

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eighth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, November 21, 2001/Kartika 30, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with profound sorrow of the passing away of one of our esteemed colleagues, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy.

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy was a sitting member of Lok Sabha representing Kanakapura Parliamentary Constituency of Karnataka. He was also a member of Sixth to Tenth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1996 representing the same Parliamentary Constituency.

An able administrator, Shri Murthy served in the Union Council of Ministers as Minister of State for Finance during 1993-96.

Shri Murthy was an active parliamentarian. He served as Chairman, House Committee during 1983-84 and Committee on Papers Laid on the Table during 1985-86. He was member of various other Parliamentary and Consultative Committees.

An agriculturist and lawyer by profession, Shri Murthy was an active social and political worker. He also took keen interest in promotion of sports.

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy passed away in the early hours today, that is, 21st November, 2001 at Bangalore at the age of 61 after a brief illness.

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

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

11.02 hrs.

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

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Imparting of Computer Education

*41. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are running any programme to impart computer education at a lower cost to the educated and unemployed persons belonging to the poor and weaker sections of the society, as the computer has become a main source of employment these days;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts being made to ensure that such a programme is introduced in the country urgently in the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Computer Education is provided at lower cost to the educated and unemployed persons belonging to the poor and weaker section of the society under an Employment Generation Training Scheme (EGTS).

The objective of this scheme is to harness the potential of Electronics and Information Technology in providing "Employment Oriented Training" for educated youth to fill up the shortage of trained personnel in the North East and other regions.

In addition to the above, some of the organisations under the Ministry of Information technology namely Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC), Centre for electronics Design & Technology of India (CEDTI), Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation Limited (ET&T) have different provisions for poor and weaker sections to impart computer education at a lower cost. DOEACC refunds examination fees to the SC/ST candidates subject to their successfully qualifying any of the DOEACC level examinations. CEDTI have kept low fees for their computer related courses as compared to fees charged by commercial institutions. ET&T besides keeping their fees on the lower side also provides 5% discount to SC/ST candidates.

Ministry of Human Resources Development also provides support to educational institutions in the country for setting up of computer facilities etc. Most of the Government/Government aided institutions have very nominal fees for higher/technical education including computer education. Even in self-financing institutions there is three-tier fee structure. Under this three-tier fee structure students from poor and weaker sections of society who are meritorious have to pay very nominal fees. In addition, most of the institutions have scheme of scholarship and free-ships for students from poor and weaker sections of the society in all fields of education including computer education.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Harassment of Diplomatic Personnel and their Families

*42. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of harassment of diplomatic personnel and their family members and other Indians in Western Countries and America have increased after terrorists' attacks in America;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with these countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No incidents of harassment of our diplomatic personnel and their family members in any western countries or in the Americas have come to our notice after terrorist attacks in America. However, in the aftermath of 11th September, 01 terrorist attacks, members of the Indian American community in the United States, did temporarily become targets of racial prejudice arising principally from mistaken identity. Some

incidents were reported in U.K. Canada and Australia as well.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Prime Minister expressed India's grave concern to the US President regarding the safety of Indians and received the US President's full assurance in this regard.

In U.K., Canada and Australia, our Missions took up the matter with the Foreign Offices and local authorities.

As a result of the efforts of the Government, instructions were immediately issued by the concerned Governments to their law enforcement authorities to provide greater security to the Indian community. The Police not only intervened immediately by arresting the culprits but also stepped up security.

Anthrax Cases

*43. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Anthrax cases in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether hospitals in the country are well equipped to tackle the menace;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of companies who are manufacturing drugs to combat Anthrax;

(f) whether any spurious drugs being sold in the market, have been noticed; and

(g) if so, the preventive action taken in this regard?

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

(b) Natural anthrax is endemic in some parts of the country. The data available with National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) is given below:—

States	1999		2000		2001	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Karnataka	8	5	Nil	Nil	4	2
Orissa	Nil	Nil	43	3	Nil	Nil

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has convened a meeting-cum workshop on Biological & Chemical Terrorism on 29th October, 2001 at New Delhi wherein Health Secretary, Home Secretary and Director of Health Services from various States and Union Territories, eminent experts in the field of medical science from different organizations in the country and heads of different hospitals in Government and private sector in Delhi participated and deliberated on various aspects. The officials from the State Governments gave a brief account of their preparedness to tackle bio-chemical terrorism. All of them assured that they have got the expertise and sufficient stock of medicines to tackle the situation.

(e) Drugs like Penicillin, Ciprofloxacin, Doxycycline, Amoxycillin are recommended for medical therapy for patients suffering from Anthrax infection. A large number of manufacturers in India are marketing these drugs. Ciprofloxacin formulations are manufactured and marketed by M/s. Nicolas Piramal, Ranbaxy, Dr. Reddy's Laboratory, Lupin Pharma, Sun Pharma, Bayers (I), Cipla, Biochem, Aristo and Doxycycline preparations are manufactured and marketed by Dr. Reddy's laboratory, Biochem Macleoid Laboratory, Ranbaxy etc.

(f) and (g) No such complaint has been brought to the notice of the Government. However, all the State Drug Controllers have been advised to keep a strict check on the possible movement of any spurious/counterfeit drugs. In this context, the guidelines to be adopted for focussed activity in this area has also been circulated.

Instant AIDS Test

*44. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the News-item captioned 'Instant AIDS Tests in Kerala for Rs. 10.00' which appeared in the "Hindustan Times" on September 2, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its objectives; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to make such schemes widely available/ acceptable in other States also?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Government of India has decided to introduce rapid HIV test kits for diagnosis of HIV infection in Voluntary counseling and Testing Centres in all the districts in the country in a phased manner. The advantage of rapid HIV test kits is that they require less than 30 minutes to perform and do not require special equipment. The result can be given to the individual on the same day after pre and post test counseling. The validity of these rapid HIV test kits have been technically evaluated in the country and has been found comparable with that of the other kind of the test kits known as *Enzyme Linked Immunoborbent Assay (ELISA)*. A sum of Rs. 10.00 per complete test is charged from the individuals who are offered such test.

[Translation]

CGHS Facilities

*45. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

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

(a) whether CGHS facility is available in all cities of the country for civilian pensioners;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government contemplate to provide CGHS facility in all cities of the country in view of the old age and deteriorating health of retired employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of steps taken/likely to be taken by the Union Government for looking after the health of retired employees in a better way?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. CGHS medical facilities are presently available to civilian pensioners in 18 cities throughout India at Allahabad, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jabalpur, Lucknow, Chennai, Meerut, Nagpur, Patna, Pune, Kanpur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram. In addition to this, one dispensary each in the cities of Bhubaneshwar and Ranchi are functioning exclusively for the employees of AG's Office who are meeting all the expenses for both the dispensaries.

The Government has also decided to extend CGHS facilities to the cities of Chandigarh, Bhopal and Shillong and have initiated action for opening of the CGHS dispensaries in these cities at an early date.

(b) Keeping in view constraints of resources and manpower, it will not be possible to extend CGHS coverage to all the cities in India.

(c) and (d) In view of the position given in (b) above, the question do not arise.

(e) In the 18 CGHS covered cities, the CGHS pensioner beneficiaries can avail medical facilities which are on par to those available to serving beneficiaries of CGHS which includes dispensary level services including OPD and Specialist consultation, routine lab tests including blood tests, X-ray, etc. Further, the CGHS beneficiaries (both serving and pensioner) can avail in-patient treatment in Government hospitals. In addition to this, private hospitals/diagnostic centres have been recognised under CGHS in 17 CGHS covered cities to enable the CGHS beneficiaries take general purpose and specialised treatment apart from diagnostic procedures including lab investigations after following the prescribed procedure. In the private hospitals recognised recently under CGHS, Delhi, the pensioner beneficiaries of CGHS holding a valid permission letter or having being admitted in the specified types of emergency are allowed credit facilities so that the private hospitals recognised under CGHS raise the hospital bill directly with the CGHS.

The Department of Pensions & Pensioners' Welfare have issued orders that enables civilian pensioners living in non-CGHS areas to obtain Rs. 100/- per month as medical allowance for OPD treatment.

[English]

Projects for Improvement of National Highways

*46. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from various State Governments for construction of New National Highways, declaring State Roads as National Highways, and for taking improvement works, like widening from 2-4-6-8 lanes, construction of bye-passes, reconstruction of bridges/culverts etc.;

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

(c) the present status of each project and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon;

(d) the budgetary allocation made therefor and expected time of their completion, project-wise;

(e) whether any foreign assistance is being sought or funds received from World Bank or any other foreign agency for any project particularly for developing and extension of National Highways; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and quantum of funds provided so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement of giving State-wise details of status with regard to proposals for declaration of new National Highways is enclosed. Receipt of proposals from State Governments for improvement of National Highways is a continuous process. As on date State-wise details of proposals for development of National Highways for the current year received and approved so far are given in statement II enclosed. For projects found deficient, clarification/additional information is called for from States. Further sanctions will depend upon the bank of sanction of respective State and estimates being in proper shape. Thus, firm date for disposal of such cases would be difficult to indicate at this stage.

(d) The funds for the improvement of National Highways works are provided State-wise and not project-wise keeping in view the requirement and overall availability of funds. The Budget allocation for the above

mentioned works including the funds required for on-going works, State-wise for the current year is also given in statement III enclosed. The completion time of a project depends on its size, complexity and site conditions and generally varies from one to three years.

(e) and (f) External assistance of US\$ 1105 m from World Bank, US\$ 665 m from Asian Development Bank and Yen 32060 m from JBIC has been arranged for implementation of some projects of development Highways. Details are at Annex-III.

Statement I

Status of proposals relating to declaration of new National Highways

Sl.No	States	No. of Proposals received	No. of Roads declared as NHs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2
3.	Assam	9	6
4.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	77	21
5.	Delhi	—	—
6.	Goa	4	1
7.	Gujarat	21	5
8.	Haryana	12	6

1	2	3	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9	4
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	2
11.	Karnataka	20	7
12.	Kerala	8	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	39	15
14.	Maharashtra	11	4
15.	Manipur	1	1
16.	Meghalaya	1	1
17.	Mizoram	3	3
18.	Nagaland	2	2
19.	Orissa	26	6
20.	Pondicherry	1	1
21.	Punjab	18	5
22.	Rajasthan	14	6
23.	Sikkim	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	35	13
25.	Tripura	3	2
26.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	72	25
27.	West Bengal	9	4

Statement II

State-wise status of Proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories for the year 2001-2002 for development of National Highways alongwith Budget Allocation for 2001-02

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of Proposals		Allocation (Rs. in lakh)
		Received	Approved	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37	36	9000.00
2.	Assam	40	21	6826.19
3.	Bihar	23	19	5500.00
4.	Chandigarh	1	—	150.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	18	1	3000.00

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Delhi	3	2	1000.00
7.	Goa	7	1	2000.00
8.	Gujarat	25	11	8500.00
9.	Haryana	17	14	5500.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13	6	4700.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	400.00
12.	Jharkhand	12	11	2500.00
13.	Karnataka	30	23	7486.56
14.	Kerala	24	18	7500.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	18	6	8000.00
16.	Maharashtra	42	36	10800.00
17.	Manipur	7	2	1800.00
18.	Meghalaya	13	4	2500.00
19.	Mizoram	14	7	1800.00
20.	Nagaland	11	6	1600.00
21.	Orissa	25	8	7000.00
22.	Pondicherry	1	1	200.00
23.	Punjab	15	10	4800.00
24.	Rajasthan	45	32	9685.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	43	32	9500.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	36	23	12478.20
27.	Uttaranchal	14	6	2000.00
28.	West Bengal	20	8	10538.00

Statement III*Details of External Assistance approved for on-going projects on National Highways*

Name of the Project		Loan Amount (Million)	States
1		2	3
<i>World Bank</i>			
(i)	Third National Highways Project	US\$ 516	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand
(ii)	Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project (GTRIP)	US\$ 589	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand

	1	2	3
	<i>Asian Development Bank</i>		
(i)	ADB-III Project	US\$ 245	Haryana, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh
(ii)	Surat-Manor Project	US\$ 180	Gujarat and Maharashtra
(iii)	Western Transport Corridor Project	US\$240	Karnataka
	<i>OECF</i>		
(i)	Four loans have been obtained	Yen 32060	Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh

Indo-Nepal Border Talks

*47. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian and Nepalese authorities have held talks in the recent past for finalising survey work and identifying areas in the border to erect permanent boundary pillars; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks?

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

The two sides have finalised the field program for ground verification for demarcation of the India-Nepal boundary for the forthcoming field season which concludes in May 2002. Work has commenced from the north-eastern extremity in the Sikkim sector and is currently in progress. This programme has been drawn in accordance with the earlier decisions of the JTC with a view to complete the final preparation of Boundary Strip Maps by 2003. This deadline was also endorsed at the level of the Prime Ministers during the visit of the then Nepalese Prime Minister G.P. Koirala to India in July-August, 2000.

Below Poverty Line

*48. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sixty per cent of the people of the country are still living Below Poverty Line;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that poverty has increased in the country during the economic reforms period from 1991 to 2001;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the manner in which Government plan to bring people above poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and State level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisation. The last such survey was conducted in the 55th Round of the NSS covering the period July 1999 to June 2000. On the basis of the 30-day recall tabulation in the Key Results of the 55th Round large sample survey of Household Consumer Expenditure in India carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the percentage of population living below the poverty line in the country as a whole in 1999-2000 is estimated as 26.10%.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Since 1991, the estimates of poverty have been made for the years 1993-94 and 1999-2000 based on the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the 50th and 55th Round respectively. The estimate of poverty calculated from the 50th Round large sample survey on consumer expenditure conducted by the NSSO was 35.97% for the year 1993-94. The data from the latest large survey of the 55th Round on a 30-day basis indicate a poverty ratio of 26.1% for 1999-2000.

(e) There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are: (i)

acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human, and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

[Translation]

Migration of Hindu and Sikh Families

*49. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindu and Sikh families are migrating from Afghanistan and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to safeguard their interests both inside and outside the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) On account of prolonged civil conflict in Afghanistan a large number of Afghan nationals of Indian origin are presently living in India. In keeping with our traditional policy of friendship towards the people of Afghanistan, all Afghan nationals, including those of Indian origin, who came to India with valid travel documents/passports are being allowed to stay unhindered; they are also being granted annual visa extensions.

In addition, we have received information that 275 Afghan Sikhs/Hindu families from Afghanistan are presently in Pakistan intending to travel to India. Government is examining all these requests. A significant number of applications have already been cleared for grant of visa. Government have also waived visa fee for these applicants.

Government is also working actively, along with other countries for restoration of lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Training to Jammu and Kashmir Terrorists in Pakistan

*50. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir based terrorist outfits are being imparted training in Pakistan for anti-India activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) As part of its policy of sponsoring cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India, Pakistan has established on its territory, in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir, and earlier in Afghanistan too, an elaborate infrastructure for the recruitment, training and indoctrination of terrorists.

(c) Government have appropriately and effectively brought to the attention of the international community facts pertaining to Pakistan's sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India. The issue has also been raised during high level meetings with foreign leaders. There is now a much wider recognition of this and of the fact that there is no justification for terrorism, which must be eradicated wherever it exists.

[English]

Levy on Gross Revenue of Telecom

*51. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to impose a 5 percent levy of gross revenue of the telecom operators to be contributed to support the basic service providers in rural areas of the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of its utilization, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The New Telecom Policy, 1999, stipulates a Levy towards Universal Service Obligation. The Government had sought the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on matters relating to Universal Service Obligation. The TRAI has since given its recommendation. The TRAI has recommended 5 percent of the Adjusted Gross Revenue to be charged as Universal Service Levy from all Telecom carriers or operators, excluding pure value added service providers such as Internet Service Providers, Voice Mail Service Providers etc. which should be credited to a Universal Service Fund. This levy should come out of the license fee itself and should not be an additional levy. Provision of Village -Public telephones and Direct Exchange Lines in rural and remote areas shall be undertaken by all Basic Service operators who will be reimbursed from this fund.

The TRAI has also recommended that date of implementation of the Universal Service Support Scheme to be 1.4.2002, after which utilization of the fund would commence.

The recommendations of TRAI are being examined by Government.

Impact on Software Export

*52. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a setback on software export due to terrorist attack on World Trade Centre, New York on 11 September, 2001 followed by subsequent war;

(b) if so, the strategy adopted to overcome the impact; and

(c) the steps taken to explore the possibilities of increasing export of software to other countries and to maintain balance in export?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There has been no impact on IT sector in India specifically because of the terrorist attack on World Trade Centre (America).

(c) As a part of its predecided strategy, Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) has been taking steps to explore other thrust markets like that of Latin American countries, Europe, UK, Japan, Australia etc. Global event India Soft is also being organized in Delhi which will provide platform to small and medium companies in India to interact and explore trade possibilities with visiting delegates from various countries.

[Translation]

Universal Services Obligation Fund

*53. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have created a Universal Services Obligation Fund;

(b) if so, the amount of funds likely to be collected alongwith the sources, source-wise;

(c) the amount of money estimated to be deposited in this Fund annually;

(d) the provisions made for spending the money from this Fund; and

(e) the amount of money deposited in this fund till September, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The New Telecom Policy, 1999 regime, stipulates a Levy towards Universal Service Obligation. The Government had sought the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on matters relating to Universal Service Obligation. The TRAI has since given its recommendation. The TRAI has recommended that 5% of the Adjusted Gross Revenue of all telecom carriers or operators, excluding pure value added service providers such as Internet Service Providers, Voice Mail Service Providers, etc., should be contributed as Universal Service Levy (USL) and credited to a Universal Service Fund. This levy should come out of the license fee itself and should not be an additional levy. It has also been recommended that the Universal Service Fund be created with effect from 1.4.2002. The recommendations of TRAI are being examined by Government.

(b) and (c) The estimated USL receipts based on the recommendation of TRAI in the financial year 2002-2003 source-wise are as follows:—

Sl.No.	Service	USL (Rupees in crores)
1.	Basic	835.00
2.	Cellular	340.00
3.	Radio Paging	0.50
4.	VSAT-CUG	10.00
5.	PMRTS	0.75
6.	GMPCS	0.10
7.	NLDO	400.00
8.	ILDO	220.00
Total		1806.35

(d) The TRAI has recommended that the fund would support public telecommunications & information services in rural areas along with provision of household telephones in net high cost areas limited only to rural/remote Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs).

(e) The Authority has recommended operation of USO support policy from 1.4.2002, hence no money has been deposited in the fund, which has not been created so far.

Criticism of Indian Secularism

*54. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign department of America has criticised India's secularism in its annual report released in October 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the observations made therein against India;

(c) whether the Government of India agree with the observations;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government of India have lodged their protests with the Government of America in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no "foreign department". However, the U.S. State Department's Congressionally-mandated Annual Report on International Religious Freedom, released on October, 26, 2001, affirms that India is a secular State. It also contains certain adverse comments. It also notes that personal and property disputes occasionally acquire a religious colour. The Report has commented positively on the Constitutional provisions for freedom of religion and the role of the National Commission for Minorities and the National Human Rights Commission of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In conformity with the Constitution and India's international legal obligations, Government offers full protection to minorities and prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Government does not comment on an exercise that is part of the internal processes of any foreign Government.

[English]

Fixed Telephones by Private Operators

*55. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target of fixed telephones fixed for private operators;

(b) the fixed phones so far provided by private operators; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that private operators are committed to fulfil the target?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) As per National Telecom Policy, 94 (NTP-94) licence agreements entered into with six private basic telephone service operators, 20,17,809 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) were to be provided during the first three years from the effective date of the licence. The effective date in respect of five licensees was 30.9.1997 and in respect of one licensee was 4.3.1998. Thereafter, licensee has to maintain growth rate of minimum 15% per annum till the stage of telephone on demand is reached.

As per available information, six private basic telephone service operators, who were granted licences in 1997/98 have provided 3,75,605 DELs till 30.9.2001.

There out of these six basic service operators had commenced their service in the year 2000 only. The operators have been impressed upon to fulfill their committed targets. In order to facilitate faster roll out of the network, the use of hand held terminals in wireless access system within local area has also been permitted which is subject to the outcome of the petition pending before the Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). With these steps, the number of subscribers has increased from 2,65,976 as on 1.4.2001 to 3,75,605 as on 30.9.2001. Liquidated Damages (LD) for delay in fulfillment of the commitment were recovered from these six basic service licensees as per the provisions of the licence agreement. These licensees have also been asked to submit Additional Performance Bank Guarantee and Deed of Guarantee for fulfillment of the committed targets.

In respect of new licences issued for provision of Basic Telephone Service as per New Telecom Policy, 99 (NTP-99), the roll-out obligations have been fixed in terms of setting up of Points of Presence (POP) in a Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA). New licensees are to set up POPs in 15% SDCAs in first two years. These two years will be completed between July to October, 2003.

Recession In Software Industry

*56. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
DR. RAJESHWARAMMA VUKKALA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any recession in the Global Software Industry at present;

(b) if so, whether Indian I.T. Professionals employed in the software industries in US and other countries are being retrenched;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Indian Government propose to tackle this inflow of computer trained personnel?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Due to current slowdown in the World economy, many companies in the World are cutting down costs and laying off employees. Some World companies, who earlier opted for on-site work are now converting these into offshore assignments on cost considerations. However, no precise data is available regarding the number of IT professionals who have returned for these reasons. As per NASSCOM's estimate, about 1000 IT professionals might have returned.

(d) Several policy measures have been taken to facilitate infrastructural development and attract foreign investment in the area of Information Technology for improving the position of employment in the country. Some of the areas, setting up new Software Technology Parks (STPs), establishing Media Lab Asia, spread of Internet and IT enabled services.

Watch on Activities of Indians

*57. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several youths from India going for employment in Gulf countries are being allured/forced to serve terrorist groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to tone up its embassies in Gulf countries to keep a watch on the activities of Indians visiting there for employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Our enquiries indicate that the information is not correct.

(c) and (d) Our Missions function efficiently and keep close watch on issues of national importance.

[*Translation*]

Indian Nuclear Programme and IAEA

*58. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether USA is likely to examine the Indian nuclear programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether American Congress is contemplating to bring a model additional protocol law by which the International Atomic Energy Agency would be empowered to examine nuclear programmes of all the countries;

(d) if so, whether the International Atomic Energy Agency is governed by the law passed by American Congress and the same is binding on all countries of the World; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such information has come to the attention of Government.

(d) and (e) The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an inter-governmental organisation which functions independently under its own Statute adopted in 1957 and its programme-activities and budget are solely determined by its policy making organs, namely, the Board of Governors and the General Conference. A Model Additional Protocol was endorsed by the IAEA's policy making organs in May 1997, to be concluded as a

bilateral undertaking between the Agency and those Non-Nuclear Weapon States which are parties to its full scope safeguards agreements. Such a Model Protocol is meant to be obligatory on those Non-Nuclear Weapon States that are parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or other similar international agreements, which are not applicable to India.

[English]

Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan

*59. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the draft Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether National Development Council has also approved the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which steps have been taken to implement all the projects that were taken in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir, The Draft Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan was approved by the Full Planning Commission in its meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 27th and 29th June, 2001. The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 17th August, 2001 approved the placing of the draft Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan before the NDC.

(b) Yes, Sir, The Draft Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan was approved by NDC in its 49th meeting held on 1st September, 2001 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister.

(c) The Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan aims at the stepping up the growth rate of GDP to 8% per annum over the Plan period 2002-2007. It also proposes to establish specific monitorable targets covering economic, social and environmental dimensions of human development. These include targets on reduction in

poverty ratio, access to primary education, raising literacy rate, decline in infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, raising employment growth rate, improving coverage of villages in terms of access to potable drinking water, reducing gender gaps in literacy and wage rates, cleaning of major polluted river stretches, increase in forest cover and reducing the decadal population growth rate.

The Tenth Plan envisages a State-wise break up of growth and other monitorable targets to build up requisite policy focus for reducing regional disparities in social and economic attainments. It proposes to integrate growth with equity and social justice. This would involve making agriculture development a core element of the Plan. It involves bringing about rapid growth in sectors with high quality employment opportunities. It also envisages restructuring of targeted programmes, emphasising cross sectoral synergies, for special groups. The underlying strategy for the attainment of Plan targets is contingent on our ability to increase investment rate in the economy to 30-32 per cent, increase the productivity of existing capital assets, undertaking second generation policy reforms with a view to improving the efficiency of new investment; and devise instrumentalities to facilitate and encourage a deepening and broadening of the agenda for reforms across the States.

Raising the investment rate in the economy is critically tied with the ability of the Government both the Central and the States, to undertake an agenda for fiscal correction outlined in the Approach Paper. The most crucial aspect of this requires the Central Government to increase its savings by around 2.9% of GDP. The other important aspect pertains to expediting the disinvestment process.

Improving efficiency of public assets and quality of expenditure in the public sector requires rationalisation of Central sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes through convergence, weeding out and transfer of schemes to the States. It requires completion of existing projects rather than initiating new projects, and selectively permitting the use of plan funds for critical repair and maintenance activities. Privatisation of non-strategic PSUs and closure of non-viable units at both Centre and States in a time bound manner would have to be undertaken. Moreover, expansion of project based support to States and making additional central assistance contingent on agreed programme of reforms is to be emphasised with a view to improving the efficiency of public spending in the States and encourage them to adopt agreed agenda for reforms.

In the context of improving the efficiency of public spending, the Commission noted the success of the core

plan for the States in bringing about a more realistic plan formulation both in terms of mobilisation of resources and in terms of actual implementation.

The Approach document recognises the serious gaps that are emerging in infrastructure particularly in power, railways and public investment in irrigation. The flow of private investment in infrastructure has been below expectations as in many instances the requisite enabling framework is not yet in place. In respect of power sector, the Approach Paper has proposed rationalisation of tariffs through SERCs, unbundling generation, transmission and distribution; privatising distribution and enabling bulk consumers to access power directly. On railways, the Approach Paper has suggested corporatisation of all non core, peripheral activities of the Indian Railways and establishing an independent Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority.

The Approach Paper has outlined measures to increase efficiency in private sector by continuing the reforms in industrial and trade policy, undertaking legal and procedural changes to facilitate quick transfer of assets, such as repeal of SICA, introduction and strengthening of bankruptcy and foreclosure laws etc. It also talks of adopting a blue print for removal of administrative, procedural and legal hurdles to investment and improving Government's interface with the public. Reform and strengthening of judicial system and procedure is an area also identified in this context.

The Approach Paper has identified the need to have a comprehensive land use policy to encourage productive utilisation of available land resources. It has suggested disbanding export, trade and credit restrictions on agricultural and agro-forestry products.

The Panchayati Raj institutions have a critical role to play in the developmental framework outlined for the Tenth Plan, particularly with regard to improving delivery mechanism for the poverty alleviation schemes. They also have special role in improving accountability at the local level in the public provisioning of education and health services.

The Approach Paper places special emphasis on empowerment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes and on mainstreaming of gender concerns.

(d) Completion of ongoing projects has been accorded high priority in the Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year and a moratorium on launching new projects until at least a minimum number of partially completed projects are brought to completion has been suggested.

Special Economic Zones

*60. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the name and number of major ports which have set up the Special Economic Zones (SEZ);

(b) since when these ports have participated in SEZ; and

(c) the plan of other ports in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI VED PRAKASH GOYAL): (a) to (c) None of the major port has set up any Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and presently there is no plan in this regard with any of the Major Ports.

[Translation]

Pak Propaganda on J&K

461. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has adopted a new method of misinformation and has started to put new seal of 'Indian Held J&K' on the U.N.M.O. mail; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Propagandist measures by Pakistan, will not alter the fact that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is, and shall remain, an integral part of India.

Agro Based Industries in UP

462. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details regarding foreign capital investment proposals received for setting up of agro-based industries in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals approved and implemented so far;

(c) whether the Government are doing injustice to tribal areas;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in the implementation of the approved proposals?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries has not received any proposal for foreign investment for setting up agro based industries in the country during the last two years. The Department of Industrial policy and Promotion, which is the nodal Department for foreign direct investment in industry, have stated that they do not maintain information/data specific to agro based industries.

Family Welfare Programme

463. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government provide funds to those voluntary organizations which are working for Family Welfare Programme in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of fund allocated during the last three years;

(c) whether any Government agencies have been authorized to investigate Non-Government organizations in regard to utilization of their funds properly;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of such organizations which have been found guilty during the last three years; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against each of them?

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

(b) A list is enclosed as statement I.

(c) and (d) Utilization Certificates along with Audited accounts duly certified by Chartered Accountant submitted by the NGOs are examined in the Ministry. The accounts of the grantee organization are also open for test check by internal audit of this Ministry as well as by Comptroller and Auditor General.

(e) and (f) List is enclosed as statement II.

