) the time schedule fixed for completion of the project;

(e) whether the project covers the linking roads with Kolkata;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Shalimar Complex project due to involvement of more than Rs. 100 crore is now under consideration of the Planning Commission; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The new terminal at Chitpur, proposed near Tala Bridge, has been included in the Budget 2003-2004 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 78 crore to remove terminal constraints at Howrah.

(c) and (d) An outlay of Rs. 0.80 crore has been proposed for the work in the Budget 2003-2004. The work would be taken up after the budget is passed by the Parliament. However, no target date has been fixed for completion of the project.

(e) and (f) Road linkages to the proposed terminal are to be finalized by State Government of West Bengal.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Over bridge to connect Central Avenue with Western End of Nagpur Railway Station

4061. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Railway propose to construct a new over bridge to connect the Central Avenue with Western End of Nagpur Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However Maharashtra State Road Development

Corporation (MSRDC) has proposed a Road Over Bridge connecting Central Avenue to Western end of Nagpur Station (Santra Market). This complete work will be executed by MSRDC on BOT (Build Operate & Transfer) basis. It will be a cable stayed bridge with 109m and 89m spans and a Central pylon of 36m height providing total carriage width of 22m i.e. 11m on each direction. General Arrangement Drawing for this ROB has been submitted by M/s RITES, the consultant of MSRDC who have been asked to make tentative design of foundation.

**Transport facilities to Army
School Children**

4062. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has issued a set of guidelines applicable to all school buses plying in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Army trucks which are used as modified buses to transport school children are exempted from the Supreme Court guidelines;

(c) if so, whether these trucks are safe to carry school children; and

(d) if not, the alternative arrangements made or being made by Indian Army to ferry children in safer mode of transport vehicles?

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

(b) No, Yes.

(c) and (d) The army trucks are meant to carry troops and stores during operations. During peace time a few of these trucks, with some modifications without hampering their operational preparedness, are used to transport school children. These vehicles are manned by qualified drivers and attendants, who take due care while driving. However, due to an accident, involving one of the modified trucks in Delhi on 20.2.2003, use of modified trucks to carry school children in Delhi has been stopped. Army is now hiring buses from the Delhi Transport Corporation to meet the shortfall in the requirement of buses for carrying children to schools.

**Clearance to Subansiri Lower
Hydro-Electric Project**

4063. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Subansiri (Lower) hydro-electric project has been cleared;

(b) if so, the details of the project and its cost, capacity and implementation schedule as approved; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to implement the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh has an estimated installed capacity of 2000 MW. It is located near North Lakhimpur on the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border. The National Hydro-electric Power Corporation was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance by the Central Electricity Authority for this project on January 13, 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 6608.68 crore at December 2002 price level. The environment and forest clearance for the project is awaited. The proposal of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation for setting up of this project has been taken up for investment approval. The National Hydroelectric Power Corporation has proposed completing the project within seven years from the date of investment approval.

[Translation]

**Removal of Animal Carcass around
Defence Airports**

4064. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several planes of Indian Air Force have met and likely to meet with accidents because of the regular presence of animal carcass around the defence airports;

(b) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance had allocated some funds to his Ministry to overcome the problem;

(d) if so, the details of the funds allocated during the last three years; and

(e) the reasons for not utilising these funds?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The presence of animal carcass around defence airports attracts birds, which pose a hazard to aircraft. Some aircraft accidents occur due to bird hits.

(b) Slaughtering of animals is not permitted in Air Force airfield precincts. Whenever animal carcass is found in the airfield it is removed immediately. Carcass seen outside the airfield is reported to the civil authorities for removal. Regular interaction is carried out with surrounding villages and civil administration to keep airfield area carcass free.

(c) to (e) Funds were allocated for anti bird measures, which inter-alia include carcass management. The details of funds allocated during the last three financial years are as under :-

Financial Year	Funds Allocated
2000-2001	Rs. 427.60 lakhs
2001-2002	Rs. 385.00 lakhs
2002-2003	Rs. 395.00 lakhs

The funds allocated were fully utilised.

[English]

Smoking in Films

4065. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the film stars are shown smoking in such an alluring manner that the viewers particularly youngsters are captivated and attracted;

(b) if so, now when the smoking is banned in public places, the Government consider similar ban on smoking shown in films; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films in terms of the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. The objectives of certification, as laid down in the guidelines, are:-

- (i) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;
- (ii) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed;
- (iii) certification is responsive to social change;
- (iv) the medium of film provides clean and healthy entertainment; and
- (v) as far as possible, the film is of aesthetic value and cinematically of a good standard.

The film certification guidelines already inter-alia ask CBFC to ensure that scenes tending to encourage, justify or glamorize consumption of tobacco or smoking are not shown. CBFC has intimated that the above guidelines are adhered to in certifying films.

New Jalpaiguri-Maynaguri-Jogighopa Rail Line

4066. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the present status of New Jalpaiguri-Mynaguri-Jogighopa rail line project;
- (b) the funds allocated therefor, year-wise;
- (c) the time schedule for completion of said project;
- (d) whether the project is running behind the schedule time;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken for timely completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The new rail line project is from New Maynaguri to Jogighopa. The broad-gauge line already exists between New Jalpaiguri to New Maynaguri. On this project, the field work for final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition has been processed in Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar Districts and an amount of Rs. 6.22 crore has been deposited towards cost of land to West Bengal Government. Contracts for earthwork for gauge conversion portion from Maynaguri Road to Changrabandha (19 km) have been awarded.

(b) Year-wise allocation of funds for the project is as under :-

2000-01	-	Rs. 06 crore
2001-02	-	Rs. 20 crore
2002-03	-	Rs. 08 crore
2003-04	-	Rs. 25 crore

(c) to (f) No target has yet been fixed for completion of the project.

Setting up of Wind Mills on Mountain Tops

4067. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to use hill tops for setting up of wind mills which are under the forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such sites identified in the western ghats of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) Wind power projects of aggregate capacity above 1850 MW have been installed

in the country so far, mainly as commercial projects through private sector investments. The projects have been installed at windy sites which also include potential sites in hilly areas. Where necessary, appropriate forestry clearance has been obtained.

(c) 26 potential sites have been identified in the State of Maharashtra, including sites in the western ghats. However, as of now the State Government do not plan to set up wind power projects on hill tops which are under forest land.

[Translation]

Publication of Advertisements without Proper Channel

4068. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Union Ministries are sending their advertisements directly for publication in the newspapers instead of channeling them through the D.A.V.P. of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;

(b) if so, whether several State Governments and Government of the Union Territories are also sending their advertisements to the newspapers selected by them and at their own rates instead of the approved newspapers/magazines on the panel of D.A.V.P.;

(c) whether there is no compulsion by D.A.V.P. on them in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) is the nodal agency for production and release of all display advertisements of the Government of India through the media of press, posters, folders, calendars, blotters, leaflets, holdings, cinema slides, etc. and also release of classified advertisements on behalf of the Government of

India. However, for their creative advertisements the Ministries/Departments may engage specialised or other voluntary agencies; in such case too, they should go through DAVP for placing their advertisements in the newspapers and other media.

Advisory letters have been issued by this Ministry from time to time inviting attention of the Central Government Ministries/Departments to these provisions and requesting them to release their advertisements through DAVP only.

As far as State Governments are concerned, they are free to formulate their own Advertising Policy.

Photographs of National Leaders in Newspapers

4069. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had issued a big size advertisement alongwith the photograph of the Prime Minister to various newspapers and magazines on the Independence Day of 2002 i.e. 15 August, 2002;

(b) if so, the number of dailies, weeklies, periodicals and monthlies which were issued this advertisement alongwith serial-wise size thereof and the amount spent thereon;

(c) the number of dailies, weeklies, periodicals/ fortnightlies and monthlies which were issued an advertisement alongwith the photograph of Mahatma Gandhi by the D.A.V.P. on 2nd October alongwith the number-wise size thereof and the funds spent thereon; and

(d) the reasons for issuing less advertisements on "Father of the Nation" on 2nd October to lesser number of newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Power Reforms and Electrification in Orissa

4070. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering financing the power transmission network and rural electrification programmes in Orissa as part of the power sector reforms and 100 percent electrification of the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any existing/proposed scheme for financing private distribution companies especially after the power sector reforms in Orissa;

(d) if so, whether any projects are likely to be executed in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power, electrification of balance unelectrified villages in the country is targeted to be completed by the end of the 10th Plan. A sum of Rs.17.038 crores under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana for rural electrification of 2001-02 and Rs. 60 crores under Minimum Needs Programme for rural electrification works for the year 2002-03 was released by the Government of India to Government of Orissa.

(c) to (e) Under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme, the following schemes proposed by the Government of Orissa for up gradation of the sub-transmission and distribution (ST&D) schemes in respect of the private distribution companies in Orissa have been sanctioned in 2002-03 :-

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project/Scheme	Name of Private Distribution Company	Project Cost	APDRP Portion
1.	ST&D project in Burla	WESCO	87.65	43.825
2.	ST&D project in Balasore	NESCO	101.81	50.905
3.	ST&D project in Berhampur	SOUTHCO	106.03	53.015
4.	ST&D project in Bhubaneswar	Under CESCO an Administrator appointed by Orissa Electricity Regulatory Commission	113.74	56.87
5.	ST&D project in Cuttack		57.85	28.925
6.	ST&D project in Paradeep		67.21	33.605
7.	ST&D project in Dhenkanal		57.93	28.965
Total			592.22	296.11

During the year 2002-03 a sum of Rs. 54.35 crores has been released as first installment for implementation of the above schemes.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) to (e) above.

Revival of NEPA Limited

4071. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have shelved the disinvestment process of NEPA Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of loss being incurred by the NEPA Limited per-month;

(d) whether the Ministry has sought financial assistance for reviving this company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) :

(a) It has been decided to issue advertisement calling for fresh Expression of Interest for disinvestment of Nepa Limited. Department of Disinvestment has initiated appropriate action accordingly.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of month-wise loss (Provisional) incurred by Nepa Limited during 2002-2003 are given as under :-

Month	Amount (In Crores Loss)
1	2
April 2002	2.41
May 2002	3.09
June 2002	2.94
July 2002	3.51
August 2002	2.86
September 2002	2.98
October 2002	3.19

1	2
November 2002	2.86
December 2002	2.48
January 2003	1.96
February 2003	2.49
March 2003	2.36

(d) Nepa Ltd. is sick company and under reference to Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). BIFR have appointed State Bank of India as Operating Agency (OA) and directed them to prepare a rehabilitation package for the company.

(e) Does not arise.

Separate Authority for ROB/RUB Projects

4072. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to form a separate authority like Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. to look after the road over bridge and road under bridge (ROB&RUB) projects in order to speed up various Railway projects with exclusive participation of its own to avoid the delay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Facilities to Ex-servicemen

4073. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the ex-servicemen registered as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of Sainik Welfare Boards existed in each State and the functioning thereof;

(c) the number of immovable and mobile canteens in each State;

(d) the reasons for which facility of immovable and mobile canteen has not been provided in Chhattisgarh; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide canteen and other welfare facilities to ex-servicemen in Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The number of ex-servicemen registered with Rajya Sainik Boards as on December 2002 is 17,64,831. State-wise list is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) Each state has got a Rajya Sainik Board/Deptt. of Sainik Welfare responsible for welfare and resettlement of the ex-servicement/dependents. These Rajya Sainik Boards have got Zila Sainik Boards under them at the district levels. There are a total of 32 Rajya Sainik Boards. A list is enclosed as statement-II.

The charter of duties of these Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards is given as in the statement-III enclosed.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected from the field establishments.

Statement-I

Census of Ex-servicemen RSB Wise as on Dec 2002

Sl.No.	RSB/ZSB	Ex-servicemen				Widows			
		Army	AF	Navy	Total	Army	AF	Navy	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50634	8584	3788	63006	14091	841	316	15248

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	279	0	0	279	5	0	0	5
3.	Assam	19386	1422	332	21140	1976	155	11	2142
4.	Bihar	50797	2497	1364	54658	4566	164	89	4819
5.	Chhattisgarh	3295	239	118	3652	609	40	18	667
6.	Goa	1076	171	537	1784	97	27	59	183
7.	Gujarat	13275	2746	538	16559	1532	103	23	1658
8.	Himachal Pradesh	80278	1660	2822	84760	20424	148	249	20821
9.	Haryana	172314	7640	4712	184666	39565	1070	606	41241
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	56211	371	359	56941	13486	50	44	13580
11.	Jharkhand	13762	721	576	15059	1603	135	100	1838
12.	Karnataka	43992	7563	1792	53347	11443	1101	340	12884
13.	Kerala	111370	17195	9583	138148	24320	1954	1092	27366
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27751	1423	942	30116	5401	199	105	5705
15.	Maharashtra	133408	12988	13870	160266	29535	1562	1286	32383
16.	Manipur	4084	39	11	4134	451	2	1	454
17.	Meghalaya	1823	66	34	1923	556	16	9	581
18.	Mizoram	4223	20	20	4263	1359	14	12	1385
19.	Nagaland	2129	7	18	2154	399	0	0	399
20.	Orissa	14712	3468	1649	19829	1612	154	84	1850
21.	Punjab	209932	7075	3288	220295	40416	808	498	41722
22.	Rajasthan	109156	4497	2358	116011	26414	697	362	27473
23.	Sikkim	1133	1	5	1139	370	1	0	371
24.	Tamil Nadu	97812	9110	2629	109551	38308	1731	520	40559
25.	Tripura	1707	89	46	1843	408	15	10	433
26.	Uttar Pradesh	183078	14557	7230	204865	34068	1565	789	36422
27.	Uttaranchal	103254	1628	1858	106740	18306	199	214	18719

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28.	West Bengal	37115	6704	3017	46836	4440	541	212	5193
29.	A & N Islands	325	83	103	511	28	0	4	32
30.	Chandigarh	4809	1800	234	6843	817	266	23	1106
31.	Delhi	25021	4777	2395	32193	3388	557	463	4409
32.	Pondicherry	1040	222	59	1321	280	21	6	307
Total		1579181	119363	66287	1764831	340273	14136	7545	361954

Note:-Figures for the states of Arunahcal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Jahrkhand, Orissa, A&Nicobar, Uttaranchal are provisional.

Statement-II

Addresses of Rajya Sainik Boards

Sl.No.	State	Address
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare II Floor, Block-IV, Gruhakalpa Complex, MJ Road, Mampally Hyderabad - 500 001
2.	Arunachal Pradesh :	Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh New Itanagar - 791 110
3.	Assam	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Sainik Bhawan, Lachit Nagar Guwahati - 781 007
4.	Bihar	Deptt. of Sainik Kalyan Govt. of Bihar, Home Deptt Barrack No 10, Old Secretariate Patna - 800 015
5.	Chhattisgarh	Dte of Sainik Welfare C/O Zila Sainik Kalyan Karyalaya Raipur - 492 001

1	2	3
6.	Goa	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Collectorate Building Panaji Goa - 403 001
7.	Gujarat	Sainik Welfare & Resettlement Barrack No. 3 Govt. Polytechnic Campus Ahmedabad - 380 015
8.	Haryana	: Rajya Sainik Board Sainik Bhawan, Sector-12 Shahed Capt Rohit Kaushal Marg Panchkula - 134 109
9.	Himachal Pradesh :	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Govt. of Himachal Pradesh Hamirpur - 177 001
10.	Jammu & Kashmir :	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Ambphalla Jammu - 180 005
11.	Jharkhand	Sainik Kalyan Nidesha:aya Ranchi (Jharkhand)

1	2	3	1	2	3
12. Karnataka	:	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare & Resettlement Field Marshal KM Cariappa Bhavan No.58 FD MshL KM Cariappa Road Bangalore - 560 025	20. Orissa		Rajya Sainik Board Nageswar Tangi, Lewis Road Bhubaneshwar - 751 002
13. Kerala		Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Vikas Bhavan Thiruvanthapuram - 695 033	21. Punjab	:	Dte of Sainik Welfare, Punjab Punjab Sainik Bhawan Sector-22-D, Chandigarh - 160 022
14. Madhya Pradesh		Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Southern Shopping Centre TGB Complex, TT Nagar P.B.No.364 Bhopal - 462 003	22. Rajasthan	:	Dte. of Sainik Welfare Secretariat Building North Block,, Jaipur - 302 005
15. Maharashtra		Deptt. of Sainik Welfare Govt Bunglow No. 7, Shastri Nagar Yerwada, Pune - 411 006	23. Sikkim		Rajya Sainik Board, Sikkim P.O. Gangtok - 737 101
16. Manipur		Rajya Sainik Board Sainik Rest House Lamphelpat Imphal - 795 001	24. Tamil Nadu		Dte of Ex-Servicemen Welfare 22, Raja Mauthia Road Chennai-600 003
17. Meghalaya	:	Dte of Sainik Welfare Public Service Commission Building Beyond DC Building Shillong - 793 001	25. Tripura		Rajya Sainik Board Nehru Office Complex Gorkhabasti, PO - Kunjban Agartala - 799 006
18. Mizoram		Deptt. of Sainik Welfare PO Box No.119 Treasury Square Aizawl - 706 001	26. Uttranchal		Sainik Kalyan Evam Punarvas Karyalaya Chandel Bhawan, Ajabpur Kalan Anjali Vihar Dehradun - 248 121
19. Nagaland		Rajya Sainik Board Home Deptt., Home Branch Kohima - 797 001	27. Uttar Pradesh		Sainik Kalyan Evam Punarvas Karyalaya Post Box No. 290 Kariappa Bhawan, Qaiserbagh Lucknow - 226 001
			28. West Bengal		Rajya Sainik Board Writer's Building, Block F Kolkata - 700 001
			29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		Rajya Sainik Board A&N Administration Secretariat Port Blair - 744 101
			30. Chandigarh UT		Zila Sainik Welfare Officer UT Chandigarh Opp. Aroma Hotel Sector-21-D Chandigarh - 160 022

1	2	3
31. Delhi (NCT)	Rajya Sainik Board 1, Rajpur Road Delhi - 110 054	
32. Pondicherry UT	Deptt. of Sainik Welfare No. 51, Montiorser Street Pondicherry - 605 001	

Statement-III

Responsibilities of Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards

1. The Departments of Sainik Welfare/Rajya Sainik Boards in the States/UTs are responsible for the following functions :-
 - (a) Co-ordinate the work of Zila Sainik Welfare Offices in the State.
 - (b) Maintain Liaison with Ministries of the State, State undertaking and enterprises and banks to seek vacancies for ESM and widows as per reservation policy of the State and as per recruitment rules. Monitor such vacancies and ensure these are filled up by ESM or widows.
 - (c) Promoting measures for the welfare and resettlement of ex-Servicemen and families of serving/deceased personnel of the Armed Forces.
 - (d) Disseminating information to the general public regarding the Armed Forces in the country and for taking measures to enhance interest in Armed Forces amongst general public.
 - (e) Administering the Zila Sainik Welfare Offices (ZSWOs) in the State in accordance with the rules and instructions prescribed by the Central and State Govts.
 - (f) Carry out any duties assigned by DGR/Secretary, KSB.
 - (g) Submit to KSB report for claiming the 50 percent charges for establishment expenditure of RSB and ZSBs of the State.
 - (h) Maintain upto date status of ESM, disabled ESM, widows and dependents.
 - (i) Ensure timely submission of reports and returns to DGR/KSB.
 - (j) Organise RSB meeting under Chairmanship of Chief Minister and Amalgamated Fund meeting under chairmanship of Governor of the State.
 - (k) Seek and monitor employment opportunities for ESM and widows in the private sector.
 - (l) Assist ESM and widows in planning and funding of Self-employment ventures.
 - (m) Organise Armed Forces Flag Day Fund collection drive throughout the year.
 - (n) Create additional welfare measures for ESM and widows.
2. The Zila Sainik Welfare Offices (ZSWOs)/Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs) which are the field units of this organisation are responsible for the tasks as given under :-
 - (a) Disseminating information to the general public regarding the Armed Forces in the country and constantly endeavouring to promote and maintain a feeling of goodwill between civilians and service personnel and ex-Servicemen.
 - (b) Monitoring the welfare of families of servicemen and ex-Servicemen and assisting them in representing their cases with the local administration or the Defence authorities.
 - (c) Giving information to the general public regarding the conditions of service in the Armed Forces and assist intending candidates in approaching the appropriate recruiting authorities for purposes of enlistment.
 - (d) Keeping a watch on the adequacy of the number of pension paying Branch Post Offices.

- (e) Scrutinising applications for relief from various Military and Civil charitable funds and making suitable recommendations.
- (f) Granting financial relief to ex-Servicemen and their dependents from funds at their disposal. Recommending cases of ESM and their families for financial assistance from KSB.
3. The welfare responsibilities of Zila Sainik Welfare Offices (ZSWOs) will encompass all such traditional activities which were already being performed by these offices with particular reference to the following :-
- (a) Settlement of financial problems such as pension and other retirement/release benefits/dues to ex-Servicemen and grants and assistance in kind to ex-Servicemen beneficiaries and dependents from the Central/State Govts. or other Organisations such as the Indian Red Cross Society etc.
- (b) Maintaining close liaison with the Pension Disbursing authorities/agencies in the District to ensure prompt and correct payment of pension and reliefs to ex-Servicemen pensioners or their dependents.
- (c) Providing assistance for settlement of land and other disputes.
- (d) Assist families of serving personnel staying separately during their absence away on duty.
- (e) Promote and maintain under the guidance of the State Rajya Sainik Boards, welfare measures in the District such as Rest House for ex-Servicemen, old age pensioner's homes, vocational and other training facilities etc.
- (f) Mobilise assistance for medical treatment in Military/Civil hospitals.
- (g) Maintain liaison with other welfare organisations such as the Indian Red Cross Society etc. to enhance additional sources of welfare and concessions for ex-Servicemen and their families/dependents in the Districts.
- (h) Maintain an up-to-date register of war widows, dependents and those disabled in action with a view to ensure their welfare.
- (i) To represent DGR/KSB, Ministry of Defence (Govt. of India) in Court Cases under their jurisdiction in which these organisations have been made respondent.
4. The responsibilities of the Zila Sainik Welfare Offices (ZSWOs) with regard to resettlement of ex-Servicemen are :-
- (a) To maintain close and effective liaison for purpose of resettlement through employment of ex-Servicemen with :-
- (i) Local Central/State/Private industrial Organisation.
- (ii) Local employment exchange particularly in States where it has co-sponsoring powers for re-employment of ex-Servicemen.
- (iii) Local revenue authorities in connection with schemes for resettlement on land of ex-Servicemen.
- (iv) District Industries/Block Development Offices and assisting those ex-Servicemen desirous of setting up small scale industries.
- (v) Civil industry and businesses for organising a second career.
- (b) Assist ex-Servicemen in forming and setting up co-operatives for their self-employment.
- (c) Provide all resettlement assistance to war widows, dependents and war disabled as well as to those who died/disabled while in service due to attributable reasons.

5. Other responsibilities of Zila Sainik Welfare Offices (ZSWOs) are :-

- (a) Organise Armed Forces Flag Day and Flag Day collections and any other authorised fund raising measures in the district.
- (b) Organise rallies/re-union of ex-Servicemen.
- (c) Explore avenues for providing educational and vocational training facilities for ex-Servicemen and their dependents to enable them to seek employment or set up self-employment venture.
- (d) Assist the three Services whenever called upon to do so to disseminate information within the district regarding terms and conditions of service in the Armed Forces, provide publicity for recruitment notice and for assistance rendered by the Armed Forces in times of national calamities, notification of awards of gallantry and other decorations, introduction of welfare schemes of service personnel and their families.

[English]

Shelved Rail Projects

4074. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the number of rail projects have been shelved after the completion of survey in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have any policy to review the shelved projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of such projects likely to be reviewed in the country; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of proposals for the rail projects including those in Maharashtra and Karnataka, where surveys have been completed, could not be taken up due to unremunerative nature, heavy throw-forward of on going projects and constraints of resources.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Export of Petrol and Diesel by Private Companies

4075. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the private sector refineries are stepping up exports of Petrol, Diesel and Aviation fuel in order to make profits from the Iraq War;
- (b) whether the Government are aware that our reserves are limited and are likely to be soon exhausted; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for encouraging such exports of Petrol and Diesel by private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Exports of petroleum products by private sector refineries during April '02 to February 2003 as compared to 2001-2002 are given below:

Product	QTY in thousand metric tonnes	
	2001-02	Apr'02–Feb.'03
Petrol	2343	1998
Diesel	2860	2333
Aviation Fuel	194	144

(b) and (c) There is surplus production of Petrol, Diesel and Aviation fuel in the country. Further, as per the extant policy, these products are freely exportable.

[Translation]

**Integrated Rural Energy Programme
in Bihar**

4076. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which the integrated rural energy programme is being implemented in Bihar along with salient features of this programme;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study in regard to the progress achieved towards implementation of this programme in the above State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the above programme has been delivering the desired results in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) being implemented in the States/UTs including Bihar, aims at developing capabilities in the State for the preparation and implementation of block-level integrated rural energy plans and projects for meeting energy needs for subsistence and productive purposes through the optimum mix of energy sources, with focus on renewable energy. The implementation of the programme is carried out through two components, namely, the Central Sector component under which support is provided for development of capabilities, including provision of staff and their training, and the State Sector component under which financial support is provided from the State outlay for promoting various rural energy devices, extension and other related activities. The programme is being implemented in Bihar by the State Nodal Agency—Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA), in eight blocks, namely Dhanarua (Patna), Vijaypur (Gopalganj), Bhavanipur (Purnea), Imamganj (Gaya), Ramnagar (W. Champaran),

Chakai (Jamui), Manigachi (Darbhanga) and Ladaniya (Madhubani).

(b) and (c) The latest study on the progress of the IREP entitled "Analysis of IREP and Development of Capacity Building Strategy," was taken up by the Government, with the support of United Nations Development Programme, in twelve States including Bihar, in the year 1999-2000. The study has brought out that as a result of IREP, minimum infrastructure for preparing rural energy plans and projects at the district and State levels have been set up. Further, IREP has enabled rural people and field development officials to appreciate different dimensions of the rural energy problem and how it should be tackled. IREP has also brought about large-scale awareness about new and renewable energy and need for conservation of energy in rural areas. The study has recommended that IREP should be consolidated and that the implementation of the programme needs to be strengthened, for which State Governments, including Government of Bihar, should provide increased flow of resources.

(d) to (f) The programme in Bihar has not been delivering the desired results mainly because the State Government has not provided the required resources for the programme.

[English]

Ban on 'Sikkim' Documentary Film

4077. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a documentary named 'Sikkim' produced by Bollywood legend Satyajit Ray was banned by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said film is at present with the British Film Institute (BFI);

(d) if so, the manner in which the film went into their hands; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to retrieve the film from BFI to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) have informed that the film 'Sikkim' was refused certification in the 1970s.

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

Withdrawal of Train Service on Andal-Palasthali Line

4078. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether train service on Andal-Palasthali line of Eastern Railway has been withdrawn; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to the illegal mining being carried out near Palasthali, Kuardih, Sultanpur, Kashta and Palihapur area, water during the last rains entered the cavities of the track and the soil strength has reduced. This may result in subsidence of the land under the track and therefore, running of trains on the section is not safe and the train services have been suspended on the section.

However, inspection in the area is being carried out by the Railways and the Coal Company officials to take a view for running of trains on the section.

Fire in Patna-Puri Express at Patna Junction

4079. SHRI RAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fire engulfed the Patna-Puri Express at Patna Junction, as reported in 'Statesman' dated February 19, 2003,

(b) if so, the details of losses to Railways due to fire in bogies;

(c) whether the Government have preliminary investigated the cause of the fire;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

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

(b) Total Rupees 10,80,000/- has been assessed towards loss and damage to Railway property.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the enquiry report, the coach caught fire due to cigarette, match stick or any inflammable material used by passengers.

(e) Regular joint drives are being conducted by RPF and Commercial Staff to prevent carriage of inflammable material in coaches.

[Translation]

Oil Refined in Refineries

4080. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total oil refined by various oil refineries during the last three years till date;

(b) the capacity utilisation of refineries company-wise and whether those are running as per their installed capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken or likely to be taken by the Government to ensure optimum utilisation of oil refineries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The crude oil processed by refineries during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 was 85.71, 103.11 and 106.54 million Metric Tonnes respectively.

(b) to (e) The capacity utilisation of public sector refineries during the year 2001-02 is given in the statement attached. The capacity utilization of the refineries depend on various factors including maximisation of overall profitability, demand/supply of petroleum products, availability of crude oil and secondary processing capacity. The capacity utilization of four North Eastern Refineries i.e. Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Numaligarh Refinery Limited, Digboi Refinery and Guwahati Refinery was low on account of lower availability of crude oil.

In order to increase the availability of crude to the four North Eastern Refineries, 1.5 MMTPA of Ravva crude has been allocated to Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited for the year 2003-04 which would result in increase in overall availability of crude oil to the four North Eastern Refineries thereby improving their capacity utilization.

Statement

Name of the company	Installed capacity (MMTPA)	Capacity utilization (MMTPA)	% utilization
IOCL	37.13	33.76	91
HPCL	13.00	12.34	95
BPCL	6.90	8.74	127
CPCL	7.00	6.69	96
KRL	7.50	6.80	91
BRPL	2.35	1.48	63
NRL	3.00	2.31	77

**Clearance to NTPC Project
at Sipat**

4081. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per terms and conditions of the approval accorded to the NTPC project at Sipat, District Bilaspur on 14th January, 2000, all the documents

particularly the document relating to technical changes effected in the project and its impact on Bilaspur City have been submitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said project has got the environmental clearance and whether permission has been obtained to acquire the forest land for laying of MGR (Larba to Sipat) rail line required for the said project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per clearance dated 14.1.2000 issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOE&F) for Sipat Super Thermal Power Project, the required information of Super Critical Technology, Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan, Air quality impact on Bilaspur City and communication from the State Pollution Control Board have been submitted to MOE&F.

(c) and (d) MOE&F accorded Environmental clearance for 3x660 MW Sipat Stage-I of the project in April, 2002. Application for forest clearance to use forest land for Merry Go Round has been submitted by National Thermal Power Corporation of State Forest Department.

[English]

Welfare Schemes for SCs/STs

4082. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some schemes for the welfare of those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not being implemented effectively;

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

(c) whether any complaints have been received by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure speedy and effective implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provide due Central Assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for implementation of its Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Towards making the implementation of these schemes more effective, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs address the State Governments/Union Territory Administration in respect of specific schemes. Besides, the implementation aspects of the scheme are also discussed during the meetings with the concerned Secretaries of State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the specific representations when received from any quarter, are taken up with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations for redressal.

(c) The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes receives representations from individuals/organizations, which are taken up with the concerned authorities for appropriate action.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs ensure speedy and effective implementation of the schemes by taking following steps :-

- (i) Sanction of grant to States/UTs is made on the basis of detailed examination of the proposals received.
- (ii) Utilisation Certificates are insisted upon in respect of past releases before fresh releases are made.
- (iii) Periodic progress reports are obtained from the States/UTs, showing the progress of implementation of schemes, the beneficiaries covered and other relevant information/data.
- (iv) Senior officers from the Ministry visit the States/

UTs, to assess the progress of the implementation of the schemes.

- (v) Meeting with the State Secretaries in charge of the subject are convened to ascertain the implementation of the schemes.
- (vi) In the case of the schemes implemented through the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), funds are released after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance etc. Apart from the periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish annual accounts and audited reports and utilization certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Governments/UT officials and other authorities and also by the Central Government Officers.

Scheme for Welfare of OBC Students

4083. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from State Governments particularly from Rajasthan Government regarding cent percent Central assistance for operating schemes for the welfare of OBC students especially for pre & post Matric scholarships, construction of hostels etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of those proposals; State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) Proposal seeking 100% financial assistance had been received from various State Governments including the Government of Rajasthan under the scheme of Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students during 2002-2003. Under the scheme of Pre-matric Scholarships, central assistance is provided to State

Governments on 50:50 basis over and above the committed liability. Similarly, under the scheme of Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls, central assistance to the States is provided on 50:50 basis. No proposals seeking 100% financial assistance under the schemes of Pre-matric Scholarships for OBC Students and Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls had been received from the State Governments including State Government of Rajasthan during the said period.

(b) and (c) A statement showing State-wise status of proposals received under the Scheme of Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students during 2002-2003 is attached. The proposals have already been cleared and the amount released by March 2003.

Statement

State-wise details of status of proposal received under the Scheme of Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students during 2002-2003

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Status of Proposals Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	247.86
2.	Assam	8.40
3.	Goa	**No central share due
4.	J & K	14.32
5.	Jharkhand	214.08
6.	Karnataka	211.69
7.	Manipur	60.20
8.	Rajasthan	198.95
9.	Sikkim	5.29
10.	Tamil Nadu	352.81

1	2	3
11.	Tripura	254.03
12.	U.P.	1016.14
13.	West Bengal	258.14
Total		2841.89

**As the committed liability under the scheme for the 10th Plan period is more than the total grant requested by the State Government of Goa during 2002-2003, hence, no central assistance was due for 2002-2003 under the scheme.

Closure of Hindustan Photo Films Limited

4084. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had earlier decided to disinvest Hindustan Photo Films Limited;

(b) if so, recently BIFR has ordered the closure of Hindustan Photo Films Limited; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in the light of BIFR order?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. BIFR has issued winding up order of Hindustan Photo Films on 30.01.2003.

(c) Government of India and the management of Hindustan Photo Films have filed an appeal in the AAIFR against the order of BIFR. The Cabinet has given this Ministry six months time for location of a Joint Venture partner in Hindustan Photo Films. Till such time the joint Venture is formed, a decision has been taken to extend budgetary support of Rs. 4.65 crore for payment of salary/wages, Rs. 4.13 crore for clearing statutory dues and Rs. 12 crore towards working capital to Hindustan Photo Films.

Development of Typhoid Kit

4085. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether instant typhoid detection kit have been developed by the scientists of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the kit is already being used by some hospitals or clinics in the country; and

(d) the time by which it is expected to be used throughout the country for the benefit of human beings?

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

(b) The testing kit is based on DNA technology for rapid detection of typhoid from patients' serum.

(c) Presently the kit is not being used by any hospitals as it is still under evaluation by many premier medical research institutes.

(d) The stage has not yet reached for its mass scale application in hospitals.

Infrastructure for Production of In-house Programmes

4086. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan is providing a right mixture of information, education and entertainment;

(b) if so, the infrastructure/facilities created for production of in-house programmes in all State headquarters, State-wise;

(c) the extent to which the infrastructure/facilities are being utilised in DD Kendras viz. hours of telecast/relay/utilisation of studios; and

(d) the steps taken to develop software which will reduce dependence of Doordarshan on Film programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan is telecasting programmes, which contain a mixture of information, education and entertainment according to the mandate in the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that there are 59 Studio Centres of Doordarshan in the country. Besides this, Doordarshan has OB Vans, EFP Vans, DSNGs/ENG Units all over the country for production of programmes outside the Studios. Statewise list is attached.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that nearly 43% of the total transmission of programmes from various channels/State networks/Production Centres of Doordarshan is produced in-house.

(d) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan is not dependent on film based programmes. Doordarshan has taken a number of steps for improving the production of in-house programmes viz. setting up of a Creative Advisory Committee with eminent media personalities for quality improvement/production presentation/packaging of programmes, setting up of a Development Communication Division, dedicated to the production/telecast of social communication messages in a professional manner. Campaigns by Development Communication Division have resulted in quality/quantity improvement in in-house production, using Doordarshan's creative and infrastructure.

Statement

1.	Assam	Guwahati*
		PPFC, Guwahati*
		Dibrugarh
		Silchar
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad*
		Vijaywada*
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar*
4.	Bihar	Patna*
		Muzaffarpur

5.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur*	21.	Punjab	Jalandhar
		Jagdalpur	22.	Rajasthan	Jaipur*
6.	Goa	Panaji*	23.	Tamilnadu	Chennai*
7.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad*	24.	Tripura	Agartala*
		Rajkot	25.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow*
8.	Haryana	Hissar			Gorakhpur
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla*			Bareilly
10.	Jharkhand	Ranchi*			Mau
		Daltonganj			Allahabad
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar*			Varanasi
		Jammu			Mathura
		Leh	26.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun*
12.	Kerala	Trivandrum*	27.	West Bengal	Kolkata*
		Trichur			Shantiniketan
13.	Karnataka	Bangalore*			Jalpaiguri
		Gulbarga	28.	Delhi	Delli*
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal*			CPC, Delhi*
		Indore	29.	A & N Islands	Port Blair*
		Gwalior	30.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry*
15.	Maharashtra	Mumbai*	31.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh*
		Nagpur	<hr/>		
		Pune	*Studio Centre at State/UT Headquarter.		
16.	Manipur	Imphal*	<i>[Translation]</i>		
17.	Meghalaya	Shillong*	LPG Agencies/Outlets in Maharashtra		
		Tura	4087. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :		
18.	Mizoram	Aizawl*	(a) the number of LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps operating in Maharashtra at present;		
19.	Nagaland	Kohima*	(b) whether the number of these outlets in the State is adequate in proportion to the increasing population of the State;		
20.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar*			
		Bhawanipatna			
		Sambalpur			

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for setting up of new LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps in the State during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 903 LPG distributorships and 1,810 Retail Outlets in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) The demand of customers of the State is being met, by and large in full by the above retail outlets and LPG distributorships of OMCs.

(d) Consequent upon the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), OMCs will set up the LPG distributorships and Retail Outlets as per their commercial considerations in all the States.

Operation of Hydraulic System at Railway Crossing

4088. DR. ASHOK PATEL :
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to operate railway level crossings through hydraulic system in place of manually operated railway crossings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the above plan is likely to be started;

(d) the names of the sections in which the said action plan is proposed to be implemented; and

(e) the total amount estimated to be spent thereon?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway

4089. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are going to sell out the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway to the "Indian Railway & Trading Corporation" with a future plan to abolish the Internationally Declared Heritage Railway;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that this decision is likely to create hindrance in respect of economic, employment and law and order of the sensitive hilly region of North Bengal; and

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

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Missing Fish Plates

4090. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of clips fitted on the railway line were found missing in Sultanpuri area of North-West Delhi on February 22, 2003;

(b) if so, the number of persons held responsible and the action taken by the Government to apprehend the culprits; and

(c) the other steps taken by the Government to avert rail accidents caused due to missing/removal of clips/

fish plates of the rail lines in view of the increase in such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. 32 Nos. elastic rail clips were found missing at Km.15/11-12 on Up line between Shakurbasti and Nangloi stations. This was noticed by Railway keyman during his daily inspection.

(b) FIR No. 3/2003 has been lodged on 22.2.03 with GRP/Delhi Kishanganj. Matter is under investigation.

(c) Railways are always taking necessary steps from its inception stage to develop such fittings and fastenings which require minimum maintenance and are less prone to theft/miscreant activities. Various actions taken are as under :-

- (i) Use of welded rails has lead to reduction in number of fish plated joints.
- (ii) Use of Elastic Fastening, Pandrol Clips, Rubber Pads etc. in place of dog spikes and M.S. Keys and thus reducing proneness to theft and lesser maintenance effort.
- (iii) Use of Reverse Jaw Sleepers, in Central Standard Trial-9 (CST-9) territory, which prevents rail removal.
- (iv) The design has been finalized for trial for anti theft fastening in the form of fish bolts and Elastic Rail Clip.
- (v) Burring of two fish bolts at joints, one on each rail, on the vulnerable sections.

Emergency Scheme for Supply of LPG

4091. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to launch an emergency scheme for the supply of L.P.G. and;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies do not have any scheme in the name of "emergency scheme for the supply of LPG". However, oil industry develops contingency plans in the event it is foreseen that there could be shortage of LPG on account of agitation by transporters/employees etc., to ensure that the supply of LPG is not adversely affected to the customers.

[English]

Impact of On-going Rail Project of China on Defence Preparedness

4092. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of ongoing rail project of Chinese Government involving a versatile feederline through Tibet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government assessed its impact on our defence preparedness; and

(d) if so, the measures to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Government is aware of the Chinese plans to construct approximately 1118 kms. long railway line connecting Gormo in Qinghai province in mainland China with Lhasa in Tibet. The project was launched in June, 2001 and it is likely to be completed by 2008. As per our information so far about 121 kms. of this line have been completed.

Completion of Gormo-Lhasa railway line is likely to enhance the induction and sustenance capability of the Chinese troops in Tibet Autonomous Region as the present rail-head will move forward by about 1118 kms. from mainland China into Tibet.

Any such development in Tibet is constantly monitored and analysed. Government takes all necessary and appropriate measures to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

**Third Track between Mumbai
and Ahmedabad**

4093. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey for construction of third track between Ahmedabad and Mumbai was made during 1995;

(b) whether survey has revealed that there is justification to provide additional track between Ahmedabad and Mumbai in view of increasing traffic;

(c) if so, the estimated cost for construction of track at that time and the present cost;

(d) the reasons for not taking up the work of construction by making a budget provision during the last five years; and

(e) the time by which the work of the said project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (e) A survey for construction of 3rd line between Virar and Ahmedabad was completed in 1996-97 and recast in 2001-02. As per the recast survey report, cost of construction of the project has been assessed as Rs. 1006.73 crore with a rate of return of 7.21%. In view of saturation on this section, it has been decided to augment the line capacity on the route by adopting automatic block signalling. However, in Phase-I, the work of 3rd line from Surat to Kosamba has been included in the Budget, the work on which is in the planning stage.

[Translation]

**Survey for Anandnagar-Maharajganj-
Sisavah Rail Line**

4094. SHRI KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any

survey for laying new rail lines from Anandnagar to Maharajganj and from Maharajganj to Sisavah (UP);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) A survey for new rail line from Anandnagar to Ghughuli (near Siswa Bazar) via Maharajganj was conducted in 1998-99. As per the survey report, cost of the 50 km rail line was assessed as Rs. 107 crore with a negative rate of return. In view of the unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to take up the project.

**Corruption in Catering Departments at
New Delhi Railway Station**

4095. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether corruption is prevailing in catering departments at the New Delhi Railway Station and some other railway stations;

(b) whether the Divisional Railway Manager has received the report about various irregularities against the Inspector of the Catering Department of the New Delhi Railway Station;

(c) if so, the base on which the said report was received and the charges levelled against him in that report; and

(d) the time by which action is likely to be taken against the guilty persons and the reasons for delay in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The said report was based on the vigilance checks conducted and charges were levelled as per the irregularities noticed.

(d) Action against the concerned officials, found responsible for the irregularities, has been taken under D & A rules.

[English]

Closure of NTPCs Kayamkulam Project

4096. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Kerala heading for major power crisis" appeared in 'The Hindu' dated the February 2, 2003;

(b) if so, the action taken to avoid shut down of NTPC power plant at Kayamkulam due to saline water intrusion and to avoid the power crisis; and

(c) the steps taken to supply more power to Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kayamkulam Power Plant (350 MW) of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is getting sweet water required for operation of the Units from the Achenkovil river and intake point of water is at Nalukettukavla. During the time of high salinity in the river water, the plant was run by consuming the water available in the raw water reservoir inside NTPC premises and therefore, there was no reduction in the generation of power plant. A team of Engineers from the Kerala State Irrigation Department surveyed the water bodies to identify the possible sources of saline water intrusion and it was decided to arrange for construction of temporary bunds in some of the canals leading to intake of water for the NTPC plant. The construction of bunds in the small canals has already been completed, salinity of water at the intake point has come down and NTPC has started drawing water from the river.

(c) Besides power available from Kayamkulam Power Plant of NTPC, Kerala has a firm allocation of 521 MW in Central Generating Stations (CGS) in Southern

region. It has also a firm allocation of 280 MW (14%) in Talcher STPS Stage-II (4x500 MW) of NTPC located in Orissa (Eastern Region) to be commissioned fully by 2004-05. One 500 MW unit at Talcher STPS has been commissioned and Kerala has its entitlement in the generated power. In order to augment availability of power to State, the following steps have been taken :-

- (i) 25% (100 MW approx.) allocation enhanced to 35% (140 MW approx.) from unallocated quota in CGS in Southern region upto 30.4.2003.
- (ii) Allocation of 100 MW from unallocated quota of NTPC stations in Eastern Region.
- (iii) Capacity addition of 2140 MW is planned in Central Sector in Southern Region during 10th Plan period in which Kerala will have entitlements.

Electrification of Villages under PMGY

4097. SHRI TALIB HUSSAIN CHOWDHARY :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of villages electrified so far under various schemes, including PMGY, State-wise;
- (b) the number of villages proposed to be electrified under the prevalent schemes during the year 2003-2004 and during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
- (c) whether sixty per cent villages/hamlets inhabited by Scheduled Tribes, particularly in the State of Jammu & Kashmir remain without electrification;
- (d) whether most of the border areas (LoC) are without electrification in J&K; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government and the State Government to cover all non-electrified villages by the year 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) State-wise details of village electrification as on February, 2003 are given in the statement attached.

(b) Government has resolved to complete electrification of all villages during the 10th Five Year Plan Period i.e. by 2007. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has planned to electrify 1000 villages during the year 2003-04 and 5000 villages in 10th Five Year Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government of J&K has informed that six villages namely, Tundi Dar, Nagoon, Prayali, Simble Dar, Tiil Pura and Parila in Jammu and Tulail area in Kashmir are totally un-electrified.

(e) In order to accelerate the pace of rural electrification in the country, the following initiatives have been taken by the Government of India :

(i) From the year 2001-02, Rural Electrification has been treated as Basic Minimum Service under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). Under this programme, a sum of Rs. 412 crores was released in 2001-02 to States for rural electrification. During the year 2002-03, a provision of Rs. 2747 crores was made under PMGY during 2002-03 for all the six components including Rural Electrification. Of these, an amount of Rs. 2618.68 crores was released with the flexibility given to the States to fix interse allocation depending upon their own priorities. Again during 2003-04, a budgetary

provision of Rs. 2767 crores has been kept under PMGY.

(ii) Under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), Rs. 600 crores has been released to the States during 2002-03 as compared to release of Rs. 175 crores in the year 2001-02. Again during 2003-04 a budgetary provision of Rs. 600 crores has been kept under MNP.

(iii) Govt. have approved grant of interest subsidy of Rs. 563.87 crores under Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (AREP) during the 10th Plan period for electrification of unelectrified villages. Out of which an amount of Rs. 163.87 crores was provided in the budget of 2002-03. Of these, Rs. 157.87 crores has been utilized. For the year 2003-04 a budget provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made.

(iv) REC has also offered very low rate of interest of 3% and 1% for village electrification, electrification of hamlets and dalit bastis. REC has earmarked Rs. 500 crores every year for village electrification for the next five years.

(v) States can also access funds from Rural Infrastructure Development Funds (RIDF) through National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) and Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLADs) for rural electrification.

Statement

Progress of village electrification during the 2002-03

Sl. No.	States/UT	Total No. of Villages as per 1991 census	Villages electrified as on 31.3.2002	Village electrified during 2002-03	Total Villages electrified as on February, 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26586	26565	—	26565
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3649	2316	26	2342
3.	Assam	24685	19030	15	19045

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	67513	47954	1542	50022
5.	Jharkhand			526	
6.	Goa	360	360	—	360
7.	Gujarat	18028	17940	—	17940
8.	Haryana	6759	6759	—	6759
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	16890	—	16890
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	6295	—	6295
11.	Karnataka	27066	26764	—	26764
12.	Kerala	1384	1384	—	1384
13.	Madhya Pradesh	51806	50306	38	50344
14.	Chhattisgarh	19720	18201	120	18321
15.	Maharashtra	40412	40351	—	40351
16.	Manipur	2182	2001	3	2004
17.	Meghalaya	5484	2580	150	2730
18.	Mizoram	698	691	—	691
19.	Nagaland	1216	1216	—	1216
20.	Orissa	46989	35232	225	35457
21.	Punjab	12428	12428	—	12428
22.	Rajasthan	37889	36403	503	36906
23.	Sikkim	447	405	—	405
24.	Tamil Nadu	15822	15822	—	15822
25.	Tripura	855	815	2	817
26.	Uttar Pradesh	97122	77405	1675	79080
27.	Uttaranchal	15681	12646	250	12896
28.	West Bengal	37910	29636	580	30216
Total (States)		586165	508395	5655	514050
Total (UTs)		1093	1090	—	1090
Total (All India)		587258	509485	5655	515140

Hydel Generation Potential Tapped

4098. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :
SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of hydel generation potential in the country has been tapped so far;

(b) whether in view of the immense hydro-electric potential of the North East, the Government have taken steps to invite private sector investment including FDI for augmenting hydro power generation and distribution in the region;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are likely to consider increasing budgetary support to Hydel project in coming years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) About 17% of the hydro potential in the country has been tapped so far and about 6% of the hydro potential is under development.

(b) and (c) In view of the growing demand for power in the country and the need for more investment in this sector, the Government of India, as part of further liberalization of the Foreign Direct Investment regime, has on June 12, 2000, decided to remove the upper limit for foreign direct investment in respect of projects relating to electric generation, transmission and distribution (other than atomic reactor plants).

(d) and (e) Budgetary support for hydro projects has already been increased from Rs. 2402.48 crores in 2002-03 to Rs. 2814.84 crores in 2003-04.

[Translation]

Ranchi-Lohardaga Rail Line

4099. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether land for Ranchi-Lohardaga rail line has not yet been acquired.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of works undertaken for Ranchi-Lohardaga rail line during the last three years; and

(d) the time by which the said rail line is likely to be laid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Entire land for Ranchi-Lohardaga gauge conversion portion of the project has been acquired.

(d) Does not arise.

(c) Earthwork, major/minor bridgeworks, procurement of ballast/Permanent Way materials, shifting of telegraph posts, etc. have been undertaken, all of which are in various stages of progress.

(e) The gauge conversion of Ranchi-Lohardaga is likely to be completed by June 2004, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Gauge Conversion of Sitapur via Shahjahanpur to Pilibhit Line

4100. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey for broadgauge conversion of Sitapur via Shahjahanpur to Pilibhit & Tanakpur to Bareilly Railway Line is complete;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Sitapur to Shahjahanpur is already a broad gauge line. Survey for conversion from Shahajahanpur to Pilibhit was done in 1999-2000. As per the survey report, the cost of

conversion of 84.09 km line was assessed as Rs. 83.14 crores with a rate of return of 6.21%.

On Tanakpur-Bareilly route, gauge conversion from Bareilly to Bhojipura is a part of Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura-Bareilly and Bareilly-Lalkuan gauge conversion project where work is in progress. The survey for gauge conversion from Bhojipura to Tanakpur was conducted in 1998-99 as per which the cost of conversion of 101.79 km section was assessed as Rs. 146.58 crore with a rate of return of 5.09%. In view of unremunerative nature of project and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to take up these gauge conversion projects.

**Investment in the Power Projects
of N.E. States**

4101. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any investment in the power projects in N.E. States including Sikkim and also in U.P.;

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

(c) the amount invested during each of the last three years, project-wise, specially in Sikkim; and

(d) the share of State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Production of Programmes on
DD Kashmir**

4102. SHRI HASSAN KHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount paid for the production of commissioned programmes on DD Kashmir from March, 2001 to February, 2003 and out of this amount, the amount

paid to Delhi, Srinagar and Jammu based producers during the said period;

(b) whether Kashmir based producers are given preference;

(c) if so, whether the said producers have completed their works; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, producer-wise; programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Shatabadi Express Trains Running
in Heavy Losses**

4103. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Shatabadi Express trains are running in heavy losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to change New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabadi Express train to Jan Shatabadi;

(d) if so, the time by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Train-wise figures of profitability, earnings and expenditure are not separately maintained. Details regarding losses of Shatabadi Express trains are therefore not available.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Extension of NELP-I & II

4104. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the New Exploration Licensing Policy-I and NELP-II would be extended to the Orissa Coast and Mahanadi basin and deep waters;

(b) if so, whether the same would be included in NELP-III;

(c) if so, whether Mahanadi Oil Fields was doing the survey and test-wells had yielded positive results;

(d) if so, whether the activity of oil and gas exploration has slowed down; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The Government have signed contracts with various companies in respect of seven exploration blocks i.e. one block in the State of Orissa, besides, four blocks in shallow water and two blocks in deep water area in the adjoining Mahanadi basin for exploration and production of oil and gas in the first and second round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). The above exploration blocks were identified and offered for bidding based on the pre-exploratory surveys made by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). No block was offered in Orissa and Mahanadi basin under NELP-III.

The exploration work in offshore and deep water blocks is progressing as per the work programme committed in the bid by the awardee companies. The exploration work in the onland block can be started by the awardee company after grant of Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) by the State Government.

Balurghat-Eklakhi Railway Line

4105. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commissioning of Balurghat-Eklakhi Railway line covering Malda and Dakshin Dinajpur Districts of West Bengal is delayed due to lack of funds;

(b) if so, the details of cost escalation arising thereon;

(c) whether number of bridges on this railway line are much lower than the warranted height required in a flood prone districts to ensure free movement of boats; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The project was taken up in 1983-84 and has been progressed as per availability of resources. The original anticipated cost of the project was Rs. 36.38 crore which is now anticipated as Rs. 274.41 crore including cost of Gazole-Itahar section.

(c) and (d) The clearances for the bridges have been provided as per the prescribed norms considering the highest flood level. During emergency flood situation, country boats can pass through the bridges, if necessary.

[Translation]

Feasibility in introduction of New Trains

4106. DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether economic viability and operational feasibility are ascertained before introduction of a new train on a particular route; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Trains are introduced based on travel demands, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

[English]

Rail Concessions to Disabled

4107. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether no concessions or facilities is given to disabled persons as given to thalesemia, cancer, heart and kidney patients as per Disability Act, 1995;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to give concession to disabled persons also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Railways are already granting concession in train fares to specified categories of disabled persons.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Increase in incidents of Looting Passengers

4108. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the incidents of looting passengers after administering intoxicating drugs in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to curb such incidents in future; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) "Policing" being a State subject, prevention and detection of Crime on Railways, including running trains, is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of Crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP).

Therefore, information asked for in the question is not readily available with the Ministry of Railways.

Development of Rural Electrification Technology

4109. SHRI SURESH PASI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to encourage the development of rural electrification technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of the States proposed to be included in the schemes in first instance; and
- (d) the amount being provided for the implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) In order to utilize various technology in providing for an affordable solution in making electricity available in rural areas Rural Electricity Supply Technology (REST) Mission under the auspices of Ministry of Power has been constituted. The Mission would evolve strategy based on technology which could provide for low cost power generation and low cost of delivery in the rural areas which can be managed by local institutions like Village Panchayats or Non-Government Organisations and to identify feasible size of generating units for differnt fuels, which are available locally and for mini and micro hydel projects. All the States will be covered under the REST Mission.

(d) For the year 2003-04 a budgetary provision of Rs. 5 crores has been provided.

Power Generation from Thermal Power Plants

4110. YOGI ADITYA NATH :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of thermal and hydro power generation during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise and unit-wise;

(b) whether a scheme has been formulated to increase thermal and hydro power generation during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount allocated to the power sector for the above schemes during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(e) the time by which the shortage of power production is likely to be meet out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) State-wise and Unit-wise details of thermal and hydro power generation—during 9th Plan (1997-98 to 2001-02) is given the statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW comprising of 14393 MW hydro, 25417 MW thermal and 1300 MW nuclear has been planned during 10th Five Year Plan.

(d) State-wise projected outlay for 10th Plan for power sector is given in the statement-II.

(e) The following steps are being taken to improve generation and availability of power in the country:-

(i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan.

(ii) Early Stabilization of newly commissioned units and overall increase in PLF of thermal units.

(iii) Strengthening/Augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution systems. Funds are being provided to States for undertaking schemes for sub-transmission and distribution systems under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP).

(iv) Demand side management and promoting

energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.

(v) Disbursement of loans with interest subsidy by the Power Finance Corporation for renovation and modernization of old and inefficient generating units.

(vi) Enhancement of inter-state and inter-regional transfer of power by strengthening of inter-regional transmission links and finally formation of National Grid.

(vii) Exploitation of hydro potential at a faster pace.

The target of Ministry of Power is to make available power on demand by the year 2012.