Statement I

Mother NGO Scheme

(Amount in Rupees)

S.No.	Name of MNGO	State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ekalavya Memorial League, Prakasam	Andhra	—	1000000	800000
2.	Rahul's Med. & Health Services Society, Hyderabad	Andhra	1000000	960000	1960000
3.	Society for National Integratioin through Rural Development	Andhra	1000000	960000	1960000
4.	St. Peter's Multipurpose Health Workers (Female), Guntur	Andhra	—	1960000	960000
5.	HEADS, Anantpur	Andhra	1000000	925000	1795000
6.	Social Action for Social Dev Hyderabad	Andhra	1000000	960000	1760000
7.	National Education Minorities Society, Guntur	Andhra	—	800000	—
8.	Arunachal Pradesh VHA	Arunachal	—	—	1000000

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Rural Women Upliftment Association of Assam	Assam	1000000	—	—
10.	Voluntary Health Association of Assam, Guwahati	Assam	—	1000000	1893938
11.	Deshbhandu Club, Cachar	Assam	—	1200000	1200000
12.	Bihar VHA, Patna	Bihar	1000000	960000	1960000
13.	Scientific Education Prom. & Med. Aid Foundation, Patna	Bihar	1000000	960000	1960000
14.	Millat Educational Society, Samastipur	Bihar	1000000	—	600000
15.	Mahila Bal Uttan Kendra, Samastipur	Bihar	1000000	—	—
16.	Adarsh Mahila Shilp Kala Kendra, Patna	Bihar	—	—	1600000
17.	ADITHI, Patna	Bihar	—	—	180000
18.	Centre for Labour Education & Social Research	Chattigarh	1500000	2500000	—
19.	Utthan - Centre for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation Allahabad	Chattigarh & MP & UP	2000000	2500000	2500000
20.	INDCARE Charitable Trust	Delhi	—	1500000	—
21.	SOSVA	Delhi, Chandigarh, Haryana, Punjab	2500000	2500000	2500000
22.	Gujarat Voluntary Health Association, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	—	2000000	—
23.	Centre for Health Education Training & Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA)	Gujarat	—	2000000	1000000
24.	HP VHA	H.P.	—	—	2000000
25.	SUTRA	H.P.	—	—	1200000
26.	Nischal Foundation (SNS), Gurgaon (MNGO in H.P.)	H.P.	1000000	—	1600000
27.	SWACH Foundation, Panchkula	Haryana	2500000	2500000	—
28.	Haryana Navyuvak Kala Sangham	Haryana	—	—	400000
29.	J&K Ex-Services League, Jammu	J&K	1000000	—	1000000
30.	Kalamakari Centre Ploura, Jammu	J&K	1500000	—	1405509
31.	Valley Women Welfare Society, Srinagar	J&K	—	—	800000
32.	Krishi Gram Vikas Kendra	Jharkhand	—	—	1600000
33.	Gram Nirman Mandal, Nawada	Jharkhand	—	—	1200000

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	Women in Social Action, Midnapore	Jharkhand	1000000	—	1600000
35.	Karnataka Voluntary Health Association	Karnataka	2500000	—	822250
36.	SOSVA, Karnataka	Karnataka	2500000	2500000	2500000
37.	St. John's Medical College, Bangalore	Karnataka	1000000	—	1200000
38.	Revensidheshwar Prasanna Education Society, Bidar	Karnataka	400000	—	—
39.	Family Planning Association of India, Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	—	1500000	—
40.	Kerala Voluntary Health Services, Kottayam	Kerala	1000000	—	1000000
41.	CLEAR, Bilaspur	M.P.	1500000	2500000	—
42.	Sambhav, Gwalior	M.P.	1500000	1500000	499000
43.	Sarvajanik, Gwalior	M.P.	1500000	2500000	2500000
44.	Sanskar Shiksha Samiti,	M.P.	1500000	1500000	—
45.	madhya Pradesh V.H.A., Indore	M.P.	—	2000000	500000
46.	FPAI, Mumbai (MNGO in M.P.)	M.P.	2500000	2468000	—
47.	Sevadam Trust, Pune	Maharashtra	2000000	2500000	2000000
48.	SOSVA, Pune	Maharashtra	2500000	2500000	2500000
49.	Pravara Medical Trust, Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	1500000	1500000	1406474
50.	Godavari Foundation, Jalgaon	Maharashtra	1000000	—	1000000
51.	Lamding Cherpur Homoeopathic & Unani Association, Wangjing	Manipur	—	1200000	1600000
52.	Family Planning Association of India, Imphal	Manipur	—	1200000	1894052
53.	Nagaland VHA	Nagaland	—	—	1500000
54.	Onssa V.H.A., Bhubaneswar	Orissa	2000000	2500000	—
55.	MY HEART, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	1000000	1000000	1000000
56.	Organisation for Social Change and Rural Development, (OSCARD), Bhubaneswar	Orissa	—	1200000	—
57.	ISWAR	Orissa	—	—	400000
58.	ASRA	Orissa	—	—	800000
59.	Animal Welfare	Orissa	—	—	800000
60.	Neelanchal Seva Pratishthan	Orissa	—	—	400000

1	2	3	4	5	6
61.	PARKALPA	Orissa	—	—	400000
62.	Anchalika Kunjeswari Sanskritika, Puri	Orissa	1000000	—	960000
63.	Bhoruka Charitable Trust, Jaipur	Rajasthan	2000000	1500000	—
64.	URMUL, Rural Health Research, Bikaner	Rajasthan	—	2000000	—
65.	Rajasthan Voluntary Health Association	Rajasthan	2000000	—	—
66.	Sikkim VHA	Sikkim	—	—	1000000
67.	Rural Education & Development Society, Sivagangai	Tamil Nadu	2000000	2000000	2000000
68.	Tamil Nadu Voluntary Health Association, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2500000	2500000	2500000
69.	Gandhigram Instt. of Rural Health & Family Welfare Trust, Dindigul	Tamil Nadu	2500000	2500000	1779810
70.	Deepam Educational Society for Health (DESH), Chennai	Tamil Nadu	—	1000000	—
71.	FPAI, Madurai	Tamil Nadu	1000000	965680	200000
72.	VHA of Tripura, Agartala	Tripura	1000000	1000000	1500000
73.	CARTE, Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	1600000
74.	Indian Instt. for Development Studies & Research, Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	2000000	2500000	2465803
75.	New Public School Samiti, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	—	2500000	—
76.	Naujhil Integrated Rural Project for Health and Development	Uttar Pradesh	—	2500000	—
77.	World Welfare & Research Centre, Gonda	Uttar Pradesh	—	1500000	—
78.	FPAI, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2500000
79.	UP VHA	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	1600000
80.	CARTE, Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	1600000
81.	FPAI, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2500000
82.	Himalayan Instt. Hospital Trust, Dehradun	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	—	2500000	—
83.	CINI, Calcutta	West Bengal	2500000	2500000	2500000
84.	Gana Unnayana Parishad, Kolkatta	West Bengal	1500000	1500000	1000000
85.	W. Bengal V.H.A., Kolkatta	West Bengal	2000000	2500000	2500000

Innovative Scheme

(Amount in Rs.)

S.No.	Name of NGO	State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Dr. Pathak Child & Mother Welfare Society	MP	502000	251000	251000
2.	Dr. Phatak Child & Mother Welfare Society	MP	—	800000	242000
3.	Jan Swasthya Sahayog	Chattisgarh	—	2764000	1440538
4.	Population Foundation of India	New Delhi	1211100	816164	633120
5.	Family Planning & Medical Aid Trust	Maharashtra	700000	—	—
6.	Tagore Society for Rural Development	West Bengal	—	1491940	2187940
7.	CRRID	West Bengal	1285397	806303	1211670
8.	Yuvak Pratishthan	Maharashtra	—	—	2000000
9.	VHAI	New Delhi	—	—	623500
10.	Santhigiri Ashram	Kerala	—	—	2457872
11.	SOSVA, Pune	Maharashtra	—	—	1332922
12.	Women in Social Action	West Bengal	—	—	421100

Support for Gender Issues Scheme

Sl. No.	Name of Implementing NGO	State/UT	Funds released during 1999-2000	Funds released during 2000-2001
(Amount in Rs.)				
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Mamta Health Institute for Mother and Child, New Delhi	Delhi	2624160	—
2.	Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI)	Delhi	—	800000
3.	Mobile Creches New Delhi	Delhi	1316102	—

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Institute for Development and Communication, Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1444800	—
5.	Centre Direct, Patna	Bihar	818160	—
6.	Organisation for Socio Economic & Rural Develop., (OSERD), Patna	Bihar	439530	—
7.	Daudnagar Development Sansthan, Daudnagar	Bihar	2153550	—
8.	Visakha Jilla Nava Nirmana Samiti, Vishakhapatanam	Andhra Pradesh	808920	—
9.	Rashtriya Seva Samiti, Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	1230600	—
10.	Swa-Sahyog Sanstha, Chaksu	Rajasthan	405379	—
11.	Indian Institute for Rural Development, Jaipur	Rajasthan	320198	320198
12.	Lupin Human Welfare and Research Foundation	Rajasthan	—	787500
13.	Concerned Citizen	Rajasthan	—	746842
14.	Guild of Services (Central), Chennai	Tamil Nadu	130538	—
15.	Rural Development Society, Wangjing	Manipur	725828	—
16.	Community Development Programme Centre, Thoubal	Manipur	2190240	—
17.	Khurai Young Women's Socio Cultural Orgn. (KYWSCO)	Manipur	—	747600
18.	SEVANA, Trivandrum	Kerala	174825	—

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Anweshi Women's Counselling Centre, Kozhikode	Kerala	867384	—
20.	Development Action through Self Help Network (DARSHN)	Kerala	—	297020
21.	Jananeethi	Kerala	—	279524
22.	Deepak Charitable Trust, Vadodara	Gujarat	600000	790980
23.	Parvatiaya Paryavaran Sanrakshan Samiti, Pithoragarh	Uttar Pradesh	495206	—
24.	WB VHA	West Bengal	—	.942900
25.	Youth Association for Rural Reconstruction	Orissa	—	680400

*Information for Point A&B**Under Indian System of Medicine (ISM)*

Sl.No	Name of the Institution	Amount Released		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Varun Herbals Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, A.P.	—	—	35,88,300
2.	M/s. Ramaeesh Charitable Trust, New Delhi	6,02,485	—	—
3.	M/s. Public Health Society, Sampla, Rohtak, Haryana	—	—	1,76,200
4.	Health Naturally R&D Institute, Mumbai	—	—	8,89,000
5.	M/s Bhao Sahab Bhuskute, Smarty, Hoshangabad, M.P.	—	3,00,000	1,55,000
6.	Society for Development of Humanity (SHODH), Jabalpur, M.P.	—	—	10,00,000

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gandhigarm Trust, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu	—	—	6,21,000
8.	M/s. Centre for Indian Medical Heritage (CIMH), Coimbatore, T.N.	—	5,00,000	—
9.	M/s. Uttan Cente for Sustainable Development & Poverty Alleviation, Allahabad, U.P.	18,20,900	15,93,000	16,48,550
10.	M/s. Jeevaniya Society, Lucknow, U.P.	—	3,00,000	3,00,000
11.	Central Himalayan Environmental Research (SHER), Dehradun, U.P.	—	—	6,00,000

*Information for Point A&B**Under Modernisation System of Medicine*

Sl.No.	Name of the Institution	Amount Released		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Centre for Media studies, New Delhi	1,38,230	2,76,460	2,76,460
2.	Parivar Seva Sanstha, C-374, Defence Colony, New Delhi	11,13,000	—	—
3.	Dalal Consultants & Engineers Ltd., New Delhi	3,50,000	—	—
4.	Institute of Economic Growth, University Enclave, Delhi-7	4,25,000	—	—
5.	Parivar Seva Sanstha, C-374, Defence Colony, New Delhi.	—	16,00,000	—
6.	Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi	—	1,56,975	1,56,975
7.	Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi	—	—	12,00,000 + 2,50,000 for task force

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi	—	—	10,000,000
9.	Survival for Women & Children Foundation, Panchkula, Haryana	5,00,000	4,00,000	—
10.	SNS Foundation of Gurgaon, Haryana	—	—	5,00,000
11.	Child in Need Institute, Calcutta, W.B.	—	1,74,240	1,16,160
12.	Presidency College, Calcutta, W.B.	—	—	7,46,060

IEC Activities

Organization		State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1		2	3	4	5
1.	Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population & Development	Delhi	—	17,29,250	26,00,000
2.	Press Institute of India	Delhi	—	—	22,32,000
3.	Indian Medical Association	Bihar	—	—	2,35,000
4.	Voluntary Health Association of India	Delhi	—	—	2,24,500
5.	Program for Ethical Academic and Cultural Enterprises (PEACE)	U.P.	—	—	10,00,000

Auxillary Nursing Midwife/Lady Health Visitor Scheme & Health & FW Training Centre Scheme

1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Gandhigram Institute of Rural health & FW Trust	Tamil Nadu	49,50,000	81,80,000	175,00,000

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques</i>					
1.	Voluntary Health Association of India	New Delhi	—	12,00,000	—
2.	Voluntary Health Association of India	Orissa	—	3,60,000	—
<i>Dai Training Programme</i>					
1.	Tagore Society for Rural Development	Kolkata	—	25,02,000	—
2.	Mamta Health Institute for Mother & Child	Delhi	—	2,54,000	—
<i>Cold Chain and Vaccine Section</i>					
1.	Neo Natal Forum	New Delhi	—	—	1,50,000
2.	Neo Natal Forum	New Delhi	—	—	2,00,000
3.	Moulana Azad Medical College	New Delhi	—	—	75,000
4.	Indian Society for the Study of Reproduction & Fertility	Mumbai	—	—	2,00,000
5.	Society for Women & Children Health	Chandigarh	—	23,20,000	5,84,160

Statement II

Sl. No.	Name of NGO	Scheme, Amount & Year	Allegation	Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Bharatpur, Rajasthan	Mother NGO Scheme. 15,00,000 (1998) Only Rs. 5,45,230/- was released after adjusting unspent amount of Rs. 9,54,770/- released earlier under the Mother Unit Scheme.	Fraudulent filing of reports with Govt. of India	Steps have been initiated to recover the amount of Rs. 15.00 lakhs from the NGO with the assistance of the State Govt.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	National Educational Minorities Society, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh	Mother NGO Scheme. 8,00,000 (1999)	Misuse of funds	The NGO has been black-listed. The District Magistrate, Guntur has been requested to file an FIR to recover the grant-in-aid.
3.	Indian Association of Women & Child Research, Lucknow	Mother NGO Scheme Rs. 15.00 lakhs (1999)	Misuse of funds	NGO has been blacklisted after irregularities were found in expenditure statement. It has filed writ in High Court Lucknow Bench. Matter is sub-judice.
4.	Alp Sankyak Mahila Prashikshan Sansthan, Patna	Old Scheme Rs. 4.24 lakhs (1997)	Misuse of funds and faking documents	Show cause notice has been served and DM, Godda has filed an FIR against the NGO.
5.	Centre for Labour Education and Social Research, Delhi	Mother NGO Scheme. Rs. 15.00 lakhs (1998) Rs. 25.00 lakhs (2000)	Improper disbursal of funds to Field NGOs.	Matter is under investigation .
6.	Revanasiddheswar Prasanna Education Trust, Bidhar	Mother NGO Scheme Rs. 4.00 lakhs (1999)	Improper disbursal of funds to Field NGOs.	Blacklisted

[English]

Waiting List of Telephone Connections

464. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any waiting list is existing for telephone connection in the State of Tamil Nadu particularly in Sripurumbudur;

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

(c) the time by which these connections will be released?

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

(b) The waiting list in Tamil Nadu State is 1,24,606 and in Sripurumbudur it is 114 as on 31.10.2001. The District-wise waiting list in Tamil Nadu is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The connections will be released by March, 2002. The Technically Non Feasible cases will be released during 2002-2003 using WLL technology.

Statement*District-wise details of waiting list in Tamil Nadu State*

Sl.No.	Name of District	Waiting list
1.	Ariyalur	415
2.	Coimbatore	21859
3.	Cuddalore	4088
4.	Dharmapuri	2631
5.	Dindugal	2942
6.	Erode	865
7.	Kancheepuram	8777
8.	Kanyakumari	7882
9.	Karur	1702
10.	Madurai	1853
11.	Nagapattinam	2326
12.	Namkkal	2490
13.	Perambalur	1825
14.	Pudukottai	3077
15.	Ramanathapuram	2234
16.	Salem	2622
17.	Sivaganga	1604
18.	Thanjavur	3220
19.	The Nilgiris	2832
20.	Theni	761
21.	Thiruvarur	1774
22.	Tirunelveli	778
23.	Tiruvannamalai	5062
24.	Tiruvellore	4835
25.	Trichy	2201
26.	Tuticorin	1261
27.	Vellore	9775
28.	Villupuram	3347
29.	Virudhunagar	3684
30.	Chennai	15875
Total		1,24,606

Homoeopathic Dispensaries

465. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to start Homoeopathic dispensaries/hospitals in the country in view of the fact that such institutions compared to allopathic dispensaries are very few and also the largest homoeopathic practitioners are available in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The opening of Homoeopathic dispensaries/hospitals is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and they take the decision keeping in view the felt needs of the people of the area and the availability of funds.

Telephone Exchanges

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more digital trunk automatic exchanges in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such exchanges functioning in Rajasthan, location-wise; and

(d) the extent to which subscribers of Rajasthan are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, there is a plan during 2001-2002 to expand the existing Trunk Automatic Exchanges wherever justified as per traffic considerations.

(c) Details are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The expansion of existing Trunk Automatic Exchanges of Rajasthan will help in improving the efficiency of STD/ISD calls further.

Statement

List of Number of Trunk Automatic Exchanges functioning in Rajasthan with Station-wise details as on 31.10.2001

Sl.No.	Location	Capacity (in Kilo Circuits)	Tentative expansion plan during 2001-2002 (in Kilo Circuits)
1.	Ajmer	6.0	5.0
2.	Alwar	5.0	1.0
3.	Banswara	3.0	—
4.	Barmer	1.5	2.5
5.	Bharatpur	3.5	—
6.	Bhilwara	4.0	—
7.	Bikaner	5.0	—
8.	Bundi	1.0	—
9.	Chittorgarh	2.0	2.5
10.	Churu	3.0	0.5
11.	Jaipur*	40.0	—
12.	Jaisalmer	1.0	0.5
13.	Jhalawar	1.0	1.0
14.	Jhunjhunu	3.0	1.0
15.	Jodhpur	9.0	2.0
16.	Kota	6.0	3.0
17.	Nagaur	3.0	1.0
18.	Pali	5.0	—
19.	Sawaimadhopur	3.0	3.5
20.	Sikar	4.0	2.0
21.	Sirohi	3.0	—
22.	S.G. Nagar	9.0	—
23.	Tonk	2.0	2.0
24.	Udaipur	7.0	—

*Three Trunk Automatic Exchanges with a total capacity of 40 Kilo Circuits are working in Jaipur. At all other locations only one Trunk Automatic Exchange is functioning.

Terrorists' Attack in J&K

467. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has clarified its stand to the various countries regarding terrorists' attacks in J&K; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the countries spoken to?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Incidents like the terrorist attack on the Jammu & Kashmir State Assembly on October 1 by the Pakistan based terrorist group Jaish-e-Muhammad, and on the Awantipura Airforce Station on 22nd October, further underscored to the international community the fact of Pakistan's sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India.

Government have been appropriately and effectively bringing to the attention of the international community, facts pertaining to Pakistan's sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India. The matter has also been raised during several high level interactions with foreign leaders. There is now a widespread recognition in the international community that terrorism has to be eradicated wherever it exists, and that there can be no justification for terrorism.

Government have reiterated that India has the resolve, strength and stamina to resist terrorism until it is decisively crushed, and will take the necessary steps to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Schemes for Agro Rural Industries

468. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the major Central Schemes under implementation to promote Agro and rural Industries in the States along with the funding pattern or their schemes;

(b) the names of the State Governments, including Maharashtra who have responded to these schemes;

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate steps to further boost Agro and Rural Industries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof together with incentives proposed to be provided to States in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implemented the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) in all the States for the development of Khadi & Village Industries including agro and rural industries. Under this scheme 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money. For project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs and up to Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections, margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost up to Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

(b) All State Governments including Maharashtra have responded positively to the implementation of the REGP in their States.

(c) and (d) For the development and promotion of Khadi & Village Industries, the Government of India announced a package for the Khadi & Village Industries Sector on 14.05.2001. The main features of this package consist of a Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc. As far as incentives are concerned, subsidy in the form of margin money is given to the borrowers through banks, however, no incentive is proposed to be provided to the State Governments in this regard.

[*Translation*]

Warning about Professional Danger

469. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign experts, taking part in the conference organized by the Indian Association of Occupation Health have warned about the professional danger lurking on India on the line of industrialized countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are proposing to formulate a comprehensive law and also to start a National Programme in view of opinion extended by the scientists;

(d) if so, the time by which it is like to be taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) President, Indian Association of Occupational Health has informed that the said Association has not circulated any information of 'Professional danger' to its prospective foreign delegates for the 52nd National Conference on Occupational Health and International, scheduled to be held in February, 2002.

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

Telephone Facility in Jharkhand

470. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Rural Telephone Exchange working in Ranchi Region in Jharkhand are lesser in number and not fulfilling the requirements of the people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of Rural Telephone working in villages at present; and

(d) the total number of telephones till date?

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

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

(c) Total 7405 telephones are working in rural areas in Ranchi SSA as on 31.10.2001.

(d) In Ranchi SSA a total of 80117 telephones are working as on 31.10.2001.

Central Road Fund Scheme

471. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

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

(a) the total amount allotted to the States from the Central Road Fund Scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the works undertaken by the State Governments from such funds, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the funds are being diverted by the State Governments to cover State Highways as well as Major district roads;

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

(e) measures being adopted by the Government to ensure proper utilisation of funds and timely completion of projects undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Amount released during last three years to the States from Central Road Fund is given in the statement I enclosed.

(b) Details of the works undertaken by the State Government from Central Road Fund are given in the statement II enclosed.

(c) The funds released to States from Central Road Fund are meant for development and maintenance of State Highways and Major District Roads. Hence the funds are incurred by the States only on the schemes relating to State Highways and Major District Roads duly sanctioned by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Further funds from Central Road Fund are released to States after obtaining utilization certificate of the previous release alongwith the Physical and Financial progress of the schemes sanctioned under Central Road Fund.

Statement I

Release of Funds during last three years under Central Road Fund

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	
				Old	Revamped
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	261.31	223.90	1000	2720
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	78.89	0	371.00
3.	Assam	34.43	26.52	0	503.00
4.	Bihar	2.31	0	0	856.00
5.	Chhatisgarh	0	0	0	768.00
6.	Delhi	26.25	0	0	1068.34
7.	Goa	2.09	0	0	131.00
8.	Gujarat	613.91	304.99	0	2336.00
9.	Haryana	33.12	0	0	1047.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6.49	0	0	348.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.52	0	0	1028.00
12.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	607.00
13.	Karnataka	245.67	16.01	232.5	1917.00
14.	Kerala	187.04	12.19	.0	923.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	25.27	287.02	0	2084.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Maharashtra	15.8	261.14	0	3627.00
17.	Manipur	3.11	26.24	0	111.00
18.	Meghalaya	55.26	8.11	0	149.00
19.	Mizoram	5.32	3.94	0	202.00
20.	Nagaland	32.17	4.92	0	85.00
21.	Orissa	155.75	16.14	0	970.00
22.	Punjab	192.81	12.56	0	1433.00
23.	Rajasthan	127.46	138.02	128.25	2527.00
24.	Sikkim	0	14.56	1.97	37.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	401.39	130.54	0	2234.00
26.	Tripura	19.39	3.94	3.44	64.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	285.21	264.27	256.01	2932.00
28.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0.00	367.00
29.	West Bengal	132.17	95.10	87.95	1191.00
	Total	2865.25	1929	1710.12	29916.34

Statement II*Details of Sanctioned Works Under Central Road Fund*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of States	No of Works	Sanctioned Cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58	25294.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	2249.00
3.	Assam	34	3280.00
4.	Bihar	31	5720.00
5.	Chhatisgarh	15	6646.00
6.	Delhi	2	1042.00
7.	Goa	4	761.00
8.	Gujarat	222	9944.00
9.	Haryana	35	7137
10.	Himachal Pradesh	7	1922

1	2	3	4
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	25	7837
12.	Jharkhand	5	2675.24
13.	Karnataka	35	5034.00
14.	Kerala	3	2190.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	39	14163.00
16.	Maharashtra	57	21678.00
17.	Manipur	5	597
18.	Meghalaya	10	14499.00
19.	Mizoram	5	600.00
20.	Nagaland	3	472.00
21.	Orissa	3	871
22.	Punjab	74	13594
23.	Rajasthan	109	14734
24.	Sikkim	8	191
25.	Tamil Nadu	255	15550.00
26.	Tripura	2	354
27.	Uttar Pradesh	21	16810.08
28.	Uttaranchal	12	1245.59
29.	West Bengal	8	8197.54
Total		1093	205287.45

[English]

Container Terminal at Cochin

472. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the Vallarpadam International Container Trans-shipment Terminal at Cochin;

(b) if so, the present status thereof and findings of the study conducted in this regard; and

(c) the time schedule worked out therefor?

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

(b) and (c) The project, as per the study, has been found viable. Steps have been initiated to set up the Container Terminal through private sector participation.

Lacunae in AIIMS Act

473. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in its recent judgement have opined that the degrees/diploma conferred by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences would not fall under the category of 'a university established by law';

(b) whether the Government have examined the implications arising out of the apex court's judgement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court of India in its recent judgement dated 29th August, 2001 has held, that the AIIMS would not fall under the category of 'a university established by law' for purposes of Section 3 (d) of the Dentists Act 1948, which enables the University to send its nominee to the Dental Council of India. However, according to sections 23 and 24 of the AIIMS Act, 1956, the Institute grants its own Medical degrees and other academic distinctions. The Medical degrees and diplomas granted by the institute under the AIIMS Act are recognized as Medical qualifications for the purpose of Indian Medical Council Act and are deemed to be included in the first schedule to that Act.

Performance of Indian Rare Earths Limited

474. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the unit-wise profit of Indian Rare Earths Limited during the last three years financial years;

(b) whether there is any proposal pending regarding the expansion and the diversification of Chavara IRE plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the welfare measures undertaken by Chavara IRE unit in the mining area during last years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The unit wise profit/loss of Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a public sector undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy with its head office in Mumbai and units at Chavara, Manavalakurichi, Alwaye and Orissa Sands Complex (OSCOM) for the last three years, is given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

Unit	Profit before Tax		
	2000-2001	1999-2000	1998-1999
Chavara (Kerala)	2701	3969	3517
Manavalakurichi (Tamil Nadu)	1442	32	401
Rare Earths Division, Alwaye (Kerala)	20	*(842)	*(707)
Orissa Sands Complex (OSCOM) (Orissa)	536	*(951)	*(2242)
H.O. (Mumbai) Exp.	105	140	((33)
Total	4804	2348	936

* Figures in brackets indicate losses

(b) and (c) IREL has proposals to expand production capacity of its Chavara Plant during the X plan in two phases. In the first phase the production capacity is proposed to be increased from the present level of 1,54,000 tonne per annum to 2,00,000 tonnes per annum of ilmenite and other associated minerals, at an estimated cost of Rs. 46 crore, to be completed by March 2004. In the second phase the capacity is proposed to be further enhanced to 2,75,000 tonnes per annum of ilmenite and other associated minerals at an estimated cost of Rs. 40 crore, to be completed by March 2007.

(d) The following welfare measures were undertaken by IREL's Chavara Unit in the mining area during the last year:

1. Repair of Panickerkadavu Bridge
2. Repairs and Construction on road to resettlement colony/mining area
3. Electric connection to resettlement area

4. Water supply to resettlement colony
5. Drainage facility at resettlement colony and other public health works in the mining area
6. Repairs to residential buildings in the resettlement colony
7. Cost of chairs, books etc. to schools in the mining areas
8. Eye camp at mining area
9. Contribution to the Mining Area Welfare Board

CGHS Dispensaries

475. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of CGHS dispensaries in the country;
- (b) the number of CGHS dispensaries in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the number of CGHS beneficiaries in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) the number of approved hospitals for the CGHS beneficiaries;
- (e) whether the Government have any proposal to open more CGHS dispensaries in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith places?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There are 320 CGHS dispensaries/units throughout the country under the Allopathic system and the Indian system of Medicine and Homoeopathy.

(b) Twenty.

(c) There are 3,94,547 CGHS beneficiaries in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) There are 23 private hospitals recognized under CGHS Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) in addition to Government hospitals where the CGHS beneficiaries can take treatment.

(e) and (f) Though there is a proposal to extend CGHS facilities to the cities of Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh during the 10th Five Year Plan, it will not be possible to open CGHS dispensaries in these cities at present keeping in view constraints of manpower and resources.

Unani Medicines

476. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines for appointment of Members of Purchase Advisory Committee (PAC) and Inspection Committee of Unani Medicines;

(b) whether any Medical officer is allowed to be a Member of both Purchase Advisory Committee and Inspection Committee; and

(c) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There are no specific guidelines for appointment of members of Purchase Advisory Committee/Inspection Committee (Unani). However, as per practice in vogue, the seniormost CMO/SMO/Medical Officer Incharges of the CGHS dispensary/Units are nominated as Members of these Committees with the approval of the Competent authority.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Waiving of Loans

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

(a) whether the Government are considering on waiver of outstanding dues of the Bharti Groups;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the details of outstanding dues against Bharti Group;

(d) whether the Government have received representation against waiver of dues;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereon?

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

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

(c) Earlier, there were outstanding dues in respect of terminated cellular Mobile Telephone Service licence of

Punjab Circle of M/s. Bharti Mobile Limited, a Bharti Group company (earlier name JT Mobile Ltd.). However, M/s. Bharti Mobile was offered a package of restoration of the licence alongwith simultaneous migration to New Telecom Policy-1999 regime under letter date 19.09.2001 subject to full payment of dues in terms of the Migration Package. The company has since paid the full amount of dues as per the migration package of Rs. 491 crores (approx.) and fulfilled other conditions of the migration package such as withdrawal of legal cases pending in High Court etc. and hence the licence was restored on 25.09.2001. In terms of Arbitration Clause of the Licence Agreement, a Sole Arbitrator has been appointed for resolution of dispute raised by the company about payability of licence fees dues for a period of about 23 months (between 18.4.1996 to 10.3.1998).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Since the dues have not been waived, action on these representations is not warranted.

Atrocities on People of Indian Origin

478. SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the changed circumstances after the assassination of Royal family, the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Nepal regarding increasing atrocities, like demand of ransom, kidnappings and extortion of money committed on Rajasthani people specially from Shekhavati region living in Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Abductions, extortion and intimidation of members of the business community in Nepal, including those of Indian origin, by extremist elements have continued in Nepal. However, no targeting of any specific group or community has come to our notice.

Service Conditions of Scientist

479. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Trombay, who have resigned their jobs or have committed suicides during the last three years upto August 31, 2001 and the reasons for the same;

(b) the number of cases of injustice done to these scientists brought to the notice of Government by the Members of Parliament during the same period; and

(c) the steps taken to provide better service conditions to the scientists to avoid their exodus from BARC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) 107 scientists have resigned their jobs during the last three years from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). The reasons mentioned by the scientists for their resignation were "Personal/Family Problem" in majority of the cases. However, in some cases, the scientists have resigned to pursue higher studies. During the period, one scientist of BARC has unfortunately committed suicide.

(b) A few complaints were received which were replied by the Department to the satisfaction of the complainants, clarifying that there was no injustice done

(c) BARC endeavours to provide the best possible service conditions and has a highly conducive environment for the scientists to work in.

Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty

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

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mutual legal Assistance Treaty has been signed between India and US recently;

(b) if so, the details of provisions of the treaty; and

(c) the manner in which the treaty is useful to the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The Treaty between the Governments of India and USA on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters was signed in New Delhi on October 17, 2001.

(b) The salient features of the Treaty are as under:

(1) The Treaty is designed to improve the effectiveness of the law enforcement authorities of both countries in investigation, prosecution, prevention and suppression of crimes, including

those relating to terrorism, narcotics trafficking, economic crimes and organized crime, through cooperation and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

- (2) Assistance includes taking testimony of persons, providing documents/records/items of evidence as per laws of the Requested State.
- (3) Assistance can be provided, even if the conduct in question does not constitute an offence under the laws of the Requested State.

(c) While India and the US have cooperated in the past in the fight against criminal and terrorism-related offences, this Treaty provides a broader legal basis and enhanced procedural mechanism for provision of assistance in connection with investigation, prosecution, prevention and suppression of such offences. The Treaty represents an important step forward in India-US law enforcement and counter-terrorism cooperation.

Establishment of Passport Office in Vijayawada

481. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a passport office in Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the facilities to be provided by it; and

(c) the time by which the passport office is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is already a Passport Application Collection Centre in Vijayawada.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Introduction of Garuda Cellular Scheme

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

(a) whether MTNL has introduced the "Garuda" cellular phone scheme in some cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and areas covered under the scheme so far;

(c) whether this scheme compare favourably with the cellular phone scheme of private companies already in operation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has introduced the 'Garuda' phone service in National Capital Territory of Delhi on 22.10.2001.

(c) 'Garuda' is a basic telephone service operational in service area of Delhi Telephones with limited mobility whereas the telephone provided by Cellular Service Operators including MTNL's Dolphin service can be taken anywhere in India and abroad by subscribers having roaming facility and hence cannot be compared.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Suspension of Ban on LTC

483. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to revoke the suspension imposed on the Leave Travel Concession for Government employees;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration.

Uranium Reserves

484. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the uranium reserves are likely to be found in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey for physical verification of the said reserves has been conducted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Geological favourability exists for locating uranium occurrences in Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration & Research (AMD), a unit under the Department of Atomic Energy carried out reconnaissance and detailed surveys in different parts of the district during 1980's and 1990's. As a result of these surveys only a few surface uranium anomalies were located. As the results of these were not encouraging no further studies were carried out.

Extradition Treaty

485. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the countries with which extradition treaty has been signed;

(b) the number of criminals extradited during the last year and current year till date, country-wise;

(c) the number of pending extradition cases between India and other countries; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the early disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Extradition treaties have been signed and are in operation with United Kingdom, United States of America, Nepal, Bhutan, United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Canada, Russia, Belgium, Hong Kong and Netherlands.