Statement-I

Station-wise and State-wise Generation in Gwh for 1997-98

Reg./State/Station	Target (Mu)	Actual Gen (Mu)
1	2	3
Northern Region		
B.B.M.B.		
Bhakra L&R	5500	4373
Gang & Kotla	990	1064
Dehar	3080	3489
Pong	1430	1769
BBMB Total	11000	10695
Delhi		
Badarpur	4200	4473
I.P. Stn.	1200	1163
Rajghat	800	537
D.V.B. Gt.	900	811

1	2	3	1	2	3
DVB Total	2900	2511	Har. Thermal	3600	3533
Delhi Total	7100	6984	W. Yamuna	225	249
J & K			Har. Total	3825	3782
Pampore Gt.	60	59	Kota	6000	6114
J & K Th.	60	59	Suratgarh	500	0
Lower Jhelam	500	590	Ramgarh GT	130	242
Others	215	315	RSEB Therm	6630	6356
Hydro Total	715	905	R.P. Sagar	610	548
NHPC Salal	2900	3056	Jaw. Sagar	410	382
NHPC Uri	2000	2100	Mahi Bajaj	330	518
J & K Th.	60	59	Small Hy.	20	10
J & K Hy.	5615	6016	RSEB Hydro	1370	1458
J & K Total	5675	6120	RSEB Total	8000	7814
Bassi	300	315	NTPC Anta	2600	2872
Giri Bata	230	252	RAPS Nuc.	0	471
Binwa	33	70	Raj. Therm.	9230	9228
Andhra	70	36	Raj. Nucle.	0	471
Sanjay	548	551	Raj. Hydro	1370	1458
Small Hy.	109	64	Raj. Total	10600	11157
H.P.S.E.B.	1290	1288	Bhatinda	2750	2505
B' Siul	750	768	Ropar	8500	7771
Chamera	1920	1900	Pun. Thermal	11250	10276
HP Tot. Hy.	3960	3956	UBDC 1-3	300	209
F' Bad Extn.	800	641	Shanan	540	593
Panipat	2800	2892	Mukerian	1440	1328

1	2	3	1	2	3
Anandpur S.	1000	587	Khodri	415	418
Punjab Hyd.	3280	2717	Maneri Bhali	450	446
Punjab Total	14530	12993	Khara	375	398
Obra 1-5	400	385	UPSEB Hy.	5260	5399
Obra 6-8	600	386	UPSEB Total	27530	23661
Obra 9-13	4800	3198	NTPC Singr	15000	14759
Obra 1-13	5800	3969	NTPC Rihan	6900	7649
Panki	850	852	Dadri Th.	6100	6415
H' Ganj A	0	0	NTPC Unchahar	2950	2947
H' Ganj B&C	950	674	NTPC Auraiya GT.	3300	3791
Paricha	1000	619	Dadri GT.	3400	4398
Anpara	12000	11245	NHPC Tarapur	460	428
Tanda	1670	903	Narora APS	2520	3441
Others (U.P.)	0	0	UP Thermal	59920	58221
UPSEB Th.	22270	18262	UP Nuclear	2520	3441
Rihand	850	993	UP Hyd.	5720	5827
Obra Hy.	250	367	UP Total	68160	67489
Matatila	120	158	Dhuvran	3200	2792
Ganga Canal	165	162	Ukai	4900	4315
Khatima	220	200	Gandhi Nagar	3915	4200
Ram Ganga	300	105	Wanakbori	8260	7222
Yaumna 1 & 4	540	581	Sikka	1432	1542
Yaumna II	900	904	Kutch Lignite	718	615
Chilla	675	667	Utran	73	93

1	2	3	1	2	3
Utran GT.	831	880	Bhuswal	3200	3111
Dhuvran GT.	143	137	Parli 1-2	340	344
GEB Thermal	24030	22479	Parli 3-5	3910	3565
Ukai Hydro	825	848	Pali 1-5	4250	3909
Ukai LBC	30	22	Chandrapur	12950	11713
Kadana	375	421	K' Kheda-II	2650	3077
GEB Hy.	1230	1291	Uran GT.	5400	5070
GEB Total	25260	23770	MSEB Th.	40350	37932
A.E. Co.	330	356	Koyna	2680	2688
Sabarmati	2100	2050	Koyna Dam	145	156
Vatwa GT.	650	702	Vaitarna	159	123
A.E. Co.	3080	3108	Paithon	22	15
Hazira	3560	2627	Pawana	22	14
GIPCL	1030	1366	Tillari	148	151
Kaps Nuclear	2430	2119	Bhira Tail Race	95	77
Kawaz GT.	2400	4135	Bandaradhara	50	4
Gandhar GT.	2300	2586	Bhatsa	54	54
Gujrat Th.	36400	36301	K' Vasala	60	62
Gujrat Nu.	2430	2119	Veer & Bhatgar	80	80
Gujrat Hy.	1230	1291	Eldari	45	18
Gujrat Total	40060	39711	Ujjani	22	27
Nasik	5400	5139	Dhom	2	7
Kordi	6200	5716	Dudhganga	29	0
Paras	300	197	Karanjvan	4	0

1	2	3	1	2	3
Small Hy.	118	15	Hasdeo Bango	350	192
MSEB	3735	3491	Birsingpur	30	61
MSEB Total	44085	41423	MPSEB Hy.	2195	2243
Trombay Th.	5650	6427	MPEB Total	19545	20149
Trombay GT.	1450	1159	NTPC Korba	15700	15697
Trombay To.	7100	7586	NTPC Vindh.	9300	8752
Tarapur Nu.	1740	2117	MP Thermal	42350	42355
Tata Hy.	1560	1263	MP Hydro	2195	2243
Dhanu Th.	3300	3608	MP Total	44545	44598
Maharashtra Th.	50750	49126	Southern Region		
Maharashtra Nu.	1740	2117	Andhra Pradesh		
Maharashtra Hy.	5295	4754	Kothagundam A	1400	1224
Maharashtra Total	57785	55997	K' Gudem B	1150	1221
Satpura	6300	7341	K' Gudem C	1150	1203
Korba-2	1050	1133	K' Gudem D	1400	1526
Korba-3	1000	1362	K' Gudam A-D	5100	5174
Korba 2-3	2050	2495	Vijaywada	9300	10365
Amarkantak	1300	782	Ramagundam B	450	401
Korba West	5200	5044	Nellore	110	117
Sanjay Gandhi	2500	2244	Rayalseema	3000	2979
MPEB Th.	17350	17906	APSEB Th.	17960	19036
Gandhi Sagar	400	428	Machkund	700	646
Panch	525	485	T.B. Dam	190	201
Bargi	540	564	Upper Silure	420	355
Bansagar	350	513	Lower Silure	1100	866

1	2	3	1	2	3
N'Juna Sagar	2500	2267	Supa Dam	325	388
N'SGR RBC	180	200	Bhadra	51	49
N'SGR LBC	100	90	Linganamakki	250	293
Srisailem	3000	2944	Varahi	850	1229
Nizam Sagar	15	4	Ghatprabha	100	122
Pochampad	65	18	Mallarpur	30	2
Singur	30	0	Kadra	250	143
Donkari	75	54	Kodasali	56	0
Penna Ahob	15	6	Mani DHP	28	23
ABSEB Hy.	8330	7649	KPCL Hydro	9140	10308
ABSEB Total	26340	26685	KPCL Total	16980	17334
Vijeshwaram GT	600	1040	Jog	233	143
Jegurupadu	170	1156	Shivasamudram	99	111
Godavari GT	190	664	Shimshapura	96	86
NTPC R' Gundem	15700	16366	Munirabad	72	92
AP Thermal	34620	38262	KEB Hydro	500	432
AP Hydro	8380	7649	S'Pura Pvt.	80	74
AP Total	43000	45911	Karnataka Th.	6720	6279
Karnataka			Kar. Hy.	9720	10812
Raichur	5600	5532	Kar. Total	16440	17093
Yelhanka Dam	700	568	Kerala		
Baramulla	420	179	Iddukki	2960	1837
KPCL Th.	6720	6279	Sabri Giri	1620	1085
Shravathy	5000	52749	Kuttiadi	269	298
Kalindi	2200	2780	Sholayar	230	236

1	2	3	1	2	3
Sengulam	165	141	Suruliyar	72	106
Narimangalam	290	287	Aliyar	163	182
Pallivasal	240	218	Mettur	510	631
Puringalkuthu	210	20	L. Mettur	288	403
Palliar	155	145	Periyar	466	486
Kallada	55	48	Papanasam	125	93
Kakkad	60	0	Sarkarpathi	158	97
Lower Periyar	450	507	Sholayar	314	351
Mallarupab	5	0	Kodayar	206	244
Peppara	18	0	Sathnur	10	0
Idamalayar	398	339	Lower Bhawa	20	0
KSEB Hy.	7125	5043	Servalar	32	27
Maniyar	30	28	Kadamparai	77	150
Kerala Hy.	7155	5071	Small Hy.	0	31
Tamil Nadu			TNEB Hydro	4575	5270
Ennore	2200	1928	TNEB Total	23835	23039
Tuticorin	7000	6916	Neyveli I	3100	3453
Mettur	5700	5427	Neyveli II	8300	9704
North Madras	4100	3416	Neyveli Total	11400	13157
B'Bridge	200	53	Kalpakkam (NU)	1810	1894
Narimanam	60	29	T.N. Thermal	30660	30926
TNEB Th.	19260	17769	T.N. Nuclear	1810	1894
Pykara Dam	405	404	T.N. Hydro	4575	5270
Moyar	149	163	T.N. Total	37045	38090
Kundah 1-5	1580	1902			

1	2	3	1	2	3
Eastern Region			OSEB Hydro		3322
Bihar			OSEB Total		3322
Patratu	1350	1269	I.B. Valley	2700	2436
Baruni	550	392	Talcher STPS	3600	4136
Muzaffarpur	390	166	Talcher Old	1400	2097
BSEB Th.	2290	1827	Talcher Total	5000	6233
Kosi	24	14	Orissa Thermal	7700	8669
Subernrekha	196	310	Orissa Hydro		3322
Sone	50	12	Orissa Total		11991
North Koel	0	0	West Bengal		
E.G. Canal	70	21	W.B.S.B.		
Bihar Hydro	340	357	Bandal	2200	2105
Tenughat	1200	1482	Santalidih	1500	1425
Kahalgaon NTP	4100	3427	Gas Turbine	15	12
Bihar Ther.	7590	6736	WBSEB Thermal	3715	3542
Bihar Total	7930	7093	WBSEB Hydro		290
Orissa			WBSEB Total		3832
Talchar	7700	0	WBP Dev. C		
Balimela		950	Kolaghat	7000	5818
Potteru		0	D.P.L. Thermal	1000	862
Hirakund		934	Mulajore	270	318
Rengali		976	Newcossipore	680	744
Upper Kola		462	Southern	950	941
OSEB Hydro		3322	Titagarh	1660	1714
OSEB Thermal		0	Budge-Budge	1200	246

Station-wise and Generation Data for the Year 1998-99 & 1999-00

Sl. No.	Name of Stations	April-March				
		Programme 2000	Actual 2000	Actual 1999	% of Programme	% of Last Year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Northern Region						
1. B.B.M.B.						
	Bhakra L&R	5060	5746	6875	113.6	83.6
	Gang & Kot.	1050	1224	1141	116.6	107.3
	Dehar	3100	3049	3762	98.4	81.0
	Pong	1550	2048	2328	132.1	88.0
	BBMB Total	10760	12067	14106	112.1	85.5
2. Delhi						
	Badarpur	4300	5022	4867	116.8	103.2
D.V.B.						
	I.P. Stn.	830	845	763	101.8	110.7
	Rajghat	750	942	618	125.6	152.4
	D.V.B. GT.	720	746	683	103.6	109.2
	DVB Total	2300	2533	2054	110.1	122.7
	Delhi Total	6600	7555	6931	114.5	109.0
3. J & K						
	Pampore GT.	50	0	6	.0	.0
	J & K Th.	50	0	6	.0	.0
	Lower Jhelam	550	398	475	72.4	83.8
	Others	262	210	187	80.2	112.8
	Hydro Total	812	608	662	74.9	91.8
	NHPC Salal	2925	3248	3234	111.0	100.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	NHPC Uri	2600	1954	2575	75.2	75.9
	J & K Th.	50	0	6	.0	.0
	J & K Hy.	6337	5810	6471	91.7	89.8
	J & K Total	6387	5810	6477	91.0	89.7
4.	H.P.					
	H.P.S.E.B.					
	Bassi	300	259	332	86.3	78.0
	Giri Bata	240	204	282	85.0	72.3
	Binwa	40	42	35	105.0	120.0
	Andhra	70	43	29	61.4	148.3
	Sanjay	600	571	687	95.2	83.1
	Small Hy.	115	78	93	67.8	83.9
	H.P.S.E.B.	1365	1197	1458	87.7	82.1
	B' Siul	750	425	750	56.7	56.7
	Chamera	1900	2126	2362	111.9	90.0
	HP Tot. Hy.	4015	3748	4570	93.3	82.0
5.	Haryana					
	F' Bad Extn.	750	955	858	127.3	111.3
	Panipat	2700	2837	2629	105.1	107.9
	F' Bad CCGT	322	1066	0	331.1	
	Har. Thermal	3772	4858	3487	128.8	139.3
	W. Yamuna	225	242	267	107.6	90.6
	Har. Total	3997	5100	3754	127.6	135.9
6.	Rajasthan					
	R.S.E.B.					
	Kota	6000	6313	5869	105.2	107.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Suratgarh	1500	1635	664	109.0	246.2
	Ramgarh GT	250	228	233	91.2	97.9
	RSEB Therm	7750	8176	6766	105.5	120.8
	R.P. Sagar	590	481	556	81.5	86.5
	Jaw. Sagar	390	361	402	92.6	89.8
	Mahi Bajaj	350	144	323	41.1	44.6
	Small Hy.	26	17	17	65.4	100.0
	RSEB Hydro	1356	1003	1298	74.0	77.3
	RSEB Total	9106	9179	8064	100.8	113.8
	NTPC Anta	2800	3189	2926	113.9	109.0
	RAPS Nuc.	891	2202	1830	247.1	120.3
	Raj. Therm.	10550	11365	9692	107.7	117.3
	Raj. Nucle.	891	2202	1830	247.1	120.3
	Raj. Hydro	1356	1003	1298	74.0	77.3
	Raj. Total	12797	14570	12820	113.9	113.7
7.	Punjab					
	GNDTP Bhatinda	2500	2659	2574	106.4	103.3
	GHTP (LEH M	2800	2971	611	106.1	486.3
	Ropar	7483	8207	7712	109.7	106.4
	Pun. Thermal	12783	13837	10897	108.2	127.0
	UBDC 1-3	340	329	253	96.8	130.0
	Shanan	540	506	636	93.7	79.6
	Mukerian	1320	1547	1530	117.2	101.1
	Anandpur S.	940	838	1077	89.1	77.8
	Thein DAM	560	0	0	.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Punjab Hyd.	3700	3220	3496	87.0	92.1
	Punjab Total	16483	17057	14393	103.5	118.5
8.	Uttar Pradesh					
	U.P.S.E.B.					
	Obra 1-5	292	362	278	124.0	130.2
	Obra 6-8	508	522	505	102.8	103.4
	Obra 9-13	4200	3972	3426	94.6	115.9
	Obra 1-13	5000	4856	4209	97.1	115.4
	Panki	950	825	778	86.8	106.0
	H' Ganj B&C	1000	596	732	59.6	81.4
	Paricha	1050	558	838	53.1	66.6
	Anpara	11750	11494	10972	97.8	104.8
	Tanda	1550	767	1224	49.5	62.7
	Others (U.P.)	0	0	0		
	UPSEB Th.	21300	19096	18753	89.7	101.8
	Rihand	900	931	1054	103.4	88.3
	Obra Hy.	300	360	395	120.0	91.1
	Matatila	120	157	130	130.8	120.8
	Ganga Canal	160	158	118	98.8	133.9
	Khatima	220	160	171	72.7	93.6
	Ram Ganga	360	391	344	108.6	113.7
	Yaumna 1 & 4	545	457	626	83.9	73.0
	Yaumna II	900	828	1064	92.0	77.8
	Chilla	725	717	822	98.9	87.2
	Khodri	420	365	492	86.9	74.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Maneri Bhali	400	418	467	104.5	89.5
	Sobla	0	0	0		
	Khara	375	330	455	88.0	72.5
	UPSEB Hy.	5425	5272	6138	97.2	85.9
	UPSEB Total	26725	24368	24891	91.2	97.9
	NTPC Singrauli	15000	16460	15814	109.7	104.1
	NTPC Rihand	6590	7605	6815	115.4	111.6
	Dadri Th.	6050	7093	6728	117.2	105.4
	NTPC Unchahar	4000	3631	3023	90.8	120.1
	NTPC Auraiya GT.	3900	5085	4157	130.4	122.3
	Dadri GT.	4100	5126	5098	125.0	100.5
	NHPC Tarapur	425	408	480	96.0	85.0
	Narora APS	2860	3138	2812	109.7	111.6
	UP Thermal	60940	64096	60388	105.2	106.1
	UP Nuclear	2860	3138	2812	109.7	111.6
	UP Hyd.	5850	5680	6618	97.1	85.8
	UP Total	69650	72914	69818	104.7	104.4

II. Western Region

9. Gujarat

G.E.B.

Dhuvran	2800	2358	2203	84.2	107.0
Ukai	4500	4444	4365	98.8	101.8
Gandhi Nagar 1-4	4400	3110	3951	70.7	78.7
Wanakbori 1-6	8100	9105	8419	112.4	108.1
Sikka	1350	960	885	71.1	108.5
Kutch Lignite	1183	964	1011	81.5	95.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Utran	0	0	0		
	Utran GT.	850	1057	962	124.4	109.9
	Dhuvran GT.	144	131	130	91.0	100.8
	GEB Thermal	23327	22129	21926	94.9	100.9
	Ukai Hydro	840	827	925	98.5	89.4
	Ukai LBC	10	24	19	240.0	126.3
	Kadana	780	188	405	24.1	46.4
	GEB Hydro.	1630	1039	1349	63.7	77.0
	GEB Total	24957	23168	23275	92.8	99.5
	GSECL					
	G. Ngr. 5	1400	1293	748	92.4	172.9
	W. Bori 7	1000	844	173	84.4	487.9
	GSECL Total	2400	2137	921	89.0	232.0
	A.E. Co.					
	A.E. Co. (OL	409	398	332	97.3	119.9
	Sabarmati	2142	2401	2168	112.1	110.7
	Vatwa GT.	649	598	673	92.1	88.9
	A.E. Co.	3200	3397	3173	106.2	107.1
	ESSAR Pvt.					
	Hazira Imp.	2160	1268	3184	58.7	39.8
	ESS IMP Total	2160	1268	3184	58.7	39.8
	GIPCL					
	GIPCL I	1114	1232	1543	110.6	79.8
	GIPCL II	1046	703	557	67.2	126.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Surat Lign	680	133	0	19.6	
	Total GIPC	2840	2068	2100	72.8	98.5
	Paguthan G	4860	3863	2781	79.5	138.9
	Kaps Nuc.	2860	3395	2892	118.7	117.4
	Kawas GT.	2276	4788	4354	210.4	110.0
	Gandhar GT.	1400	2282	2165	163.0	105.4
	Gujrat Therm.	42463	41932	40604	98.7	103.3
	Gujrat Nucle.	2860	3395	2892	118.7	117.4
	Gujrat Hydro	1630	1039	1349	63.7	77.0
	Gujrat Total	46953	46366	44845	98.7	103.4
10.	Maharashtra					
	M.S.E.B.					
	Nasik	5390	5866	5410	108.8	108.4
	Koradi	6300	5668	5862	90.0	96.7
	Paras	330	347	301	105.2	115.3
	Bhuswal	3000	3367	2869	112.2	117.4
	Parli 1-2	300	424	454	141.3	93.4
	Parli 3-5	3700	3704	4012	100.1	92.3
	Parli 1-5	4000	4128	4466	103.2	92.4
	Chandrapur	15500	15770	13410	101.7	117.6
	K' Kheda-II	2800	2479	2951	88.5	84.0
	Uran GT.	4955	3905	5570	78.8	70.1
	MSEB Th.	42275	41530	40839	98.2	101.7
	Koyna	2868	2871	2964	100.1	96.9
	Koyna Dam	120	159	129	132.5	123.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Vaitarna	140	185	146	132.1	126.7
	Paithon	25	16	20	64.0	80.0
	Pawana	15	11	18	73.3	61.1
	Tillari	130	113	78	86.9	144.9
	Bhira Tail	80	89	75	111.3	118.7
	Bandaradhar	50	0	0	.0	
	Bhatsa	50	78	33	156.0	236.4
	K' Vasala	60	77	49	128.3	157.1
	Veer & Bhatgar	80	90	71	112.5	126.8
	Eldari	30	42	52	140.0	80.8
	Ujjani	22	27	39	122.7	69.2
	Dhom	5	8	5	160.0	160.0
	Dudhganga	20	0	0	.0	
	Karanjvan	5	0	0	.0	
	Small Hy.	93	41	25	44.1	164.0
	MSEB Hydro	3793	3807	3704	100.4	102.8
	MSEB Total	46068	45337	44543	98.4	101.8
	Trombay Th.	5680	6142	6163	108.1	99.7
	Trombay GT&S	1320	1224	1255	92.7	97.5 ^a
	Trombay Total	7000	7366	7418	105.2	99.3
	Tarapur Nu.	1872	2171	2294	116.0	94.6
	Tata Hydro	1400	1615	1307	115.4	123.6
	Dahanu Th.	3600	3778	3277	104.9	115.3
	Dabhol Pvt.	5834	3996	258	68.5	
	Maharashtra Th.	58709	56670	51792	96.5	109.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Maharashtra Nuclear	1872	2171	2294	116.0	94.6
	Maharashtra Hydro	5193	5422	5011	104.4	108.2
	Maharashtra Total	65774	64263	59097	97.7	108.7
11.	Madhya Pradesh					
	M.P.E.B.					
	Satpura	7150	7716	7632	107.9	101.1
	Korba-2	900	996	796	110.7	125.1
	Korba-3	1100	1349	972	122.6	138.8
	Korba 2-3	2000	2345	1768	117.3	132.6
	Amarkantak	1250	1297	1202	103.8	107.9
	Korba West	5200	5021	5081	96.6	98.8
	Sanjay Gandhi	3400	3773	2518	111.0	149.8
	MPEB Th.	19000	20152	18201	106.1	110.7
	Gandhi Sagar	450	345	540	76.7	63.9
	Pench	525	562	561	107.0	100.2
	Bargi	550	482	650	87.6	74.2
	Bansagar	350	570	431	162.9	132.3
	Hasdeo Ban.	350	431	587	123.1	73.4
	Birsingpur	50	45	26	90.0	173.1
	Rajghat (MP)	100	27	0	27.0	
	MPEB Hy.	2375	2462	2795	103.7	88.1
	MPEB Total	21375	22614	20996	105.8	107.7
	NTPC Korba	15500	15780	15903	101.8	99.2
	NTPC Vindh.	11000	9897	9810	90.0	100.9
	MP Thermal	45500	45829	43914	100.7	104.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	MP Hydro	2375	2462	2795	103.7	88.1
	MP Total	47875	48291	46709	100.9	103.4
III. Southern Region						
12. Andhra Pradesh						
	K' Gudem A	1500	1613	1170	107.5	137.9
	K' Gudem B	1280	1060	573	82.8	185.0
	K' Gudem C	1046	1210	1035	115.7	116.9
	K' Gudem D	3674	3933	3388	107.0	116.1
	K' Gudam A-D	7500	7816	6166	104.2	126.8
	Vijaywada	9300	9625	9731	103.5	98.9
	Ramagundam B	375	427	399	113.9	107.0
	Nellore	190	129	96	67.9	134.4
	Royalasem	3300	3503	3366	106.2	104.1
	APSEB Th.	20665	21500	19758	104.0	108.8
	Machkund	770	739	538	96.0	137.4
	T.B. Dam	200	224	220	112.0	101.8
	Upper Sile	450	443	324	98.4	136.7
	Lower Sile	1150	1263	872	109.8	144.8
	N'Juna Sagar	2600	2396	2383	92.2	100.5
	N'SGR RBC	200	205	254	102.5	80.7
	N'SGR LBC	100	84	106	84.0	79.2
	Srisailem	3000	2975	2617	99.2	113.7
	Nizam Sagar	18	18	14	100.0	128.6
	Pochampad	90	118	150	131.1	78.7
	Singur	32	31	0	96.9	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Donkarai	80	120	74	150.0	162.2
	Penna Ahob	13	31	34	238.5	91.2
	Mini Hydr	9	21	0	233.3	
	ABSEB Hy.	8712	8668	7586	99.5	114.3
	ABSEB Total	29377	30168	27344	102.7	110.3
	Vijeshwaram	1800	2001	1800	111.2	111.2
	Jegurupadu	1600	1631	1452	101.9	112.3
	Godavari GT	1500	1617	1361	107.8	118.8
	Venagiri GT	600	0	0	.0	
	Kondapaali	850	0	0	.0	
	Kakinada GT	700	0	0	.0	
	Peddapuram	420	0	0	.0	
	IDA Samako	543	0	0	.0	
	IDA Peddap	287	0	0	.0	
	NTPC R' GUN	15120	16649	15863	110.1	105.0
	AP Thermal	44085	43398	40234	98.4	107.9
	AP Hydro	8712	8668	7586	99.5	114.3
	AP Total	52797	52066	47820	98.6	108.9
13.	Karnataka					
	Raichur	8650	7764	6058	89.8	128.2
	KPCL Th.	8650	7764	6058	89.8	128.2
	Shravathy	5200	5734	5214	110.3	110.0
	Kalinadi	2100	3075	2239	146.4	137.3
	Supa Dam	350	486	365	138.9	133.2
	Bhadra	80	111	83	138.8	133.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Linganamak	250	293	265	117.2	110.6
	Varahi	1000	1213	1147	121.3	105.8
	abha	120	125	91	104.2	137.4
	Mallapur	25	0	1	.0	.0
	Kadra	330	361	292	109.4	123.6
	Kodasali	291	267	121	91.8	220.7
	Mani DPH	28	27	24	96.4	112.5
	KPCL Hydro	9774	11692	9842	119.6	118.8
	KPCL Total	18424	19456	15900	105.6	122.4
	Yelhanka Dam	720	708	624	98.3	113.5
	KEB Th.	720	708	624	98.3	113.5
	Jog	136	74	159	54.4	46.5
	Shivasamudram	113	139	111	123.0	121.9
	Shimshapur	98	87	90	88.8	96.7
	Munirabad	95	98	98	103.2	100.0
	KEB Hydro	442	398	461	90.0	86.3
	S'Pura Pvt.	88	61	75	69.3	81.3
	Torangallu	1200	180	7	15.0	
	Kaiza A.P.	424	128	0	30.2	
	Kar. Th.	10570	8652	6689	81.9	129.3
	Kar. Nu.	424	128	0	30.2	
	Kar. Hy.	10304	12151	10378	117.9	117.1
	Kar. Total	21298	20931	17067	98.3	122.6
14.	Kerala					
	Bramhapura	605	404	252	66.8	160.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kozikode D	330	175	0	53.0	
	Kerala Th.	935	579	252	61.9	229.8
	Iddukki	2750	2741	2822	99.7	97.1
	Sabrigiri	1450	1509	1757	104.1	85.9
	Kuttiadi	285	277	301	97.2	92.0
	Sholayar	240	303	283	126.3	107.1
	Sengalam	150	136	130	90.7	104.6
	N' Mangalam	280	301	300	107.5	100.3
	Pallivasal	220	176	175	80.0	100.6
	Poringal	200	169	182	84.5	92.9
	Panniar	170	163	201	95.9	81.1
	Kallada	65	79	54	121.5	146.3
	Kakkad	262	152	0	58.0	
	Lower Periyar	600	577	667	96.2	86.5
	Mallarupab	5	8	20	160.0	40.0
	Peppara	0	0	0		
	Idamalayar	380	375	424	98.7	88.4
	Poringalut	38	67	0	176.3	
	Malankra	30	0	0	.0	
	Kuttadi E	30	0	0	.0	
	Madupatty	5	0	0	.0	
	Others Min	10	0	0	.0	
	KSEB Hydro	7170	7033	7316	98.1	96.1
	Maniyar	28	33	45	117.9	73.3
	Kerala Hydro	7198	7066	7361	98.2	96.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kayamkulam	1500	1249	216	83.3	
	Cochin CCG	0	5	0		
	Kerala Th.	2435	1833	468	75.3	391.7
	Kerala Hy.	7198	7066	7361	98.2	96.0
	Kerala Total	9633	8899	7829	92.4	113.7
15.	Tamil Nadu					
	T.N.E.B.					
	Ennore	1350	1293	1799	95.8	71.9
	Tuticorin	6500	7449	6599	114.6	112.9
	Mettur	5647	5782	5063	102.4	114.2
	North Madras	4200	4334	3675	103.2	117.9
	B'Bridge	150	187	112	124.7	167.0
	Narimanam	20	31	13	155.0	238.5
	TNEB Th.	17867	19076	17261	106.8	110.5
	Pykara + Dam	403	383	368	95.0	104.1
	Moyar	151	151	140	100.0	107.9
	Kundah 1-5	1650	1325	1437	80.3	92.2
	Suruliyar	70	73	103	104.3	70.9
	Aliyar	180	188	196	104.4	95.9
	Mettur	514	547	647	106.4	84.5
	L. Mettur	350	359	430	102.6	83.5
	Periyar	500	421	586	84.2	71.8
	Papanasam	120	116	118	96.7	98.3
	Sarkarpath	161	130	118	80.7	110.2
	Sholayar	342	292	319	85.4	91.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kodayar	201	222	205	110.4	108.3
	Sathnur	10	8	0	80.0	
	Lower Bhawa	20	51	50	255.0	102.0
	Servalar	30	40	33	133.3	121.2
	Kadamparai	140	143	187	102.1	76.5
	Small Hy.	73	18	21	24.7	85.7
	TNEB Hydro	4915	4467	4958	90.9	90.1
	TNEB Total	22782	23543	22219	103.3	106.0
	Neyveli I	3800	3747	3772	98.6	99.3
	Neyveli II	9550	9561	9569	100.1	99.9
	Neyveli Total	13350	13308	13341	99.7	99.8
	K'kkam Nuc.	2093	2233	2187	106.7	102.1
	B' Bridge D	1225	1478	161	120.7	
	T.N. Thermal	32442	33862	30763	104.4	110.1
	T.N Nuclear	2093	2233	2187	106.7	102.1
	T.N. Hydro	4915	4467	4958	90.9	90.1
	T.N. Total	39450	40562	37908	102.8	107.0
16.	Pondicherry					
	Karaikal G	200	132	0	66.0	
	Pondicherry	200	132	0	66.0	
IV.	Eastern Region					
17.	Bihar					
	Patratu	1800	1569	1665	87.2	94.2
	Baruni	450	330	532	73.3	62.0
	Muzaffa pur	450	347	369	77.1	94.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	BSEB Th.	2700	2246	2566	83.2	87.5
	Kosi	20	7	10	35.0	70.0
	Subernrekha	200	169	130	84.5	130.0
	Sone	30	13	19	43.3	68.4
	North Koel	0	0	0		
	E.G. Canal	40	18	24	45.0	75.0
	Bihar Hydro	290	207	183	71.4	113.1
	Tenughat	1500	1169	1474	77.9	79.3
	K' Gaon NTP	3000	4284	3989	142.8	107.4
	Bihar Ther.	7200	7699	8029	106.9	95.9
	Bihar Total	7490	7906	8212	105.6	96.3
18.	Orissa					
	Talcher	0	0	0		
	Balimela	983	1218	806	123.9	151.1
	Potteru	0	0	0		
	Hirakund	1121	1104	1220	98.5	90.5
	Rengali	850	912	949	107.3	96.1
	Upper Kola	700	796	436	113.7	182.6
	Indravati	1356	513	0	37.8	
	OSEB Hydro	5010	4543	3411	90.7	133.2
	OSEB Thermal	0	0	0		
	OSEB Hydro	5010	4543	3411	90.7	133.2
	OSEB Total	5010	4543	3411	90.7	133.2
	I.B. Valley	2000	3159	2803	157.9	112.7
	Talcher STP	3646	5322	4318	146.0	123.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Talcher OLD	2000	2327	2240	116.3	103.9
	Talcher Total	5646	7649	6558	135.5	116.6
	Nalco IMP	600	694	0	115.7	
	ICCL IMP	600	398	0	66.3	
	Orissa Thermal	8846	11900	9361	134.5	127.1
	Orissa Hydro	5010	4543	3411	90.7	133.2
	Orissa Total	13856	16443	12772	118.7	128.7
19.	West Bengal					
	W.B.S.E.B.					
	Bandel	2000	2182	1778	109.1	122.7
	Santal Dih	1250	1349	1474	107.9	91.5
	Gas Turbine	25	12	20	48.0	60.0
	WBSEB Thermal	3275	3543	3272	108.2	108.0
	WBSEB Hydro	363	396	357	109.1	110.9
	WBSEB Total	3638	3939	3629	108.3	108.5
	WBP Dev. C					
	Kolaghat	5800	6216	6697	107.2	92.8
	Bakreswar	300	19	0	6.3	
	D.P.L. Thermal	700	848	602	121.1	140.9
	Mulajore	183	244	295	133.3	82.7
	Newcossipore	453	521	741	115.0	70.3
	Southern	767	747	783	97.4	95.4
	Titagarh	1378	1556	1805	112.9	86.2
	Budge	2219	2341	1190	105.5	196.7
	CESC Total	5000	5409	4814	108.2	112.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	NTPC Farak	4800	6792	5470	141.5	124.2
	W.B. Thermal	19875	22827	20855	114.9	109.5
	W.B. Hydro	363	396	357	109.1	110.9
	W.B. Total	20238	23223	21212	114.7	109.5
20.	D.V.C.					
	Chandrapur	2000	1734	1926	86.7	90.0
	Durgapur	1575	1533	1517	97.3	101.1
	Bokaro	2270	2293	2599	101.0	88.2
	Mejia	1500	2118	1317	141.2	160.8
	Maithon GT	15	21	28	140.0	75.0
	DVC Thermal	7360	7699	7387	104.6	104.2
	DVC Hydro	370	441	319	119.2	138.2
	DVC Total	7730	8140	7706	105.3	105.6
21.	Sikkim					
	Hydro	45	11	26	24.4	42.3
	NHPC (Ranji)	150	26	0	17.3	
	Sikkim Total	195	37	26	19.0	142.3
V.	N. Eastern Region					
22.	Assam					
	Chandrapur	100	34	80	34.0	42.5
	Namrup	430	340	379	79.1	89.7
	Bongaigaon	80	134	75	167.5	178.7
	Gas Turbin	430	412	405	95.8	101.7
	Assam Ther.	1040	920	939	88.5	98.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23. NEEPCO						
	Kathalguri	1000	1098	746	109.8	147.2
	Agartala G	250	363	193	145.2	188.1
	Total Ther.	1250	1461	939	116.9	155.6
	Khandong	222	173	234	77.9	73.9
	Kopili	992	580	748	58.5	77.5
	Total Hy.	1214	753	982	62.0	76.7
	Total NEEPCO	2464	2214	1921	89.9	115.3
24. Meghalaya						
	Kyrdemkula	130	171	166	131.5	103.0
	Umiām I	95	109	101	114.7	107.9
	Umiām II	47	48	49	102.1	98.0
	Umiām IV	135	245	171	181.5	143.3
	Umiām	61	61	57	100.0	107.0
	Total	468	634	544	135.5	116.5
25. Tripura						
	Baramura G	36	28	28	77.8	100.0
	Rokhia GT	294	223	259	75.9	86.1
	Total GT	330	251	287	76.1	87.5
	Gumti Hydr.	50	61	57	122.0	107.0
	Tripura Total	380	312	344	82.1	90.7
26. Manipur						
	Loktak NHP	450	506	531	112.4	95.3
27. Arunachal Pradesh						
	Tago	20	14	16	70.0	87.5

Station-wise Generation in Gwh for 2000-2001 & 2001-2002

Generation (Gwh)

Sl. No.	Name of Stations	April-March				
		Programme 2002	Actual 2002	Actual 1991	% of Programme	% of Last Year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Total	71386	53780	52342	75.3	102.7
I.	Northern Region					
	1. B.B.M.B.					
	Bhakra L&R	4500	4191	4692	93.1	89.3
	Gang & Kotla	1100	1269	1054	115.4	120.4
	Dehar	3060	3057	3162	99.9	96.7
	Pong	1400	1422	1516	101.6	93.8
	BBMB Total	10060	9939	10424	98.8	95.3
	2. Delhi					
	Badarpur	5100	5275	5181	103.4	101.8
	D.V.B.					
	I.P. Stn.	900	815	866	90.6	94.1
	Rajghat	840	697	792	83.0	88.0
	D.V.B. GT.	1100	1165	1142	105.9	102.0
	Pragati GT.	200	0	0	.0	
	DVB Total	3040	2677	2800	88.1	95.6
	Delhi Total	8140	7952	7981	97.7	99.6
	3. J & K					
	Pampore GT.	0	0	5		.0
	J & K Th.	0	0	5		.0
	Lower Jhelam	326	313	343	96.0	91.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Others J&K	286	228	216	79.7	105.6
	J&K Hydro	612	541	559	88.4	96.8
	NHPC Salal	3100	2930	2939	94.5	99.7
	NHPC Uri	2875	2087	1781	81.0	117.2
	J & K Th.	0	0	5		.0
	J & K Hy.	6287	5558	5279	88.4	105.3
	J & K Total	6287	5558	5284	88.4	105.2
4.	H.P.					
	H.P.S.E.B.					
	Bassi	300	258	262	86.0	98.5
	Giri Bata	240	192	205	80.0	93.7
	Binwa	30	21	34	70.0	61.8
	Andhra	70	60	44	85.7	136.4
	Sanjay	600	482	502	80.3	96.0
	Small Hy.	200	133	118	66.5	112.7
	H.P.S.E.B.	1440	1146	1165	79.6	98.4
	Malana Pvt.	0	187	0		
	Total Pvt.	0	187	0		
	Dehar	3060	3057	3162	99.9	96.7
	Pong	1400	1422	1516	101.6	93.8
	BBMB-HP	4460	4479	4678	100.4	95.7
	B' Siul	780	606	649	77.7	93.4
	Chamera	1800	1956	2112	108.7	92.6
	NHPC-HP	2580	2562	2761	99.3	92.8
	HP Tot. Hy.	8480	8374	8604	98.8	97.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Haryana					
	F' Bad Extn.	850	808	822	95.1	98.3
	Panipat	4000	4274	2729	106.8	156.6
	Total HPGC	4850	5082	3551	104.8	143.1
	F' Bad CCGT	3000	2861	2290	95.4	124.9
	Har. Thermal	7850	7943	5841	101.2	136.0
	W. Yamuna	225	232	244	103.1	95.1
	Har. Total	8075	8175	6085	101.2	134.3
6.	Rajasthan					
	RRVUNL					
	Kota	6100	6354	6437	104.2	98.7
	Suratgarh	3625	4237	3195	116.9	132.6
	Ramgarh GT	250	123	228	49.2	53.9
	RRVUNL Therm	9975	10714	9860	107.4	108.7
	R.P. Sagar	340	259	183	76.2	141.5
	Jaw. Sagar	238	200	140	84.0	142.9
	Mahi Bajaj	276	69	36	25.0	191.7
	Other Hydr.	27	14	17	51.9	82.4
	RRVUNL Hy.	881	542	376	61.5	144.1
	RRVUNL Total	10856	11256	10236	103.7	110.0
	NTPC Anta	3000	3058	2881	101.9	106.1
	RAPS Nuc.	5257	4674	3578	88.9	130.6
	Raj. Therm.	12975	13772	12741	106.1	108.1
	Raj. Nucle.	5257	4674	3578	88.9	130.6
	Raj. Hydro	881	542	376	61.5	144.1
	Raj. Total	19113	18988	16695	99.3	113.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7. Punjab						
GNDTP (Bhatinda)	2250	2766	2794	122.9	99.0	
GHTP (LEH M)	3000	3072	3225	102.4	95.3	
Ropar	8450	8857	8439	104.8	105.0	
Pun. Thermal	13700	14695	14458	107.3	101.6	
UBDC 1-3	350	300	345	85.7	87.0	
Shanan	540	472	489	87.4	96.5	
Mukerian	1360	1171	1222	86.1	95.8	
Anandpur S.	910	539	652	59.2	82.7	
Theindam R	1300	1229	433	94.5	283.8	
Punjab Hyd.	4460	3711	3141	83.2	118.1	
Bhakra LR	4500	4191	4692	93.1	89.3	
Gang & Kolla	1100	1269	1054	115.4	120.4	
BBMB-Punjab	5600	5460	5746	97.5	95.0	
Punjab Total	23760	23866	23345	100.4	102.2	
8. Uttar Pradesh						
UPRVUNL						
Obra 1-5	582	400	450	68.7	88.9	
Obra 6-8	785	623	539	79.4	115.6	
Obra 9-13	5083	4763	4924	93.7	96.7	
Obra 1-13	6450	5693	5913	88.3	96.3	
Panki	900	948	864	105.3	109.7	
H' Ganj B&Q	820	715	709	87.2	100.8	
Paricha	900	1030	598	114.4	172.2	
Anpara	11890	12124	11498	102.0	105.4	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Others (U.P.)	0	0	0		
	UPRVUNL Th.	20960	20510	19582	97.9	104.7
	Rihand	900	1041	1048	115.7	99.3
	Obra Hy.	300	391	414	130.3	94.4
	Matatila	130	135	137	103.8	98.5
	Ganga Canal	160	154	144	96.3	106.9
	Khara	385	309	345	80.3	89.6
	UPHPC Hydr.	1875	2030	2088	108.3	97.2
	UP Th+Hy	22835	22540	21670	98.7	104.0
	Singrauli	15800	15478	16408	98.0	94.3
	Rihand NTP	7400	7677	7720	103.7	99.4
	Dadrith NT	6750	6673	6886	98.9	96.9
	Unchahar N	6400	6563	5375	102.5	122.1
	Tanda NTPC	2500	2103	1189	84.1	176.9
	Aurgt NTPC	4600	4689	4686	101.9	100.1
	Dadrigt NT	5700	5732	5643	100.6	101.6
	Narora APS	2879	3332	3038	115.7	109.7
	UP Thermal	70110	69425	67489	99.0	102.9
	UP Nuclear	2879	3332	3038	115.7	109.7
	UP Hyd.	1875	2030	2088	108.3	97.2
	UP Total	74864	74787	72615	99.9	103.0
9.	Uttranchal					
	Dhakrani	169	115	143	68.0	80.4
	Dhalipur	192	193	220	100.5	87.7
	Kulhal	164	124	146	75.6	84.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Chibro	800	740	767	92.5	96.5
	Ram Ganga	320	274	473	85.6	57.9
	Chilla	700	541	519	77.3	104.2
	Khatima	200	171	166	85.5	103.0
	Khodri	390	365	369	93.6	98.9
	Maneri Bha	400	391	409	97.8	95.6
	Sobla	0	0	1		.0
	Uttranchal	3335	2914	3213	87.4	90.7
	NHPC T' Pur	455	412	435	90.5	94.7
	Uttranchal	3790	3326	3648	87.8	91.2

II. Western Region

10: Gujarat

G.E.B.

Dhuvran	2809	1791	2350	63.8	76.2
Ukai	4941	4753	5382	96.2	88.3
G. Nagar 1-4	3579	3806	3330	106.3	114.3
W. Bori 1-6	8860	9352	8916	105.6	104.9
Sikka	1316	1140	1098	86.6	103.8
Kutch Lignite	1184	980	965	82.8	101.6
Utran Old	0	0	0		
Utran GT.	745	782	720	105.0	108.6
Dhuvran GT.	144	42	137	29.2	30.7
GEB Thermal	23578	22646	22898	96.0	98.9
Ukai Hydro	780	234	420	30.0	55.7
Ukai LBC	20	12	19	60.0	63.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kadana & Pan	500	41	0	8.2	
	GEB Hydro.	1300	287	439	22.1	65.4
	GEB Total	24878	22933	23337	92.2	98.3
	GSECL					
	G. Ngr. 5	1450	1489	1348	102.7	110.5
	W. Bori 7	1500	1647	1535	109.8	107.3
	GSECL Total	2950	3136	2883	106.3	108.8
	GSEG Ltd.					
	Hazira CCC	0	171	0		
	GSEGL Total	0	171	0		
	A.E. Co.					
	A.E. Co. Old	410	377	425	92.0	88.7
	Sabarmati	2400	2433	2402	101.4	101.3
	Vatwa GT&S	610	319	538	52.3	59.3
	A.E. Co.	3420	3129	3365	91.5	93.0
	ESSAR Pvt.					
	Hazira Imp.	1917	661	558	34.5	118.5
	ESS Import	1917	661	558	34.5	118.5
	GIPCL					
	GIPCL I	1099	705	726	64.1	97.1
	GIPCL II	1177	589	505	50.0	116.6
	Surat Lign	1694	1454	1303	85.8	111.6
	Total GIPC	3970	2748	2534	69.2	108.4
	Paguthan G.	4165	727	2482	17.5	29.3
	Kaps Nuc.	2882	3570	3504	123.9	101.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kawas GT.	4400	3757	4697	85.4	80.0
	Gandhar GT.	4500	3614	2791	80.3	129.5
	Gujrat Therm	48900	40589	42208	83.0	96.2
	Gujrat Nucle.	2882	3570	3504	123.9	101.9
	Gujrat Hydro	1300	287	439	22.1	65.4
	Gujrat Total	53082	44446	46151	83.7	96.3
11.	Maharashtra					
	M.S.E.B.					
	Nasik	4495	5660	5842	125.9	96.9
	Koradi	6620	6104	5958	92.2	102.5
	Paras	340	364	382	107.1	95.3
	Bhuswal	3260	3362	2928	103.1	114.8
	Parli 1-2	391	417	484	106.6	86.2
	Parli 3-5	3945	4006	4063	101.5	98.6
	Parli 1-5	4336	4423	4547	102.0	97.3
	Chandrapur	16105	16224	15558	100.7	104.3
	K' Kheda-II	5870	5511	3492	93.9	157.8
	Uran GT.	3682	3676	3481	99.8	105.6
	MSEB Therm.	44708	45324	42188	101.4	107.4
	Koyna I-IV	3083	2889	2975	93.7	97.1
	Koyna DPH	146	85	103	58.2	82.5
	Vaitarna	152	28	125	84.2	102.4
	Paithon	20	8	8	40.0	100.0
	Pawana	16	7	8	43.8	87.5
	Tillari	120	89	112	74.2	79.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Bhira Tail	70	67	65	95.7	103.1
	Bandardhar	44	32	10	72.7	320.0
	Bhatsa	60	58	57	96.7	101.8
	Panshet (K.)	25	50	51	200.0	98.0
	Varasgaon	30	0	0	.0	
	Veer & Bhatgar	74	67	48	90.5	139.6
	Eldari	45	28	38	62.2	73.7
	Ujani	26	6	18	23.1	33.3
	Dhom	0	5	5		100.0
	Dudhganga	57	18	0	31.6	
	Small Hy.	108	68	38	63.0	178.9
	MSEB Hy.	4076	3605	3661	88.4	98.5
	MSEB Total	48784	48929	45849	100.3	106.7
	Trombay Th.	6680	7232	7096	108.3	101.9
	Trombay GT&S	1320	1241	1005	94.0	123.5
	Trombay Total	8000	8473	8101	105.9	104.6
	Tarapur Nu.	1960	2503	2409	127.7	103.9
	Tata Hy.	1400	1301	1152	92.9	112.9
	Dahanu Th.	3680	3809	3576	103.5	106.5
	Dabhol Pvt.	6100	304	2465	5.0	12.3
	Maharashtra Th.	62488	57910	56330	92.7	102.8
	Maharashtra Nu.	1960	2503	2409	127.7	103.9
	Maharashtra Hy.	5476	4906	4813	89.6	101.9
	Maharashtra Total	69924	65319	63552	93.4	102.8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. Madhya Pradesh						
M.P.E.B.						
	Satpura	7900	7316	7201	92.6	101.6
	Amarkantak	1250	989	1152	79.1	85.9
	Sanjay Gandhi	5600	4219	4923	75.3	85.7
	MPEB Th.	14750	12524	13276	84.9	94.3
	Gandhi Sagar	350	114	103	32.6	110.7
	Pench	400	138	283	34.5	48.8
	Bargi	500	522	364	104.4	143.4
	Bansagar-I	750	1296	743	172.8	174.4
	Birsingpur	50	36	36	72.0	100.0
	Rajghat	100	105	58	105.0	181.0
	MPEB Hy.	2150	2211	1587	102.8	139.3
	MPEB Total	16900	14735	14863	87.2	99.1
	NTPC Vindh.	16800	15589	14199	92.8	109.8
	MP Thermal	31550	28113	27475	89.1	102.3
	MP Hydro	2150	2211	1587	102.8	139.3
	MP Total	33700	30324	29062	90.0	104.3
13. C.S.E.B.						
	Korba-2	760	989	891	130.1	111.0
	Korba-3	950	1231	1293	129.6	95.2
	Korba 2-3	1710	2220	2184	129.8	101.6
	Korba West	5600	5536	4957	98.9	111.7
	CSEB Therm.	7310	7756	7141	106.1	108.6
	Hasdeo Ban.	400	392	233	98.0	168.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	CSEB Hydro	400	392	233	98.0	168.2
	CSEB Total	7710	8148	7374	105.7	110.5
	NTPC Korba	15600	16592	16254	106.4	102.1
	Chatti Th.	22910	24348	23395	106.3	104.1
	Chatti Hy.	400	392	233	98.0	168.2
	Chatti Total	23310	24740	23628	106.1	104.7
III. Southern Region						
14. APGENCO						
	K' Gudem A	1778	1752	1695	98.5	103.4
	K' Gudem B	1278	1062	792	83.1	134.1
	K' Gudem C	942	1358	1371	144.2	99.1
	K' Gudem D	3802	3864	3781	101.6	102.2
	K' Gudam A-D	7800	8036	7639	103.0	105.2
	Vijaywada	9550	10225	10199	107.1	100.3
	R' Gundem B	400	426	443	106.5	96.2
	Nellore	150	155	171	103.3	90.6
	Royalasem	3500	3412	3476	97.5	98.2
	APGENCO Th.	21400	22254	21928	104.0	101.5
	Machkund	750	729	669	97.2	109.0
	T.B. Dam&Ham	200	165	225	82.5	73.3
	Uppar Sile	450	449	438	99.8	102.5
	Lower Sile	1200	1058	1313	88.2	80.6
	NJ Sagar P	2305	1069	1525	46.4	70.1
	NJ Sagar R	200	61	43	30.5	141.9
	NJ Sagar L	100	23	17	23.0	135.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Srisailam	3155	1943	3036	61.6	64.0
	Srisailam	400	381	0	95.3	
	Nizam Sagar	22	3	29	13.6	10.3
	Pochampad	100	104	127	104.0	81.9
	Singur	30	4	88	13.3	4.5
	Donkarayi	110	83	141	75.5	58.9
	Penna Ahob	12	14	66	116.7	21.2
	Mini Hydr	0	29	12		241.7
	APGENCO Hy.	9034	6115	7729	67.7	79.1
	APGENCO Total	30434	28369	29657	93.2	95.7
	Vij' Swaram	1830	1950	1978	106.6	98.6
	Jegurupadu	1590	1616	1658	101.6	97.5
	Godavari GT	1575	1493	1567	94.8	95.3
	Kondapaali	2000	1735	679	86.8	255.5
	Peddapuram	0	51	0		
	LVS Power	0	93	0		
	Total Pvt.	5165	4988	3904	96.6	127.8
	NTPC R' GUN	16000	15850	16422	99.1	96.5
	NTPC SIMHA	0	15	0		
	AP Thermal	44395	45057	44232	101.5	101.9
	AP Hydro	9034	6115	7729	67.7	79.1
	AP Total	53429	51172	51961	95.8	98.5
15.	Karnataka					
	Raichur	9500	8952	8904	94.2	100.5
	KPCL Th.	9500	8952	8904	94.2	100.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Shravathy	5300	4216	5233	79.5	80.6
	Kalinadi	2500	2423	2567	96.9	94.4
	Supa DPH	400	397	425	99.3	93.4
	Bhadra	90	41	108	45.6	38.0
	Linganamak	275	177	275	64.4	64.4
	Varahi	1060	901	1100	85.0	81.9
	Ghatprabha	120	73	86	60.8	84.9
	Mallapur	30	8	25	26.7	32.0
	Kadra	350	292	345	83.4	84.6
	Kodasali	325	282	305	86.8	92.5
	Mani DPH	25	21	25	84.0	84.0
	Gerosopara	600	413	42	68.8	.
	KPCL Hydro	11075	9244	10536	83.5	87.7
	KPCL Total	20575	18196	19440	88.4	93.6
	Yelhanka Dam	770	772	658	100.3	117.3
	VVNL Therm.	770	772	658	100.3	117.3
	Jog	346	117	0	38.2	
	Shivasamudram	80	5	75	6.3	6.7
	Shimshapur	96	43	62	44.8	69.4
	Munirabad	100	66	100	66.0	66.0
	KEB Hydro	582	231	237	39.7	97.5
	Shivapura	95	105	105	110.5	100.0
	Shahapura	18	34	14	188.9	242.9
	Narayanpur.	34	47	0	138.2	
	Harangi	24	0	0	.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Total Pvt.	171	186	119	108.8	156.3
	Torangallu	657	921	1170	140.2	78.7
	Bellary DG	260	188	13	72.3	
	Tanirbavi	1430	941	0	65.8	
	Belgaum DG	0	419	0		
	Total Pvt.	2347	2469	1183	105.2	208.7
	Kaiga APS	2854	2997	1886	105.0	158.9
	Kar. Th.	12617	12193	10745	96.6	113.5
	Kar. Nu.	2854	2997	1886	105.0	158.9
	Kar. Hy.	11828	9661	10892	81.7	88.7
	Kar. Total	27299	24851	23523	91.0	105.6
16.	Kerala					
	Bramhapura	540	128	319	23.7	40.1
	Kozikode D	378	296	460	78.3	64.3
	KSEB Th.	918	424	779	46.2	54.4
	Iddukki	2613	2753	2296	105.4	119.9
	Sabrigiri	1761	1405	1338	79.8	105.0
	Sholayar	235	227	196	96.6	115.8
	Sengulam	75	115	133	153.3	86.5
	Narimangalam	280	273	264	97.5	103.4
	Pallivasal	135	118	166	87.4	71.1
	Poringalku	181	191	174	105.5	109.8
	Panniar	132	123	169	93.2	72.8
	Kallada	74	67	69	90.5	97.1
	Kakkad	238	184	178	77.3	103.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Lower Periyar	595	562	545	94.5	103.1
	Peppara	0	7	10		70.0
	Mallarupab	0	0	0		
	Idamalayar	390	332	329	85.1	100.9
	Poringalku	48	29	53	60.4	54.7
	Malankra	0	0	0		
	Kutti & Ext.	350	330	267	94.3	123.6
	Madupatty	0	3	3		100.0
	Others Min	0	0	0		
	KSEB Hydro	7107	6719	6190	94.5	108.5
	Kasagode D	0	88	0		
	Total Pvt.	0	88	0		
	Maniyar	28	39	31	139.3	125.8
	Kuthungal	50	33	0	66.3	
	Total Pvt.	78	72	31	92.3	232.3
	Kerala Hy.	7185	6791	6221	94.5	109.2
	Kayamkulam	2400	1331	1945	55.5	68.4
	Cochin CCG	1100	240	154	21.8	155.8
	Kerala Th.	4418	2083	2878	47.1	72.4
	Kerala Hy.	7185	6791	6221	94.5	109.2
	Kerala Total	11603	8874	9099	76.5	97.5
17.	Tamil Nadu					
	T.N.E.B.					
	Ennore	2845	1150	753	40.4	152.7
	Tuticorin	7755	8108	7931	104.6	102.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Mettur	6280	6396	6423	101.8	99.6
	North Chennai	4625	4672	4358	101.0	107.2
	B' Bridge	188	173	165	92.0	104.8
	Narimanam	0	0	16		.0
	Kovikallap	706	698	36	98.9	
	TNEB Th.	22399	21197	19682	94.6	107.7
	Pykara	380	383	347	100.8	110.4
	Moyar	148	164	148	110.8	110.8
	Kundah 1-5	1550	1343	1701	86.6	79.0
	Suruliyar	79	87	93	110.1	93.5
	Aliyar	180	122	184	67.8	66.3
	Metturdam & T	550	413	708	75.1	58.3
	L. Mettur	350	369	430	105.4	85.8
	Periyar	500	459	487	91.8	94.3
	Papanasam	125	98	125	78.4	78.4
	Sarkarpath	156	151	157	96.8	96.2
	Sholyai & II	350	260	384	74.3	67.7
	Kodayai & II	225	216	312	96.0	69.2
	Servalar	40	24	34	60.0	70.6
	Kadamparai	154	163	187	105.8	87.2
	Person Val	55	34	64	61.8	53.1
	Small Hy.	101	64	80	63.4	80.0
	TNEB Hydro	4943	4350	5441	88.0	79.9
	TNEB Total	27342	25547	25123	93.4	101.7
	Neyveli I	4100	4195	4158	102.3	100.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Neyveli II	9870	10268	10519	104.0	97.6
	Neyveli Ex.	300	0	0	.0	
	Neyveli Total	14270	14463	14677	101.4	98.5
	K'kkam Nuc.	2071	2244	2513	108.4	89.3
	B' Bridge D	1000	1234	1281	123.4	96.3
	P' Nallur C	2460	1036	0	42.1	
	Samalpatti	200	645	91	322.5	
	Samayanall	150	250	0	166.7	
	T.N. Thermal	40479	38825	35731	95.9	108.7
	T.N. Nuclear	2071	2244	2513	108.4	89.3
	T.N. Hydro	4943	4350	5441	88.0	79.9
	T.N. Total	47493	45419	43685	95.6	104.0
	18. Pondicherry					
	Karaikal G	235	250	233	106.4	107.3
	Pondicherry	235	250	233	106.4	107.3
	IV. Eastern Region					
	19. Bihar					
	Barauni	280	319	319	113.9	100.0
	Muzaffarpur	350	354	397	101.1	89.2
	BSEB Th.	630	673	716	106.8	94.0
	Kosi	10	8	2	80.0	400.0
	Sone	30	25	23	83.3	108.7
	E.G. Canal	25	25	24	100.0	104.2
	Chandil	2	0	0	.0	
	Bihar Hydro	67	58	49	86.6	118.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	K' Gaon NTP	3850	4513	4826	117.2	93.5
	Bihar Ther.	4480	5186	5542	115.8	93.6
	Bihar Hydro	67	58	49	86.6	118.4
	Bihar Total	4547	5244	5591	115.3	93.8
	20. Jharkhand					
	Patratu	1450	1422	1400	98.1	101.6
	JSEB Ther.	1450	1422	1400	98.1	101.6
	Subernrekh	238	101	95	42.4	106.3
	JSEB Hydro	238	101	95	42.4	106.3
	Tenughat	1450	1157	1333	79.8	86.8
	Chandrapur	1600	1507	1469	94.2	102.6
	Bokaro	2500	2253	2249	90.1	100.2
	Maithon GT	15	19	19	126.7	100.0
	DVC Therm.	4115	3779	3737	91.8	101.1
	Panchest	166	137	141	82.5	97.2
	Tilaya	14	10	11	71.4	90.9
	DVC Hydro	180	147	152	81.7	96.7
	Jharkhand Th.	7015	6358	6470	90.6	98.3
	Jharkhand Hy.	418	248	247	59.3	100.4
	Jharkhand Total	7433	6606	6717	88.9	98.3
	21. Orissa					
	IB Valley	2800	2598	3006	92.8	86.4
	Total OPGC	2800	2598	3006	92.8	86.4
	Balimela	950	1065	1006	112.1	105.9
	Potteru	5	0	0	.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Hirakud	935	967	588	103.4	164.5
	Rengali	830	793	721	95.5	110.0
	Upper Kola	590	668	517	113.2	129.2
	UP Indravati	1962	2963	1780	151.0	166.5
	OPHC Hydro	5272	6456	4612	122.5	140.0
	OPGC Thermal	2800	2598	3006	92.8	86.4
	OPHC Hydro	5272	6456	4612	122.5	140.0
	OPGC+OPHC	8072	9054	7618	112.2	118.9
	Talcher STP	4550	6238	5248	137.1	118.9
	Talcher Old	2300	2468	2494	107.3	99.0
	Talcher Total	6850	8706	7742	127.1	112.5
	Nalco IMP	600	448	331	74.7	135.3
	ICCL IMP	400	482	494	120.5	97.6
	Orissa Thermal	10650	12234	11573	114.9	105.7
	Orissa Hydro	5272	6456	4612	122.5	140.0
	Orissa Total	15922	18690	16185	117.4	115.5
22.	West Bengal					
	W.B.S.E.B.					
	Bandel	455	591	2130	129.9	27.7
	Santalidih	321	253	1055	78.8	24.0
	Gas Turbine	5	0	4	.0	.0
	WBSEB Thermal	781	844	3189	108.1	26.5
	Jaldhaka	85	138	93	162.4	148.4
	Rammam-II	206	236	224	114.6	100.9
	Massanjor	0	0	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Teesta Fal	100	169	119	169.0	142.0
	WBSEB Hydro	391	543	446	138.9	121.7
	WBSEB Total	1172	1387	3635	118.3	38.2
	WBP Dev. C					
	Kolaghat	6500	6375	6250	98.1	102.0
	Bakreswar	2500	3173	1257	126.9	252.4
	Bandel	1745	1386	0	79.4	
	Santalalih	979	843	0	86.1	
	Total WBPD	11724	11777	7507	100.5	156.9
	DPL Thermal	1422	1041	597	73.2	174.4
	Mulajore	110	109	136	99.1	80.1
	Newcossipore	440	434	499	98.6	87.0
	Southern R	730	727	642	99.6	113.2
	Titagarh	1680	1616	1627	96.2	99.3
	Budge-Budge	3540	3288	3242	92.9	101.4
	CESC Total	6500	6174	6146	95.0	100.5
	Farakka NT	7150	8421	8238	117.8	102.2
	Dugapur	1500	1077	1473	71.8	73.1
	Mejia	2800	2636	2701	94.1	97.6
	Maithon Hy.	170	140	130	82.4	107.7
	DVC-WB	4470	3853	4304	86.2	89.5
	W.B. Thermal	31877	31970	29851	100.3	107.1
	W.B. Hydro	561	683	576	121.7	118.6
	W.B. Total	32438	32653	30427	100.7	107.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23. D.V.C.						
	Chandrapur	1600	1507	1469	94.2	102.6
	Durgapur	1500	1077	1473	71.8	73.1
	Bokaro	2500	2253	2249	90.1	100.2
	Mejia	2800	2636	2701	94.1	97.6
	Maithon GT	15	19	19	126.7	100.0
	DVC Thermal	8415	7492	7911	89.0	94.7
	DVC Hydro	350	287	282	82.0	101.8
	DVC Total	8765	7779	8193	88.8	94.9
24. Sikkim						
	Small Hydro	45	35	21	77.9	166.7
	NHPC (Rangi)	340	348	304	102.4	114.5
	Sikkim Total	385	383	325	99.5	117.8
V. N. Eastern Region						
25. Assam						
	Chandrapur	0	0	0		
	Namrup	550	417	477	75.8	87.4
	Bongaigaon	150	46	84	30.7	54.8
	Gas Turbine	480	379	371	79.0	102.2
	ASEB Total	1180	842	932	71.4	90.3
	DLF Assam	212	148	131	69.8	113.0
	Kathalguri	1400	1318	1230	94.1	107.2
	Kopili	992	549	595	55.3	92.3
	Neepco Ass.	2392	1867	1825	78.1	102.3
	Assam Total	3784	2857	2888	75.5	98.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26. NEEPCO						
	Kathalguri	1400	1318	1230	94.1	107.2
	Agartala G	450	555	426	123.3	130.3
	Total Ther.	1850	1873	1656	101.2	113.1
	Khandong	222	181	231	81.5	78.4
	Kopili	992	549	595	55.3	92.3
	Doyang	277	141	73	50.9	193.2
	Ranganadi	30	22	0	73.3	
	Total Hy.	1521	893	899	58.7	99.3
	Total NEEPCO	3371	2766	2555	82.1	108.3
27. Meghalaya						
	Kyrdemkula	150	159	165	106.0	96.4
	Umiam I	100	118	123	118.0	95.9
	Umiam II	45	50	53	111.1	94.3
	Umiam IV	208	210	244	101.0	86.1
	Umtru	60	76	73	126.7	104.1
	Total MESEB	563	613	658	108.9	93.2
	Khandong (NEEPCO)	222	181	231	81.5	78.4
	Meghalaya Total	785	794	889	101.1	89.3
28. Tripura						
	Baramura G	35	23	27	65.7	85.2
	Rokhia GT	290	198	215	68.3	92.1
	Total GT	325	221	242	68.0	91.3
	Agartala (NEEPCO)	450	555	426	123.3	130.3
	Total Ther.	775	776	668	100.1	116.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Gumti Hydr.	60	68	70	113.3	97.1
	Tripura Total	835	844	738	101.1	114.4
29. Manipur						
	Leimakhong	0	0	0		
	Loktak NHP	450	569	551	126.4	103.3
30. Nagaland						
	Likim RO	10	4	0	40.0	
	Doyang (NEEPCO)	277	141	73	50.9	193.2
31. Arunachal Pradesh						
	Nurang/Tag	20	19	13	95.0	146.2
	Ranganadi (NEEPCO)	30	22	0	73.3	

Statement-II*State-wise projected outlay for Tenth Plan Period*

(Rs. Crores)

Sl.No.	A. States/Union Territories	Tenth Plan
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7139.47
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	491.19
3.	Assam	835.42
4.	Bihar	2719.58
5.	Chhattisgarh	99.19
6.	Goa	400.00
7.	Gujarat	5958.49
8.	Haryana	1395.33
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1235.00

1	2	3
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2879.49
11.	Jharkhand	814.00
12.	Karnataka	2206.99
13.	Kerala	3425.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5503.78
15.	Maharashtra	10149.71
16.	Manipur	228.86
17.	Meghalaya	501.37
18.	Mizoram	192.80
19.	Nagaland	247.95
20.	Orissa	2858.54
21.	Punjab	6063.66

1	2	3
22.	Rajasthan	6674.22
23.	Sikkim	240.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	8000.00
25.	Tripura	223.30
26.	Uttar Pradesh	9082.49
27.	Uttaranchal	1847.05
28.	West Bengal	7846.45
Total (States)		89159.32
B. Union Territories		
1.	A & N Islands	193.80
2.	Chandigarh	103.94
3.	Dadra & N Haveli	77.50
4.	Daman & Diu	51.27
5.	Delhi	3456.00
6.	Lakshadweep	13.89
7.	Pondicherry	165.00
Total (UTs)		4066.40
Grand Total		93225.72

**Incidents of Dacoity in Sangam,
Vaishali and Jammu-Tvai Exp.**

4111. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the incidents of major dacoity taken place recently in 'Sangam', 'Vaishali' and 'Jammu-Tvai' Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of incidents of loot/dacoity took

place in trains all over India during the year 2002-2003 as compared to the year 2001-2002;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to check increasing number of incidents of loot/dacoity in trains; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATEYA) : (a) to (e) "Policing" being a State subject, prevention and detection of Crime on Railways, including running trains, is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP). Therefore, information asked for in the Question is not readily available with the Ministry of Railways.