(b) During the last year, the Government of India has received 2 (two) criminals from the United States of America and 1(one) from the United Kingdom. No criminals have been extradited from India during the last year. During this year till date, no criminals have been extradited from India or extradited from any foreign country to India.

(c) (i) 52 (fifty two) extradition requests received from foreign Governments are being processed;

(ii) 11 (eleven) extradition requests sent by India are pending with various countries.

(d) By signing extradition treaties, the Contracting States provide a framework for extradition of fugitive offenders sought by one Contracting State from the other. While the Requesting State pursues the extradition requests, the actual process often takes time as the person sought may attempt to delay the extradition by taking recourse to legal avenues available under the domestic laws of the Requested State.

[English]

Launching of PSLV-C3

486. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that PSLV-C3 was launched recently;

(b) if so, whether the satellite was launched successfully;

(c) the main objectives of the satellite; and

(d) the manner in which it is likely to strengthen India's space programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the recent launch of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle-C3 (PSLV-C3), India has launched successfully technology Experiment Satellite (TES). It has also launched two small satellites, PROBA of Belgium and BIRD of Germany into precise orbit.

(c) The main objective of the Technology Experiment Satellite (TES) was to develop and test a set of critical technologies to provide on-orbit demonstration and validation of these technologies for future enhanced capability missions, and also to provide hands-on experience in handling complex mission operations such as step & stare manoeuvres. PROBA is a small satellite meant for testing advanced technologies and remote sensing applications, while BIRD satellite is meant for detection of hot spots such as forest fires and volcanoes.

(d) The TES provides necessary platform to test vital technologies for future enhanced missions, thus strengthening the capabilities of the Indian Space Programme, both in technology, techniques and their applications. The successful mission has further demonstrated the reliability and versatility of the PSLV.

UN Convention against Torture

487. SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sign the "UN Convention Against Torture";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to apply the Convention on Torture provisions to Indian laws?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) India signed the UN Convention against Torture on October 14, 1997. Necessary steps are being taken to ratify the Convention. Towards this end, steps are also envisaged to incorporate in the Indian laws appropriate provisions regarding the Convention.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections

488. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT:
SHRI RAM MURTHI SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicant supplied for telephone connections in the country;

(b) the number of applicants provided telephone connections during the said period out of them; and

(c) the time by which remaining applicants are likely to be provided telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The number of applicants applied for telephone connections from January, 2000 to June, 2001 in the country is 8579234 and particularly in Uttar Pradesh is 647545.

(b) The number of applicants provided telephone connections during the said period is 5238858.

(c) The remaining applicants are likely to be provided with the telephone by the year 2002 except in some areas where they are likely to be provided by 2003.

[English]

Dolphin Mobile Service

489. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile telephone subscribers got connections with MTNL, Cellular Service "Dolphin" as on September 30, 2001 in Delhi and Mumbai;

(b) the number of subscribers with private companies - Air Tel and Sterling Cellular Companies - as on above date; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve working and service of "Dolphin"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The number of Dolphin subscribers as on 30.9.2001 are:

Delhi	22,692
Mumbai	20,234

(b) Air Tel and Sterling cellular companies are not operative in Mumbai. Their subscriber base in Delhi as on 30.9.2001 is as follows:

Air Tel	4,28,623
Sterling	3,10,901

(c) MTNL has taken following steps to improve the service of Dolphin:

[*Translation*]

PM's Overseas Tours

490. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently visited certain countries;

(b) if so, the details of talks held by him; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister visited Russian Federation from 4-7 November, USA from 7-11 November and the UK from 12-13 November, 2001.

(b) and (c) The details of talks held and the outcome of the visits are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the country visited with date(s)	Details of the talks held	Outcome of the visit
1	2	3	4
1.	Russian Federation Nov. 4-7, 2001	During this visit, Prime Minister had a one-to-one meeting with President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir Putin followed by delegation level talks. Prime Minister also had separate meetings with Speaker of the State Duma, Mr. Gennady Seleznyev. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Igor Ivanov and Minister of Defence, Mr. Sergei Ivanov called on PM. During the meetings of the Prime Minister, discussions took place on the entire gamut of Indo-Russian bilateral relations, and on regional and international issues of mutual interest. PM also visited St. Petersburg where he met Governor of the St. Petersburg Regional Administration Mr. Vladimir Yakovlev.	During the visit, the Prime Minister and President Putin signed the Moscow Declaration on International Terrorism. For strengthening cooperation in various fields, the two sides also signed/issued several other bilateral documents, including: (i) Joint Statement on Strategic issues. (ii) Memorandum of Understanding on implementation of Kudankulam NPP Project. (iii) MoU on the Emergency Prevention and Response. (iv) MoU on establishment of Indo-Russian biotechnology centre in India. It is expected that the State visit of the Prime Minister to the Russian Federation will help in carrying forward Indo-Russian relations to a new level of partnership.

1	2	3	4
2.	USA Washington D.C. Nov. 7-9, 2001	<p>Prime Minister paid an official working visit to Washington D.C. from 7-9 November, 2001 at the invitation of President Bush. Besides an Oval Office meeting and lunch with President Bush on 9th November, 2001, PM also had wide-ranging engagements in the US Congress on 8th November. These included separate meetings with the leaders and influential members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the House International Relations Committee and lunch with the India Caucus. The two sides discussed ways to further strengthen India-US relations, current developments relating to the campaign against terrorism and the political process for a post-Taliban structure in Afghanistan as also other international issues of mutual concern.</p>	<p>The two sides recognised that both India and the United States were victims of terrorism, acknowledged that terrorism must be fought wherever it exists and agreed to further intensify India-US cooperation in combating terrorism. The two sides had convergence of views on the political future of Afghanistan and have agreed to consult each other regularly on this subject. The United States acknowledged an active role for India in the consultations on the political and economic future of Afghanistan. Prime Minister and President Bush reaffirmed their commitment to build on the momentum in the bilateral relations and complete the process of qualitatively transforming India-US relations. They agree on a number of steps, including in the areas of defence cooperation, economic dialogue and civilian space and nuclear cooperation, to further strengthen India-US relations.</p>
	New York Nov. 9-11, 2001	<p>The Prime Minister addressed the UN General Assembly on November 10, 2001 and also met a number of world leaders on the margins of the General Assembly.</p>	<p>In this address to the UNGA, the Prime Minister highlighted the threat to global terrorism and the need for the international community to come together to combat it effectively.</p>
3.	United Kingdom Nov. 12-13, 2001	<p>At the invitation of his British counterpart, PM visited the UK from 12-13 November for discussions with Prime Minister Tony Blair on the rapidly evolving situation in Afghanistan. The two Prime Ministers concurred on the urgency of ensuring a post-conflict political structure in Afghanistan before the military campaign ends and on the need for Afghanistan's reconstruction. They shared the view that the current international coalition against terrorism could not confine itself to dismantling the Al Qaeda network alone. Our Prime Minister emphasized that the global war against terrorism must also tackle all its sponsors who finance,</p>	<p>The visit enabled a review of the evolving situation in Afghanistan as also the post-conflict political structure in Afghanistan. Both sides also reviewed the status of our multi-faceted bilateral relationship with the UK, including our economic and commercial interaction.</p>

1	2	3	4
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train, equip and harbour terrorists. He conveyed appreciation to the UK for the proscription of six terrorist organizations earlier this year, under their terrorism Act 2000.

The discussions also enabled a review of the status of our multi-faceted bilateral ties with the UK. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the positive trend in bilateral trade in goods and services which stood at more than Pound Sterling Five Billion. Prime Minister Blair accepted PM's invitation for a full-fledged bilateral visit to India, early next year.

Telephone Exchange in Jammu and Kashmir

491. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone connection waiting list is long in telephone exchanges at Baramula of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof, telephone exchange-wise; and

(c) the measures taken to provide telephone connections to the people on the waiting list?

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

(b) The telephone exchange-wise waiting list in Baramula as on 31.10.2001 is enclosed as statement.

(c) The following measures are being taken to provide the telephone connections:

(i) Capacity of existing exchange is being enhanced at 12 places.

(ii) Sustained efforts for laying of cables being done, but the progress is very slow due to the reasons given in the Annexure.

(iii) Wireless in Local Loop exchange each of 500 lines have been planned at Baramula, Sopore, Bandipora and Handwara and will be commissioned by March, 2002.

Details for each exchange are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Telephone Exchange-wise waiting list and steps taken to clear the waiting list in Baramula of Jammu and Kashmir State

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Capacity	Working Connections	Waiting List	Steps taken to clear the waiting list
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Baramula	3000	2724	1546	1.5 K expansion of exchange, Execution of work in outdoor plant and Wireless in Local Loop exchange of 500 lines is planned this year.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Fategarh	152	101	104	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Expansion of Exchange Capacity
3.	Gulmarg	184	146	19	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Expansion of Exchange Capacity
4.	Ghoshbug	152	132	90	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Additional CDOT 256 Planned
5.	Gadkhud	152	135	225	Expansion of Exchange Capacity, Execution of work in outdoor plant
6.	Kunzer	152	83	184	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Additional CDOT 256 Planned
7.	Singpora	304	234	65	Work of outdoor plant being undertaken
8.	Uri	184	177	111	Additional CDOT 256 Planned Execution of work in outdoor plant
9.	Wagoora	152	98	224	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Additional CDOT 256 Planned
10.	Bandipora	1000	398	641	Work of outdoor plant being undertaken and Wireless in Local Loop exchange of 500 lines is planned this year.
11.	Gurez	152	71	30	Work of outdoor plant being undertaken
12.	Sopore	3500	1936	1921	Work of outdoor plant being undertaken and Wireless in Local Loop exchange of 500 lines is planned this year.
13.	Sumbal	184	146	218	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Expansion of Exchange Capacity
14.	Watrigam	152	74	227	Execution of work in outdoor plant, Expansion of Exchange Capacity
15.	Kupwara	1000	663	305	Work of outdoor plant in progress
16.	Handwara	1000	403	53	Work of outdoor Plant in progress and Wireless in Local Loop exchange of 500 lines is planned this year.
17.	Tangdar	184	168	129	Additional CDOT 256 Planned. Execution of work in outdoor plant
18.	Sogam	56	24	114	Expansion of Exchange Capacity. Execution of work in outdoor plant.
19.	Trehgam	56	47	249	Additional CDOT 256 Planned. Execution of work in outdoor plant
20.	Pattan	1400	326	219	Work of outdoor plant being undertaken.

Note: Sustained efforts are being made to lay cables to increase the capacity of outdoor plant but progress is very slow due to:

1. Security reasons as works get stopped quite often.
2. Whole area is infested with militancy.
3. It is very difficult to get permission for cable laying.
4. Contractors don't come forward to execute the work due to prevailing conditions.
5. Adverse weather conditions.

*[English]***Copper-T**

492. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) the details of Copper-T supplied to various States during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any irregularities from any State have been noticed by the Government in the supply of Copper-T;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government are also aware that several cases of infection have been reported from various States due to use of Copper-T;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) A statement showing state-wise details of Copper-T supplied during last three years *i.e.* 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No such reports have been received from States.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) In order to ensure quality standards in the supply of Copper-T, each and every batch of the quantity ordered on all the manufacturers is tested in Government approved laboratories, before despatch to the States. Besides, the Regional Directors of this Ministry, posted in the States lift samples on random basis from the field and get them tested once again in Government approved laboratory so as to ensure quality of the Copper-T sent for use in the States. In case of any failure in the field test, the use of that batch of Copper-T sent for use in the States. In case of any failure in the field test, the use of that batch of Copper-T is immediately discontinued, and the same is replaced by the manufacturer free of cost.

Statement

Details of Copper-T supplied to States/UT during last three years (1998-99 to 2000-2001)

(In lakh pcs)

S.No.	States/UTs	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.000	4.000	4.000
2.	Assam	1.000	0.800	1.000
3.	Bihar	0.660	2.000	2.000
4.	Gujarat	3.000	5.830	4.760
5.	Haryana	1.100	1.400	0.650
6.	Karnataka	3.000	4.000	4.000
7.	Kerala	0.000	1.000	0.600
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2.000	5.000	6.400
9.	Maharashtra	5.500	4.000	5.000

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Orissa	2.000	3.500	1.500
11.	Punjab	3.900	6.050	4.000
12.	Rajasthan	1.820	4.650	4.060
13.	Tamil Nadu	4.000	2.000	3.554
14.	Uttar Pradesh	17.200	22.380	22.710
15.	West Bengal	1.300	1.100	1.610
16.	Himachal Pradesh	0.500	0.400	0.400
17.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.190	0.150	0.500
18.	Manipur	0.200	Nil	0.300
19.	Meghalaya	0.040	0.040	0.024
20.	Nagaland	0.060	0.000	0.010
21.	Sikkim	0.030	0.030	0.010
22.	Tripura	0.100	0.060	0.115
23.	A&N Islands	0.010	0.000	0.020
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.30	0.030	0.030
25.	Chandigarh	0.070	0.100	0.050
26.	D&N Haveli	0.010	0.000	0.005
27.	Delhi	0.450	0.700	0.820
28.	Goa	0.050	0.010	0.035
29.	Daman & Diu	0.000	0.010	0.002
30.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.000	0.002
31.	Mizoram	0.020	0.140	0.100
32.	Pondicherry	0.040	0.020	0.030
33.	Jharkhand	0.000	0.000	0.00
34.	Chhatisgarh	0.000	0.000	0.000
35.	Uttaranchal	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total		50.280	69.400	68.297

Spreading of Anthrax

493. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO:
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
 SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
 SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
 SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
 SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders/guidelines have been issued to all the postal sorting centres in the country following reports of spread of the deadly Anthrax causing bacteria through mail;

(b) whether sorting personnel have been supplied gloves and face masks and send all suspicious looking mail for proper examination;

(c) whether any mail items have been detected in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the concrete measures taken by the Government to deal with the problem?

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

(b) The postal staff handling foreign mails at Foreign post offices in New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta and Chennai have been provided with hand gloves and face masks.

(c) and (d) No real case of anthrax has been reported so far. However, 76 instances have been reported where post offices in the country have received letters with some powdery substance. The number of such letters received, Postal Circle-wise is as follows:—

Name of Postal Circle	No. of suspected letters
1	2
Assam	1
Andhra Pradesh	2
Bihar	2
Chhatisgarh	1

1	2
Delhi	1
Jharkhand	13
Karnataka	4
Kerala	18
Maharashtra	8
North East	1
Punjab	3
Rajasthan	5
Tamil Nadu	5
U.P.	8
Uttaranchal	4
Total	76

(e) The Department of Posts is taking all possible care to handle suspicious mail. The Department has also taken steps to educate the postal employees in general and those who handle foreign mail in particular, about anthrax. Guidelines have been issued to all the Postal circles regarding handling of articles which are suspicious in nature. Copies of the guidelines issued by Universal Postal Union and United States Postal Inspection Service Manuals for identifying suspected articles and preventive measures have been circulated to all concerned. Guidelines on how to identify and handle suspected mail have also been issued by the Department in all the leading national newspapers of the country in the interest of public.

Number Plates

494. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
 SHRI SURESH KURUP:
 SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

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

(a) whether the Government plan to introduce tamper proof licence plates for new vehicles as well as the existing ones;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard and the list of authorised manufacturers appointed therefor;

(c) the steps taken to persuade vehicle manufacturers to make changes in their vehicles so that tamper proof plates cannot be replaced;

(d) whether new type of system would be introduced throughout the country; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The technical specifications have already been notified in the Gazette vide G.S.R. 221 (E) dated 28th March, 2001 and supplemented vide S.O. 814 (E) dated 22nd August, 2001 and S.O. 1041 (E) dated 16th October, 2001. It is envisaged that in addition to the number plates at the front and rear of the motor vehicle, a third registration plate in the form of self-destructive chromium based hologram sticker shall be affixed in the left hand top side of the wind shield of the vehicle. The engine number, chassis number, registration number and name of registering authority shall also be given on the sticker. On the front and rear registration plates, the number of vehicle shall be hot stamped and reflective sheet would be provided. The plates would also bear the letter 'ND' in blue colour on the extreme left centre of the plate. The rear plate shall be fastened with non-removable/non-reusable snap lock system. All the three registration plates shall carry a chromium based hologram and a permanent consecutive identification number. The Central Govt. does not appoint any manufacturer/supplier of such plates. The manufacturer/supplier, desirous of supplying such High Security Registration Plates would need to get their product approved by the agencies authorized by Central Government.

(c) The Technical specifications for the registration plates have been evolved in consultation with technical experts as also the vehicle manufacturers.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Increase in Generation of Nuclear Power

495. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a plan to increase the generation of nuclear power in the next 20 years;

(b) if so, whether the details have been worked out in regard to setting up of more nuclear power plants;

(c) if so, whether sites have been identified in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The present nuclear power capacity in the country is 2720 MWe. It is proposed to be increased to about 20,000 MWe by the year 2020, subject to the availability of budgetary support from the Government. During the X Five Year Plan, nuclear power generation capacity of 1300 MWe is planned to be added by the completion of the following units: TAPP 3&4-2x500 MWe (proposed to be uprated to 2x540 MWe) and Kaiga-3 (one unit of 220 MWe, out of 2x220 MWe units of Kaiga 3&4 under construction). Thus, the total nuclear power capacity will reach 4020 MWe by the end of the X Plan. The proposals in the X Plan also envisage the commencement of new schemes for reaching a total nuclear power capacity of 9935 MWe by the end of the XI Plan. Additional projects are also planned to be taken up in the XI Plan and beyond, to achieve a nuclear power capacity of about 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

(c) and (d) During the X Plan, capacity addition is planned at Tarapur and Kaiga which are approved sites. During the XI Five Year Plan, a nuclear power capacity of 5915 MWe is proposed to be added. For this programme, existing sites at Kaiga, Rawatbhata, Kudankulam and Kalpakkam are available. No constraints are foreseen for capacity addition, as above, upto the end of XI Plan. In addition, the Site Selection Committee (SSC) of DAE is also investigating sites, in different electricity regions (Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern electricity regions) of the country, for empanelling additional sites for setting up new plants for the proposed nuclear power programme of 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

National Commission for OBCs

496. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for proper representation of Other Backward Classes in different grades of services like that of SC and ST;

(b) whether the Government have any Plan for setting up of a National Commission for OBCs like that of National Commission for SC and ST; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Steps taken by the Government to give proper representation to other Backward Classes in different grades of services include reservation of 27% of posts in civil services under the Government filled by direct recruitment on all India basis by open competition, giving relaxation of three years in upper age limit in case of direct recruitment, not counting the candidates belonging to OBC recruited on the basis of their own merit in the quota reserved for them etc.

(b) A National Commission for Backward Classes already exists.

(c) Does not arise.

Lifting of Sanctions

497. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries which have lifted sanctions against India which were imposed after the Nuclear test Explosion;

(b) whether after the lifting of sanctions, substantial foreign loan/aid would be available for development and other projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the sanctions have been lifted without imposing any conditions and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) All countries have lifted sanctions against India, with the latest being the USA on 22 September 2001 and Japan on 26 October 2001. As a result of the lifting of sanctions, foreign and multilateral assistance would be available for all developmental projects and not merely for basic human needs projects.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Not Applicable.

Percentage of Women in Government Offices

498. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of women working in group C and D category in the offices of the Central Government;

(b) whether the percentage of women in Government offices is much less in proportion to their population;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take some concrete steps for appointing more women in Government job; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As per information contained in the Report of the Fifth Central Pay Commission, women constitute 7.51% of the total Central Government employment, which is much less than their proportion in the population. Out of the total number of working women in Central Government nearly 98% are working in group C & D.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the representation of women in Government jobs, the Government tries to ensure that no discrimination is made against women while making appointments under the Government. As part of measure to ensure that women are given a fair deal in the matter of recruitment to posts/services under the Central Government, directions have been issued that one of the members of the Selection Committee/Board should be a lady when recruitment is to be made for 10 or more vacancies in Group C and D posts/services.

Even where number of vacancies is less than 10, every attempt is to be made to include a lady officer in such Committees/Boards.

[Translation]

Setting up of Cellular Telephone System

499. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cellular telephone system had been set up after the decision of the Government to bring revolution in the field of communication in the country;

(b) if so, the date on which such decision was taken

(c) the total number of subscriber of cellular telephone service in the country till the end of September, 2001; and

(d) the details of the number of such subscriber in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, bids were invited for the first time on 30.12.1991 for award of Licences for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in the four Metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(c) and (d) The total Cellular Subscriber in the country at the end of September, 2001, as per information furnished by Cellular Operators Association of India on behalf of Cellular operators were 48,07,700. The licences for the Cellular Service have been granted for Metro City Service Areas and Telecom Circle Service Areas, therefore, the break-up of subscribers is Service Area-wise. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of Cellular Mobile Telephone Subscribers in the country Metro Cities/Telecom Circle Service Area-wise

(As on September, 2001)

S.No.	Name of Service Area	No. of Subscribers
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	7,62,216
2.	Mumbai	7,10,218

1	2	3
3.	Kolkata	2,04,242
4.	Chennai	1,98,905
5.	Andhra Pradesh	3,68,649
6.	Assam	21,707
7.	Bihar	88,270
8.	Gujarat	3,62,154
9.	Haryana	72,637
10.	Haryana	18,011
11.	Karnataka	2,95,263
12.	Kerala	3,20,366
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1,37,836
14.	Maharashtra	3,71,287
15.	North East	3,103
16.	Orissa	36,754
17.	Punjab	2,08,222
18.	Rajasthan	85,516
19.	Tamil Nadu	2,61,807
20.	UP (East)	1,06,807
21.	UP (West)	1,41,585
22.	West Bengal	28,974
Total		48,07,700

Fake Postal Stamps

500. SHRI RAM MURTI SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that incidents of sale/printing of fake postal stamps in the country is increasing day-by-day;

(b) if so, the total loss of revenue suffered by the Government during the last three years on this account and the number of persons involved in this case against whom action has been taken in such incidents, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring about amendments in the law to prevent such incidents in future;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) There were only 5 such incidents during the year 1998-99 involving loss of revenue of Rs. 6,673/-, 12 during 1999-2000 involving loss of revenue of Rs. 19,904/- and only 5 during the year 2000-2001 involving loss of revenue of Rs. 75,146/-. Therefore, it is not correct to say that such incidents are increasing day-by-day.

(c) to (e) In view of the reply of part (a) above, no amendment to the Rules is considered necessary.

[English]

Business Meetings

501. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister's business meetings in Russia were called off during this recent visit over there; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Spurious Drugs

502. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
 SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
 SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
 SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
 SHRI R.S. PATIL:
 SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious/outdated life saving drugs are being sold in most of the States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have collected samples of the drugs by conducting raids on the chemists shops;

(d) if so, the number of such drugs detected during the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regards;

(f) whether the Government have any plan to set up a permanent machinery to curb this menace; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. There are reports about medicines of questionable quality being available, faking the name of the reputed brands.

(b) to (d) As per the feed back available from the State Licensing Authorities, 344 samples of spurious fake medicines were detected by conducting raids during the period 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000. State-wise position is indicated in the statement enclosed.

(e) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, thereunder, State Governments have been empowered to enforce quality of Drugs including check on manufacture or sale of spurious drugs. The said Act was amended in 1982 to provide for specific definition of spurious drugs and severe penalties extending to life imprisonment have been prescribed.

State Governments have been advised from time to time to provide adequate enforcement machinery and drug testing facilities and to keep strict surveillance over the inter-state movement of spurious drugs. Facilities of Central Government testing laboratories have also been made available to States for testing of drugs besides financial assistance provided to them to augment and strengthen their testing capabilities.

The State Drug Controllers have been advised to take the following measures for curbing the incidence of spurious drugs.

(a) Constitution reactivation of State Drug Advisory Committees in which various trade and industry associations as well as consumer associations should find representation.

(b) Establishment of separate intelligence-cum-legal machinery with police assistance.

- (c) Training to be provided to selected officials of Drug Control Administration in the modalities of intelligence work, prosecution etc. in respect of spurious counterfeit drugs.
- (d) To ensure speedy analysis of drug samples by establishing own State level drug testing facilities.
- (e) State Drugs Control Authorities to be cautious while approving licenses for drug products to ensure that 'look-alike' products are not encouraged.
- (f) To develop efficient communication facilities and recall procedures.
- (g) To undertake surveillance of suspected dealers.
- (h) To engage experienced counsel for fighting spurious drug cases.
- (i) To obtain cooperation of Pharmaceutical industry by regular interaction with them.

- (j) To collect Survey samples under National Survey Quality Evaluation of Drug (NSQUED) programme.

In addition, the following steps have been taken:

1. Association of Pharmaceutical Industry and All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists have been asked to take necessary initiative to collectively combat the menace of spurious drugs.
2. The problem of manufacture and sale of spurious drugs and the need to ensure its checking has been specifically explained to State Health Ministers during the meeting of Central Council of Health & Family Welfare.

(f) and (g) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS on July, 18, 2001 associating members from industry, trade, drug regulatory officials and public representative to go into all aspects of the menace of spurious drugs and suggest remedial measures.

Statement

Statewise number of spurious Medicines Detected by State Licensing Authorities during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Name of State/UTs	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41	7	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NIL	NIL	NIL
3.	Assam	NIL	NIL	6
4.	Bihar	6	8	2
5.	Goa	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.	Gujarat	1	14	1
7.	Haryana	11	22	32
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	NIL	NIL*
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NIL	2	NIL
10.	Karnataka	2	2	NIL
11.	Kerala	NIL	NIL	NIL*
12.	Madhya Pradesh	NIL	2	NIL
13.	Maharashtra	19	3	NA
14.	Manipur	NIL	NIL	NIL*

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	NIL	NIL	NIL
16.	Mizoram	NIL	NIL	NIL*
17.	Nagaland	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.	Orissa	NIL	NIL	2
19.	Punjab	9	4	4*
20.	Rajasthan	NIL	NIL	NA
21.	Sikkim	NIL	NIL	NIL
22.	Tamil Nadu	NIL	NIL	14
23.	Tripura	NIL	NIL	NIL*
24.	Uttar Pradesh	50	2	2*
25.	West Bengal	15	12	12*
26.	Pondicherry	NIL	NA	NIL
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NIL	NIL	NIL*
28.	Chandigarh	NIL	NIL	NIL
29.	Delhi	2	16	08
30.	Dadar & Nagar Haweli	NIL	NIL	NA*
31.	Daman & Diu	—	NIL	NIL
32.	Lakshadweep	—	NIL	NIL*
Total		157	94	93

NA—Information not available.

*Information As on 31.3.99.

Losses to Public Call Office

503. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether public call facility provider (PCOs) are causing losses to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the losses incurred as a result of PCOs during last two years?

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

[English]

Cases of De-reservation of Reserved Posts

504. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of vacancies/posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs are being "de-reserved" and filled by 'others' despite imposition of a ban of "de-reservation" of vacancies reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs with effect from 01.04.1989 by DoPT OM No. 36012/6/88-Est. (SCT) dated 25.04.1989;

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

(c) the number of instances where vacancies/posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs have been de-reserved and filled by persons other than those for whom they were reserved since 1.5.1989 under the Ministry of Planning?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Responsibilities of KVIC

505. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether KVIC is responsible for effecting recovery of loans which were advanced to NGOs by the Banks on its recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are giving further grants-in-aid to KVIC despite its dismal performance; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to effect recovery of loans advanced by banks?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government provides financial assistance in the form of loans and Grants to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the development and promotion of Khadi and Village Industries. The KVIC under Rural Employment Generation Programme has been able to create 10.99 lakh job opportunities by 31.3.2001.

(d) The KVIC is not perceived to be a financial institution. In order to improve the quality of proposals, the "Project approach". The loan proposals are now appraised by the Banks who are responsible for the recovery of loans.

Tests for HIV

506. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tests for HIV confirmation are different for the children below the age of two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether HIV testing machines are available in all the Medical Colleges;

(d) whether these colleges are authorized to announce the status of an AIDS/HIV victims; and

(e) if so, the number of cases noticed till date?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The HIV status of children below the age of 2 years can be detected by a test known as polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

(c) HIV testing machines, for detecting antibodies *i.e.* ELISA readers are available in a majority of Public Sector Medical Colleges; the machines for conducting the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test are available at a few centres only, and are not recommended for routine diagnostic use.

(d) They are authorized to reveal the status to the HIV/AIDS victims only, after pre and post test counseling, and maintaining full confidentiality.

(e) The number of AIDS cases reported till 31st October 2001 is 29007.

[Translation]

Plight of Sikhs in USA

507. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of targeting sikhs after the terrorists' attacks on America have taken place in some countries;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government had any talk with the respective Governments in this connections;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of loss of life and property as a result of attacks?

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

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The matter was taken up with the US authorities at the highest level. Prime Minister expressed his concern regarding safety of Indians, particularly Sikhs in USA to the U.S. President and received an assurance that he would do his utmost to prevent such attacks.

In U.K., Canada and Australia, our Missions took up the matter with the Foreign Offices and local authorities.

As a result of the efforts of the Government, instructions were immediately issued by the concerned Governments to their law enforcement authorities to provide greater security to the Sikh community. The Police not only intervened immediately by arresting the culprits but also stepped up security around the Temples and Gurudwaras through mobile patrolling. The local Police also increased its patrols of areas where there are concentrations of Sikhs.

(d) One person, Shri Balbir Singh Sodhi, was shot dead on September 15, 2001 in Mesa, Arizona (USA).

Acts of threats and vandalism against Sikhs were reported from New York, New Jersey, Ohio and California etc. in USA and some places in U.K, Canada and Australia.

[English]

Humanitarian Assistance to Afghan Refugees

508. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's plan to send humanitarian assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan received a jolt when Pakistan informed India that it did not have adequate storage capacity for relief material;

(b) if so, whether India has now decided to send one million tonnes of wheat, medicines, quilts and blankets etc. through areas held by the Northern Alliance and to refugees in Iran; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) As part of our commitment to ameliorate the condition of Afghan people, the Government has committed to offer humanitarian assistance for internally and externally displaced Afghans, and others, in need, including through provision of one million tonnes of wheat. As part of our commitment, we had proposed to send to the Afghan refugees in Pakistan, through the Government of Pakistan, a consignment of wheat. Government of Pakistan indicated that it had sufficient stocks of wheat, and faced problems related to storage facilities.

(ii) Government is in touch with several countries as well as with various UN Agencies, including the World Food Programme and is engaged in working out the modalities for sending humanitarian assistance of wheat and other items to the Afghan people as early as possible.

SCs/STs and OBCs in PSUs

509. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 10.68% (SCs—8.41% and STs—2.27%) and in Class II (Group B) services only at 13.20% (SCs—9.68% and STs—3.52%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% for STs) as on 1.1.1996 under Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, indicate total No. of posts in (i) Class I (Group A) Category and (ii) Class II (Group B) and equivalents thereof under all (1) Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises, (2) Statutory organizations/Corporations, (3) Autonomous Organizations, Attached and Subordinate Offices under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST, and (iv) OBCs working against such posts and their respective percentage to such total posts as identified as per instructions under para 5 of DoPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt.(Res.) dated July 2, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The requisite

information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

PHCs

510. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of the Primary Health Centres recently in the country in order to achieve the goal of health for all;
- (b) if so, the number out of them are well equipped;
- (c) the number of PHCs opened in the country during the last three years and proposed to be opened during the current financial year, State-wise, separately;
- (d) whether the Government proposed to upgrade more PHCs/Community Health Centres to Hospital Status?
- (e) if so, whether Government proposes to allocate adequate funds for the purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Government has conducted Facility Surveys to assess the availability of infrastructure facilities and their utilization at all primary health centres, community health centres, first referral units and districts hospitals, in selected districts. The Facility Survey has covered about 217 districts. The significant findings obtained in these Surveys in respect of Primary Health Centres is given in the Statement I enclosed.