[English]

**Hydel Power Projects
in Country**

4112. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been done about the longevity of the hydel power projects in the country in view of the shrinking water resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to identify new hydel projects in the country;

(d) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government for hydel power projects, State-wise; and

(e) the details of funds sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) No specific

survey in relation to shrinking water resources has been carried out.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A basin-wise 'Ranking Study' of the balance hydro-electric potential which is yet to be harnessed has been carried out by the Central Electricity Authority to identify projects which could be taken up on priority in an appropriate sequence. After discussions with the State Governments, 162 schemes of an installed capacity of

50,650 MW have been selected for preparation of Pre-Feasibility Reports.

(d) and (e) The latest approved cost of various ongoing Central hydro electric projects located in various States is given in the statement-I attached. Power Finance Corporation has also provided funds for hydro generation projects in various States including Andhra Pradesh. State-wise details are given in the statement-II attached.

Statement-I

Hydel Power Projects in Country Ongoing Sector Hydro-Electric Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. Lakhs)
CENTRAL SECTOR				
1.	Dhauliganga St.I [NHPC]	Uttaranchal	4x70	60198 [12/98]
2.	Chamera-II [NHPC]	Himachal Pradesh	3x100	168402 (08/98)
3.	Dulhasti [NHPC]	Jammu & Kashmir	3x130	126297
4.	Teesta V [NHPC]	Sikkim	3x170	219804 (04/99)
5.	Indira Sagar [Narmada Sagar]	Madhya Pradesh	8x125	119012 [12/88]
*6.	Purulia PSS	West Bengal	4x225	145656 [09/91]
7.	Nathpa Jhakri [NJPC]	Himachal Pradesh	6x250	167802
8.	Tehri Stage-I [THDC]	Uttaranchal	4x250	339140 [03/93]
9.	Koteshwar [THDC]	Uttaranchal	4x100	130156 [10/99]
10.	Kopili Extension.II [NEEPCO]	Assam	1x25	7609
11.	Tuirial [NEEPCO]	Mizoram	3x30	36872 [06/97]
12.	Loktak D/S [NHPC]	Manipur	3x30	57862 [04/99]
13.	Parbati Stage-II [NHPC]	Himachal Pradesh	4x200	391959 [12/2001]
14.	Kol Dam [NTPC]	Himachal Pradesh	4x200	452715 [12/2001]

*Proposed to be taken up in Central Sector.

Presently being executed in State Sector.

Statement-II

State-wise Funding for Hydro Generation
Projects on 31.03.2003

Statement-II			1	2	3
State	Scheme Name	Rs. in Crores			
1	2	3			
				Sewa STG-III Hep [3x3 MW]	7.06
				Upper Sindh Hep [3x3 MW]	47.46
				State Total	60.78
Andhra Pradesh	Srisaïlam LB Hep [6x150 MW]	28.45	Karnataka	Almati Dam Power House	99.41
	CPF for Srisaïlam LB Hep	110.00		Bhadra Right Bank Canal	11.00
	Singur Hydro-Elect. Power Project	16.00		Ghata Praba [KPCL] Hep	4.00
	Upper Sileru II Hep	6.60		Kodasalli Dam P/H Under Kheps	50.00
	State Total			Mallapur Mini Hydrel [2x4.5 MW]	2.35
Arunachal Pradesh	Ranganadi Hep [3x135 MW]	250.87		Sharavathi Tail Race Hydro	178.46
	Tago Micro	1.49		Varahi Hep [KPCL]	12.00
	State Total	252.36		State Total	357.23
Bihar	Eastern Gandak	1.23	Kerala	Lower Periyar Hep [3x60 MW]	9.00
	Sone Canal	5.84		Poringalkuthu Hep	6.29
	State Total	7.07		State Total	15.29
Haryana	Western Yamuna Canal STG-II	23.73	Madhya Pradesh	Bansagar Hep	194.16
	State Total	23.73		Birsinghpur Hep	1.70
Himachal Pradesh	2x43 MW Malana Hep	25.00		Hasdeo-Bango Hep	4.96
	Baner [3x4 MW] Hep	16.56		Maheshwr Hydrel Project	99.33
	Baspa-II Hep [3x100 MW]	170.00		Marhikheda [Mohini] Hep [2x20MW]	8.32
	Gaj [3x3.5 MW] Hep	19.21		Rajghat Hep [3x15 MW]	11.17
	Ghanvi Hep	61.50		State Total	319.64
	Larji Hep [3x42 MW]	375.04	Mizoram	Kau-Tlabung Small Hep	3.43
	Nathpa Jhakri Hep [6x250 MW]	1118.00		Teiri Small Heo [3x1 MW]	5.00
	State Total	1785.31		Tuipang Lui Small Hep	3.60
Jammu & Kashmir	Chenani STG-III Hep [3x2.5 MW]	6.26		State Total	12.03

1	2	3
Nagaland	Additional RTL to Doyang Hep	50.85
	Bridge Loan for Doyang Hep	40.00
	Horangki Hep	5.50
	Likimro Hep	71.48
	Telangsao Mini Hep	5.55
	Tsutha Mini Hep	1.24
	State Total	174.61
Orissa	Upper Indravati Hep	320.00
	State Total	320.00
Punjab	Ranjit Sagar Dam Multipurpose	340.00
	UBDC-II Hep	8.00
	State Total	348.00
Sikkim	Myong Chu Mini Hep	6.50
	Upper Rongnichu Hep	6.00
	State Total	12.50
Tamil Nadu	Aliyar Small Hep	5.00
	Bhavani-Kattalai Hep [2x15 MW]	24.7
	Lower Bhawani RBC Project	1.50
	Mukurthy Mini Hep	2.50
	Perunchani Dam Mini Hep	3.50
	Thirumurthy Dam Mini Hep	6.00
	State Total	43.07
Uttar Pradesh	4x100 MW Vishnuprayag Hep	100.88
	State Total	100.88

1	2	3
Uttaranchal	Maneribhali STG-II [4x76 MW]	146.82
	Tehri Dam Hep STG-I [4x250 MW]	824.62
	State Total	971.44
	Grand Total	4964.99

Damages Due to Cyclone to East Coast Railways

4113. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the damage caused to East Coast Railway zone by cyclone during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated requirement of funds of repair the damages;

(d) the allocation of funds made therefor during those years, year-wise; and

(e) the progress of repairing work?

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

(b) The year-wise details of damage are as under :-

Year	Amount estimated
2000-2001	Rs. 1,17,04,048
2001-2002	Rs. 2,62,25,701
2002-2003	Nil

(c) The estimated requirement of funds to repair the damage is Rs.14,21,64,457/-.

(d) Allocating during 2000-01 Rs. 2,42,18,000/-

Allocating during 2000-02 Rs. 5,68,98,000/-

Allocating during 2000-03 Rs. 1,67,65,000/-

(e) The total financial progress till 2001-02 is Rs. 4,59,29,438/-. In the year 2002-03, the expenditure is Rs. 2,45,60,436/-.

[Translation]

Organisation of Military Sports

4114. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries which are members of International Military Sports Council;

(b) whether the Government have made any offer to hold World Military Sports for 2007 in India;

(c) if so, the time by which a decision would be taken by the International Military Sports Council in this regard;

(d) whether sufficient infrastructure is available in India for holding International Military Sports Meet;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which it is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Names of 123 countries which are members of International Military Sports Council (CISM) are given in statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Adequate infrastructure of international standard is available in Delhi and Hyderabad. Asian Games conducted at Delhi in 1982 and the 32nd National Games were organised at Hyderabad in December, 2002. Necessary infrastructure of international standards is

available at both these places to conduct World Military Games involving 18 to 20 disciplines.

(f) Question does not arise in view of (e) above.

Statement

Names of member countries of International Military Sports Council (CISM)

Sl.No.	Name(s) of countries
1	2
	AFRICA (44)
1.	South Africa
2.	Algeria
3.	Angola
4.	Benin
5.	Botswana
6.	Burkina Faso
7.	Burundi
8.	Cameroon
9.	Cape Verde
10.	Central African Republic
11.	Democratic Republic of Congo
12.	People's Republic of Congo
13.	Ivory Coast
14.	Djibouti
15.	Egypt
16.	Gabon
17.	Gambia
18.	Ghana
19.	Guinea Bissao

1	2	1	2
20.	Equatorial Guinea		AMERICA (18)
21.	Guinea	45.	Argentina
22.	Kenya	46.	Barbados
23.	Lesotho	47.	Bolivia
24.	Libya	48.	Brazil
25.	Madagascar	49.	Canada
26.	Malawi	50.	Chile
27.	Mali	51.	Colombia
28.	Morocco	52.	Dominican Republic
29.	Mauritania	53.	Ecuador
30.	Namibia	54.	United States of America
31.	Niger	55.	Guatemala
32.	Nigeria	56.	Haiti
33.	Uganda	57.	Panama
34.	Rwanda	58.	Paraguay
35.	Senegal	59.	Peru
36.	Sierra Leone	60.	Surinam
37.	Sudan	61.	Uruguay
38.	Swaziland	62.	Venezuela
39.	Tanzania		ASIA (27)
40.	Chad	63.	Saudi Arabia
41.	Togo	64.	Armenia
42.	Tunisia	65.	Azerbaijan
43.	Zambia	66.	Bahrain
44.	Zimbabwe	67.	People's Republic of China
		68.	Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1	2	1	2
69.	Republic of Korea	94.	Belarus
70.	United Arab Emirates	95.	Bulgaria
71.	India	96.	Cyprus
72.	Iraq (Suspended nation)	97.	Croatia
73.	Iran	98.	Denmark
74.	Jordan	99.	Spain
75.	Kazakhstan	100.	Estonia
76.	Kyrgyzstan	101.	Finland
77.	Kuwait	102.	France
78.	Lebanon	103.	Georgia
79.	Mongolia	104.	Greece
80.	Oman	105.	Hungary
81.	Uzbekistan	106.	Ireland
82.	Pakistan	107.	Italy
83.	Philippines	108.	Latvia
84.	Qatar	109.	Lithuania
85.	Sri Lanka	110.	Luxembourg
86.	Syria	111.	Norway
87.	Thailand	112.	Netherlands
88.	Vietnam	113.	Poland
89.	Yemen	114.	Portugal
	EUROPE (34)	115.	Romania
90.	Albania	116.	Russian Federation
91.	Germany	117.	Slovakia
92.	Austria	118.	Slovenia
93.	Belgium	119.	Sweden

1	2
120.	Switzerland
121.	Czech Republic
122.	Turkey
123.	Ukraine

**Foreign Agreement for Setting up of
Thermal Powers Plants**

4115. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with any foreign company to set up thermal power plant in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which and the State in which these plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Government of India (GOI) has not entered into any agreement with any foreign company to set up thermal power plant in the country. However, GOI has provided counter guarantee to 6 out of 8 identified private sector power projects promoted by foreign companies, with a view to provide financial comfort to the investors and their lenders.

(b) The 6 projects for which GOI counter guarantee has been issued are: Dabhol (Phase-I) (740 MW), Bhadrawati (1082 MW), Jegurupadu (Phase-I) (216 MW), Visakhapatnam (1040 MW), Neyveli-Zero Unit (250 MW) and Ib Valley (Units 3 & 4) (420 MW).

(c) The Dabhol (Phase-I) project in Maharashtra, Jegurupadu (Phase-I) in Andhra Pradesh and Neyveli-Zero Unit Project in Tamil Nadu have already been commissioned. Counter guarantees given for the Bhadrawati project in Maharashtra and Visakhapatnam project in Andhra Pradesh have lapsed due to inability of the projects to comply with the required conditions. Counter guarantee given to the Ib Valley project in Orissa has also lapsed since the project parameters have been changed with the new capacity being 500 MW (Units 5 & 6). None of these three projects are likely to be commissioned in the 10th Plan.

Establishment of Petroleum Complexes

4116. SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petroleum complexes established by the Government during the Ninth Five Year Plan, location-wise;

(b) the details of petroleum complexes proposed for expansion and modernisation; and

(c) the funds earmarked for the expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The details of Petroleum Complexes/Project established during the Ninth Five Year Plan are given in the statement-I attached.

(b) and (c) The details of Petroleum Complexes/Projects proposed for expansion and modernisation and the funds earmarked therefor are given in the statement-II attached.

Statement-I

Name of Oil PSU	Name & Location of Petroleum Complex/Project	Approved project cost (Rs./crore)
1	2	3
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	1. Refinery at Panipat	2,650.00
	2. Atmospheric Unit & augmentation of FCCU capacity of Gujarat Refinery at Koyali	700.00

1	2	3
	3. Matching secondary processing facilities in refinery at Mathura	1,068.00
	4. Kandla-Bhatinda Product Pipeline	1,747.44
	5. Augmentation of SV&VK section of SMPL in Gujarat Refinery expansion	174.00
	6. New Haldia-Barauni Crude Oil Pipeline	660.00
	7. Marketing Terminal at Panipat	326.22
	8. Marketing Terminal at Koyali	95.30
GAIL (India) Ltd.	1. UP Petrochemical Complex, Pata	2,590.23
	2. LPG Recovery Plant, Ussar	319.59
	3. LPG Recovery Plant, Lakwa	240.31
	4. LPG Recovery Plant, Auraiya	439.42
	5. LPG Recovery Plant, Gandhar	397.11
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	1. Diesel Hydro de sulphurisation Project, Mumbai	616.78
	2. Numaligar Refinery Ltd.	355.58*
	3. Kochi Refinery Ltd.	659.10**
	4. Mumbai-Manmad Product Pipeline	342.83
Numaligarh Refinery Limited	Numaligarh Refinery alongwith Marketing Terminal project at Numaligarh	2,724.00
Kochi Refineries Ltd.	Diesel Hydro de sulphurisation unit of Kochi Refineries Limited.	753.00

* BPCL's investment in NRL including acquisition of IBP equity.

** BPCL's investment for acquiring Government's equity in KRL.

Statement-II

Name of Oil PSU	Name & Petroleum Complex/Project	Funds ear-marked expansion/modernisation (Rs. In crore)
1	2	3
Indina Oil Corp. Ltd.	1. Panipat Refinery Expansion	3,487.98
	2. Provision of OHCU at Haldia	1,487.24
	3. Upgradation facility at Gujarat Refinery	310.41

1	2	3
	4. HSD Hydro-de-sulphurisation in IOC refineries	908.97
	5. Augmentation of Haldia-Baurauni crude pipeline	30.00
	6. Motor Spirit quality improvement in IOC refineries	2,174.00
	7. LPG bottling plants at different locations	307.45
	8. PX/PTA at Panipat Refinery	4,374.22
	9. LAB. At Gujarat Refinery	1,123.00
GAIL (India) Ltd.	1. De bottlenecking of LLDPE/SDPE plant at UPCC Patta	76.00
	2. Expansion of UPCC Patta	647.38
Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	1. Refinery modernisation project Mumbai	1,059.00
	2. Refinery at Bina.	529.00
	3. UP Refinery Lohagarha, Allahabad	890.00
	4. Naphtha Cracker Petrochemical Complex in Southern India.	373.60
Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	1. HPCL Refinery Mumbai upgradation.	1,152.00
	2. HPCL Visakh Refinery upgradation.	1,500.00
Chennai Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	1. Expansion of Manali (Chennai) Refinery	2,360.00
	2. Expansion of Cauvery Basin Refinery.	26.00
Kochi Refineries Ltd.	Modernisation of Kochi Refineries Ltd.	1,819.00

**Higher Pay Scales for Employees of
Prasar Bharati**

4117. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether higher pay scales were given to the employees of Programme and engineering cadre of Akashwani and Doordarshan for opting Prasar Bharati Services;

(b) if so, whether the Bangalore CAT has called it violation of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution owing to not extending these benefits to other employees of the department;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to give these hiked pay scales to all the employees of the Prasar Bharati in view of the Bangalore CAT's ruling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Employees in 11 grades of Programme and Engineering categories were granted revised upgraded pay scales, subject to conditions. The orders were quashed by Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Bangalore, inter-alia, on the following grounds:-

- (i) the benefit of higher pay scale was granted to limited categories of staff only, while some other categories of staff, who were similarly placed, were left out; and
 - (ii) it makes discrimination between the employees in the same posts, as the present incumbents are entitled to the benefit of higher pay scales whereas future direct recruits will be entitled to the lower pay scales only.
- (c) and (d) The Court's Order is being examined, in consultation with other Ministries.

Time Bound Running of Trains at Shahganj Railway Station

4118. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Lucknow-Delhi and Delhi-Lucknow bound trains via Mau, Ajamgarh and Shahganj keep standing for hours at Shahganj Railway Station;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the directions being issued by the Government to ensure the time bound running of the trains on this section?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Instructions already exist with the Railways to ensure punctual running of trains. Railways make all possible efforts to run trains punctually. Intensive round the clock monitoring at different levels i.e. Division and Zonal

Head Quarters and Railway Board are undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officers' level are also being launched.

Power to Cantonment Boards

4119. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the duties and functions of the members of the Cantonment Boards; and
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to give more powers to them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Members of the Cantonment Board are collectively, as a body responsible for municipal administration of the Cantonment areas. They exercise their powers and discharge their responsibilities through the Cantonment Board and its various Committees and Sub-committees constituted by the Board under the provisions of the Cantonment Act. However, no specific duties and functions have been assigned to the Members of the Cantonment Board in their individual capacity under the Cantonment Act.

- (b) There is no proposal to amend the Act to change this position.

Consumption of Lubricants

4120. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total consumption of lubricants in the country during the year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 and its estimated consumption during 2003-2004;
- (b) whether the Government propose to take steps to reduce the increasing consumption of lubricants; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Lubricants consumption in the

country 2001-2002 and estimates for 2002-2003 & 2003-2004 is given below:-

Year	(In Thousand Metric Tonnes)
2001-2002 (Actual)	1137
2002-2003 (Estimated)	1315
2003-2004 (Estimated)	1406

(b) and (c) Improvement in quality of lubricants over the period has resulted in longer drain period in vehicles leading to lower consumption of lubricants.

Shifting of Petrol and Diesel Depot from Satna to Sagar in M.P.

4121. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to shift the depot of petrol and diesel from Satna to Sagar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether keeping in view the interests of the people of Vindhya region, the Government propose to cancel shifting of petrol and diesel depot from Satna to Sagar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal to close down Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) depots at Satna and shift the supplies to Bhitoni (Jabalpur) and Nariaoli (Sagar) depots, has been received.

(b) The existing Satna depots of IOC and HPC are functioning in a small area and situated in the heart of Satna city. Both these depots do not meet the safety norms as stipulated by Oil Industry Safety Directorate. Both the depots are very much unsafe to operate and there have been fire incidents in these depots. In view of the unsafe condition of the depots and fire incidents there have been

demands by General Public for shifting these depots. District Magistrate and Collector of Satna have also advised Oil Companies for shifting the depots from Satna. Accordingly, Oil Companies decided that existing unsafe depot of Satna be closed down and supplies to Satna market be shifted to Bhitoni and Nariaoli depots.

(c) and (d) Even after shifting the supplies of petroleum products to Bhitoni and Nariaoli, the supplies to the Satna-fed market will be maintained and the area will not be allowed to go dry. Apart from very much unsafe condition of the depot, facilities at Bhitoni and Nariaoli depots are sufficient to take care of the load of Satna also and thereby, Oil Companies will save the cost for operating from Satna.

[English]

Construction of ROBs in Orissa

4122. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representation for construction of over bridge on Bissam Cuttack Majhigairama and Rayagada, under East Coast Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Policy of Selling Tickets in the Unreserved Category

4123. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have started a policy of selling tickets in the un-reserved category ahead of the journey by unlimited time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of such railway stations where people can buy tickets in un-reserved category ahead of the journey; and

(d) the steps proposed to extend this facility all over the country in the shortest time possible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) A pilot project of "Unreserved Ticketing System" (UTS) for issuing of unreserved tickets has been implemented in Delhi area of Northern Railway. The system has a facility to issue ticket 30 days in advance.

(c) A list of stations where the facility is available is enclosed as statement.

(d) To extend the UTS facility to other Railways, this Ministry has sanctioned 5 more projects on Eastern, East Central, North Eastern and Northern Railways to cover selected stations.

As the expansion of this facility is a part of ongoing process of improvement in ticketing system, which depends upon infrastructural creation and financial constraints, no definite time frame can be set for it.

Statement

The list of the stations, on which UTS scheme has been commissioned is as under :-

1. New Delhi
2. Delhi Main
3. Sarojini Nagar
4. Hazrat Nizamuddin
5. Azadpur
6. Vivekanandpuri
7. Shakurbasti
8. Delhi Shahdara
9. Ghaziabad

10. Shivaji Bridge
11. Delhi Kishanganj
12. Tilak Bridge
13. Sewa Nagar
14. Delhi Sadar Bazar
15. Vivek Vihar
16. Sahibabad
17. New Ghaziabad
18. Okhla
19. Daya Basti
20. Mangolpuri
21. Subzi Mandi
22. New Azadpur
23. Badli
24. Lucknow Jn. (Trial Basis).

Augmentation of the Amenities

4124. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether works for augmenting the amenities for rail users at Tirupati station were undertaken in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed Shatabdi Express train between Chennai and Tirupati has since been introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The following works for augmentation of passenger amenities were undertaken at Tirupati station during the current year :-

- (i) Provision of washable apron.
 - (ii) Improvements to lighting.
 - (iii) Extension of Foot-over-Bridge (FOB) to connect the reservation complex.
 - (iv) Replacement of existing manual Public Address System with microprocessor based system.
 - (v) Replacement of old furniture in waiting rooms and retiring rooms.
 - (vi) Provision of amenities for persons with disabilities.
 - (vii) Provision of additional ceiling fan.
 - (viii) Provision of booking office near FOB at Renigunta end.
 - (ix) Replacement of corroded gutters on Platform nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4.
 - (x) Provision of additional retiring room.
 - (xi) Provision of seats – 9 nos.
 - (xii) Provision of 2nd FOB on Pakala end.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) It was not found commercially viable.

**Setting up of Ordinance
Factory at Rajgir**

4125. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to set up ordinance factory at Rajgir, Bihar;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in regard to functioning of this factory; and

(c) the potential of local population likely to be given employment there?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Government sanction for setting up an ordinance factory at Rajgir, Bihar was issued on November 29, 2001.

(b) About 2879 acres of land has been acquired and construction work at the site is in progress. An expenditure of Rs. 61.34 crore has been incurred towards acquisition of land. A sum of Rs. 9.46 crore has been released to Government of Bihar for rehabilitation of displaced persons. The expenditure incurred on construction work so far is approximately Rs. 15 crore. Documents for transfer of technology from M/s Somchem, South Africa have been received.

(c) The requirement of manpower is yet to be firmed up.

Rail Project in Madhya Pradesh

4126. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new/pending/ongoing railway projects and surveys in Madhya Pradesh, project-wise;

(b) the allocation of fund made for those projects so far, project-wise;

(c) the target date fixed for competition of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) A statement is enclosed. The projects are being progressed as per their overall priority and the availability of resources.

Statement

The Projectwise details of New/Ongoing Projects in Madhya Pradesh Including Total Cost, Funds Provided so far, Outlay Proposed during 2003-04 Alongwith Target date for completion wherever fixed

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Kms.	Latest anticipated cost	Outlay		Target date for completion
				Outlay expected to the end of 2002-03	Outlay proposed for 2003-04	
NEW LINES						
1.	Guna-Etawah via Shivpur-Gwalior-Bhind	344	400.00	316.04	40.00	Guna-Bhind completed. Bhind-Etawah-year 2004.
2.	Lalitpur-Satna & Rewa-Singrauli	541	925.00	34.00	32.45	Not fixed.
3.	Godhra-Indore-Dewas-Maksi	316	597.00	59.53	20.00	Dewas-Maksi completed. Rest target not fixed.
4.	Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal	262	425.00	18.58	20.00	Not fixed.
GAUGE CONVERSION						
5.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi	285	510.53	510.53	36.17	Gondia-Balaghat 2003-04.
6.	Neemuch-Ratlam	135	116.75	39.94	30.10	Not fixed.
DOUBLING						
7.	Bolai-Kalisindh, Kalisindh-Kisoni, Kisoni-Bercha & Maksi-Pirumroad	25.7	49.29	45.18	0.18	Completed.
8.	Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal	41.5	53.00	10.60	18.00	Not fixed.
9.	Akodia-Shujalpur	13.15	31.36	0	1.00	Not fixed.

The details of ongoing surveys in Madhya Pradesh are as under :-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Kms.	1	2	3
1	2	3			
1.	Manmad-Indore via Dhule New Line	350	2.	Shirpur-Mhow New Line	185
			3.	Khandwa to Nardana via Khargaon, Sendhwa New Line	225
			4.	Pulgaon-Arvi Gauge Conversion with extn to Amla	154

1	2	3
5.	Bilaspur-Jabalpur New Line	372
6.	Rajnandgaon-Jabalpur New Line	300
7.	Bisrampur to Jabalpur New Line	372
8.	Chhindwara-Nainpur Gauge Conversion	140
9.	Chhindwara-Nagpur Gauge Conversion	150

The above survey are in various stages and likely to be completed during 2003-04.

ONGC Exploration in Tripura

4127. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) the targets of Tribpura Project of the ONGC set for itself during the Ninth Five Year Plan in relation to reserve accretion, drilling of additional wells and seismic survey;

(b) whether the targets have been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) During the IX Plan period, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) accreted 16.79 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) of initial inplace of hydrocarbons in the State of Tripura as against the target of 15 MMT. During the same period, 19 exploratory wells were drilled in the State against the target of 22 wells and a total of 637 Ground Line Kilometer (GLK) of Two-Dimensional (2-D) seismic data was acquired against the target of 1010 GLK. The shortfalls against targets were mainly due to environmental and logistic problems.

[Translation]

Facilities Under Disability Act

4128. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handicap students are provided transport facility, books, uniforms and scholarships under provision of the Disability Act, 1995;

(b) if so, whether these facilities are being provided in the institutions being run by the Central as well as State Governments;

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

(d) if not, the reasons for not providing the said facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) and (b) (i) The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 stipulates that appropriate Governments in their comprehensive education scheme shall make provision for, inter-alia, transport facilities, supply of books, uniforms and other materials to children with disabilities and the grant of scholarships to such students attending school.

(ii) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education in the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) in regular schools that also helps facilitate their retention in the school system. Under this scheme, 100% financial assistance is being provided to State/Union territory/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for providing facilities that include books & stationery, uniform, transport, reader & escort allowance, etc. Scholarships are not provided under the IEDC scheme but most State Governments award scholarships to disabled students at the school level and have varying additional incentives by way of uniforms and books.

(iii) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has introduced the Scheme of National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities from the year 2002-2003. 250 awards each for male and female students in different categories of disabilities will be given for pursuing technical and professional courses.

(c) and (d) Except for Uttaranchal, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Lakshadweep Administration, all States and union Territories are accessing funds under IEDC.

**Re-imposition of Licence Fees on
T.V./Radio Sets**

4129. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to re-impose licence fees on T.V. and radio sets;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith reasons therefor;
- (c) the date from which the Licence fees proposed to be imposed on T.V. and radio sets; and
- (d) the details of guidelines issued/proposed to be issued by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Rail Projects in West Bengal

4130. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the new/on-going rail projects and surveys in West Bengal alongwith the progress made thereon, project-wise;
- (b) the time schedule for completion of these projects/surveys;
- (c) whether the Government have received any fresh proposal to conduct survey for construction/conversion of railway lines in West Bengal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

Statement

The details of various ongoing projects including new projects and surveys appearing in the budget 2003-2004 in West Bengal alongwith their status and time schedule of completion wherever fixed

Sl. No.	Name of project	Anticipated cost (Rs. in cr.)	Anticipated Expenditure upto 31.3.2003 (Rs. in cr.)	Outlay 2003-2004 (Rs. in cr.)	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Lines					
1.	Laxmikantapur-Namkhana	100.88	93.88	7	Laxmikantapur-Kakdweep commissioned. Earthwork and bridges are in progress on Kakdweep-Namkhana section which is targeted for completion during 2003-04.
2.	Bongaon-Petrapole	10.07	9.68	0.02	Completed and commissioned.
3.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur with ext up to Kumarkundu bypass connecting Howrah-Bardhaman chord	276	16.56	1	Final Location Survey beyond Arambagh is in progress. Land acquisition proceedings are in progress between Tarakeshwar- Arambagh. Work will be commenced once the land becomes available.

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Azimganj (Nasipur)-Jiaganj up to the Ghats	22.78	0.01	2	Work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances for which action has been initiated.
5.	Mandarhill-Rampurhat via Dumka	254.06	29.56	10	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition proceedings are in progress. Work of earthwork, bridges and Dumka station building are in progress.
6.	New Maynaguri-Jogighopa	733	9.18	25	Field work for final location survey completed. Land acquisition has been processed. Rs. 6.22 crore paid to West Bengal Government towards cost of land. Earthwork for widening of bank in Maynaguri Road-Chandrabhanga section take up.
7.	Eklakhi-Balurghat	274.41	169.7	15	Eklakhi-Gazol-Daulatpur has been completed. Work is in progress in Daulatpur-Balurghat section. Work from Gazol to Itahar has been included in the Budget 2001-2002 as a material modification where Final Location Survey is in progress.
8.	Tamluk-Digha	293.97	235.09	15	Tamluk-Deshpran-Nachanda section has been completed.
9.	Howrah-Amta	154.3	62.24	5	Howrah-Mahendralalnagar section completed. 334 acres out of 380 acres of land between Mahendralalnagar-Amta handed over. Earthwork and bridgework in progress.
Gauge Conversion					
1.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon	523.17	397.14	65	Earthwork, minor and major bridges are in progress in full length. Work from New Jalpaiguri-Samuktala Road is targeted for completion in 2003-2004.
2.	Bankura-Damodar river project including MM for extension of new line from Bowaichandi to Khana	174.73	26.62	25	Earthwork and bridgework in progress. Survey for Bowaichandi-Khana new line taken up.
Doubling					
1.	Tarakeshwar-Sheoraphulli Ph. I (Sheoraphulli-Nal:kul)	38.88	11.7	1.34	Earthwork in progress in first block section. Sheoraphulli-Diara targeted for completion during 2003-2004.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Gurup-Shaktigarh 3rd line	52.39	28.96	20	Earthwork and bridges are in progress. Gurup-Pallaroad targeted for completion during 2003-2004.
3.	New Alipur-Akra Ph. I	17.86	15.86	2	Earthwork and bridges are in progress.
4.	Budge Budge-Akra Ph. I	12.62	12.61	0.01	Work completed.
5.	Guskara-Bolpur- Ph. III	42.83	38.42	0.34	Work completed.
6.	Jhapatardal-Guskara Ph. II	16.61	16.56	0.01	Work completed.
7.	Habra-Chandpara	40.81	0.21	2	Final Location Survey completed.
8.	Sonarpur Canning Ph. I (Sonarpur-Ghutiari Shariff)	30.47	11.14	1	Earthwork and bridge works are in progress.
9.	Chandanpur-Gurup 3rd line	42.3	42.2	0.01	Work completed.
10.	Baruipur-Lakshmikantapur Ph. I (Baruipur-Dakshnia Barasat)	31.82	7.08	1.00	Work on two major bridges in progress.
11.	Bolpur-Ahmedpur	54.8	6.59	5	Work is in progress.
12.	Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar including ext. as GC from Krishnanagar-Shantipur and new line Krishnanagar to Chartala	102.5	11.75	1.00	Two tenders awarded and work is in progress.
13.	Barasat-Hasanabad doubling with electrification Ph. I (Barasat-Sondalia)	23.65	4.34	1.00	Work on two major bridges in progress.
14.	Khana-Santhia Ph. I	18.1	18.05	0.01	Work completed.
15.	Sahibganj-New Farakka-Malda	67.23	67.22	0.01	Work completed.
16.	Bandel-Jirat	50.68	0.61	1	Earthwork and bridge works are in progress.
17.	Baruipur-Magrahat	30.09	0.24	1	Tenders have been processed.
18.	Ahmedpur-Sainthia	31.61	0.16	0.01	Preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up.
19.	Kumarganj-Eklakhi	17.06	0.5	6	Preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up.
20.	Harishchandrapur-Kumarganj	63.22	14.61	10.01	Earthwork and bridge works are in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Kishanganj-Dalkolha	43.7	43.69	0.01	Work completed.
22.	Tikapara-Santragachi IV line	22.5	1	10	Work is in planning stage.
23.	Panskura-Haldia Ph. I	26.02	0.64	20	Final Location Survey completed. Earthwork and minor bridges in progress in part length.
24.	Barharwa-Tinpahar	40	—	2	New work included in Budget 2003-2004 and would be taken up after budget is passed by Parliament.
25.	Chandpara-Bongaon	27.48	—	1	New work included in Budget 2003-2004 and would be taken up after budget is passed by Parliament.
Metropolitan Transport					
1.	Dum-Dum-Garia, Design and construction of Rapid Transit system	2678.7	1804	50	Work for construction of foundation and substructure of the viaduct in 6 sub-sections out of 7 is in progress. Targeted for completion by March, 2007.
2.	Circular Railway including Dum-Dum-Tala electrification	252.4	95.56	35	Work of Princepghat to Majarhat progressing satisfactorily. Construction of line from Dum Dum Cantt.-NSC Bose Airport is being delayed due to delay by various authorities in clearance of alignment. Efforts are being made to get approvals early. For Ultadanga-Rajarhat, final location survey for 2.50 km is being taken up.
3.	Ranaghat-Bongaon Electrification	14.78	14.10	2	Work completed. Residual works in progress.
4.	Ranaghat-Gede Electrification	32.36	24.34	5	Work completed. Residual works in progress.
5.	Barasat-Hasanabad-elect.	36.9	12.14	1.33	Work completed and commissioned.
Railway Electrification					
1.	Badel-Katwa	50.28	49.28	0.50	Work completed. Residual works in progress.
2.	Krishnanagar-Lalgola	72.12	0.1	15.40	Proposal for execution in hand. Targeted for completion by March, 2004.
3.	Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar including Talcher-Paradeep	317.36	232.82	40	243 RKM energized till March 2003. Targeted for completion by March, 2004.
4.	Adra-Midnapur	84.82	84.81	—	Work completed.

The details of ongoing surveys in West Bengal is as under, which are likely to be completed during 2003-04 :-

Sl. No.	Name of survey	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in lacs)
New Lines		
1.	Park Circus to Dhamkhali	4.05
2.	Canning-Sonakhali	1.35
3.	Restoration of Magra-Tarakeshwar NG abandoned line as a BG line	6.75
4.	Budge Budge-Namkhana-Frazerganj	4.50
5.	Bandel-Naihati	0.54
6.	Budge Budge-Uluberia	1.35
7.	Bawai-Chandikhana	6.05
Doubling		
8.	Howrah-Bandel 4th line	1.18
9.	Howrah-Sealdah 3rd line between Belanagar-Bally and additional loop at Dumdum, Baranagar and Bali	2.03
10.	Baruipur-Diamond Harbour	4

(c) No such demand has been received in the recent past from the State Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Installation of Petrol Pumps by IBP

4131. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of interviews conducted and dealers selected for the installation of Petrol Pumps by Indian Oil Corporation Limited and IBP as per their own policy formulated after the dismantling of APM w.e.f. 01.04.2002;

(b) whether the Government have restrained the commissioning of such above mentioned retail outlets and issue of LOI to selected candidates in above interviews;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to cancel such retail outlets already commissioned under the new policy of the Oil Corporations; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay and action taken/proposed to be taken to avoid delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The Indian Oil Corporation Limited and the IBP Co. Limited have conducted 610 interviews for selection of retail outlet dealers as per the policy drafted by them. Further action in these cases will be taken after the finalisation of the policy/guidelines in this regard.

[Translation]

Loan Provided by SC Financial Development Board

4132. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the maximum amount of loan provided by the Scheduled Caste Financial Development Board to States; and

(b) the amount of loan provided as assistance by the Scheduled Caste Financial Development Board during the last three years, State-wise particularly to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) The maximum amount of loan per profit making unit provided by the National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC) is upto 90% of the project cost for projects costing upto Rs. 30.00 lakhs.

(b) The amount of loan provided by the NSFDC during the last three years State-wise including the State of Maharashtra is given in the statement attached.

Statement

NSFDC

State-wise Loans Disbursed during Last
Three Years (1999-2002)

Sl. No.	State	Loans Disbursed		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	14.68	21.31	23.17
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.32	0.06	0.00
4.	Assam	4.74	5.92	9.18
5.	Bihar	0.00	1.05	6.80
6.	Chandigarh	0.71	0.58	0.94
7.	Chhatisgarh	0.00	0.00	2.61
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.31	0.00
9.	Delhi	1.06	0.43	3.88
10.	Goa	0.21	0.23	0.21
11.	Gujarat	7.95	23.18	6.52
12.	Haryana	0.50	2.56	1.65
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2.90	3.44	3.33
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.19	0.00	3.30
15.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	2.97
16.	Karnataka	13.64	11.87	20.82
17.	Kerala	3.40	4.57	0.46
18.	Lakshdweep	0.17	0.32	0.00
19.	Madhya Pradesh	12.95	5.92	13.17
20.	Maharashtra	1.52	3.69	12.04

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Manipur	0.95	0.77	0.00
22.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Mizoram	0.94	3.39	0.00
24.	Nagaland	0.73	2.33	0.00
25.	Orissa	7.54	6.89	1.30
26.	Pondicherry	0.34	2.14	1.58
27.	Punjab	1.48	1.18	0.10
28.	Rajasthan	4.36	2.22	2.73
29.	Sikkim	0.96	1.32	0.92
30.	Tamil Nadu	8.48	0.82	4.86
31.	Tripura	2.48	1.98	3.54
32.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	14.35	25.16
33.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	2.48
34.	West Bengal	5.86	9.69	20.09
Total		100.06	132.52	173.81

[English]

Loan from Asian Development Bank

4133. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received huge loan for Indian Railways from Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which loan is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) ADB has approved a Railway Sector loan of US\$ 313.6 million. The loan agreement has not yet been signed. The loan will be used primarily for funding of projects under the

investment initiative of Strengthening of Golden Quadrilateral, which is a part of the National Rail Vikas Yojana.

[Translation]

**LPG Agencies in Muzaffarpur and
Vaishali Districts**

4134. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Muzaffarpur and Vaishali districts and the places where these are located;

(b) the number of urban and rural consumers in the above districts, separately;

(c) the arrangements made by the Government to deliver gas cylinders to the rural customers at their doorsteps;

(d) whether the gas customers of rural areas have to purchase gas cylinders from the blackmarket dealing their villages; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government for supplying gas to the rural customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 13 LPG agencies in Vaishali and 5 LPG agencies in Muzaffarpur districts of Bihar.

(b) OMCs are serving about 39,000 urban and 9,600 rural customers in Vaishali district and 90,000 urban and 9,700 rural customers in Muzaffarpur district of Bihar.

(c) LPG distributors of OMCs are required to effect home delivery of LPG refills to the customers residing in their authorised trading area. However, the customers residing outside the trading area are free to take the delivery of refills from LPG godowns on cash and carry basis.

(d) and (e) OMCs have not reported any such incidents of black marketing of LPG cylinders by their distributors.

[English]

**Policy on Exhibition of News/Documentaries
Films in Cinema Theatre**

4135. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether every cinema theatre has to make arrangements for compulsory screening of approved news/documentaries films before the screening of the main feature film in the theatre;

(b) if so, the details of the policy and when it was first initiated;

(c) whether the compulsory exhibition of such films is not an unreasonable restriction on the right of the exhibitors to carry on their business;

(d) if so, the need/benefits accrued to the public with continuance of this practice;

(e) whether the Government are considering to change the said policy and yet reserve the power as a residual power to use whenever necessary; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to change archaic laws in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Section 12(4) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 empowers the Central Government to issue directions to ensure that scientific films, films intended for educational purposes, films dealing with news and current events, documentary films or indigenous films secure an adequate opportunity of being exhibited, in so far as the cinema houses located in the Union Territories are concerned. Similar provisions exist in various State cinema laws/regulations.

(c) and (d) Hon'ble Supreme Court in an Order dated 15.7.1999 in Civil Appeal Nos. 3766-67 of 1999 – Union of India & others Versus. The Motion Picture Association & Others – has, inter-alia, held that "requiring an entertainment medium like cinema theatre to show for a short duration of its programme, films which educate and impart information cannot be considered as an unreasonable restriction on the right to carry on business."

(e) Not at present, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Old Age Homes in Jharkhand

4136. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of old age homes in Jharkhand as on December 31, 2002;

(b) the number of such old age homes for which organizations have demanded assistance from the Union Government;

(c) the amount granted to these old age homes during the last three years;

(d) whether financial assistance other than Government is also received for running them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) No old age home in Jharkhand State is receiving grant in aid from the Ministry under the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (Plan Scheme). Further, this Ministry does not maintain any record about the numbers and details of old age homes run by State Governments/UTs or by private organizations.

(b) So far one non-governmental organization has submitted its proposal for financial assistance directly to

this Ministry for setting up of one old age home under the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (Plan Scheme).

Further two non-governmental organizations have requested for financial assistance for construction of old age homes under the Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institution/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for construction of old age homes/multi service centres for older persons(Non Plan Scheme). From out of these two, one organization has submitted its proposal directly to this Ministry, whereas the other organization has submitted its proposal through the State Government.

(c) No old age home has been funded in the last three years.

(d) The Ministry does not keep any record of financial assistance given to the organizations by external sources other than this Ministry.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Accidental Deaths on Railway Tracks

4137. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a sharp rise in the accidental death on Railway tracks;

(b) if so, the details about such incidents and the number of persons died/injured in Railway accidents in Mumbai city on Western Railway and Central Railway during the last three years;

(c) the reasons, observations and corrective measures taken by the Railways in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to take up this issue under the Safety Fund, Commuter's Safety Action Programme proposed by Planning Commission and Railways;

(e) whether there will be a separate action plan for Mumbai region; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Construction of Gas Pipeline by IOCL with Essar Group

4138. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has tied up with the Essar group for the construction of a gas pipeline connecting Vadodara with Ahmedabad for the transportation of liquefied natural gas from Petronet's Dahej and Shell's Hazira terminals;

(b) if so, whether the IOCL also propose to construct a 14000 Km. pipeline in partnership with the US energy major UNOCAL for the transportation of gas from Bangladesh;

(c) if so, the details of the projects finalised in this regard and the cost involved in the construction of each of the two projects; and

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) M/s Gujarat State Petronet Ltd. (GSPL) had floated a tender for implementation of their Vadodara-Ahmedabad-Kalol gas pipeline project on turnkey contract basis. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) had participated in the said tender in a consortium comprising M/s Stroytransgaz (STG), Moscow (leader of the consortium) and M/s Essar Constructions Ltd., Mumbai (ECL). The tender of the STG-ECL-IOCL consortium was accepted by GSPL and the work has since been awarded to the consortium.

(b) There is no formal proposal by IOCL to construct pipeline in partnership with UNOCAL for transportation of gas from Bangladesh. However, a

consortium of three Oil Public Sector Undertakings, namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited has been formed to participate in any venture for import of natural gas from Bangladesh.

(c) and (d) Vadodara-Ahmedabad-Kalol gas pipeline is 133 Km. long has contract value of Rs.198 crore of which IOCL's share is Rs.3.90 crore. The pipeline will transport natural gas from Vadodara to Ahmedabad and then to Kalol. The project is scheduled for completion in 12 months.

With regard to gas pipeline from Bangladesh, Government of Bangladesh has not taken any decision to export gas to India.

[Translation]

Saur Jal Pump with Central Assistance

4139. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the drives / schemes being run under "Saur Jal Pump" scheme under "Anya Ke Liya Yojnayan" being conducted by the Ministry and the formulate for granting loan, grant and other financial aid and the contribution or financial participation of State Governments in it;

(b) the schemes being run by the Union Government or Rajasthan Government or other voluntary organizations in Rajasthan under "Saur Jal Pump" scheme during last five years starting from April 1, 1998 onwards; and

(c) the details of the amount provided by the Union Government as loan, grant or economic aid under this scheme, year-wise, scheme-wise and agency-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a scheme for deployment of solar photovoltaic (PV) water pumping systems for agriculture and related uses. The scheme is implemented through the state nodal

agencies and the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). The details of financial support provided

by the Ministry and soft loan available through IREDA under this scheme are given below :-

Sl. No.	Implementation Arrangement	Central Financial Assistance	Loan
1.	Direct marketing by manufacturers / suppliers / intermediaries empanelled with IREDA	Rs. 110 per watt of photovoltaic (PV) array used, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs per system. Funds are released by IREDA to the concerned manufacturer / supplier / intermediary.	Soft loan @ 2.5% and 5% interest rate is provided by IREDA to intermediaries and users respectively on 90% of the remaining unsubsidized price, to be repaid in 10 years, with one year, moratorium.
2.	Direct procurement by state agencies	Rs.135 per watt of PV array used, subject to a maximum of Rs.2.50 lakhs per system provided the systems are procured directly by the state agency and the agency also provides some financial assistance.	Not eligible to avail loan from IREDA.
3.	Direct procurement by state agencies in NE States	90% of approved ex-works cost of system.	
4.	Community drinking water supply	Rs. 110 per watt of PV array used, subject to a maximum of Rs.2.50 lakhs per system.	

(b) and (c) The above scheme of the Ministry relating to PV water pumping systems was implemented in Rajasthan through IREDA under direct marketing by manufacturers / suppliers / intermediaries empanelled with IREDA during the last five years. Following are the details of funds released towards the central assistance and loan by IREDA under the programme of the Ministry to the implementing agencies for deployment of solar PV water pumping systems in Rajasthan during the last five years :

Year	No of pumps installed/ sanctioned	central Financial Assistance (Rs. in Lakhs)	Loan by (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1998-99	2	2.270	1.60
1999-2000	1	1.135	0.80

1	2	3	4
2000-01	6	6.81	4.80
2001-02	18	33.11	33.72
2002-03	15	29.7	31.32
2002-03	50	99.0	87.30
	(sanctioned)		

[English]

Bandel-Katwa Doubling Work

4140. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passengers in the Bandel-Katwa section of Eastern Railway have been demanding for years for doubling in that section;

(b) if so, whether despite exigency was impressed upon, only one crore allocation has been made towards the doubling job;

(c) whether this budgetary allocation is too inadequate to complete the work within the Tenth Plan period;

(d) if so, whether Government are reviewing the matter for higher allocation in the supplementary budget of Railway; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Based on demands and operational requirement doubling of Bandel-Jirat section, a part of Bandel-Katwa, has been taken up. An amount of Rs.1 crore has been proposed for the project during 2003-2004 keeping in view the availability of resources.

(d) No, Sir. However, the requirement of funds for the works are reviewed during the budgetary reviews during the course of the year.

(e) Does not arise.

Shops on Railway Land

4141. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the South-Eastern Railway has discontinued the practice of lending shops on railway land to private parties on rent;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether number of shops are vacant due to this policy and causing huge losses to Railways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures proposed for proper utilisation of the property?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Contracts of Catering

4142. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation is awarding contract of catering for different trains;

(b) if so, the details of such contracts awarded to various contractors in different trains during the last three years;

(c) whether many contractors have been awarded catering contracts whose track record is not good;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases of irregularities/deficiencies reported by the vigilance department against these contractors during the last three years; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by Government to ensure that such contracts are awarded to reputed contractors only?

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

(b) A list is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) IRCTC invites expression of interest for mobile units from reputed firms from time to time for empanelment with IRCTC. The firms who have good track record, experience in Food & Beverages business and other credentials are invited for competitive bidding.

Statement

List of the licensees to whom IRCTC has awarded the licence.

Sl.No.	Name of the licensee
1	2
1.	M/s. Our's Ariya Bhawan
2.	M/s. Dinshaw Dairy Foods

1	2	1	2
3.	M/s. Gujrat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation.	29.	M/s. P.K. Sheffi
4.	M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd.	30.	M/s. Bharat Catering Corporation
5.	M/s. Oriental Cusines	31.	M/s. Food World
6.	M/s. R.K.H.S. Ltd.	32.	M/s. Golden Caterers
7.	M/s. Ambica Empire	33.	M/s. Poorvanchal Caterers
8.	M/s. A.S. Sales Corporation	34.	M/s. A.A. Catering
9.	M/s. Royal India Marketing	35.	M/s. R.D. Sharma & Sons
10.	M/s. Thackers Caterers	36.	M/s. Pee Kay Associates
11.	M/s. Glenary's	37.	M/s. Brijwasi Keshav Milk Products Ltd.
12.	M/s. Switz Foods Ltd.	38.	M/s. Wimpys' International
13.	M/s. Airport Restaurant	39.	M/s. Nestle India Ltd.
14.	M/s. Hotel Kanha Shayam	40.	M/s. Ashoka Ocean
15.	M/s. Hotel Smdariya	41.	M/s. Boon Catering Co.
16.	M/s. Hotel Highway Palace	42.	M/s. K.M.A. Caterers
17.	M/s. T.K. International	43.	M/s. Doon's Caterers
18.	M/s. Saluja Residency	44.	M/s. R.C. Goel
19.	M/s. Hotel Amarjeet	45.	M/s. Ambuj Hotel & Real Estate
20.	M/s. Hotel Goodlands	46.	M/s. Hakmi Chand D & Sons
21.	M/s. Vatika Restaurants	47.	M/s. Kwaliry Caterers
22.	M/s. R.K. Enterpises	Numaligarh Refinery	
23.	M/s. R.K. Agrawal	4143. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :	
24.	M/s. R.K. Associates	(a) whether the Numaligarh Limited has been facing acute shortage and crisis for crude oil and is likely to stop production;	
25.	M/s. Vadilal Enterpises	(b) if so, the crude supplies to and capacity utilisation of the Refinery during 2001-02 and 2002-03 so far; and	
26.	M/s. Garg & Co.		
27.	M/s. Arenco Catering		
28.	M/s. Mahesh H. Caterers		

(c) the steps taken and being taken to augment the supplies of crude to the refinery for optimum utilisation of the refining capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Against an installed capacity of 3 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA), Numaligarh Refinery Limited has been supplied 1.87 MMTPA of crude during the financial year 2002-03, recording a capacity utilization of 62.6%

(b) The crude supplies to and capacity utilization of the Numaligarh Refinery Limited during 2001-02 and 2002-03 are as follows :-

Year	Installed Capacity (MMTPA)	Crude supply (MMTPA)	Capacity %
2001-02	3.0	2.3	76.9
2002-03	3.0	1.87	62.6

(c) In order to increase the availability of crude to the four North Eastern Refineries, 1.5 MMTPA of Ravva crude has been allocated to Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited for the year 2003-04 which would result in increase in overall availability of crude oil to the four North Eastern Refineries, including Numaligarh Refinery Limited.

Power Supply to Villages by Private Sector

4144. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution made by the Private Sector in the field of electrification of villages in the country;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the Private Sector distribution companies are extremely reluctant to continue with the power supply to rural areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Presently, there is no private company engaged in the field of electrification of villages.

(b) Distribution of electricity has been privatized in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and Orissa. The private distribution companies have not indicated any reluctance to continue with power supply to rural areas.

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

Gauge Conversion between New Mal to Changnabandha

4145. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert New Mal-Changnabandha rail line into broad-gauge in NFR; and

(b) if so, the time by which the conversion work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Gauge conversion of Maynaguri Road to Changnabandha is part of the new line project from New Maynaguri to Jogighopa. There is no proposal for gauge conversion work from New Mal to Maynaguri Road.

(b) No target has yet been fixed for conversion of Maynaguri Road to Changnabandha.

[Translation]

Implementation of D.T.H. Through Satellite

4146. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme or proposal was formulated by his Ministry in regard to making the direct telecast to home (D.T.H.) programmes available to the viewers being telecast by various T.V. channels through satellite.

(b) if so, the outlines of the said scheme alongwith the proposal and the date on which the said scheme/ proposals was formulated;

(c) the reasons due to which the said scheme/ proposal could not be implemented;

(d) whether the Union Government still propose to implement the scheme relating to D.T.H. system all over the country; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reasons due to which the said scheme has been shelved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) In pursuance to the Cabinet decision of 2.11.2000, permitting DTH broadcasting services in India, detailed guidelines for operating the service were issued on 15.3.2001. The guidelines are available on this Ministry's website: mib.nic.in

(c) to (e) Three applications have been received for permission to start DTH service in the country.

LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps/Kerosene Outlets in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

4147. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol, diesel, kerosene and LPG outlets in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh as on March 31, 2003;

(b) the increase in their numbers during the last three financial years; and

(c) the number of proposals lying pending for setting up of new outlets in both the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As on March 31, 2003, there were 250 retail outlets, 94 LPG distributorships and 98 SKO-LDO dealerships in operation in the State of Chhattisgarh and 882 retail outlets, 420 LPG distributorships

and 280 SKO-LDO dealerships in operation in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) During the last three years (i.e., 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003) 17 retail outlet and 19 LPG distributorships were commissioned in the State of Chhattisgarh. No SKO-LDO dealership was commissioned in the State of Chhattisgarh during this period.

87 retail outlets, 94 LPG distributorships and 4 SKO-LDO dealerships were commissioned in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years.

(c) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, the oil companies are free to choose locations for setting up new retail outlets, LPG distributorships and SKO-LDO dealerships subject to economic viability and non-encroachment of the existing dealerships/ distributorships.

[English]

Oil and Gas Reserves in Rajasthan

4148. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
DR. M.V.V.S MURTHI :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

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

(a) whether ONGC has found new oil and gas reserves in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has found gas reserves in a new prospect, Chinnewala Tibba, in Jaisalmer district of the State of Rajasthan. The potential of this find has not been assessed, as of today.

Increase in Naphtha Prices

4149. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently increased prices of Naphtha;

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

(c) whether to protect the industry and interest of consumers the Government propose to roll back hike prices of Naphtha; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Naphtha is decontrolled product and its prices are fixed by the oil companies. Taking into account the recent reduction in the international prices of this product, the public sector oil companies have revised the naphtha prices downwards effective 1st April 2003.

Molestation and Assaults on Ladies Travelling in Kerala Express

4150. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has received any complaints regarding molestation and other assaults on ladies travelling in Kerala Express by unauthorised passengers entering and forcefully occupying the seats in the reserved compartments; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 2.11.2002 a complaint of molestation by GRP/Haryana was lodged by a lady passenger of 2625 Kerala Express with Delhi Railway Police/New Delhi.

(b) Though the responsibility curb crime on Railways lies with the State Governments, the Railway has taken the following steps to supplement the efforts of the State Governments :

1. Anti-social elements are being removed from state of Railway premises and trains by RPF.

2. Proper watch is being kept by Coach Attendants/TTEs on the passengers entering/detraining from the coaches and the coaches are properly locked during their run especially in night hours.

3. FIR forms are made available with the Trains Guards/Station Master/RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their reports immediately.

4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is being done at all levels.

5. Announcements through public address system and CCTV are made at important Railway Stations to alert the travelling passengers regarding penal punishment for molestation and eve-teasing etc.

6. GRP and Local Police are being conducted to analyse the crime position on Railways with a view to take suitable preventive measures.

7. Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence are shared between RPF and the GRP at all levels.

Derailment of Dehradun- Varanasi Express

4151. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engine of 4266 Dehradun-Varanasi Express carrying over a 1000 passengers derailed at the Amethi Station on February 11, 2003 because the cabinman was drunk who allowed the train to pass without setting its route;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the loss of life and property due to this derailment;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct surprise checks on railway employees by squads, armed with breath analysers, to find if they are drunk; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) On 12.02.2003 the loco and first two coaches of 4266 Dn Dehradun-Varanasi Express derailed at Amethi station on Rai Bareilly-Pratapgarh section of Lucknow Division, Northern Railway as the route had not been properly set by the Cabinman on duty. He was found under the influence of alcohol and was placed under suspension.

(c) There was no loss of life and Railways property due to this accident.

(d) and (e) A drive was launched on Northern Railway to conduct surprise checks on train passing staff consuming alcohol while on duty.

Incentives to Newspaper Industry

4152. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the News item captioned "Newspapers suffering due to Government policies" as reported in *The Hindu* dated January 5, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government policies are hampering the growth of newspaper industry in the country;

(d) if so, the details of representations received by the Union Government to provide various incentives to newspaper industry; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government on such representations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI

SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (e) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have been receiving representations from the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) from time to time highlighting certain issues of concern to the newspapers industry and the demands raised by the INS have been examined in the Ministry on merit.

LNG for NTPC Projects

4153. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation is the large consumer of Liquefied Natural Gas;

(b) if so, the total consumption of the NTPC and the source through which it is getting its supplies;

(c) the rates at which the NTPC is getting supplies and whether the British Gas Company (BGC) is also supplying gas to NTPC and if so the price thereof;

(d) whether the BGC have agreed to meet the entire demand of NTPC and supply the same at 3 dollar per Million British Thermal Unit (MMBTU); and

(e) if so, the details of conditions laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir. India not import Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) NTPC does not intend to procure LNG from any single source on negotiated basis.

[Translation]

Problems of Disabled

4154. SHRI ADHI SANKAR :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the D.R.M. Western Railway, Rajkot has received any letter from Ashadeep Viklang Kalyankari Trust, Jamnagar dated 15.2.2003 and another letter and representation from Jamnagar, MP (Gujarat) dated 20/21.2.2003 regarding the problems of disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No. Sir. However, the letter dated 15.2.2003 from Ashadeep Viklang Kalyankari Trust, Jamnagar addressed to Shri Chandresh Patel, M.P., of Jamnagar was got collected by DRM/Rajkot wherein grant of concession in train fares to handicapped persons was desired to be given on the basis of Identity Card issued by the State Government of Gujarat.

(b) to (d) Under the extant rules, concession to certain categories of disabled persons is admissible directly at the station on production of a copy of the prescribed certificate issued by Government Doctor based on laid down norms. Since the disability card issued by State Governments do not conform to the conditions prescribed by Railways, the same cannot be considered for grant of concession.

Power Generation Capacity

4155. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of power generation capacity and power demand in Jharkhand State at present;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to increase power generation capacity in the State;

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

(d) the achievements made as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The installed generation capacity of Jharkhand including Tenughat TPS as on 31.3.2003 was 1390 MW comprising of 130 MW-Hydro and 1260 MW-Thermal. The present peak demand in Jharkhand is 488 MW.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) A capacity addition of 5650 MW is planned in Central Sector in Eastern Region during 10th Plan in which Jharkhand will have its entitlements. Further, 330 MW generation capacity addition is planned in State/Private Sectors in the State of Jharkhand during 10th Plan. However, Eastern Region as a whole (of which Jharkhand is a constituent) is having surplus power on sustained basis and power is being exported to neighbouring regions.