(c) The number of PHCs opened in the country during last three years and targets for the current year have been given in the Statement II enclosed.

(d) Government of India had advised the State Governments, to establish Community Health Centres/Hospitals by upgrading 25% of Primary Health Centres. While selecting the location of the upgraded PHC/CHC only those areas are to be selected which have no referral facilities within reasonable distance. Preference should be given to the areas located farthest from the district headquarters and backward hilly & tribal areas.

(e) and (f) Health is primarily a State subject. States are provided funds in the form of Additional Central Assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) for Primary Health Sector which can be utilized for strengthening, repair and maintenance of infrastructure in sub-centres, primary health centres and community health centres. A Statement showing the funds released under Primary Health component of PMGY is given in the statement III enclosed.

Statement I

Sl. No.	State	No. of PHCs Surveyed	Infrastructure						Staff				
			Water	Electricity	Labor room	Laboratory	Telephone	Vehicle working	Medical Officer	All HA (Female)	All HA (Male)	Lab Technician	Deep Freezer
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	622	323	597	255	348	56	162	479	454	137	435	554
2.	Assam	333	256	273	123	20	10	37	306	73	77	160	240
3.	Bihar	339	210	105	51	64	3	92	312	20	24	68	64
4.	Gujarat	614	239	602	332	571	344	497	565	479	246	473	534
5.	Haryana	73	56	69	10	69	52	4	65	51	46	69	60
6.	Karnataka	854	615	786	495	521	188	179	820	384	162	205	512
7.	Kerala	790	632	751	190	150	111	142	774	435	466	119	608

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8.	Madhya Pradesh	386	224	235	66	42	8	35	278	243	143	62	135
9.	Maharashtra	645	510	632	555	626	335	387	632	490	439	155	632
10.	Orissa	505	389	303	167	111	15	86	480	66	35	86	192
11.	Punjab	26	26	26	23	25	20	20	26	19	15	25	24
12.	Rajasthan	484	310	344	252	286	24	44	397	208	92	281	295
13.	Tamil Nadu	672	437	665	417	457	128	289	531	504	343	336	632
14.	Uttar Pradesh	486	175	199	97	151	10	68	379	44	83	136	112
15.	West Bengal	825	363	635	594	33	149	99	718	553	198	165	347
Total		7654	4765	6222	3627	3474	1453	2141	6762	4023	2506	2775	4941
%age Availability			62.3	81.3	47.4	45.4	19.0	28.0	88.3	52.6	32.7	36.3	64.6

Sl. No.	States	Equipment							Supplies					
		Vaccine Carrier	B.P. Instrument	Autoclave/ Steril.	MTP Suction Asp.	Labor room Equip.	Kit 'G' IUD Inser	Kit I, Normal Del.	EMOC Drug	Mounted Lamp	Oral Pills	Measles Vaccine	IFA Tablets	ORS Packets
1.	Andhra Pradesh	603	522	491	93	454	199	280	37	56	386	522	156	361
2.	Assam	316	137	77	23	83	90	123	70	3	263	200	137	226
3.	Bihar	183	136	146	24	102	14	27	3	3	41	41	14	64
4.	Gujarat	608	559	522	246	436	104	104	37	6	368	583	68	522
5.	Haryana	71	72	30	16	23	72	71	68	0	70	59	72	71
6.	Karnataka	811	760	555	111	529	623	444	222	111	683	581	290	598
7.	Kerala	735	640	356	63	229	142	87	8	8	608	585	506	727
8.	Madhya Pradesh	336	259	193	12	85	135	112	15	12	197	100	193	228
9.	Maharashtra	645	548	606	181	600	632	632	497	6	484	626	277	516
10.	Orissa	157	323	273	91	172	25	51	5	2	81	91	61	359
11.	Punjab	25	26	26	12	23	24	23	15	2	21	23	15	15
12.	Rajasthan	450	402	237	87	319	392	344	68	29	416	261	198	358
13.	Tamil Nadu	659	491	457	114	329	585	571	403	20	437	605	188	524
14.	Uttar Pradesh	262	384	306	92	194	39	68	19	19	78	78	49	83
15.	West Bengal	668	528	239	25	421	561	512	50	8	404	289	190	272
Total		6529	5787	4514	1190	3999	3637	3449	1517	285	4537	4644	2414	4924
%age Availability		85.3	75.6	59.0	15.5	52.2	47.5	45.1	19.8	3.7	59.3	60.7	31.5	64.3

Statement II

Statement showing the Primary Health Centre opened in the Country during last three years and proposed to be opened during the current financial year

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Opened during			Targets 2001-2002
		1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	50	-	93
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	13	7	0
3.	Assam	-	-	-	26
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-
5.	Chhatisgarh	-	-	-	-
6.	Goa	-	-	2	2
7.	Gujarat	7	17	17	17
8.	Haryana	1	-	-	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	0
10.	J&K	-	-	-	0
11.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-
12.	Karnataka	75	-	-	0
13.	Kerala	2	-	-	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-
15.	Maharashtra	-	63	6	16
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	0
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	0
18.	Mizoram	-	-	3	0
19.	Nagaland	-	13	-	6
20.	Orissa	-	-	-	0
21.	Punjab	-	-	-	0
22.	Rajasthan	16	12	-	0
23.	Sikkim	-	-	-	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	0
25.	Tripura	-	-	-	10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-
27.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-
28.	West Bengal	-	-	-	41
29.	A&N Islands	-	1	-	0
30.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	0
31.	D&N Haveli	-	-	-	0
32.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	0
33.	Delhi	-	-	-	6
34.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	0
35.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	0
Total		102	169	35	221

Statement III

Statement showing the release of funds under Primary Health Sector of PMGY during 2000-2001

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Funds Released
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2841.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1022.56
3.	Assam	2693.56
4.	Bihar	2154.37
5.	Chhatisgarh	471.00
6.	Goa	11.70
7.	Gujarat	485.92

1	2	3
8.	Haryana	251.70
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1334.15
10.	J&K	1286.85
11.	Jharkhand	1016.85
12.	Karnataka	1126.94
13.	Kerala	1036.20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1235.55
15.	Maharashtra	1486.94
16.	Manipur	728.40
17.	Meghalaya	608.86
18.	Mizoram	303.08

1	2	3
19.	Nagaland	616.96
20.	Orissa	1478.26
21.	Punjab	606.00
22.	Rajasthan	1446.00
23.	Sikkim	421.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	1571.84

Reduction in Non-IAS Officers

511. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number and percentage of non-IAS Central Service Officers posted against senior positions of Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries and equivalent has declined over the years;

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

(c) the number of IAS officers presently posted against professional positions in the Government establishments, Ministry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) No Sir. Appointments against senior positions in the Government of India are made in accordance with the Central Staffing Scheme, keeping in view the job requirements of the posts, qualifications and experience of the officers belonging to the various services participating under the Central Staffing Scheme. However, no post is reserved for member of a particular service.

[Translation]

Different Rates for Optical Fibre Cable

512. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

1	2	3
25.	Tripura	762.44
26.	Uttar Pradesh	8526.25
27.	Uttaranchal	188.40
28.	West Bengal	2517.30
29.	A&N Islands	275.00
30.	Pondicherry	71.55

(a) whether different rates have been fixed in different States and areas for laying optical fibre cable, causing loss of crores of rupees to the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for difference in rates; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir, rates are fixed based on competitive bids obtained in the open tender for each route. Rates of optical fibre cable laying will be varying depending on the soil condition, topography, depth of the cable laying, availability of labour, labour rate and economic and social condition of the area etc.

(c) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.

[English]

Schemes submitted by Andhra Pradesh

513. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Schemes submitted by Andhra Pradesh Government for financial assistance during each of the last three years;

(b) the action/decision taken by the Union Government on the said schemes; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and released for the same schemes during the last three years, year-wise?

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

AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The schemes submitted by the State Government form an integral part of Annual Plan proposals. The plan sizes, as agreed to by Planning Commission, for the proposals,

submitted by the Andhra Pradesh Government during the last three years *i.e.*, 1998-99; 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are Rs. 4678.95 crore, Rs. 5480.00 crore and Rs. 7708.00 crore respectively. The Additional Central Assistance (ACA) sanctioned and released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh in addition to this, during the preceding three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Name of Scheme for which ACA sought	Amount of ACA	
		Sanctioned	Released
1998-99	For University of Health Sciences Library Services	1.00	1.00
	For Centre of Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad	1.00	1.00
	For preparation of State Human Development Report	0.25	0.25
1999-2000	Andhra Pradesh Monitoring System	11.00	11.00
	Link Roads Development in Puttaparthi Village, Anantpur Distt	0.511	0.511
2000-2001	For reconstruction of outfall sluices across flood banks of the branches of river Godavari	5.00	5.00

[Translation]

Promotion of KVIC

514. SHRI BUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the manner in which Government propose to promote these industries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (c) For the development and promotion of Khadi and Village

Industries, the Government of India announced a package for the Khadi and Village Industries sector on 14.05.2001. The main features of this package consist of a Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc.

(d) Does not arise.

HIV Children

515. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bharat mein pratidin

lagbhag do sau bachche HIV ki giraft mein" appeared in 'Jansatta' dated November 2, 2001;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey of children suffering from HIV;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the concrete measures taken/being taken by the Government to check the constant growth of HIV challenged children; and

(f) the rehabilitation scheme for orphan children suffering from AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The estimates stated regarding the number of children infected every day with HIV are exaggerated. The estimated number of HIV infected children born in the country is approximately 30,000 per year with an HIV prevalence rate of 0.3% among pregnant mothers.

(c) Government has not conducted any survey of children suffering from HIV.

(d) N.A.

(e) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive Programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main components consist of:

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counseling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections etc.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counseling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability of the programme at National, State and Municipal levels.

Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sector.

(f) The family members and Community based organizations are encouraged to take care of AIDS orphaned children.

Heavy Vehicles on National Highway

516. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jodhpur district of Rajasthan has been linked with national highways;

(b) whether the Government are aware that heavy vehicles are not permitted on the linked highway in the city;

(c) if so, reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to start the construction of by-pass on this sector soon; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Hon'ble Rajasthan High Court has banned the entry of heavy vehicles to ease the traffic congestion in the city of Jodhpur.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Sanction of the estimate for phase-I of the bypass (22.8 kms out of total bypass length of 43.6 kms) is being processed for taking up the work.

[English]

National Highway-4

517. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that NH-4 km (Karad Junction) 680-684 is under construction;

(b) if yes, when it is likely to be completed;

(c) whether MSRDC has been pressing for construction of three fly-overs on this sector;

(d) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(e) the findings thereof and the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(f) whether this sector of NH-4 is under BOT; and

(g) if so, the name of the company which has been awarded the contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) The construction of Karad Junction in Km. 680-684 of NH-4 has not yet started and, therefore, it is not possible to intimate its likely date of completion.

(c) and (d) The Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) have proposed construction of 3 fly-overs at Karad and survey has been conducted in this regard.

(e) The design consultant, after detailed study have proposed three fly-overs at Karad for smooth, uninterrupted and safe movement of traffic. The consultants' recommendations/proposals for construction of fly-overs have been accepted by MSRDC and National Highways Authority of India.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The Karad Junction falls on the Satara-Kagal section of NH-4, which has been identified for development on BOT basis. The project is under negotiation with MSRDC.

National Integrated Highway Project

518. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the physical, social, economic & ecological dimensions of "National Integrated Highway Project" (13,000 km. connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai & Calcutta);

(b) the number of phases in which this project is being implemented;

(c) the details of the first two phases;

(d) the shares of Public & Private Sector funding; and

(e) the steps being taken to expedite the project to solve the problem of congestion on the highways of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) National Highway Development Project (NHDP) comprises of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and North-South and East-West (N-S and E-W) corridors connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari and Silchar to Porbandar. These National Highways are being improved from existing 2-lane highways to 4-lane divided carriageway. The social and economic benefits expected to be derived from NHDP would be, by way of faster, uninterrupted, comfortable and safer travel, savings in vehicle operating costs. Detailed environmental management and Rehabilitation and Resettlement plans are being implemented to mitigate negative social impact and to enhance the positive aspects on environment.

(b) and (c) NHDP having a total length of 13151 km. is being implemented in two phases namely GQ and N-S and E-W Corridors. Lengths of GQ and N-S and E-W Corridors are 5851 km. and 7300 km. respectively and these are targeted for completion in December 2003 and December 2007 respectively.

(d) Around Rs. 54,000 crore are expected to be invested on NHDP (at 1999 prices). The shares of various fundings are as under:

(1) Cess on Petrol and Diesel	Rs. 20,000 crore
(2) External Assistance	Rs. 20,000 crore
(3) Market Borrowing	Rs. 10,000 crore
(4) Private Sector Participation	Rs. 4,000 crore

(e) The steps taken for expeditious completion of projects include, prompt decision and payment system, provision for bonus for early completion and penalties for delays and tapping private sector efficiencies by out sourcing project preparation, work supervision and maintenance.

[Translation]

Rules/Guidelines for Haj Subsidy

519. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules/guidelines issued for granting subsidy to Haj pilgrims;

(b) the total amount given to Haj pilgrims during the last three years after issuance of such guidelines;

(c) whether the Government propose to grant subsidy to Amarnath pilgrims as per the said guidelines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) There are no rules/guidelines for granting subsidy for Haj pilgrims. Every year, a proposal is submitted before the Cabinet for fixation of Haj pilgrim fare and subsidy per pilgrim. The total amount given for Haj subsidy during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Total amount of Haj Subsidy (Rupees)
1999	98.46 crore
2000	118.83 crore
2001	148.36 crore (provisional)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Backlog of Vacancies for SC/ST

520. SHRI BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in class I (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59% (SCs-10.38% & STs-3.21%) and in class-II (Group B) services only at 14.41% (SCs-11.73% & STs-2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, indicate total number of "posts" in (i) Class I (Group A) category and (ii) Class II (Group B) category and equivalents thereof under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; and

(c) persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST and (iv) OBC categories working against them including their respective percentage to such posts as ascertained in view of instruction as contained under para 5 of DoPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated July 2, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways was created in November, 2000 after the bifurcation of erstwhile Ministry of Surface Transport. The Group "A" and "B" posts in the Ministry consist of both technical and non-technical cadre. For the technical posts, the Cadre Control of Central Engineering Services (Roads) Group "A" and other Group "B" posts is vested with this Ministry. The remaining posts in Group "A" and "B" are filled up by Department of Personnel & Training and other concerned cadre authorities.

A statement showing the current status of total number of Group "A" and "B" posts in the Ministry and the reservation position is enclosed.

Statement

Backlog of Vacancies for SC/ST

Group	Sanctioned Strength of Posts			Posts Filled Up			Reservation Position Non-Tech+Tech Posts Filled					Percentage Representation of				
	Non Technical	Technical	Total	Non Technical	Technical	Total	SC	ST	OBC	GEN	Total	SC	ST	OBC	GEN	Total
A	32	129*	161	28	70	98	13	5	13	67	98	13.27	5.10	13.27	68.37	100.00
B	181	22	203	178	19	197	34	10	4	149	197	17.26	5.08	2.03	75.63	100.00

*This does not include 79 number of Group A posts from the level of Superintending Engineer and up to the level of Director General (Road Development), where there is no reservation.

These are Central Engineering Service (Roads) Posts.

Closure of SSI Units in Assam

521. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of small scale industry units in Assam have been closed down over the decades;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to revive them;

(c) whether the recommendations of Kapur Committee in respect of SSI units have been accepted; and

(d) if so, the status of implementation of these recommendations so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The information on closed units is not maintained centrally. However, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSIs financed by Scheduled Commercial Banks. As per the latest data compiled by the RBI, the number of sick SSI units at the end of March 2000 in the State of Assam was 11,445.

The cumulative number of sick SSI units and potentially viable sick units in Assam for the last ten years is given below:

Sl.No.	As at the end of March	Potentially Viable Units	Total sick units
1.	1991	624	4892
2.	1992	690	5317
3.	1993	736	5640
4.	1994	641	14218
5.	1995	1289	17984
6.	1996	1080	19831
7.	1997	1100	10133
8.	1998	457	15774
9.	1999	581	10586
10.	2000	1383	11445

The Government is fully seized of the incidence of industrial sickness among SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units, which *inter-alia* include setting up of an institutional mechanism in the form of State level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the RBI for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units.

(c) and (d) Out of 126 recommendations made by the Kapur Committee, 86 have been accepted and implemented.

Export of Telecom Equipments

522. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of telecom equipments;

(b) the total amount worth telecom equipments exported to different countries during the last three years;

(c) the target set for 2001-2002; and

(d) the efforts made so far to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The Government has provided following incentives for promoting the export of telecom equipments:

(i) A number of incentives is available under the Export Import Policy which include Advance Licenses, Special Impreset License, Duty

Entitlement Pass-Book scheme and Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme for import of inputs required for manufacture and export of such equipment.

- (ii) The Government also promotes export through other schemes by allowing setting up of manufacturing units as Export Oriented Units, units in Export Processing Zones and Electronic Hardware Technology Park, Special Economic Zone etc. all of which enjoy duty free import of all types of goods including capital goods.
- (iii) For providing exposure in the international market, Department of Telecommunications provides subsidy to Indian companies in Telecom sector for meeting part expenditure towards their participation in the international exhibitions.

(b) The telecom equipments exported to different countries during last three years are as under:

Year	Value in Rs. Crore
1998-99	250
1999-00	180
2000-01	450

(c) and (d) The Government, as such does not fix any target for export of telecom equipment. However, through various schemes/incentives efforts are made to increase the exports.

[Translation]

Amount Released to Maharashtra Under PMRY

523. SHRI UTTAM RAO PATIL;
SHRI MANSINH PATEL;
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY;

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

(a) the amount released under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana in the country particularly for Maharashtra and Gujarat during 2000-2001;

(b) the proposed amount to be released during 2001-2002 under the said scheme;

(c) the details of those youths who have been benefited under these grants; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote this scheme by enhancing the funds?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the Central Govt. releases funds for subsidy as well as for training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. while the funds for subsidy are authorized to the Reserve Bank of India for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through to the Reserve Bank of India for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through the implementing banks, the funds for training and Entrepreneurial Development etc., are released directly to the State/UTs. During the year 2000-01, Rs. 183.00 crore has been authorized to the Reserve Bank of India for disbursement of subsidy to the implementing banks. During the same period, out of a total of Rs. 18.00 crores for training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. Rs. 47.00 lakhs and Rs. 173.83 lakhs have been released to the Govts. of Gujarat and Maharashtra respectively.

(b) During the year 2001-2002, under the Scheme, Rs. 193.50 crores is proposed to be released.

(c) As per the reports received from the Reserve Bank of India, loans have been sanctioned to 2,50,611 educated unemployed youth for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 (upto August 2001) under the PMRY.

(d) There is, presently, no proposal to enhance the funds under the Scheme.

Acupuncture Therapy

524. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA;
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI;
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI;
SHRI BHERULAL MEENA;
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT;

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

(a) whether "Acupuncture Therapy" can cure even those diseases which are behind to be incurable;

(b) if so, whether this therapy succeeded in pertaining to ear, eye and liver;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to encourage physicians practicing modern pathies to take keen interest in this therapy keeping in view its success; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) According to ICMR, Acupuncture therapy is stated to be useful for several diseases. WHO has recognized Acupuncture as a traditional mode of treatment for diseases connected with Respiratory, Occular Gastro-intestinal neurological and musculoskeletal conditions.

(b) Acupuncture therapy is useful in treating various diseases including those relate to eye, ear and liver.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is envisaged.

[English]

SC/ST

525. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Departments/subordinate and attached offices, Public Sector and Autonomous Organisations/Corporations under the Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries are not nominating Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs as required under MHA OM No. 16/17-Estt (C) dated 10.4.1998 (DoPT OM No.-36022/5/76 dated 27.5.1976) for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matter of reservations for SCs, STs & OBCs;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same, indicate names of such Offices/Organisations;

(c) if not, indicate total number of Organizations/offices under the Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries which functions as "Administrative Units" dealing with establishment and staff matters under his Ministry; and

(d) total number of Liaison Officers nominated for the above referred purpose as on date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (d) There are two Autonomous Bodies under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries i.e. (i) Khadi and Village Industries Commission and (ii) Coir Board. The KIVC has nominated one Director as the Liaison Officer and the Coir Board has nominated the Secretary, Coir Board as the Liaison Officer for SCs, STs and OBCs.

Infection in Burns Ward

526. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the patients admitted to the Burns Ward of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi develop infection;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, burn patients with extensive raw area are prone to colonisation of bacteria rather than infection. Usually, patients with more than 80 per cent of body surface area burn develop endogenous infection. The total number of such patients during the last one year is 564 out of approximately 7000 attendance.

(c) Air and Wall Cultures for bacterial growth of Burns Ward are undertaken regularly. In case, any bacterial growth is noticed, fumigation is performed.

Visit of Yasser Arafat

527. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether President Yasser Arafat visited India on August 22, 2001 to keep it informed of the developments in West Asia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) President Yasser Arafat visited India on 23 August, 2001. He briefed the Prime Minister on developments in the Middle East Peace Process and requested India to use its influence for an early resumption of the peace process.

[Translation]

Pension Scheme for MTNL

528. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS to be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from different Employees Unions for making provision of Pension facility for the employees of M.T.N.L. as being received by the employees of B.S.N.L.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government received representations from some employees Unions for making provision of Pension facilities for the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) employees on the same lines as are applicable to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees.

(b) After insertion of Rule 37 A in the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 with effect from 30.9.2000, there has been a consistent demand from the Staff Unions of MTNL that payment of pension by the Government to the employees absorbed in MTNL should be on the lines at par with those applicable to BSNL. Rule 37-A prescribes the condition governing payment of pensionary benefits including family pension to the employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). As per the said rule, Government has to pay the pension including the family pension to the absorbed employees of BSNL.

(c) Demand of the employees unions has been examined by Department of Telecommunications, in consultation with Department of Pension & Pensioner's Welfare and it has not been found feasible to accede to the above demand because of the fact that Rule 37-A of CCS Pension Rules 1972 has come into force with effect from 30.9.2000, whereas absorption of Group 'C' and 'D' employees in the MTNL has taken effect from 01.11.1998 i.e. on a date much earlier than the date of effect of Rule-37A. The said demand, if acceded to, would open floodgates by setting a precedent for all other similar placed cases.

[English]

ETDC-Goa

529. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the salient features offered by ETDC-Goa;

(b) the segment of the electronics and IT sector in the ETDC-Goa catering to; and

(c) the steps taken at ETDC-Goa to ensure that their facilities conform to world standards?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Electronics Test and Development Centre (ETDC), Goa at Pilerne, Saligao, Goa, is co-located in a building owned by Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Goa. The Centre provides the following services to the industry and other organisations in the region;

- (i) Calibration of Testing and Measuring Instruments to ensure traceability of measurement results.
- (ii) Testing of electrotechnical products to national and manufactures specifications.
- (iii) Training in the area of Information Technology, and Quality Management and Environmental Management System.

(b) (i) ETDC, Goa is providing calibration service for electrical as well as non-electrical parameters to the electronic and mining industry and other organisations. Training in the area of Quality Management and Environmental Management System is also provided to these industries.

(ii) Application oriented computer training is provided to IT Sector.

(c) The construction of permanent building for ETDC, Goa has been approved and the building is presently under construction.

Keeping in view the local industry needs Calibration facilities in the area of electrical and non-electrical parameters have been upgraded at ETDC, Goa in the last two years. Testing facilities in the areas of power and Energy have also been augmented.

The future growth of the centre will be planned after the construction of the permanent building is completed.

Rate of Waiting for Berthing

530. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of waiting for berthing in various ports in India, port-wise;

(b) the rate in Chennai and Tuticorin ports in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) steps taken to improve the system and to reduce the waiting time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Average pre-berthing waiting time at various ports during 1998-99, 1999-2000, and 2000-01 are as under:

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 (in days)
Calcutta (CDS)	1.0	1.0	0.7
Haldia	1.3	1.6	0.9
Paradip	1.2	1.1	1.5
Vishakhapatnam	1.6	1.4	0.8
Chennai	3.4	2.8	2.3
Tuticorin	1.6	3.0	1.2
Cochin	0.9	0.9	0.7
New Mangalore	0.9	1.1	0.8
Murmagao	1.4	1.1	1.3
Jawaharlal Nehru	1.4	0.6	0.4
Mumbai	2.1	1.4	1.0
Kandla	4.5	3.0	1.6

(c) Aimed at further reducing the waiting time, development programmes being undertaken in various major ports lay emphasis at enhancing handling capacity through productivity improvements, construction and equipping new berths as also acquisition of State-of-art equipments to match the emerging cargo mix.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Kendriya Bhandar

531. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no voluntary retirement scheme in the Kendriya Bhandar but lakhs of rupees have been given under voluntary retirement scheme to the employees of Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the BoD passed the annual accounts despite the above lapses and the adverse report of the auditors in this regard;

(d) whether the approval of the Board of Directors was obtained in giving Voluntary Retirement Scheme;

(e) if so, the details therefor;

(f) whether the Chairman is a part-time officer in the Kendriya Bhandar but he is taking major decisions not falling within his domain;

(g) if so, whether there is any proposal to look into all matters where the Chairman has overstepped his jurisdiction; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) There is no Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of Kendriya Bhandar. Therefore, the question of retiring any Kendriya Bhandar's employees under voluntary Retirement Scheme does not arise.

(c) to (e) The BoD has passed the Annual Accounts. The Kendriya Bhandar had terminated the services of 3 employees in Chennai and paid them termination compensation. The Auditors had disclosed this as per auditing requirements and had not made an adverse report. The Board of Directors was fully apprised of these developments and has ratified the action taken by the Chairman.

(f) to (h) As regards important decisions, the Chairman Kendriya Bhandar is fully accountable to the independent Board of Directors consisting of 17 members which includes 9 Senior Government Officers and 8 Elected Directors. The Accounts of Kendriya Bhandar for the year 2000-2001, was unanimously passed by Board of Directors which currently have 15 members and the Chairman has acted as per bye-laws of the Society. The Government is not aware of any instance where the Chairman may have overstepped its authority.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Purchase and Supply of Medicines

532. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
DR. (SHRIMATI) ANITA ARYA:

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

(a) whether CGHS dispensaries in National Capital Territory of Delhi are facing acute shortage of medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware of several irregularities in purchase and supply of medicines for the CGHS beneficiaries of Delhi;

(d) if so, the action taken against the officers/employees found guilty;

(e) whether the CGHS beneficiaries also get the indented medicines prescribed by the expert doctors after many days; and

(f) if so, the reasons and the remedial steps likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) By and large all the listed formulary medicines required for day to day use are available in CGHS dispensaries in Delhi. Non-available medicines which are prescribed by the specialists are procured from Authorised Local Chemist against individual prescription and given to the beneficiaries.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) and (f) No Sir. The medicines are given to the CGHS beneficiaries on the next working day after the beneficiary has submitted the prescription for indent.

[English]

Committee on Drug Formulary and Vocabulary

533. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new committee has been formed for finalizing the Drug Formulary and Vocabulary;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints of malpractices by the existing committee;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the committees and sub-committees have been formed since the existing list of Drug formulary/Vocabulary has become due to renewal in 1995-96;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to constitute another sub-committees in near future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Only some general complaints have been received, which are being examined.

(d) Five committees have been formed since 1995-96. Concrete steps have been taken to finalise a comprehensive formulary/vocabulary which would be notified very shortly.

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

Family Welfare Programme

534. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the most of the Family Welfare Programmes are out of the reach of the rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that these schemes reach properly to rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Government is aware of certain gaps in implementation of the Family Welfare Programmes in the country, mainly on account of inadequate outreach of infrastructure and trained manpower.

While Health is primarily a State subject, the Centre is providing (i) technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the Family Welfare Programme, (ii) States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps to bridge the existing gaps. (iii) The National Population Policy 2000 envisages increasing and augmenting the Public Private Partnerships by providing a role for diverse health care providers including accrediting private medical practitioners for providing the Reproductive and Child Health Services, Mainstreaming Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy and collaboration with Non-Governmental Organisations. (iv) Efforts are also being made to increase the outreach in rural thorough Swasthya Melas. Reproductive and Child Health Camps, Dai Training and Reproductive and Child Health Programme outreach services programmes etc. (v) Under Pradhan Mantri's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), the funds are released to further the goal of primary health care through strengthening of primary health care institutions, procurement of drugs and essential consumables, contingencies for travel cost for ANM's and

repair of equipments and furniture. (vi) Area Development Projects are also being implemented with the financial assistance from World Bank and other donor agencies for strengthening health and family welfare infrastructure. The main activities of Area Projects include construction of buildings for sub-centres, PHCs, CHCs and Staff quarters, Training Institutes, supply furniture and equipments etc. (vii) Funds are also being made available to the States for construction/repair/maintenance of operation theatre, Labor Room and for upgradation of water and electric supply under Major and Minor Civil Works Schemes of Reproductive and Child Health Programme.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of STD/ISD/PCO Booths

535. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4999 dated the August 27, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has been collected;

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

(c) the time by which the said information is likely to be collected and laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) No Sir. Information is to be collected from the various field units in the country. All out efforts are being made to collect the same and it will be laid on the Table on the House.

Filling Backlog of Reserved Vacancies

536. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether "backlog/carried forward vacancies" reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs' are required to be treated as a 'separate and distinct group' as provided under Article 16(4) B of the Constitution to overcome 50% ceiling limit on vacancies to be reserved in an year;

(b) if so the details of "backlog/carried forward vacancies" ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM

No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated July 2, 1997 in respect of (1) SCs (2) STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on August 29, 1997 in the Ministry of Communications when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stoped;

(c) the details of such carried forward vacancies filled during the last four years and those which remain unfilled year-wise;

(d) the fresh vacancies/posts accrued to reserved classes in all categories of posts during the last four years as per "post based rosters"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. However these instructions are not applicable for OBC's.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House later.

Financing of State Highways by World Bank

537. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have listed the State highways being financed by the World Bank in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in Bihar; and

(c) the amount sanctioned by the World Bank for State highways during Eighth and Ninth Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) State roads come within the purview of the respective State Governments. However, the World Bank has provided a loan assistance of US\$ 51.5 million under Technical assistance for preparation of road projects and policy reforms. Fourteen States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala, Gujarat, Orissa, Manipur, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura and Union Territory of Pondicherry are preparing the projects out of this loan. There is no commitment, however, from the World Bank for funding these projects.

(c) Loans of US\$ 350 million, US\$ 381 million and US\$ 360 million have been provided by World Bank for the State Road Projects in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka, respectively.

*[English]***Use of Rubber in Construction of Roads**

538. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any step has been taken to rubberise roads using natural rubber;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the kilometers rubberised so far, Sector-wise (a) Express Highways, (b) National Highways, (c) Other Roads;
- (d) the advantages of rubberisation of roads and the future plans in this regard;
- (e) whether rubberisation using natural rubber latex is better and more durable for roads than using artificial or polymer mix;
- (f) if so, facts thereof;
- (g) whether natural rubber is available in India in sufficient quantity; and
- (h) if not, steps being taken to encourage natural rubber for rubberisation of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) In order to provide more durable roads, the Government has decided to introduce the use of rubber/polymer modified bitumen in the construction and maintenance of National Highways. 536 kilometres of National Highways have been provided with surfacing using modified bitumen so far. This Ministry is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only.