[English]

Hike in Prices of Petrol and Diesel

4156. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN :
SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

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

(a) whether the prices of Petrol and Diesel have again increased in the past few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the frequent hike in prices of Petrol and Diesel in the past few months had adverse effect on essential commodities;

(d) if so, whether protests have been lodged by the State Governments in this regard;

(e) if so, whether demands have been made by the State Governments to roll back such hike;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(g) whether the sale price of Diesel and Petrol in the neighbouring countries is much cheaper as compared to our country; and

(h) if so, the mechanism to be adopted to control such hike in prices of Petrol and Diesel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (f) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector effective 1st April 2002, the pricing of petrol and diesel has been decontrolled. Effective 1st April 2002, the prices of petrol and diesel are not being fixed by the Government. In the post APM period, the oil marketing companies are fixing the prices of petrol and diesel after taking into account the prevalent international oil prices. Thus, the variations in the international oil prices are likely to be reflected in the domestic prices of petrol and diesel.

The details of revisions in the retail selling prices of petrol and diesel at Delhi post 1st April 2002 are given as the statement enclosed.

The increase in prices of diesel and petrol impacts directly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation through their weight in WPI. There is also an additional indirect impact of roughly equal magnitude on WPI based inflation of such increase in the prices of diesel and petrol.

(g) and (h) The selling prices of petroleum products in any country *inter-alia* depend upon the rates of taxes and duties in that country and as such the product prices are not comparable across different countries;

The Government is monitoring the situation.

Statement

Statement showing revisions in Retail selling Price at Delhi Post 1.4.2002

	(Rs./Litre)			
	MS	Increase/ Decrease	HSD	Increase/ Decrease
As on 01.04.2002	26.54		16.59	
WEF :				
04.06.2002	28.94	2.40	17.99	1.40
16.06.2002	29.18	0.24	18.23	0.24
16.08.2002	29.00	-0.18	18.05	-0.18
01.09.2002	29.20	0.20	18.34	0.29
16.09.2002	29.66	0.46	18.68	0.34
01.10.2002	29.91	0.25	18.91	0.23
17.10.2002	30.24	0.33	19.23	0.32
01.11.2002	30.26	0.02	19.25	0.02
16.11.2002	29.57	-0.69	18.57	-0.68
01.12.2002	28.91	-0.66	18.06	-0.51
03.01.2003	29.93	1.02	19.07	1.01
16.01.2003	30.33	0.40	19.47	0.40
01.02.2003	30.71	0.38	19.84	0.37
01.03.2003	32.10	1.39	21.21	1.37
16.03.2003	33.49	1.39	22.12	0.91

Power Generation

4147. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite large number of projects cleared in the private sector since 1992, there has not

been significant addition to the power generation in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any time frame has been given while clearing the proposals to commence production of power;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total number of power projects cleared (Thermal as well Hydro) as on date in private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Though a number of power projects have been envisaged for development through the private sector, the majority of the projects have been unable to achieve financial closure in spite of progressing well on other fronts. The foremost problem due to which many projects have been unable to achieve financial closure has been the poor financial health of the SEBs, who do not have the financial capability to support the projects in terms of regular reimbursement of bills, opening of letters of credit and escrow accounts. Other reasons, which are generally project specific, include the following :-

- (i) Delay in finalization of various contracts such as Power Purchase Agreement, Fuel Supply Agreement and Fuel Transportation Agreement etc.
 - (ii) Court cases in the form of Public Interest Petitions etc.
 - (iii) Increase in the prices of liquid fuels, particularly naphtha, which has made these States reluctant to pursue naphtha based generation.
 - (iv) Withdrawal by equity holders and EPC contractors.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In the Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) being accorded by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to the

private sector power projects, a time schedule for unit-wise commissioning of the projects is indicated in number of months from the date of financial closure.

(e) Till date, 61 private sector power projects (including 52 thermal and 9 hydro) have been accorded TEC by CEA.

Petrol Pumps to SC/ST Handicapped in U.P.

4158. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) the number of Petrol Pumps allotted to SCs/STs/ Handicapped in Uttar Pradesh during the last 3 years and the number thereof being run by them;

(b) whether some of these Petrol Pumps allotted are actually being managed by non SCs/STs/other Handicapped peoples; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) During the last three years (i.e., 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003), 58 and 25 retail outlet dealership were allotted in the Scheduled Castes (SC) and the Physically Handicapped (PH) Categories respectively in the State of Uttar Pradesh. No retail outlet dealership were allotted in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) Category during this period. The oil companies have reported that all these dealerships are being managed by the allottees themselves.

[Translation]

Survey for New Rail Lines in Maharashtra

4159. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey of Wadasa-Godchhiroli and

Umrer-Chimur-Warora railway lines in Maharashtra has since been completed;

- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and
- (d) the time by which the work of laying railway line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The survey for new line from Wadasa to Godchiroli was completed in 2000-2001 as per which the cost of construction of 49.50 km long line was assessed as Rs. 76.25 crore with a negative rate of return. The survey for new line from Warora to Umrer via Chimur was completed in 1995-96 as per which cost of construction of 106 km long line was assessed as Rs. 97.35 crore with a negative rate return. The proposals could not be considered due to unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources.

- (c) The expenditure incurred on the survey of these lines is Rs. 6.75 lakhs.
- (d) Does not arise.

Setting up of T.V. Channels on Spiritual Programme

4160. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided to start more TV channels related to Spiritual programmes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these channels are likely to start functioning; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Government does not set up TV Channels. Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous corporation, has informed that they no proposal to set up a channel related to Spiritual programmes.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) Prasar Bharati being a Public Broadcaster works within the provisions of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.

[English]

Track Renewal

4161. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the length in kilometers of track renewed during last three years and balance work at the end of the each year, year-wise;
- (b) the number of overaged locomotives, wagons and coaches on track as on December 31, 2002, Zone-wise; and
- (c) the details of the stations in which route-relay interlocking system has been introduced till 31, December, 2002 and the balance work thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Year-wise details of track renewal done and balance work for the last three years are indicated as under :-

Year	Track renewal done (Track Km.)	Balance work at the end of the year (Track Km.)
2000-01	3250	15048
2001-02	3620	14509
2002-03	4900*	13054**

*Expected progress during 02-03.

**Expected on 01-04-03.

(b) Rolling stock keep moving freely from zone to zone on a daily basis. The position of overaged assets based on owning Railway, however, is given as under :-

Owning Railway	Loco-motives	Wagons	Coches	EMU Coaches
Central	63	1029	199	216
Eastern	11	4089	161	20
Northern	0	1858	131	
North Eastern	3	1162	314	
Northeast Frontier	24	630	67	
Southern	73	2822	171	71
South Central	44	434	197	
South Eastern	83	9394	218	2
Western	22	3989	438	290
Total	323	25407	1896	599

[Translation]

**Funds to Madhya Pradesh
Under APDRP**

4162. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned to Government of Madhya Pradesh under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme for transmission and distribution for R&M/R&U during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03;

(b) the reason for gap between the sanctioned amount and the amount released; and

(c) the time by which the remaining funds are likely to be provided to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Details of the funds sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) are as under :

(Rs./Crore)

Scheme(s)*	2000-01		2002-03	
	APDRP Component	APDRP Release	APDRP Component	APDRP Release
Sub-transmission & Distribution	29.12	29.15	299.49	74.74
Renovation & Modernization and Renovation & Uprating	11.17	11.17	-	-

*No releases in 2001-02.

(b) Total funds for the APDRP component were released for the financial year 2000-01. No funds were sanctioned or released in 2001-02. 25% of the sanctioned funds have been released as the first tranche as per the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed by the Madhya

Pradesh State Electricity Board (MPSEB).

(c) The release of balance funds would depend up on the utilization of already released funds by MPSEB and on having achieved the milestones as agreed by MPSEB in the MoA.

[English]

**Power Supply from National
Power Grid**

4163. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the formula for distribution of power from Central Power Projects has resulted in decrease in power supply to certain States;

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

(c) the amount of electricity allocated to various States during each of the last three years from the National Power Grid, State-wise;

(d) whether allocation of electricity is as per demand made;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the amount of dues pending on respective States for the last three years, year-wise, State-wise;

(g) the steps taken to realize the same;

(h) whether present system of power distribution from Central Power Projects such as NTPC/NHPC has been reviewed; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) 85% of power from Central Sector Generating Stations (CGS) has been allocated among the States in the region at the time of setting up a Power Plant in accordance with the pattern of Central Plan assistance to the States and actual energy consumption in the State of the region for previous five years, the two factors given equal weightage. The allocation has been made on firm basis at the time of

the commissioning of Central Power Project and not altered unless the State voluntarily surrenders its entitlement.

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

(c) State-wise details of entitlement vis a vis drawal from CGS by various States/UTs during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto June, 2002) from CGS are given in statement-I attached.

(d) and (e) Electricity is a concurrent subject. However, supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. The Central Government has tried to supplement the efforts of the State Governments by way of capacity addition through the Central Public Section Undertakings (CPSUs). Presently, about 30% of the total power generated in the country comes from the CGS.

State-wise details of firm allocation of power from CGS made to various States/UTs are given in statement-II attached.

15% of capacity in CGS is generally kept unallocated at the disposal of Central Government and allocation from this unallocated quota of CGS is made to States/UTs in the region keeping in view the relative power shortages as well as the emergent/seasonal requirements of the individual States in a region from time to time. Requests are received from State Governments/UTs from time to time seeking assistance from CGS. Thus, while there is no change in the 85% firm allocation made to a State, the share of the individual State in the 15% unallocated quota varies from time to time.

(f) Outstanding dues payable to Central Power Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) by State Governments/UTs for 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto February, 2003) are given in Statement-III attached.

(g) Steps taken to realise the outstanding dues payable to CPSUs are as under:

The Government announced a scheme for one time settlement of outstanding dues, recommended by

Montek Singh Ahluwalia Committee as slightly modified and accepted by the High Level Empowered Committee of Chief Ministers under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, on 17.04.02 and circulated a model tripartite agreement (TPA) on 20.05.02 that was to be signed among the State Government, Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India.

24 State Governments namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal have signed TPAs on 20.03.03.

The signing of TPA would pave way for securitization of old arrears of State Electricity Boards amounting to

Rs. 37,400 crores. Through the TPA, the State Governments are committed to undertake reforms based on performance mile stones and to make the full payment of current bills through letters of Credit. The Scheme would thus make the concerned Electricity Boards bankable entities.

(h) and (i) It has been decided in April, 2000 that for future projects, the existing "formula" for allocation of power to the States/UTs from new Central Sector power stations would be treated as "guidelines" so as to link the allocation of power with the need and capacity of constituent States to pay. Based upon entitlement, the States are first offered the power and if accepted, the State Utilities sign commercial Power Purchase Agreements with the CPSUs. However, there is no change in the contents of the formula for deciding the entitlement of a State. This arrangements does not disturb the allocation already made from the Central Sector Power Stations.

Statement-I

Entitlement vis a vis Drawal of States from Central Generating Stations

(All figures in MU net)

(Fig. in MU)

Drawee State/ System	2000-2001			2001-02			2002-03 (Apr.-June '02.)		
	Entitlement	Drawal	%O/D, U/D(-)	Entitlement	Drawal	%O/D, U/D(-)	Entitlement	Drawal	%O/D, U/D(-)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chandigarh	430.2	453.0	5.3%	516.4	443.2	-16.5%	150.3	148.3	-1.3%
Delhi	11464.6	10020	-12.6%	11504.8	10443	-10.2%	2898.9	2868.8	-1.0%
Haryana	6574.1	7524.4	14.5%	5763.1	6547.7	12.0%	1783.8	1844.7	3.3%
H.P.	1504.6	1635.6	8.7%	1638.6	1680.1	2.5%	392.2	414.7	5.4%
Jammu & Kashmir	4269.6	4717.6	10.5%	4898.2	5045	2.9%	1421.5	1493.5	4.8%
Punjab	7069	6727	-4.8%	7085.2	6690.8	-5.9%	2119.8	2039.6	-3.9%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	9361.9	10404.9	11.1%	9356.8	10126.1	7.6%	2185.3	2274.6	3.9%
U.P.	17325.2	16516.5	-4.7%	18903.5	18690.7	-1.1%	3475	3413.5	-1.8%
Uttaranchal							284.3	213.4	-33.2%
Total - NR Stations	57999.2	57999.2	0.0%	59666.6	59666.6	0.0%	14711.1	14711.1	0.0%
Chhattisgarh				3330.9	887.8	275.2%	414.3	481.2	13.9%
Gujarat	12688.7	13181	3.9%	13295.3	14407.2	7.7%	3326.4	3428.3	3.0%
M.P.	12335.6	12263.8	-0.6%	8708.9	10844	19.7%	2524.9	2439.9	-3.5%
Maharashtra	14155.2	14281.7	0.9%	15421.9	15099.4	-2.1%	3754.4	3746.9	-0.2%
Goa	1296	749	-42.2%	1686.4	1205	-40.0%	473.1	396.8	-19.2%
Total - WR Stations	40475.5	40475.5	0.0%	42443.4	42443.4	0.0%	10493.1	10493.1	0.0%
A.P.	8272.5	8249.6	-0.3%	8317.8	8063.3	-3.2%	2090.6	2028.4	-3.1%
Karnataka	5823	6056	4.0%	5876	6472.2	9.2%	1717.2	1809.3	5.1%
Kerala	3142.2	3244.4	3.3%	3173.6	3393.8	6.5%	877.8	924.2	5.0%
Tamil Nadu	10364.2	10125.2	-2.3%	10168.9	9742.9	-4.4%	2460.1	2457.4	-0.1%
Goa	618.2	544.9	-11.9%	704.7	568.8	-23.9%	197.8	157.5	-25.6%
Pondicherry							345.3	312	-10.7%
Total - SR Stations	28220.1	28220.1	0.0%	28241.0	28241.0	0.0%	7688.8	7688.8	0.0%
Bihar	4958.7	5502.1	11.0%	4727.8	6258.5	24.5%	1130	1541.9	26.7%
D.V.C.	1476.1	1298.4	-12.0%	1113.6	1380.2	19.3%	353.5	141.2	-150.4%
Orissa	3358	2354.6	-29.9%	3548.7	809.1	338.6%	585.6	721.8	18.9%
West Bengal	4081.8	2875.4	-29.6%	3475.9	2732	-27.2%	862.7	426.2	-102.4%
Sikkim	351.4	78.6	-77.6%	186.1	71.8	159.2%	36.8	21.3	-72.8%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
U.P.	293.2	455.4	55.3%	454.8	615.3	26.1%	102.9	81	-27.0%
A.P.	861.3	1325	53.8%	1260.3	1721.6	26.8%	277.3	287.7	3.6%
Assam	326	493.6	51.4%	659.3	665.8	1.0%	164.2	167.5	2.0%
M.P.	1468.4	2100.9	43.1%	1624.8	2024.2	19.7%	406.5	416.9	2.5%
Gujarat	259.7	370.5	42.7%	287.7	356.7	19.3%	71.7	73.7	2.7%
Kerala	234	356.8	52.5%	386.4	590.9	34.6%	150.8	157	3.9%
Tamil Nadu	444.6	675.6	52.0%	686.7	923.1	25.6%	178.8	207.4	13.8%
Pondicherry									
Karnataka	427.5	653.8	52.9%	633.5	864	26.7%	163.5	268.3	39.1%
Haryana	0	0		115.7	132.6	12.7%	31.8	25	-27.2%
Chandigarh	0	0		84.7	97.3	12.9%	24.4	19.2	-27.1%
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0		46.5	49.7	6.4%	24.4	19.2	-27.1%
Rajasthan	0	0		65.9	70.4	6.4%	24.4	19.2	-27.1%
H.P.	0	0		37.9	33.1	-14.5%	24.4	19.2	-27.1%
Total - ER Stations	18540.7	18540.7		19396.3	19396.3		4613.7	4613.7	
Arunachal Pr.	206.7	108.5	-47.5%	226.4	113	100.4%	58.9	30.4	-93.8%
Assam	1350.2	1718.9	27.3%	1432.6	1760.9	18.6%	385.1	428.5	10.1%
Manipur	437.2	449.8	2.9%	464.1	436.3	-6.4%	98.9	105.4	6.2%
Meghalaya	260.5	43	-83.5%	269.5	135.3	-99.2%	82.4	51.4	-60.3%
Mizoram	211.4	243.3	15.1%	228.4	264.5	13.6%	54.1	64.8	16.5%
Nagaland	241	227.1	-5.8%	264	252.9	-4.4%	58.6	64.1	8.6%
Tripura	354.5	270.9	-23.6%	389.4	311.5	-25.0%	94.4	87.8	-7.5%
Total-NER Stations	3061.5	3061.5		3274.4	3274.4		832.4	832.4	

Statement-II

State-wise Details of Firm Allocation from Central Sector Generating Stations (CGS)

Region/State	Firm Allocation from CGS (MW)
1	2
NORTHERN :	
Chandigarh	62
Delhi	2288*\$
Haryana	1137
H.P.	256
Jammu & Kashmir	704
Punjab	1226*
Rajasthan	1429
U.P.	2945
Uttaranchal	330
Railways	NA
N.R. Total	10377
WESTERN :	
Gujarat	1538
M.P.	1140
Chhattisgarh	498£
Maharashtra	2125
Goa	257
Daman & Diu	14
Dadra & NH	38
W.R. Total	5610

1	2
SOUTHERN :	
A.P.	1886
Karnataka	674
Tamil Nadu	1984
Kerala	794
Pondicherry	142
NLC	100
S.R. Total	5580
* This includes 44 MW & 99 MW from RAPP (Unit IV) respectively for Delhi and Punjab to be effective from 14.04.03.	
\$This includes 705 MW of BTPS #This is 15% allocation from RAPP III & IV.	
£90 MW of Chhattisgarh temporary allocated to M.P.	
<i>State-wise Details of Firm Allocation and Allocation from Unallocated Quota (including surrendered shares) from Central Sector Generating Stations (CGS)</i>	
Region/State	Firm Allocation from CGS (MW)
1	2
EASTERN :	
Bihar	881
D.V.C.	230
Jharkhand	23
Orissa	1139
West Bengal	727
Sikkim	29
E.R. Total	3029

1		2		1		2	
N. EASTERN :				Mizoram	49		
Arunachal Pradesh		117		Nagaland	71		
Assam		498		Tripura	93		
Manipur		106		N.E.R. Total	1031		
Meghalaya		97					

Statement-III*Outstanding dues payable to Central Power Sector Undertakings for 2000-01**(Principle & Surcharge)*

As on 31-3-2001

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	SEBs/States	NTPC			NHPC			PGCIL			NEEPCO		
		PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-22.73	43.37	20.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.57	0.69	7.00	1.50	8.50	14.88	2.29	17.17
3.	Assam	33.55	19.23	52.78	0.23	0.01	0.24	168.00	35.00	203.00	509.73	193.10	702.83
4.	Bihar	1830.89	1285.36	3116.25	10.78	25.07	35.85	152.00	42.00	194.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	-3.86	227.78	223.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.00	2.20	2.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	HVPNL (HSEB)	68.63	275.06	343.69	127.69	551.36	679.05	0.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	H.P.	22.50	15.25	37.75	39.25	32.60	71.85	0.00	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	33.78	0.00	33.78	533.83	303.63	837.46	120.00	37.00	157.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	180.31	92.80	273.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	15.00	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	455.04	75.45	530.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.00	5.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
35.	Power Grid	0.44	3.12	3.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Other (Wind)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
37.	Private (JPHPCL)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38.	Railways	-0.15	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39.	MEA (Power to Nepal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.	Chhattisgarh (CSEB)	-2.23	0.00	-2.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		9800.65	6262.84	16063.49	1631.87	1667.37	3299.25	812.90	253.70	1066.60	759.82	246.25	1006.07

Upto 31st March, 2000.

Outstanding dues payable to Central Sector Power Corporation

(Principle & Surcharge)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	SEBs/States	PFC			DVC			REC		
		PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.84	0.84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.84	0.03	3.87
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.70	56.64	118.77	175.41
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	889.12	1084.24	1973.36	141.32	303.17	444.49
5.	Gujarat	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.55
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
7.	HVPNL (HSEB)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.43	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.06
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	0.00	1.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.74	0.00	3.74
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14.23	0.00	14.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	805.98	600.48	1406.46
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.84	0.33	3.17
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.71	19.71	31.42
16.	Mizoram	2.39	0.00	2.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.72	2.66	5.38
17.	Nagaland	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
18.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.13
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.38
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.69	4.15	11.84
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.01	1.04
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.59	0.61
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	407.62	452.49	860.11
25.	WBSEB	0.00	0.00	0.00	404.19	408.31	812.50	157.47	361.32	518.79
26.	DVB (DESU)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	DVC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	DNH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Chandigarh (UT)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	NEEPCO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.91	22.32	37.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
34.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.07	0.34
35.	Power Grid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Other (Wind)	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	4.80	12.80
37.	Private (JPHPCL)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38.	Railways	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39.	MEA (Power to Nepal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.	Chhattisgarh (CSEB)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		17.36	0.00	17.36	1295.31	1492.55	2787.86	1626.18	1893.91	3520.09

*Outstanding dues payable to Central Sector Power Corporation**(Principle & Surcharge)**(Rs. in crores)*

SI. No.	SEBs/States	NTPC			NHPC			PGCL			NEEPCO		
		PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	76.43	19.49	95.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.50	0.60	10.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.70	0.71	2.41	4.30	2.30	6.60	21.21	3.23	24.44
3.	Assam	54.12	29.41	83.53	2.06	0.15	2.21	144.60	61.30	205.90	770.24	149.18	919.42
4.	Bihar	1227.06	988.46	2215.52	12.19	20.56	32.75	198.00	67.30	265.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	385.66	47.34	433.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	HVPNL (HSEB)	345.74	322.80	668.54	86.35	512.47	598.82	5.80	21.90	27.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	H.P.	23.61	24.38	47.99	37.61	41.64	79.25	0.40	0.40	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	139.89	17.96	157.85	68.44	6.93	75.37	16.00	9.70	25.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	176.89	140.06	316.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.80	20.60	29.40	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11. Kerala		935.20	228.63	1163.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.70	7.20	20.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
12. M.P.		1466.68	529.33	1996.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	46.70	17.90	64.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
13. Maharashtra		448.98	343.64	792.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.80	0.00	3.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
14. Manipur		0.00	0.00	0.00	17.00	10.27	27.27	28.20	13.00	41.20	145.47	21.40	166.87
15. Meghalaya		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	1.33	1.61	0.00	1.10	1.10	20.84	2.21	23.05
16. Mizoram		0.00	0.00	0.00	3.63	2.12	5.75	0.00	0.20	0.20	45.10	8.03	53.13
17. Nagaland		0.00	0.00	0.00	5.26	3.74	9.00	9.40	6.90	1.00	70.24	7.72	77.96
18. Orissa (GRIDCO)		775.13	254.61	1029.74	6.80	11.75	18.55	0.40	0.60	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19. Punjab		302.93	65.75	368.68	139.58	200.94	340.52	1.70	2.70	4.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
20. Rajasthan		282.74	50.09	332.83	69.10	10.06	79.16	31.40	2.70	34.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
21. Sikkim		30.83	19.08	49.91	1.84	0.26	2.10	9.70	5.20	14.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
22. Tamil Nadu		371.27	233.35	604.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.60	0.00	13.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
23. Tripura		0.00	0.00	0.00	1.93	1.59	3.52	1.20	0.10	1.30	61.18	11.26	72.44
24. U.P.		3006.79	1155.55	4162.34	252.31	33.89	286.20	118.90	38.20	157.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
25. WBSEB		860.91	837.62	1698.53	10.49	7.36	17.85	60.40	32.40	92.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
26. DVB (DESU)		1607.95	1843.03	3450.98	290.96	332.21	623.17	120.00	95.30	215.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
27. DVC		240.24	531.14	771.38	-0.28	0.00	-0.28	0.30	3.90	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
28. DNH		-7.81	0.00	-7.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29. Chandigarh (UT)		0.35	0.00	0.35	6.68	6.83	13.51	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
30. NEEPCO		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.92	7.75	8.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31. Daman & Diu		-0.57	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32. Pondicherry		2.86	19.86	22.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
33. Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34. State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35. Power Grid	0.43	3.26	3.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36. Other (Wind)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
37. Private*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38. Railways	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39. MEA (Power to Nepal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.55	0.00	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40. Chhattisgarh (CSEB)	149.70	120.27	284.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
41. Jharkhand (JSEB)	1067.31	832.19	1899.50	5.00	0.00	5.00	37.10	0.60	37.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
42. Uttaranchal	270.65	97.92	368.57	0.26	0.00	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	14242.03	8755.22	22997.25	1022.66	1212.56	2235.22	884.30	413.60	1297.90	1134.28	203.03	1337.31	

*Outstanding dues payable to Central Sector Power Corporation**(Principle & Surcharge)**(Rs. in crores)*

Sl. No.	SEBs/States	PFC			DVC			REC		
		PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.08	0.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.70	66.47	158.30	224.77
4.	Bihar	45.45	0.00	45.45	353.50	701.62	1055.12	151.67	322.52	474.19
5.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
30.	NEEPCO	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.27	23.98	39.25
34.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.10	0.45
35.	Power Grid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Other (Wind)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.25	22.24	39.49
37.	Private*	33.19	0.00	33.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38.	Railways	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39.	MEA (Power to Nepal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.	Chhattisgarh (CSEB)	43.25	0.00	43.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	170.82	135.17	306.29
41.	Jharkhand (JSEB)	0.00	0.00	0.00	578.38	609.87	1188.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
42.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.42	84.08	148.50
Total		127.21	0.00	127.21	1386.70	1829.31	3216.01	1873.85	2385.28	4259.13

*Including JPHPCL, MALANA PCL, SANGHI-INDUST., Shri Maheshwar.

Outstanding dues (Indicative) payable by SEBs to Central Public Sector Undertakings

(Principle & Surcharge)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	SEBs/States	NTPC			NHPC			PGCIL			NEEPCO		
		PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total	PRIN	INTT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	76.91	20.86	97.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.50	0.10	11.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00		4.53	1.08	5.61	5.70	2.90	8.60	24.81	6.38	31.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3.	Assam	50.08	36.50	86.58	10.90	0.38	0.00	148.80	63.30	212.10	592.66	321.87	914.53
4.	Bihar	1885.14	1291.18	3176.32	31.32	26.74	58.06	274.60	91.50	366.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chandigarh	0.64	0.00	0.64	0.61	7.15	7.76	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	141.39	146.05	287.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.00	3.90	21.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	DNH	-5.00	0.00	-5.00	0.00	1.08	1.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	DVB	1867.98	2228.15	4096.13	333.69	376.79	710.48	151.90	95.30	247.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.50	0.00	3.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Gujarat	798.54	238.76	1037.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.20	10.40	21.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	H.P.	24.87	15.47	40.34	33.01	46.39	79.40	4.10	0.50	4.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	HVPNL (HSEB)	420.49	399.66	820.15	91.44	102.67	194.11	64.10	22.40	86.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	J&K	191.08	52.90	243.98	85.37	3.05	88.42	40.30	0.20	40.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Jharkhand	906.71	988.16	1894.87	-2.34	0.94	-1.40	7.70	0.50	8.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Karnataka	203.31	84.02	287.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.30	24.20	38.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Kerala	1171.75	182.47	1354.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.50	4.40	29.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Madhya Pr.	1588.48	402.59	1991.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.10	19.40	102.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Maharashtra	536.97	289.37	826.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.60	0.00	16.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.24	14.08	43.32	33.00	15.80	48.80	142.83	46.47	189.30
21.	MEA (Power to Nepal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.23	1.35	3.58	1.70	1.30	3.00	44.13	4.09	48.22
23.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.86	3.01	9.87	0.70	0.20	0.90	57.67	7.91	65.58
24.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.89	4.86	12.75	12.80	7.20	20.00	52.95	25.51	78.46
25.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	1098.70	315.75	1414.45	6.30	14.54	20.84	17.00	0.90	17.90	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
30.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.04
31.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	0.13	0.50
32.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.04	2.04
33.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.92	0.06	0.98
34.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	WBSEB	0.00	0.00	0.00	413.36	0.00	0.00	191.87	452.81	644.68
Total		207.55	0.00	207.55	1476.75	1867.09	3343.84	1441.45	2017.91	3459.36

*Including Jharkhand.

Representations from MPS Regarding Stoppages/Halts

4164. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations from MPs and other organizations for providing stoppages/halts of various trains at the various railway stations in the country particularly in Gujarat during the last two years, till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) The representations received for stoppages are examined and those found feasible and justified are provided. During the last two years, about 39 stoppages have been provided in the state of Gujarat.

Concessions in Rail Fares to Doctors

4165. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the procedure laid down to avail the facility of 10% concessions in rail fare requires the doctors to submit every time a copy of their MBBS degree, registration certificate and an undertaking for carrying with them a bag of medical equipment/medicines and a threat of penal action for non-compliance;

(b) whether the Government before introducing the said procedure obtained and considered the views of the medical fraternity;

(c) if so, whether the Government considers it feasible and practicable that more and more doctors would volunteer themselves for treating on board passengers free of charge despite complexity of procedure laid down by the Government; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to ease and simplifying the procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) In order to ensure that only genuine Doctors get concession, they are required to submit photo copy of MBBS degree and registration certificate for availing concession. Since this concession has been granted with a view that the Doctors will render medical assistance to needy passengers during

journey, they are required to carry certain essential medicines/equipment during journey. No threat of penal action has been given but if the Doctor, traveling on concession, refuses to render medical assistance, the matter will be brought to the notice of Indian Medical Association.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The procedure to obtain concession is not considered complex.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Lorry Tankers by BPCL

4166. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has started the work of manufacturing of 36 kilo litre capacity lorry tankers in place of existing 12 kilolitre capacity lorry tankers;

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

(c) whether the corporation has given the contract of manufacturing of such tanker lorries to some private companies;

(d) if so, the details of those companies; and

(e) the details of expenditure likely to be incurred for manufacturing such tanker lorries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has not yet firmed up the proposal for manufacturing of 36 kilolitre capacity tank lorries.

(b) The higher capacity tank lorry would result in the reduction in number of trips and thereby, reduce traffic congestion and resultant pollution and also reduce the operating cost.

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

Financial Condition of Power Sector

4167. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power sector is facing financial crunch;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the financial condition of the power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cumulative commercial losses of SEBs upto March, 2002 without subsidy were estimated at Rs. 33,177 crores. State-wise details of commercial losses with and without subsidy are given in the statement attached.

(c) The Government of India has been signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with States reflecting the joint commitment of the Centre and the States to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. These reforms are aimed at improving the efficiency of State owned power sector and reducing T&D losses. The MOUs are being fleshed out to Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) with clearer and more specific milestones. Twenty seven States have been covered by this exercise till now.

Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), projects for bringing about a turn around in identified distribution circles by reducing Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses and improving the quality of power supply are being financed. In addition actual reduction of the gap between revenue and cost in the State is to be incentivised through grants.

The Tripartite Agreement which has been signed by twenty-four States has paved the way for securitization of old dues of SEBs amounting to Rs. 37,400 crores.

Statement*[English]**Commercial Profit/Loss of SEBs***Lanjigarh-Junagarh Rail Line***2001-2002 (Annual Plan)*

4168. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

		(Rs. crore)	
Sl.No.	SEBs	Without subsidy	With subsidy
1.	Andhra Pradesh (APSEB/APTRANSCO)	-2820	-1194
2.	Assam	-370	-370
3.	Bihar	-753	-753
4.	Delhi (DVB)	-1092	-1092
5.	Gujarat	-3491	-2135
6.	Haryana	-1949	-1537
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-48	-48
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-1141	-1141
9.	Karnataka	-2340	86
10.	Kerala	-1354	-445
11.	Madhya Pradesh	-3682	-3183
12.	Maharashtra	-3527	-3527
13.	Meghalaya	-49	-38
14.	Orissa (OSEB/GRIDCO)	-230	-230
15.	Punjab	-1633	-1633
16.	Rajasthan (Transco)	-2412	-2412
17.	Tamil Nadu	-2510	-2260
18.	Uttar Pradesh (Power Corp.)	-2687	-1887
19.	West Bengal	-1086	-1036
Total		-33177	-24837

(a) the present status of Lanjigarh-Junagarh rail line in Orissa;

(b) the target date for completion of that line;

(c) the reasons for delay in the acquisition of land for that line particularly from Bhawanipatna to Junagarh; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the land acquisition work and timely completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Land has been acquired partly. Work has been taken up in Lanjigarh to Bhawanipatna (31 Km) section, where earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress.

(b) No target date of completion has yet been fixed.

(c) Forestry clearance is yet to be received for some stretches.

(d) Ministry of Environment and Forests has been requested for early transfer of the required forestland. State Government is also being actively pursued to expedite handing over of the possession of rest of the land. The work will be progressed and completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.

Upgradation of Jammu-Poonch Road

4169. SHRI TALIB HUSSAIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for widening, upgradation and improvement of Jammu-Poonch road and expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years;

(b) whether a bridge on Chenab river as a part of the said Project has not been taken in hand for construction; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred during each of the last three years with respect to Jammu-Poonch Road are as follows :-

Year	Allotment (Rs. crores)	Expenditure (Rs. Crores)
2000-2001	13.46	13.46
2001-2002	12.53	12.53
2002-2003	15.29	15.29

(b) and (c) The construction of the Chenab bridge is in hand. Part of the bridge has already been constructed and for the balance work, tenders have already been issued.

[Translation]

Diversion of Routes of Trains between Hatia and Mumbai via Rourkela

4170. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to divert the route of the trains running between Hatia and Mumbai via Rourkela instead of its existing route through Allahabad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to divert 8609/8610 Ranchi-Lokmanya Tilak (Terminus) Express. However, it is proposed to introduce a new weekly Express train between Ranchi and Lokmanya Tilak (Terminus) via Rourkela, Nagpur during 2003-2004.

[English]

Allotment of Petrol Pumps in North Eastern States and Sikkim

4171. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various schemes under which Oil Companies have allotted Petrol Pumps in North-Eastern States and Sikkim;

(b) the district where Oil Companies are maintaining Petrol Pumps themselves in these States alongwith the locations of these Petrol Pumps; and

(c) the names of districts where no Petrol Pumps have been allotted to any person in Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have allotted retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps) to various persons in the North-Eastern States, including Sikkim, under the Marketing Plans, the Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships to widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil) and the discretionary quota of the Government.

(b) In these States, the OMCs are operating one retail outlet each at Rangpo in East Sikkim district in Sikkim and Numaligarh in Golaghat district in Assam on COCO (Company Owned Company Operated) basis.

(c) No retail outlet dealership has been allotted in the district of North Sikkim in the State of Sikkim by any OMC.

**Suggestions by FICCI on
KPMG Report**

4172. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the FICCI-KPMG report released on March 14, 2003 at Fames 2003.

(b) if so, the details of the report;

(c) the main points/suggestions given in the report; and

(d) the response of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The FICCI-KPMG Report titled 'The Indian entertainment sector – In the spotlight' has been received in this Ministry. FICCI has been requested to place a copy of the 93 page Report in the Parliament library.

(c) The main suggestions given in the report, in so far as these relate to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are broadly as follows :-

- The Indian film industry needs to transcend from being a simple unorganised, creative pursuit to an organised business that encourages and nurtures creativity and makes commercial sense.

The strengthening of the cable and satellite dominance and increasing focus on subscription revenues together with the Conditional Access System (CAS) Bill hold promise for the future growth for the Indian television industry.

However, a lot depends on the degree of effectiveness of CAS implementation.

- In order to sustain a healthy growth, the music industry in India, which is still at a nascent stage, needs to revamp the way it operates, with support from the key players and also evolve new revenue streams to hedge risks. The corporatisation in the film industry is expected to have a catalytic effect on the music industry, which would move increasingly towards a revenue sharing model.

The Indian radio industry has the potential for growth if private radio channels can compete on a level playing field. The current licence fee structures, investment and programming restriction need to be benchmarked against global norms.

(d) Many of the suggestion are focussed on the industry for action. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has noted these points as industry inputs, which are taken into account when policy is formulated.

Rail Projects in Koraput

4173. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 523 dated February 20, 2003 regarding Rail Projects in Orissa and state :

(a) the specific details of the ongoing railway projects in the undivided Koraput district in Orissa which is part of KBK districts;

(b) the funds allocated for these projects; and

(c) the target date set for the completion of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) The required details of on-going projects in undivided Koraput district in Orissa are given as under :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Current Status of Progress	Budget Allocation proposed during 2003-04 (Rs. in crores)	Target Date of Completion
1.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh Mew Line (56 Km)	Land has been acquired partly. Work has been taken up in Lanjigarh to Bhawanipatna (31 Km) section, where earthwork and bridgework are in progress.	5.00	Not yet fixed.
2.	Naupada-Gunupur Gauge Conversion (90.05 Km)	Requisite clearance has been received in September 2002 and consequently, the work has been taken up.	15.00	Not yet fixed.
3.	Lanjigarh-Tittagarh Doubling (47.12 Km)	Track linking in Kesinga-Noria Road (23 Km) section has been completed. Earthwork and bridge-work are in progress on rest of the section.	16.00	31.03.2004 (for Lanjigarh-Noria Road section)

Dabhol Power Project

4174. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an agreement between Tata Power Company and British Petroleum (BP) for joint evaluation of Dabhol Power Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) In January, 2002, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) had invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) from domestic/overseas corporates for acquiring the interest of off-shore sponsors in the Dabhol Power Company (DPC). EOIs were received from 7 prospective sponsors, including Tata Power Company Ltd. (TPC). While British Petroleum had not submitted its EOI within the stipulated time-frame, it had subsequently indicated its interest in the Dabhol power project. No proposal has been received by IDBI about TPC and BP Global Investment of the UK having decided to

put in a combined financial bid for the Dabhol project and about any agreement between the two companies in this regard. Meanwhile, due to subsequent developments arising out of abandonment of the project by DPC and filing of bankruptcy proceedings by Enron companies holding shares in DPC etc., IDBI have considered an alternate option of restructuring of DPC by way of 'sale of assets' rather than 'sale of equity' and have for the present refunded the deposit amounts to the bidders.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Hydro-Carbon Sector in Orissa

4175. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of initiatives and development taken place in the hydrocarbon sector and the ethanol and petrol blending programme in the country;

(b) whether development of above programme would be extended to the State of Orissa during current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) In the upstream sector, New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) implemented by the Government of India, provides international quality terms and conditions for exploration of oil and gas, the award of exploration blocks being based on global competitive bidding. More than eight oil and gas discoveries have been made so far in various NELP blocks. Regarding ethanol blending programme, Government have already taken a decision to introduce 5% ethanol blended petrol in the entire country in two phases. In the first phase 9 sugar producing States and 4 contiguous UTs are to be covered in a phased manner starting from 1.1.2003 and stretching upto 30.6.2003. In the second stage, the entire country will be covered.

(b) and (c) The NELP is applicable to the State of Orissa and one exploration block in the State, namely MN-ONN-2000/I, has been awarded under the second round of NELP bidding. In so far as extension of ethanol blending programme to the State of Orissa is concerned, it would

be in the second phase of implementation. However, the time schedule for the state of second phase will depend upon availability of ethanol for this purpose. The work at Paradip Refinery in Orissa is also under way and the project schedules are under review by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL).

Port Connectivity Projects

4176. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised the port connectivity projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated therefor, project-wise; and

(d) the target fixed for completion of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Prima facie port connectivity projects have been identified. The details are given in the table below. At present the sanctioned projects are planned for completion within a time frame of five years.

Sanctioned Port/Hinterland Connectivity Works

Port	Name of Project		Allocation for the year 2003-04
1	2		3
Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)	Panvel-JNPT	Doubling	20.00
	Panvel-Karjat	New Line	20.00
Paradeep Port	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	Doubling	1.00
	Nargundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	Doubling	15.00
	Rahama-Paradeep	Doubling	15.00

1	2	3	
	Haridaspur-Paradeep	New Line	20.00
	Banspani-Daitari	New Line	75.00
Mangalore Port	Hassan-Mangalore	Gauge Conversion	2.00
Pipavav Port	Surendranagar-Pipavav	Gauge Conversion	15.00
Cuddalore Port	Salem-Cuddalore	Gauge Conversion	10.00
	Thanjavur-Villupuram via Cuddalore	Gauge Conversion	15.00
Kandla & Mundra	Gandhidham-Palanpur	Gauge Conversion	100.00
Haldia Port	Panskura-Haldia : Phase-I (Panskura-Rajgoda)	Doubling	20.00
Hinterland Connectivity Works			
	Hospet-Guntakal	Doubling	35.00
	Barauni-Tilrath	Doubling	1.00
	Gonda-Gorakhpur loop	Gauge Conversion	20.00
	Bhildi-Samdari	Gauge Conversion	30.00
	Katihar-Jogbani (including Katihar-Radhikapur)	Gauge Conversion	21.00
	Mansi-Saharsa	Gauge Conversion	16.00
	Jayanagar-Darbhanga- Narkatiaganj	Gauge Conversion	18.00
Unsanctioned Port/Hinterland Connectivity Works			
	Vallarpadam-Idapatty	New Line	
	Hastavaram-Krishnapattnam	New Line	
	Bhadrak-Dhamra	New Line	
	Chhatrapur-Gopalpur	New Line	
	Tuglakabad-Dadri ICD	New Line	
	Bharuch-Samni-Dahej	Gauge Conversion	
	Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari	Gauge Conversion	
	Delhi-Rewari	Gauge Conversion	

[Translation]

VRS in HPCL

4177. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to enforce Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited before embarking on its disinvestment;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified the number of surplus employees in this unit;

(c) if so, the number thereof; category-wise; and

(d) the total estimated expenditure to be incurred on enforcing Voluntary Retirement Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The Government have not taken a decision as yet on the proposal to introduce Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

(b) and (c) The surplus employees identified by HPCL are about 1,000 in non-management category and 250 in management category.

(d) As per the scheme submitted by HPCL, the estimated expenditure is about Rs. 260 crores for enforcing the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

[English]

Wagons for Sugar Transportation

4178. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether transportation of sugar through railway wagons is declining in Western Maharashtra due to unavailability of wagons on time;

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

(c) the quantity of sugar transported on Pune-Kohlapur section of South Central Railway for last three years;

(d) whether lack of infrasture on railway stations have hampered the transportation of sugar to a large extent; and

(e) if so, the remedial measure taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Rail Projects in Andhra Pradesh

4179. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new/on-going/pending rail projects and surveys in Andhra Pradesh alongwith the progress made thereon, project-wise;

(b) the time schedule for completion of these projects;

(c) whether various on-going railway projects are showing slow progress being delayed due to inadequate allocation of funds;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to enhance the allocations for timely implementation of these projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b)

The details of various ongoing projects including pending and new projects appearing in the budget 03-04 in Andhra

Pradesh alongwith their status and time schedule of completion wherever fixed is given as under :-

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Anticipated cost (Rs. in Crs.)	Expenditure upto 31.3.2003 (Rs. in Crs.)	Outlay 2003-2004 (Rs. in Crs.)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Lines					
1.	Dharmavaram-Penukonda via Puttaparthi	124.22	112.54	0.02	Work completed and commissioned.
2.	Gadwal-Raichur	108.91	4.1	5.00	Final location survey has been completed and land acquisition is in progress.
3.	Kakinada-Kotipalli	66.8	27.25	21.32	Earthwork and bridge works etc. are in progress. Work is targeted for completion during 2003-2004.
4.	Kakinada-Pithapuram	61.7	0.02	0.01	Work will be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances for which action has been initiated.
5.	Kotipalli-Narsapur	329.05	9.38	5.00	Final location survey between Kotapalli-Amalapuram completed and land acquisition is in progress. Final location survey for Amalapuram-Narsapur is in progress.
6.	Macherla-Nalgonda	125.09	0.29	1.00	Final location survey has been completed. Detailed estimate is under process.
7.	Munirabad-Mehbubnagar	420.12	16.43	10.00	Final location survey completed. In the first phase, work has been taken up on Yermaras-Krishna section.

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	164.36	8.28	5.00	561.55 acres of land out of 582 acres in Cuddapah District has been taken over. Earthwork and bridge works are in progress in part length.
9.	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	382.83	76.97	15.00	Peddapally-Karimnagar completed and commissioned. Land acquisition is in progress on rest of the section.
Gauge Conversion					
1.	Dharmavaram-Pakala	251.22	0.06	1.00	Detailed survey has been completed and detailed estimate processed. Work is in initial planning stage.
2.	Guntur-Guntakal & Guntakal-Kalluru new line from Pendakallu to Gooty	516.1	456.5	0.01	Guntur-Guntakal and new line portion from Pendekallu-Gooty completed and commissioned. Work on Guntakal-Kalluru will be done alongwith Dharmavaram-Pakala gauge conversion.
3.	Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati	130.49	122.65	2.67	Track linking has been completed. Remodelling of yards and other works in progress.
4.	Mudkhed-Adilabad	170	27.98	30.00	Work which was earlier being done under Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) scheme is now being done with railway funds. Earthwork, bridge works etc. is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Naupada-Gunupur	91.3	5.04	15.00	Requisite clearances have been obtained. Tenders for earthwork and minor bridges have been processed.
6.	Securderabad-Dronachellam	351.05	329.51	0.01	Work completed and commissioned.
7.	Secunderabad-Mudkhed & Jankhampet-Bodhan	287.83	151.66	30.00	Mudkhed-Nizamabad and Jankhampet-Bodhan sections completed and commissioned. Work is in progress on Nizamabad-Bolarum-Secunderabad sections.
Doubling					
1.	Balapalle-Pullampet Ph-I of Gooty-Renigunta	74.77	34.77	40.00	Earthwork and bridge works in progress. 31.5 km targeted for completion during 2003-2004.
2.	Gajapatnagaram-Vijayanagaram	41.68	40.98	0.01	Work completed and commissioned.
3.	Gooty-Renigunta-Patch doubling	304.5	31.08	40.00	Earthwork and bridge works on Pullampet-Bakarapet section in progress.
4.	Gudur-Renigunta	157.33	113.65	18.00	Five block sections totaling 53 km commissioned. 30 km targeted for completion during 2003-2004.
5.	Hospet-Guntakal	154.14	56.42	35.00	Earthwork and bridge works etc. are in progress. Bellary-Tornagallu section targeted for completion during 2003-2004.

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Raichur-Guntakal	136.62	0	20.00	New work included in budget 2003-2004 and would be taken up once budget is passed by the Parliament.
6.	Vijaywada-Krishna Canal 3rd line	41.86	39.07	1.00	Track linking between Vijaywada and Krishna Canal completed.
7.	Whitefield-Kuppam	162.23	107.23	27.00	Whitefield-Bangarpet and Bangarpet yard completed and commissioned. Work is in progress on rest of the section.

Metropolitan Transport Project

1.	Hyderabad-Multi Model Suburban commuter transport system	69.96 Railway's share = 34.98	31.59	2.87	The upgradation of infrastructure has been completed except between two stations where land has been handed over recently.
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Electrification

2.	Bhubaneswar-Kottavalasa	321.07	276.49	15.00	The entire section energed and electric traction introduced.
3.	Renigunta-Guntakal	168.34	26.47	30.00	Work is in progress on Renigunta-Nandalur section.

The details of ongoing surveys in Andhra Pradesh is as under :

Surveys in progress

Name of Survey	Anticipated cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Target date for completion
Hasthavaram-Krishnapatnam new line	17.42	31.7.2003
Donakonda-Vedareva new line	7.42	31.5.2003
Ponduru-Razam new line	1.35	31.7.2003

(c) to (f) The ongoing projects are being progressed as per their overall priority depending upon availability of resources.

[Translation]

Security Arrangements in Railways

4180. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether no proper security arrangements are being made in the railways;

(b) whether there is a spurt in the number of incidents of bomb explosion in the trains in recent past;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to tighten the security of railways in order to check these incidents;

(d) whether Government propose to make a white paper of Railway safety;

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be finalised; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) 'Policing' being state subject, the security on Railways is ensured by the State Governments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) White Paper on Safety on Indian Railways has already been laid in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

[English]

Behaviour of Railway Staff with Passengers

4181. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints of rude and misbehaviour of Railway staff to passengers during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) The complaints regarding the improper behaviour of Railway staff during the last three years are as under:

1999-2000	—	1605
2000-2001	—	1796
2001-2002	—	1748

The complaints received with respect to specific details are inquired into and the staff wherever found responsible is taken up under disciplinary rules/administrative procedures. Training is also imparted to staff for improving their interpersonal skills so as to deal with passengers in a proper manner.

[Translation]

Electrification Work between Naini Junction and Itarsi

4182. SHRI SURESH PASI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electrification work between Naini Junction and Itarsi on the Mumbai route is in progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the place upto which Naini-Mumbai rail line is single;

(d) whether the Government propose to convert the single track into double one;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are three single line patches on Naini-Mumbai rail line via Katni, Jabalpur, Itarsi, Bhusawal as under :

1. Naini Jn Cabin-Manikpur
2. Sontalai-Bagra Tawa
3. Ghatpindran-Belkhera

(d) to (f) The doubling of single line stretches is considered when the carrying capacity of an existing section gets saturated keeping in view the requirement of traffic. Considering this, the doubling of Naini Jn cabin to Manikpur has been taken up in phases. The doubling of other two sections is not considered justified from traffic point of view for the present.

Train Accidents

4183. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rail accidents are on the increase and tendency of neglecting relief work and misinforming the public is on the rise in the railway administration;

(b) whether failures on this front are on the rise despite the availability of a foolproof system for the protection and safety of the railways;

(c) whether the officers are failing to discharge their duties with responsibility for due to lack of alertness at some place or the other; and

(d) if so, the details of the effective steps to be taken by the Government to bring in reforms in the railways and to deal strictly with the negligent and erring officers and employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Rail Link with Religious Places

4184. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to link religious and tourist centres in the country through rail lines;

(b) if so, the details of such centres identified for linking, revenue implications and the time frame for implementation of the proposal; and

(c) the details of the action taken on this proposal so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Linking of various places of importance including religious as well as tourist centres by Railway lines is an ongoing process. Projects are taken up on the basis of demands, economic viability, traffic potential, strategic importance and socio-economic development of the area.

ONGC Pricing Deal with IOCL

4185. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ONGC and IOCL have struck a new pricing deal that will raise ONGC's crude prices with retrospective effect from April 1, 2002; and

(b) if so, to what extent this new pricing deal will enable ONGC to charge a higher price on its premium variety of crude?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) With the dismantling of

APM effective 1st April 2002, the crude oil prices have been deregulated. ONGC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IOCL for supply of crude oil IOCL and its subsidiary companies for a period of two years from 1st April 2002. As per the MOU, the crude oil prices will be linked to the prices of marker crude oil, as agreed to by the two companies. Thus, the gains to ONGC would, *inter alia*, depend upon the movement in the international prices of marker crude oil.

**Funds for Integrated Guided Missiles
Development Programme**

4186. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 478 dated February 20, 2003 regarding Development of Missiles and state :

- (a) The amount earmarked for integrated guided missiles development programme;
- (b) the amount allocated out of that during 2003-2004; and
- (c) the progress achieved so far in regard to development of missiles?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Funds of Rs. 1771.43 crore have been sanctioned for development of Missiles under Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme.

(b) The amount allocated is Rs. 135.00 crore during 2003-2004.

(c) Prithvi and Agni strategic class of missiles in different versions have been developed and are being inducted. The other missile systems like AKASH, NAG, TRISHUL are in the advanced stage of development. In addition, Brahmos, a supersonic cruise missile is being developed as a joint venture with Russia.

[Translation]

**Joint Naval Exercise with
Singapore and Iran**

4187. SHRI SĀDASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Naval force of India had organized joint exercises with the naval forces of Singapore and Iran in Arabian Sea in the month of March, 2003;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the number of the war ships and personnels participated in these joint exercises, country-wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to conduct joint exercises of armed forces with other countries in near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) The Indian Navy and Royal Singapore Navy participated in the fifth "IN-RSN" exercise held off Kochi 2nd to 13th March, 2003. Besides, Indian Naval Ships and Iranian ships participated in the Passing Exercises (PASSEX) on 10th March, 2003 at Mumbai. Such exercises are carried out between navies during goodwill visits and involve the visiting ships and ships of the host Navy. They are basic communication and procedural exercises to promote goodwill and understanding of each other's communication drills and procedures.

The first Indo-Oman Joint Exercise is scheduled off the West Coast of India from 24th to 26th April 2003 and exercise with USA Navy is scheduled from 6th to 8th May, 2003 off Mumbai.

**Setting up of Aviation Fuel
Stations in Mauritius**

4188. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up aviation fuel stations in Mauritius;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
(c) the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Presently, Consortium consisting of Exxon Mobil, Shell, Caltex and Total is operating Hydrant refueling system at Mauritius Airport for refueling of aircraft of international airlines. To meet the increased demand this consortium has taken up the project of constructing new hydrant refueling system at Mauritius airport. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) is joining the existing consortium for providing refueline services at Mauritius.

(c) IOCL will be incurring expenditure of Rs. 8.85 crores as its share of expenditure incurred by consortium for construction of new Hydrant refueling system.

[English]

Subsidy under Renewable Energy Programme

4189. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of subsidy given under various renewable energy programmes of the Union Government to each State Government during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of energy produced during the above period State-wise; and

(c) the target fixed for the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The details of funds released under various renewable energy programmes by this Ministry, State-wise, during the last three years are given in statement-I attached.

(b) The details of capacity addition for power generation from various renewable energy systems made during the last three years, State-wise, are given in statement-II attached.

(c) The physical and financial targets are fixed at the national level under various renewable energy programmes. The proposed physical and financial targets for 2003-04 are given in statement-III attached.

Statement-I

Details of funds released under various renewable energy programmes during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Amount Released		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.993	24.988	12.184
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.894	16.528	14.750
3.	Assam	0.777	0.471	0.990
4.	Bihar	0.224	0.134	0.022
5.	Goa	5.056	0.020	0.000

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	5.900	5.662	6.070
7.	Haryana	4.239	3.477	3.670
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.370	6.151	8.100
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.514	0.849	1.190
10.	Karnataka	15.210	13.405	12.480
11.	Kerala	5.190	10.674	0.780
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7.736	3.805	5.453
13.	Maharashtra	11.120	8.604	12.510
14.	Manipur	0.399	1.342	7.622
15.	Meghalaya	1.296	2.095	3.729
16.	Mizoram	5.042	0.528	1.280
17.	Nagaland	1.181	3.341	0.620
18.	Orissa	5.448	8.025	2.553
19.	Punjab	3.967	12.876	5.740
20.	Rajasthan	7.099	9.136	7.460
21.	Sikkim	6.681	5.189	7.180
22.	Tamil Nadu	5.218	3.942	3.681
23.	Tripura	3.264	2.686	4.990
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15.531	18.582	16.475
25.	West Bengal	15.881	18.157	15.140
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	8.049	2.655	3.890
27.	Chandigarh	0.020	0.160	5.837
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.000	0.000
29.	Daman & Diu	0.036	0.000	0.000
30.	Delhi	1.402	0.825	0.760
31.	Lakshwadeep	2.882	5.725	3.920
32.	Pondicherry	0.135	0.132	0.175
33.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	1.772	3.173
34.	Jharkhand	0.000	0.125	2.000
35.	Uttranchal	0.000	1.416	7.170
36.	Common to all States	26.841	30.808	23.410

Statement-II

Details of capacity addition from various renewable energy systems for power generation during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03

Sl. No.	State/UT	Wind Power (MW)		Solar Photovoltaic Power (kWp)			Small Hydro Power (MW)			Biomass Power (MW)			Biomass Gasifier (kW)			Energy from Wast (MW)			
		2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.80	0.70	-	175.00	100.00	-	32.10	11.90	4.90	41.70	47.50	58.85	1650.00	100.00	-	-	4.25	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	-	-	5.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	370.00	7070.00	-	-	0.45	-
7.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Himachal Pr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.70	3.56	1.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.11	9.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Karnataka	10.40	24.00	46.50	-	-	-	-	14.55	25.02	26.60	12.00	33.78	300.00	500.00	-	-	-	-
11.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-	21.00	-	-	-	-	-	5.00	100.00	5	-	-	-

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Lakshwadeep	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	200.00	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33. Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.80	-	6.00	-	-	-	500	-	-	-
34. Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35. Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36. Common for all States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	172.50	288.40	231.80	375.00	375.00	375.00	375.00	500	89.10	65.22	70.62	70.30	89.00	102.63	5825.00	11115.00	2070.00	1.00	5.80	3.75

MW = mega watt; kWp = kilo watt peak; kW = kilo watt.

Statement-III

Programme-wise Budget Estimates and Physical Targets for 2003-04

Sl.No.	Programmes/Schemes	Budget Estimates 2003-04	Physical Targets 2003-04
1	2	3	4
1.	Wind power	14.00	250 MW
2.	Biomass Power/Cogeneration	18.00	125 MW
3.	Biomass Gasification	5.00	5 MW
4.	Solar Power		
	Solar Thermal Power	5.00	
	Solar Photovoltaic Power	6.00	750 kW
5.	Biogas Plants (NBMMP)	55.00	150000 nos.
6.	Improved Chulha	1.00	
7.	CBP/IBP	1.00	
8.	Rural Energy Entrepreneurship / Institutional Development	0.05	
9.	Women & Renewable Energy Development	0.05	
10.	Village Electrification Programme	100.00	1000 villages
11.	SPV Demonstration & Utilization Programme	40.00	
	Solar home lighting systems		53000 nos.
	Solar Photovoltaic generators		1200 nos.
	Power Plants		450 kWp
12.	SPV support to industry, interest subsidy on manf. Loan	2.00	
13.	SPV Water Pumps	31.00	1600 nos.
14.	SPV R&D	2.00	
15.	Small Wind Energy Systems	2.00	
	Wind Pumps		150 nos.
	Hybrid systems		150 kW

1	2	3	4
16.	Solar Thermal Programme	13.00	
	Solar Water Heating Systems		55000 sq.m. coll.area
	Solar Cookers		35000 nos.
	Aditya Solar Shops		10 nos.
17.	Energy from U&I Wastes	14.00	10MW
18.	Information & Publicity	4.00	
19.	Energy Parks	4.50	65 nos.
20.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP)	5.00	550 nos.
21.	New Technology		
	Fuel Cell	4.00	
	Hydrogen Energy	2.00	
	Alternate Fuel for surface transport	4.00	
	Ocean (Tidal) Energy	3.00	
	Geo-Thermal	2.00	
	Biofuel	3.00	
22.	International Cooperation	1.70	
23.	Small Hydro Power	49.50	80 MW
24.	TIFAD	1.00	
25.	Market Development & Export Promotion	0.25	
26.	HRD & Training	1.50	
27.	Regional Office	2.00	
28.	State Nodal Agencies	1.50	
29.	Technology Commercial Funds	0.25	
30.	Seminars/Symposiun	0.50	
31.	Solar Energy Centre	4.00	

1	2	3	4
32.	NIRE	3.00	
33.	Centre for Wind Energy Technology	3.70	
34.	Equity IREDA	40.00	
35.	North East Allocation*		
	Total (Domestic Budgetary Support) Externally Aided Projects (EAP)	449.50	
36.	IDA-II	85.0	
37.	UNDP-REG	0.5	
38.	GEF Grant for Mathania Project TOTAL (Gross Budgetary Support)	90.0 625.00	
39	Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources	458.14	
	Total outlay	1083.14	

**Subsidy Provided to Users
for Solar Energy**

4190. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any subsidy is being provided by the Government to users of solar energy directly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to promote the wide spread use of solar energy devices and systems in the country; and

(d) the amount of central grants sanctioned to Maharashtra for development of solar energy during 2002-03 and proposed for the year 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-

Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a number of schemes under which subsidies are being provided to the users of various solar energy devices. The details of the subsidies provided are given in the statement attached. The schemes are implemented through state renewable energy agencies and some non-government organizations.

(c) Among the measures taken by the Government to promote the wide spread use of solar energy devices and systems in the country are :

(i) Soft loan schemes have been introduced for solar thermal and solar photovoltaic devices through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and some banks.

(ii) A soft loan scheme for supporting photovoltaic manufacturing activities has been introduced. New schemes on solar generators and building integrated photovoltaics have also been approved.