(d) The studies have revealed that rubber/polymer modified bitumen provides more durable roads by reducing susceptibility towards temperature variations and improving other desirable properties of the bitumen thereby giving overall better performance. The Government has decided to use the modified bitumen in at least 10% of periodical renewal works and also in bituminous wearing course of regional works on heavily trafficked sections of National Highways.

(e) and (f) The relative performance and economics of different types of modified bitumen under variable conditions of traffic, climates etc. is yet to be established.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Cross Border Terrorism

539. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any discussion has been held between Shri George Bush, President of United States of America and Prime Minister of India pertaining to cross border terrorism in Kashmir; and
- (b) if so, whether the U.S. is in agreement with Indian view point relating to hostile activities of Pakistan inside Indian territory as a whole and the State of Jammu and Kashmir in particular?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Government has conveyed to the United States in all appropriate forums, including in the dialogue between Prime Minister and the U.S. President, Pakistan's role in sponsoring, supporting and abetting cross-border terrorism in India.

(b) The U.S. Government has on a number of occasions acknowledged links between Pakistan and terrorism in India. The U.S. State Department has observed in its annual report for the year 2000 on Patterns of Global Terrorism that, "Pakistan's military Government, headed by Gen. Pervez Musharraf, continued previous Pakistani Government support of the Kashmir insurgency, and Kashmiri militant groups continued to operate in Pakistan, raising funds and recruiting new cadre."

*[Translation]***Optical Fibre Cable**

540. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of telephone Exchanges working under open wire system in Maharashtra as on September 30, 2001;
- (b) whether 54 telephone Exchanges are still working under open wire system in Jalgaon, Maharashtra;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision to switch over to OFC system in all these Exchanges; and

(d) if so, the time by which this work is to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) There are 1759 Telephone Exchanges working on Open Wire System in Maharashtra as on 30.09.2001.

(b) No, Sir. 50 exchanges are working at Jalgaon on open wire systems.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Works of commissioning of Systems planned in the District Jalgaon are likely to be completed by March 2002.

Unani CGHS Dispensaries

541. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of Unani Dispensaries in the country;

(b) whether there is any provision for local purchase of medicine for Unani Dispensaries under CGHS;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the local purchase of medicines is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Unani CGHS Dispensaries are available in the cities of Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Lucknow as per details given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) At CGHS Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kolkata, there is adequate supply of Unani medicines through the approved firms having approved rate contract with Dte. GHS. Therefore, no local purchase of Unani medicines is being done in these cities. However, in the case of CGHS Lucknow, the medicines which are not available in Unani dispensary are being supplied to the beneficiaries after making local purchase from authorized local chemist. In CGHS Delhi, efforts were made earlier to appoint local chemists by issuing an advertisement but there was no response. However, it has been decided

to make another attempt for appointment of local chemists for Unani system under CGHS Delhi for which action has been initiated.

Statement

Unani Dispensaries attached to the CGHS Dispensaries: Citiwise

Delhi: There are 4 Unani Dispensaries under CGHS Delhi- They are:

1. Unani Dispensary, Sarojini Nagar

2. Unani Unit, Darya Ganj

3. Unani Unit, Naraina

4. Unani Unit, South Avenue

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| 2. | Bangalore | — One Unani Unit at CGHS Dispensary No. 1, 18 and 18/1, Infantry Road, Shivaji Nagar, Bangalore-560001. |
| 3. | Hyderabad | — Two Unani Dispensaries at CGHS Dispensary No. 1 Charminar and Dispensary No. 4, Begumpet. |
| 4. | Kolkata | — In CGHS Calcutta, there is only one Unani Unit attached to CGHS Polyclinic at Salt Lake IC Block, Kolkata. |
| 5. | Lucknow | — One Unani CGHS Dispensary in Lucknow attached to CGHS Dispensary No. 4 at Nakkhas Market, Lucknow. |

[English]

Withdrawal of Excess Bureaucrats

542. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance to the policy of the Central Government as well as the State Government of Orissa of reducing the percentage of employees of the Union Government proposed to withdraw the excess IAS/IPS/IFS officers on the request of the State Government of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Government of India has not received any proposal for the reduction of the strength of the IAS/IPS/IFS officers in the Orissa cadre from the State Government. There is no excess in the number of officers in relation to the Total Authorised Strength of 202, 159 and 121 of the IAS, IPS and IFS respectively in the Orissa cadre as of date.

New Provision for Drugs

543. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal about the new provision in the drugs and cosmetic rules for the registration of the manufacturing premises of foreign drug manufacturers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide Gazette of India Notification No. GSR 604(E) dated 24.08.2001 have made a new provision in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules for the registration of manufacturing premises of foreign drug manufacturers. This will come into effect from 01.01.2003.

The application for issue of a Registration Certificate for a manufacturing premise and each manufactured drug by a foreign drugs manufacturer for import in India is to be made as per Rule 24-A alongwith the fee of US\$ 1500 and US\$ 1000 respectively.

Details are available in GSR No. 604(E) dated 24.08.2001 which is a published document.

[Translation]

Cut in Cellular Rates

544. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced licence fee recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Cellular Operators have reduced the cellular rates heavily recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, steps being taken by the Government to check unreasonable profits being made by Cellular Operators and protect the interest of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, licence fee for cellular services, for new as well as existing operators, has been brought at par with Basic Services by reducing license fee to 12% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for Metro Service Areas and category 'A' circles, 10% of AGR for category 'B' Circles and 8% of AGR for category 'C' Circles, excluding spectrum charges. This is effective from the date of issue/ announcement of guidelines for issuance of license for Basic services (*i.e.* 25.01.2001), permitting them to provide the use of hand held set with wireless access system limited in local area *i.e.* Short Distance Charging Area, commonly known as 'limited mobility', exclusive of the period during which existing or future Basic Service Operators are prohibited the limited mobility services. In addition, the cellular licencees shall pay spectrum charges on revenue share basis.

(c) and (d) The tariff for Telecom Services including Cellular Services, is controlled by TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India). TRAI has specified a standard package in the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999. Operators are free to offer alternative packages subject to reporting requirement. Competition has resulted in several alternative plans with lower tariffs being offered by Cellular Operators in several areas of the country.

The entry of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited as the third Cellular Operator in Delhi and Mumbai has resulted in a sharp decline in the prevailing tariff levels in the two Metros, due to increased competition.

Further, reduction in capital cost and license fee costs (due to migration package) are also reasons for lower cellular tariff. On average, the overall reduction in cellular tariff has been approximately 50% in the two years since the implementation of Telecommunication Tariff Order in May, 1999. The extent of reduction varies across different service areas, depending on the level of competition and other commercial factors.

(e) The Government have licensed Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited as the third Cellular Services operator for all Service Areas, except Metro Service Areas of Delhi and Mumbai. Licences for 4th cellular operator have also been issued in 17 circles. These steps would introduce more competition leading to reduction in tariff.

[English]

Scheme for Extra Mural Research

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

(a) whether the Government have launched a revised scheme for extra Mural Research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to promote the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Government has launched a revised Scheme for Extra Mural Research in ISM & H. Under the revised scheme, the focus is *inter-alia* on assisting research projects and interventions which validate efficacy claims relating to Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.

(c) In order to promote the scheme, it has been circulated to all States/UTs, ISM & H & Allopathic Medical Colleges, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, University Grants Commission, Indian Council of Medical Research etc.

Multi Purpose Counter Machines

546. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the multi purpose counter machines installed in Tamil Nadu location-wise;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to install more such multi purpose counter machines in Tamil Nadu during the year 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The details of the Multi Purpose Counter Machines installed in Tamil Nadu location-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines is an ongoing process and more such machines will be installed in Tamil Nadu during the year 2001-2002 depending on the availability of funds under the Plan Head.

Statement

Details of Multi Purpose Counter Machines (MPCMs) in Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	Name of PO	MPCMs installed
1	2	3
1.	Admn. Office Bldg. (BHEL)	1
2.	Adyar	2
3.	Ambattur Head Post Office	2
4.	Ambattur Industrial Estate	1
5.	Anna Nagar	4
6.	Anna Road Head Post Office	8
7.	Arakkonam Head Post Office	2
8.	Arantangi	1
9.	Arasaradi	2
10.	Ashoknagar	2
11.	Avadi Camp HO	2
12.	Besant Nagar	1
13.	Bhavani Head Post Office	2
14.	Bodinakkanur Head Post Office	1
15.	Boiler Project	2
16.	CBE Central	2
17.	CBE Collectorate	3
18.	Chengalpattu Head Post Office	1
19.	Chennai GOP	5
20.	Chennai Sorting	1
21.	Chromepet	1
22.	Coimbatore Head Post Office	3
23.	Cuddalore Head Post Office	2
24.	Dindigul Head Post Office	2
25.	Enathur	1

1	2	3
26.	Erode Head Post Office	2
27.	Flower Bazar	2
28.	Gandhi Nagar	2
29.	Graemes Road	2
30.	Guindy Industrial Estate	2
31.	Hasthampatti	1
32.	Hosur	2
33.	Kanchipuram Head Post Office	2
34.	Karur Head Post Office	2
35.	Kilpauk	1
36.	Kodaikanal	2
37.	Kovilpatti Head Post Office	2
38.	Kumbakonam Head Post Office	2
39.	Madurai Bazar	2
40.	Madurai Head Post Office	4
41.	Madurai Palace	2
42.	Maharaja Nagar	1
43.	Mayiladuthurai Head Post Office	2
44.	Mettupalayam Head Post Office	1
45.	Munchalai Road	2
46.	Mylapore Head Post Office	2
47.	N.H. Road	2
48.	Nagapattinam Head Post Office	2
49.	Nagercoil Head Post Office	2
50.	Nagercoil Town	1
51.	Palani	2
52.	Palayamkottai Head Post Office	2
53.	Park Town Head Post Office	2
54.	Paaramakudi Head Post Office	2
55.	Perambalur	1
56.	Periyakulam Head Post Office	1

1	2	3
57.	Pollachi Head Post Office	2
58.	Pondicherry Head Post Office	4
59.	Pudukottai Head Post Office	2
60.	R.S. Puram Head Post Office	3
61.	Rajapalayam Head Post Office	2
62.	Ram Nagar	2
63.	Ramanathapuram	2
64.	Ramanathapuram Head Post Office	2
65.	Saidapet	1
66.	Salem Head Post Office	2
67.	Shastri Bhavan	2
68.	Sivaganga	1
69.	Sivakasi Head Post Office	2
70.	Speed Post Centre	1
71.	Srivilliputhur	2
72.	St. Thomas Mount Head Post Office	2
73.	Suramangalam Head Post Office	2
74.	T. Nagar Head Post Office	4
75.	Tambaram HO	2
76.	Taallakulam Head Post Office	3
77.	Tenkasi Head Post Office	2
78.	Teppakulam	3
79.	Teynampet	2
80.	Thanjavur Bus Stand	1
81.	Thanjavur Head Post Office	2
82.	Theni Head Post Office	1
83.	Thennur	1
84.	Thuckalay Head Post Office	1
85.	Tiruchengode Head Post Office	2
86.	Tiruchi Fort	3
87.	Tiruchirapalli Head Post Office	3
88.	Tirumangalam	1

1	2	3
89.	Tirunelveli Head Post Office	2
90.	Tirupattur Head Post Office	4
91.	Tirupur Head Post Office	2
92.	Tiruvallur Head Post Office	2
93.	Tiruvannamalai Head Post Office	3
94.	Tiruvarur Head Post Office	2
95.	Triplicane	2
96.	Tuticorin Head Post Office	2
97.	Uthamapalayam	1
98.	Vadapalani	2
99.	Vannarpettai	1
100.	Vellore Fort	1
101.	Vellore Head Post Office	3
102.	Villupuram Head Post Office	1
103.	Virudhanagar Head Post Office	1
104.	Virudhnagar Town	1
105.	Vriddhachalam Head Post Office	2
Total		208

Establishment of Smart Government

547. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government for Establishment of Smart Government at Hyderabad;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have also offered to provide land and built up space for the purpose:

(c) if so, whether Government have approved the proposal of the State Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh has offered to provide physical infrastructure for the National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) at their International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d) Government has agreed "in principle" to establish National Institute for Smart Government. A detailed Business Plan for establishing this Institute at Hyderabad is being worked out by National Association of Software Services Companies (NASSCOM) and is expected to be submitted soon to this Ministry for implementation.

Expert Committee on Post Offices

548 SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee has been constituted to improve the working of Post Office Saving Banks in the country;

(b) if so, whether the said expert committee has submitted its reports; and

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the recommendations of the above said expert committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) An expert Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Finance to review the existing mandate of the Post Office Savings Bank. The Committee has since submitted its report to that Ministry and its recommendations will be considered for implementation subject to feasibility.

Community Health Centres

549. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:

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

(a) the details of the Community Health Centres (CHCs) proposed to be opened during the last three years in the country, State-wise and Year-wise and the number out of them opened during the period, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the achievement of Community Health Centres (CHCs) under 20 Point Programme has been very poor during the current year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the performance of CHCs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) A statement showing the targets and actual achievements for establishment of Community Health Centres, State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) to (d) Government is aware of the below-par performance of States/UTs, in establishment of Community Health Centres during the current year. While Health is primarily a State subject, the Central Government is providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the National Family Welfare Programme. States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps to bridge the existing gaps, on priority basis. Government has initiated a number of innovative programmes, to improve the overall health care facility in the country

Under the State Health Systems Project, Community Health Centres and District Hospital are being upgraded to provide quality health services to people in rural and backward areas of the country.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, the Health Care Infrastructure is being strengthened by increased provisioning of drugs, essential consumables, repairs of essential equipments and towards contingencies at health centres including CHCs.

Area Development Projects are also being implemented with the financial assistance from World Bank and other donor agencies for strengthening of health and family welfare infrastructure. One of the main activities of Area Projects include construction of building for sub-centres, PHCs and CHCs.

Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, the following steps are being taken to strengthen community health centres.

1. Major Civil Works for repair/construction of OT/Labor Room.
2. Provision of equipments/medicine for emergency, obstetrics at selected first referral units.
3. Financial assistance for contractual appointments/hiring of Anaesthetists/Gynaecologists etc. wherever not available.

Statement

The targets and achievements for establishment of Community Health Centres during the last three years

Sl.No.	State/UT	1997-98		1998-1999		1999-2000	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	55	12	55	—
2	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	10
3	Assam	—	—	19	—	19	—
4	Bihar	—	—	128	—	128	—
5	Chhatisgarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Gujarat	—	3	18	18	18	18
8	Haryana	—	1	10	—	10	—
9	Himachal Pradesh	—	12	—	1	—	10
10	J&K	—	—	1	8	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	—	—	7	7	7	—
13.	Kerala	—	—	25	—	25	25
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	77	144	77	—
15.	Maharashtra	—	6	34	2	34	40
16.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	3	2	—	2	—
18.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	1
19.	Nagaland	—	—	2	2	2	2
20.	Orissa	—	—	27	—	27	—
21.	Punjab	—	—	4	—	4	—
22.	Rajasthan	—	1	13	1	13	—
23.	Sikkim	—	—	1	—	1	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	59	—	59	—
25.	Tripura	—	—	3	—	3	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	—	48	155	—	155	—
27.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	West Bengal	—	—	86	10	86	—
29.	A&N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	D&N Haveli	—	1	1	—	1	—
32.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Delhi	—	—	2	—	2	—
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
35.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		—	75	729	205	729	106

[*Translation*]

Quadrilateral National Highways

550. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Madhya Pradesh during the current financial year under Quadrilateral National Highway Scheme of Union Government for the construction of national highways;

(b) the districts in the State through which these national highways are likely to pass; and

(c) the amount spent by Madhya Pradesh Government so far for this purpose and the kilometrage of road constructed so far and the time by which remaining work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Presumably the question relates to National Highway Development Project (NHDP) comprising of Golden quadrilateral (GQ) and North-South & East-West (N-S & E-W) corridors. GQ does not pass through the State of Madhya Pradesh. However, N-S & E-W corridors pass through the districts of Morena, Gwalior, Datia, Shivpuri, Seoni, Sagar and Narsimhapur in Madhya Pradesh. An amount of Rs. 42 crore has been allocated for NHDP in Madhya Pradesh in the current financial year.

(c) NHDP is being implemented by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and no amount has been spent by the Madhya Pradesh Government on NHDP. 4-laning in 43 km. length out of total length of 666 km. for NHDP falling in Madhya Pradesh has been taken up and is likely to be completed by June, 2003. The remaining work is likely to be completed by December, 2007.

[English]

Policy of US Administration on Kashmir Issue

551 SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present policy of the US Administration on Kashmir issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): On 11 November 2001, the U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell stated in a television interview, in response to a question on Jammu and Kashmir, "The two sides have to settle that and there needs to be a dialogue between Pakistan and India" He added that the United States "cannot become the mediator, the arbitrator or the intermediary between them".

Satellite Based International Personal Mobile Service

552 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give licences in the country for Satellite Based International Personal Mobile Communication Service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have announced Policy for grant of licences for Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) Service on 2nd November, 2001. The Salient features of the Policy are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Salient features of the Policy for grant of Licences for Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) Services

1. The licences for operation of GMPCS Service in India shall be issued on non-exclusive basis subject to clearance of each proposal from security angle.
2. The licence shall be issued for a period of 20 years and further extendable by 10 years.
3. The applicant has to be an Indian registered company. Total foreign equity in the company shall not exceed 49% at any time during the entire licence period.
4. Gateway Earth Station along with control and monitoring facility for all the licensed systems shall be located in India. From the security point of view, the operation and maintenance of the Gateways shall be with the Authority/organization designated by the Government. GMPCS operators will provide monitoring facilities and security features as desired by security agencies.
5. The Licensee Company will be required to pay one time Entry Fee of Rs. one crore and furnish a financial bank guarantee of equal amount, prior to signing of the licence agreement. In addition to the Entry fee, the Licensee shall also pay License fee @ 10% of "Adjusted Gross Revenue".
6. Network connectivity and interconnection between various networks shall be mutually negotiated and finalized between service providers subject to any regulation issued from time to time by TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) under TRAI, Act, 1997 as amended from time to time.
7. The proposal for GMPCS licence is to be submitted in a prescribed Application form. The terms and conditions of licence agreement and Application Form for the service is available from Department of Telecom (DoT) or can be downloaded from DoT Website: www.dotindia.com

Representation of SC/ST

553. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59% (SCs-10.38% & STs-3.21%) and in Class II (Group B) Services only at 14.41% (SCs-11.73% & STs 2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, indicate total number of posts in (i) Class I (Group A) Category and (ii) Class II (Group B) Category and equivalents thereof under the Ministry of Small Scale Industries; and

(c) the persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST and (iv) OBC categories working against them including their respective percentage to such posts as

ascertained in view of instructions as contained under para 5 of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The representation of SCs/STs as on 1.1.98 under Central Government in Group "A" services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs-3.44%) and in Group "B" services it was 15.37% (SCs-12.35% and STs-3.02%).

(b) and (c) The total no. of posts in Group A and Group B, filled and the persons belonging to SC, ST, OBC and General categories working against them in this Ministry are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

The total no. of posts in Group A and Group B, filled and the persons belonging to SC, ST, OBC and General categories working against them in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries

S.No.	Name of Post	Sanctioned Strength	Filled	SC	ST	OBC	General	Total
1.	Gr. "A" % of representation	470	312	58 18.58	16 5.12	1 0.32	237 75.98	312
2.	Gr. "B" % of representation	646	482	77 15.97	21 4.35	13 2.69	371 76.97	482

Anthrax Cases In US and Other Countries

554. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has urged individuals and organizations to handle mail with care following cases of Anthrax scare in the US and other countries;

(b) whether certain guidelines have been issued in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The guidelines provide information on how to suspect a potentially infected mail, how & where to send it for confirmation and what to do and what not to do in case the envelope is leaking or has been opened.

Public Call Offices

555. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1103 dated July 30, 2001 and state.

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

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

(c) the time by which the said information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Information is to be collected from the various field units in the country. All out efforts are being made to collect the same and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arrest of Mafia Don

556. SHRI J.S. BRAR:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether mafia don Abu Salem was arrested in the United Arab Emirate recently;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government requested the Government of UAE for the deportation/extradition of Abu Salem.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. According to information received from UAE authorities, Abu Salem was not detained.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

CGHS Facilities for Handicapped Persons

557 SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

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

(a) whether the CGHS facilities can be provided to such offspring of the retired Central Government Employees, Ex-Member of Parliament and Ex-servicemen, who are more than 50% handicapped;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) All the dependent children of the retired Central Government employees, Ex-Member of Parliament and other eligible categories of persons are eligible for CGHS facilities in CGHS cities. However, as Ex-servicemen are not Central Government civilian pensioners they are not eligible for CGHS facilities.

[English]

Traumatic Centre

558. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

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

(a) whether any study has been made by the Government to assess the working of the traumatic centres in the city hospitals and their capability to deal with emergency cases of accident victims recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the deficiencies identified in the working of these Centres?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cellular/Mobile Phone Service in Karnataka

559. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts having cellular/mobile telephone service in Karnataka at present, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide the said service in some more districts in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(d) the time by which said service is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, as per the information provided by Cellular Operators Association of India on behalf of cellular operators, the number of districts having Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in Karnataka is 35 as per the details given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, a Government of India Undertaking has planned for wider introduction of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in the country including the State of Karnataka. The plan envisages coverage of district headquarters in the State of Karnataka in the next financial year.

Statement

Districts covered with Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in Karnataka by Private Operators

Sl.No.	Name of Districts
1	2
1.	Bangalore
2.	Bantwal
3.	Bellary
4.	Belgaum
5.	Chikmangalur
6.	Chitradurga
7.	Chikkaballapur
8.	Channapatna
9.	Dharwad
10.	Davangere
11.	Dodaballapur
12.	Dharwar
13.	Gulbarga
14.	Hospete
15.	Hubli
16.	Hassan
17.	Harihad
18.	Jigani
19.	Kolar
20.	Kanakapure
21.	Mandya
22.	Mangalore

1	2
23.	Madikeri
24.	Manipal
25.	Mulki
26.	Mysore
27.	Nanjangudu
28.	Raichur
29.	Sagar
30.	Shimoga
31.	Srirangapatna
32.	Suratkal
33.	Tunkur
34.	Udupi
35.	Ullal

[Translation]

Indo-Nepal Ties

560. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in Indo-Nepal relations after the massacre of royal family and accession of new King; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) India and Nepal share enduring bonds of friendship and India remains committed to mutually beneficial cooperation with Nepal. India's relations with Nepal have withstood the test of time.

Shri Jaswant Singh, External Affairs Minister, made a goodwill visit to Nepal from August 17 to 19, 2001. The purpose of the visit was to personally convey to King Gyanendra the deepest condolences of the President, the Prime Minister, the Government, and the people of India at the grievous tragedy that struck Nepal in June this year. The visit was also an opportunity to convey to the newly elected Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Sher Bahadur Deuba, reaffirmation of India's commitment to building further on the existing friendship and co-operation between India and Nepal. While the visit was essentially a goodwill visit, issues of interest to the two countries were also discussed.

Regular bilateral mechanisms have continued to be in operation. Some of the important Meetings include the

Joint Technical Committee Meeting on the Boundary, the Inter-Governmental Committee Meeting on Trade, Transit and Unauthorised Trade, the Joint Working Group Meeting on Border Management, etc.

[English]

Widening of NH-2

561. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing traffic congestion in Delhi-Faridabad Section of National Highway No. 2;

(b) if so, the steps taken to reduce congestion on that road; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As a remedial measure for de-congestion of Delhi-Faridabad 4-lane section of NH-2, steps taken include widening of congested km. 12 to 16.5 to six lane, construction of 6-lane ROB (Road-over-Bridge) near Apollo Hospital and widening of Bridge at Jaitpur near Badarpur from existing 6 lanes to 8 lanes.

[Translation]

Promotion of Assistant

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

(a) the total number of Assistants of selection year-1989 who have served for more than 13 years including ad-hoc/long term period for eligibility service, Ministry-wise;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the provision of Central Secretariat Service Rules, 1962 long term promotion period is considered for eligibility for promotion to the post of Section Officer through Section Officers Limited Departmental Examination;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The grade of Assistants of Central Secretariat Service is decentralized into 33 cadres and the requisite information is not maintained centrally.

(c) The concept of long term service in the grade of Assistants has been dispensed with by the Government in the year 1988.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Sale of Stationery

563. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have laid down any parameters to tackle the corruption on slaught on our economy and public life;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the Government achieved success in curbing the ever rising corruption in Government public dealing offices and cooperative societies selling stationery and other items to the Government departments;

(d) whether there is any proposal to withdraw the order authorizing the cooperative societies to sell stationery and other items to Government offices and create a department of its own from within the existing infrastructure to sell the same to Government departments; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Government is fully alive to the need to remove corruption at all levels in the administration. Apart from the existing legislations like the Prevention of Corruption Act and the

Delhi Special Police Establishment Act under which the Central Bureau of Investigation derives powers, the Government have recently introduced in Parliament the Central Vigilance Commission Bill and the Lokpal Bill. Besides to look into the complaints of corruption, Chief Vigilance Officers function in various Departments/Organisations. Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF who have been authorized to sell stationery and other items to Government Departments etc. have their respective vigilance units headed by Chief Vigilance Officer. These units look into all the complaints about irregularities and corruption involving employees and take action after carrying out necessary investigation/enquiries wherever considered necessary.

(d) and (e) The Government is reviewing the instructions regarding purchase of stationery and other items by Ministries/Departments etc. from Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF in consultation with concerned Ministries including Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

No proposal to create a Department is under the consideration of the Government at present.

[*Translation*]

Invitation to PM

564. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Bangladesh have invited our Prime Minister to visit Dhaka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c) do not arise.

[*English*]

Indo-US Ties

565. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to establish better relations with the United States; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) India and the United States are committed to building on the momentum of recent years and complete the process of qualitatively transforming their bilateral relations.

(b) Government has had a high level of engagement with the new U.S. Administration since it entered office in January 2001. Regular consultations have been held at the ministerial and official levels across the full range of bilateral activities. Prime Minister visited Washington from 7-9 November 2001 at the invitation of President Bush. The two leaders agreed on a number of initiatives to build a mutually beneficial long-term partnership between India and the United States.

The two sides have agreed to maintain and expand the wide-ranging architecture of institutional dialogue established in March 2000. Cooperation has been initiated in nuclear energy and civilian space applications. The two sides will discuss ways to establish a framework for high-technology commerce. The ongoing consultations on international security issues, including missile defence, will be enhanced through a "New Strategic Framework Dialogue". The bilateral Defence Policy Group will meet in Delhi in early December to intensify defence and military exchanges. The two sides also agreed to enlarge the wide-ranging Bilateral Economic Dialogue by including two additional components on energy and environment issues.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Facility in Panchayats

566. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone facility has been provided to all Village Panchayats of the country by the Government;

(b) if so, the number of village panchayats where the said facility has not been provided as yet particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone facility to the village panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b)

No, Sir. Still 35,525 village panchayats have not been provided with telecom facility in the country. In particular, 14297 village panchayats in Uttar Pradesh and 244 in Orissa are without telecom facility. District-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) New technologies like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), CDOT TDMA/PMP and satellite are being inducted for covering remaining village panchayats. Faulty Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) based village public telephones are planned to be replaced by new technology equipment subject to availability of funds.

Statement

Orissa Circle

Sl.No.	Name of District	No. of Uncovered Panchayats
1	2	3
1	Angul	9
2	Balasore	3
3	Baragarh	0
4	Bhadrak	1
5	Bolangir	22
6	Boudh	11
7	Cuttack	2
8	Deogarh	7
9	Dhenkanal	10
10	Gajapati	2
11	Ganjam	5
12	Jagatsinghpur	3
13	Jajpur	6
14	Jharsuguda	11
15	Kalahandi	17
16	Khondamal	16
17	Kendrapara	6
18	Keonjhar	0
19	Khurda	0
20	Koraput	25

1	2	3
21.	Malakangiri	31
22.	Mayurbhanj	7
23.	Nowrangpur	10
24.	Nayagarh	1
25.	Nowapara	9
26.	Puri	1
27.	Rayagada	4
28.	Sambalpur	11
29.	Sonepur	11
30.	Sundergarh	3
Total		244

Uttar Pradesh (East)

Sl.No.	Name of District	No. of uncovered village Panchayats
1	2	3
1.	Allahabad	639
2.	Kaushambhi	102
3.	Azamgarh	330
4.	Balia	4
5.	Basti	724
6.	Sant Kabir Nagar	468
7.	Banda	0
8.	Chitrakoot	0
9.	Bahraich	166
10.	Shrawasti	95
11.	Barabanki	228
12.	Deoria	422
13.	Kushi Nagar	548
14.	Etawah	132
15.	Auriya	170
16.	Faizabad	167
17.	Ambedkarnagar	388
18.	Farrukhabad	41
19.	Kannauj	5

1	2	3
20.	Fatehpur	30
21.	Gorakhpur	390
22.	Gonda	486
23.	Balrampur	192
24.	Ghazipur	746
25.	Hardoi	269
26.	Hamirpur	46
27.	Mahoba	17
28.	Jaunpur	826
29.	Jhansi	0
30.	Jalaun	0
31.	Kanpur City	12
32.	Kanpur Dehat	90
33.	Lucknow	0
34.	Lakhimpur	0
35.	Lalitpur	0
36.	Mainpuri	140
37.	Mirzapur	0
38.	Mau	85
39.	Maharajganj	154
40.	Pratapgarh	460
41.	Raebareli	181
42.	Sultanpur	321
43.	Sitapur	176
44.	Shahjahanpur	648
45.	Sidharth Nagar	826
46.	Sonebhadra	0
47.	Unnao	86
48.	Varanasi	278
49.	Bhadohi	216
50.	Chandauli	352
51.	Ferozabad	84
Total		11740

Uttar Pradesh (West)

Name of District	Village Panchayats yet to be covered
Agra	0
Ferozabad	0
Aligarh	9
Hathras	2
Badaun	500
Bareilly	36
Bijnor	0
Bulandshaher	267
Etah	440
Ghaziabad	20
Mathura	22
Meerut	25
Baghpat	5
Moradabad	275
J.P. Nagar	355
Muzaffarnagar	0
Noida	65
Pilibhit	449
Rampur	29
Saharanpur	58
Total	2557

*[English]***Change in the Mode of Payment in I.P.O.**

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring a change, in the mode of payment in the country in the Indian Post Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Post Offices have started prepaid card, master card facilities in some of the States;

(d) if so, the details of the States where such facilities have been started;

(e) the time by which facilities are likely to be provided in all the post offices;

(f) whether Government have launched any public awareness programme in rural areas and has given wide publicity for this programme for maximum utilization of this facility; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (g) The Post Office is planning to provide card based cashless payment solutions to its customers and to this end it proposes to launch pre-paid cards in selected cities which have existing infrastructure for card acceptance. Awareness campaigns will also be undertaken along with the launch of the product to facilitate its usage.