- (iii) Higher levels of subsidy are being provided to users in the North-Eastern States.
- (vi) Fiscal and financial incentives like subsidies, soft loans, 100% accelerated depreciation, concessional duty imports and excise duty exemption on certain devices and systems are being provided.
- (v) Special demonstration projects in new application areas and for developing new markets are being funded through grants.
- (vi) A model building bye-law for making solar assisted water heating systems mandatory in several categories of buildings has been drafted and circulated to all State Government.
- (vii) A demonstration scheme for installation of concentrating solar cookers in community kitchens is being implemented.
- (viii) Solar power plants and solar home lighting systems are being used to electrify villages in remote areas.
- (ix) A scheme for the establishment of Aditya Solar Shops for making solar products available in different parts of the country is in operation.
- (x) Publicity and awareness promotion are being carried out through advertisements, brochures, exhibitions, mobile vans and electronic media.
- (d) During the year 2002-03 an amount of Rs. 29.05 lakhs was released to the state of Maharashtra for implementation of solar energy programme. No proposal has so far been received from the state for the year 2003-04.

Statement

Details of Central Subsidy available for Solar Energy Devices under Solar Energy Programme

A. Solar Photovoltaic Devices

Sl. No.	Device	Central Subsidy	
		General Areas	North Eastern States
1	2	3	4
1.	Solar Home System	50% of ex-works cost, subject to a maximum of	90% of ex-works cost, subject to a maximum of
	Model 1 (18 W module, 1 light)	Rs. 3,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-
	Model 2 (37 W module, 2 lights)	Rs. 5,500/-	Rs. 10,000/-
	Model 3 (37 W module, 1 light, 1 fan)	Rs. 5,500/-	Rs. 10,000/-
	Model 4 (74 W module, 2 lights, 1 fan)	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 18,000/-
	Model 5 (74 W module, 4 lights)	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 18,000/-

1	2	3	4
2.	Street Lighting System	Rs. 11,000/-	Rs. 20,000/-
3.	Power Plants & Other Community Systems	Rs. 1,80,000/- per kWp of PV array capacity	Rs. 3,50,000/- per kWp of PV array capacity
4.	Solar Generators (150W-600W)	40% with a maximum of Rs. 40,000/-	
5.	Building Integrated Photovoltaic Systems (BIPV)	80% of the cost of photovoltaic modules used in BIPV projects.	

B. Solar PV Water Pumping Systems

Sl.No.	Implementation arrangement	Central Subsidy
1.	Direct marketing by manufacturers & subsidy routed through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)	Rs. 110 per watt of photovoltaic (PV) array used, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs per system.
2.	Direct procurement by States (other than NE)	Rs. 135 per watt of PV array used, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs per system.
3.	Direct procurement by NE States	90% of approved ex-works cost of system.
4.	Community drinking water supply	Rs. 110 per watt of PV array used, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs per system.

C. Solar Cookers

Sl.No.	Type of solar cooker	Central Subsidy
1.	Dish Solar Cooker (Minimum diameter 1.4 m)	50% of total cost, limited to Rs. 2,500/- per cooker.
2.	Community Solar Cooker for indoor cooking (Minimum aperture area 7 sq.m.)	50% of eligible capital cost, limited to Rs. 25,000/- per cooker.
3.	Solar Steam Cooking System	50% of the eligible capital cost.

D. Solar Thermal Systems (Under demonstration programme)

Sl.No.	Area	Central Subsidy
1.	North East States	Rs. 6,000/- per sq.m. of collector area.
2.	Islands and Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 4,000/- per sq.m. of collector area.
3.	Entire Country	50% of the system cost for trying new technologies with innovative designs and application.

[Translation]

Setting up of Refineries

4191. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a policy for setting up new oil refineries in various States; and

(b) if so, the States in which the Government propose to set up refineries during the current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Oil refining industry was de-licensed in June, 1998. After de-licensing, oil refineries can be set up by companies as per their requirement. The following new oil refinery projects are under implementation by the public sector oil companies :-

- (i) Paradip refinery in Orissa by Indian Oil Corporation.
- (ii) Bhatinda refinery in Punjab by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.
- (iii) Bina refinery in Madhya Pradesh by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited.

Dalli Rajhara-Jagdarpur Rail Line

4192. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the rail line project from Dalli Rajhara to Jagdarpur under the South East Railway;

(b) the details of proposal submitted for taking clearance from environmental point of view for the said project;

(c) whether the said proposal is again being

forwarded to the Department of Environment for clearance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The Final Location Survey for the entire length of Dallirajhara-Jagdarpur new line project has been completed. The first phase of this Railway line, viz., from Dallirajhara to Rowghat, is to be constructed entirely at the cost of M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) who have not yet deposited the cost of this part-project with the Railways, for want of the requisite forestry clearance.

(b) to (d) The State Government is to obtain the requisite environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) for the proposed Dallirajhara-Jagdarpur new line project. The MOEF had earlier refused forestry clearance in August 1999. MOEF has also not given clearance to Rowghat Iron Ore project to which this line is to be connected. The State Government of Chhattisgarh is to further pursue the matter of environmental clearance with MOEF.

[English]

Closure of Petrol Pumps in A.P.

4193. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the petrol pumps that were closed down in the Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for their closure;

(c) whether the number of retail outlets commenced during this period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) 14 retail outlets (petrol

pumps) were closed down (terminated) in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years for various reasons like benami operation, non-operation, poor performance, adulteration, etc.

Only two of the above retail outlets have re-started operations, one on ad hoc basis and the other on Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) basis.

Excess Holding of Finished Stock

4194. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of excessive holding of finished stock by Ordnance Factories resulting huge loss to the exchequer;

(b) whether finished component holding has gone up from 303.83 crore during 1996-97 to Rs. 519.63 crores during 2000-2001 registering an increase of 71.03 percent;

(c) whether Comptroller and Auditor General of India has made a mention in paragraph 46.3.7.6 of its report on Defence Services. Army and Ordnance Factories No. 7 of 2001 about holding of finished components worth Rs. 4.24 crores by Rifle Factory Ishapur out of which components worth Rs. 1.34 crores had already become obsolete;

(d) whether the CAG has recommended to review the position of finished components holding in various Ordnance Factories in order to take quick action for disposal of obsolete items:

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government for disposal of obsolete finished components indicating quantity disposed off and its value; and

(f) the balance obsolete stock of finished components held with Ordnance factories as on date?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. The inventory of finished goods held by ordnance factories is monitored regularly.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, since the value of issues has

gone up substantially, from Rs. 2597 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 5536 crores in 2000-2001, the inventory of finished component, as a percentage of the value of issues, has actually come down from 11.7 percent in 1996-97 to 9.39 percent in 2000-2001.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Ordnance Factory Board has developed a system for monitoring its inventory holding levels in the factories and has taken steps to dispose off surplus stores. Since there is no separate categorization of stores as "Obsolete Finished Components", the exact value of such components disposed off cannot be indicated. The Ordnance Factory Board has also constituted a committee in January 2003 to review the status of inventory and to suggest measures to reduce the level of slow and non-moving inventories.

(f) According to the stores accounting procedure of ordnance factories, stores are categorized (a) Active Stores (b) Slow-moving (c) Non-moving (d) Maintenance & Spares (e) Waste & Scrap. There is no separate category of "Obsolete Finished Components" so as to indicate its current inventory level separately. In the case of the Rifle Factory Ishapur, a special study was done for determining the stock of obsolete finished goods in the context of phasing out of DBBL (Double Barrel Breech Loading) gun.

[Translation]

Production of Films on Personalities

4095. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the personalities on which films have been produced by the Government alongwith the producers of such films and the film-wise amount spent by the Government alongwith the prints of each such films during last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government have also produced any film on Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar;

(c) if so, the producer agency of the film along with the prints of the film and the amount spent thereon;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to sub-standard print of this film;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting does not produce films. Details regarding films on personalities produced by National Film Development Corporation Ltd., (NFDC) a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry and Film Division, a media unit under this Ministry are given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Government of Maharashtra have jointly produced a feature film on Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar with NFDC as Executive Producer. The details of amounts invested are given below :

Name of producer	Amount in Rs. crores
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	Rs. 5.60
Government of Maharashtra	Rs. 1.79
Ambedkar Foundation (under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)	Rs. 1.13
Total	Rs. 8.52

25 prints of the film have been taken at a cost of Rs. 17.50 lakhs.

Films Division has also produced two films on Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. One film has been produced in house in 1981 at a cost of Rs. 1,48,050. A total of 238 prints were made at a cost of Rs. 2,12,772. Films Division has produced another film through a independent producer, Dr. Jabbar Patel in the year 1991 at a cost of Rs. 17,29,748. Two prints were made of this film at a cost of Rs. 35,808.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Statement

List of Films Produced by Films Division on Personalities from 2000-01 to 2002-03

Sl. No.	Title	Cost of production (in Rs.)	No. of prints	Name of the Producer	Year
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bala Murali Krishna (Shorter version)	2,05,885	403	Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2000-01
2.	Rashtra Kavi Pradeep (Shorter version)	2,49,680	402	Dir. Shri Bharat Berde Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2000-01
3.	Malika Sarabhai (Shorter version)	2,24,303	402	Pr. Kuldeep Sinha Dr. Arunaraje Patil	2000-01

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Prasad (Shorter version)	1,90,330	321	Dir. Shri Shankar Patnaik Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2000-01
5.	Forever Legend (Longer version)	51,13,884	1	Dir. Shri Rajagopal Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2000-01
6.	Searching for Smita	21,00,000	1	Mrs. Meera Dewan (Outside producer)	2000-01
7.	Sangeet Martand Pandit Jasraj	15,50,000	1	Smt. Madhura Jasraj (Outside producer)	2000-01
8.	The living legend Dr. Rajkumar	26,50,000	1	Shri M.K. Kowshik (Outside producer)	2000-01
9.	Semmangudi Sreenavasier	8,80,000	239	Shri Sivan (Outside producer)	2000-01
10.	Many facets of a Genius- Dr. K Shivarama Karanth	22,53,800	1	Shri M.D. Kawshik (Outside producer)	2000-01
11.	Iron Man Sardar Patel (Shorter version)	2,31,670	398	Dir. Shri V.V. Jadhav Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2001-02
12.	Teejan Bai (Longer version)	12,78,471	1	Dir. Shri V. Packirisamy Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2001-02
13.	Teejan Bai-A Pandavani Singer (Shorter version)	1,24,840	161	Dir. Shri V. Packirisamy Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2001-02
14.	Mother of Century (Longer version)	12,78,471	2	Dir. Shri A.K. Bhattacharya Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2001-02
15.	Oru Aksharam Oru Chuvadhu	7,89,000	2	Shri Leenus L.K. (Outside producer)	2001-02
16.	Sonal	13,75,000	1	Shri Prakash Jha (Outside producer)	2001-02
17.	Smita (Shorter version)	1,87,260	399	Dir. Bhupen Mhatre Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2001-02
18.	A few things I know about her	12,78,471	2	Dir. Anjali Punjabi Pr. Bankim	2001-02

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Sister Nivedita	10,15,904	393	Shri P. Kishore (Outside producer)	2001-02
20.	Is Yug ki Arundhati	11,20,000	393	Shri S.S. Shetya (Outside producer)	2001-02
21.	M.N. Roy (Shorter version)	1,83,370	207	Dir. Ramesh Khanvilkar Pr. Kuldeep sinha	2002-03
22.	Shahadat	4,26,517	385	Dir. Ashok Vazirani Pr. S.R. Das	2002-03
23.	Balidan	4,26,157	383	Dir. Ashok Vazirani Pr. S.R. Das	2002-03
24.	Mother Teresa (Shorter version)	1,24,840	2	Shri K.G. Das Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2002-03
25.	Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narayan	8,52,314	2	Dr. Bhupen Mhatre Pr. Kuldeep Sinha	2002-03
26.	Notaji Subhash Chandra Bose	42,615	383	Dir. V.R. Bhatia Pr. Y.N. Engineer	2002-03
27.	Lalan	12,00,000	2	Shri Ishwar Chakraborty (Outside producer)	2002-03
28.	Madam Bhikaji Cama	11,25,900	1 Films have been	Shri Mohi-ud-din Mirza (Outside producer)	2002-03
29.	Urna	15,88,000	1 completed	Shri Buddhadeb Das Gupta (Outside producer)	2002-03
30.	Ramadevi	6,21,000	1 only in	Shri L.N. Agarwalla (Outside producer)	2002-03
31.	Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit	8,44,000	1 March 2003	Shri Braj Bhushan (Outside producer)	2002-03

Films Produced by NFDC on Personalities from 2000-01 to 2002-03

1.	Devi Ahilyabai	120,00,000	1	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment-Producer NFDC – Executive Producer	2002-03
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**Financial Assistance to Public Sector
Undertakings**

4196. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state the number and names of undertakings to whom financial assistance has been provided during each of the last three years alongwith the amount of assistance provided to each undertaking separately?

THE MINISTER HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : The details of names and amount (Revised Estimates) of plan and non-plan assistance given by the Government to various public sector undertakings during 1999-2000, 2000-01, and 2001-02 are indicated in Volume-I of the Expenditure Budgets for 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively which is presented in the Parliament during Budget Session each year. However, the financial assistance to central public sector undertakings (CPSU) listed in Public Enterprises Survey during last three years is as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)

Years	Plan	Non-Plan	No. of CPSUs receiving financial assistance
1999-00	4528.66	1816.56	142
2000-01	4472.09	1625.47	139
2001-02	4909.70	1684.93	123

[English]

**Compensation Suits Filed against
Prasar Bharati**

4197. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details about the compensation suits filed against Prasar Bharati during 2000 to 2002;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to settle the dispute through out of court settlement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Setting up of Railway Hospital
at Rayagada**

4198. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to set up a 100 bedded railway hospital at Rayagada railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal for setting up a 100 bedded hospital at Rayagada Railway Station.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Rayagada Health unit caters to 1549 employees, of whom 993 are located at Rayagada only. The average daily attendance is 52. Patients needing specialists services and requiring admissions are referred to Divisonal Railway Hospital, Visakhapatam. In emergencies and requiring assistance urgently, the services of District Head quarters Hospital Rayagada are utilized (about 2-3 cases per month). District Hospital is 2 Kms. away from Railway Colony. Setting up of a Railway hospital at Rayagada Railway Station is therefore, not considered justified.

**Technology Used by PGCIL in
Transmission Lines**

4199. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any policy to ensure that the latest methods are followed by the Power Grid Corporation when they lay transmission lines all over the country;

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued to Power Grid Corporation while erecting power lines through forests, etc.; and

(c) the steps proposed to review the cost/benefit aspects of all projects of Power Grid Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) POWERGRID uses latest technologies and methods, which are at par with international standards, in laying its transmission lines. The precious Right of Way (ROW) is kept in view by POWERGRID while constructing EHVAC and HVDC transmission lines for transmission of bulk power. In order to minimize the damage to plantations and crops, POWERGRID uses Tension Stringing Equipment (TSE) for stringing. POWERGRID follows guidelines issued by Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The guidelines provide for obtaining clearance from MOEF in accordance with Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and undertaking the construction activities causing minimum impact on forest cover.

(c) The cost-benefit aspects of the projects of POWERGRID are examined by the concerned appraising agencies like Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission, Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation and Ministry of Power before according investment approval for these projects

**Deployment of RPF in
Madhya Pradesh**

4200. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the need to deploy adequate number of Railway Protection Force at major, Railway Stations in Madhya Pradesh like Bina, Sagar, Katni etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The RPF staff are already deployed in adequate number at major Railway Stations in MP area as per the requirement.

**Gas Based Power Projects at
Monarchak in Tripura**

4201. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has laid the foundation stone for a 500 MW gas based thermal power project at Monarchak in Tripura to be executed by NEEPCO (North Eastern Electric Power Corporation);

(b) if so, whether the project has since been formally sanctioned and the work started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time schedule within which the project is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Tripura Gas Based Project at Monarchak was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance by CEA in February, 2002 for an installed capacity of 500 MW. The investment approval for the project could not be processed as long term supply and price of gas was to be firmed up in the light of the subsequent indication by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) about inadequate gas availability for the project. Meetings had to be taken with ONGC and NEEPCO to clarify the situation. Accordingly, NEEPCO has been advised to reduce the capacity of the project to an optimal size in

accordance with the availability of gas. Revised DPR has been submitted to CEA by NEEPCO.

The project is included in the 10th Plan capacity addition programme.

**Agreement between FAIPT and Directors
Marketing of PSU**

4202. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 7581 answered on May 16, 2002 and state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of this fact that the agreement between FAIPT and directors marketing of PSUs on August 17, 2001 was consisting some illegal clauses;

(b) if so, the details of illegal clauses and the reasons for agreeing to these illegal clauses;

(c) whether the said agreement was made with the consent and approval of the Government;

(d) if so, whether the Government has taken some decision to terminate this agreement; and

(e) if so, by when and under what circumstances this decision was taken and details of the benefit to the general public due to the termination of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. Discussions were held between Directors (Marketing) of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the representatives of Federation of All India Petroleum Traders (FAIPT) on 17.08.2001, in which it was agreed that a Joint Committee will look into all aspects of quality and quantity issues relating to retail sales of petroleum products. Pursuant to this, a meeting between Directors (Marketing) of OMCs and representatives of FAIPT was held on 21.10.2002 and 17.02.2003. The issues raised by FAIPT are under discussion.

Railway Regulatory Authority

4203. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Railway Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the role and functions of the authority; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways has no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Permission to Uplinking from India for
24-hour News Channel**

4204. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN :
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued new guidelines for news channels uplinking from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Star News Broadcasting CNBC and some foreign T.V. Networks have approached the Government for permission to uplinking from India for a 24-hour News Channel Programme;

(d) if so, whether the permission has been granted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, company-wise, Channel-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On March 26,

2003, Government issued guidelines for uplinking of foreign owned news channels from India. The Guidelines, inter-alia, permits foreign equity holding in the applicant company up to 26% of the total paid up capital and require the company to be registered in India under the Companies Act, 1956 and majority of Directors, CEO and News Editor(s) to be Resident Indians.

Further, the permission for usage of facilities/ infrastructure for live news/footage collection and transmission, irrespective of the technology used, will be given to only those channels which are uplinked from India and the channel/company will ensure that its news and current affairs content provider(s), if any, are accredited with the Press Information Bureau.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The companies have been advised to apply afresh, as per the provisions of the revised guidelines.

[Translation]

National Power Fund

4205. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to generate one lakh megawatt additional power capacity by the year 2012 to solve the power crisis in the country;

(b) if so, total amount required for power generation, transmission, distribution and rural electrification for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government have decided to collect the amount required for the said purpose by creating National Power Fund; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to mobilize the amount under the aforesaid National Power Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Under 16th Electric Power Survey, the Central Electricity Authority

(CEA) has projected a requirement of capacity addition of around 1,07,000 MW by 2012 AD.

(b) The total investment of around Rs. 8,00,000 crores is required for power generation alongwith associated Transmission & Distribution (T&D) system including rural electrification for this purpose.

(c) and (d) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has mooted a concept of India Power Fund (IPF) to meet the debt and equity requirements for this purpose. SBI Capital Market has been appointed advisor by Power Finance Corporation for setting up of India Power Fund.

[English]

Posting of Airforce Officers at Civil Air Traffic Control

4206. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has agreed to post Indian Airforce Officers at civil air traffic controls in the four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of personnel posted by IAF for monitoring airports of metropolitan cities so far;

(d) whether any discussion was held between his Ministry and Ministry of Civil Aviation in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether ATC of Civil Aviation are not capable for this task necessitating posting of airforce officers;

(g) whether any share of expenditure is likely to borne by civil aviation authorities for posting of these officers; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and utility so far witnessed after posting of these personnels?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details are as follows:-

Airport	No. of Officers
Delhi	08
Chennai	08
Kolkata	06
Mumbai	07
Total	29

(d) to (f) The IAF Air Traffic Control Officers (ATCOs) were posted as per the requirements projected by Ministry of Civil Aviation. This has been done according to the Contingency Plan to deal with emergencies and not to replace civil ATCOs.

(g) and (h) The pay and allowances of IAF ATCOs are paid by Airports Authority of India. The posting of IAF officers is for performing actual ATC duties as per the Contingency Plan.

Termination of LPG Agencies by HPCL

4207. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether HPCL has terminated LPG agencies in a discriminatory manner in the country; and

(b) if so, corrective steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has terminated LPG distributorships for violation of provisions of Distributorship Agreement signed by the corporation with the distributors or for malpractices, irregularities in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) in vogue at the time of termination. HPCL has not reported any discriminatory action in termination of agencies.

Modern Equipments in Office of Registrar of Newspapers

4208. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the office of Registrar of Newspapers is equipped with modern systems of equipments;

(b) if so, whether the replies are not given in adequate time to the letters of Public representatives and the applicants who apply for registration of newspapers and other related issues;

(c) if so, the reasons for this casual attitude; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of this office to respond adequately, properly and without delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) is equipped with office equipment like computers, facsimile machines, photocopies VSAT connectivity etc.

RNI makes effort to give prompt replies to the letters from the Public representatives. A grievance officer has also been nominated for this purpose. Need based reply by RNI to letters from applicants regarding registration of newspapers and other related issues are sent in deserving cases, within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of application.

Food Supplied to Passengers in Kerala Express

4209. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the authorities have taken any steps to improve the standard of food being supplied to the passengers in Kerala Express as the substandard food cause severe health problems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b)

In order to avoid complaints in Kerala Express most of the items like, Veg. Biryani, Egg Biryani, Economy meals etc. are prepared in the Pantry Car itself in place of pick-up meals. Frequent inspections are also conducted by officers and Inspectors to ensure the quality of food supplied in Kerala Express.

Profit Earned by Oil Companies

4210. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the profit earned by various public sector oil companies has increased after dismantling of APM system from April 1, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the increase is net profit of oil companies during 2002-03 in comparison to the year 2001-02?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The profitability of oil PSUs is dependent on several factors which include important elements like price of crude oil in international market, price of petroleum products in the domestic market, efficiency of the PSUs to generate margins etc.

(c) The audited account for the full financial year of 2002-03 is yet to be finalised. However, a comparative statement of profit for the period April-December of 2001-02 and 2002-03 given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Name of oil company	Net profit/ loss(-) during April-December, 2001-02	Net profit/ loss(-) during April-December, 2002-03	Increase/ decrease (-) in Profits
1	2	3	4
ONGC	4553.00	6851.00	2298.00

1	2	3	4
OIL	375.46	560.63	185.17
GAIL	850.00	1076.00	226.00
IOC	1587.00	3915.00	2328.00
HPCL	363.07	903.24	540.17
BPCL	476.65	802.63	325.98
IBP	112.86	44.65	-68.21
CPCL	-15.78	77.55	77.55
NRL	42.68	91.94	49.26
KRL	42.62	157.00	114.38
BRPL	-115.30	69.05	69.05

[Translation]

Procurement of Warship

4211. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Navy is likely to get 'Krivak' version of warship from Russia in June this year;

(b) if so, whether some technical snags have been found therein;

(c) if so, whether these snags have been rectified; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Subject to successful trials in Russia such a warship is expected in May this year.

(b) All systems are satisfactory except for one weapon system.

(c) The deficiency has not been rectified as yet.

(d) Rectification would depend upon proper analysis of test data and determination of corrective measures, in exercise for which is underway.

[English]

**Contract for Upkeeping Platform and
FOB at Delhi Railway Stations**

4212. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have awarded the contract to a private firm for the maintenance and upkeep of the platforms and foot over bridges at various railway stations in Delhi;

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

(c) whether similar contracts would be awarded for other railway stations also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) Contracts for mechanized cleaning and upkeep of platforms and other passenger usage areas have been awarded for Hazrat Nizamuddin, Delhi and New Delhi Railway Stations to different parties for a period of three years. The Zonal Railways have been empowered to undertake such activities at other important stations within their jurisdiction.

**IOCL's Aviation Fuel Business
in Sri Lanka**

4213. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL :

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

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited proposes to enter aviation fuel business in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Sri Lanka Government has extended any tax holiday to IOCL for its petro retailing business;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of retail outlets IOCL proposes to set up in the coming years in Sri Lanka;

(f) the sources from which IOCL would get petrol, diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel for sale in Sri Lanka; and

(g) the extent to which IOCL would be benefited by such business deals with Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has plans to enter aviation business in Sri Lanka through its wholly – owned subsidiary, Lanka IOC Private Limited (LIOC).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Sri Lanka have accorded 10-years tax holiday in respect of profits and income to LIOC subject to the company investing Sri Lankan Rs. 340 crore over a period of five years in Sri Lanka. After ten years, LIOC will pay tax @15% as against the normal rate of 35% payable by others.

(e) LIOC has taken over 98 retail outlets. It has plans to take over another about 150 retail outlets.

(f) LIOC will source petroleum products for sale in Sri Lanka by way of imports from India and other sources, on competitive terms.

(g) Benefits that are likely to accrue through such business deal are getting a foothold in international petroleum market, fulfillment of IOC's vision to become a transnational corporation, possible entry into downstream petroleum sector in the neighbouring SAARC countries, finding an outlet for surplus product from Indian refineries, return on investment and improvement in bilateral ties with Sri Lanka.

Library for Blinds

4214. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of Rashtriya Andha Va Jankalyan Bahuuddeshiya Sanstha, Parsodi, Gopal Nagar, Nagpur for grant-in-aid under the Central Government scheme for establishing a Helan Kelar Library for the Blinds has been pending for consideration of the Government since 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Members of Parliament have also written to him to expedite the approval in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has since taken a final decision in the matter; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Proposal seeking assistance for setting up a Library for the Blinds received from Rashtriya Andha Va Jankalyan Bahuuddeshiya Sanstha, Parsodi, Gopal Nagar was examined and found to be incomplete in respect of certain documents such as registration certificate, justification for the project, memorandum of association and bye laws, detailed list of beneficiaries and staff, annual reports, complete audited accounts etc. The organization was advised to send these documents/information. No reply was received till March 2002 when the proposal was revived through a fresh recommendation from the State Govt. under the present Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Shri Naresh Puglia, MP, vide communication dated 23.3.99 and 5.2.2002 and Shri Vilas Mutemvar, MP, vide letter dated 17.12.2000 had reminded to expedite the case.

(e) and (f) The proposal received from the State Government in March 2002 was referred to Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Impaired, Mumbai, (AJYNIHH), for a technical evaluation report. The report pointed out certain deficiencies such as non availability of beneficiaries on the day of inspection; lack of networking with other NGOs; need for wider publicity of the activities and the desirability of shifting the project from the existing location. Clarification on the above shortcomings and additional information on library activities have been sought from the organization. Final decision about sanction of grant in aid assistance would depend on receipt of a satisfactory reply from them.

Malpractices by Petrol/Diesel Outlets and LPG Agencies

4215. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

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

(a) the details of petrol/diesel outlets and LPG agencies found indulging in malpractices in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of such outlets and agencies whose licences have been cancelled during the above period, State-wise;

(c) the number of LPG distributors who have not been punished for committing irregularities since 2000 and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether incidents of irregularities are increasing despite the action being taken against the distributors; and

(e) if so, the action plan formulated by the Government to take stringent action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) During the last three years, the following number of Retail Outlets and LPG agencies were found indulging in malpractices in the country:-

Year	Retail Outlets	LPG agencies
2000-01	876	439
2001-02	915	428
2002-03	980	283

(b) The following number of Retail Outlets and LPG agencies has been terminated during the last three years in the country :-

Year	Retail Outlets	LPG agencies
2000-01	92	13
2001-02	90	18
2002-03	64	14

(c) The number of LPG Distributors who have not been punished for committing established irregularities since 2000 as per the prevailing Marketing Discipline Guidelines/Distributorship Agreement is nil. Action has been taken against all distributors whenever malpractices/irregularities were detected and established.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Marketing Discipline Guidelines have been made more stringent to take penal action against erring dealers/distributors.

Employment to Land Looser of Mejia Thermal Power Station

4216. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of eligible candidates particularly Adivasis, who lost their land and are yet to be provided with employment in Mejia Thermal Power Station; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The panel for such land losers including eligible persons of ST categories is under preparation from a very large number of names received from District Authorities.

[Translation]

Looting of Coal from Goods Trains

4217. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item under-caption, "Tarawadi station par malgadi se logoan ne koyala loota", appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara', dated March 5, 2003;

(b) if so, the number of times such incidents of looting of goods trains at the above said station occurred during the last one year and the quantum of coal lost in the incidents of pilferage during the year 2000-01 to 2002-03; and

(c) the arrangements made by the Government to check such incidents of pilferage in future?

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

[English]

ROB/RUB Projects in Gujarat

4218. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of over bridges/under bridges under construction in Gujarat, project-wise;

(b) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Gujarat for construction of over bridges/under bridges at level crossing;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) the funds allocated for construction of such bridges during the last three years, project-wise; and

(e) the target fixed for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Following two works of Road over/under bridges (ROBs/RUBs) in Gujarat State are under construction at present on cost sharing basis.

- (1) RUB in lieu of L.C. No. 11 between Sabarmati-Gandhidham.
- (2) ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 20B between Sant Road-Piplod, sanctioned work but frozen as State Govt. had not furnished revised General Arrangement Drawing.

Three works of ROBs at Himmatnagar, Anand and Sidhpur are in progress on deposit terms and 5 works of ROB/RUBs are in progress under BOT Scheme. In addition, widening of ROB at Palanpur at Km. 659/10-11 is also in progress on deposit terms.

(b) No proposal of ROB/RUBs for construction on cost sharing basis has been received from the State Govt. for inclusion in Works Programme 2003-04.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) For the works in progress on cost sharing basis shown against (a) above funds allotted by Railways were as under :-

	Fund allocated in thousand Rs.		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1. RUB in lieu of LC No. 11 between Sabarmati-Gandhidham	2000	6000	3819
2. ROB in lieu of LC No. 20B between Sant Rd.-Piplad	5000	5000	3596

(e) For RUB between Sabarmati-Gandhidham, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has to fix the target and for Deposit & BOT works, State Govt. has to fix the targets for completion.

Permission Sought by Refineries for Marketing of Petroleum Products

4219. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the private sector and joint sector refineries in the oil sector that have sought permission for marketing of petroleum and diesel products;

(b) whether the government have outlined some minimum investment criteria for oil companies to enter marketing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the criteria has been fulfilled by each applicant; and

(e) if so, the reasons for delay in granting permission to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Government have received the applications for grant of authorisation to market transportation fuels from the following companies :-

- (i) M/s. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC).
- (ii) M/s. Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL).
- (iii) M/s. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL).
- (iv) M/s. Essar Oil Limited (EOL).
- (v) M/s. Jazira Enterprises Pvt. Limited.
- (vi) M/s. Nagarjuna Oil Corporation Limited.
- (vii) M/s. Shell India Pvt. Ltd.
- (viii) M/s. Richmens Industries Pvt. Limited.

(b) and (c) As per the prescribed guidelines, a minimum investment of Rs. 2,000 crore is required to be made in the eligible activities.

(d) and (e) Government have granted authorization to market the transportation fuels in respect of four companies namely ONGC, NRL, RIL and EOL, who have been found eligible as per laid down guidelines of Government.

Mid Sea Clashes

4220. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increase of mid sea clashes;

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of mid-sea clashes;

(c) whether the Navy and Coast Guard are asked to be vigil along the international boundary with the Sri Lanka; and

(d) if so, the other steps are taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Recently few incidents of clashes between the Indian fishermen and Sri Lankan fishermen have come to light. Joint patrolling by Indian Navy and Coast Guard is maintained along the International Maritime Boundary Line. The fishermen who violate the International Maritime Boundary Line are detailed by the Coast Guard and handed over to State Fisheries Department for further action. In addition, the Coast Guard carries out regular community interaction with the fishermen and advises them not to cross Boundary Line. Further, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has been advised to increase the penalties being currently levied on the erring fishermen.

Operations Review Meetings are held biannually alternatively in each country. In addition to this, International Maritime Boundary Line meetings are held in Palk Bay quarterly onboard ships of alternate countries.

*[Translation]***Educaltion to Physically Handicapped Persons in Bihar and Jharkhand**

4221. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special projects were run during last three years till date in Bihar and Jharkhand to provide education to physically handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of institutions for the dumb and the blind especially in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(d) the names of agencies (including Government ones) running institutions for deaf, dumb and blinds; and

(e) the details of projects to be set up by NGOs for welfare of deaf, dumb and blind especially in Jharkhand and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) to (e) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has not run any special projects during the last three years till date in Bihar and Jharkhand. However, Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) are being funded under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities in Bihar and Jharkhand for running projects for the benefit of persons with locomotor disability, hearing/speech impairment or visual impairment. A statement indicating the grant in aid released to these NGOs during the last three years is given in the statement attached.

Statement*Education to Physically Handicapped Persons in Bihar and Jharkhand*

(Rs. in lakh)

Bihar

Name of the Organisation	Name of the project	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Vikash Avam Seva Mandal, Patna	Residential School for Deaf, Dumb & MR (at Nalanda)	0.00	0.98	9.93

1	2	3	4	5
Baba Baidyanath Balika Mook Badhir Vidyalaya, Monghyr	Education and VTC for HH Girls	7.76	7.17	3.17
Bharatiya Viklang Sangh, Patna	VTC for OH	12.27	7.26	7.93
Bihar Institute of Speech & Hearing Research Centre, Patna	School for Deaf, Dumb and MR	8.89	7.19	7.61
Bihar Netraheen Parishad, Patna	Institute for Blind Girls	0.00	14.70	6.79
Bihar Rehabilitation & Welfare Institute, Patna	Education/VTC for Handi-capped Children	46.19	27.81	13.91
-do-	Manpower Training Programme for CPMR	30.33	7.68	0.00
Bihar Viklang Kalyan Parishad, Muaffarpur	Special School for PH Children	0.00	1.34	7.36
Girija Shankar Drishti Bihin Balika Vidyalaya, Bhagalpur	Education Training Centre for VH Girls	0.00	6.40	7.48
Gramin Vikas Mandal, Rohtas	Special School for Handi-capped Children	0.00	0.45	10.67
Gyan Sarovar, Saran	VTC for OH	0.00	0.00	25.20
JM Institute of Speech & Hearing, Patna	DSE (HI)	0.00	7.10	6.79
-do-	School for HH and MR Children	0.00	44.70	13.15
Koshi Kshetriya Vikalang, Vidhva, Vridh Kalyan Samiti, Saharsa	Residential School & VTC	21.14	19.49	9.45
Magadh Rehabilitation & Welfare Society, Patna	VTC for PH Children	0.00	0.95	2.89
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Institute, Patna	Special Treatment and Training to PH	23.27	14.66	14.68
Prakritik Arogyashram, Nalanda	VTC and Rehabilitation for OH Children	4.00	20.57	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
Samudayik Viklang Vidhva. Vridh Dalit Vikas Samiti, Patna	VTC for OH	0.00	10.24	2.93
SHUBAM, Muzaffarpur	Special School for VH	0.00	9.90	3.92
Jharkhand				
Jan Chetna Kendra, Hazaribagh	Residential School for Handicapped	0	1.02	7.66
-do-	Training of Handicapped Youths for Self Dependency	0	0	1.18

[English]

Fee Hike in Sainik Schools

4222. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether students studying in the Sainik Schools had to discontinue their studies due to steep rise in education fee charged by these schools;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop the dropping out of students;

(c) whether a proposal from Satara Sainik School regarding sharing of fees has been received by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The last revision of fees in Sainik Schools implemented from the year 1999-2000 was necessitated due to the implementation of recommendations of the Vth Pay Commission, introduction of pension scheme and the annual escalation in prices. There were some withdrawals of cadets due to increase in fees.

(b) The income slabs for income-cum-means scholarships applicable to the Defence category were revised simultaneously. The State Governments were also

advised, at their discretion to decide the income slabs for award of scholarships. In order to ameliorate the hardship caused to the parents of cadets, Central Government has decided to share the additional burden of increase in fees and dietary charges with the parents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Exploration Contracts in Iraq

4223. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any exploration contracts of discovered oil fields in South Iraq; and

(b) if so, the details of this contract and the impact of impending war over this contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAN GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL), the wholly owned subsidiary of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), had signed a contract effective from 15.5.2001 for Exploration Block - 8 in the Western Desert of Iraq with Ministry of Oil, Iraq. The projects is in the exploration stage. In view of the present situation in Iraq, the first phase of exploration may take longer to be implemented.

**Supply of Gas to Companies
by GAIL**

4224. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several companies have threatened to down shutters of their manufacturing facilities around Delhi following stoppage of gas fuel supplied by public sector GAIL India;

(b) if so, the main reasons for not supplying the gas to these firms;

(c) whether the GAIL has pointed out that these firms never asked for gas allocation;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government; and

(e) the extent to which the Government is likely to help these firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) In order to implement the orders of the Supreme Court to make 2.0 Million Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) natural gas available for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) purposes in Delhi and also to supply gas for power generation to DVB against their firm allocation, the supply of gas, against fall back allocations to industries in an around Delhi had been stopped. These industries have represented to the Government for restoration of supplies to them, however, no additional gas is available at present. Additional gas in the form of Re-gassified LNG may be available from mid 2004 with the commissioning of Petronet LNG Limited (PLL's) Dahej LNG Terminal.

Fazilka-Abohar Broad-gauge Line

4225. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work in Fazilka-Abohar Broad-gauge railway line has started since the Preliminary

Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey was completed in December 1997;

(b) if so, the present status of the project;

(c) the amount of money allocated for this project during 2003-2004; and

(d) the target date fixed for completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The final location survey has been completed and land acquisition is in progress. The work of construction of rail line would be started as and when the land becomes available.

(c) An amount of Rs. 1.51 crore has been proposed for the project in the Budget 2003-2004.

(d) No target date has been fixed for completion of this project.

[Translation]

**Production of Petroleum Products from
Waste Material**

4226. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are evolving any scheme for producing petro-products from waste material;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any test/experiment has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

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

(c) The process has been demonstrated at the request of the Government.

(d) Prof. Alka Umesh Zadgaonkar, Head of the Department of Applied Chemistry, G.H. Raisoni College of Engineering, Nagpur claims to have invented a process and equipment for conversion of plastic waste to liquid fuels like petrol, kerosene, diesel etc. They have demonstrated this process where the feed consisting of waste plastic (75% wt) and coal (25% wt) alongwith catalyst/additives were heated in a coker drum to about 450 degree centigrade and the liquid product was collected separately after consideration. The liquid fuel generated from the plastic does not meet BIS specification, contains highly cracked components which require stabilization with an appropriate antioxidant. It also has a high diene value contributing to potential gum formation and high chlorine content. However, the liquid obtained is a rich source of alpha-olefins and could be used as a petrochemical feed stock.

Opening of New Kerosene/LPG Agencies in Rural Areas

4227. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any effective policy of the Government for opening Kerosene outlets in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of LPG agencies and Kerosene outlets in the rural and urban areas and their percentage; and ;

(d) the number of the places identified in rural areas in Rajasthan to open LPG agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism with effect from 1.4.2002, the oil companies are free to choose locations and set up SKO-LDO dealerships and LPG distributorships in various parts of the country including Rajasthan and rural areas depending on economic viability.

There are 7839 LPG distributorships and 6508 SKO-LDO dealerships in operation in various parts of the country including rural and urban areas. The percentage of dealerships/distributorships is as under :-

	LPG	SKO-LDO
Rural	7.65	49.03
Urban	84.74	50.96

[English]

Track Renewal in Andhra Pradesh

4228. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether track renewal work has been undertaken in the state of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government have identified any tracks for upgradation from narrow-gauge to broad-gauge;

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

(e) the budgetary fund earmarked to this work in the present financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the details of track renewal are not maintained State-wise. Instead, these details are maintained Railway-wise. The State of Andhra Pradesh is served by three Railways namely, erstwhile South Central (SCR), Southern (SR) and South Eastern Railways (SER). Details of track renewal work carried out by these three Railways are as under :-

(Figures are in Km.)

Year	SCR	SER	SR
2000-01	295	747	173
2001-02	155	845	230
2002-03	345*	846*	364*

*Upto February, 2003.

(c) and (d) No new work of Gauge Conversion from Narrow Gauge to Broad Gauge has been included in the Budget in the last three years.

(e) Does not arise.

**Improper Planning for Procurement of
Transmitter at Barmer**

4229. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether procurement and installation of 10 Kilo Watt High Power Transmitter with a 300 meter high steel tower at Barmer, Rajasthan was sanctioned during 1985;

(b) if so, whether transmitter installed in February, 1993 became operative only on 1 KW capacity from March, 1997;

(c) if so, whether the work for erection of tower awarded to M/s. Triveni Structural Limited during February, 1997 at a total cost of Rs. 10.20 crores and scheduled to be completed by March, 1999 not even commenced;

(d) if so, the details therefor;

(e) whether the Government have taken note that 10 KWHPT installed at capital cost of Rs. 5.32 crores is being operated at one-tenth of its capacity and its coverage is less than half the area than that covered by 10 KWHPT; and

(f) if so, the officials responsible for improper planning for procurement of transmitter and erection of tower since transmitter's capacity is neither being utilized optimally nor is the targetted coverage being delivered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Scheme for setting up of 10 KWHPT with 300M tower at Barmer was sanctioned in February, 1987.

(b) to (d) The transmitter was installed in February,

1993 and commissioned with 1KW power, with temporary tower, in March, 1997 after the staff was sanctioned and deployed. Work of erection of 300M tower at Barmer was awarded to M/s. Triveni Structural Limited in February, 1997 at a cost of Rs. 11.55 crores. It was originally scheduled to be completed by March, 1999. Keeping in view the natural elevation of the site, and marginal increase in resultant coverage owing to sparsely populated area, it was decided to reduce the height of the tower to 100M. Tenders for erection of 100M tower have been invited.

(e) Coverage range of the transmitter is presently about 60 Kms. which is expected to increase to about 110 Kms. on commissioning of the transmitter of full power of 10KW consequent on erection of 100M tall tower.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Juvenile Reformatory Homes and
Mahila Niketans in Maharashtra**

4230. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the district-wise number of juvenile Reformatory Homes and Mahila Niketans in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of boys, girls and women who have sought refuge in them; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for further improvement in these Homes and Mahila Niketans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Excavation Work

4231. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Navy had recently excavated a British ship wrack;
- (b) if so, the details of the things taken out;
- (c) whether Indian Navy proposes to continue the excavation work in other areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) The Indian Navy and the Archaeological Survey of India carried out first joint excavation as a pilot project on a wreck off Bangaram Island in the Lakshadweep group. Samples of broken glazed ware, Chinese porcelain, amphoras, copper strips and nails were taken out for analysis at the Archaeological Survey of India.

Indian Navy has the necessary expertise in diving and underwater work and would like to participate in future endeavours jointly with the other agencies of the Government of India who have the expertise in archaeological aspects.

Gauge Conversion of Naupada-Gunupur Rail Line

4232. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons for delay and slow progress in Naupada-Gunupur Gauge Conversion of East Coast Railway; and
- (b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The work of gauge conversion of Naupada-Gunupur was included in the Budget 1997-98 with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining the necessary clearances, which have since been obtained in September 2002. Consequently, the work has been taken up.

- (b) No target has yet been fixed for completion of the project.

Dispute with Foreign Companies on CAS

4233. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are facing pressure from Multi National Companies (MNCs) to avoid introducing Conditional Access System (CAS) in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the points of dispute with foreign companies;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the dispute on this issue; and
- (d) the details of advantages/gains to the Indian consumer from the rapid introduction of Conditional Access System in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

- (d) The introduction of CAS will allow the consumer to choose the pay channel he desires to view and he will be required to pay only for the pay channels he watches.

CNG Outlets in Mumbai

4234. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Mahanagar Gas has prepared any action plan to open CNG outlets in Mumbai for the year 2003-2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the requirement of CNG for the city and the present supply status;
- (d) whether waiting period for vehicles at CNG stations in Mumbai is more than 60 minutes;

(e) whether the target fixed for setting up new CNG outlets upto March 31, 2003 has since been achieved; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) has drawn up an action plan to open 80 CNG outlets by March, 2004 in a phased manner.

(c) Presently, in Mumbai there are 45,000 taxis, 25000 autos and 46 BEST buses plying on CNG. MGL has set up 46 CNG stations to cater the CNG requirement of above vehicles. The installed compression capacity is about 3,92,000 KG/day with 188 dispensing points. Against the above installed capacity the average daily sale is 2,50,000 KG/day.

(d) Depending upon the location of the CNG outlets, presently, the waiting period for CNG vehicles is in the range from 30 to 45 minutes during peak hours.

(e) and (f) MGL had targeted setting up 55 CNG stations by March, 2003. However, 46 CNG stations could be made operational by March, 2003.

Free of Charge Baby Food to Children in Express Trains

4235. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide baby food free of charge to children travelling in Rajdhani and the Shatabdi Express trains;

(b) whether similar provision is proposed to be considered for the children in all the long distance trains;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to provide baby food on payment basis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Zonal Railways have been instructed to provide baby food free of charge to infants of less than five years of age on Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains.

(b) to (d) At present there is no such proposal.

[Translation]

Unreserved Coaches in Express Trains

4236. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether less number of unreserved coaches have been attached to the Mail, Express, Superfast, Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains on different routes in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this leads to heavy crowding in the unreserved coaches; and

(d) if so, the details of the action likely to be taken to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) Provisions of coaches in the trains depends upon traffic demand, operational feasibility and availability of resources. As a policy no unreserved coaches are provided on Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains. On the majority of Superfast and Mail/Express trains both reserved and unreserved accommodation is available. Augmentation of accommodation is a continuous process. On new trains being introduced since 2002, an effort is being made to provide four unreserved coaches on each new service.

[English]

Revalidation of NOC for Petrol Pumps

4237. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the period for which the NOC granted by the District Magistrates remain valid for the installation of petrol pump;

(b) whether the department of Explosive is bound with such NOC's which are not time bound;

(c) if so, whether there is some provision of revalidation of NOC in Petroleum rules;

(d) if not, whether the Government would take the necessary amendment in Petroleum Act so that clear cut rules may be framed for the revalidation of NOC; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The Department of Explosives grant explosives licence for installation of a retail outlet (petrol pump), on the basis of No Objection Certificate (NOC) issued by the District Magistrate. While such an NOC is not time bound, and also there is no provision in the Petroleum Rules for revalidation of NOC, the Department of Explosives, as per practice, ask for revalidation of the NOC if there is a substantial time gap between the date of issue of the NOC and the date of application for explosives licence.

Import of Gas from Bangladesh

4238. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether negotiations are going on with Bangladesh for import of gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bangladesh has finally agreed to export gas to India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the quantum of gas likely to be imported from Bangladesh; and

(f) the time by which the gas is likely to be supplied by Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The issue of import of natural gas from Bangladesh is raised from time to time in the bilateral talks between the two countries.

(c) to (f) Government of Bangladesh has not taken decision to export gas to India. The quantum of gas to be imported from Bangladesh, the time by which gas would be supplied and other details would depend on decision of Government of Bangladesh to export natural gas to India.

Renovation of 220 KV-BTPS Agia-Sarwajai Power Line

4239. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a project for renovation and augmentation of the 220 KV-BTPS Agia-Sarwajai power line has been taken up for augmentation of power supply in lower Assam;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the Central aid sought therefor;

(c) the Government's response thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DPR for renovation of BTPS-Agia-Sarusajai 220 KV D/C line for assistance under NLCPR was submitted in May, 2002 to CEA at an estimated cost of Rs. 3006.28 lacs. The proposal covered following :

- Reconductoring of 90 circuit Kms. of Circuit-I of the line, on account of theft of parts of existing ACSR conductor, by AAC conductor, etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 1334.99 lakhs

- Reconductoring of 162 circuit Kms. of Circuit-II of the line, on account of theft of parts of existing ACSR conductor, by AAAC conductor, etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 1671.29 lakhs

(c) CEA forwarded their comments on the DPR to Planning Commission. Based on comments of CEA, ASEB submitted modified DPR in August, 2002 for an estimated cost of Rs. 3819.69 lacs. After examining modified report, CEA has recommended an amount of Rs. 2838 lacs for funding under NLCPR assistance. Government of Assam have requested Planning Commission for approval and release of funds of Rs. 2838 lacs as per the CEA's recommendation.

(d) The project is estimated to be completed in 18 months after award of work.

LPG Connection in Karnataka

4240. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG connections provided by various oil companies in different districts of Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the oil companies preserve the right to transfer the registered LPG consumers with some agency to another agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities being committed by LPG agencies in the State;

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

(f) the names of the places where the proposal/applications regarding opening LPG agencies have been received by the Government and the action plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH

KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The number of LPG connections issued by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the State of Karnataka during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Figure in lakhs
2000-2001	3.84
2001-2002	3.86
2002-2003	3.59

(b) and (c) OMCs are empowered to carry out restructuring of markets on the basis of viability norms for different markets.

(d) and (e) During last year, OMCs have taken action against 4 LPG distributors found involved in malpractices in Karnataka.

(f) Consequent upon the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), OMCs will set up the LPG distributorships as per their commercial consideration in all the States. However, OMCs have 54 locations pending for commissioning in Karnataka which were planned in previous marketing plans approved by Government.

Bomb Blast in Ladies Compartment in Local Train in Mumbai

4241. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a bomb blast in the first class ladies compartment of a local train in Mumbai on the night of March 13, 2003;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of passengers including railwaymen killed and injured in this bomb blast;
- (d) the loss of property suffered by the Railways;
- (e) the compensation so far paid and to be paid to rail passengers killed/injured as a result of the bomb blast;
- (f) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;
- (g) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (h) the step taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such type of incident in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was a bomb blast in Train No. S-31 (EMU-Sub-urban Local train) near Mulund Railway Station in Mumbai on 13.3.2003.

(c) 11 passengers were killed and 71 passengers including one Railway servant were injured in this blast.

(d) The total loss of property suffered by the Railways is approximately Rs. 15 lakhs.

(e) An ex-gratia payment of Rs. 15,000/- each to the next of kin of dead and Rs. 5,000/- each to grievously injured and Rs. 5,000/- to persons with simple injury, was made.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. Statuary inquiry is being conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety, Central Circle, Mumbai.

(h) Though maintenance of law and order and control of crime on Railways including running trains is the responsibility of the State Governments, the Railway Administration has taken the following steps to supplement the efforts of the State Governments :-

1. Anti-social elements are removed from Railway premises and trains by RPF.

2. Announcements through Public Address system and CCTV are made at important Railway Stations to alert the travelling passengers against unidentified objects and suspicious objects.
3. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is being done at all levels.
4. Joint Strategies for dealing with anti-social elements operating on Railways have been chalked out by the GRP and RPF.
5. RPF sniffer dogs, wherever available, are being deployed at Railway platforms, yards etc. to sniff out explosive substances.

Gauge Conversion between Tezpur and Rangiya

4242. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether North Assam Chamber of Commerce & Industry has demanded for gauge conversion between Tezpur and Rangiya through a recent memorandum submitted to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the extent to which the cost has been escalated since the project was initiated; and

(d) the steps taken by the Railways for implementation of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) A memorandum dated 09-04-2001 from North Assam Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Tezpur was received for taking up gauge conversion of Rangiya-Bhalukpong/Tezpur.

(c) The surveys for the sections were done in two parts :-

- (i) Gauge conversion from Rangiya to Bhalukpong in 1998-99 and the cost was assessed as Rs. 300.78 crore.
- (ii) Gauge conversion of Balipara-Murkongselek and Rangapara North to Tezpur in 2000-01 and the cost was assessed as Rs. 570.59 crore.

The surveys have recently been updated as one project and the updated cost works out to Rs. 1036.51 crore.

(d) The proposal of gauge conversion of Rangiya-Murkongselek, Rangapara North-Tezpur and Balipara-Bhalukpong has been processed for necessary approvals. The work would be taken up as and when the requisite clearances are received and the project is included in the Budget.

Guidelines for Selection of Programmes

4243. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any prescribed norms/system for the selection of programmes to be telecast and broadcast by Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the guidelines issued for the selection of programmes in this regard;

(d) whether some changes are contemplated by the Government to make existing system transparent and corruptions free; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that there are guidelines for the selection of programmes for broadcast/telecast of programmes by AIR and Doordarshan. These guidelines are available on the website of Doordarshan and AIR.

(d) and (e) Prasar Bharati is a statutory autonomous organization and enjoys autonomy in programme matters. Government has no role to play in this regard. Prasar Bharati has informed that the guidelines were revised in 2002, in order to bring more transparency, objectivity and fairness in the system.

Modernisation of Parcel Booking System

4244. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railways have a proposal to modernise their parcel booking system at all railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this process will start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, booking of Parcel traffic at Delhi, New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway stations of Northern Railway and Howrah station of Eastern Railway has been computerised. Further, the rate structure for booking of parcel and luggage traffic has been simplified and rationalised. All types of commodities, including luggage, will now be charged uniformly at the same rate, under four scales, depending on the type of service selected by the customer. The concept of running Parcel Express trains on scheduled time tabled path has been introduced.

(c) The modernisation of facilities on Railways including Parcel Booking systems is an on-going process, depending upon the necessity and availability of funds.

Incidents on Without Tickets

4245. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of travelling without tickets have been increasing in some routes;

(b) if so, the routes/trains identified where such incidents are on the increase; and

(c) the steps taken to check ticketless travelling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Train-wise and route-wise figures of ticketless travel are not maintained.

(c) Regular and surprise checks are conducted frequently to check ticketless/irregular travel in association with Railway Magistrates and Police. In addition, the Zonal Railways also conduct special types of checks on specific dates and periods at various places and sections prone to ticketless travel. Travelling public are educated through various media about the perils of ticketless travel.

Gas Pipeline from Turkmenistan to India

4246. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI ADITYA NATH YOGI :

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

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

(a) whether the proposal to lay a gas pipeline between Turkmenistan and India via Afghanistan and Pakistan was under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken to consider the above proposal; and

(c) the present position with regard to the implementation of the above proposal?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Requirement of LPG in Jharkhand

4247. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated monthly requirement of LPG in the various districts of Jharkhand at present;

(b) the details of supply position and steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of LPG in those districts;

(c) whether the rural areas of Jharkhand are being neglected in the case of supply of LPG;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The present monthly requirement of LPG of registered consumers with Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the State of Jharkhand is 6,041.5 Metric Tonne(MT). OMSs have met the requirement of consumers by and large in full, in the State.

(c) to (e) LPG connections are available on demand throughout the country in all the existing markets. OMCs have also started marketing of 5 kg cylinders in certain areas for rural low income group customers in Jharkhand.

[English]

Lifting of Ban on Oil Companies for Setting up Petrol Pumps

4248. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has lifted the ban on, State-owned oil companies from setting up petrol pumps and LPG agencies;

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

(c) whether the marketing heads of oil PSUs have been asked to submit the guidelines to the ministry before they are implemented;

(d) if so, the steps the Government proposed to take to see that the reservation of weaker sections, freedom fighter and widows is adhered to; and

(e) the details of other conditions imposed on these dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Consequent upon the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, the selection of dealers/distributors for retail outlets (petrol pumps) and LPG distributorships at different locations in the country, will be made by the oil marketing companies (OMCs) themselves as per the guidelines to be adopted by them. Preliminary action like selection of suitable sites for setting up of retail outlets/LPG distributorships, etc., has been initiated by the OMCs.

Development of NCES in Andhra Pradesh

4249. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any specific Action Plan for the development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any projects have been identified and sanctioned so far during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Ministry does not formulate State-wise Action Plans for the development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

(b) and (c) Details of achievements under various non-conventional energy programmes during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh are in the statement attached.

Statement

Details of achievements under various non-conventional programmes during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh

Sl.No	Name of programme	Achievements
1.	Wind Power (MW)	4.50
2.	Solar Photovoltaic Power (kW)	275.00
3.	Small Hydro Power (MW)	48.90
4.	Biomass Power (MW)	148.05
5.	Biomass Gasifier (kW)	1750.00
6.	Urban & Industrial Waste (MW)	4.25
7.	Biogas Plants (nos.)	51.201
8.	Community/Institutional/Night-soil-based biogas plants (nos.)	10
9.	Improved chulhas (nos. in lakh)	3.07
10.	Solar Photovoltaic pumps (nos.)	38
11.	Solar Photovoltaic windmills (nos.)	03
12.	Sloar Cooker (nos.)	168
13.	Solar Photovoltaics (nos.)	
	(i) Street lighting systems	402
	(ii) Home lighting systems	176
	(iii) Solar lanterns	17751

MW = Megaawatt, kW = Kilowatt.

Improper storage and inferior packing of Ammunition

4250. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note that Ammunition Depot at Dappar has covered accommodation for 12,000 tonnes of ammunition only against which 35,000 tonnes were held;

(b) whether 5,182 rounds of 30 mm ammunition valued at Rs. 1.16 crores were declared unserviceable due to improper storage and inferior packing;

(c) whether the government have equired the causes leading to wastage of 5,182 rounds of 30 mm ammunition valued Rs. 1.16 crores and fixed responsibility of the persons responsible for such loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/ proposed to be taken against the persons responsible for improper storage and inferior packing; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Defence, however, has approved projects for construction of additional storage accommodation at Ammunition Depot Dappar for 25200 MT during the year 2002-2003. After completion of the project the depot will have a total of 37200 MT (12000 MT + 25200 MT) covered storage accommodation.

(b) Out of 78983 rounds of 30 millimeter ammunition issued by Ammunition Depot Dappar, 5158 rounds issued to six Army units were declared unserviceable between the years 1995 to 2000. The ammunition was stored at depot on plinths covered with tarpaulins as per the laid down norms due to paucity of covered storage accommodation. The downgradation of ammunition was not due to improper storage or inferior packing.

(c) to (e) In view of the reply at (b) above the question does not arise.

[Translation]

National Commission for SC/ST

4251. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been given powers to decide the cases like harassment and oppression of the SC/ST Government officials in service related matters;

(b) if so, the nature of powers given to the commission in this regard; and

(c) the Ministry-wise and department-wise number of cases relating to harassment/oppression received by the Commission during the last three years, and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir. One of the duties of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is to inquire into specific complaints made by the SC/ST government officials about the harassment and oppression in service-related matters. After verification of the facts it can arrive at a conclusion and advice the concerned.

(b) However, under Article 338 of the Constitution, National Commission for Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes has been given powers under clause 5 (b) to enquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation and safeguards and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) During the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 cases to the tune of 431,278 and 278 and 174 respectively were received and dealt with for rendering justice to SC/ST employees as admissible under the rule in force.

[English]

Rescue to Srilanka in Wake of Oil Crisis

4252. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has agreed to rescue Srilanka in case of oil crisis during war;

(b) if so, to what extent the Government will meet Srilanka's demand; and

(c) the Government's position in regard to meeting indigenous requirement vis-a-vis rescuing Srilanka?

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

(b) and (c) Srilanka's requirements are limited as compared to our indigenous requirements. The Government has made a plan so as to meet both the indigenous as well as Srilanka's requirements in case of oil crisis during the ongoing US-Iraq war.

Transportation of LNG by PSUs

4253. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any global notification has been issued for prequalification of shipowners for transportation of LNG by IOC, IBPCL, ONGCL and GAIL;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the prequalification conditions laid down in the notification;

(c) whether participation of Indian shipping companies in the proposed LNG transportation arrangements has been ruled out at this stage;

(d) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to release the pre-qualification conditions for the Indian companies to participate in the same; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) which is a joint venture company promoted by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGCL), had issued a global notification for pre-

qualification of ship owners and Ship operators in February, 2000 for transportation of LNG from Ras Laffan (Qatar) to its LNG regassification terminals at Dahej (Gujarat) and Cochin (Kerala).

PLL issued global notification for time charter of newly built LNG tankers of 138,000 cubic meters capacity of LNG carriers for shipment of LNG from Ras Gas (Qatar) to Dahej (Gujarat) and Cochin (Kerala) with following pre-qualification criteria.

- (i) Shipowners/operators having an equity ownership in one or more LNG tankers each of capacity not less than 125,000 cu.mt.;
- (ii) Having full experience in operating and managing (both technical management and crewing) one or more LNG tankers each of capacity not less than 125,000 cu.mt.; and
- (iii) LNG tankers(s) operated as per (ii) above by the bidder should have transported minimum 0.65 MMT of LNG under time charter arrangement during each of the years 1997, 1998 and 1999.

In the bidding document it was made obligatory for bidders to associate Indian shipping companies by providing minimum 26% equity participation.

Norms for Setting up of Petrol Pumps

4254. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently revised the guidelines with regard to allotment of Petroleum Dealerships;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these guidelines will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Consequent upon

dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, the selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products are to be made by the oil marketing companies themselves as per the guidelines to be adopted by them.

Scholarship Scheme for SC/ST Students

4255. SHRI RAMSETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the schemes of scholarship to the Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes students at Secondary and Graduation level was introduced by the Government and the amount of annual scholarship fixed;

(b) the actual amount of annual scholarship being paid to the Scheduled Castes students at present under the scholarship scheme;

(c) whether the amount of scholarship paid by the Government is equal in all the States and the Union Territories; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for SC Students was launched in 1944. The scheme was extended to Scheduled Tribes in 1948-49. As per records available in the Ministry, the maintenance allowance, after first revision in 1954, varied from Rs. 27 per month for day scholars and Rs. 40 per month for hostellers for under graduate course to Rs. 60 per month for day scholars and Rs. 75 for hostellers in professional degree courses in Engineering and Medicine.

(b) The details of amount of scholarship being made available under the scheme at present is given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) The scheme is applicable uniformly to all States/UTs and the rates of scholarships admissible for

Central assistance under the scheme are uniform in all States and Union Territories. However, some State Governments pay higher rate of scholarships to the students out of their own resources.

Statement

Value of Scholarship under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to Students belonging to SCs and STs

(I) Maintenance allowance:-

The details of maintenance allowance rates, as applicable w.e.f. 1.10.95, are given below :-

Group	(Rates in Rs. per Month)	
	Hostellers	Day Scholars
A	425	190
B	290	190
C	290	190
D	230	120
E	150	90

Details of courses under Groups A to E

Groups of Courses	Courses in brief
1	2
'A'	Degree and Post Graduation level courses in Medical (including B.A M & S. etc.) Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Fisheries etc.
'B'	Diploma level courses in Medical, Engg. etc. Commercial Pilot Licence course, Degree and Post Graduation levels courses in Business Admn., Nursing/Pharmacy etc. Post graduate

1	2
	courses in Science subjects. Other diploma courses in professional and technical subjects.
C	Certificate courses in Engg./Technology etc. Diploma courses in Agriculture, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Fisheries, Dairy development etc. Degree/Post-graduate and Diploma courses in Teacher's Training, Library Science, Physical Education etc. Post-Graduate courses in Arts and Commerce subjects.
'D'	General courses upto Graduate level (2nd year and onwards).
'E'	Classes XI and XII in 10+2 system. Intermediate courses and first year of general courses upto graduate level.

(II) Other Charges

In addition, the scheme provides for reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fee charged by the institution, study tour charges upto Rs. 500/- per annum to students pursuing professional & technical courses, book grant of Rs. 500/- per annum for students pursuing studies through correspondence courses, thesis typing charge; additional allowances like Reader Allowance, Transport Allowance, Escort Allowance etc. for SC students with disabilities etc.

Safety in South Central Railway

4256. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether South Central Railway has been adjudged the most un-safe railway zone in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether railways have noticed a lower degree of efficiency in accident relief in South Central Railway; and

(d) if so, the steps likely to be taken to improve the overall record of railways with regard to safety?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Trains at Phusro Railway Station, Giridih

4257. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received to provide stoppage to Bhopal-Howrah Express plying twice a week at Phusro railway station in Giridih. Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide stoppage to the said train at Phusro Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the General discussion of Railway Budget 2003-2004 in Lok Sabha on 04.03.2003. Shri R.K. Pandey. MP has requested for the stoppage of 3025/3026 Howrah-Bhopal Express (weekly) at Phusro. This has been examined but found feasible at present for lack of commercial justification.

[English]

Modernisation of Ordnance Depots

4258. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake modernisation of all the seven Central Ordnance Depots in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether experts have suggested modernisation thereof;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and concrete measures taken so far;
- (e) whether sufficient funds have been allocated for the purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (f) Government of India have decided to modernise all the seven Central Ordnance Depots located at Agra, Mumbai, Chheoki, Delhi Cantonment, Dehu Road, Jabalpur and Kanpur in a phased manner. However, to begin with modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur involving an expenditure of Rs. 187 crores approximately has been taken up. This project would be completed by December 2003. A sum of Rs. 41 crores has been released up to the financial year 2002-2003 for the modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur. During the 10th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to take up the modernisation of three more Central Ordnance Depots at Agra, Jabalpur and Delhi Cantonment at an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crores each.

Unauthorised Absence of Employees of DD/AIR

4259. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have provided financial assistance to Prasar Bharati Corporation;
- (b) if so, the details and the justification for allocating huge amount to Prasar Bharati Corporation;
- (c) whether the Government are aware about unauthorised absence of employees/officers of Ministry including AIR/DD who went abroad for earning money without prior permission from the competent authorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons and the number of employees/officers have gone abroad during last three years and till date;

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

(f) whether the employees of AIR/DD are contributing their artistic talents to private media and not contributing to DD/AIR; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Vidyut Vyapar Nigam into Power Trading

4260. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN GWAISI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NTPC has set up a Vidyut Vyapar Nigam for foraying into the Power Trading;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main aim behind setting up of this corporation;

(d) the details of the strategy chalked out by the Government for bringing low cost electricity to the States;

(e) the States which are likely to be benefited by this step of NTPC; and

(f) the time by which low cost electricity is likely to be supplied to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (f) The National Vidyut Vyaper Nigam Limited (NVVN) has been set up on 1.11.2002 as a wholly owned subsidiary of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). NVVN has

received Certificate of Commencement of business on 26.11.2002. NVVN has been set up with the objective of trading in power. The strategy of NTPC envisages that power trading will enable better utilization of generation and transmission capacities and with competition result in lowering of power cost in long run. The states which have surplus power as well as deficit can benefit mutually using the services of NVVN.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Railway Stations

4261. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway stations modernised in the country, particularly in Maharashtra and in Tribal areas during the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated for this purpose, particularly to Western Railway, Station-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there is acute shortage of water at Railway Stations in Gujarat, particularly in Tribal areas and the quality of water is also low;

(d) if so, whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct any survey in this regard in the country, particularly in Western Railway;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for modernisation of Railway Stations and providing drinking water to passengers at railway stations, particularly in Tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) There are more than 8000 Railway stations on Indian Railways. Upgradation/renovation/modernisation of Railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken every year in accordance with the laid down norms based on traffic growth and inter-se priorities.

Further, the Railway-wise list (State-wise list is not maintained) of major On-going Works and New Works under Plan Head "Passenger Amenities" is given in the "Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme of Railways, Part-II" presented annually to the Parliament alongwith the Budget Documents. Such works are financed from the provision made to the Zonal Railways under the Plan Head "Passenger Amenities". The funds allotted to Western Railway under this Planhead were Rs. 20.28 crore, Rs. 19.54 crore and Rs. 23.75 crore during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively.

(c) to (f) The general availability of water in the tribal areas of Gujarat is satisfactory. However, there may be occasional short supplies because of electrical load shedding by State Electricity Board, short supply of water by Municipalities, equipment breakdowns, etc.

Drinking water, supplied at all Railway stations in Gujarat, is potable water. At all stations, water is supplied from either Railways' own sources or from outside sources like municipality, etc. after chlorination to ensure that drinking water is safe. Also, requirement vis-a-vis availability of water at various stations is reviewed every year ahead of the summer season and necessary action taken to ensure adequate supply of water.

[English]

ONGC Pricing Agreement with BPCL

4262. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has decided to sign a pricing agreement with BPCL for supply of crude oil at import parity price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar agreements have already been signed by ONGC with other oil companies;

(d) if so, the details of these agreements;

(e) whether ONGC has also invited tenders from Indian Refiners for sale of crude oil beyond the planned production during this fiscal year;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the amount earmarked by ONGC for enhancing oil production from its key fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) ONGC has signed an MOU with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for supply of crude oil for the period 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2004. Important terms of the MOU signed by ONGC with IOCL for the sale of crude oil are given in the statement attached ONGC is yet to sign the MOU with BPCL.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) The total amount approved for 16 projects for enhancing production from the key fields of ONGC is Rs. 10,972 crore under IOR/EOR Programme. The projects which include the redevelopment of Mumbai High are in various stage of development. In addition to the IOR Programme in major fields. ONGC has also initiated fast track development of new discoveries in the Offshore. The total cost of three projects taken up in this regard is Rs. 1,725 crore.

Statement

Important Terms of the MOU Signed by ONGC with IOCL for Sale of Crude Oil

1. ONGC's crudes have been benchmarked to Nigerian sweet crude namely Bonny Light. FOB component of price of ONGC crude is determined considering the price of Bonny Light crude oil and difference in the product worth of Bonny Light and ONGC's crudes.
2. In respect of offshore crude, ONGC and IOC have agreed to share the taxes and duties, like customs

duty, which is payable on import of crude and sales tax which is payable on sale of crude within the country.

3. In respect of offshore crude, IOC would also pay notional freight from Bonny Terminal in Nigeria to Vadinar or from Tapis Terminal in Malaysia to Chennai for crude delivered at Vadinar and Chennai respectively. ONGC has agreed to reimburse actual freight cost from Mumbai to Vadinar or Chennai, as the case may be.
4. In respect of onshore crude of Gujarat and Cauvery, IOC would pay the FOB price component, as stated in para 1 above, and applicable sales tax and pipeline charges.
5. A discount of US\$0.75/bbl has also been agreed for North Gujarat crude.
6. In respect of Assam crude, IOC would pay in addition to the FOB price component, as stated in para 1 above, sales tax and crude pipeline charges to ONGC only if the aforesaid FOB price component is less than an agreed FOB price. Based on the international crude price during the year 2002-03, ONGC gets only the FOB price for Assam crude.

[Translation]

Unhygienic Food to Passengers in Purushottam Express

4263. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that in various passenger trains in the country, low quality and unhygienic food/edibles are being provided to the passengers by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the regions from where complaints have been received in this regard during the last three years and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government have got information about insects found in food served in Purushottam Express;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon against the contractors; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Information regarding complaints on low quality and unhygienic food/edibles is being collected and compiled.

(c) There was a news item in Dainik Jagran, Delhi Edition on 18.02.2003.

(d) The contractor has been imposed a fine of Rs. 10,000/-.

(e) In order to avoid such complaints, number of surprise checks will be intensified besides monitoring of catering services through inspections carried out at the level of Inspectors/Officers.

**Statement to be Laid on the Table
of the Lok Sabha**

In the reply to the part (c) to (f) of the Unstarred Question No. 1633 for 27.2.2003 asked by Shri P.D. Elangovan, M.P. regarding Schemes to Cater Needs of Physically Handicapped Persons, the details of the amount disbursed by National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFD) which is shown as "Rs. in Crores", may please be read as "Rs. in lakh". A copy of the corrected reply to Part (c) to (f) of the question is enclosed.

(Dr. SANJAY PASWAN)

Minister of State in the

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

(c) to (f) The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 mandates appropriate Governments and local Authorities to frame schemes in favour of persons with disabilities for the preferential allotment of land at concessional rates, interalia, for setting up business and

establishment of factories by entrepreneurs with disabilities. The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation set up in 1997 provides loans to persons with 40% or above disability for setting up small business in service or trading sector, small industrial units, manufacturing/production unit of assistive devices for disabled persons and also for agricultural activities etc. The details of the amount disbursed including that for micro-lending activities of NHFED in the last 3 years is as under :

(Amount Rs. in Lakh)

Year	Disbursed
1999-00	576.02
2000-01	1,180.87
2001-02	1,284.32

No scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment to promote industrial projects for the handicapped persons in the country.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN) JATIYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Protection of civil Rights Act, 1955 for the year 2001 under sub-section (4) of section 15A of the said Act.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. Lt. 7308/03]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, Shri M. Kannappan:

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Where is the hon. Minister? His paper is to be laid on the Table of the House have been present or he should have authorised somebody else.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, this is how this House is being treated. This is how the Government is treating the House. The Ministers put their name, but they do not come to the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the notice be taken by the Government that the Ministers must remain present in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is here.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Sir, the Minister does not recognise his own name!

MR. SPEAKER : I will not announce the name three times.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of

the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Renewable energy Development Agency Limited and the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7309/03]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : On behalf of Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Energy Management Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the government of the working of the Energy Management Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7310/03]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Visually handicapped, Dehradun, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun, 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. 7311/03]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7312/03]

12.02 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL
AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the

following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2003 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th April, 2003."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill, 2003, as passed by Rajya Sabha on 8th April, 2003.

12.02½ hrs.

[English]

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the following eight Bills passed by the House of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on 18th February, 2003:-

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2003;
2. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2003;
3. The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2003;
4. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 21 Bill, 2003;
5. The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 2003;
6. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2003;
7. The Appropriation Bill 2003; and
8. The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2003.

12.03 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CIVIL
SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

Twenty First and Twenty Second Reports

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution:-

- (1) Twenty-first Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Food and Public Distribution (Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution).
- (2) Twenty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Consumer Affairs (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution).

12.03-1/2 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

Forty-Ninth Report

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I beg to lay on the Table the Forty ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Information Technology on Demands for grants (2003-2004) relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

12.04 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND
WELFARE**

Thirtieth to Thirty Second Reports

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa) : Sir, I beg to

lay on the Table copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare:-

- (1) Thirtieth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (2) Thirty-first Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (3) Thirty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Labour.

12.04½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

Thirteen Report

[Translation]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I beg to lay on the Table the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Railways on Demands for Grants (2003-04) of the Ministry of Railways.

12.05 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

Reports

[English]

DR MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the hundred-twenty fifth, Hundred-twenty sixth, Hundred-twenty seventh, Hundred-twenty eighth, Hundred-twenty ninth, Hundred-thirtieth, Hundred-thirty first Action Taken Reports of the Standing Committee on Human

[Dr. Manda Jagannath]

Resource Development on Action Taken by the Departments of Health, Family Welfare, Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy, Elementary Education and Literacy, Secondary and Higher Education, women and Child Development and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports on the recommendations/observations contained in the 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd Reports on Demands for Grants (2002-2003) of the Committee, respectively, as well as a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the Hundred-thirty second, Hundred-thirty third and Hundred-thirty fourth Action Taken Reports on Action Taken by the Departments of Elementary Education and Literacy, Health and Secondary and Higher Education on the recommendations/observations contained in the 114th, 112th and 113th Reports of the Committee relating to Implementation of Elementary Education Schemes, Medical Education and Technical Education respectively.

12.05½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TOURISM AND CULTURE

Sixty Sixth and Sixty Seventh Reports

[Translation]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Manglore) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture :—

- (1) Sixty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants 2003-2004 of Department of Tourism; and
- (2) Sixty-seventh Report on Demands for Grants 2003-2004 of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

12.06 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA) : With your permission Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 21st April, 2003 will consist of.

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
2. Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2003-04 on 21.4.2003.
3. Introduction, consideration and passing of the Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 2003
4. Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants for 2003-04 of following Ministries :—
 - (i) Labour
 - (ii) External Affairs
 - (iii) Defence
 - (iv) Youth Affairs & Sports
5. Submission to the Vote of the House outstanding Demands for Grants for 2003-04 on 25.4.2003 at 12.00 noon and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill.
6. Consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, 2003.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Natural rubber grown by farmers, like any other agriculture or plantation crop, is a pure agricultural produce. For agricultural produce the import duty can be raised up to 300 per cent as per WTO norms. For natural rubber, which is sold by farmers as smoked sheets, the import duty is fixed with higher limit at 25 percent. This will harm the farmers as indiscriminate import will take place. The Government should take up this matter with WTO and get the maximum limit of import duty on natural rubber lifted, and hike it to at least 150 per cent.
2. Women self-help groups are doing very well in the field of women empowerment in Kerala, every Panchayat now has several such groups engaged in self-employment, social service and development. The Centre should concentrate on them and spend more funds through them so that funds for development, employment and welfare reach the grassroots.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Keeping in view the importance of Ajmer from historical, religious, educational and tourism points of view there is a need to provide Programme production facilities (studio etc.) at Doordarshan and Akashwani Kendra of Ajmer rather than merely allow them to continue their limited function as relay centres.
 2. Need to make the Pushkar Sarovar free of pollution and preserve its sanctity by distilling the same particularly in view of the fact that the religious sentiments of lakhs of people are attached to it.
- _____

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDER KUMAR PANDEY (Girdih) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. There is a need to protect the local people and the employees of the Coal industries from diseases caused due to water pollution in coal belts particularly belonging to the CCL and the BCCL. The Government should pass necessary instructions to the management of concerned companies to check water pollution and ensure the availability of pure water in adequate quantity. The government should also conduct inquiry in this regard.
 2. There is a dire need to check widespread irregularities in the sale of scrap in the Bokaro Steel Plants, stop neglect of traders and keeping out many traders by enhancing the prices of the items produced manufactured in the plant within a few months while conduct an enquiry into the matter of giving preferential treatment to some traders by the management.
- _____

12.11 hrs.

MOTION RE: FORTY EIGHTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move:-

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee Presented to the House on 9th April, 2003."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee Presented to the House on 9th April, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, a development has taken place only 20 minutes ago...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I am ready to permit you. I have not said that I am not ready to permit you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please cooperate.

(Interruptions)

[English]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, what about the DDA scam?...*(Interruptions)*... It is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*... We have given a notice on DDA scam. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Delhi is on sale...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the C.B.I. has arrested four Councillors of the Congress Party red handed taking bribes... *(Interruptions)*...have been arrested by the CBI...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed this issue to be taken in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I am permitting to raise your issues in the House.

(Interruptions)

As you are all aware, there are holidays for about a week. Before that, I am really interested if we are able to take up all the issues that are before us to be raised in 'Zero Hour'. So, if you all cooperate with me, a number of issues would be taken up. But if you do not cooperate, only one or two issues would be taken up, and thereafter the House may have to be adjourned.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The BJP and the DDA are hand in gloves in Delhi...*(Interruptions)* Something wrong is going on...*(Interruptions)*. There should be CBI enquiry into the matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have the notice in my hand. I shall allow you to speak. I know that the issue of potato is very important. I have with me notices on several other important subjects. You cannot hold the potato in your hands and demonstrate it to the House in this manner. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

So, may I request all the hon. Members to please cooperate. Considering the importance of every issue that is to be raised, let me go according to the serial number of the notices and allow the hon. Members to raise their issues.

MR. SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, this is not fair. Please remove them.

I assure you that I would take up the issues of all the Members who have given notices. But you have to cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I am warning you the second time. You are not allowed to bring any commodity in the House. Your leader has also instructed you in this regard. If you do not want to listen, don't listen, but this is not fair.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep them away.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the potato growers are dying. They are committing suicide...(Interruptions). There cannot be anything more serious than this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All have seen the potato. Everybody is aware of it. Why are you holding a piece of potato in your hand?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, I am sorry. You are not following the discipline of the House. You will make injustice to your own issue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers are lying. They are committing suicide...(Interruptions) I would like to request you...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You first keep aside the potato. Then I shall allow you to speak. I shall give you a chance later.

(Interruptions)

12.15 hrs.

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS

Re: Delay in holding elections to the cantonment boards in the country

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : I am grateful to you for allowing me to raise this important issue(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House. You must all observe discipline. I am not expected to tell you again and again. This is not a school; this is Parliament, the supreme body of the country. I do not like you to behave childish in the House.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, the election to the Cantonments in Indian under the Cantonment Board Act would have taken place some time back, maybe one-and-a-half years back. But the elections had not taken place. The Cantonment Boards which are now in existence in the cantonment areas do not have the representatives of the inhabitants in the cantonment areas. So, they do not function as democratic bodies. The Act was made to see that the Cantonment Boards function as democratic bodies also.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition had written to the Prime Minister bringing this fact to the notice of the Government, that the election to the cantonments should take place in time. Now it seems that the Government is taking a stand that it wants to amend the Cantonment Board Act and after the amendments are made, it would like to hold the elections under the amended Act. In fact, if the Act was to be amended, they could have amended

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

the Act long before the time for holding elections had arrived. It had not done that; even after that, for more than two years, they had not taken steps to see that the Act is amended.

Now, we have a situation in which there is a Commandant of the cantonment area; there is one officer sitting there; one person who is a non-military man representing the people in the area has to be nominated on the Board, a Special Board and that Special Board has to look after the requirements of the cantonment area. It is suggested in the Act itself that the nomination of a non-military person should be done in consultation with the Commandant of that cantonment so that the person who really takes interest and who is suited to function as a member of the Board, will be nominated. But it seems – we have information and if our information is not correct, the Government can explain to us the real position – that the Government is nominating persons on the Board without consulting the Commandants.

If decisions are taken from Delhi and persons are nominated on the Board, not on the basis of suitability of the person, but on the basis of his being a member of a particular party and especially the Ruling Party, that is not really a correct thing to do.

So, we are urging and we are asking the Government to amend the law without any delay. We are also asking the Government to nominate members after consulting the Commandant of the cantonment area. We are also asking the Government – for any reason, if it is not possible for the Government to amend the Act immediately – to hold elections under the existing law; and after the Act is amended, the next election could be held under the amended law.

This is a situation which cannot be easily discussed outside the House because it is a military matter and this matter relates to the cantonment. So, a letter was written by my leader, and we spoke to the persons concerned also. When this matter is not being looked into in a proper

manner in which it should have been looked into, we thought it proper to bring it to your notice and to the notice of the House. We expect the Government to respond to what we said on the floor of the House, and also take appropriate action.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully agree with Shivraj Patilji that the elections for all cantonments should be held in time and at the earliest where they are over due. The democratic process is not over there. If there is a need to make amendments in a Act, then that should be done. The directions should not be held up on that account. The major part of the Budget Session is yet to be over. It would be better if suitable amendments in the Act are carried out. If all parties agree, we can go for the amendments. If there is any problem, the Government can bring an ordinance to hold the elections soon. This is my opinion. We should not delay it any further.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall take up the matter raised by Shri Shivraj Patilji and Vijay Kumar Malhotraji with the concerned Ministry.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may please sit down. Your issue will take a little more time. So we shall take up that later. His matter is also important.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to say something on such an important issue.

MR. SPEAKER : You may please sit down. I shall give you full time. I shall give time to all the Members. You all please sit down.

[English]

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Home Minister and demand a statement from him on the following points.

From 2nd March onwards, continuous fight is going on between Dimasa and the Hmar extremists. It began in N.C. Hills where DHD militants attacked Hmar villagers, killing, injuring and abducting many persons. In retaliation, the Hmar militants counter attacked the Dimasa people living in the isolated pockets of my parliamentary constituency, Silchar. These attacks led to the killings of more than thirty people and rendering thousands of people homeless.

Tea gardens of Barak Valley are located in isolated pockets in the foot hills of surrounding mountains. These are soft targets of different militant groups. Large number of Tea executives are abducted from time to time by these militants and they demand huge price as ransom, as cost of their release. This has created a serious crisis in the Tea Estates affecting the economy of the area.

This alarming situation has developed due to the void created in the security cover as a result of the withdrawal of large number of paramilitary forces from the extremist affected areas. The figure of the paramilitary forces deployed there will reveal the actual picture.

The Assam Government is seriously trying to cope up with the situation but the minimum strength of armed police force, who are having obsolete weapons, cannot match the sophisticated weapons of the insurgent group. Moreover, the terrain of the area of operation is very difficult to manage.

Consequent upon the above situation, large number of innocent people living in remote areas became panicked due to inadequate security cover. They have now taken shelter in different camps established by the Assam Government.

In the face of the above situation, I draw the attention

of the Home Minister and would like to know the steps he is contemplating to provide food and security to the affected people. I consider that a team of counter insurgency experts should be sent to my constituency to take stock of the whole situation. This is to be followed by the posting of sufficient number of paramilitary forces and Army in all the isolated pockets to nab the culprits because I apprehend civil strife between different ethnic groups may become unmanageable very shortly.

Further, it is known to all that so far no insurgent group from any ethnic community has emerged in the Cachar districts but it has become a safe sanctuary for the insurgent groups of neighbouring States. The ethnic conflict between different groups is alarmingly spreading to Cachar due to lack of adequate security cover. Previously, there was some BOP in the Border areas but its withdrawal has given scope to the extremists. It should be restored. Of late, the NH-44 as also the Rail connection with outside areas was safe routes but now they have also become targets of the extremist attack. I request the Minister to take care of the whole thing. Thank you

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (Cuddalore) : Sir, in Chennai, Queen Mary Women College is a famous girls' college which is a monument of great architecture. The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to demolish that building. All the girl students of that college have resorted to strike. They are on strike even in the night. The students are not permitted to enter the classrooms. The High Court has also passed a stay order not to demolish that college...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is a State subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : No, Sir, it is not a State subject. The students of the college are not permitted to enter the classroom. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete. Let me know what he has to say I am not permitting him to raise other matters

excepting the attack on the MP. I would like to know about the MP who was arrested.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, it is a 150 years old women college and is a famous monument of great architecture. It is a symbol of women education in Chennai. The AIADMK Government has decided to demolish that building. All the women students are agitating outside the college building. All the Opposition Party Leaders have given moral support to the students.

MR. SPEAKER : Such issues can be raised in the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, the students are not being allowed to go the classes...*(Interruptions)*

Yesterday mid-night, our Youth Wing Leader, Shri M.K. Stalin was arrested without any reasonable ground...*(Interruptions)*. All the Opposition MLAs were also arrested without any reason. We want to give moral support to the students as well as to our Youth Wing Leader, Shri M.K. Stalin. The Police forces broke open the doors and trespassed the residence of Shri Stalin and arrested him in the mid-night. Our Member of Parliament, Shri Vetriselvan was also arrested....*(Interruptions)*. Madam Sonia, your MLAs have also been arrested....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will permit Dr. V. Saroja to speak. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : My submission is exactly on the same subject....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : Sir, all the Opposition MLAs belonging to Congress Party, CPI, CPI(M), and DMK have been arrested...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem) : Sir, they cannot raise this matter here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have been good Members of this House. You have raised the issue. The notice has been taken by the concerned Minister. The Minister can consider whether the report of the Tamil Nadu Government should be asked for. Let me tell you that the normal procedure has been that we do not permit the State subjects to be raised here. But since, as you have mentioned to me that all the Opposition MLAs of the Assembly have been arrested, I allowed you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me complete. Over and above, you have also mentioned that a Member of Parliament has also been arrested. Therefore, if the Government thinks proper, it can always ask for the report on the incident. After the report comes from the State Government, then only the matter can be decided.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is speaking on the same issue. I am going to allow Dr. V. Saroja also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission. This is not an ordinary matter. If the building is 150 years old...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Sir, it is not 150 years old....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Chandra Shekhar to speak. Dr. V. Saroja will also be allowed to speak. If any submission is not acceptable to you, you can refute it. But you can do it after his statement.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this building is 150 years old, it is the responsibility of the

Government of India and this Parliament to protect that building. I do not know about the other matter. On that matter, there may be controversy. Sir, but on this issue, I would very humbly disagree with you that this is a matter which cannot be raised here....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Sir, this building is not a archaeological building...*(Interruptions)*. There is no violation.

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to permit her. She can refute this charge.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to bring to the attention of this House the assassination of the democracy that is taking place in Tamil Nadu. Every single MLA of the Congress Legislature Party in Tamil Nadu has been arrested....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Saroja will be allowed to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, they have the right to speak when they are called....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : After his remarks are over, I will immediately allow Dr. Saroja to speak.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Every single Member of the Congress Legislature Party in Tamil Nadu, each one of whom who has been elected in exactly the same way as the Members of the ruling party, has been arrested. What for? It is for sitting in *dhama*. It is part of our Constitution and a fundamental right to express ourselves. In view of this violation of the Constitution, it is the duty of the Government of India to protect the Constitution when it is being violated in a State....*(Interruptions)* We should call for a statement from the Government of India regarding the assassination of democracy and violation of the Constitution there....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, Shri P. Mohan is also from Tamil Nadu. Please allow him to speak, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : After Dr. Saroja speaks, I would allow him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow more Members to speak on this issue. I will allow him after she completes. Let her complete.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (Chidambaram) : Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said on the issue. We are very much concerned about it. We do not know whether this is a democratic or an autocratic country. We associate with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : You break the law and you will be spared!...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let the statement of the leader come on record.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : Sir, a case has been registered in Marina Police Station No. 5, Chennai under Section 143, 148 and 506/2...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted her to speak and she should speak now. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may not agree with her. But she has her point of view and she is allowed to speak. She has every right to express her views. We are in a democratic country. You must have patience to listen to her also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask the Minister to say something on this issue if at all he wants to say something on this.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA : Sir, let me speak....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : May I request the Members of her Party not to disturb her when she is speaking? I want her speech also to be brought on record. Please co-operate and let her complete.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA : Sir, Shri Stalin alongwith four other MLAs from Chennai were arrested on the midnight of 9th April, 2003 based on the complaint received by the Marina Police Station....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : Who had made the complaint?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot ask such questions.

DR. V. SAROJA : Please hear me. Why are you in a hurry? They have been arrested based on the complaint made by the Principal of the queen Mary's college, Chennai...*(Interruptions)* Please let me speak. Sir, I must be heard.

MR. SPEAKER : You go on speaking and complete your statement.

DR. V. SAROJA : Shri Stalin and other MLAs had gatecrashed, entered the premises of the Women's College threatening the watchman, and disturbing the girl students thus preventing them from preparing for their examinations. At the same time, they have instigated the girl students of that College to take part in the agitation and not allowing them to take up their examinations. Based on the complaint made by the Principal, they have been arrested. This complaint has been informed to the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and under the directions of the hon. Speaker of the Assembly, they have been arrested....*(Interruptions)* Sir, they have not only trespassed the premises of a Women's College by gatecrashing but also disturbed and instigated the girl students there to take part in the agitation and demonstration. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You notice is regarding imposition of VAT.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA : Sir, it is a State subject which cannot be discussed on the floor of this House. On the complaint of trespassing and gatecrashing the Women's College, the MLAs have been arrested. The arrest has been justified. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Since the last four days, Shri Mistry has been trying to bring up his issue before me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After Shri Mistry completes, I will take up the issue of potatoes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Sir, I have give a notice of Adjournment Motion on atrocities of police. I have given two notices, one for an important matter to be raised in the 'Zero Hour' and the other is on Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : I have received that notice. I have not allowed the notice on Adjournment Motion.

(Interruptions)

*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House on the brutal attack on democracy in Tamil Nadu. In the midnight of yesterday Mr. Mu. Ka. Stalin, a popular leader of Tamil Nadu in the political arena has been arrested without any valid reason alongwith Shri Vetri Selvam, a Member of Parliament who belongs to this House. This charge against them is that they went to Queen Mary's College, one of the oldest educational institutions in Chennai the capital of Tamil Nadu in support of students who have resorted to peaceful agitation within the campus for the past one week. All the students and staff members including the erstwhile Principal of the College oppose the move of the

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Tamil Nadu Government to demolish this old building which could be a national monument. Just two days back they replaced the dissenting Principal with a new Principal on whose false allegations arrests are being made there when they have not really trespassed but they were there only to express their support in a democratic manner. All the elected representatives of parties like CPI(M), DMK, PMK, Congress have all been arrested on false charges thwarting democracy.

DR. V. SAROJA : Sir, the College building is 150 years old and is in a dilapidated condition. The Government of Tamil Nadu has taken a decision to construct a new building for the College there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Nothing more should go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No other Member, other than Shri Mistry, will be taken on record. Nothing more than this will be taken on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil)
Where is Shri Pandian?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I am not taking your remarks on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Saroja, I have taken your statement on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mistry wants to raise an important issue. The issue relating to Tamil Nadu is not the only issue which can be discussed here. There are a number of other issues also to be discussed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, what has happened to you? What is wrong with you? He can always come and make you sit. Shri Pandian is not here. Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi will have to do that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is worried about Shri Pandian. What has happened to Shri Pandian? He is not seen here....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pandian is safe and sound. Please sit down. Nothing has happened to him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : I want to draw the attention of this House, among many incidents, to mainly two ghastly incidents that has happened in some parts of the country, including the State of Gujarat. It has a very serious implication on the way the Home Ministry has been functioning.

On 29th of March, the VHP and bajrang Dal workers, on their way from Delhi to Ahmedabad, had thrown out two passengers from the Delhi Mail. This is despite the fact that on 26th of March, when the VHP and Bajrang Dal people came to Delhi to attend a meeting, there was an unruly and rowdy behaviour by them. People were forced to take the name of certain Gods. Not only that, they were beaten up also. I did draw the attention of the Home Minister and the Railway Minister in writing and requested them to provide complete security and *bondobust* in the train when they return to Gujarat. That seemed to have not happened. This incident was reported in the Press. I wanted to know if the Government is trying to cover up the incident.

The second incident which has happened in Gujarat is the killing of ex-Home Minister of Gujarat, Shri Haren Pandya. He was, in fact, killed in broad day light in Gujarat. His body remained unattended for almost two and half hours. Not only that, his father, in fact, has accused the entire administration. He asked the lax administration not

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

to put a chit on the innocent people of Gujarat and then kill them in encounters. These are the incidents which have been raised. They will again do a Godhrawali incident in Gujarat. These incidents have a serious implication on the law and order situation....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pravin Rashtrapal, you can associate your name.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, Shri Mistry rang me up. Practically, I advised him to inform the Home Minister and he did so. A few of those who refused to join the chorus of Jai Shri Ram were physically tortured. Later on, on return, two of them were thrown out of the train.

[Translation]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. The complaint in this regard was lodged with the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani, but no action has been taken. We have also lodge a complaint with the Prime Minister. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : The state whose former Minister of Home Affairs is being referred to by the members as having been killed there, the links of those people have been detected. That is why they are creating this hue and cry. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Shri Mistry, has been wanting to raise this issue for the last three days. I considered the issue and I permitted him to raise the issue. He has raised the issue. Now, I have to go to another issue on which notice for Adjournment Motion has been given. I have already permitted Shri Ramjilal Suman to speak.

The next issue before me is potato. This is also quite important. Now, Shri Suman may please speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, Shri Mistry is on record saying that he had brought these incidents to the notice of the Home Minister and the Railway Minister in writing.

Shri Togadia is on record having said: "I have done Godhra and I will do it again." ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, accused in the murder case of Harin Pandeya... (Interruptions) their names are likely to figure in the case. They are the same people who have been arrested and they may be having connections with Pakistan. Since the matter may go against them that is why they are raising the issue have now. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I have allowed you. You may please speak. I can give some time for each subject, but not much time.

12.45 hrs.

Re: Problems being faced by Potato Growers in U.P. and other parts of the country

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the important issue of Potato.

MR. SPEAKER : But you should finish in two minutes. I have promised to call Shri Akhilesh Singh, of your party after that. Please finish in two minutes.

[English]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Sir, I want only four minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : I give you only two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Four minutes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 11th March I had drawn the attention of the Government and this House on the serious problem concerning potato issue through the Calling Attention Motion. This time we are expected to have record production of potato to the tune of one-two lakh metric tonnes. The Government had assured to procure one lakh metric tonne of potato. The Uttar Pradesh Government would buy 50 thousand metric tonne of potato through NAFED and the rest 50 tonnes of potato has to be purchased by other agencies. I am sorry to say that not even a single centre has been opened in U.P. out of the 24 such centres promised to be opened. I have today's copy of newspaper in my hand which reports that potato procurement has been started in Agra from today which means procurement was not being done earlier. The hon. Member Shri S.P. Singh Baghel representing Jalesore is sitting here. In Nad village of Etmadpur tehsil of his constituency, Shri Bhagwan Singh has committed suicide after having suffered huge loss on account of potato. Vijay Singh S/o Nawab Singh Etmadpur under Nglā Jalim Tehsil tried to commit suicide. Ghansyam Singh of Emadpur under Nagla Ray Baksh tried to committ suicide. Narendra of Etmadpur of Hasanpur tehsil could sell his potato in Mumbai fetching just Rs.23 thousand this whole amount was spent on its transportation. This is so serious an issue.

All this happened because the Union Government had created a psychological impact by telling that potato would be exported this time. The potto growers came under the wrong impression that their potato will be exported and would be sold at higher rates. But at present potato is being sold at Rs.35 to Rs.40 per quintal. The potato that is being sent to Mumbai or Jaipur in those cases the farmers are not getting back even their carriage expenses. I do not thing that any other thing can be more serious than this. Through you I had requested the hon. Minister of

Agriculture to find out solution in consultation with the state government in order to achieve higher production of potato.

The Government had given the assurance of procurement this time. But procurement centres were not set up. A false statement was made here. The statement made by hon. Ajit Singhji on 11th March in reply to our Calling Attention Motion is far from being true. We want your protection in this matter. If the potato growing farmers will not get the protection, they will commit suicide they will die because they are a distraught lot. Today the potato is putrefying in the fields and disease is likely to spread when the weather turns hot. The farmer is reluctant to harvest the potato crop because when potato would be sold, its price will not be more than Rs.35-40 per quintal. I feel that it is a very serious question. We need your protection, please give directions to the Government in this regard. The farmer is compelled to commit suicide. He is in distress. He is not even getting his cost input, he is being looted, he is forced to repay the loan while he has nothing to repay. I do not think there could be anything more serious than this, we need your protection in this matter. Kindly summon the Minister of Agriculture. We expect him to give an immediate reply to this question.

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been making a demand for giving me time to speak on this issue for the last four days.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, the DDA scam has become the biggest scam. They are trying to sell Delhi. Delhi is on sale now. Earlier it was on lease...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : He may ask Shri P.K. Thungan. Legal proceedings are going on against him even today...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when Khuranaji will start speaking everything will clear ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have your notice. I will allow your to speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are inspecting DDA for the last 40 years...*(Interruptions)*. They are selling Delhi for the last 40 years...*(Interruptions)*. If issues like these would be raised...*(Interruptions)*. I have been fighting for Delhi for the last 40 years ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give Khuranaji 10 minutes to speak and he will disclose everything...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Khuranaji, you please take your seat.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, you may continue.
(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give Madan Lal Khurana liberty to speak. He will disclose the whole truth in front of the people as to what was done in Delhi and what was not done. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, you may make your submission.
(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, only yesterday, Congressmen have been arrested ...*(Interruptions)*. Only yesterday four people have been caught red-handed accepting bribe...*(Interruptions)*. I want to ask who was Sheela Kaul? Who was Shri P.K. Thungan?...*(Interruptions)*. They have constructed houses without laying foundation in Vasant Kunj...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, if there is a Joint Parliamentary probe, the entire Government will be in dock. Let him explain and accept my challenge. Let him

agree for a Joint Parliamentary Committee probe, and the entire Government will be in dock...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Madan Lal Khuranaji, you may take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a dispute between the two neighbours.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been fighting against corruption in DDA for the last 40 years...*(Interruptions)*. They have constructed houses in Vasant Kunj without laying any foundation...*(Interruptions)*. Shrimati Sheela Kaul and P.K. Thungan were arrested ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Khuranaji, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The issue of potatoes is very important. I have allowed Kunwar Akhilesh Singhji to speak on this issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am ready to declare the property I possess. If I own any house other than a 225 years house in Delhi then let them sell one. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJ BABBAR (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how can the issue of DDA be debated when an important issue of potatoes is being discussed. Today, the potato farmer is dying ...*(Interruptions)*. He is committing suicide. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, you may speak. Nothing except the discussion on potato will go on record.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Only yesterday a Councillor was caught accepting bribe ...*(Interruptions)*. Another was murdered...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : At the moment this issue is not before us. This issue can be raised through any other device in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The discussion is going on the issue of potato. Nothing except the issue of potato will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, why do not you start your speech? It is a question about farmers so let the reply be given. Thereafter, I shall ask the Minister to speak.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problems of farmers have been discussed not once but several times during the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. The Chair quite generously gave opportunity to the Members of the treasury benches as well as the opposition to give vent to their views on the question of farmers. But we have an experience of three and half years that despite the repeated discussions on farmers, the replies given by the Government in the House is regard thereto are not being complied with. Right now, while going beyond the convention I was describing the dismal state of potato farmers you rebuked me.

You are our guardian, our protector. Had you rebuked this Government perhaps I would not have had the need to express my anguish in this manner. When the question of sugarcane growers was discussed in this very House...*(Interruptions)*. Khuranaji, please listen to me, you do not know the grievances of potato growers, you remain entangled in the issue of corruption. When discussion on the question of sugarcane growers was being held in this very House, three farmers died in police firing in Munderva. The State Government presented facts which were untrue

and the Union Government also presented untrue facts before the House. That time I had personally requested you to take legal action against those who misrepresented facts. But I regretfully admit that so far no action has been taken by you against the Government. You may go through all the replies given by the Government. The hon. Minister of Agriculture has made statements in regard to potatoes during the last session. If you compare those statements with the actual situation which the farmer is really going through then you would find that it is nothing but contempt of the House committed by the hon. Minister. This House and the Government must act seriously on the issue of farmers. Either you do not give permission for discussion or if you do so and if the hon. Minister draws attention of the House to the points about which he gives assurances during his reply, then he must fulfill those. Today, two farmers belonging to the constituency of Shri S.P. Baghel have committed suicide. The constituency of Raghuraj Singh Shakyaji, too, is faced with this problem. That is why I would request you to kindly lend your ear to those hon. Members whose parliamentary constituencies are having such a serious problem.

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak. I am drawing the attention of the Government towards the problems being faced by the potato growers of the entire country, particularly the constituency which I come from. The cultivation of potato is approximately 100 per cent there. The people of my Parliamentary Constituency are heavily dependent on potatoes which occupy a pivotal place in their life. We marry off our daughter and buy bricks in the years during which we have a bumper potato crop. That year we buy gold and silver, we buy cycles for our children. When the session of Lok Sabha commenced on the 7th I was not present here. At present the situation is that Ganshyam Yadav, a farmer of my parliamentary constituency who belonged to Nujala, Jalis Singh village tried to commit suicide and now he has been admitted to G.G. Nursing Home, Agra in critical condition. I went to see him. Chaudhary Bhagwan Singh of Nandu Village committed suicide on 29th March. The reason was clear,

[Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel]

he also left a suicide note confessing that due to recession in the prices of potatoes he was committing suicide. Similarly, Raghuraj Singh of Nujala Jalim Singh village also attempted suicide. his tracheomacide was broken and there are no chances of his survival. When the hon. Minister speaks from this forum he is listened to very attentively by the farmers of the country. In one of his statements of March 11 he said that Agra Zone was being made a potato export zone alongwith that the constituency of Akhileshji. Kannauj and Fatehgarh were also being made potato export zones so that potato could be exported from here. Because of this assurance from the hon. Minister of Agriculture the farmers produced a high yield. This time wheat was not cultivated anywhere in our area. I would like to apprise the House quoting the newspaper reports that the condition of potato is such that heaps of potatoes are lying on Sadabad Kandauli and Kundla crossings and it is selling for Rs.40 per sack. One may buy whatever quantity one wishes to. If a trader from Delhi goes there to buy potato and pays them Rs.40 per sack of potato, the farmers would be happy to sell it. They will not give the sack because it cost them Rs.25-30. One sack of potatoes weights 80 kgs i.e. 80 kg potato for Rs.40 is being sold there. The Government is procuring potato at the rate of Rs.190 per quintal in the export zone. As per the statement of the Minister of Agriculture the cost input on potato comes to Rs. 2.12 per kg. The State Government also said that the input cost on potato is Re. 1.87 per kg. We are potato growing farmers, we have incurred a cost of Re. 1.95 per kg. on potato in our field while it is being sold for 0.40 paise per kg. If it proves to be such a loss incurring farming how it would be carried on. I want that whatever we are speaking from this forum at least the things which are in the interest of farmers should be conveyed. Potato is a raw crop unlike iron and cement which can be stored. Cold storages are full to capacity with the stock.

13.00 hrs.

Potato is lying in the open. If arrangements for its procurement are not made by the Government within a

week then there is no point in holding a discussion here. It necessitates your intervention so that proper arrangements are made within two-three days. Centres should be set up for the export zones outside for selling potatoes. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if today, the Chair gives some direction to the Government in favour of the potato farmers then they will be saved from this crisis. Today, thousands of farmers are on the verge of committing suicide though there have been two-three incidents of suicide by the farmers. They would be saved from ruin if a decision is taken by the Chair in their favour and implemented. During the last 5-6 years, these potato rowing farmers have been benefited only once and have incurred losses.

Therefore, there should be some announcement from here for procurement of potato and also minimum support price should be announced for future. As the minimum support price of wheat, paddy, maize and millets is announced, similarly the minimum support price of potato should also be announced.

Reasonable compensation should be provided to the families of the farmers who committed suicide. When you can give a package of Rs.500 crore to bail out the UTI, can't a potato grower be given Rs.25 thousand as subsidy per acre. Inputs like diesel, fertiliser and water for growing potato have become costlier. Therefore, they should be given subsidy. We also want to pay our tributes to those who committed suicide. Sir, when a message is sent out from here only then a farmer will not commit suicide in future.

MR. SPEAKER : Ramsagarji, please speak, You will get only two minutes.

SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT (Barabanki) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to bring to your kind notice the problem being faced by the potato growers today. In September-October, when the potato was sown, its seeds cost Rs.700 or Rs.800 per quintal. The prices of diesel, pesticides and labour charges also increased. The farmers who had sown potato at the rate of Rs.700 per quintal their produce is

being sold at Rs.40 per quintal today. This has weakened the financial position of the potato growers and that is why they are committing suicide. This time around the production of potato is an all time high and it is lying on the road-sides. There is no room for its storage. There is resentment among the potato growers in entire Uttar Pradesh due to this wastage of potato. The attention of the Union Government has been drawn towards this problem repeatedly but the problems faced by the potato growers have not been solved till today. I would like to request the Government to immediately find a way out to this problem so that the potato growers get relief.

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you about the promises our Ministers make to the public but they do not keep their promises. In my Phulpur constituency, Allahabad, our Hon. Agriculture Minister, Shri Ajit Singh gave assurance to thousands of farmers while inaugurating a potato procurement centre that the potato would be procured at the rate of Rs.192 or Rs.198. But no where potato procurement centre has been opened at Sahasoan in the Phulpur parliamentary constituency. Farmers are distressed. The potato growers there have kept their produce in the fields and gardens in the hope that a procurement centre would be opened there and their potato produce would be procured. We have had talks with Hon. Ajit Singhji and he told us that they were willing to provide money to the State Government but the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh did not want to procure potatoes. What should he do? When the Government of India has become helpless and similarly, when the Uttar Pradesh government has also shown its helplessness, then who will solve the problems of the potato growers, be he of Uttar Pradesh or any other part of the country? I want to know this thing, through you, Sir. The Government should take steps to solve this problem early.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, West Bengal is the second largest producer of potatoes. This year, more than 40 lakh tonnes of potato has been grown

in West Bengal. A serious situation is being faced by the farmers who have produced potatoes because the prices have come down and the potatoes are rotting because there is not enough storage space. Although a large number of cold storages have come up during the last ten to fifteen years, in some districts like Hoogly, Bankura and West Midnapore, the capacity is not sufficient to preserve the entire production. The Government of West Bengal has started purchasing potatoes but it is not possible for the State Government to purchase the entire crop unless the Central Government comes forward to purchase potatoes and prevent distress sale.

So, I urge upon the Government that a minimum support price, as there is in the case of other crops, should be announced by the Government of India. The Government of India should come forward to start purchasing potatoes not only from the farmers of Uttar Pradesh but also from the farmers of West Bengal. Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of potatoes but West Bengal is the second largest and so the Central Government should come forward to start purchasing potatoes from the farmers of West Bengal.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : Sir, the members from Uttar Pradesh who expressed their views on the issue of potato produce, my name may also be associated with them....(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanyharpur) : Sir, I will take one minute's time. I would like to submit to the Government that the situation in Uttar Pradesh is serious but the condition of potato growers in Bihar and West Bengal is no better. The most important thing is about the cold storage. We do not have the cold storage facility as per our requirement. Potato cannot be kept in the open for long, it starts rotting. The farmers who have taken loans, they are not in a position to repay their loans. This is a very serious issue and the Government should also view their issue seriously from the humanitarian angle also. The

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

Government should procure potato this year on minimum support price or at the cost price so that they can get reasonable price for their potato produce. All the farmers are almost driven to commit suicide. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : The Hon. Agriculture Minister should come out with a statement on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Sir, there will be no sitting of the House for ten days after today and till then the potato produce could perish. You kindly direct the Hon. Agriculture Minister to make a statement in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The Government should give a positive reply.

(English)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The situation is serious. So the minister of Agriculture should come and make a statement here....*(Interruptions)*

(Translation)

MR. SPEAKER : You members are asking for a statement of the Hon. Agriculture Minister. This is what you are demanding. May I know whether he should make a statement today or after the recess period.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the reply of the Hon. Minister come.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I want to help you, but can I help like this. I feel that if you are interested in this question, at least listen to me first.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : At least pay attention to our request.

MR. SPEAKER : I have listened to your request.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : The attitude of the Government is not positive. No action is being taken.

(English)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, why can the Minister of Agriculture not come here at two o'clock and make a statement?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something. Let us listen to him.

(Interruptions)

(Translation)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister should give a reply, this is your demand.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Sir, potato is such a produce, if the problem related to it is not solved it would get rotten. Therefore, it would be better, if he makes a statement today itself.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : Sir in regard to potato, the hon. members ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Sir, when the issue is so serious, then call a responsible minister. Of what use is his speaking here. When the issue is so serious.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will let the responsible minister know about the feelings of the members....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this will not do, he is just completing the formality. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. If you do not sit, I will adjourn the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I want to tell Goelji, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Right now, I am speaking, please listen to me.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Sir, I was giving a reply. The hon. Members have raised a serious issue concerning the potato growers, be it concerning with its purchase, stock and cost. I would like to assure you that the points which you have raised here, will be conveyed to the Hon. Agriculture Minister and I hope that a viable solution to this problem would be found.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is just a formality. If no satisfactory reply comes from the Government, we will not let the House function ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL : The farmers have kept their potato produce in the fields...*(Interruptions)* They are distressed....*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : I want that there should be a statement on this issue today. But if you do not listen to me, then what should I do. I want that if the Hon. Minister has detailed information, then he should make a submission on this issue today itself in the afternoon. You kindly apprise the minister about the situation and if he has full information on this issue he would come forward with a statement and if he does not have, atleast he should come to the House and say that he will call a delegation of all the concerned members and will have a talk with them. He can say so since an immediate decision is required on this issue. So, I ask you to inform the Hon. Minister about the situation and discuss it with him and if he has got the information on this issue he should come in the House and if he cannot make a statement then he

should call all the hon. Members who have spoken on this issue and try to find a way out to this problem.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the clock

14.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Four minutes past Fourteen of the clock

[MR. SPEAKER, in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had given a direction that the Hon. Agriculture Minister would make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : The Agriculture Minister has informed that he will come here and make a statement before the House adjourns for the day.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : At what time?

MR. SPEAKER : The House will be informed after ascertaining about the time. When the matter is over, why quarrel?

14.05 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER*

Launch of INSAT-3A Satellite

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC

*Also Placed in Library. See No. LT 7332/03.

ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, INSAT-3A satellite, India's state-of-the-art multi-mission, multi-purpose satellite for providing telecommunications television, meteorological and search and rescue services was launched today at 04:22 IST by Ariane-5 vehicle of Europe from Kourou in French Guyana. It was separated from the launch vehicle at 04:52 IST and the signals were acquired at the INSAT Master Control Facility at Hassan, Karnataka. The satellite is currently in the Geo-Synchronous Transfer Orbit of 36,055 kilometres by 859 kilometres with an inclination of 1.99 degrees with respect to the equator. The satellite is now under the control of INSAT-MCF. Initial health checks from INSAT-MCF indicate that all the subsystems of the satellite are performing nominally.

The orbit of the satellite will be gradually raised to the Geo-Synchronous Orbit (GSO) through a series of manoeuvres from INSAT-MCF over the next few days. After the satellite reaches the GSO, the solar array deployment, antenna deployment and the sail deployment will be performed. This will be followed by the checkout of the payload after which the satellite will be declared ready for operations.

Today the INSAT system is one of the largest domestic multipurpose satellite systems in the world with more than 85 communications transponders and payloads for meteorological applications. It provides a variety of services in the area of telecommunications, TV broadcasting, developmental communication, education, telemedicine, rural development, weather prediction and disaster warning. In this perspective, INSAT-3A represents the nation's resolve to use Space capabilities for a wide range of its developmental needs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like the House to join me in wishing the ISRO team all the best in the complex mission that is to be carried out in the next few days from the INSAT Master Control Facility at Hassan.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar)
Congratulations!

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Well done!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, I congratulate the Minister also. He is a very good friend of mine.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He could have been given a Cabinet berth. Deprivation of Bengal is continuing. Such a great man can easily be elevated to the Cabinet. We are unitedly recommending in. Such a great a man should have been in the Cabinet.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I also support that view, from the North-East.

MR. SPEAKER : I appreciate your generosity.

14.08 hrs.

[English]

MOTION RE: THIRTY-SECOND REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (Chidambaram) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 2003."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

14.09 hrs.

[English]

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

(I) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 74, etc.)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : I introduce the Bill.

14.10 hrs.

[English]

(ii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new article 21A)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.11 hrs.

[English]

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(OMISSION OF ARTICLE 44, ETC)—Ctd

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House shall take up Item No. 26 – Submission to the Vote of the House of the following motion moved by Shri Yogi Aditya Nath on the 19th July, 2002. namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Hon. Member, through you and make submission to him that the Bill which he has presented is not an ordinary bill, it is a constitutional amendment bill. For the passage of a constitutional amendment bill, presence of 50 per cent of members in the House and two third majority of the members present is required. An all party consensus is essential for the presence of so many members in the House. With the consent of one political party, a constitutional bill like this cannot be passed. The Government will strive for forming a national consensus and only after that can bring forward such a bill. Therefore, I would like to request him to withdraw this bill since the bills which are next to this bill are not being taken up as the division is not taking place on this bill. I would like that the hon. Member may accept my request and withdraw the bill.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolspur) : It will be rejected.

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that we have already started the process of voting in this particular case. But if the House agrees, he can be permitted to ask for permission to withdraw the Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, Sir... *(Interruptions)*... Today, they have no Members... *(Interruptions)*... Let this be rejected. Let there be voting. We want it to be rejected.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the required formalities have not been completed, therefore, this bill should be deemed rejected. As regards the second thing which Sushmaji has said, is this a National Democratic Alliance Government or a BJP Government, this should also be settled.

MR. SPEAKER : Please speak, what you have to speak.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : In response to what Sushmaji has just now said, I want to know is this a NDA Government or a BJP Government? Let this bill be deemed rejected.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Why?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Why not?... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : What I mean to say is that not even a single ally of them is not with them.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Let it be voted. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : We should presence that it is rejected by the House.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, at this stage, he cannot withdraw it. It is the property of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : He has not asked for withdrawal. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is asking it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you arguing at this stage?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down. Kindly Sir comfortably. I can allow one of you to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Let it be voted. The House will reject it. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Voting on this particular Bill cannot be taken up for the simple reason. ... *(Interruptions)*... As you have a right, I have also a right to speak ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, on his behalf he cannot say. This is a Private Member's Bill. Only the private Member can say. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let me know what Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar to say.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I am also asking as a private Member. ... *(Interruptions)*

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

[English]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government may clarify its stand as regards this Bill. Secondly, it should also be decided whether it is Government or National Democratic Alliance or the BJP Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you to speak. Shri Dhananjaya Kumarji you may make your submissions.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I would like to make a humble submission that since this is a Constitutional Amendment Bill, to initiate the process of voting, the mandatory minimum requirement is the presence of more than 50 per cent of the membership of the House. ...*(Interruptions)* Have I no right to make a submission? You have all been making submissions; let me also make a submission.

Only if we have more than 50 per cent of the membership of the House present during voting, we can take it up. Otherwise, we cannot take it up for voting. That is the technical situation.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the Government would have done in absence of a full quorum? It is BJP's stance or the stance of National Democratic Alliance. It is manifested in what Sushmaji said right now...*(Interruptions)* None of their allies group is present here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I would have allowed you only after he had made his submission. You are a senior leader of the party how can you interrupt him like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR This is my humble submission. Now, a situation has arisen wherein the mandatory requirement of the presence of more than 50 per cent of the membership of the House is not there. So, we cannot take it up for voting. Let the Member be heard and if he is ready to withdraw it, it is fine.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bharatiya Janata Party had raised hue and cry in the entire country on the question of Uniform Civil Code but when they were driven by the greed for power they made a promise in the National Democratic Alliance to keep all these issues aside, that they would touch those issues. The kind of issue that have been raised by Bharatiya Janata Party, today they want to mislead the country by introducing such a Bill through their Members only just to satisfy their mandate. Therefore, I wish to submit that the formalities that were required for the introduction of this Bill have not been completed. Thus, it should be withdrawn.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : This House has to set a precedent. This will be the best of conversions and it will be followed in future. Here the process is already set in motion. The House is seized of the matter. Only with the consent of the House, the hon. Member can withdraw it. If the House does not give the consent, he cannot withdraw; that is the rule. Last time, when the issue came up, hon. Speaker was not here; the entire House requested him – and agreed too – to withdraw it. The House gave its consent to withdraw, but he did not accept. Now, for reasons best known to everybody, he wants to withdraw it. But it cannot be withdrawn. The House does not agree to it now. Therefore, whatever decision the House takes now, I humbly submit it, will be the best of decision and it will be the best precedent. But he cannot withdraw it now.

MR. SPEAKER : He has not requested for withdrawal. He has been requested by someone else to withdraw.

SHRI E. AHAMED : But the process is already set in motion for voting. How can he withdraw it now?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : This Bill is now a property of the House, first of all. After it was introduced and discussed, now we are in the stage of voting. It is the property of the House. It is true that the Member has every right to seek leave of the House to withdraw it as per rules; but we do not know whether he will do so or not. I know that Yogi Aditya Nath is one of the committed *sadhus* of India; he does not betray his conscience and his *samaj*. If he does it today, it is up to him. He is in a problem now. If he withdraws, he will be betraying his *samaj*; if he sticks to his position, he betrays his party; so, he is in a difficulty. We have sympathy for him. I will only appeal to him that in future he should not play double standards here and there. I feel that since it is the property of the House and we are all agreeing, he can seek leave of the House to withdraw it; the moment he does it, the House would reject it with contempt outright.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Sir, it is correct that the process of voting on the Motion has been set. You have already told that you want to seek the opinion of the House as to whether the hon. Member, if he so desires, is permitted to withdraw his Bill. Seeking the opinion of the House means seeking the opinion of the majority of the House. So, you may seek the majority opinion of the House and if the House permits, he may be allowed to withdraw.

[*Translation*]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was very surprised when for a Constitution Amendment Bill an hon. Member said that presence of half of the Members i.e. 273 Members was mandatory and during voting two-third majority of the total Members is mandatory. It is imperative in both the House. Opposition is in majority in another House. Bharatiya Janata Party want to bring in this legislation but as we are not in

majority, this law cannot be framed. We requested our Member that it was not possible without national consensus that is why we may be permitted to withdraw it. Objection is being raised even on this. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : When you knew that it could not be passed by Rajya Sabha then why did you bring it here?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We are expressing our commitment towards it. ...(*Interruptions*) under such circumstances if there is any plea for withdrawal and it is rejected, why it would be rejected after withdrawal we are saying it ourselves that the day we shall have two-third majority we shall introduce this Bill but right now as we are not in majority all kinds of opposition are being made. It is not correct.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all know, as our List of Business also mentions, that it is 'submission to the vote of the House of the following Motion'. Up-till now we do not know the views of the hon. Member. All submissions are being made anticipatory basis. Rule 110 at page 46 is very clean. Three specific grounds have been provided. It says:

"The Member in charge of a Bill may at any stage of the Bill move for leave to withdraw the Bill on the ground that—

1. The legislative proposal contained in the Bill is to be dropped; or
2. The Bill is to be replaced subsequently by a new Bill which substantially alters the provisions contained therein; or
3. The Bill is to be replaced subsequently by another Bill which includes all or any provisions in addition to other provisions."

Therefore, Sir, it has to come under one of these grounds. There is no general clause of any other ground

or reason. These are the only three grounds. Therefore, he has to say it clearly that this proposal is dropped altogether or he is not permitted because Shri Malhotra is shaking his head. How can he say that the Bill is to be replaced by a new Bill? Who is he to give that assurance? The Government of the day will do that since he has not been taken in the Ministry. VHP is showing its muscles and he is not accepting that.

There was a very innocuous request by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I have no doubt that it was all done outside but they have not looked into the rules. Rules do not permit them. It has either to be on the ground that he is dropping the proposal altogether or on the other two grounds. It is being said that it cannot be moved because there is no fifty per cent presence in the House.

How would it be determined? That would be determined by taking the vote here. Only then it could be determined whether there is 50 per cent presence or not. For quorum, the Marshal can count, but there is no procedure for counting 50 per cent presence. That has to be ascertained by voting. I do not know if he has done something contrary to the wishes of the powers that be or for the sake of keeping NDA together. Of course, they are all opportunist. Why are you bothering about them? They will remain with you. Therefore, my humble submission before you is that beyond Rule 110, no withdrawal can be permitted. Therefore, it has to be put to vote.