Transfers of Officials in Medical Store Depot

568. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2991 on March 14, 2001 and state:

(a) the number of Store Depots of CGHS or Ministry of Health and Family Welfare where the members of staff have been transferred without the completion of their normal tenure of even 3 to 5 years, by the authorities concerned during the last three years upto October 31, 2001; and

(b) the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) In so far as CGHS Delhi is concerned the following Store Depots are functioning:—

- (1) CGHS Ayurvedic Store Depot.
- (2) CGHS Homoeopathic Store Depot.
- (3) CGHS Unani Store Depot.
- (4) CGHS Medical Store Depot.

Only two cases of transfer from CGHS, Medical Store Depot, New Delhi, has taken place before completion of tenure of the incumbents due to administrative exigencies.

The information in respect of CGHS outside Delhi is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Reduction in Khadi Production

569. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

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

(a) whether the Khadi production has been reduced due to non-payment of rebate claims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the production of Khadi during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. The shortfall in Khadi production is mainly due to decline in the sales and not due to non-payment of rebate claims.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The production of Khadi during each of the last three years is as under:—

Year	Production (Value Rs. in crores)
1998-1999	635.89
1999-2000	551.94
2000-2001	605.00

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

Issuance of Passport to Bomb Blasts Suspect

570. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai bomb blasts suspect Abu Salem had got his passport issued from the regional passport office of Lucknow; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Abu Salem applied for a passport at the RPO Lucknow, in the assumed name of Akil Ahmed Azmi on 15/6/1993 and a passport was issued to him on 6th July 1993. The passport was issued after receipt of clear police report.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Facility in Jharkhand and Bihar

571. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of sub-standard quality of the essential services available in the posts, telegraphs and tele-communication sector in Jharkhand and Bihar;

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

(c) the corrective steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Postal services in Bihar and Jharkhand sectors are generally satisfactory. The latest live survey of mails reveals the position as under:

Name of Circle	Delivery of mails within norms	
	Urban	Rural
1	2	3
<i>Unregd. Mails</i>		
Bihar	92.3%	93.6%
Jharkhand	92.3%	85.1%

1	2	3
<i>Registered Mails</i>		
Bihar	98.9%	93.6%
Jharkhand	88%	98.6%
<i>Money orders</i>		
Bihar	100%	97.2%
Jharkhand	94.7%	86.5%

Occasional complaints are, however received which are attended to promptly.

The quality of telegraph services in Jharkhand and Bihar is not sub-standard. The quality of telegraph service measured as a percentage of telegrams delivered within 12 days light hours has been 95.25 against the annual target of 94% during the year 2000-2001.

The telecom services are working satisfactorily in Jharkhand and Bihar. Improvement in Telecom services is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) There is always a scope for improvement. Improvement in the quality of service is an ongoing process. In so far Postal Services are concerned, the following steps have been taken in this direction:—

- (i) Multipurpose Counter Machines are being installed in a phased manner.
- (ii) Transmission of money orders through V-SAT has been started.
- (iii) Savings Bank operations are being computerised to provide better/quicker services to our Customers.
- (iv) Computerised Customer Care Centres are being set up for quicker settlement of complaints.
- (v) Some of the post offices are under modernisation. Against 410 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra proposed for the year 2001-2002, 397 have already been made functional in the current year.
- (vi) In Bihar, 1 Sub-office and 10 Branch Post Offices have been opened during the current year.
- (vii) The following steps have been taken to improve Telecom services in a phased manner:

- (a) Replacement of underground paper core cables by jelly filled cables.
- (b) Laying of underground cables right upto the subscribers premises so as to eliminate drop wires. Introduction of 5 Pairs underground cable is one such move in this regard.
- (c) Opening of more and more remote line units thereby reducing area to be served by each exchange with a corresponding reduction in the size of outdoor plant.
- (d) Introduction of new technology e.g. Wireless in local loop, DLC etc. to eliminate the need for underground cables.
- (e) Periodic dressing of external plant.
- (f) Restriction of use of 20 pair DPs for indoor use only in urban areas and to the minimum possible extent/pole amounting in rural areas so as to reduce length of dropwire.
- (g) Provisioning of reliable transmission media for all exchanges.

*[English]***Increase In Number of Bureaucrats**

572. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been abnormal increase in the number of Officers at the Secretary, Additional Secretary, Director, Deputy Secretary and the Under Secretary levels since January 1, 1998 in the Government and other Offices;

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

(c) the number out of them belonging to IAS and non-IAS categories, separately; and

(d) the justification of increase in the light of the Report of Economic Reforms Commission recommending cut in the size of bureaucracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) No Sir. A Statement showing the number of officers working at the levels of Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary, Director, Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary as on 1.1.98, 1.1.99, 1.1.2000, 1.1.2001 and 1.10.2001 is enclosed.

Statement

Level	1.1.1998	1.1.1999	1.1.2000	1.1.2001	1.10.2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
Secretary	117	137	159	149	137
IAS	73	83	98	92	94
Others	44	54	61	57	43
Additional Secretary	99	107	107	108	110
IAS	78	75	68	73	75
Others	21	32	39	35	35
Joint Secretary	389	418	454	492	489
IAS	271	273	268	290	293
Others	118	145	186	202	196

1	2	3	4	5	6
Director	453	473	526	591	645
IAS	171	173	180	209	233
Others	282	300	346	382	412
Deputy Secretary	395	383	441	467	636*
IAS	136	129	126	129	120
Others	259	254	315	338	516
Under Secretary	555	580	553	557	1372*
IAS	5	8	13	13	9
Others	550	572	540	544	1363

*The posts of Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries as on 1.10.2001 include the officers of the Central Secretariat Service promoted on personal/ad-hoc basis.

I.T. Professional in U.K.

573. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale software professionals are entering Britain from India after amendments to work permit rules issued during last year to invite more Information Technology trained foreigners by the U.K. Government; and

(b) if so, the total Indian I.T. professionals working in U.K. at present?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) According to a statement in the U.K. Parliament by the Minister of State for Employment in January 2001, out of a total of 18257 foreign IT professionals who entered the UK for work in the year 2000, 11474 were from India.

[*Translation*]

Speed Post Services

574. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of District Headquarters of West Bengal where Speed Post service is not available alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(b) the time by which all the district Headquarters are likely to be brought under this Network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Speed Post Services are not available in Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur District. Speed Post is a premium product and is run on commercial consideration. Expansion of this network is an on-going process depending on market situation, assessment of the need, the anticipated revenue and transport network.

[*English*]

Kaiga Atomic Power Project

575. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question No. 1645 dated November 29, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the administrative and financial clearance of expansion of Kaiga Atomic Power Plant has been obtained;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the stage at which it stand at present?

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

AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. The project financial sanction for Kaiga 3 & 4 (2x220 MWe) has been accorded in May, 2001.

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

Setting up of Yoga Degree College

576. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a degree college of yoga attached hospitals;

(b) if so, the names of the States where such a degree college are proposed to be opened;

(c) whether any final decision has since been taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) At present, the Central Government has no such proposal.

(b) No State has informed about the proposal to establish degree colleges for Yoga.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Cellular Service In Andhra Pradesh

577. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to extend cellular service in Krishna and other districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time schedule worked out therefor;

(d) the manner in which Government plan to compete with the private companies; and

(e) the details of plans and schedules for introduction of cheap and efficient cellular service by the government in new areas?

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

(b) 85 towns are planned for coverage by the Cellular Mobile Service which includes all the Districts Headquarters in Andhra Pradesh including the Krishna Distt.

(c) Purchase orders are yet to be placed and as per present indications, it is expected that the network will roll out in the next financial year.

(d) The services will be introduced matching the Quality Parameters and at competitive rates.

(e) Further details of plans and schedules will be worked out in consultation with the vendors after the release of Purchase Orders.

Elimination of PCO Booths by BSNL

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

(a) whether it is a fact BSNL has made a proposal to eliminate all PCO booths from its jurisdiction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any compensation is proposed to be paid to youth who have invested huge sums in setting up such booths; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the compensation which is likely to be given to educated youth?

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

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

Fishermen Languishing in Sri Lankan and Pakistani Jails

579. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian fishermen languishing in the jails of Sri Lanka and Pakistan;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps for their release; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) There are five fishermen in the

custody of the Government of Sri Lanka and 48 fishermen in Pakistani custody.

(b) and (c) Government maintain regular contacts with the respective Governments of Sri Lanka and Pakistan through diplomatic channels for securing the earliest release and repatriation of detained Indian fishermen.

[Translation]

Terrorism in J&K

580. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government has assured to launch a drive to wipe out terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir in the second phase; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) During Prime Minister's meeting with U.S. President George Bush on 9 November 2001 in Washington D.C., the two leaders noted that both countries are targets of terrorism and affirmed the need for a global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world. On 5 October 2001, the White House spokesman said at a Press Briefing that President Bush had condemned the terrorist attack in Srinagar on 1 October and that the President had also said that "terrorism must end everywhere, and that includes in Kashmir".

Prisoners of Wars

581. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian soliders imprisoned by Pakistan during the Indo-Pak war of 1971 have either been forcibly converted to Islam or have been sold in the muslim countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) There are 54 Indian prisoners of war (POW) believed to be in the custody of Pakistan. The issue of their release and repatriation has been continuously taken up with the Government of Pakistan at all levels. The Government of Pakistan has,

however, never acknowledged their presence in its custody.

[English]

Infant and Mother Mortality Rate

582. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether as per a report of the World Health Organisation, infant and mother mortality rate is very high in India particularly among SCs/STs due to malnutrition;

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

(c) whether the Union Governments proposed to take any steps or extend any help to the State Government to reduce the mortality rates in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-2), 1998-99 "children of women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have higher rates of infant and child mortality than children of women belonging to other backward classes or 'other' women". In the 10 year period preceding the survey the infant mortality in scheduled caste and scheduled tribes was estimated to be 83.0 and 84.2 respectively. During the same period the total infant mortality was estimated to be 73.0. The survey does not provide State-wise data for infant mortality among Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes. However, the infant mortality rate by State for the five-year period preceding the survey is given in the statement-I enclosed. Several factors impact infant mortality. These, *inter-alia*, include mothers' education, religion, caste/tribe and standard of living index. The NFHS-2 also indicated that children belonging to scheduled castes/tribes have relatively high levels of under-nutrition. Children from scheduled tribes have the poorest nutritional status and a high prevalence of wasting.

The average maternal mortality ratio (MMR) at the national level for the two-year period preceding NFHS-2

was estimated at 540 deaths per 100,000 live births. The Sample Registration System (SRS) estimated the MMR to be 407 per 100,000 live births during 1998. Estimates of MMR for the year 1998 as per the SRS for the major States are given in the statement-II enclosed. The NFHS-2 and SRS do not provide MMR disaggregated for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

(c) to (e) Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme various measures are being taken to reduce the Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates. These include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases; appropriate management of cases of diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections, provision of essential newborn care, promotion of nutritional status of children through advocacy of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices and prophylaxis against Vitamin-A and Iron deficiency for reducing infant mortality.

For reducing maternal mortality, essential obstetric care; emergency obstetric care; referral transport for pregnant women with complications of pregnancy, through panchayats; provision of drugs and equipment at first referral units; provision of contractual staff like additional Health workers, staff nurses, doctors and anesthetist are under implementation. Funds are also being provided for schemes like 24 hour delivery services at selected primary health centres and community health centres.

A project for strengthening of the immunization programme with World Bank assistance is under implementation. To improve outreach of reproductive and child health (RCH) services in underserved areas the RCH Outreach Scheme has been launched. Under this 50 districts were provided additional resources for strengthening outreach services in 2000-2001. The Scheme has been extended to cover an additional 101 districts during 2001-02.

A scheme for training of Dais is being implemented in 142 districts with a safe delivery rate of less than 30 per cent.

102 districts have been identified for organizing RCH camps at underutilized health facilities to improve delivery of services under the Programme during 2000-01. This scheme has been extended to cover an additional 74 districts during 2001-02.

Statement I

Infant Mortality Rate for the five-year preceding the National Family Health Survey, (NFHS-2, 1998-99) by State

State	IMR
INDIA	67.6
Delhi	46.8
Haryana	56.8
Himachal Pradesh	34.4
Jammu & Kashmir	65.0
Punjab	57.1
Rajasthan	80.4
Madhya Pradesh	86.1
Uttar Pradesh	86.7
Bihar	72.9
Orissa	81.0
West Bengal	48.7
Arunachal Pradesh	63.1
Assam	69.5
Manipur	37.0
Meghalaya	89.0
Mizoram	37.0
Nagaland	42.1
Sikkim	43.9
Goa	36.7
Gujarat	62.6
Maharashtra	43.7
Andhra Pradesh	65.8
Karnataka	51.5
Kerala	16.3
Tamil Nadu	48.2

Statement II**Maternal Mortality Rate (India and Bigger States)***Source: RGI, SRS, 1998*

Major States	MMR
INDIA	407
Andhra Pradesh	159
Assam	409
Bihar	452
Gujarat	28
Haryana	103
Karnataka	195
Kerala	198
Madhya Pradesh	498
Maharashtra	135
Orissa	367
Punjab	199
Rajasthan	670
Tamil Nadu	79
Uttar Pradesh	707
West Bengal	266

Wireless in Local Loop System

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

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce wireless in local loop system in the Vellore District in Tamil Nadu region;

(b) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to open more telephone exchanges in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is plan to introduce Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) in Vellore district during next financial year.

However, during the current financial year WLL systems have been planned for Tiruvannamalai district of Vellore Secondary Switching Areas (SSA) at the four sites namely, Wandiwash, Chengam, Tiruvettipuram and Tiruvannamalai.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. It is planned to Open 5 new telephone exchanges, namely Paranjai, Paruthakkam, Melpadi, Verkainatham and Velam in the district. Two exchanges, namely, Paranjai and Pathithakkam have already been opened. Remaining 3 exchanges are planned to be opened by 31st March, 2002.

[Translation]

Separate Departments in AIIMS

584. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government have approved the proposal for opening of a separate Department for the scrutiny of patients in AIIMS;

(b) if so, the mode of functioning of this Department;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether such a Department is also likely to be opened in other hospitals in the Capital; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (e) The AIIMS has a proposal to improve the functioning of the Out Patients Department and decongestion of the rush in the OPD by way of introducing screening OPD/clinic at the total cost of Rs. 9.18 crores. No such proposal for screening OPDs in other Central Government hospitals in the Capital is pending with the Government.

[English]

Reduction in ISD Charges

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

(a) whether the Government are considering a plan for reducing the ISD charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new tariff is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) TRAI is charged with the task of fixing tariffs. TRAI has indicated that the present tariff will continue upto 31.3.2002.

[Translation]

Code of Conduct for Doctors

586. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBAHU CHAUDHRI:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate or review the Code of Conduct for doctors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Regulations on Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics for medical practitioners are being finalized by the Central Government in consultation with other concerned Departments.

[English]

Telephone Advisory Committee

587. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have dissolved all 16000 Telecom Advisory Committees (TACs) functioning in the country recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to review the working of these TAC's in order to reconstitute these in each State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. All the Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) in the country, numbering 364 have been dissolved on 24.9.2001.

(b) to (d) These Committees were constituted for interfacing with customers when the service provisioning function was with the Government. On 1st October, 2000, the operations wing providing services has been corporatised as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). The Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and private sector companies in the telecom sector, who have to operate in a competitive environment, have been advised to evolve suitable mechanism for interfacing with the customers effectively.

National Highway Development Project

588. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have made any review of the progress of Rs. 58,000/- crore National Highway Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of works being undertaken and funds allocated/released to each State during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the progress made thereon and the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Periodic review of National Highway Development Project (NHDP) is being done and the works are mostly as per the targets.

(c) Total 118 contracts of value Rs. 16803 crore are in progress on NHDP. Funds for NHDP are not allocated State-wise. An amount of Rs. 4208 crore was released during the last three years to NHAI for implementation of NHDP and some other projects.

(d) NHDP has total length of 13151 kms. comprising 5851 kms. of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) and 7300 kms. of North-South & East-West Corridors (Corridors). 4-laning of 1020 kms. of GQ and 675 kms. of corridors has been completed. The entire (NHDP) is likely to be completed by December 2007.

Reduction in Pulse Rate

589. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has reduced the pulse rate from 5 minutes to 3 minutes for charge for local calls;

(b) whether the move has affected phone users, especially who use local calls often;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to revert back to earlier pulse rate of 5 minutes for local calls;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No, Sir. because the average holding time of local call is less than 3 minutes and the area covered by a local call has been extended to the whole SDCA and contiguous SDCAs.

(c) At present, there is no such proposal.

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

(e) As mentioned at (b) above.

Uniform Scandal

590. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2180 dated 6.8.2001 and state:

(a) whether CBI has analysed the samples of the cloth for uniforms and photocopies of the tender files;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and action thereon;

(c) whether procurement of uniforms for the years 1999-2000 has since been processed and the uniforms likely to be provided to the staff; and

(d) the procedure to be adopted in ensuring purchase of uniform cloth of standard textile mills like Bombay Dyeing etc. through Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) CBI ACB Delhi Branch after analysing the documents, has registered a case viz. RC. 70(A)/2001-DLI on 10.10.2001 against Shri Narendra Kumar, GM(MM), Shabnaz Ali, GM (Finance), Vineet Saxena, DGM(IR), MTNL & others.

The samples of cloth collected during the searches are being forwarded to the textiles laboratory for testing.

(c) The procurement was processed through open tender and finalised but could not be given to staff due to investigation of the procurement by CBI.

(d) The uniforms are being procured through open tender and all care is being taken while framing eligibility condition that only standard textile mills are eligible to participate.

[*Translation*]

Communication Centres

591. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Communication Centres in the country at present alongwith the number of the new Centres opened;

(b) whether the Communication system is working properly in the newly formed States;

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

(d) whether the Government have received any proposal for setting up of Communication Centres;

(e) if so, the number of applications from rural areas of Uttaranchal State alongwith the places of this State from where these applications have been received;

(f) whether the Government have issued orders in regard to taking up construction work in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

[English]

Visit of Foreign Minister to USA

592. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited USA in October, 2001;

(b) if so, the purpose of his visit and the details of discussions held between the two countries;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) whether USA has promised help to India in the field of counter-terrorism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) External Affairs Minister visited New York and Washington DC from September 30-October 2, 2001.

(b) and (c) The visit was part of our active diplomatic engagement with the United States after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Discussions were held on a range of bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual concern including the global campaign against terrorism, the military operations in Afghanistan and the post-Taliban political structure. EAM also took the opportunity to visit New York, where he was received by Mayor Giuliani, to express solidarity with the people of the United States, including those of the Indian Community.

(d) and (e) Under the institutional mechanism of the Indo-U.S. Joint Working Group on Counter terrorism, the United States Government has agreed to develop and offer programmes in the field of counter-terrorism, including for inter-departmental co-ordination, crisis response, consequence management and to share its expertise in strengthening counter-terrorism institutional structures in India.

Contraceptive

593. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "The world maps Afghanistan, government measures our members" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated September 29, 2001;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study to ascertain failure rate of contraceptive methods being used in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other measures to be adopted for strengthening family planning programme in the country?

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

(b) We find that the failure rate with condom use is reported to be higher than other contraceptives. The commonly cited factors for this high failure rate are slippage and tearing of the condom. The condoms available in India meet international standards. However, they are designed in accordance with the anthropomorphic data collected from western countries, inclusive of the length and width of the condoms. The problems of slippage and tearing of condom may be because either the condom is too loose or too tight on the erect penis in Indian population. Since we do not have any anthropomorphic measurement of the erect penis on Indian men from different regions of the country, it is proposed to carry out a study for obtaining more accurate width specification for condoms in different regions.

(c) The Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) has carried out various studies to ascertain failure rate of contraceptive methods being used in the country.

(d) The failure rate of the different contraceptives as brought out by several studies carried out by Indian Council for Medical Research are 1.5% for Copper T, 01.% for Oral Pills, and the failure rate in condoms is 10—36% as brought out by international studies.

(e) Other measures being adopted for strengthening the family planning programme in the country are:—

- (i) An integrated and comprehensive programme of Reproductive and Child Health, which includes Maternal Health, Child Health and Contraception issues.
- (ii) Propagation of family planning methods which include sterilization both for male and female, spacing methods namely IUD insertions, oral pills and condoms.
- (iii) Fulfillment of unmet needs of contraceptives through provision of integrated service delivery at village level.
- (iv) Information, Education and Communication Programme to create awareness about the benefits of small family.
- (v) Provision of additional inputs in weaker States/Districts.

Meeting with Pak President

594. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister met Pak President on the side-lines of UN General Assembly in November to continue the dialogue initiated at Agra on bilateral issues; and

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the outcome thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Facilities to Villages

595. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country where telephone facility has not been provided so far;

(b) whether telephone facility would be provided to all the villages of the country by the end of year;

(c) the details of telephones laying out of order in the country upto October, 2001, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone facility to villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 193,063 villages have not been provided with telephone facility as on 31.10.2001.

(b) All the remaining villages have been planned to be provided with telephone facility by the year 2002 with the joint efforts of Private Basic Service Operators (PBSOs) and subject to availability of funds and equipment.

(c) 70,604 village public telephones are out of order as on 31.10.2001 as per details given in the enclosed statement.

(d) New technologies like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), C-DOT TDMA/PMP and satellite for remote and inaccessible areas have been planned to provide better facility to the villages. All irreparable MARR based VPTs are planned to be replaced by WLL systems.

Statement

Status of Faulty VPTs as on 31.10.2001

Circle	No. of Faulty VPTs.
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar	57
Andhra Pradesh	242

1	2
Assam	5118
Bihar	5394
Chhattisgarh	4733
Gujarat	2548
Haryana	649
Himachal Pradesh	858
Jammu & Kashmir	1242
Jharkhand	3457
Karnataka	698
Kerala	0
Madhya Pradesh	9777
Maharashtra	392
North East-I	1372
North East-II	661
Orissa	12213
Punjab	472
Rajasthan	2276
Tamil Nadu	793
Uttar Pradesh (East)	9890
Uttar Pradesh (West)	2950
Uttaranchal	1777
West Bengal	3035
Total	70604

[English]

Foreign Minister Visit to China

596. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited China in October, 2001;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the extent to which negotiations for resolving the boundary dispute between the two countries has progressed?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Loan by KVIC

597. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether KVIC is dependent on grants instead of loans from Government for its programme of providing credit to implementing institutions;

(b) whether funds diverted from plan to non-plan and changed the target group of beneficiaries under District Special Employment Programme and Block Development Programme scheme without the approval of Government;

(c) whether no proper system exists either in the Commission's Head Office or at various States Offices for appraisals of projects and institutions for loaning purposes and watching recoveries and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Central Government under Plan and Non-Plan Heads provides financial assistance mainly in the form of grants to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for the development of Khadi and Village Industries Programmes. The KVIC does not provide fresh loans to implementing agencies.

(b) Funds were not diverted from Plan to Non-Plan for changing the target group of beneficiaries under District Special Employment Programme and Block Development Programme Schemes.

(c) Yes Sir. The KVIC and KVI Boards are not perceived to be financial institutions.

(d) The Government encourages banks to give adequate credit facilities to Khadi and Village Industries Sector.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Terrorist Organisations

598. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:
SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have requested American Administration to ban some terrorist organisations active in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the American Administration thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government shares its information and assessment on the nature and source of cross-border terrorism in India, including on Pakistan-based terrorist organisations operating in India, with the United States as part of the on-going India-U.S. bilateral cooperation for combating terrorism through the Joint Working Group on counter-terrorism.

(c) In accordance with the procedure described by its domestic law, the United States has placed *Harkat-ul-Mujahideen* on the list of "Foreign Terrorist Organisations" and *Lashkar-e-Toiba* on the list of "Other Terrorist Organisations" maintained by the U.S. State Department. It has also included *Jaish-e-Mohammed* on the list of Specially Designated Terrorist Groups of the U.S. Department of Treasury.

[*English*]

Bringing Back Nizam's Money

599. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a million of sterling pounds are laying in a London Bank in the name of erstwhile Nizam of Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to bring back the money to India?

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

(b) A sum of 1,007,940 Pounds Sterling and 9 Shillings approximately was maintained in an account in the National Westminster Bank of London in September 1948 in the name of Nizam of Hyderabad's Government. This amount was transferred into an account in the name of the then High Commissioner for Pakistan in London on the irregular instructions of the Nizam's Finance Minister. The funds currently amount to over 24,454,350 Pounds Sterling.

(c) Government have made several attempts in the past with the Government of Pakistan and the late erstwhile Nizam of Hyderabad and his legal heirs to resolve this issue. Government's efforts continue to address this matter.

IFS Officers on Deputation

600. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of IFS officers are on deputation in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the expenditure on these officers is on the increase; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to curb the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A total number of 11 IFS officers are presently on deputation in foreign countries.

(b) The deputation of IFS officers abroad is processed as per prescribed procedures laid down by Government of India, keeping in mind the exigencies of public service.

(c) and (d) Does not arise, since in the case of deputation abroad there is no expenditure incurred by Government of India. The officers so deputed receive their pay and allowances during the period of deputation from the host organisation.

Development of Hilly Areas

601. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central assistance is made available to some States for the development of hilly areas;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for the same;

(c) whether the Tech. Committee of Working Group constituted by Planning Commission have identified some areas of Andhra Pradesh as hilly areas;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have made provision for additional central assistance for the hilly areas of Andhra Pradesh during the 10th Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. Special Central Assistance is made available to designated hill areas/talukas under the Hill Areas Development Programme (HADP)/Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP).

(b) Areas under HADP were identified in 1965 by a Committee of the National Development Council (NDC) while WGDP areas were recommended in 1972 by the High Level Committee set up for the purpose.

(c) to (e) Planning Commission set up an Expert Group to go onto the question of delineation of new hill areas in the country in 1986. However, owing to resource constraints, it has been decided not to extend HADP to any new hill area in any state, including Andhra Pradesh.

Alleviation of Suffering of Afghan Sikhs and Hindus

602. SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken at the diplomatic level to alleviate the suffering of Sikhs and Hindus leaving Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): On account of prolonged civil conflict in Afghanistan a large number of Afghan nationals are presently living in India. In keeping with our traditional policy of friendship towards the people of Afghanistan, all Afghan nationals, including those of Indian origin, who came to India with valid travel documents/passports are being allowed to stay unhindered; they are currently being granted annual visa extensions. In addition, we have also

received information that 275 Afghan Sikhs/Hindu families from Afghanistan are presently in Pakistan with the intention of travelling to India. Government is examining these requests to travel to India sympathetically and keeping in view the humanitarian grounds. A significant number of applications have already been cleared for grant of visa. Government have also waived visa fee for these applicants.

Government is also working actively, along with other countries, for restoration of peace and stability on Afghanistan so that conditions could be created conducive to early return of these families to their homes.

[Translation]

Attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh

603. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:
SHRI K. BALRAM KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attacks on Hindus and their migration have increased ever since the installation of a new Government in Bangladesh in October, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been taken up with the Bangladesh Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Bangladesh Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has noted with concern recent reports of attacks on minorities in Bangladesh. After the new Government assumed power in Bangladesh on October 10, 2001, the Government of India's serious concern was conveyed at different levels, including during the visit of the Special Envoy of Prime Minister to Dhaka from October 26-27, 2001.

(d) The Government of Bangladesh have stated categorically that firm action would be taken to protect the minorities and to punish the perpetrators of violence against them. The Government of Bangladesh have recently set up a special Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh to enquire into these attacks.

[English]

Cellular Licencing Policy

604. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received an amount of Rs. 1633 crore from 4th Cellular Licencing Policy;

(b) if so, the total companies which have given a bid;

(c) the amount deposited by each company;

(d) the details of the circles that have been awarded to these companies;

(e) whether these companies were asked to deposit 20% of their price bid by August 2, 2001;

(f) if so, the time by which the remaining balance would be paid by them;

(g) whether all the bidders have fully paid the amount; and

(h) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have received Rs. 1633.57 crores (approx.) as entry fee from five companies who have been granted 4th Cellular Licences for 17 service areas.

(b) to (d) Seven companies had given their bids of which five companies were found successful for grant of licences. The amount of entry fee quoted and deposited by the successful bidders towards grant of licences and the Service Areas (Metro City/Telcom Circle Service Areas) are given in the statement enclosed. All the 17 licences have since been signed with these companies.

(e) to (g) Demand letter was sent to successful bidders on 31st July, 2001 asking them to deposit 20% of the quoted entry fee by 2nd August, 2001. All the companies had deposited this amount within the stipulated timeframe. Balance 80% of the quoted entry fee was also deposited by all the successful bidders by 10.08.2001 and thus a total entry fee of Rs. 1633.57 crores (approx.) stands fully paid by the successful bidders.

(h) all the 17 licences have been signed with effective dates between 26th September, 2001 to 5th October, 2001. In terms of the Licence Agreement, the service is to be commissioned by the licencees within one year from the effective date of the licence; therefore, the services are likely to be started by September/October, 2002.

Statement

Amount of Entry Fee Deposited by Successful Bidders and the Service Areas

S.No.	Name of the Company	Service Area	Amount paid Rs. in Crores
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Bharti Cellular Limited	Mumbai	203.66
2.	—do—	Gujarat	109.01
3.	—do—	Kerala	40.54
4.	—do—	Haryana	21.46
5.	—do—	Madhya Pradesh	17.45
6.	—do—	Maharashtra	189.00

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	79.00
8.	—do—	UP (West)	30.55
9.	M/s. Birla AT&T Communications Limited	Delhi	170.70
10.	M/s. Barakhamba Sales and Services Limited	Chennai	154.00
11.	—do—	Andhra Pradesh	103.01
12.	—do—	Karnataka	206.83
13.	M/s. Escorts Telecommunications Limited	Himachal Pradesh	1.10
14.	—do—	Punjab	151.75
15.	—do—	Rajasthan	32.25
16.	—do—	UP (East)	45.25
17.	M/s. Reliable Internet Services Limited	Kolkata	78.01
Total			1633.57

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan

605. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had any proposal to open telephone exchanges in Rajasthan in the last two years;

(b) whether the Government have set up these proposed telephone exchanges;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Government propose to take action against the officers found guilty in this regard?

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

(b) During the year 1999-2000, total 183 new exchanges were opened. During 2000-2001, only 103 exchanges were opened.

(c) District-wise details are enclosed at statement.

(d) During 2000-2001, only 103 new exchanges could be opened against the target of 150 new exchanges because of short supply of OFC (optical Fibre Cable) in entire international market.

(e) No officer can be held guilty in this case as the reasons for non-achievement of the new exchange target were beyond control.

Statement

District-wise details of New Exchanges opened

S.No.	Name of District	Opened during 1999-2000	Opened during 2000-2001
1	2	3	4
1.	Ajmer	3	3
2.	Alwar	3	2
3.	Banswara	1	0
4.	Baran	6	10
5.	Barmer	7	4

1	2	3	4
6.	Bharatpur	4	9
7.	Bhilwara	8	4
8.	Bikaner	8	8
9.	Bundi	2	1
10.	Chittorgarh	8	3
11.	Churu	24	2
12.	Dausa	1	0
13.	Dholpur	0	1
14.	Dungarpur	2	3
15.	Hanumangarh	11	5
16.	Jaipur	8	2
17.	Jaisalmer	2	5
18.	Jalore	10	1
19.	Jhalawar	2	1
20.	Jhunjhunu	2	1
21.	Jodhpur	12	8
22.	Karauli	2	1
23.	Kota	7	0
24.	Nagaur	12	3
25.	Pali	11	4
26.	Rajsamand	1	1
27.	Sawai Madhopur	2	1
28.	Sikar	4	8
29.	Sirohi	6	0
30.	Sriganganagar	9	7
31.	Tonk	3	2
32.	Udaipur	2	3
Total		183	103

*[English]***Terrorist Training Camps**

606. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether training, arms and funds are provided to the terrorists active in Kashmir by the military training camps based in Pakistan, Pakistan occupied Kashmir and Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the number of such camps being run in the said countries along with the locations thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received request from different quarters for destroying the camps by initiating military action against them;

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

(e) whether Indian representative in the Interpol General Assembly at Budapest pressed for special laws by all countries for extradition of wanted terrorists; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) In addition to arms and funds, terrorists active in Jammu & Kashmir have been receiving training in camps located in Pakistan, Pakistan occupied Kashmir and Afghanistan.