MR. SPEAKER : But he has not asked for withdrawal. Hon. Members must give me an opportunity to ask him.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was very much surprised since hon. Somnathji is not only a senior Member of Parliament but is also a competent advocate. Every day and every Friday Private Members Bill and Private Members Resolutions are interchanged and brought and

every time when it reaches the stage of division of vote then it is said on behalf of the Government that it may be withdrawn and it is withdrawn. It has not happened today. This is 13th Lok Sabha, so many Fridays passed, so many bills, so many motions were brought and each time the fate was same that the Government proposed that it may be withdrawn and it was withdrawn and at times it is put to vote as well. Right now he said that if they did not have 50 per cent Members why did they bring Constitutional Amendment? After this when you will be taking up next bill then it will also be an amendment bill and has been brought by you. More than half of the bills that are brought are Constitutional Amendment Bills. That is why I cannot understand that today how is he giving a new logic? What is happening on every Friday since the commencement of 13th Lok Sabha. Secondly, right now he said that I made an innocuous statement. On the contrary, I did not make any. Mr. Speaker, last Friday you were not in the Chair, Mr. Chairman was in the Chair. Bill was brought here and hon. Shivraj Patilji stood up and said that it has been going on for the last three times. House is adjourned raising the question of quorum and all other Bills are placed on the back burner, this is abuse of procedure. I said next time I myself would do something. He said that it was abuse of procedure. Otherwise on every Friday question of quorum could be raised in the House but I volunteered that I would do something myself and the same procedure which was followed for other Bills shall continue to be followed. Thirdly, I did not say that we could not gather 50 per cent Members rather I said that to reach national consensus on some matter 50 per cent attendance and two-third majority is required. I never said that we failed to gather this much. This Bill cannot be brought until efforts are made to reach national consensus and party consensus. That is why I requested them to withdraw it. It is not something new that has happened. It is being debated not to withdraw it. During Constitution Amendment being brought by Suresh Kurupji the same thing would happen and ultimately the Government would say and it will be withdrawn. It takes place on every Friday. I would like hon. Shivrajji to respond on this matter since I have given my views on the submission made by him.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : It is correct that in the last sitting of the House and even on Friday earlier Bill could not be brought in absence of quorum and other Members were saying that it was their Bill and their resolution, they do not come, how was it taking place? Out of sheer excitement I said that it was not right and it was abuse of procedure. At that very point of time hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs assured that she would find some solution so that there could be no further complaints. And she has done so and I want to acknowledge it here. I would like to draw attention to two-three things here. If it is a Constitution Amendment Bill then presence of 50 per cent Members is not necessary as they are saying. When the Bill goes for voting then 50 per cent of the Members and two-third of the Members present have to vote. At the moment it is not required to be done. That is why I do not wish to prolong that matter. Thirdly, the reaction of hon. Somnathji is very right. He has said that if hon. Members want this legislative proposal to be withdrawn then they can say so. They said that they are withdrawing it but the Bill being a property of the House cannot be withdrawn against their consent. In such a situation the Bill is put to vote. Thereafter, if 50 per cent of the Members say that the Bill be withdrawn, it is withdrawn. This is the procedure. That is why I understand that if our Members have expressed their resentment and have asked not to treat such an important subject so lightly. If they feel they will admit it and if they feel that quorum is not to be considered, then they shall have discussion and if there would be problems then they will withdraw it. Then they will say, what did you do. This is not the way to work. I feel if the Members want to say that they do not wish to move this legislative proposal further and wish to withdraw it then opinion from the opposite side can also be taken.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : In this case sense of the House is required.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sense is not required even in this case we said that if this would be the situation let them say it first. If anybody would object, then we shall have to see.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Sir, discussion has been held in regard to Uniform Civil Code. All the Members have expressed their views. We want to keep those very views in front of our electorate that during public interface these people take vows of the constitution but in reality they are playing with it. Article 14 of the constitution provides for this very right to Equality that everybody is equal in the eyes of law. It is a fundamental right.
...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, why are you allowing him to speak? You please put it to the vote of the House.
...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, we will not even be allowed to speak. This is not the way.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your submission, but now the question is that you wish to withdraw this Bill or not. You have made your submission two times. You are only allowed to speak this much that you are prepared to withdraw this Bill or not. You are not required to give speeches.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, he has already replied to the debate. So, he should not be allowed to give speech now.

MR. SPEAKER : What is exactly what I am telling him.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He should say whether he is withdrawing it or not and nothing more than that.

[*Translation*]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, I did not get opportunity to make my submission. I am coming to that point.
...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question now is whether you are prepared to withdraw the Bill or not.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You tell it straightaway.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, every citizen has fundamental rights as well....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You may ask permission for withdrawal. Otherwise, I will have to proceed with the voting.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, I wish to bring this actual discussion in front of the public. I am glad to hear hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and I totally agree with her views about reaching a general consensus. It is not only our duty but theirs as well. I am grateful to the hon. Minister about the assurance given by her. I am grateful to hon. Vijay Kumar Malhotraji as well that he has stated that we would bring this Bill again when we shall be in majority. I would like to thank you and conclude by saying ... (Interruptions) At times the conduct of Senior Members here is such that we are not even able to express our views. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you asking permission for withdrawal or not?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : No, Sir. He is making a speech.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Dasmunshiji has again stood up.

He at times converts the house into Court. I would request that the senior Members should express their views by maintaining the dignity of the House. I am fully convinced with the assurance given by the hon. Minister on behalf of the Government. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : No assurance has been given... (Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYA NATH : I am fully convinced with the assurance given by Vijay Kumar Malhotraji on behalf of the BJP. In regard to this Bill, a general consensus ... (Interruptions). When we have absolute majority, we will take up this matter to the people.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to withdraw it or should I put it to the vote of the House?

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I withdraw their Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let the matter be clear now. Please sit down. There is no stage for clarification.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : As I said earlier, the stage of withdraw was in the last sitting. That stage has gone. But still the hon. Minister rightly made a request to the hon. Member to withdraw it. Now, he has consented to it and requested the Chair that he is seeking the permission of the House to withdraw the Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : His speech should not go on record.

MR. SPEAKER : The only important point is that he wants to withdraw the Bill. It is for the House to decide whether he should be allowed to withdraw it. Only if the House agrees, I will proceed with the procedure. Otherwise, I will not be able to do that.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the Member may be allowed to withdraw the Bill? I can take the sense of the House. The hon. Member may seek leave of the House to withdraw his Bill.

[*Translation*]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : I move that leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

YOGI ADITYA NATH : I withdraw the Bill.

14.36½ hrs.

[*English*]

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Article 248, etc.)

MR. SPEAKER : We will go to the next item. It is item no. 27

14.37 hrs.

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

Respected Chairman, Sir, ever since Independence we have witnessed debates and discussions regarding the federal structure of our country and about the powers that

should be developed upon the States. Our country's structure is a federal one and rightly so. It is because the greatest asset of our country is not uniformity, our greatest asset is diversity. So, in order to preserve this diversity and in order to allow all the cultures to flourish, it is quite essential that our country should have a federal structure.

The essential feature of the federal structure should be a strong Centre and strong States. Over the years, we have witnessed a process whereby the Central Government is usurping the powers of the States, some times surreptitiously and most of the times quite openly. This has been dealt with in article 248 of the Constitution. Article 248 says that on those matters which do not come under the State List or the Concurrent List, the Union Government has got the power to legislate.

It further mentions that "Such power shall include the power of making any law imposing a tax not mentioned in either of these Lists". So, article 248 along with entry 97 in the Union List makes it sure that the Central Government gets overwhelming powers to legislate on the residuary area. This power along with article 248 helps the Central Government to encroach more and more on powers of the States and the Central Government has done this quite cunningly, I would say, during all these years.

Now, what is the position of the States? All the States in our Union are facing financial difficulties and everybody knows that. All the financial institutions are under the control of the Union Government and the Chief Ministers of all the States have to come before the Union Government with a begging bowl for help every time. Whenever there is some crisis, whenever there is flood or drought in a State, the concerned Chief Minister has to come before the Prime Minister and request him for help, and this is used as a tool for taking political vendetta. Those State Governments which are liked by the Central Government are given special help and those State Governments which are not liked by them are denied that, and this is happening every time. There are so many

instances to prove as to how this was done by the Central Government.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are aware that we had extensive discussion on the issue of potato today morning. Hon. Speaker had said that the hon. Minister of Agriculture would make a statement in this regard. Shri Vijay Goel is sitting here and you are well aware of the mood of the House. We want to know as to when the hon. Minister of Agriculture would come in the House to make the statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sumanji, today the sitting of the House would be held till 7 O'clock. The hon. Minister would certainly come and make the statement before the House adjourns.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, What will be the use of Minister's statement if it is made at 7 O'clock in the evening. You are aware of the mood of the House. We are waiting for his statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per the direction of the hon. Speaker, I have apprised the Minister of Agriculture of the discussions held here and now it has been decided that the Minister would make a statement before the House adjourns for the day. This does not mean that he will make his statement exactly at 7 O'clock. We will try that he makes his statement as soon as possible.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, as you know very well, the power to impose sales tax is the right of the States. Way back in 1957, the States' power to impose sales tax on four items was taken away. Those items are textiles sugar, tobacco and tobacco products. These items were very lucrative sources of sales tax and earning for the States. After taking away this power of the States, the

Central Government imposed additional excise duties and promised to the States that the collection would be transferred to them. In early 1980s, a study was conducted and it revealed that a sum of Rs. 25,000 crore, collected from the imposition of additional excise duties on these four items, was pending with the Central Government. At that time, the Central Government promised that this money would be given to the States, but not a single pie was given.

In the early 80s it was revealed that about Rs. 25,000 crore was pending with the Central Government on these items. So, this shows the attitude of the Central Government regarding States' autonomy and States' finances.

Sir, we always say about decentralisation. A law was passed in this House regarding Panchayati Raj and it was to see how decentralisation can be effectively implemented without financial autonomy for concerned bodies, including the States.

First of all, the State Government should get enough finances; then only the local bodies and Panchayats will get enough financial help. This process is being denied by the Union Government by usurping the financial sources of the State Governments. So, in order to have an effective federal structure, the basic thing is that we should have strong State Governments.

Sir, the United States of America and Australia have federal structures and both the countries have constitutional residuary power. The power to legislate in the residuary area is given to the State Governments. Later the Supreme Court of the United States directed so many things and now the Centre is more powerful because of the rulings of the Supreme Court. But in the Constitution, it is specifically mentioned that in the residuary area, it is the power of the State Government to legislate.

We followed the Canadian model during the adoption of our Constitution and inserted article 248 in our Constitution. Now that a coalition is ruling in the Centre, some of the major regional parties who have been

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

advocating for their regional autonomy and more powers to the State Governments, are partners in the NDA Government. It is quite depressing to note that none of these regional parties are asserting themselves to get more powers to the States. They are allowing the Central Government to take away whatever little power the States have. Once VAT is implemented more financial gains will accrue to the Centre. So, this trend should be altered.

Sir, even the Inter-State Council recently recommended that the matters mentioned in the residuary area should be included in the Concurrent List. The Sarkaria Commission also recommended that. They have gone up to that point. My suggestion is that in this area, the State Government should be given ample powers to legislate. Then only we will have a strong State Government. Only if there are strong State Governments, we will have a strong Central Government. When the State Governments are weak, financially and otherwise, how can we have a strong Central Government? So my request is that the Central Government should give serious consideration to this point and amend article 248 so that the States are given more powers.

They have appointed a Commission to review the functioning of the Constitution. It was never their agenda. We should understand that it was never the agenda of the BJP to strengthen the federal structure. They are reviewing the Constitution for their nefarious ends. They are saying about Uniform Civil code. They want to prevent cow-slaughter. The actual thing that should be done to strengthen the country, to strengthen the States and the Union Government is that more powers should be developed upon the States. So, this Bill is exactly for that. I request all the Members to seriously ponder over it and take part in the discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank Shri Suresh Kurup for piloting this Private Member's Bill for amending article 248 of the Constitution.

Sir, as you are aware, the country, called India, has always cherished the idea of unity in diversity. If the diversity is killed, then India is killed. Our religion, our cultural life, our political life, our demography, and all aspects of our life are diverse. But, at the same time, there is a unity developed on the soil over the years, like a garland with flowers of different colours, of different smells, but it is the thread that makes it a garland. India is a thread but the flowers are, different cultures, different religious beliefs, different ways of life. This is India. We have developed it over thousands of years. That is the basis of our civilisation.

We have seen that the people from various parts of the country participated in the freedom struggle. They had their own understanding; their own desire; their own aspirations, but the thread of unity was the total freedom for India. So, we have to strengthen this concept. We have to cherish this Idea of unity in diversity. Our Constitution makers tried to assimilate all these things, and because of that, we had only centralised the Central Government. There are three systems of our Governments in India, namely, the Central Government, the State Governments and the Local-Self Government. To diversify it more is the spirit of our country

But, Sir, over the last 55 year, the practice was different. The actual understanding of our forefathers, framers of our Constitution, was gradually jeopardised because of the forces which ruled the country from the Centre. The power always had a tendency to capture more, and power did not have a liberal attitude to distribute it. It tried to capture more. When you sit at the Centre, this instigation to grab more power, to snatch more power from the States, from the lower level, had happened over the years, and that also went against the spirit of Mahatma ji who said that *panchayati raj* will be the basis of our Indian democracy. But it took at least 45 years to make a law for the *panchayats* for the whole country, uniform type of a

panchayat system. It is because of the tendency of the ruling classes that all the powers were centralised. Over the years, the States' political and other powers were curtailed. Again and again it was damaged, and it was hampered by the mischievous political use of the Governor's post and President's Rule.

The people are electing the Government at the Centre and the same people are electing the Government at the State. So, the Centre has no right to defy the will of the people, who are electing the State Government. But because of the ulterior motive and political ambition to dismantle the opinion of the people at the State level, there are demolitions of the administration of the State Government by the Centre again and again. In this process, the centralisation process had started and gradually the Centre took the financial powers.

Earlier, the State Government had more powers to mop up funds but over the last 55 years, one after another, the Central Finance Commission, the Planning Commission and other institutions were misused and misutilised by the Central Government to snatch power from the State Government, and gradually the States became a dignified Municipality. It is the State Government which has to do all the work. Whether it is construction of a road or a hospital or a school or a college, it is the State Government which has to do it, and it is the responsibility of the State Government. The State Government does most of the work but most of the powers are in the hands of the Centre. This is an anomaly.

In our Constitution, we have three Lists – Union List, State List and Concurrent List. On the subjects under the Union List, the Centre has the power to formulate laws; on the subjects under the State List, the State Government has the power to formulate laws; and on the subjects under the Concurrent List, the Centre or the State has the power to formulate laws. Many of the subjects in the Concurrent List are related to the local matters. In respect of the matters related to the national level – keeping the country united; rivers, Railways, Defence and other matters – definitely the Centre would have to play its role. Gradually, the Central

Government should release more powers to the State Governments and also the State Governments should release more powers to the local Municipal Committees and the Panchayats. That was the intention of our Constitution and our forefathers.

So, this is the purpose behind bringing this Bill in this House. I think, we have to give more powers to the States. Sometimes there was a quarrel between the two Constitutional authorities in our country, and ultimately, on many occasions, the Supreme Court had to intervene. Ultimately, the Sarkaria Commission was set up. That Commission also took pains to understand the Union's reality and made elaborate suggestions to change the system according to the new reality of our country. Day by day we are advancing. New understanding and ideas are coming up. Different types of forces are developing in various parts of the country. They have their own aspirations. They have their own understanding. They have their own dreams. So, if we want to keep the country united, we have to give full freedom. It is difficult to force them to come in one uniform way. India is a vast country and you cannot make a jacket for everybody. You cannot ask people to wear same type of dress or shoe or caps. If we impose such things in our country, then India will never remain united and it would be disastrous. So, think about the unity and integrity of the country.

15.00 hrs.

Now, recently it is becoming more and more dangerous because such forces which have the fascistic understanding about politics, religion and ideology are doing this. They want to suppress others; they want to suppress the religions of others; they want to suppress the language of others; they want to suppress the different aspirations of the people living in different parts of the country; and because of that, the danger is more.

If we have the Constitutional authority and more power is decentralised, only then can we save this country from those power hungry fascistic forces who want make the country uniform killing the spirit of diversity. So, because

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

of that, I think this Bill is very important. I would request that the whole House should consider this Bill so that the powers in regard to the 47 items mentioned in the List III of the Concurrent List as well as the residuary powers should be shifted from the Centre to the States. I think it should be shifted to the States because they have to do more and more work and bear more and more responsibility. So, the power in respect of this Concurrent List and the residuary powers should be given to the States. Actually, that will strengthen our federation. Simultaneously, the State should also hand over certain powers from the Concurrent List to the *Panchayats* and to the municipalities. From top to bottom, if the power is decentralised, then this country will be strengthened and the country's unity in diversity will be strengthened. We hope that is the actual dream of our forefathers. By over centralising our system, we are not fulfilling that.

So, I support the Bill. I would appeal to the Government to bring forward a comprehensive Bill for this so that the States can get more power and India can become a true federation.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. The main purpose of this Bill is to vest the residuary powers of legislation in relation to subjects not enumerated in the Union List or the Concurrent List in the States rather than the Centre as at present. The power of Parliament to interfere in the matters mentioned in the State List should also be done away with.

Hon. Member, Shri Suresh Kurup, keeping these things in mind, has tried to make some readjustment in the Constitution by way of bringing this Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2000. He wants that in article 251 of the Constitution, for the words "articles 249 and 250", the words "article 250" shall be substituted. Likewise, he also wants that in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, in the List I, Union List, entry 97 shall be omitted; and in the List II, State List, after entry 66, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:-

"67. Any other matter in List I or List III including any tax not mentioned in either of those Lists."

15.04 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

So, the intention is this. What is the basic structure of the Constitution of our country? The unitary features of the Constitution form the basic feature of this country. Maybe, we are having so many States, but still India is a Union of States. It is not a federation. Take the example of the United States of America. There are 50 States. America is a federation. But you kindly go through their process of judicial review. Judicial review means whatever interpretation given by the Supreme Court about the Constitution. Within these last 200 years of the existence of the United States of America, most of the cases in between the States and the Centre have been adjudicated in favour of the Centre.

Even though the States were as independent as the Centre in the United States of America, during the initial period of the formation of America, it is not the case. It has undergone a sea change.

I would just read out the relevant portion from article 248 of the Constitution, which deals with the residuary powers of the legislation. It says:

- "(1) Parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Concurrent List or State List.
- (2) Such power shall include the power of making any law imposing a tax not mentioned in either of those Lists."

Let us take for example, the value-added tax. All the State Governments have appealed to the Central Government to have a uniform tax rate all over the country. Even though a large number of traders and others are agitating all over the country, we find that when the Finance Ministers from the States come to Delhi, they agree on the point that there should be a uniform tax law and a uniform

tax rate all over the country called 'value-added tax'. So, what is the harm if the Central Government formulates a law with regard to imposing a tax?

I now come to Article 249, which says:

"... if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest that Parliament should make laws with respect to any matter enumerated in the State List specified in the resolution, it shall be lawful for Parliament to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of Indian with respect to that matter while the resolution remains in force."

Everybody knows the necessity of having the Rajya Sabha. We represent the people of India, we represent the common man, but it is the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States which represents the interests of the States. That is the basic thing. That is why the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States has been given the power to pass any resolution with two-thirds majority that the Parliament has a right to pass any law that would be applicable on the States, if it is felt required. So, if we do not give this power to the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States, what is the necessity of having a Rajya Sabha at all? We could manage with the Lok Sabha. There is no necessity of the Members of that House to be elected by the MLAs. That is why, it is actually not going against the interests of the States.

In Article 251, it is said:

"Nothing in articles 249 and 250 shall restrict the power of the Legislature of a State to make any law which under this Constitution it has the power to make, but if any provision of a law made by the Legislature of a State is repugnant to any provision of a law made by Parliament which Parliament has under either of the said articles power to make, the law made by Parliament, whether passed before or after the law made by the Legislature of the State, shall prevail, and the law made by the Legislature of the State shall to

the extent of the repugnancy, but so long only as the law made by Parliament continues to have effect, be inoperative."

For example, the Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir has several times tried to pass Resolutions that are against the interests of this country. Do we mean to say that we give the powers to all the State Governments to pass any Resolution they like? If they pass a Resolution desiring to secede from India, should we agree to that?

Hon. Members Shri Suresh Kurup and Shri Hannan Mollah have said that financial powers should be given to the States.

What is the meaning of that? Should we give the financial powers to the States to borrow from any foreign country? Will it be possible?

Now, they borrow through the permission of the Central Government. But should we permit them so that they can borrow? My question is that if they borrow and do not pay, then what will happen. You take the example of so many States. They have given a number of guarantees. They have stood guarantors on so many projects including the projects like Dabhol, Enron in Maharashtra.

I come from Orissa and Orissa has stood guarantor in so many projects that it is now not in a position to pay back. So, this is a very risky proposition that financial powers should be given to the States so that they can borrow from any country at their sweet will. It is simply not possible. In the days of globalisation when it is the country, which represents the interest of every State, at that time, the interest of a State can never be separated from the interest of the country. So, I do not agree on that point.

Now, take the example of security of this country. As you all know, every day in this very House we demand with the hon. Deputy Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that there is naxalite menace in our country and in our State. There is so much violence in our State. So, please send CRPF, CISF and the Central

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

paramilitary forces. You can imagine with the organisational structure and with the quality of training we have provided to our State police what will happen to this country or to any State, if the Central paramilitary forces are not allowed to intervene in most of the times. In my own State, the naxalites have killed so many policemen. The Malkangiri, the Koraput and the Raygada districts of Orissa are under total away of the naxalites. No policemen wants to go to man any of the police stations there. Now, it is only the paramilitary forces, the CRPF and others who have gone there and brought some sort of semblance of peace.

Now, take the example of sports. It is in the Concurrent List. However, every time in this very House itself we demand that sport should be brought under the Central Government. It should come under the Central List. The Central Government is having its resources or the policy or the capacity to improve the performance of the sports persons in this country. Can we say that about sports that we will allow the State Governments to have the law according to their own sweet will?

Now, take the example of connectivity of the rivers. The Government of India has come out with a stupendous and a very imaginative project to connect the rivers of India so that the forest areas, the areas which are gradually turning deserts day by day and where the ground level water is going very deeper and deeper every year, can be made good. The situation in those areas will change if the rivers are connected. Who will do this? Will it be possible by the State Governments? If we allow the State Governments to have their own laws, then we will not be able to connect these rivers. Can the surplus water of the East or North go the West or South? It is only the Central Government, which has got the resources and which has got the coordination capacity, can do it.

So, finally, I come to the point about the Central assistance and about the poverty alleviating programmes.

Take the example of the Rural Development. All the

money is being sent to the State Governments. You know Sir, – after the introduction of the Fifth Finance Commission's Report – that almost all the States do not have any money for developmental work. The job of most of the State Governments is now just to pay salary to their staff. So, for any developmental work; any poverty alleviation work, it is the Central Government which is financing. But, who is the implementing agency? It is the State Governments. It is because the Central Government does not have any implementing agency of its own. so, it is the State Governments who are doing this.

We, the Members of Parliament, demand in the Parliament that we should be given more powers for supervision, and for monitoring. We say this all the time, and all the time the Rural Development Minister says that it is the State Governments that will take the decision, and that it is not possible on the part of the Central Government to monitor it. It is because the Central Government does not have the monitoring power. Even with regard to MPLAD, all the time we say that it is the Central Government which should monitor, but the Minister for Programme Implementation expresses his inability to do it. So, it is the State Governments, which are doing it. That means there is a coordination between the Central Government, and the State Governments. The Central Government – be it at the time of Congress or during our time – had never lorded over the State Governments. There is coordination between the Central Government and the State Governments, and in future also it would remain the same. So, I fully disagree with Shri Suresh Kurup. I do not agree with this Bill. This should be rejected, and rather, I think, there are so many other items in the Concurrent List like sports, etc. which should be brought to the Central List, and just like now, power should rest with the Central Government, and not with the State Governments to make the laws. Thank you very much.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, this is a very interesting Bill moved by a Private Member. The intention of the Mover appears to give more powers to the States in matters of legislation, and finance. While moving the Bill, the hon. Member said that the union should be strong; and

the States should be strong. Nobody can object to his ideas that the Union should be strong, and that the State should be strong.

Before India became independent, there were many bodies which were considering to what kind of Constitution India should have; and at that time they were thinking of giving more powers to the States and less powers to the Union than – what has been done in our Constitution and – what is available in our Constitution today. But, after India became independent, and the country was united, the concept of federalism was not allowed to remain in the Constitution as it was proposed. I do not think the work 'federal' has been used in the Constitution, but the work 'Union' has been used in the Constitution. But, it does not have the same kind of classical unitary characters, as such. There are federal characters in our Constitution also, but care was taken to see that Union was quite capable to keep the country united; to protect the country from invasion or aggression; or to keep the country capable of protecting its own sovereignty, territory and the borders. That was the intention.

These days, there are some States and some regional parties also asking for more powers to the State. The real and the most important question is, can this demand of theirs be accepted. That is why, the Sarkaria Commission was appointed and the Sarkaria Commission has gone into this matter. I am not going to refer to the Sarkaria Commission or so many other things. I would like to express my views rather than my Party's views, which are not going to be very different from those of mine on this subject.

I do think that the Union should be stronger than what it is today, and States should have more powers, if it is possible to give more power to the State Governments, so that the demands made by the people living in the States are met because the States are at the cutting edge. It is through the State that the people are really helped in their day-to-day lives. They should have the means, they should have the funds and they should have the authority. They do have the authority, but probably what they need is more

funds. Is it possible to give them more funds? That is really the question before us. My view is that the States are allowed to collect the taxes, but we know that States are not using those powers as they should. If they use all the powers which are given to the States to collect the taxes, to collect the revenue, they would be able to have more funds in their coffers and, yet, we find that it becomes very difficult for the Ministers and the Governments, who are in day-to-day contact with the people over there, to collect the taxes. With the result, they have the authority, but they do not get the funds. The question arises: Should the Union Government help them or not? They insist that it should. The Union Government has been helping them: A Government may be helping a little more or a Government may be helping a little less. But the Union Government has been doing as per the constitutional provisions, as per the law also. My view is that simply by giving more authority to collect the revenue, it may or may not get the revenue it requires. So, the question is, whether we should accept the proposal given for giving the revenue. In my opinion, this is an area which should be very carefully examined and wherever it is possible to give them more authority to collect the revenue, it should be given to them so that they have enough funds to meet the requirements of the people.

This Bill mainly relates to legislative powers. There are one or two references with respect to the financial powers, but it mainly relates to the legislative powers. The Bill is seeking to transfer the residuary power from the Union Government to the State Government, and many times it is said that in America, the residuary power is with the State Government and not with the Union Government, so why it should not be given to the State Government in India also. But the historical facts are different. In America, the State came into existence before the Union came into existence. In India, the Union came into existence before the State came into existence. This is one. Moreover, if the legislative power is given to the State, sometimes, they find it very difficult to make the law. If the law has to be applicable to two States, if the law has to be applicable to the rivers, if the law has to be applicable to Railways.

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if the law has to be applicable to the electric grids that we have in the country, the law made by one State is not enough to meet the requirements of implementing the plans and the projects made by the Union Government. That is why, some powers are provided in the Constitution under which even if the State Legislature has the authority to make the law, having the subjects mentioned in the State List, if the Council of States decides by two-thirds majority, the law can be made by the Parliament.

It is not easy to have a Resolution passed by a Legislative Council to make a law. At least, I do not remember any occasion when this was done by a Legislative Council. Maybe it has to be gone into, but at least I do not remember, I do not know, of any occasion when this was done. The States have been requesting the Union Legislature to make laws. When two States have requested the Union Legislature to make laws, laws have been made by the Union Legislature for those States, to meet the requirements of more than one States in a Particular area.

My opinion is that the present arrangement in the Constitution was made with careful consideration. This apple cart should not be unnecessarily disturbed. Once it is disturbed, there would be no end to it. That is why, very carefully this matter should be looked into. While taking precaution to see that this apple cart is not disturbed, it should be the endeavour of the Government of India to help the States. It should be the endeavour of the State Governments to cooperate and coordinate with other States.

Those who have been in Government for a pretty long time know that funds are released but they are not utilised for the purpose for which they are given. There are some States to which funds were given but those funds were not utilised for the intended purpose. That is why the Union Government had to take the decision not to give funds to District Authorities through the State machinery but release them directly to the District Authorities. Jawahar Rozgar

Yojana funds are going directly to the District Authorities. Those funds are being used.

Why was this done? This was done because the funds which were given to the States to be utilised for giving employment to the citizens in the States were not utilised by the States for that purpose but they were utilised for giving salaries to the Government officers. That is why the Panchayats are getting direct assistance and cooperation from the Union Government. District bodies are getting funds from the Union Government directly.

Many times it is found that the funds are given for one purpose and they are utilised for some other purpose. Many times it is found that the Union Government is not in a position to ask them why this is done. The only forum where this can be raised is the Planning forum. When Annual Plan is made they say, 'We gave you funds but you have not utilised them. So, you will be given lesser amount of money for the ensuing year.' That is the only thing they can do.

There is no body which is available, where the Union Government and the State Governments can sit together and can plan for the country's development, where planning is done, where they assess as to how the plan is implemented and find out whether the funds which are made available to the State Government are used or not. There is no Inter-State Council. There are other Constitutions in the world which have Inter-State Councils, Councils in which the representatives of the Union Government and the representatives of the State Governments sit and plan.

This is exactly why, after the Constitution was made, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru – not by making a law, not by amending the Constitution, but by just an administrative order – created the National Development Council in which the representatives of the Union Government and the representatives of the State Governments sit, in which the Five Year Plan and some national issues are considered. That is a body which has no Constitutional backing.

In a country like ours where there are so many States, where there are so many people, where funds are limited, where the time is also limited, where the resources are not such that they can be properly utilised, where there are no technologies, and where coordination and cooperative action is required for the development of the country, there is no forum where these can be done! What is to be done by the Union Government on the subjects in the Union List, the Concurrent List and on the Residuary Matters, is done by this body.

But the State Governments have the exclusive jurisdiction to make the laws and to enforce the laws on the subjects which are mentioned in the State List. So, there is no body available at all, there is no forum available at all for perspective planning, there is no forum available at all for assessing as to how the plans are being implemented. There is forum available to the country. The funds are given but as to how the funds are spent, is not considered. Even if it is considered, the C&AG may consider it and give a report to the State Legislatures. And, if the States and the State Governments are not interested in highlighting as to how the funds are used, then it is not done.

So, my submission is that there is a requirement to see that there is a forum where the Union Government and the State Governments can join hands to make the plans, to assess the plans, to spend the money in a cooperative and coordinated manner, to produce best of the results with small amount of money and resources that are available to the country. That is required and not just decentralisation.

Decentralisation is necessary. Giving power to bodies at different levels is necessary. It should be done. That is why we have the Union Government, that is why we have the State Governments, that is why we have the district bodies, *taluka* bodies and the local bodies. But decentralisation by itself will not solve all our problems. It is necessary to have coordinated and harmonious action to be taken by all authorities all levels to produce best of the results. There is the possibility of decentralising the

power at different levels. We have decentralised the power. If necessary, we should decentralise the power more also. But there is no forum where a coordinated action can be taken.

So, there is a case for creating a forum or a body where this kind of planning coordinated action can be taken. I do feel that the intention of the mover is good. If possible, we should help the State Governments to have more funds in whatever fashion it may be. There is no forum. So, the manner in which the Union Government is helping the States cannot be correctly discussed excepting the National Development Council, which also meets for just one day. It does not meet even for two days. It has been meeting for one day where the nation's problems have to be considered. Then, the political issues are considered more than the economic issues and social issues which are also very important issues.

Sir, there are States which are objecting to the Government of India's not giving them the assistance to meet the drought conditions. But what they are saying is correct or not, where do we look at? Now, when we are considering that issue in Parliament, those who are making complaints are not there to say whether their statement is correct or not. There also, if the Union has to help the State Governments, there they should have the State representatives sitting and talking to each other, face to face and saying that, "look, we had made this kind of a demand; you have not given us enough of food grains; you have not given enough funds; you have not given us enough assistance; you have not given enough assistance in time." There, they should be able to say that

The National Development Council is not meeting for years. If it meets, it meets for one day, and there is not enough time to discuss all these issues. And, that is really creating problem. People from different States are going with different concepts and different views. They think that certain States are helped more than they should be helped and certain States are not helped. This has become very clear in the recent times when the question of drought was discussed. This is happening because there is no forum. I am not saying that what the Union Government is saying

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is wrong or what the States are saying is only correct. What I am saying is that misconception with respect to the help given prevails. There is doubt; there is no confidence in the minds of the State Governments and the people of all the States that if required, the required help would be given to them in time, and as per the requirement. That kind of confidence is lacking. Why this kind of confidence is lacking is because there is no occasion to discuss these issues face to face. So, this is all happening.

That is why, in my opinion, if anything has to be done, we have to take steps to see that there is coordinated, cooperative and harmonious action. These things are discussed here. The intention of the Member is good. I would not say that he has not come before the House with good intentions. The State Governments have their own problems. But, while solving one type of problem, we should not create another big type of problem.

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise here to support this Bill, but with a few reservations.

The time has come when the Centre-State relations need to be strengthened by judicious redistribution of the legislative and executive powers between the Centre on the one hand, and the States on the other hand. The financial aspect will also be taken into consideration.

After 53 years of Independence, India is the biggest democracy of world, but still it is a developing country.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this august House, especially of the policy-makers, and my learned and experienced colleagues, who are sitting here in this House, that we are not able to find a permanent place in the Security Council.

The policy-makers of the Centre and the State have to take into consideration many factors.

Sir, the official machinery plays a major role in implementing the schemes that the Centre or the State

Governments formulate. It is the official machinery which has to implement it in at the grass-root level.

Are we not competent enough, or is it not a time for us to have an amendment to set this official machinery right so that the benefits of this programme reach the beneficiaries at the grass-root level for which the august House, the State Assemblies, the elected representatives in the Parliament, and also the Members of Legislative Assembly are committed for? We are accountable enough to deliver the goods to the people of India.

Sir, I was a Government official in the State Government for 20 years. I express my feelings that the State Governments should be given more powers so that they do not have to face any undue delay in getting most of the things from the Government of India.

The State Governments are not able to provide the basic infrastructure facilities including electricity for the areas where the Scheduled Tribes live. We are not able to provide even the drinking water. Why, for everything the Ministry of Forests and Environment has to give the clearance? They are also the proud citizens of this great democracy. Are they not entitled to have a protected drinking water, a house, and light, even now after 53 years of Independence?

I stand before you with a heavy heart that we are not able to provide the basic amenities for the depressed and poor people.

Apart from this, the Centrally-sponsored schemes, are not following the norms. There is undue delay. They are not able to take appropriate steps at the appropriate time so that the beneficiaries get the benefits in due course.

Learned hon. Members who spoke before me, mentioned about drought situation and I agree with them. Tamil Nadu and also all other States have declared drought-affected areas. When the Government of India sends assessment teams, they come back after 2-3 months; they assist the drought situation; depending on

their findings on a particular day, they submit the report; after six months or even more than that, the States are getting the minimum relief measures. If this is the case, what is the use? For what purpose the Government is there? For what purpose the Parliament is there? If we are not able to protect the people, if we are not able to give them what is due, what for we are sitting here? Food grains are getting rotten in the go-downs; people are not getting them. Where is the law? For what purpose we have this law and for what purpose we have this Parliament?

I was rushing through the Constitution Amendment Bill. I feel that we have to bring in more amendments; the House is competent to do that. I also feel that except for very important subjects, 75-85 per cent of the subjects in the Concurrent List and Union List should be in the State List; powers should be given to the State Governments; then only, people of the States concerned will be able to enjoy benefits.

We are having regional imbalance between North India and South India. Within India, we have this imbalance. Why is it so? I would like to ask the Policy-makers. After all, we are all Indian. This is our motherland. Why is there so much difference between North India and South India in every aspect? Be it economic status or be it educational status, there is regional imbalance. It is because most of the powers that are there with the Union Government, are not reaching the grassroots level, when the State is in need of it. Through you, I would urge upon the policy-makers to bring in more amendments. Shri Shivraj Patil is here; my senior colleagues are present here. We have to have a sound thinking; we have to bring in constitutional amendments which are suited for the day. Do we not have any competent authority? Are we not competent enough to bring in more amendments, not only here, but also – as it is said, in financial, judiciary, legislative and executive matters? We have to sit and critically evaluate as to where we are going wrong. Otherwise, we cannot take the country in the right direction. All these 53 years, we were not able to deliver constitutional rights to the people of our country; at least

now, the time has come for us to do it with the help of National Development Council, the State Planning Boards and the Union Planning Commission. We have to have a Constitutional Review Committee which should address all these issues so that at least from the Tenth Five Year Plan, we can achieve our goals within a stipulated time, without any delay. There should also be a time-bound programme. Even the release of funds from the Central Government to the State Governments, we are expected to give it to the Government of India so that Centre-State relationship will be cordial. Every time we see that there is delay in receiving the proposals or sending the proposals; bureaucracy is there; this august House is there.

I caution the Government to take appropriate steps and see that the bureaucratic and the official machinery is tuned up so that the Centre-State relationship will be cordial and we will be able to do justice to the people of India. With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, I rise to oppose the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2000 introduced by Suresh Kurupji. The history bears testimony to the fact that whenever the centre has become weaker, the country has also become weaker and on the contrary whenever the Centre has been strong, the country has brought laurels. There is no doubt about this. When the Mughal Empire was waning, what was the situation prevailing in the provinces? That was the time when provinces were getting stronger and consequently the Centre became weak and was unable to have a control over the states and as a result thereof we became slave of Britishers. When our country was divided into several princely states, the Englishmen came in our country as traders and became a ruler. This all happened because our country was divided into several small princely states.

I would like to thank the framers of our Constitution who meticulously provided enough for union list, state list

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

and a concurrent list. Those three lists serve the purpose of distribution of powers. The constitution clearly gives separate powers to the centre and the state. Subsequently the states have their own legislature, judiciary and executive while the centre was its own pattern of legislature, judiciary and executive. On the basis of all these things I am growing suspicious about the idea which our leftist colleagues might have behind moving the present amendments.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you may please excuse me. In the concept of nation according to the Indian culture the 'Rashtra' i.e. 'Nation' has been dubbed as 'Purush' or 'Deva' i.e. god. — "Rashtra Devo Bhawah, Rashtra Pursho Bhawah." The nation is like our body. If we have a pain in any part of the body, it is felt by the whole of the body. Similarly the sense of pleasure is also felt by the entire body. Suppose the hand of our body is strong but the rest part of the body is weak then there will be an imbalance in the body. Similarly, if our legs are strong and the mind is weak then what will be the state of our body? There are numerous components of the body which are functional in their own places. Those parts of the body work well under one controlling power. So is the case with the nation. We believe in omnipresence of god in every pebble in the country. The rivers are worshipped as mother. In the morning while taking bath one chants the name of the Ganga, the Yamuna, the Narmada, the Kaveri and even the Indian Ocean or the river Sindhu. The ocean, the rivers, the mountains, flora & fauna are all that are worshipped. All those feelings go with the concept of the nation.

The communists are impressed by the European ideology or the ideology of Karl Marks. They believe that India is not a nation, rather it is a combination of so many states or nations. That is there in their literature which I have read. They do not want India to be a strong nation. They want to see India in smaller 'groups like' Spain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, England, Germany, Norway, and Sweden etc. Those countries are like the districts of

our country. They want to visualize India divided into small fragments, that is why they argue that Indian States be give more powers and the centre should have the power that is enshrined in the Union list.

We often talk of financial autonomy. The people of the BJP agree with the thinking of Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, the founder of the Bharatiya Jansangha that if any State is given more power under the provision like article 370 then we may have the problem of two flags, two constitutions and two heads. He sacrificed his life for the unity of the country. In the name of financial autonomy if a state like Nagaland is given more power, will it then be possible for the state like Nagaland to survive on its own resources. What will be the position of smaller states like Mizoram and Tripura or for that matter what will be the position of Union Territories, or backward states. Can they survive without centre's help? That is why financial assistance is given to the states. But I am sorry to say that in many cases when such financial assistance is given by the centre, as has been reported in the PAC report, the funds are not utilized for ensuing development, rather they are diverted and misappropriated and at times it is grabbed by corrupt persons. That is why I would empathically like to say that we have our own concept of things in the country whereas the eastern ideology is entirely different. I would like to ask our communist colleagues whether they have brought this Bill being guided by the thought that India should not remain one. India is a federation. If they assume in advance that India is a federation of states, then any part of this country may be separated, but if we believe that India is a Union of States and that there is unity in diversity that India is one, there is one constitution, one flag, one culture, one history, one tradition, one similar heritage, one motherland, then I think the states would be safe in their places and the centre would be able to hold them united. In that case a national and emotional integration would be created in the country.

Once a foreign journalist visited India and after having travelled from one corner to another corner of the country when he was all set to return from here, some Indian

journalists met him and asked about the most strange thing he saw in India. At this the foreign journalist replied that he visited all parts of India including the East, the West, the North and the South and when he asked the people of different regions as to who they were, they replied that they were Punjabi, Gujarati, Bengali, Rajasthani, Madrasi, or Brahmins or Jats or Harijan or Kshatriya, but none said that they were Indians. So the need of the hour is to inculcate the sense of national unity among us. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Gujarat to Nagaland, our country is not merely a piece of land. We are emotionally attached to our land as is revealed through the Sukta: 'Mata Bhoomi Putro Aham Prithya' that is to say, this land is our mother and we belong to her. We say 'Vande Matram' and think of 'Bharatmata'. If we give more powers to States, that would be crossing the Lakshman rekha. Then every state would demand for separate powers and the centre would be imbalanced. Today in the present scenario when the forces of terrorists are destabilising us. Pakistan is creating troubles in Kashmir under the influence of America or other powers. There is a network of ISI in the entire country. Divisive forces are out to destroy India, we need national unity at this juncture. This country is one and will remain one. This is only possible when the Centre is strong and we have good policies and the overall development is ensured.

Our army and other agencies should be happy. That will make the nation prosperous. The centre should be generous towards the States which are lagging behind in terms of development. Recently, the centre has given help of crores of rupees to Rajasthan when the State was hit by drought. That was also to solve the problem of drinking water. But since we have the government of other political parties in the state, so it says that the centre has not given any assistance. If every state accuses the centre for every little thing then how a cordial relation would develop between the centre and states.

The Sarkaria Commission has given good suggestions in this regard. Shivraj Patilji was just now telling that we should have inter state council like National Unity Council and the National Development Council. Wherever any

problem comes up that should be solved through constitutional measures. But it would be unfair to demand for more powers to be given to states or to put the States in concurrent list etc. India has her own peculiarities. We say 'Sare Jahan Se Accha Hindustan Hamara, Hum Bulbule Hain Iske, Yeh Gulsita Hamara.' In a country where we think like this, if we start thinking to give more and more powers to the states, then the whole federal system would be disturbed. India is a federal country. So we have to think in terms of oneness. The State and the centre should exercise their powers as per the norms fixed. Whether it is a big state or small, developed or backward, whether plain or hilly, they have their due places in this country. I am reminded of the couplet of Goswami Tulsidasji.

"Mukhiya Mukh So Chahiye, Kanpan Ko Ek,
Pale-Pose Sakal Ang, Tulsi Sahit Vivek."

In our body it is our mouth which eats, but all other parts of the body get nourished. Similarly, centre is the mouth of states. The centre mobilizes all resources including income tax, revenue etc. and it gives due share to every state out of this through Finance Commission. It is enshrined in our constitution that the state should get its share. If we follow this policy, our country would make development. Otherwise the State can ask for separate citizenship, law. That will not serve the purpose.

Today we want to link all the rivers of the country. Some state may not agree that a particular train passes through its State. As a result of it a situation may arise as it used to take place in earlier times. That is why our Constitution makers giving an example of their foresight framed a unitary form of Constitution. A concurrent list for both States and the Centre was provided for which was quite appropriate. If any anomaly is detected therein, then it becomes the duty of our national leaders to sort out those problems through dialogues with the States. Just as we saw here that when all the Finance Ministers belonging to various States assembled here, they all agreed on a particular issue but as soon as they returned to their States

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

they all started singing discordant notes. That is why there is a failure in effective implementation of policies. Thus, there is a need to create an atmosphere of unity and strength with one voice. This spirit is echoed in our Vedas –

"Samano Mantrah Samiti Samani
Saman manah sah chittmesham
Samani va akhutih samana hridayani vah
Samanmastu vo mano yatha vah sushasti."

This mantra (hymn) is written in the galleries of Parliament. If we have a uniform pace, policy and traditions then we can stand with pride and make our identity in the world. But if we divide the country in the name of decentralisation of power then we would really be crossing limits.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

Excess of everything is bad. [Translation] It is being said ?Acharah paramodharamah. Rightful conduct is our foremost duty. In Hindi if we prefix 'ati' to 'achar' it becomes 'atyachar' i.e. too much observance of rules is bad. WE lodge our protest against 'atyachar' (misconduct). This is why I understand that whatever rights the Centre has are justified. Our national leader in the Centre is our Prime Minister and our entire country is safe in the hands of our hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. Granting too much powers to the State is like breaking the country. Today, the Centre-States relations are good. Where assistance from the Centre is required to catch smugglers like Virappan that would be provided but the concerted efforts of the States' police of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka would only make it possible. If the States become self-centred and stop thinking about other issues except their own then who will think about the country. "What happens to one, will happen to all. United we stand divided we fall." No matter how much the pitcher is full

if there is a crack, the water would seep through the pitcher. That is why even if any State at any point of time would violate the line of conduct, the country's unity would be weakened. Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore everybody should think alike. The Communists have something else in their mind. Their concept of a nation is different. That is why I oppose this amendment.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members must be remembering that in forenoon when certain Members were expressing their concern over the problem of potato growing farmers then hon. Mr. Speaker desired the Minister of Agriculture to come and address the issue since it is a pretty serious issue. That is why hon. Ministers is here and he would give his statement in this regard.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : The Members who had raised this problem are not present in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Chennithalaji, the Members should themselves think about this that after raising such a serious issue in the House they are not present now. It is their responsibility they must understand their parliamentary liabilities.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALA (Ponnani) : Sir, it is customary that prior announcements are made that at such and such hours statement will be given by the Minister. It is not right to surprise the Members like this. This information could have been put up at the notice board for all Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Banatwalaji the question of customary practice has been rightly pointed out by you. But the issue is so serious that all the hon. Members would want to listen to hon. Member's reply and the entire House is unanimous on this. Reply will be made in consideration of the sentiments of the House.

16.04 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTERS*—Contd.

Potato Prices in the Country

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : Sir, the total production of potatoes in the country is expected to be around 24 million metric tonnes during the current year. The annual production ranges from 17 million to about 24 million metric tonnes. The major potato producing States in the order of production are Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Karnataka and Punjab which put together account for 85 per cent of total potato production. It has been reported that the price of potato in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are ruling in the range of Rs.130 to Rs. 170 per quintal against the production cost of Rs. 190 to Rs. 210 per quintal. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported an estimated production of potato of 102 lakh metric tonnes during 2002-2003 as compared to 95.70 lakh tonnes in 2001-2002 and 83.98 lakh metric tonnes in the year 2000-2001.

The rate of fair quality potato was reported to be ruling between Rs. 138 and Rs. 239 per quintal against the cost of production of Rs. 190 per quintal. In view of the prevailing low prices of potatoes which are even lower than the cost of production, the Government of Uttar Pradesh requested the Ministry of Agriculture to consider the procurement of potato under Market Intervention Scheme during the current season. I took a meeting on 5th February, 2003 with the State Government at Lucknow for implementation of MIS for procurement of potato in Uttar Pradesh. It was decided to procure one lakh metric tonnes of potato in the State. It was also decided that 50,000 metric tonnes would be procured by the NAFED and 50,000 metric tonnes would be procured by the State-designated agencies.

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh sent a

*Also Placed in Library. See No. LT 7333/2003.

proposal on 7th February 2003 for implementation of MIS for procurement of one lakh metric tonnes of potato which was discussed in a meeting held on 11th February with the State Government officers. The State Government reported the cost of production of fair average quality potatoes at Rs 190 per quintal. After considering the proposal of the State Government, the Central Government sanctioned MIS for potato in Uttar Pradesh for a quantity of one lakh metric tonnes at the rate of Rs. 190 per quintal. Out of one lakh metric tonne, NAFED was to procure 50,000 metric tonnes while 50,000 metric tonnes were to be procured by the designated agencies. The NAFED and the State agencies have opened centres in 24 districts for procurement of potato in Uttar Pradesh under MIS. Procurement operations have commenced. It has been reported that NAFED has so far procured 1750 quintals of potatoes in Uttar Pradesh under this Scheme. In addition, 5,000 quintals of potatoes have also been purchased by the NAFED from Uttar Pradesh under their normal business operations.

The Government of West Bengal has submitted a proposal for implementation of MIS for procurement of potato which was considered by the Committee in this Department on 7th of April 2003. MIS for a quantity of 20,000 metric tonnes at the cost of Rs. 200 per quintal has been recommended by the Committee as requested by the West Bengal Government. Out of the 20,000 metric tonnes, the NAFED will procure 10,000 metric tonnes and the balance 10,000 metric tonnes will be purchased by the BANFED – the State Government agency. As reported, the BANFED has already started the procurement of potato in West Bengal. No request from any other State Government has come so far for starting procurement under MIS.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I have to make a humble request to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. On March, 11, I had drawn the

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture through Calling Attention Motion. Hon. Minister is giving the same reply today that he had given that time in reply to my question. He had admitted it himself that this year there would be record production of potatoes in comparison to last year. One lakh metric tonnes would be procured by the Government and 50 thousand metric tonnes potatoes will be procured by NAFED. ...*(Interruptions)*. We cannot even ask a question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may ask clarification.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may ask the question directly.

(Interruptions)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : You may at least smile while asking a question.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : That I will do next time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may seek clarification.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we need your protection...*(Interruptions)*

I want that hon. Minister of Agriculture should make positive efforts in this direction. It is a great misfortune that assurance for opening 24 centres was given but those were not opened on time. Today's newspaper reports say "procurement of potato in Agra will start from today". The Centre which were required to be opened were not opened. Assurance for procuring potato at the rate of 190 per quintal in the Allahabad Centre was given. I would like to request the Minister of Agriculture that the condition of potatoes is very bad. It is putrefying in the fields. Now the farmer is not prepared to sow potatoes. They are not getting even Rs.100, what to talk of Rs.190. It is a very

serious matter. One or two farmers have been taken their lives.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You made this submission even in the morning. Please take clarification only.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Hon. Minister of Agriculture must ensure whether centres have really been opened in Uttar Pradesh or not? If these have been opened then what is the rate at which it is being given? This time one of the major factors of harassment of farmers was that there was a psychological impact on the entire society that the export of potato which was to be made to gulf countries did not take place. I would like to know the quantum of export which was made. The farmers have expectations from the assurances that were made. If their potato is exported their interests would be safeguarded. If hon. Minister would focus his statement on these questions then I will feel obliged...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There can be no question after the Statement.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the State of West Bengal, at least one lakh tonnes of potatoes have to be purchased. Otherwise, the problem will not be solved. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider increasing the purchase of potatoes to one lakh tonnes.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask a clarification from the Minister regarding purchase of potatoes in the State of Punjab. The state of affairs in Punjab is very bad as far as potato farmers are concerned. There is no purchase of potatoes, NAFED has not entered the market and the sugar content in potato is so high that it is not profitable or sought out by foreign markets. Unless the sugar content in potato comes down in the State of Punjab, we are going to have a glut all over the countryside. So, I would like the Minister to clarify and advertise as to what he is doing to lessen the content of sugar in potato.

Secondly, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that till the Wagha border with Pakistan and other Islamic countries is not opened, potato growing is going to be non-profitable in Punjab. So, I would appeal to the Government of India to open the border at Wagha and see that potato and other agricultural produce go to Islamic countries.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this time the concern of Members regarding potato is justified. Not only in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, this problem is prevailing in Punjab also. Farmers are not even getting their cost of production. Firstly everybody knows that potatoes could not be exported to gulf countries this time due to the problems over there. There have been obstacles in export.

The Member from Agra rightly said that no procurement was made because some delay was there in announcing the commencement of procurement. I would like to inform him that last week we sent officers to Agra division at least. Although NAFED is a cooperative and it is not directly under the Agriculture Ministry but we had sent officers there. Such centres have been opened in Agra. Procurement of 1750 metric tonnes has taken place there but this process needs to be expedited. We are in constant touch with the U.P. Government. I have spoken to the Chief Minister and Commissioner (production) in this regard. They hold meeting with officers and sent them with money to the districts so as to start procurement. As far as West Bengal is concerned, 20 thousand metric tonnes ...[Interruptions]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The production has been more than 40 lakh tonnes there. Arrangement to purchase at least one lakh tonne should be made.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Twenty thousand metric tonne was settled during the dialogue with the State Government and as hon. Member is saying that there is a need for higher procurement then we shall hold talks with the State

Government. The potato which is being purchased by NAFED and Government organisations is under Market Intervention System. The loss, if any, is shared by Union and the State Governments in the ratio of 50-50 per cent. The Punjab Government has not made any request to the Union Government.

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN Sir, Congress Government in Punjab is not farmer friendly
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The request came only from the Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal Governments. It was decided after a dialogue. It is right that the condition in Uttar Pradesh is serious and some delay is there. But this process has begun last week.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN Mr. Chairman, Sir, the statement of hon. Minister is not satisfactory. Through you I would like to know that procurement of potato was to begin from 22 February...[Interruptions.] Today procurement has begun in Agra. Farmers are facing problems.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : The farmers of Uttar Pradesh are facing problems...[Interruptions]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You know that after the statement of hon. Minister you cannot ask any question in this regard.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : It is not an ordinary issue. The farmers have tried to commit suicide there. It is a very serious matter. Kindly try to collect information at your level in regard to the report submitted by the State Government. It is a question of life and death of the farmers. I wish to submit that the information received by hon. Agriculture Minister is through the State Government. My request is that if the Government have any system which could collect

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

proper information it would have been more fruitful. This information is totally incorrect. Potato has been purchased there. I have today's newspaper's cutting. The process of procurement has begun today but there has been no purchase. Farmers are committing suicide there. One farmer is dead. Three-four farmers have tried to take their lives...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What about the minimum support price?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, take your seat. Resume your seat and listen to me. Hon. Minister has admitted that the issue is serious and the Government too has taken this matter very seriously. I only wish to say this from the Chair that the Government must pay attention towards the questions raised by hon. Members, Sumanji, Acharyaji and Sardar Simranjit Singh Mannji. In view of their sentiments and that no occasion of suicide committed by farmers should arise and maximum procurement of potato under MIS scheme should be made to the extent possible through NAFED or cooperatives, the Government must monitor it.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Potato farmers are dying, it is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Chairman, he should be taught some manners. He does not know how to behave. This is not the way.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sumanji, the Government has taken this matter seriously and observation has been made by the Chair as well, even then you are on your legs. Do not try to obfuscate the matter which is already very serious

16.19 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Article 248, etc.) – Contd.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I support the constitutional Amendment moved by Shri Suresh Kurup.

Before, I start my speech, I would like to mention that decentralisation of powers will not harm the unity of the country.

We have our experience. When the Constitution came into being, the power sharing process was done between the Union and the States only. The Powers that are to be dealt with by the States were enlisted in the State List. The powers that are to be dealt with by the Union are in the Union List. We have also evolved a third List, that is the Concurrent List, where the Union will have to deal with. This was the arrangement at the time when the Constitution came into being on 26th January 1950. At that time we were not in the process of sharing further the powers enshrined in the Constitution. But, there was only a division between the States and Union. Now we have come to a stage where we will have to have a rethinking in the matter. That rethinking is coming into effect. Nobody will argue that strength of our Republic has weakened. No. By the latest amendments, now we have a Fourth Schedule in the Constitution giving powers to the local bodies. That will not weaken the federal structure of the Constitution. I have already expressed the view that the powers to be dealt by the Local Governments or the local bodies that is the *panchayat raj* system, were only enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy. The local bodies are not given any statutory powers. They will have to act as per the whims and fancies of the State Governments. Whenever some power is given by the State Government, by an Act of legislature, the local bodies could function. That was the provision at that time. That is why I have said that the local bodies were functioning within the powers which were given to the local bodies

according to the political convenience of the party in power in the States. That was the system which was followed. Earlier, the elections did not take place to local bodies. There were *panchayats* functioning for more than 16 years and there were *panchayats* which had to function for 10 years. The powers were not given to the local bodies. The State Governments also had usurped the powers which were once given to the local bodies, making the local bodies a mockery of the Constitution. So, it was felt necessary that the Constitution will have to be amended. We have amended the Constitution by 74th and 78th amendments. The *panchayat raj* system came into being. We have now the three-tier system – the district *panchayat*, the block *panchayat* and the gram *panchayat*. They are functioning under the provisions of the Constitution. Powers have to be given to the *panchayats* as well. An additional list has been added to the Constitution. Panchayats were given, municipal bodies were given powers, like taxing powers etc. But even the Union Government could give funds directly to the *panchayats*. Why? It is because there is Constitution. They were given powers. They are functioning under provisions of the Constitution, not according to the whims and fancies of the State Governments. There is a guarantee that elections will take place at a particular time, at a particular period. There was no uncertainty about the duration of the *panchayats*, the local bodies. They are functioning as the State Legislatures were functioning previously. When powers have been diversified, powers have been given to the local bodies, have they not weakened the structure of our Constitution? Have they not weakened our federal structure? The federal structure of the Constitution is there to strengthen the democratic process.

Sir, having vested powers with the local bodies, our Constitution has not at all been weakened. So, sharing of powers between the respective bodies will not weaken the unity of the country. Sharing of powers will not weaken the democratic process also.

16.25 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

So, I would like to submit that merely sharing process

will weaken the unity of the country is not a valid argument. Under the directive principles enshrined in our Constitution, they were given a statutory status. By doing so, our democratic process had been strengthened. So, is the case with the present one. We have come to such a time that we will have to have a re-thinking on sharing of powers, especially sharing of powers in the economic spheres.

Now, the aims of this Bill make it abundantly clear that the time has come when the Centre-State relations need to be strengthened by judicious re-distribution of the Legislative and the Executive powers between the Centre on the one hand and the States on the other hand. Why do we feel that the time has come now? When the Constitution came into being, we never expected that there would be a Government at the Centre consisting of 24 parties. Now, NDA is consisting of 24 parties; splinter parties, major parties, national parties and State parties are together in the Central Government.

When the Constitution came into being, the framers of our Constitution never expected it. Even in the States, coalition Government is the order of the day. Now, coalition Government are at the Centre also. NDA Government is the best example. That is why, we say that the time has come when we have to think over it. Now, our Constitution did not get weakened for the simple reason that we have 24 parties in power at the Centre.

You are all going together in spite of the fact that there were inconsistencies, diversities, and contradictions among you. But in the process of sharing the power, you are all together. You are prepared to do way with all your ideals, all your thinking and everything for the sake of sharing the power. So, there is a tendency for sharing the power. That is the opportunistic tendency which we find in our politics today, especially at the Centre. You do not have any hesitation to accept things which are opposed to your principles enshrined in your party constitution for the simple reason that you want to share the power at the Centre. In the process of administration, we find such a tendency. That is why, we hold or presume that the time has come for re-thinking on sharing of powers.

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

Now, I would like to give a concrete example of VAT – Value Added Tax system. Could you implemented it? You could not implement it. The States took a different view. There was a declaration that on 1st April, 2003, VAT would be implemented. Could you implement it? For different reasons or political reasons, the States could not come with you. The Centre was forced to comply with the wishes of the States. So, the implementation of VAT is ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you will be on your legs. You can continue your speech next time. Now, we have to take up the Resolutions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, no Minister was listening to his speech....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, they were listening to his speech with concentration.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : The entire Private Members' Business – Bills - is being converted into a forest in this Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : They all concentrated on his speech.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : No, Sir. No Minister, including the Law Minister, was listening to his speech.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you can continue your speech next time.

16.30 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

(I) Ban on Cow Slaughter – Contd.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, before further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Prahlad Singh

Patel regarding Ban on Cow Slaughter is resumed, I would like to inform the House that on the last occasion, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel indicated that he was not willing to withdraw his Resolution.

Before the Resolution could be put to vote, the House had to be adjourned due to continuous interruptions. I would now like to know again from Shri Prahlad Singh Patel whether he would like to withdraw his Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you, I would like to request through you in regard to the resolution moved by me in the House that :

"The House is of the opinion that a suitable legislation banning the slaughter of cow and its progeny should be brought in.