The international community is today fully aware of the dangers from international terrorism and the need to defeat it through a comprehensive, integrated and sustained approach which will naturally also include measures aimed at preventing the further training and financing of terrorist groups. India has always been in the forefront of building this international consensus against terrorism which has also been catalyzed by the terrorist attacks of September 11, in the United States. India has on numerous occasions reiterated its resolve to resist terrorism until it is decisively crushed.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Indian delegation to the Interpol conference at Budapest suggested to member

countries the need to undertake legislative changes in their national criminal law so as to expedite the serving of red corner notices, and help nations fight crime by extraditing and handing over of fugitives.

[Translation]

Electrotherapy Courses

607. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee on Electrotherapy courses had recommended in its report to include Diploma in Medical and Surgery in the course syllabus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have also agreed on this in its meeting, held on October 1, 2001; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard and the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Union Government has constituted a Standing Committee of experts to examine the claims of recognition of electrotherapy and other alternative medicines. In its report, submitted to the Government, no recommendation to include Diploma in Medical and Surgery in the course syllabus, has been made.

[English]

Telephones Facilities in Delhi

608. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephones in several parts of Delhi are out of order due to fault in the cable lines,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. '5632' telephones are out of order due to faults in cables as on 17.11.2001 in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), Delhi.

(b) Cable faults are occurring mainly due to developmental works in different localities by civic agencies like Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB), Private Telecom Service Providers, Metro Rail Transport System etc.

(c) MTNL, Delhi has taken the following steps to tackle the problem of cable breakdowns:

(i) On account of initiative taken by MTL, Delhi Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi has constituted a co-ordination Committee comprising all civic bodies viz. MCD, NDMC, DVB, MTNL and private Telecom Operators to evolve suitable mechanism for avoiding damages to existing network of underground cables.

(ii) More cable staff has been deployed for rectification of cable faults.

(iii) Fault control centres have been set up at the Headquarters as well as at Area levels to effectively monitor the clearance of cable faults.

(iv) All paper core cables are proposed to be replaced by Optical Fibre Cable (OFC)/Poly Insulated Jelly Filled (PIJF) cable in a time-bound manner.

(v) More switching nodes like Remote Subscriber Unit (RSU), Digital Loop Career (DLC) are being opened so as to reduce the length of underground cables in customer's loop.

Indian Mission in Islamabad

609. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Mission in Islamabad (Pakistan) is vulnerable to attacks from Pakistan fundamentalists in the present scenario;

(b) if so, whether any measures have been taken by the Government for the safety and security of the Indian Mission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a heightened security threat perception to a large number of diplomatic missions based in Islamabad, including the Indian High Commission.

(b) and (c) Government of Pakistan itself has taken several measures to enhance the security of diplomatic missions in Islamabad. The Indian High Commission has also apprised the Pakistan authorities of its concerns regarding security of the Indian Mission and residential premises in Islamabad.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

610. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of the introduction of new telecom tariff BSNL has incurred heavy loss of revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new tariff would affect the tele-density in the country;

(d) if so, to what extent; and

(e) the future plan of action initiated to arrest loss of revenue and fall in tele-density?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The reduction in revenue on account of new tariff, as announced by TRAI, for the year 2000-2001 is estimated at Rs. 3023 Crores.

Further with a view to promote the community of interest BSNL has reduced tariff for intra circle calls as a part of a package with effect from 26.1.2001 resulting in further drop in revenue by Rs. 250 crores per annum.

The per DEL revenue from 1.4.1999 to 1.4.2001 has declined by 14.59% i.e. from Rs. 777.99 to Rs. 664.47 per month.

(c) and (d) Though the invisible surplus of the BSNL has decreased on account of reduction in tariff, BSNL is making all efforts to achieve the targets of teledensity by even borrowing funds from the market.

(e) The future plan includes:

(i) Introduction of new services such as Cellular Mobile, WLL, Internet, etc.

(ii) Funding of Rural DELs, VPTs and other uneconomic DELs by means of appropriate financial support/UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND.

(iii) Increase in Traffic on account of lower call charges.

Use of Beacons

611. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

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

(a) whether there is any provision in the Motor Vehicle Act on the use of Beacons by the Motorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is gross violation/misuse of the motor vehicles provisions of the Act throughout the country;

(d) whether the Government have drawn attention of the State Governments and the Delhi Police in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (f) Under Rule 108 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, the Central Government or the State Government can notify the categories of persons entitled to use red lights in their vehicles. The Central Government have not issued any such notification in this regard. The State Governments have, however, authorized the use of red light by certain categories of persons. Any order/direction issued by State Governments is required to be implemented by State Governments themselves.

COIRFED

612. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the extreme difficulties being faced by the coir-mats and matting co-operative societies, co-operative societies of small-scale producers and Public Sector Institutions like COIRFED due to non-payment of rebate amount due to them; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

Sir. However, a few State Governments have sought payment claiming to be arrears of rebate. Since the claims are in excess of the prescribed limits of the amount earmarked for the purpose, their requests could not be entertained.

Tenders for Photocopiers

613. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has floated open then limited tenders for the supply of photocopier paper but the tenders have not been evaluated;

(b) if so, the shortcomings noticed therein;

(c) the steps taken to overcome those shortcomings;

(d) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has again floated a limited tender in respect of the said paper recently and fixed some conditions;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any proposal to reject those bids in respect of paper tender also;

(g) whether the authorities in the Kendriya Bhandar are ignorant of the indemnity clause to be given on Rs. 10/- judicial stamp paper than Rs. 2/- causing financial loss to the National Capital Territory of Delhi Government; and

(h) if so, the corrective action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) While Kendriya Bhandar required 80 GSM copier paper, it had erroneously quoted IS: 14490:1997 which is the specification for 75 GSM paper. Now in the limited tender the same had been amended.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Limited tender has been floated. The specification has been re-worked. Some minor terms and conditions have been modified to the advantage of Kendriya Bhandar. The changes *inter-alia* are as follows:

(i) One ream of paper has to be deposited as sample now.

(ii) Testing charges, if any, will now be recovered from the supplier.

(iii) The tender may now be rejected in part or in whole by Kendriya Bhandar, without assigning reasons.

(iv) Tenders which are delayed will now not be accepted.

(v) A new form for submission of tender has been specified.

(f) The bids are under consideration and there is no proposal to reject a bid unless it does not fulfill the conditions of Tender.

(g) and (h) The matter is being referred for advice to the legal advisor of Kendriya Bhandar and corrective action, if necessary, will be taken upon receipt of legal advice.

[Translation]

Infiltration

614. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have raised/proposed to raise the issue of infiltration in India in International Organisations/Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) At the United Nations and in other forums, India has consistently raised the issue of cross-border Terrorism and has drawn attention to its impact on India. India has made it known that the fight against Terrorism has to encompass States that recruit, support, finance and provide safe havens to terrorists. There is growing support to address these aspects in the international combat against Terrorism.

[English]

Health Programmes in Bihar

615. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Health related programmes/projects directly undertaken by the Union Government in Bihar during the year 2000 and 2001; and

(b) the agencies involved and identified for executing the above programmes/projects?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Union Government has been implementing Disease Control Programme both Communicable and Non-Communicable for control of major diseases like Malaria including Kala-azar, TB, AIDS, Leprosy and Blindness in all States/UTs including Bihar. These Programmes are implemented as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Whereas in the case of Malaria funds are provided on a 50:50 sharing basis in Bihar, in other disease control programmes funds are provided as 100% Central assistance. In addition, two districts of Bihar, namely, Muzaffarpur and Samastipur are included under the national Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases. Under National Family Welfare Programme, assistance is provided to the State for Reproductive and Child Health, Information, Education and Communication and Immunisation activities. In addition to the ongoing activity of Social Marketing of Contraceptives, a social marketing project for contraceptives has also been launched in the State in May, 2001 for 3 years at a cost of Rs. 4.67 crores, covering 4 districts of Patna, Vaishali, Saaran and Samastipur. A Health Mela was organized at Patna for providing integrated Health and Family Welfare services to the people free of cost for check-up, treatment and counselling for various diseases.

(b) The disease control programmes of the Union Government are implemented through State Government and the State/District disease Control Societies. Involvement of NGOs is also encouraged particularly for such components of the programmes as cataract operation, identification and treatment of cases of Leprosy and TB and creation of awareness about various diseases like HIV/AIDS and Family Welfare measures like social marketing of contraceptives. For Health Mela services of Indian Medical Association, Patna were utilized.

Immunization Programme

616. SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

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

(a) whether after the pulse polio was started and it has been implemented successfully, the other immunization cover kid diseases has significantly fallen down;

(b) if so, whether any study has been undertaken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to cover the other child disease as well?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There has been significant decline in number of reported cases of vaccine preventable diseases over a period of time. The cases of Diphtheria have declined by 79% from 12,952 in 1987 to 2,662 in 1999. Similarly cases of measles have declined by 84% from 2,47,519 in 1987 to 29,135 in 1999.*

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) A National Immunization Programme covering six vaccine preventable diseases viz. Diphtheria, Pertussis, Neonatal Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Measles and childhood Tuberculosis is already being implemented throughout the country. In order to improve the quality and also to expand the Outreach of the routine immunization programme Government has recently launched with World Bank aid, a major program for strengthening routine immunization with particular focus on States and districts where improvement is necessary. The Government has also approved introduction of Hepatitis 'B' vaccination on a pilot basis in selected cities and districts of the country.

Rural Health Guide

617. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report on village health Guide Scheme has already been presented to the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken on the report?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Important findings of the Committee are (1) the original objective of the Village Health Guide Scheme has remained mostly unfulfilled. The major objective of providing a functional link between the community and

* Data compiled by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

the health care systems has not been achieved; (2) Most of the State Governments who are responsible for operating this Scheme have lost confidence in it; (3) The Committee too is of the considered views that it may not be possible, at this stage, to reactivate the present scheme and make it useful for promoting health and family welfare programmes; (4) The Committee has noted that States have tended to ignore the presence of the VHG in their State and have not utilized their services for promotion of health and family welfare programmes; (5) The Panchayati Raj institutions also have not yet been able to make use of the services of the VHGs in a significant manner.

(c) Many of the State Governments are not in favour of the Village Health Guide Scheme. Accordingly, it has been decided to discontinue the scheme with effect from 1st January, 2002. Arrears due to State Governments will be met.

[Translation]

STD Facility

618. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of demands for STD facility in rural areas of Rajasthan are pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to provide STD facility in above mentioned State?

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

(b) Out of 1766 Rural stations 1539 are with STD facility and balance 227 stations are without STD facility in Rajasthan as on 31.10.2001.

(c) (i) All efforts are being made to provide STD to balance Rural stations on reliable media by March, 2002 subject to availability of resources.

(ii) 122 Rural stations have been provided STD facility as on 31.10.2001 during this year.

Electronic Exchanges

619. SHRI RAJO SINGH:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic exchanges working in each district of Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, till date;

(b) the district-wise number of old exchanges working in these States;

(c) the action being taken to replace all such exchanges with electronic exchanges; and

(d) the funds allocated for these States during the year 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The number of electronic exchanges working in each district of Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh as on 31.10.2001 are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Nil.

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

Statement

Bihar Telecom Circle

1.	Bhojpur	26
2.	Buxar	16
3.	Bhagalpur	35
4.	Banka	22
5.	Saran	31
6.	Gopal Ganj	17
7.	Siwan	24
8.	Darbhanga	49
9.	Madhubani	41
10.	Samstipur	43
11.	Gayala	30
12.	Aurangabad	23
13.	Jahanabad	9
14.	Nawada	18
15.	Vaishali	42
16.	Katihar	22
17.	Kishanganj	14

18.	Araria	13	13.	Panchkula	17
19.	Purnea	20	14.	Panipat	21
20.	Khagaria	20	15.	Rewari	29
21.	Begusarai	28	16.	Rohtak	50
22.	W. Champaran	28	17.	Sirsa	73
23.	E. Champaran	43	18.	Sonepat	59
24.	Munger	15	19.	Yamunanagar	63
25.	Lakhisarai	14			
				<i>Jharkhand Telecom Circle</i>	
26.	Shekhpura	9	1.	Chatra	7
27.	Jamui	17	2.	Giridih	21
28.	Muzaffarpur	39	3.	Kodarma	11
29.	Sitamarhi	23	4.	Hazaribagh	39
30.	Sheohar	5	5.	East Singhbhum	26
31.	Patna	51	6.	West Singhbhum	20
32.	Nalanda	34	7.	Saraikela	12
33.	Saharsa	26	8.	Latehar	10
34.	Madhepura	15	9.	Garhwa	9
35.	Supaul	19	10.	Palamau	17
36.	Rohtas	28	11.	Dumka	14
37.	Bhabhua	17	12.	Deoghar	10
38.	Anwal	9	13.	Godda	11
			14.	Sahibganj	13
			15.	Pakur	7
			16.	Jamtara	6
			17.	Ranchi	49
			18.	Gumla	11
			19.	Lohardaga	6
			20.	Simdega	10
			21.	Dhanbad	26
			22.	Bokaro	22
				<i>Maharashtra Telecom Circle</i>	
			1.	Ahmednagar	320
			2.	Akola	83
1.	Ambala	84			
2.	Bhiwani	71			
3.	Faridabad	35			
4.	Fatehabad	46			
5.	Gurgaon	50			
6.	Hisar	63			
7.	Jhajjar	32			
8.	Jind	79			
9.	Kaithal	31			
10.	Kamal	45			
11.	Kurukshetra	48			
12.	Mahindergarh	29			

3.	Vashim	50
4.	Amravati	129
5.	Aurangabad	143
6.	Beed	118
7.	Bhandara	51
8.	Gondia	54
9.	Buldhana	115
10.	Chandrapur	81
11.	Dhule	85
12.	Nandurbar	46
13.	Gadchiroli	37
14.	Jalgaon	212
15.	Jalna	78
16.	Kalyan	131
17.	Kolhapur	307
18.	Latur	129
19.	Nagpur	129
20.	Nanded	125
21.	Nasik	228
22.	Osmanabad	84
23.	Parbhani	58
24.	Hingoli	42
25.	Pune	269
26.	Raigad	148+8=156
27.	Ratnagiri	148
28.	Sangli	326
29.	Satara	210
30.	Sindhudurg	93
31.	Solapur	222
32.	Wardha	70
33.	Yeotmal	95
34.	Mumbai	129
35.	Thane	30

Rajasthan Telecom Circle

1.	Ajmer	86
2.	Alwar	102
3.	Banwara	33
4.	Baran	33
5.	Barmer	69
6.	Bharatpur	58
7.	Bhilwara	75
8.	Bikaner	69
9.	Bundi	38
10.	Chittorgarh	61
11.	Churu	85
12.	Dausa	41
13.	Dholpur	14
14.	Dungarpur	36
15.	Hanumangarh	62
16.	Jaipur	154
17.	Jaisalmer	27
18.	Jalore	62
19.	Jhalawar	33
20.	Jhunjhunu	71
21.	Jodhpur	94
22.	Karauli	26
23.	Kota	45
24.	Nagaur	101
25.	Pali	133
26.	Rajsamand	50
27.	Sawaimadhopur	34
28.	Sikar	93
29.	Sirohi	49
30.	Sriganganagar	105
31.	Tonk	47
32.	Udaipur	81

UP (East)

1.	Allahabad	75
2.	Kaushabhi	17
3.	Azamgarh	68
4.	Bahraich	58
5.	Srawasti	11
6.	Ballia	48
7.	Banda	71
8.	Chitrakoot	27
9.	Barabanki	75
10.	Basti	25
11.	Sant Kabir Nagar	16
12.	Siddhart Nagar	25
13.	Deoria	26
14.	Padrauna	28
15.	Etawah	22
16.	Auraiya	16
17.	Faizabad	35
18.	Akbarpur	34
19.	Farrukhabad	54
20.	Kannoj	9
21.	Fetehpur	48
22.	Ghazipur	42
23.	Gonda	39
24.	Balrampur	17
25.	Gorakhpur	47
26.	Maharajganj	24
27.	Hamirpur	43
28.	Mahoba	7
29.	Hardoi	43
30.	Jaunpur	59
31.	Jhansi	48
32.	Lalitpur	26
33.	Kanpur	56

34.	Kanpur Dehat	38
35.	Lakhimpur	82
36.	Lucknow	86
37.	Mainpuri	43
38.	Mau	44
39.	Mirzapur	41
40.	Sonhbadra	30
41.	Orai	40
42.	Pratapgarh	60
43.	Rae Bareilly	63
44.	Shahjahanpur	50
45.	Sitapur	55
46.	Sultanpur	70
47.	Unnao	59
48.	Varanasi	49
49.	Chandulio	24
50.	Bhadohi	26

*District-wise electronic exchanges
UP (West) Telecom Circle*

Sl.No.	Name of District	No of electronic exchanges
1	2	3
1.	Agra	70
2.	Ferozabad	13
3.	Aligarh	39
4.	Hathras	23
5.	Badaun	39
6.	Bijnour	61
7.	Bareilly	58
8.	Bulandshaher	42
9.	Etah	39
10.	Ghaziabad	52
11.	Moradabad	60

1	2	3
12.	Jyotibafule Nagari	15
13.	Meerut	38
14.	Bagpat	21
15.	Mathura	54
16.	Noida	24
17.	Muzaffarnagar	67
18.	Pilibhit	33
19.	Rampur	29
20.	Saharanpur	41

[English]

Schemes to Help Agro and Rural Industries

620. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented schemes to help Agro and Rural Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of money spent in this regard; State-wise, during the last three years;

(d) whether the number of industries in Kerala have received aid during the above period with details and location thereof; and

(e) the details of norms for financial and other assistance being given in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) gives support to Khadi and Village Industries including agro and rural industries in the form of financial, technical and managerial assistance. The Margin Money Scheme of the KVIC, which was launched with effect from 1.4.1995, is applicable throughout the country. Under this scheme 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money. For a project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

(c) and (d) Funds, for the Plan and Non-Plan activities of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), are provided by the Central Government. These funds are provided in the form of grants and loans and the Commission re-allocate them to its implementing agencies, namely State KVIC Boards, Cooperative Societies, Nationalized Banks etc. The details of disbursement of Loans and Grants to various States/Union Territories (including Kerala) made by the KVIC during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are attached as statement-I and statement-II, respectively.

(e) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme, 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money. For project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

Statement I

Disbursement of Loans to various States/Union Territories by KVIC during the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
State							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63.02	17.68	19.76	31.10	49.29	3.96
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	19.43	0.37	0.79	2.00	106.17	13.02
4.	Bihar	30.17	0.14	58.83	7.02	26.37	-
5.	Goa	0.00	31.32	0.00	1.55	-	-
6.	Gujarat	7.00	13.37	43.34	29.13	19.38	-
7.	Haryana	18.75	219.36	2.10	8.88	84.71	8.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	6.52	4.33	4.78	-
9.	J & K	0.38	0.00	6.61	0.52	-	-
10.	Karnataka	170.75	68.05	102.75	61.58	43.16	0.68
11.	Kerala	3.15	1.46	35.48	13.68	15.49	-
12.	M.P.	1.21	48.88	8.18	12.11	14.75	-
13.	Maharashtra	10.84	48.68	7.62	41.96	8.77	15.66
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	11.86	0.42
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.23	-
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.10	-	-	-
17.	Nagaland	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	15.41	-
18.	Orissa	18.85	3.87	6.10	8.34	3.20	2.30
19.	Punjab	0.00	2.50	11.45	1.21	60.94	5.00
20.	Rajasthan	28.59	26.21	19.70	23.60	34.69	1.49
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.25	26.57	42.27	37.41	22.45	8.06
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	61.81	135.90	332.88	191.10	64.25	36.54
25.	West Bengal	43.15	4.97	36.28	48.54	13.92	1.00
U.T.							
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29.	NCT of Delhi	0.00	0.00	1.65	10.11	5.00	-
30.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
31.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.29	4.20	-
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
33.	Departmental	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.67	-	30.71
34.	Other schemes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Total		477.45	651.33	737.41	544.33	609.02	126.84

Statement II

Disbursement of Grants to various States/Union Territories by KVIC during the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
State							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	174.29	737.29	275.35	340.75	627.53	705.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.40	0.50
3.	Assam	35.06	6.30	59.79	6.72	68.87	0.77
4.	Bihar	748.45	4.00	1196.53	33.96	305.36	44.48
5.	Goa	1.00	9.84	0.00	40.36	0.79	-
6.	Gujarat	1387.00	94.71	2554.96	268.56	1585.85	12.96
7.	Haryana	592.79	52.265	652.94	185.23	414.44	239.42
8.	Himachal Pradesh	123.30	153.97	76.51	272.94	445.99	26.37
9.	J & K	81.92	40.53	182.50	352.13	112.96	20.77
10.	Karnataka	438.63	561.35	1008.73	1228.32	426.31	756.44
11.	Kerala	322.60	15.58	205.45	395.94	762.62	357.98
12.	M.P.	367.27	319.06	178.49	1319.02	595.37	23.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra	32.93	285.31	310.59	308.97	419.17	444.24
14.	Manipur	0.00	281.51	0.00	266.93	0.40	169.70
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	2.36	44.93	7.42	6.50
16.	Mizoram	0.00	49.63	0.02	344.39	0.99	155.74
17.	Nagaland	7.18	90.00	5.37	396.94	17.48	5.38
18.	Orissa	30.99	60.50	172.53	87.02	116.61	161.67
19.	Punjab	619.41	124.79	345.73	605.12	967.26	158.33
20.	Rajasthan	105.26	314.15	1490.71	461.80	879.73	319.85
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	1268.80	58.77	2690.76	414.10	3874.13	262.07
23.	Tripura	0.02	0.00	0.50	0.00	-	1.91
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1947.68	77.71	4201.30	1454.00	5153.75	514.17
25.	West Bengal	235.00	7.60	595.10	20.49	325.78	6.36
U.T.							
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	4.36
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
29.	NCT of Delhi	22.29	10.74	669.27	31.34	354.06	72.96
30.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
31.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.23	0.23	0.50
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.39	34.64	-	-
33.	Departmental	217.35	21567.01	752.48	7707.43	1169.63	10018.2
34.	Other schemes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Total		8760.09	24922.60	17628.36	16648.26	18656.13	14485.11

Assistance to SSI in Orissa

623. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released any rehabilitation assistance to the Small Scale Industries of Orissa which were severely affected by the Super Cyclone of 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal of Government to provide working capital assistance to such industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Rehabilitation Package, the assistance by SIDBI includes refinance disbursement of Rs. 46 crores to Orissa State Financial Corporation (OSFC) and Industrial Promotion & Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL), Rs. 1.25 crore under National Equity Fund Scheme, and direct assistance of Rs. 25 lakhs. The assistance by KVIC includes approval of two clusters viz. Lime Industry and Cottage Match Industry, identification of 18 clusters for development, marketing support to artisans and direct assistance of Rs. 5 lakh for repair of damaged charkhas and looms. The assistance by Coir Board amounting to Rs. 1.92 crore is towards providing raw material at subsidized rates, to distribute spinning rates and to renovate plant and machinery damaged in the cyclone. As part of this package, the NSIC has deferred the repayment of loans amounting to Rs. 2.33 crores, charged concessional rate of interest on outstanding dues of Rs. 5.30 crores, provided, raw material assistance amounting to Rs. 38 lakhs, imparted training to 125 persons, and has provided direct assistance of Rs. 13.48 crore under various schemes.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India's guidelines already exist for rehabilitation of damaged units affected by natural calamities, which cover the super-cyclone in Orissa. These include concessional facilities for the tiny and small scale sector by way of conversion of the existing excess drawings of the working capital

into term loan, provision of additional working capital, rescheduling of term loans, etc.

[*Transiation*]

Kashmir Issue

624. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have not been able to present their case in regard to Kashmir on international forums;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The international community is fully aware of Pakistan's sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of the country. There is now a widespread recognition in the international community that there can be no justification for terrorism which needs to be eradicated wherever it exists.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendra

625. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any scheme to make "Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendra" scheme more attractive to increase the availability of postal stamps and stationery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any increase has been registered in annual target during the last one year and till date; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The fixed allowance paid to the Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendra Agent was enhanced from

Rs. 300/- to Rs. 600/- (Rupees six hundred only) with effect from 1.3.2001, in order to make the scheme more attractive.

(c) and (d) During the year 2000-2001, a target for opening 2000 PSSKs was fixed, against which a total of 2005 were opened. Similarly during the current Annual Plan *i.e.* 2001-2002, a target for opening of 2000 PSSKs has been fixed.

[English]

Contraceptive

626 SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up a task force to review specifications and standards for contraceptive, medical instruments and accessories being issued for the National Family Welfare Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the review conducted by the task force; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for monitoring the implementation of various Centrally sponsored family welfare schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The Department of Family Welfare has already constituted a Task Force. This Task Force will review the current status in respect of specifications and standards of contraceptive devices as well as instruments/accessories currently in use in the National Family Welfare Programme. The Task Force will also review the current status of Bureau of Indian Standards prescribed for these contraceptive devices and instruments/accessories.

The Task Force will recommend upgrading and modification, if any, in the specifications and standards as feasible (with reference to the climate and temperature conditions in India) in order to promote operational functioning, cost effectiveness and safer outcomes.

(d) Maintenance of relevant records and reporting of performance for programme implementation has become a part of the main stream of the system of family welfare programme in the country.

Under the new RCH programme, the entire monitoring and evaluation system is being fully computerized through the country wide network provided by the NIC.

Special Schemes for Agro and Rural Industries

627. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of special schemes and Programmes to improve Agro and Rural Industries in the country;

(b) the funds allocated/disbursed for various schemes in each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the projects implemented in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) gives support to Khadi and Village Industries including agro and rural industries in the form of financial, technical and managerial assistance. The Rural Employment Generation Programme of the KVIC is applicable throughout the country. Under this scheme 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money. For project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections, (SC/ST and women) margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

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

(b) The funds released to the KVIC during last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) 2853 projects have been financed under REGP in Tamil Nadu as on 31.3.2001.

Statement*Funds Released to KVIC*

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

Expenditure in Health Sector

628. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure by the Government sector both Centre and the States on the health sector would be double over the next ten years as per the draft of a new National Health Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States were not in a position to improve their healthcare system on their own; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Union Government are planning to help the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) According to

the draft National Health Policy, 2001 it is proposed to increase the health sector expenditure from 5.2% of GDP with 0.9% Government contribution to 6% of GDP with 2% from Government by 2010. The health sector expenditure by centre and States is proposed to be increased from the present level of 15% and 5.5% to 25% and 8% of the total budget respectively by 2010.

(c) and (d) States are making efforts to improve the health care system but the total investment on health has remained rather low. Union Government is helping the State Governments by providing financial and technical assistance to control major diseases like TB, Malaria, AIDS, Blindness and Leprosy. For this purpose, assistance is also availed from bi-lateral and multilateral agencies. State Health Systems projects are also under implementation in selected States with WHO assistance.

Strengthening of primary health system by providing essential drugs under Central Government funding through

decentralized health system and setting up of an organized two-tiered urban primary health care structure with its funding to be jointly borne by the Centre, State Governments and local self Governments, are the new initiatives envisaged in the draft National Health Policy, 2001.

Privatisation of Telecom Industry

629. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any achievement in the privatisation of telecom industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received any complaints in the functioning of BSNL;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Till 1984, the manufacturing of the telecom equipment was reserved for Public Sector Company. In 1984, manufacturing of terminal equipment was allowed in Private Sector. Further, with the liberalisation of economic policies of the Government, the entire telecom manufacturing sector was opened up for private sector in 1991. Since then, a large number of companies, both domestic and multinationals, have set up their manufacturing base in the country and the production has increased from Rs. 3,985 crores in 1992-93 to Rs. 12,271 crores (estimated) in 2000-2001. Recently, 74% of the equity of M/s. Hindustan Teleprinters Limited (HTL), a public sector company manufacturing telecom products, has been sold to M/s. Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. (HFCL) and the management of the company has been taken over by HFCL.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

630. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has recommended a relaxation in the licence condition for some of the telecom Circles;

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

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

(b) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has recommended relaxation in conditions for grant of licences in respect of Andman & Nicobar (A&N), Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal Telecom Circles. The salient points of TRAI recommendations are as follows:

- (i) A and N Circle be clubbed with Tamil Nadu Circle, in view of the proximity of A&N Circle with Tamil Nadu as well as the higher Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) of Tamil Nadu Circle.
 - (ii) Appointment of franchisee by the Operator in these Circles be permitted.
 - (iii) No reserve price for entry fee be stipulated at the time of bidding in these Circles.
 - (iv) Relaxation in the roll out conditions of covering 50 per cent district headquarters in the first three years to 25 percent.
- (c) Broadly, following are the reasons stated by TRAI:
- (i) A and N Circle, due to lower customer base, may not have a strong business case on stand-alone basis. An operator is likely to be in a position to manage business in the two Circles of A&N and Tamil Nadu as a package much better.
 - (ii) As the impact of reduced entry fee on the project cost as also upon the cost of services is likely to be minimal, lowering of entry fee is not likely to help much. Therefore, in these Circles no reserve price be stipulated at the time of bidding.
 - (iii) In a situation of lower demand, an operator normally wants to keep his investments in the project low and increase his investments as demand picks up. This may not be possible if stringent roll-out conditions are stipulated.

Non-Payment of Bills

631. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephones used by Jawans posted at Siachen Glacier have been disconnected by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited on account of non-payment of bills by the concerned authorities;

(b) if so, since when these phones have been cut off;

(c) whether keeping in view the difficulty being experienced by Jawans the Government propose to restore the STD connections at the earliest and resolve the payment issue afterwards; and

(d) the time by which the telephones are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) None of the STD-PCO telephone facilities provided for the troops in Siachen area has been disconnected. However, three telephones installed under the "Own Your Telephone" (OYT) Category, working for the Army at Partapur were disconnected on account of non-payment of bills.

(b) Date of disconnection of the three telephones is 26.06.2001.

(c) and (d) Adequate telephone facilities are available for the troops in Siachen. Five STD/ISD-PCOs have been provided to them at Partapur, the base camp of Siachen, besides one STD/ISD-PCO working on Inmarsat terminal in Siachen. The army has since paid the outstanding dues for the disconnected telephones as at (a) above on 09.11.2001 and also requested that these telephones as at (a) above on 09.11.2001 and also requested that these telephones be restored only after confirmation by them, which is still awaited.

Reduction in Number of Posts of Non-IAS Officers

632. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IAS has also made inroads into the due share of other services manned by the professionals from Indian Economic Services, Indian Forest Services, apart from feeder-posts in several departments such as Health, Railways and PSUs; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interest/share of non-IAS from various disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No Sir. Appointment to posts which are specifically encadred within the organized Group 'A' services or filled by recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission, are filled in accordance with the cadre rules/ recruitment rules specifically framed for such services/ posts. If such rules provide for appointment of IAS officers to a post, only then the suitability of IAS officers, alongwith the officers of other eligible services, may be considered for appointment to such posts.