I request that it should be put to vote immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, you are not withdrawing.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla is before you.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)* I have also written to you about that point of order. Please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Banatwalla to raise the point of order.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, this Resolution cannot be put to vote for two important reasons. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : There is a ruling by the Chair. Only voting is pending.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : It has already put to the vote. How can there be point of order now?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I have quoted all the rules also. My note is in the hands of the Speaker. So, I should be allowed to formulate my point of order.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Discussion has already been concluded.

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : The point of order would be raised under a particular rule. What is that rule? Under what provision is he raising his point of order?

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN (Vidisha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be put to vote. No further discussion is required in this regard.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : This issue has already been discussed. Last time, it was supposed to be put to vote but they kept on raising the technical objections till six o'clock. In the last, Mr. Chairman, gave ruling that process of voting should be started, and that process has started.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, I should be allowed. Please allow me to formulate my point of order ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two important reasons which must be noted.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : What is the rule under which he is raising his point of order?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, will you please quote the rule under which you are raising the point of order? Please quote the rule.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I have already given the rule to you. The rule is, rule 376 read with rule 186 (xiii) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business read with article 246 clause (3) of the Constitution. So, I have quoted two rules. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : It is not a substantive point of order. How the point of order is to be raised only is narrated there. How can you quote rule 376? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The Resolution has already been put to vote. How can he raise the point of order now?

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir the chair has given ruling. Therefore, it should be ut to vote.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I am quoting rule 186 clause (xiii) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business and article 246 clause (3) of the Constitution. The subject matter of this Resolution is not within the power of the Central Government. Secondly, the legislation, which is being asked in the Resolution, will be a Bill and it is not within the competence of the House. ...*(Interruptions)* I have not finished. You please allow me to finish and then you give your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not giving my ruling. I am going to allow you to speak. The hon. Members may please try to understand that last time before the voting started, the point of order was raised by one hon. Member in the House. The ruling was given on that, but it does not stop me from allowing other Members to raise their points of order.

I feel that you must have some patience. Let the points of order be disposed of and then we can go for the voting straightway.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, I have two submissions to make. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, last time, the Motion was being put to vote. A voice vote was taken and division was going to be taken. At that time could there be a point of order on merit? The Motion was already put to vote and voice vote was taken. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : A point of order could be raised at any point of time.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Then, people came into the well of the House and the Chair said, 'Because of unruly situation in the House, I cannot proceed.' ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will examine this point whether the voice vote was taken and then come back to you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject matter of the Resolution is not within the powers of the Government and the Bill would not be within the competence of this House.

Even at the time when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was the Prime Minister, on this subject, the Attorney-General came to the House and told the House that the subject matter is in the State List. Cow slaughter, preservation of stock and such matters are in the Seventh Schedule, State List, under Item 15. Therefore, the subject matter is exclusively within the jurisdiction of the States. The Centre cannot intervene. Even the Attorney-General had come to this House and given this opinion here in this House itself. Therefore, I say that this Resolution should be really thrown out and should not be allowed. There can neither be a voting on this Motion nor is this Motion admissible for the purpose. It is totally a State subject within the exclusive jurisdiction of the States.

Even now, we have been having a discussion on federalism, the federal spirit and the Centre encroaching upon the jurisdiction of the States. This was the subject we were discussing and now we are having another example of this here.

I appeal to you, after hearing all the points of order, to please say that there can neither be a voting nor admissibility of this Motion.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, the same point was raised earlier also and this has been disposed of. He is raising the point of non-competence of this House. We found that we have got the competence to pass legislation on anything. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : For the information of hon. Members, I would read what happened in the last meeting. Let there be no misunderstanding. I do not want to do any injustice.

[Translation]

At that time Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji was sitting in the Chair. He said that it has already been discussed and division can be avoided.

[English]

But thereafter no division was taken.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The voice vote was taken but the division was not there.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, let me go according to this.

[Translation]

Thereafter, several members caused in interruptions. Therefore, Mr. Chairman said that there is total unruly situation in the House. The hon. members are not going back to their seats.

[English]

Probably, they must have come into the well. So, the Chair said:

[Translation]

In such unruly situation the House is adjourned till tomorrow. It does not mean that voting had started.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Sir, the process was started. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Fortunately, the Lok Sabha proceedings are before me. I have read the proceedings for your information.

Now, it is up to the Speaker whether to allow the points of order or not. I have allowed one point of order. If hon. Members want to speak for two minutes on the point of order, let them have the satisfaction. It does not matter to me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, in the same note it has already been mentioned.

[Translation]

It has been passed by voice vote. It is written therein.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It was not passed by voice vote. That is not in the record. You can show me the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing Shri E. Ahamed. Shri E. Ahamed, is your point of order different or the same?

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I will take only two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please bear with me. You will save the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I may be allowed to speak on the same point. I would like to draw your attention. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, are you supporting his submissions or opposing?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I am opposing ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, just one minute because there are some Members who want to support.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED : I would just like to substantiate the point of order raised by Shri G.M. Banatwalla ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow all the Members to speak continuously.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, I would take only one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The rule is very clear. Shri Basu Deb Acharia, may I read the rule for you? You know the rules.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, may I just read out clause (3) of Article 246 of the constitution? I quote:

"Subject to clauses (1) and (2), the Legislature of any State has exclusive power to make laws for such State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List II in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the "State List")

Here, clause (1) and (2) are referring to the Union List and the Concurrent List and clause (3) is exclusively with respect to the State List of the Constitution. So, here the Constitution has given the mandatory duty to a State Legislature to make laws in respect of the items or the matters referred to in List (II) or the State List and this House shall not abrogate the powers of the State

[Shri E. Ahamed]

Legislature. As this is included in the State List, as mentioned in item number 15 in the State list, the Union Government has absolutely no power to make laws.
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please let me listen to Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, I appeal to you that a ruling may be given in this matter...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : It has been discussed once during IXth Lok Sabha. At that time question of Order was not raised, hence there is no justification of the issues being raised now because voting has been completed during Ninth Lok Sabha. Now the question is whether the resolution should be accepted or not. Now time of the House should not be wasted on these petty things. You are requested to put it to vote immediately.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I would like to draw your attention to rule 184 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. I quote:

"Save in so far as is otherwise provided in the Constitution or in these rules, no discussion of a matter of general public interest shall take place except on a motion made with the consent of the Speaker."

Now, this is in answer to the query raised by hon. Member, Shri G.M. Banatwalla. He referred to article 246 and he referred to rule 186.

Now, rule 184 makes it abundantly clear that once the motion is made with the consent of the hon. Speaker, then that is perfectly in order.

Now, I would like to draw your attention to rule 191. I quote:

"The Speaker shall, at the appointed hour on the allotted day or the last of the allotted days, as the case may be, forthwith put every question necessary to determine the decision of the House on the original question."

So, once the matter is conclusively presented before the House, there is no other alternative but to put all those questions for the vote of the House. This is mentioned in rule 191. Now, the Motion, which is before this House, is perfectly in order. ...*(Interruptions)*

Now, the Motion, which is before this House, is perfectly in order. It was brought for a discussion with the consent of the Chair.

SHRI E. AHMED : No rule can overrule the provisions of the Constitution.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : It is optional for a Private Member's Resolution.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Secondly Sir, all the parties have been heard so far as the Motion is concerned. Now, it is finally for taking the opinion of the House by voting, and it is mandatory that every such question shall be put to the vote of the House, and there is no other provision. So, this is what I would like to bring to the notice of the Chair, and I would request that since the discussion has conclusively concluded, now we will have to go in for voting.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : They cannot override the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would request you to read together article 48 as well as article 246. Sir, why I say to read together is because the question is whether this Parliament is competent. ...*(Interruptions)*. Should I not speak? Is this the way of doing it? ...*(Interruptions)* I am on a Point of Order. Sir, is this the way the House should be conducted? It is always their duty to...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : The ruling had been given during IXth Lok Sabha when Mr. Shiv Raj Patil was in Chair. It is not justified to raise these question time and again. The time of the House is being wasted. I am to submit only that there should be voting on whether you want to slaughter cows or ban it. We have to go...*(Interruptions)*. If Shivraj Patilji has objection then he can call for proceedings.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : We are not wasting the time of the House. It is they who have wasted the time. They are the ones who are not allowing the House to function. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : We have patiently heard Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar. Why are they not hearing me patiently?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : They are there to speak, and they are not allowing us to speak. What is happening in this House?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) Why are their microphones put on without your permission? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Last time also, all these issues were raised. Now no further discussion is required in this regard. Now it should be put to vote as to who supporting or opposing it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : There should be no voting.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : What is the hurry? Why are you in such a hurry?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : They are not competent to vote

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I said repeatedly that I will give my ruling after the point of order. I will take up one more point of order after that if Dasmunsi. It will take five minutes more then I will give ruling.

[English]

Please sit down. Only one more Member after him, and then I will give the ruling

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am only here to raise the Point of Order under articles 48 and 246, and simply to defend the views expressed by the Government, that is, the Treasury Benches. Sir, article 48 makes it clear that "The State shall endeavour" – the word is "State". I know the meaning of the State, both Union and the State.

Article 246 makes it clear that unless issues are linked with Concurrent List and Union List, this Parliament is not competent to bring any legislation on matters within the State List. Sir, in support of that, and in reply to the debate, I draw your kind attention to the proceedings of Lok Sabha of 13 December. In that debate, the hon. Minister Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav – who is present here – replied:

[Translation]

"I request the hon'ble Members that it is a state subject. I will do the needful in accordance with the Central Government's opinion formed after the discussion held with the state Government's Minister for Animal Husbandary. The feelings of hon'ble Member and the opinions of other members will also be put in state ministers conference."

Whatever we decide here today is unanimity. ...*(Interruptions)* So I urge upon the hon'ble Members not to insist on putting resolution to vote in the House. It is a state subject.

[English]

It is a commitment and a confession of the Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not speaking out of context. Today, in our presence, the distinguished Parliamentary Affairs Minister sought the cooperation from all of us for not insisting on a vote on another Bill. We did stand by the word of the Minister and the request for a vote was withdrawn. In the reply, when the Minister made the view of the Government very clear that it is a State subject, why should you compel the Parliament to vote on it, in contravention of article 246? This is my appeal to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We want to make it a Central subject. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

It might be a state subject but it can be made a union subject through a constitutional amendment.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The rules are quite clear on this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Now, the Spokesman and the Super-Minister has agreed to make it a Central subject! ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We will also raise a point of order on this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House. It is in the interest of all of us to keep silence in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with utmost regard I would like to say that before a point of order is raised, it always needs to be ascertained whether the proceedings are going on in accordance with the Constitution, the rules framed by us and our established conventions or not. If the proceedings deviate from the Constitutional provisions then the point of order is considered and any ruling given by you or by the presiding

officer accordingly will be binding on us. I am going to raise a point of order according to Constitution, to place the provisions of Constitution before the house. I am reading out Art. 246(3) of the Constitution to you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Patil, is your point of order different from the point of order raised earlier?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Yes, Sir. I read it out to you. It says that—

"(3) Subject to clauses (1) and (2), the Legislature of any State has exclusive power to make laws for such State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List III in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the "State List")."

"(3) Subject to clauses (1) and (2), the Legislature of any State has exclusive power to make laws for such State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List III in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the "State List")."

[Translation]

Sir, this article say that state has exclusive power to legislate on the subjects belonging to the state list.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Mr. Speaker, this matter has already been voted when he was in Chair...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will decided, Please sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Now I come to Art. 156.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : It has nothing new...*(Interruptions)* It does not apply to a Resolution. It comes in at the time of legislation. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Don't ask us to cooperate on other subjects....*(Interruptions)* You are neither understanding nor permitting us to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted you. So you can continue your speech.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I would like to break entry 15 of list ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATYAR : The time of the House is being wasted.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The time of the House is being wasted. I have objection to it. If you are doing and saying so, then, is not it wastage of time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not the question of wasting time.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I would like to ready Entry 15 of List 2, which reads-

[English]

"Preservation, protection and improvement of stock and prevention of animal diseases, veterinary training and practice"

[Translation]

As you also know, except North-East State West Bengal, Goa, States, all other states including Maharashtra have made legislations under this entry 20 years ago.

MR. SPEAKER : I know.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It is exclusively an state right. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I would like to know whether state legislature has right under entry 15 to legislate on cow slaughter or not. If it is exclusive right of the states and we are passing resolution, I do know that it is a resolution not a legislation, in this House, will it not go against the letter and spirit of the constitution? The Constitution specifically says that this House has no right

to legislate. If we will pass the resolution and give to the House right to make law on it, whether it will be alright to pass such a resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Please be kind to me I am not speaking anything irrelevant.

[Translation]

I would like to say whether by voting in favour of such a resolution, can we authorise the House to exercise the power to legislate on something which the Constitution has put outside its domain. Whether subjects can be voted on in this manner.

Sir, my second question is that we were not present at the time of introduction of the resolution. The decision might have been taken by the office. The decision would have been taken by the then presiding officer. When we were not here, then there was no chance to say it unconstitutional. At this time we have a chance to say that it is not constitutional.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

Sir, I am not speaking on irrelevant things.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not said that you are speaking on irrelevant things.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : But let me complete, Sir,

MR. SPEAKER : But if you repeat the same points, how can I allow? You cannot go on repeating. You are repeating the same thing.

Now, Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I am not repeating, Sir. I am saying that if this House does not have an authority, can

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

you, by voting, against the Constitutional spirit, give that authority? We would like to have your ruling on this point; and then do whatever you want to do, and we will do whatever we want...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Whether this House had the right to change the law in Shah Bano case...
(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, you shall have to stop him...*(Interruptions)*... If you do not stop them, they will not allow others to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down. Please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After listening to Shri Somnath Chatterjee, I am going for voting. Please cooperate with the Chair. His point of order is the last point of order. Thereafter, I am going for voting.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, how can you say that you will go for voting? Wonderful, Sir!

MR. SPEAKER : If the ruling is in favour of voting, then I am going for voting.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, you have to give your ruling first whether we can go for voting or not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one should have thought that after the reply of the hon. Minister,

there would be an end to this debate. The Government's own decision is that it is a matter for the State Governments to decide. This is an official reply.

If there is a Government at all...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, unless you control the so-called super speakers in this House, it will be very difficult.

MR. SPEAKER Shri Somnath Chatterjee, you can make your points. I am listening to you. Please go ahead.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, it is a joint responsibility. It is a Cabinet from of Government. On behalf of the Government, in the Parliament of India, a reply had been given clearly admitting that it is a State matter. So, one should have thought, that was the end of the debate.

But we do not know. It is almost like as if it has been said that they have a right to decide whatever they like, because they happen to be in a temporary majority...*(Interruptions)*

You are not in majority on your own, Shri Malhotra.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Majority has the right.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Yes, we know that.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Parliament goes by majority and not by minority. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : But you cannot do anything and everything by majority. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : It was the majority of the congress party in the House which imposed emergency in the country...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You better get a majority support on your own party, Shri Madan Lal Khurana!

[Translation]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : You are not saying any thing. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Nobody has read the text of the Resolution....*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. What happens to you?

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House.

Yes, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, please go ahead.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, are we at their mercy?

MR. SPEAKER : Not at all. You can please go ahead.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : As to whether we shall be allowed to speak or not to speak, will be decided by the Vinay Katiyar and company and not you. Sir!...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, please speak.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : If you ask me to sit down, I will sit down....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : I have said nothing but you called me by name and quoted me.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have referred your name because of the affection I have for you.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, you can make your point. You need not reply to him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, kindly see the Resolution. It says:

"This House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and its progeny throughout the country."

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, please speak. I have permitted you to speak. Every word of yours will go on record.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I was drawing the attention of the hon. Members, particularly yours, that this will almost be a matter of mandate on the Government. If the House takes a decision, the Government should bring a legislation and such a legislation would be a valid one. They may like to change the Constitution which they have been trying all the time to do. ...*(Interruptions)* All right, you follow the Congress. If Congress is your idol, follow them. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, if you do not interrupt him, he will complete in two minutes. Shri Somnath Chatterjee does not take time unnecessarily.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, may I draw your attention to article 245 of the Constitution? This is the first article of part XI, about Distribution of Legislative Powers. ...*(Interruptions)* I requested you to hold some classes for them. Article 245 says:

"Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Parliament may make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India, and the Legislature of a State may laws for the whole or any part of the State."

Then, there is article 246. The Constitution obviously has the supervising authority. I am sure, nobody, not even Madan Lal Khurana, will grudge that.

Now, the Minister has admitted; the Government has admitted that the Constitution of India, which is binding on

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

everybody in this country, under this Parliament, will have no authority. ...*(Interruptions)*

Now, Sir, a peculiar argument has been given. The super Minister – he could not be made a Minister, but he has been given a Ministerial rank and on every matter he stands up on behalf of the Government...*(Interruptions)* You know my love for him. I am trying to espouse his cause. He says, well, before bringing that legislation, in the House, the Constitution may be amended! Wonderful, Sir! This is not a mandate to amend the Constitution. Under the present Constitution, this Bill has to be brought. Therefore, Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, the great super Spokesman of BJP has managed to keep all their allies away. Their shameless irresponsibility has been disclosed. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, he is calling names. Should we also call him names? He is calling names. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will expunge these words, if they are unparliamentary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Somnathji, have you completed you point?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Within a minute, I will finish my speech, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down. He will finish his speech within two minutes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am reading article 246. ...*(Interruptions)*

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

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I do not have to argue before you the importance of article 246, the

importance of List I, List II and List III. This is not a List III matter where the Central Government, irrespective of a State law, could have come forward. ...*(Interruptions)*

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour) : What is this going on, Sir?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (Murshidabad) : Sir, what is this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What is this going on here?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

Except what Shri Somnath Chatterjee says, nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : Sir, what is this?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted him to speak on the point of order.

17.10 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Samik Lahiri came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seat.

(Interruptions)

17.10½ hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Samik Lahiri went back to his seat.)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I will expunge the words which are unparliamentary. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Have you completed, Shri Somnath Chatterjee?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I could not complete one sentence without interruption. I have not been able to complete one sentence. Otherwise, we can go away from this House. Are we at their mercy?

MR. SPEAKER : Please go ahead.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we want to know this. This is not a new phenomenon. Every day it is happening. ...*(Interruptions)* Every day it is happening. Sir, I have some humble experience in this House, but I have never seen anything like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House. Let Shri Somnath Chatterjee complete his statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We are not here at their mercy.

MR. SPEAKER : Please complete, Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, you may reject our submissions. The House has majority, maybe temporary, and contrived majority, which will prevail. What can I do? At least let me have the satisfaction that I am also representing some people in this country. These are our views. You may kindly consider them.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This running commentary and the 'super-Speakership' - I am saying repeatedly in this House, in the 13th Lok Sabha - are going on nowadays. We cannot function because, even if the Chair allows us, they interrupt us. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence in the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What sort of behaviour is that?

MR. SPEAKER : You may ignore that and complete your argument.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Senior Ministers are sitting here and they cannot control their Members. Where is the Prime Minister?

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak now.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How can they say that? After all, these are important issues facing the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let there be no occasion for me to be very strict.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Opposition should also maintain silence. What you are doing is not good.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, my respectful submission before you is that in view of the clear provisions of Article 245 of the Constitution, in view of the clear provisions of Item No. 15 of the State List where the Centre has no authority to legislate, in view of the clear statements made by the hon. Minister on behalf of the Government that this is a State matter and also in view of another submission made on behalf of the Ruling Party that after suitable amendment of the Constitution, this can be brought forward, it may be treated that this House has no legislative competence on this.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, do you want to speak on the point of order?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, upon them I would like to say something in order to assist you regarding the constitutional issues which have been raised here first and foremost the issue of legislative competence has been raised here, it was said that according to the constitution the central Government does not have legislative competence to enact such law. So this resolution could not be passed by this House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Your minister has said so. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

I am telling what the minister has told...*(Interruptions)* As she is assisting you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to assist my hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister. The other Minister has said that this is a subject under state list.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I am replying to that. If Priya Ranjanji listens to me for just two minutes then I am replying in connection with what Shri Hukam Dev Narayan has spoken here. I said that the question of legislative competence was raised from that side.

First I would like to inform the House through you that the question of legislative competence can be raised only in respect of a Bill, not for a Resolution as a Resolution is just an expression of a will/sentiment.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You read out the resolution.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will certainly listen to the resolution and whatever things have been said here, I will reply to all of them. But you listen to me just for five minutes.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I am on a point of order. Is she speaking on behalf of the Government or on behalf of the Member? If she is speaking on behalf of the Government, as per article 75, it is a matter of collective

responsibility, and Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav, the hon. Minister has already replied to the House that it is a State subject. Therefore, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is either violating the collective responsibility or defending the Member and not the Government. This issue should also be resolved. Under article 75, it is the collective responsibility of the Government and the Minister in charge of the Resolution has already replied to the House that it is a State subject. Is she confronting the Minister? Is she representing the Government? If that is so, she must disown the Minister who responded to the debate. ...*(Interruptions)* You have to give a ruling on that.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give the ruling.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I will reply to that also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they just do not want to listen to anything. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let her complete.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, she is misleading the House. Tobacco is in the Concurrent List. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, list of all I shall reply to that. My colleague Shri Hukamdev Narayan Yadav who is Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, has urged the member concerned to withdraw this resolution because the legislative competence to enact this lies with the state and as per the present law this is a state subject.

Just a little earlier when I was speaking on some other issue, I told the House in the first part that in the case of every bill and every resolution, the Minister urges the member concerned, irrespective of whether he belongs to the ruling side or the opposition, to withdraw that bill, and

the Government give assurance on that, but it is the prerogative of the hon. Members to honour the request of the minister or not, and it is not just a matter or prerogative of the member concerned, in fact it is the prerogative of the House to allow him to do that or not. If the House agrees to let him withdraw the Bill only then he can withdraw it, but if the House is not inclined to do that, then the Member cannot withdraw it. In keeping with the tradition followed so far, the Minister urged the hon. Member as part of his duty to withdraw this. Now the ball is in the court of the hon. Member. He can accept this, he can reject this. He did not accept the request of the hon. Minister and requested for a division on this. Now that he is pressing for division, it is not proper for you to repeatedly assert that the Minister requested him. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the second thing is regarding what Shri Shivraj Patil said and read out article 246 of the constitution. He said that this is exclusively a state subject. The Central Government cannot bring in a legislation on this. I would like to tell hon. Shivrajji that all the exclusive state subjects are primarily articles of this constitution itself. And the special circumstances in which the central Government can bring in legislations with regard to state subjects are also dealt with in the constitution.

Sir, I would like to cite an example what happened yesterday itself. We passed the Anti-Tobacco Bill in the Rajya Sabha yesterday. Cigarette was in the Union list but tobacco product was not there. But Standing Committee of the Parliament told the central Government that they have the power to legislate under such and such entry, so the Central Government should make a law in this regard. In view of the same, a bill was brought in the Rajya Sabha and was passed too. So it is not proper to say that the state has got the exclusive right to legislate in this regard. There are so many things in this Constitution. This question is how to view them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the third thing I would like to say is that Shri Banatwalaji repeatedly said. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject which the hon. Minister is stating to legislate on, is in the concurrent list. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Banatwallaji was repeatedly quoting from the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Somnathji, kindly ask the people in the opposition also not to disturb.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Our feelings have been throttled here. Of course, I am not saying that we should interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Whatever should be done in this regard should be done as per the Constitution. I am reading out article 48 of the Constitution. This resolution is not only of the Constitution, rather wherever the people belonging to the faculty of political science read the Constitution of India, the first chapter that comes is about the fundamental rights. This is the most important chapter. Next comes the chapter dealing with the directive principles of state policy. I am reading out article 48 regarding the directive principles of state policy. It reads:

[English]

"48. The state shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle."

[Translation]

Here state means the Union. Shivraj Patilji knows this. Wherever the word 'state' is written in the Constitution, it refers to the centre. This motion is simply an expression of the sentiment which the makers of the constitution have given us. Now, what I am coming to is that the House is run both by rules and conventions. Precedents are always quoted most often in this House. Just now Shri Somnathji was reading out the text of this motion in order to criticise its language. Shri Somnathji, for your information I would like to tell you that in this very House division took place

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

on some motion on 17th August, 1990. What was the language of that motion?

[English]

"This House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and its progeny throughout the country".

[Translation]

Its language is exactly the same what you have read out here. And for further information let me tell you that at the time of division on this motion in this House, it was Shri Shivraj Patilji who was presiding as Speaker ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Shivraj Patil was in the Chair. He was Dy. Speaker, of the House at that time. A division was held in the House and the motion was negated. Earlier on 12 April, 1979 also a division took place in this House. The motion at that time has the same language and it got 43 votes in favour and 8 against it. Division on this motion have taken place in this twice. Once when Shri Shivraj Patilji himself was presiding and the other in 1979. On one occasion the motion was negated and the other occasion it was passed. It is totally untrue to say that something very strange is taking place today and that such a resolution has come today which is unconstitutional, unethical and which does not qualify for division. Since, I am a member of the other House. I cannot demand for a division. As I have told you that I have risen only to refer to the Constitutional remarks. I have replied to those constitutional remark through you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shivraj Patil was referred to while speaking by Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. He is only on personal explanation because his name was referred

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : My explanation is this. Supposing a wrong decision has been taken in the House, will it change the Constitution?...*(Interruptions)*. I do not know whether I was there or not at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : She take the responsibility.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Her colleague has said that this House has no legislative competence in this regard. I am asking you, do you still hold that this House has the legislative competence just because I was sitting there?...*(Interruptions)* I do not remember and I do not have any recollection that I was there...*(Interruptions)* But simply because I was sitting there and a decision was taken, I want to ask whether she holds that this House has legislative competence. On that basis, do you hold that this House has the competence? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, this time the issue before the House is not of the legislative competence. This time, the issue before the House is whether this House can vote on this Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee is on a personal explanation because Shrimati Sushma Swaraj has taken his name. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, on that extent you can offer your personal explanation.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, Sir. We have to answer this. She has taken my name. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are not against prohibiting cow slaughter. I am repeating it. We are not against prohibiting cow slaughter. What we are saying is that this House has no competence.

[Translation]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Somnathji name is not mentioned.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Dhananjaya Kumar. She had taken his name. She did take his name.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : That was only in reference to what he had submitted. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The most respected Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has made some submission

in her self-appointed capacity as *amicus curie*. She was not speaking on behalf of the Government. She wanted to assist the Chair and that is why she stood up. Very well. Whether her assistance was good or bad, Sir, you have heard her.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : That is the responsibility given to me by the Prime Minister of India.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Only the Chair can appoint you as *amicus curie*.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : As the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I am supposed to assist the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am only repeating what she had said. She stood up only to assist the Chair.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : You are also assisting the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : You are right. He is also assisting me.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I had said that only because here the question related to vote and as I am a member of the other House. Hence I cannot ask for the vote nor can I demand for the same. Therefore, I told you that I am replying only to the constitutional properties. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Yes, on that 'samvidhanik *tippani*' I want to make a '*tippani*'. I want to make a '*tippani*'. What is that 'samvidhanik *tippani*'? She does not controvert the Minister's statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : He has to speak only on the personal explanation. Now he cannot go on touching the whole issue. On other issues he has already spoken. Therefore, he has to speak only on the personal explanation and nothing more than that.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you. Shri Kirit Somaiya, thank you for assisting the Chair!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am assisting the Chair not as a Minister. She is a Minister. She gets her authority from the Prime Minister, not under the Constitution of India, it seems. But, she has also taken oath to preserve the Constitution of India. What is her constitutional *tippani*?

Firstly, in the other House some Bill has been passed with regard to tobacco and therefore this House has the competence. Secondly, Shri Shivraj Patil made a decision – right or wrong; let us take it as the right decision at that time because nobody questioned that decision – and therefore it becomes constitutionally permissible. Thirdly, another Resolution had been moved earlier and therefore it becomes constitutional.

Why am I raising it? ...*(Interruptions)* Even when a very learned and intelligent person like Shrimati Sushma Swaraj had to take up a bad case, she makes a mess of it. I am again saying that this is a pure and simple question of legislative competence. The Resolution is directing the Government, if it is passed, to bring a suitable legislation on cow slaughter. If that legislation cannot be taken up by this House, how can there be a Resolution today? There cannot be a Resolution unless of course there is an amendment, as Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra hopes to get one.

MR. SPEAKER : Your personal explanation is over. A number of Members raised points of order today in the House.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : This is the most extraordinary explanation ever given to this House!

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will you allow me one minute?

MR. SPEAKER : No, please.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Why not?

MR. SPEAKER : Because it is the prerogative of the Chair whether to permit or not. Please, sit down.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Shri E. Ahmed, Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, Shri P.R. Dasmunsi, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and Shri Somnath Chatterjee have raised points of order on the legislative competence of the House and also regarding the conventions.

I have heard all the Members very sincerely. I have gone through the provisions of the Constitution also. The question of legislative competence of the House regarding the subject of the Resolution was thoroughly discussed.

I am thankful to the hon. Members including hon. Minister, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, for assisting me in giving this important ruling.

I find that the Resolutions regarding ban on cow slaughter had been admitted on three occasions in the past. Once it was adopted by the House. On another occasion, it was negated and the third time, the Resolution was listed but not moved. The question of legislative competence of the House is required only in the case of Bills. As a Resolution is merely an expression of opinion of the House, the question of legislative competence of the House on the subject does not arise.

In view of the legal position and past precedents, I rule that the Resolution is in order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, we are not going to cooperate with you in this matter as this is not within the legislative competence of the House. So, we are walking out in protest. ...*(Interruptions)*

17.32 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and some other hon. Members left the House.)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That this House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and its progeny throughout the country."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall proceed with item No 32.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What Shri Banatwalla says should not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

17.33 hrs.

**(ii) Inclusion of 'Santhali' Language
in the Eighth Schedule**

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House urges upon the Government to bring forward a suitable legislation to include 'Santhali' language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution."

Sir, I thank you for allowing me to move this Private Members Resolution seeking a suitable legislation for inclusion of Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. This is the main text of my Resolution. When I am standing to move this Resolution, I must quote what our *vishwakavi* Rabindranath Tagore has said. In one of his writings, he has told as "*Matri Bashi Matri Dughdha*". It means that mother tongue is equal to the breast milk of the mother. So, I am for the recognition of mother tongue being spoken by no less than a crore of Indian population, the aboriginal population speaking Santhali language in our country.

MR. SPEAKER : With the permission of the House, till the House rises for the day, I want to appoint Shri Anadi Sahu as Chairman. He is requested to come and occupy the Chair.

17.36 hrs.

[SHRI ANANDI SAHU in the Chair]

*Not recorded.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Sir, I wanted to say that in the 19th century, the word 'nationalism', in the European sense referred to a political movement or a process of going through self-consciousness based on the feeling of common ethnicity. Of the several criteria of ethnicity, common language has been the prominent one with religion taking the second place. Thus, when we speak of German or Italian nationalism, we mean primarily the growth of political consciousness of the people swearing by the same language.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, why am I for the Resolution? The total Scheduled Tribe population is about 7.5 per cent of the total population of the country, which comes to eight to nine crores in total. Out of those eight to nine crores of tribal population in our country, the Santhali population is about eight to ten millions. They usually stay in various States. The Scheduled Tribe people have been subjected to various kinds of social disparities and economic deprivation for ages. The framers of our Constitution considered it necessary to make special provision in the Constitution for enabling them to joint the mainstream by providing for their equitable share in the governance, through the policy of reservation, protection against exploitation, and enhanced specific financial allotments for expediting their socio-economic development.

Sir, Dr. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar said that justice – social, economic and political – has to be ensured by this special provision in our Constitution. At present, what is the status of *Adivasis* in regard to education and literacy in our country? While talking about their present status in regard to educational, social and economic development, I must refer to their literacy rate. Among the *Adivasi* people, the male literacy rate is 41 per cent and female literacy is only 18 per cent.

This is the position as per 1991 Census. The Fifth Report of the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes clearly says that many of the tribal communities have their own languages or dialects and often they are quite different from the mainstream language in which education is imparted. It is therefore necessary to develop teaching material in their own languages at least for primary level so that they are

able to have a better understanding of what is taught to them. But unfortunately this has not happened even after 56 years of Independence. Many languages of various ethnic groups have been recognised by our Constitution like Manipuri, Nepali, Sindhi, Konkani, Kashmiri etc., but Santhali language, which has been spoken by a vast majority of our tribal Santhal population has not been recognised so far. They are demanding for recognition of their language for a long time now, but till today their demands has not been fulfilled. They are being denied their legitimate claim for social, cultural and linguistic development in this country. By not proper recognition to their language, an important aspect of social justice, namely linguistic development, is being denied by our country.

Therefore, the time is very ripe now to bring a suitable legislation to provide recognition to this very rich language and include it in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Nationalism in our country may be called sub-nationalism in the Indian context. Most of the Indian States fall into a single typological State, that is, nation State or ethnic State. In majority of the Indian States where they share common ethnicity, they also share one of its major components, that is, a common language like Oriya in Orissa, Bengali in Bengal, Tamil in Tamil Nadu, Marathi in Maharashtra, Hindi in Uttar Pradesh etc.

There are multi-ethnic States in our country. But the so-called multi-ethnic States in India do not have a uniform history. There are about 1,500 to 2000 mother tongues in our country. According to our Census, these mother tongues are spoken in true geo-political States either as an official language of an ethnic State or a majority language in a multi-ethnic State.

Sir, the minority language present an array of problems, which differ from language to language. A minority language maybe the language of minority population in more than one State. For example, our Santhali language, which is spoken in Orissa, Assam, West Bengal and Jharkhand and many other States like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, etc. may be a minority language. All these languages like Konkani, Gondi and Santhali fall into Category 4. So, similar traits should be there with regard to the development of the languages.

[Dr. Ram Chandra Dome]

Santhali, when compared to Sindhi and Kashmiri, is linguistically more stable and democratic, much more numerous, but did not get due protection by virtue of its being not included in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution. Therefore, lakhs of Santhali speaking people are struggling for their linguistic identification in our country. So many political parties are organising democratic movements for recognition of these languages. I must say that the language plays an important role in all their movements, either overtly or covertly, for language alone can provide the single most important solidarity bond. All the borrowing tendencies, which flow from rank consciousness plus external pressure and encroachment hurts the population, which is geographically non contiguous, and it tends to diminish the solidarity of this ancestral society.

The question, however, remains that how long the Santhali, in the greatest of solidarity bonds, can withstand the indiscriminate borrowing from the dominant groups to the lesser ones without destroying the mutual intelligibility. In the process the major bond languages like Santhali are being simultaneously exposed not to one dominant language but to more than four languages that is, Assamese, Bengali, Hindi and Oriya. The failure of the rebellion of the 1855, demanding relief from rapacious money lenders, freedom from personal and hereditary debt bondage, did not mean the end of Santhal reaction but only the beginning of a new consciousness, which has been manifested in various subsequent movements, which were developed in the 19th century, in a period of great economic suffering.

I must say that the movement of Santhali is a cultural movement, an economical movement and a political movement, which is called Khairwar Movement, which is also important in the modern age. It was Pandit Raghunath Murmu, who himself invented the original Santhali script, Orichiki.

Formerly, all Santhali writings were in Devanagari, Bengali, Oriya or Roman script as developed mainly by the missionaries. Sir, in this respect, I must refer the great

authors Rev. P.O. Boddington, Cambel etc. They have contributed a lot by writing the dictionary of Santhali. Thousand of words have been collected and included by them.

The Santhals are highly creative people. They have built up a strong indigenous literature. The distinguished Santhal, Pandit Raghunath Murmu invented the script "Ol Chiki" which has been recognised by the only State Government, West Bengal State Government. West Bengal State Government has already implemented that script to teach our students in primary level for some time past.

Sir, but no other States are doing that which is primarily necessary. In West Bengal a few years back, our West Bengal Assembly has already passed a unanimous Resolution seeking recognition of this great language and sent a similar Resolution to the Central Government for taking appropriate action. But till today, we do not know what is the position about the recognition of that language. What Government is thinking about that, we do not know.

In Ol Chiki script, which is a very rich script, so many Santhali literatures have been written by so many authors of Santhal community. In West Bengal, there are so many creative writings. Hundreds of creative writings are there. In Calcutta, in the National Library or in the Asiatic Society there are hundreds of collections of Santhali literature. In the past, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatopadhyay also recommended and opined that Santhal language is a very rich and creative language that should be developed for the overall development of a large component of our tribal population in India. Sir, Dr. Pavitra Sarkar, who is also an expert of language, has already given his opinion that Santhal language should get due recognition for overall development of this community.

Sir, therefore, for recognition of this language, there are so many legitimate grounds for development of this language; and without recognition and inclusion of this language in the Eighth Schedule of Constitution no language can be developed, no language can be brought to the mainstream of our linguistic development, cultural development.

Therefore, Sir, I urge upon the Government, through this House, to make a suitable legislation seeking inclusion of this Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution.

We should not lose further time. We should not hesitate to do this because there is an agitation. Santhali people are very much emotive. Any emotions may go astray. There are one crore Santhali population throughout the country. They are a very important component in our society and they should be brought to the mainstream. For that reason, their linguistic identity should be recognised by this august House. If we do that, then we can fulfil one of the greatest tasks. Therefore, we should take up this long-pending demand now and we should not lose further time, we should not delay much to recognise their legitimate demand. So, I urge upon this Government to bring forward a suitable legislation for the recognition of this Santhali language and to include this language in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That this House urges upon the Government to bring forward a suitable legislation to include 'Santhali' language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, though not a tribal myself and though not a Santhal myself, I take great pride in participating in this debate.

All over India you have tribals named *Munda, Ho, Jwang, Gond, Sabar, Bhumij, Bathudi etc.* Likewise, Santhals form the most dominant caste among the tribals. Mostly they are in the Eastern part of India, that means in the States like Orissa, Assam, West Bengal and Jharkhand. Their number is more than six million. Just like Urdu speakers who are scattered all over India, Santhali speakers are also scattered all over the Eastern part of India. Sir, in my constituency, there is a very large population of these Santhals. I am very proud to say that not only they have a spoken language but they also have a script. A person called Pandit Raghunath Murmu invented the script. I proudly say that he belongs to my constituency. He is not a *brahmin*. From his name you might

think that he is a *brahmin* but he is not a *brahmin*. But because he invented this script, that epitaph 'Pandit' has been added to his name.

In the world, you have more than one lakh spoken languages. In India, you are having 12,000 spoken languages. But to you know how many scripts all over the world? You will be surprised to know that there are a total of 20 scripts all over the world. The entire North and South American have a single Roman script. The entire Europe has only this Roman script. Russian script is slightly different. Just like difference in Hindi and Gujarati scripts, Russian script is slightly different from Roman script. Then, in Africa, you do not have any script at all. In the Northern Africa, you are having Arabic script, where mostly Muslims stay. In the Eastern and Southern parts of Africa, there are so many African languages but the script is the same, that is, Roman.

18.00 hrs.

A number of scripts are there in Asia. You have Chinese script, you have Korean script, you have Japanese script, you have Thai script, and you have Singhalese script. All the other scripts are from India. We have nine scripts. India is having the largest number of scripts in the world. No other country is having so many scripts. Why there are only a few scripts? It is only because it is very difficult to invent it. So, a person who has invented the script and the people who speak that language with that script deserve a place in the Eighth Schedule because they had invented it with a lot of difficulty.

Why the percentage of educated people among the tribals is very low? It is only because we start teaching them in a language which is alien to them. He is speaking in Santhali, but we start teaching him in Oriya. We start teaching him in Bengali or in Hindi or in some other language. But in the beginning, if he starts reading and writing in his own language with which he is totally associated from his birth, then it will be comparatively much easier on his part to learn.

You know, it is the education which brings in economic prosperity. Education does not make a person fatalistic. He never says, the God has given me this poverty and I cannot extricate myself out of this. He never says that. An educated

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

man never says that. It is only an uneducated person, a poor man who says so.

Sir, since you are from Orissa and you also belong to the same area, you know this. In Rayagada district, at Kasipur when there was starvation death last year, many journalists went to that place. They asked them why they were eating the *Ambokoyala*. In Oriya, we call the mango kernel as *Ambokoyala*. They were asked why they were eating all these things. They said, "What should we do? The God has asked us to eat it. It is our fate." Why are they saying so? Do you think that any educated tribal will say like this? He never says so. It is only an uneducated person who thinks that it is the God who has heaped poverty on him. He always thinks that development should come from the top and somebody will heap money on him so that he can develop and he cannot do it on his own. But if he is educated, if you provide him with proper education, he will never depend upon God for his growth. He will try all the time to extricate himself.

Specifically, this Santhal community is a very fun-loving community and the people are very, very cultured. Sir, I do not know whether you know this. Since they belong to my area, I know that are having so many drama competitions continuing for three days or four days or five days. Sir, 20 or 30 or 40 or 50 parties are coming and they are participating. They write the drama in Santhali. They perform it and there is a competition. Of course, in the competition, as the first prize, as rewards, will be given something like a pig or a hen but still there are competitions. They participate in art, culture and literature competitions very enthusiastically. They are having so many opera parties. You will be surprised to know that like Oriya Jatra parties, they are also having Santhal Jatra parties in Orissa. When they perform, they charge even Rs. 5,000 or Rs.10,000 per night.

So, when they are having this type of culture and interest in drama, art, literature and music, they should be supported. They should be provided with emotional support. I know that if somebody is taught the Alichiki script or the Santhali language, he might not get job but if he loves the language, he would have some affinity and he

would come to the mainstream. He would think that he has been recognised by the mainstream of this country. The tribals with titles like Murmu, Hansda, Hembram, Besra, Tudu, Marandi and Soren are the people who form the Santhali tribe. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha gained its sustenance basically from these tribes.

I may also tell you that they have also published books and I have purchased some of their books. Now I have started learning their language and in a month or two, I think, I would be able to speak in Santhali also.

Finally, I would like to make a very strong appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee because he is the first and the only Prime Minister in this country to have the tribals a State, Jharkhand. He is the person who has given them a State and who has given the first tribal Chief Minister to this country, Babulal Marandi. He is the person who has given this country the second tribal Chief Minister, Shri Arjun Munda.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The first tribal Chief Minister was Shri Dasarath Deb in Tripura.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right. He is subject to correction.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : He comes from a tribal State but they have failed to pass a Resolution in this direction for two years now.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I do not know if Shri Dasarath Deb is a Santhal.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : He was the first tribal Chief Minister.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : He might be a tribal like Shri Ajit Jogi, I do not know.

I earnestly appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, through the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs, because the hon. Prime Minister has given the Santhals, the tribals, a State and two Chief Ministers. So, let him give them a language, the Santhali language by including it in the Eighth Schedule.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you.

I would add a postscript to his speech. Shri Kharabela Swain would be very happy to know that in the seventh century, Banabhatta had written Sriharshacharitra. In the Sriharshacharitra, he has mentioned about the Santhals and he has eulogised the best qualities of the Santhal people.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Thank you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to Dr. Ram Chandra Dome for bringing a Resolution here in this House seeking recognition for one of the oldest languages of our country, the Santhali language. I had also submitted a Resolution in the last Session but because the House was adjourned, my Resolution lapsed. In the Winter Session, there was a discussion under Calling Attention where a demand for recognition of the Santhali language was made in this very House.

The Santhali people stay in your State of Orissa, in my State of West Bengal, in my neighbouring States of Jharkhand and Assam and also in Nepal.

There are a number of Santhals in Nepal. They speak in their own language among their relatives and among the Santhals. They migrated from Chota Nagpur Division, which is a part of now Jharkhand, They migrated from Chota Nagpur to Assam to work in the tea gardens. The Britishers brought them to work in tea gardens of Assam. If you go to Assam, you will find that they have not forgotten their language. They are there for the last 100 years. However, whenever they speak among themselves, they never speak in Asamese; they speak in their own language. In West Bengal also, in my constituency, there are largest number of Santhals. It is about 20 per cent of the total population of Santhals. They know Bengali. When they speak with us, they speak in Bengali, but whenever they speak among themselves, they speak in their own language.

Sir, the same is the case in your State. I know as I have visited a number of tribal villages where there are Santhals. I have seen that they speak in their own language and not in Oriya. The same is the case in Jharkhand. They know Hindi. They speak with us in Hindi

or Bengali, but whenever they speak among themselves, they speak in their own language. Mr. Minister, it is one of the richest languages. They have their own literature, poems, novels, drams, etc.

Sir, you must be knowing the *jatras* of West Bengal. You must have also seen *jatras*. The Santhal *jatras* are very popular. The *jatras* starts from 10 o'clock in the night and it ends in the morning. Thousands and thousands of Santhals watch *jatras*. They write these *jatras* and drams and they act also, but they speak in their own language. There are about one crore Santhal people living in different States. Although they are scattered in four or five States, their culture is the same. They are continuing the old traditional culture of Santhali dance. There are at least 25 different types of Santhali dances. They are still continuing with their language and with their culture. But the main problem is, as Shri Kharabela Swain has pointed out, that there is no opportunity to study in their language. The percentage of literacy is much less. It is about 20 to 25 per cent. The percentage of literacy among the Santhals is average. The percentage of literacy among the women is much less. It is about 15 per cent.

The same is the case with Orissa. This is mainly because their language is not recognised, and they do not get any opportunity to study their language. Although some State Governments – particularly I will mention about West Bengal – long back introduced Santhali language, to introduce Ol Chiki script, which was invented by Pandit Raghunath Murmu in 1979, he came to my constituency. I was not elected to Lok Sabha then. I was elected to Lok Sabha first in 1980. The Government of West Bengal gave a reception to him, and our former Chief Minister Shri Jyoti Basu praised Pandit Raghunath Murmu for inventing one script for Santhali language. Santhali language has different scripts. There are Roman; Devnagri; Bengali; and Ol Chiki. But, there are large sections of Santhali population and their demand is that Santhali language should be taught in Ol Chiki script. Sir, this Ol Chiki script was recognised by only one State Government, that is West Bengal, in 1979. I heard Pandit Raghunath Murmu saying that he was born in Orissa; he worked in erstwhile Bihar, that is, Jharkhand, but neither the Government of Orissa recognised the script in 1979, which he invented

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

nor where he worked for years together – that is in erstwhile Bihar, now Jharkhand – recognised his script. Only the Government of West Bengal, after the Left Front Government came to power in 1979, recognised Ol Chiki script. Sir, whenever we raise this issue in the form of Questions or Calling Attention or in other forms, we receive a patent reply. For the last two years, I had been getting the same reply : "A High-Powered Committee is being constituted. There are demands for a large number of languages for recognition, and that the High-Powered Committee will take a decision." The matter regarding recognition of some of the languages, including Santhali language, was referred to the Constitution Review Commission. I do not know why inclusion of Santhali language to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution was not first referred to the Constitution Review Commission. But, the Constitution Review Commission did not examine that aspect. The Constitution Review Commission did not make any recommendation in regard to inclusion of Santhali language or any other languages. I was told that a High-Powered Committee has been constituted now, and that High-Powered Committee is deliberating and discussing it. I do not know how much time it will take to arrive at a conclusion. Many languages have been recognised. Manipuri language was recognised only 5-6 years back.

Konkani was recognised seven years back. We, the entire House, demanded that Nepali language should be recognised. The West Bengal Government also recommended for its recognition. Nepali language was recognised and included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. At the time of giving recognition to Manipuri, Konkani, Nepali and Sindhi, a high-powered Committee was not constituted. The Government of India did not feel that in order to give recognition to a language, a committee should be constituted and that committee would make the recommendation. This demand is not from one section of the House, but from the entire section of this House. When we make this demand that Santhali should be a recognised language – whenever I raised this demand, Sir, I received support from all sections of this House – for the first time, the Government thought that a high-

powered Committee should be constituted to deliberate, to discuss and to take a decision.

Sir, when compared to those who speak Santhali language, the Nepali language is spoken by a less number of people. Even Konkani and Manipuri languages are spoken by a less number of people when compared to those who speak the Santhali language. Therefore, my question is, when Santhali language is spoken by about one crore more people than those who speak Manipuri, Konkani and Nepali languages put together, why Santhali language has not been recognised. Is it because it is the language of one of the tribal communities of our country?

Sir, you know about Santhali rebellion and Siddu Kano, who went to gallows. Santhali rebellion is the first freedom struggle in our country. They never submitted before the British imperialism. They fought against exploitation; they fought against repression of British imperialism.

The Indian Constitution has recognised them as Scheduled Tribes and reservation has been provided in employment. The public sector is being handed over to the private sector and we do not know what will happen, that is, whether there will be reservations in the private sector. However, there is a provision for reservation in other spheres of life. For their upliftment, for bringing these people into the mainstream, the framers of the Constitution thought that reservation should be provided for this section of the people for helping people to come forward and improve their life and also for their economic development. Because of their backwardness, there is less percentage of literacy among the tribal population.

Sir, I have attended some of their meetings. Santhals are a very disciplined people. They organised a conference in my constituency last year. About twenty-five thousand Santhali delegates from Orissa, Jharkhand, Assam, West Bengal and even from Nepal attended that conference. The only agenda in that conference was getting recognition for their language, the Santhali language.

The youth of West Bengal submitted a petition last year to former Speaker Shri Balayogi. More than five lakh

people signed that petition and submitted it. An all-party delegation met the Deputy Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum. As of now, only one State in the country, the State of West Bengal, passed a unanimous resolution in its Assembly in this regard. Shri Kharabela Swain was saying that the Prime Minister had gifted a tribal State to the country. Even that State, in its existence of more than two years, has not passed any resolution demanding recognition of Santhali language. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, Sir, about your State.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is being taught at Primary state.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It is taught but I do not know if the State Assembly has passed any resolution demanding recognition of Santhali language. We have started teaching Santhali language at Secondary as well as at University level. In West Bengal, a Commission was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pavitra Sarkar, who is a renowned Linguist, to go into this issue. That Commission, in its report submitted last year, recommended teaching of *Santhali* language both at Secondary and University levels. The Government of West Bengal started implementing most of those recommendations within three months of submission of the Report. Santhali language is being taught there at Secondary and University levels.

In Jharkhand, Santhali language is being taught up to post-graduate level in Vinoba Bhave University in Ranchi. It is a matter of surprise that a language which is being taught up to post-graduate level in different universities is not recognised by the Government of India and has not yet been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. It is high time that this language had been included in the Eighth Schedule.

When the hon. Minister rises to reply to this debate, I hope we will not get to hear the same words about the High-Powered Committee, etc., etc. High-Powered Committee comes into picture only in the case of *Santhali* language because it is the language of tribal people. I hope, today the Minister will definitely assure the House that positive steps would be taken to include this one of the richest, oldest and the most modern languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I support the inclusion of the Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as proposed by Dr. Ram Chandra Dom. Language is a medium of expression. It is said about man : [English] "Man is the best creation of God." [Translation] Man is the supreme creation of God. There was a Hindi poet named Shri Sumitranandan Pant. He wrote "Sunder Hai vihang, suman sunder, manav tum sabse sundertam." There are beautiful birds in this universe. There are several kinds of beautiful flowers too. But man is the most beautiful creation of God. Man is called as the best animal for its three characteristics – developed mind, power of speech and free hands. On the basis of these three things, it is said that there are 84 thousand species (yonies) and man is the best among them. [English] Man is the best creation of God.

[Translation]

Man is the best of the species on the earth. Power of speech relates to language. That is why I had said that language is a medium of expression of thoughts. Man's thought processes as well as their expression both find a medium in the form of language. There are two or three kinds of language-written, oral and symbolic. We were just discussing about the Santhali language. Santhali people form a large segment of the tribal population of our country. They may be living in West Bengal or in Orissa or in Jharkhand, Assam or in Nepal, but the language of the Santhali people is spoken, understood and used by a large number of people. They have constantly been demanding that their language should be included in the Eighth schedule of the Indian Constitution.

Bhartendu Harish Chandra was a great poet of Hindi. He wrote a poem on his own native language and that reads like "Nij Bhasa unnati ahe, sabhai unnati ko mul, bin nij Bhasa gyan ke, mital na hiya ko sul" Progress is possible only by one's own language. The source of all kinds of progress lies in the knowledge of one's own language. One cannot express one's heart's pain without his own language. A child learns his language in his mother's lap while sucking milk from her breasts. He/she his/her language while listening to lullaby and also bearing

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

the strike of the gentle parts on his body by his/her mother and also while playing with others. And that is his own native language. And if he is imparted education in his own language then he can learn it quickly. Santhali people belong to tribal community. They are the people who live in jungles and on hills and they are hard-working and theirs is a large community. They want that the language which they speak has a rich and systematic literature and grammar. Swain Sahab, Basu Debji and Dome Sahab have mentioned Santhali poems and novels which shows how rich that language is, therefore this language definitely deserves to be included in the Eighth schedule of the Constitution. Our country has become free from the British rule. Therefore, it is but natural that after Independence the people speaking in their own language would like that their language is recognised by the Constitution and is included in the Eighth Schedule so that when the Sahitya Academy Awards are given and other competitions which are held, when it comes to making it a medium of instruction or when it comes to giving award to books or works, they should have the convenience of getting knowledge in their own language. Everyone wants that his or her native language gets a place of honour and identity. We are the citizens of free India and therefore we should also have a right to have an independent language just like Tamil is spoken in Tamil Nadu, Malayalam in Kerala, Telgu in Andhra Pradesh, Kannad in Karnataka, Oriya in Orissa, Assamese in Assam, Bengali in Bengal, Punjabi in Punjab and Hindi is spoken in Hindi speaking states.

As Hindi is spoken in Hindi speaking states therefore, it is but natural for the tribal people to think that they should be recognised by their language which has its own script and a history and which is also scientific. Therefore, I request the Government to get a rightful place for the Santhali language. When the Nepali language has been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, the Sindhi people who live in our city Ajmer and also are scattered over other parts of the country, their language has also been included in the Eighth Schedule. Our ancient language Sanskrit has also been included in the Eighth Schedule. Even a foreign language, English has

been included in that schedule. Similarly all the Indian languages have been included in the Eighth Schedule. Lesser spoken languages like Manipuri, Konkani etc. have also been included. Then this demand of the Santhali people is quite legitimate, this is the voice of the people "Apni bhasa apna desh, deta gaurav ka sandesh." Therefore, their native language should get a place in the Eighth Schedule.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, taking advantage of this opportunity, I would like to draw your attention towards a major problem of the Rajasthani language of my state which is spoken by crores of people. Only Gujarati language is at par with it. On the one hand, when the Gujarati language is flourishing today. Gujarati speaking people say about Mirabai that she belonged to them, and we the people of Rajasthan say that she belonged to us. She belonged to both Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Gujarati language commands so much respect and holds such a high position that at present it is the language of communication and medium of education in universities in Rajasthan. The entire official work there is carried out in Gujarati language. Although we, the people of Rajasthan have adopted and declared Hindi as our mother tongue and official language still when you met any Marwari or Rajasthani speaking person, whether he lives in Mumbai, Kolkatta, Bangalore, Madras or Orissa, you will find him using Rajasthani language in his family. Therefore, the Rajasthani language is a language spoken by crores of people which has a long tradition of literature and dingle language and a source of such an inspiration that the Rajput mothers impart teachings to their offsprings in cradle. If you allow me, I would like to give an illustration -

Ida na dini aapni, halara hulrai
Poot sikhave palene, maran badaimai.

Hon. Gadvi Sahab is present here. He knows Rajasthani language because Rajasthan is his native place.

Ida na deni aapni, Palria hulrai
Poot Sikhave palne, maran badaimai

A mother, while swinging her son in the cradle or sending

him asleep in her lap, teaches him not to let anyone his foot on their land and occupy it.

Ida na deni aapni, halria hulrai
Poot sikhave palne, maran badaimai.

The mother used to teach her child while upbringing him/her that it was a matter of pride for one to embrace death while performing his/her duties.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would you please conclude now?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Therefore, the Rajasthani language should also be given that status which has an age old tradition of literature and ancient grammar, which has great scholars to its name and in which literature is created and which is the voice of crores of people. Constant demand is being raised in Rajasthan. Thousands of people came here from Rajasthan and demonstrated on India-Gate and demanded that their mother tongue should find a place in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. But, unfortunately, we are still deprived of that. As far as, Santhali language is concerned, it should also be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. At the same time, I would like to request the Government through you that wherever such type of high powered commission for inclusion of various languages in the Eighth Schedule of Constitution is constituted, that commission should ensure that primary education be provided in the mother tongue, through these languages. Sir, I would seek your protection, our Rajasthan state is very backward from the education point of view. Illiteracy prevails there. Through the mother tongue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Even as we are thinking about Santhali language, you are speaking about Rajasthan.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The issue is exactly similar. Just as I support Santhali language, in the same way, through you, I would like to evoke some sympathy for the Rajasthani language which has been equally neglected. Rajasthani language also must find a place in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

As I have told you that crores of people speak this language and they have their own specific literature, which

is very vast and has a long tradition. Raso literature has been described as Veergathakal in the history of Hindi language. Prithviraj Raso Khuman Raso, Bisoldev Raso all have been written in Rajasthani language.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : I support you.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Everyone supports. As such, through you, once again I would like to submit that while it is desirable that Santhali language is included in the Eighth Schedule of Constitution of India through the Resolution moved by Shri Dome. I would also like to request that one commission having vast ambit should be set up so that Rajasthani, Maithili and other such languages which have not been awarded this status so far, are also included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and the people speaking these languages could feel that their own languages have got importance in the country. I thank you very much for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am grateful to all the four hon. Members including the Mover of this Private Members' Resolution, Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, who urged the Government to bring forward a suitable legislation to include 'Santhali' language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

I will not be giving a lengthy reply and I will not go into the details of how languages are being included in the Schedule. But I will mention some points for the sake of record. Initially there were 14 languages.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, would you allow Shrimati Sandhya Bauri to speak for two minutes please?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Okay, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SANDHYA BAURI (Vishnupur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak on this subject today. I support the Resolution brought in today by my colleague and member Shri Ram Chandra Dome. There are a large number of Santhali speaking people in my constituency and district. A number of hon. Members have said that they have to face many problems due to the language barrier which also affects the education of people. The present low rate of literacy is primarily due to the language barrier. And added to it are many other reasons which have led to our backwardness in this respect. Besides all this, they have to face problem due to the language barrier which is resulting in a fall in the literacy rate. They want to study more and more. We see that we have so many hostels where large number of tribal boys and girls flock for their studies. We also want to receive education in our own language so that we could move ahead. One hon. Member has rightly said that as a breast feeding is good for the health of a child in the same manner we can scale the heights by studying in our own language. Some of our people live in Bengal and we interact with them in Bengali but their speech and comprehension differ from ours. They cannot understand Bengali fully. Similar is the case with us. Whenever we live with them, we manage to make out their utterances to some extent but not fully.

I would also like to remember Pandit Raghunath Murmuji as he discovered the script of Santhali language.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this language has its own script and the population of Santhali speaking people is growing. In Bengal and Jharkhand a good number of people speak Santhali. The Children whose medium of instruction at school level has been Santhali are also taking admission in colleges. India is a vast country and Adivasis live in one or the other part of the country. It may be that in some parts their population is higher and in other parts it may be lower but Adivasis live in all parts of the country. Therefore, we want that this language may be included in the eighth schedule of the Constitution. 75 per cent of the Adivasi population in our country speak different languages. The population of Santhali speaking people is

increasing day by day. To promote this trend it is imperative to include this language in the eighth schedule of the Constitution.

Sir, the West Bengal Government have unanimously passed a resolution and forwarded the same to the Union Government to include Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Two years ago a good number of youths from West Bengal called on the then Speaker Shri G.M.C. Balayogi and at that time an assurance was given to constitute a high powered committee in this regard. Two years have elapsed since then and we are not aware as to what is the position in regard to that high powered committee. Sir, through you, I support the resolution moved by Shri Ram Chandra Domeji here in the House and demand from the Government that Santhali language be included in the eighth schedule of the Constitution.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I am very much grateful to Dr. Dome for having moved this Private Member's Resolution to introduce Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. I am also thankful to other four esteemed friends, including Shrimati Sandhya Bauri, who have supported this Bill. I appreciate their feelings. ...*(Interruptions)* Yes, I am thankful to even those Members who are listening to the debate at this late hour.

I do not want to go into the details of this Bill. Initially there were 14 languages. In 1967, Sindhi language was included in the Eighth Schedule. In 1992, Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali languages were included. At present, there are about 18 languages in the Eighth Schedule and as per the figures available with me, it covers about 96.29 per cent of the population. The only problem with the Government is, every now and then we receive requests from different sections of the society for inclusion of languages in the Schedule.

At present, the Government has received requests for inclusion of 32 more languages. There are no objective criteria for inclusion of a language in the Eighth Schedule. The Government has decided to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Official Language to go

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<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
288/5 (from below)	NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)	NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M KAMMAPPAN)
306/4 (from below)	4147	4157
352/5 (from below)	SHRI TALIB HUSSAIN CHOWDHARY	CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN
402/10 (from below)	4095	4195

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