Mother to Child HIV/AIDS Treatment

633. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Health and NACO has taken up any study, survey regarding HIV detection in pregnant mother;

(b) whether any new survey has been taken up in 2001;

(c) if so, the details of the observations and recommendations of all these surveys;

(d) whether the Government have any plan on a massive Mother-to-Child-Transmission (MTCT) Health Project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. National AIDS Control Organisation, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, conducts annual rounds of HIV Sentinel surveillance in identified antenatal clinics, during August to October every year to know the trend of HIV infection among pregnant women attending these clinics. During this year, the round was conducted in 170 antenatal clinics. As the round is completed on 31st October 2001, the data is being collected and will be analyzed to know the changes in the prevalence among pregnant women.

A statement indicating State-wise median values of HIV infection among antenatal women during last round of HIV sentinel surveillance (2000) is enclosed.

(d) and (e) Government has initiated feasibility studies on prevention of mother to child transmission in 11 centres located in high HIV prevalent States namely Tamil Nadu (3), Maharashtra (5), Karnataka (1), Andhra Pradesh (1), and Manipur (1). After review of the outcome of the feasibility study, Government will take appropriate decision on expansion of the programme.

Statement

HIV Prevalence levels

State-wise — Round 2000

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Number of sites		HIV Prevalence (%)
1	2	3		4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	STD	3	30.00
		ANC	6	2.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	STD	3	0.10
		ANC	1	0.00
3.	Assam	STD	2	0.61
		ANC	2	0.00
4.	Bihar	STD	8	0.50
		ANC	3	0.10
5.	Delhi	STD	3	3.26
		ANC	3	0.25
		IDU	1	5.00
6.	Goa	STD	2	12.02
		ANC	2	1.17
		CSW	1	53.20
7.	Gujarat	STD	6	4.65
		ANC	6	0.50
8.	Haryana	STD	4	2.75
		ANC	3	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	STD	5	0.40
		ANC	4	0.89

1	2		3	4
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	STD	2	0.40
		ANC	3	0.12
11.	Karnataka	STD	7	12.80
		ANC	6	1.68
		IDU	1	4.23
12.	Kerala	STD	3	5.20
		ANC	3	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	STD	8	1.60
		ANC	6	0.12
14.	Maharashtra	STD	7	18.40
		ANC	11	1.12
	Mumbai	STD	2	33.33
		ANC	5	2.00
		IDU	1	23.68
		MSM	1	23.94
		CSW	1	58.67
15.	Manipur	IDU	3	64.34
		STD	2	11.60
		ANC	5	0.75
16.	Meghalaya	IDU	1	1.41
		STD	2	0.00
		ANC	2	0.00
17.	Mizoram	IDU	1	9.61
		ANC	1	2.00
		IDU	2	0.37
18.	Nagaland	IDU	1	7.03
		STD	1	6.90
		ANC	4	1.35
19.	Orissa	STD	4	2.60
		ANC	2	0.27

1	2	3		4
20.	Punjab	STD	2	0.80
		ANC	2	0.00
21.	Rajasthan	STD	4	2.84
		ANC	4	0.25
22.	Sikkim	STD	1	0.00
		ANC	2	0.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	STD	3	16.80
		ANC	6	1.00
		IDU	1	26.70
		MSM	1	4.00
24.	Tripura	STD	1	1.34
		ANC	—	—
25.	Uttar Pradesh	STD	7	1.80
		ANC	6	0.12
26.	West Bengal	STD	5	1.96
		ANC	4	0.50
		IDU	1	—
27.	A&N Islands	STD	1	1.20
		ANC	3	0.25
28.	Chandigarh	STD	2	3.35
		ANC	1	0.80
29.	D&N Haveli	STD	—	—
		ANC	1	0.00
30.	Daman & Diu	STD	—	—
		ANC	2	0.00
31.	Lakshadweep	STD	1	0.00
		ANC	2	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	STD	3	4.1
		ANC	1	0.25

Note: HIV Prevalence levels in States with 3 or more sites are median values, while in States/UTs with less than 3 sites, the values are mean values.

Implementation of PMRY

634. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government has been asked to observe the Central guidelines in providing employment under the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana;

(b) whether there is a wide gap between the amount of loan sanctioned and actually disbursed; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana effectively?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Various steps taken by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India to effectively implement the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana include instructions for adequate financing of micro units set up under the Scheme; provision of additional finance, if required; to ensure that there is no inordinate gap between sanction and disbursement of loans; disposing off the applications as per the prescribed time schedule; to achieve allocated target by selecting the beneficiaries as per the eligibility criteria etc.

[*Translation*]

Vacancies in Assistant Grade

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

(a) the number of total vacancies of Assistance to be filled up through direct recruitment and through seniority quota since 1989, till date, year-wise and Ministry-wise;

(b) the number of vacant posts of Assistants filled up through direct recruitment and from seniority quota separately, Ministry-wise; and

(c) the number of posts filled up under the Provisions of Sub-Rule 13(6) of Central Secretariat Service Rules, 1962, Ministry-wise?

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

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The grade of Assistants of Central Secretariat Service is decentralized into 33 cadres and details of vacancies in various quotas and the posts filled up are not maintained centrally. Department of Personnel and Training only coordinates filling of direct recruitment vacancies reported by the cadres in consultation with the Recruiting agency. In respect of seniority quota, Department of Personnel and Training determines zones under the zoning scheme for making appointments.

[*English*]

Software Package

636. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Informatics Centre has released a software package for financial management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the offices where such software packages are proposed to be used?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has released a software package "PAO-2000" for computerisation at the Pay & Accounts Offices (PAO) of Government of India.

(b) The software package enables PAO Offices to process bills, compile accounts, exercise budgetary control, bank reconciliation, printing of cheques, prepare reports for the expenditure and receipts, General Provident Fund, Pension amount authorisation, submission of accounts in electronic format to the Controller of Accounts of the Ministry.

(c) The software package is to be implemented in various Pay and Accounts Offices in the Central Civil Ministries of the Government of India.

Global Terrorism

637. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to fight global terrorism; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) As a victim of Terrorism for over two decades, India has consistently stressed that combating Terrorism has to be given a high priority in the global agenda. The tragic events of September 11 have brought a heightened awareness and urgency in the fight against Terrorism. In our interactions, we have emphasised that Terrorism is a global menace which cannot be compartmentalised and that the fight against it has to go beyond the immediate and has been comprehensive, global and sustained.

India has also conveyed that there can be no justification for acts of Terrorism: religious, ethnic, ideological or any other. The international measures to counter Terrorism should encompass not only the perpetrators of terrorists acts, but also those who incite, support, finance or extend safe havens to terrorists.

India has welcomed international efforts including efforts under the UN to counter Terrorism. In this framework, India has welcomed the Security Council Resolution 1373 of September 28. India is also piloting a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) to strengthen the legal framework in countering Terrorism. Discussions on CCIT are continuing at the United Nations. During the UN General Assembly, the Prime Minister forcefully conveyed India's point of view, including our concerns on the cross border aspects of Terrorism, in his address to the UNGA on November 10.

India's views on Terrorism are also discussed bilaterally with a number of countries in Joint Working Groups or during high level interactions.

Many countries with whom we had discussions, share India's views and concerns.

Working Group on IT

638. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Working Group on IT has submitted its report on July 29, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of recommendations accepted, implemented, under implementation and pending for implementation; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government for speedy implementation of the recommendation of the Group?

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

(b) Summary of the recommendations of Working Group is placed at statement-I enclosed.

(c) and (d) The details are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement I

The salient points of the recommendations of the Working Group are as below:

- Establish IT infrastructure in 60,000 schools over a period of five years.
- Web enabled citizen oriented Government services.
- Hundred million Internet connection and one million IT Kiosks by 2008 to enable a common man to have access to Internet/IT Services.
- No licences and controls for setting up IT infrastructure and services.
- Promote Development of Indian Language content over Internet.
- To launch mass awareness campaign through IT Yatras and other programme.
- To set up a IT Mission for 5 years to carry out the program recommended in the report and follow up other recommendations of the report.
- Compulsory IT literacy for Government recruitment.
- Earmarking upto 5% budget for IT induction in Government.
- State Government Portals to help rural artisans and entrepreneurs.
- Internet Portal for one point Government information and services.
- All Government information to be on Internet.

- All Government Payment on Internet.
- Results of Public examinations to be made available on Internet.

Statement II

Following activities have been undertaken as per the recommendation of Working Group on IT for Masses by the Ministry of Information Technology.

1. MIT is working towards creating awareness programme of IT usage especially in the rural and remote areas and also implementing on pilot scale projects addressing to digital divide issues. The programme emphasizes on implementation of IT enabled applications in the areas such as information delivery, literacy, public empowerment & awareness, vocational training, cultural heritage, disabilities, health care & awareness using Telemedicine technology etc. On successful demonstration of such pilot scale implementation the concept will be implemented through various ongoing National Programmes for countrywide implementation. Some of the existing schemes where IT applications will be implemented are like National Literacy Programme and Women and Child Care of M/o HRD, Challenges for Disabilities of M/o SJ&E, Rural Development, Health & Education of ISRO, Vigyan Prasar and Women Technology Park of DST etc.

2. Community Information Centers:

MIT has also undertaken a programme to establish 486 blocks in all the North East States including Sikkim to promote Information Technology and its applications. This project will be implemented in the next 2 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 220 crores as a part of the Agenda for the socio-economic development of the North-Eastern Region.

A pilot project for setting up CICs at 30 block headquarters at sites selected by the State Governments has been completed and are being used by the community mainly for browsing the internet and utilising e-mail facilities. The school and college children are also using these facilities extensively. Amongst the other significant uses of CICs, a mention may be made of the following:—

- (i) Interface between citizens and Government.
- (ii) Connectivity to internet through NICNET, *inter-alia*, enabling web-browsing and e-mail facilities.
- (iii) Distance learning programmes.

- (iv) Familiarising use of computer systems, specially amongst school children.
- (v) Enabling e-commerce, operation of Call centres, medical transcriptions and such other IT-enabled services.
- (vi) Generation of employment opportunities.
- (vii) Facilitating public related services.
- (viii) Dissemination of information on plan initiatives, national programmes, disaster management system, public health awareness etc.
- (ix) Specialised medical consultation through centres specially earmarked for telemedicine systems.
- (x) Video conferencing on complicated medical cases with eminent doctors from various medical disciplines.

3. IT Application for Braille Literacy for Visually Impaired:

A desktop computer has been adapted to produce books and literature in Braille, which was hitherto done manually with all its attendant pitfalls and delays. The system is capable of transcribing Indian languages and at present, apart from English.

In the process of replication after successful development, the Computerized Braille transcription system has been installed in the five different blind schools of Assam. Students are regularly using the system for education; local media has also given wide coverage to the Braille System installed at these schools. Similar systems have been installed in two blind schools of Mizoram and one blind school of Sikkim, which are working satisfactorily. Presently Blinds schools of West Bengal are being covered.

4. Telemedicine Application for Remote Areas:

The project "Telemedicine for Tele-Healthcare during Mela/Festival/Disaster" was installed on trial basis during Maha Kumbha Mela in Allahabad starting from 6th January 2001 to 26th February 2001. The system was executed by Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, Departments of Information Technology & Health, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Online Telemedicine Research Institute, Ahmedabad. The performance of the Telemedicine system was very good and encouraging for the critical patient and about 170 patients were attended for various treatment including 64 Cardiology and 32 Radiology cases from SGPGI. This project is required for wide replication for Health Care of

remote patients. Presently the system has been at the Medical collage at Cuttack which has been demonstrated to the Hon'ble State Minister of Health.

5. *New initiatives:*

Towards bridging digital divide, MIT is in the process of formulating projects for implementing IT Applications for social sector like:

- Adult literacy.
- Rural empowerment and creating awareness on social, education etc.
- Vocational training and employment generation for rural people.
- Health Care advice for remote specialist.
- IT enabled education.

6 The first meeting of National IT Mission was held on October 4, 2001. The matter regarding IT Kiosks, Vidhyarthi Net, Local content creation, IT Literacy for recruitment to Government Service, Re-engineering & Change management issue linked to e-governance, upgradation of NIC communication link and taking up of pilot projects for bridging Digital divide etc., were discussed and action points framed.

Nuclear Reactors

639. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of nuclear reactors in the country;
- (b) whether all the nuclear reactors in the country are not meeting the safety requirements;
- (c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the total electricity that the country is producing through nuclear reactors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) There are fourteen operating nuclear power reactors in the country.

(b) All the reactors in the country meet the safety requirements.

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

(d) During the year 2000-01, the generation of electricity from all the fourteen nuclear power reactors in operation in the country was 17,213 Million Units.

Safety and Security of Nuclear Plants

640. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate safeguards exist for our Atomic Power Plants to prevent radioactive releases due to events such as flooding of site, severe earthquake, accident and also from external threats; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The nuclear power plants in India have been sited, designed, constructed, commissioned and operated by taking into account the possibility of natural events such as flooding, earthquakes, soil subsidence and severe and extreme winds.

Similar consideration is also given to man-induced events such as possible chemical explosion and toxic gas releases. Nuclear containment is one of the strongest structure in the country as it is designed to withstand severe natural and man-made events. When the nuclear power plant site is chosen, minimum safe distance from airport is also considered. Besides strong containment building, the reactors have redundant and diverse safety systems ensuring high reliability. Several barriers such as fuel cladding, coolant boundary and double containment system are provided to prevent the release of radioactivity from the fuel.

In case severe accidents take place, emergency preparedness plans are in place at all nuclear power stations to mitigate possible impact of radioactive releases from the plant.

Passport Camp

641. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for organising a Passport Camp in Coastal Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) Two representations have been received by the Passport Office, Vishakhapatnam for organising Passport Camps in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) It has been decided to organise a Passport Camp in West Godavari District at a time convenient to the District Administration.

[*Translation*]

Complaints against Passport Offices

642. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the applicants face difficulties with regard to the renewal of passports, change of address and issuance of duplicate passport in case of loss;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard during the last three years, passport office-wise; and

(c) the number of persons against whom action has been taken on the basis of these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The instances of difficulties faced by applicants in expeditiously getting the renewal of passport and issuance of duplicate passport in case of loss have come to the notice of the Government from time to time. To mitigate such difficulties, the procedure for renewal of passports, change of address and issuance of duplicate passport in case of loss has been liberalised. The Government had appointed an Inter-Ministerial Passport Review Committee which has recently submitted its report to the Government. As per the recommendations of this Committee, the system of prior police verification report in such cases has been done away with and separate queues have been created for such services in most passport offices. In case of change of address, no verification is necessary and a documentary proof of the new address is sufficient to make necessary changes in the existing passport.

(b) Very few complaints of harassment were received by the Government in this regard. Most of the requests were for expeditious and out of turn provision of such services which were accommodated under the 'Tatkal Scheme.'

(c) As there were no serious complaints in this regard, there was no need to take action against any official.

[*English*]

Privatisation of I.T. Parks

643. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise some profit making Information Technology Parks in the country;

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

(c) the details of criteria adopted by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Privatisation of some profit making centres of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) Society is under the consideration of Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India.

Linkage between Terrorists

644. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US investigators probing the September 11 Carnage have established a link between the Pakistan-based terrorists who hijacked an Indian Airlines flight in 1999 and the perpetrators of multiple air-crashes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government has seen reports in the media in this regard. There is no official confirmation from the United States Government in the matter.

Grant to NGOs

645. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

- (a) the number of NGOs who have been sanctioned grants on Road Safety Cell during the last three years;
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether any new representations for grants on Road Safety Cell are pending before his Ministry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof particularly from the States of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra;
- (e) the reasons for delay in according approval; and
- (f) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) During the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 the grants have been sanctioned to 38, 76 and 31 NGOs respectively under the scheme of grant-in-aid to NGOs for administering road safety programmes. The State-wise and year-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Statement

List of NGOs to whom grants were given during 1999-2000

S.No.	Name of the NGO
1	2
<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>	
1.	M/s. Garthapuri Consumer Council, Guntur D-No. 16-19-34/1, Tripuramalluvari Street, Old Guntur.

1	2
<i>Assam</i>	
2.	M/s. Kalayani Child Welfare Centre, Nowbosha Naogaon, PO Patiagaon, Jorhat, Assam.
<i>Bihar</i>	
3.	M/s. Automobile Association of Eastern India, S.P. Verma Road, Patna-800001.
<i>Gujarat</i>	
4.	M/s. Volunteers of Charity, Gandhinagar 374/A, Sector 23, Gandhinagar-382023, Gujarat.
<i>Delhi</i>	
5.	M/s. Jan Jagriti Educational Society, Delhi. M-186, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110053.
<i>Goa</i>	
6.	M/s. Western India Automobile Association, Goa Branch, Tourist Hostel, Panaji, Goa.
<i>Haryana</i>	
7.	M/s. Rashtriya Yuva Sansthan, Karnal, H.O. Arya Hospital, Near Water Tank Market, 69/14, Ram Nagar, Karnal-132001.
<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>	
8.	M/s. Himachal Manav Seva, Shimla P.O. B 102, G.P.O., Shimla-171001.
<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>	
9.	M/s. Society for Consumer Protection & Environment (SCOPE), 7, Panj Bakhtar Road, Jammu Tawi-180001.

1	2	1	2
	<i>Karnataka</i>		
10.	M/s. Gram Parivartan Kendra, Belgaum No. 30, 5th Main, Shivaji Nagar, Belgaum-590016 Karnataka.	19.	M/s. Mezhu Multipurpose Women Welfare Society, Kohima C/o VICKOZO VITSU, Kohima Photostat, T.U. Building, Opp. New NST Complex, Kohima-797001, Nagaland
11.	M/s. Bangalore City Police Traffic Warden, C/o Office of the Dy. Commissioner of Police (Transport), 14th Floor, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.	20.	M/s. Naga Transporters Welfare Organisation, Kohima Opp. Fernwood School, Agri Colony, Kohima-797001. Nagaland.
12.	M/s. Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA), No. 12-11-61, Arab Mohella, Raichur-584101, Karnataka	21.	M/s. AVI Society, Kohima C/o VICKOZO VITSU, Kohima Photostat, T.U. Building, Opp. New NST Complex, Kohima-797001, Nagaland
13.	M/s. Ramalingeshwar Grambhivruddi Sangha, Udikeri, Tq. Bailhongal, Distt. Belgaum, Karnataka-591104.	22.	M/s. Nisalem Economic Women Society, Kohima. C/o VICKOZO VITSU, Kohima Photostat, T.U. Building, Oppo. New NST Complex, Kohima-797001, Nagaland
14.	M/s. Shabana Welfare Association, C-Block, Vemgal-563157, Kolar Distt., Karnataka.	23.	M/s. Puliebadze Club, Kohima. Jotsoma, Kohima, Nagaland
	<i>Maharashtra</i>		<i>Orissa</i>
15.	M/s. Lokmanya Medical Foundation, Pune Chinchwad, Pune-411033 Maharashtra	24.	M/s. Manav Seva Parishad, Kendrapara, Old Bus Stand, Kendrapara-754211 Orissa.
16.	M/s. Kum. Rajshree Parmar Memorial Foundation, Pune 289, Timber Market Road, Mahatma Phule Peth, Pune-411042.	25.	M/s. Indira Kalyan Samiti, Cuttack Gopabandhu Nagar, Chauliganj, P.O. Nayabazar, Cuttack-753004. Orissa.
	<i>Manipur</i>	26.	M/s. Utakalmani Swayam Seva Sangha, Chandol, Cuttack-754208, Orissa.
17.	M/s. Youth Voluntary Organisation, Yumnam Khunou S.P.O. - Pangei Yangdong, Manipur-795114.	27.	M/s. Women & Child Welfare Society, Cuttack Gamhandia, New Colony, SADHNA KUTIRA, Pobuxibazar, Distt. Cuttack-753001, Orissa.
	<i>Nagaland</i>		
18.	M/s. Viko Krotho Women Welfare Society, Kohima C/o VICKOZO VITSU, Kohima Photostat, T.U. Building, Opp. New NST Complex, Kohima-797001, Nagaland.		

1	2
28.	M/s. Suprativa, Cuttack AT/PO Fakirpada, Via-Biribati, Distt. Cuttack-754100
	<i>Rajasthan</i>
29.	M/s. M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, Jaipur 5-Jha-4, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004, Rajasthan
30.	M/s Consumer Unity and Trust Society, D-218, Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur-302016
	<i>Tamil Nadu</i>
31.	M/s. Trust in the Area of Social Activities (TASA), No. 1, Polatchi Amman Koil II Street, Arakkonam, Vellore Distt. Tamil Nadu-631001
	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>
32.	M/s. Avadh Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Sultanpur Vill. & Post Dhammour, Distt. Sultanpur-228001, Uttar Pradesh.
33.	M/s. Master Gram Vikas Seva Sanstha, Hamirpur Vill. Nazarpur, P.O. Sumerpur, Distt. Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh.
	<i>West Bengal</i>
34.	M/s. Bharat Scouts & Guides, Calcutta, State Headquarters, 5, Government Place, North, Calcutta-700001.
35.	M/s. Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha, Midnapur Vill. Khirinda, P.O. Krishnapriya, Distt. Midnapore-721140, West Bengal.
36.	M/s. Indian Puppet Theatre, Calcutta. 36/C, Ballygange Circular Road, Flat No. E/1, 1st Floor, Calcutta-700019.

1	2
37.	M/s. Malda Sahayogita Samiti, Malda S.C. Road, P.O. Old Malda, P.S. & Distt. Malda-732128, West Bengal.
38.	M/s. Village Welfare Society, Calcutta F-3, Geetanjali Park, Ariadah, Calcutta-700057.
	<i>List of NGOs to whom grants were given during 2000-2001</i>
	<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>
1.	M/s. Garthapuri Consumer Council, D-No. 16-19-34/1, Tripuramalluvari Street, Old Guntur, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
2.	M/s. Jagruthi, H.No. 11-3-34/2, Nehru Nagar, Khamman, Andhra Pradesh-507001.
3.	M/s. Good India, S3/A, Garden Towers Mangamur Road, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh-523002.
4.	M/s. Institute of Transport Management, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
5.	M/s. Creative Organisation & Rural Development, B.C. Colony, Near B.C. Hostels, Narsipatnam, Andhra Pradesh-531116.
6.	M/s. Chaitanya Education Society, Sanjeevaraya Street, Pattikonda (Post) Kurnool-518003. Andhra Pradesh.
7.	M/s. Society for Humanity, 42-Doctor's Colony, Kurnool-518002, Andhra Pradesh.
8.	M/s. Sai Krupa Educational Society, D.No. 31/49, Boreddyvari Street, Peapully, Kurnool-518002, Andhra Pradesh.

1	2	1	2
	<i>Assam</i>		
9.	M/s. V. Venkata Rao Institute of Micro Studies & Research, 8, GY Campus, Gopinath, Baordoloi Nagar, Guwahati-781014.	18.	M/s. Automobile Association of Upper India, (AAUI), C-8, Institutional Area, South of IIT, New Delhi-110016.
	<i>Bihar</i>	19.	M/s. Narmata Education Trust, Basti Vikas Kendra, Moti Lal Nehru J.J. Camp, Near J.N.U. New Delhi-110067.
10.	M/s. Sawitri Katai Banai Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Vill. & PO Basdiia, Block Jalalpur, Distt. Saran, Bihar.	20.	M/s. Swatantara Bharat Shiksha Samiti, 2A-271, Gali No. 3, East Gokul Pur, Amar Colony, New Delhi-110094.
11.	M/s. Saraswati Pustakalaya Evam Jan Kalyan Vikas Sansthan, Vill. & PO Kharia, Block Nagra, Distt. Saran, Bihar.	21.	M/s. Grassroot Action for Social Progress, BA-18, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110052.
12.	M/s. Rural Development Environment Forestation & Research Organisation, 17, IAS Colony, Kidwaipuri, Patna-800001, Bihar.	22.	M/s. Institute of Road Traffic Education, S-63, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase II, New Delhi.
13.	M/s. Akhil Bharatiya Sevingin Vikas Sansthan, Sadhu Saran Vivas, Joginia Kothi, Chapra, Saran, Bihar-841301		<i>Gujarat</i>
14.	M/s. Shree Ram Kripal Shiksha & Sanskritic Mandir, AT-Bijalpura, P.O. Loha, Distt. Madhubani, Bihar-847211.	23.	M/s. Volunteers of Chairty, 374/A, Sector 23, Gandhinagar-382023, Gujarat.
	<i>Delhi</i>		<i>Haryana</i>
15.	M/s. Jan Jagriti Educational Society, M-186, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110053.	24.	M/s. Rashtriya Yuva Sansthan, H.O. Arya Hospital, Near Water Tank Market, 69/14, Ram Nagar, Karnal-132001.
16.	M/s. Nari Utthan Samiti, Delhi 185/31A, Main Krishna Gali No. 5, Maujpur, Delhi-110053.		<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>
17.	M/s. Society for Environment & Development, B-122, 3rd Floor, Shivkunj, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092.	25.	M/s. Society for Consumer Protection & Environment (SCOPE), 7, Panj Bakhtar Road, Jammu Tawi-180001.
			<i>Karnataka</i>
		26.	M/s. Gram Parivartan Kendra, Belgaum 7/6th, 4th Main, Shivaji Nagar, Belgaum-590016, Karnataka.
		27.	M/s. Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA), No. 12-11-61, Arab Mohella, Raichur-584101, Karnataka.

1	2	1	2
28.	M/s. Divya Jyothi Vidya Kendra, Vishwa Building, Chikkanna, Layout, Sondekoppa Road, Opp. Basavanna Devarumutti, Nelamangala Town-562123, Bangalore, Karnataka <i>Madhya Pradesh</i>	37.	M/s. Institute of Social Organisor, Kwakeithel Bazar (West), Airport Road, Imphal-795001, Manipur.
29.	M/s. Gwalior Yatayat Manch, Bhawan 93, Manik Vikas Colony, Gwalior-474002, Madhya Pradesh. <i>Maharashtra</i>	38.	M/s. Scientific Research & Rehabilitation, Network, SCIFIC House, Sangakpham Bazar, Imphal, P.O. Lamlong-795101.
30.	M/s. Sarvodya Educational Voluntary Association, H No. 1-6-543, Akhtar Manzil, Shrinagar, Hanuman Road, Nanded-431605, Maharashtra.	39.	M/s. Manipur Rural Institute Society Tera Bazar, Sapam Leirak, Imphal-795001, Manipur.
31.	M/s. KIBBTUS, 37-A, Building No. 2, Flat No. 14, Patil Complex, Anudh Road, Kirkee, Pune-411003, Maharashtra.	40.	M/s. Naodakhong Youths Sporting & Cultural Organisation, Wangeo Naokakhong, Bishnupur, Distt., Manipur-795133.
32.	M/s. Late Shankar Kamle Memo. Educational Society, Plot No. 71, Thaware Nagar, PO Jaripatka, Nagpur-440014, Maharashtra.	41.	M/s. The Rural Industries Development Association (RIDA), Thoubal P.O. Thoubal-795138, Manipur.
33.	M/s. Lokmanya Medical Foundation, Pune Chinchwad, Pune-411033. Maharashtra.	42.	M/s. Ananda Purna Development Institute, 30, Kshetrileikai of Thoubal, Sub-Division, Indo-Burma Road, Thoubal-795138. Manipur.
34.	M/s. Swami Vivekanand Mission, Nanded 19, Somesh Colony, Near Govt. Rest House, Nanded-431602. Maharashtra.	<i>Nagaland</i>	
35.	M/s. Kum. Rajshree Parmar Memorial Foundation, Pune 289, Timber Market Road, Mahatma Phule Peth, Pune-411042. <i>Manipur</i>	43.	M/s. Cock Crow Society, Distt. Kohima, Nagaland.
36.	M/s. Council of Youths for Development & Cooperative, Keibi, SPO Lamlong-795016, Imphal (East), Manipur.	44.	M/s. Nisau Friendship Society, Kohima, Nagaland.
		45.	M/s. Planets Club, Midland, Workha, Nagaland.
		46.	M/s. Rengma Youth Welfare Organisation, Tseiningu New Town,- Kohima, Nagaland

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	<i>Orissa</i>
47.	M/s. SAHARA, Kendrapara AT-Old Bus Stand, P.O./Distt. Kendrapara-7545211. Orissa.
48.	M/s. Suprativa, Cuttack AT/PO Fakirpada, Via-Biribati, Distt. Cuttack-754100.
49.	M/s. Indira Kalyan Samiti, Cuttack Gopabandhu Nagar, Chauliaganj, P.O. Nayabazar, Cuttack-753004. Orissa.
50.	M/s. Utakalmani Swayam Seva Sangha, Chandol, Cuttack-754208, Orissa.
51.	M/s. People's Association for Rural Reconstruction, AT/PO-Pakhad, Via-Garadpur, Distt. Kendrapara, Orissa-754153.
52.	M/s. Women & Child Welfare Society, Gamhandia, New Colony, SADHNA KUTIRA, PO Buxibazar, Distt. Cuttack-753001. Orissa.
	<i>Rajasthan</i>
53.	M/s. Jan Kala Sahitya Manch Sanstha, F-79, Shankar Marg, Kanti Chandra Road, Bani Park, Jaipur-302006, Rajasthan.
54.	M/s. Institute of Sustainable Development Environmental & Scientific Research (ISDERS), Manoranjan Club, Churu-331001, Rajasthan
55.	M/s. Gramo Utthan Sansthan, Vill. Samai, P.O. Samai Kheda, Via-Ding, Distt. Bharatpur, Rajasthan.

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56.	M/s. Gramin Jan Vikas Evam Paryavaran Sansthan, Gram PO - Nangal Champa-303506, Distt. Dausa, Rajasthan.
57.	M/s. M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, 5-Jha-4, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004, Rajasthan
	<i>Tamil Nadu</i>
58.	M/s. Trust in the Area of Social Activities (TASA) No. 1, Polatchi Amman Koll-II Street, Arakkonam, Vellore Distt. Tamil Nadu-631001
59.	M/s. Bhagvati Welfare Trust, Erode, Kattupalayam-Mettur, Modakurchi (P.O.), Erode-638104.
60.	M/s. Victory Youth Association, No. 11, A.N. Kandigai, 3rd Street, Palanipet, Arakkonam, Vellore Distt-631002.
61.	M/s. Gandhi Rural Education & Development Society, 3/46, Vaniyar Street, Anathur Post, Ulunderpet-607101, Villupuram Distt., Tamil Nadu.
	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>
62.	M/s. Avadh Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Vill. & Post Dhammour, Distt. Sultanpur-228001, Uttar Pradesh.
63.	M/s. Sarvajan Kalyan Samiti, 275, Katghar, Allahabad.
64.	M/s. Master Gram Vikas Seva Sanstha, Hamirpur Vill. Nazarpur, P.O. Sumerpur, Distt. Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh
65.	M/s. Rural Development Society, 14/25, S.C. Basu Road, Allahabad-211003.

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66.	M/s. Dehati Gramothan Vikas Samity, 437, Pashimi PO Taraus, Maudaha, Ragaul, Hamirpur-210507, Uttar Pradesh.
67.	M/s. Shiva Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, F-473, Ghujani Ratanlal Nagar, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
68.	M/s. Jan Seva Samiti, Vill-&PO-Kutliya, Sardei, Pratapgarh-230129, Uttar Pradesh.
69.	M/s. Avadh Seva Sansthan, PO Paltan Bazar, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh.
70.	M/s. Ambedkar Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 1056, Patel Nagar, Urai Raidar, Jallaun, Uttar Pradesh-265011.
71.	M/s. Ajit Gramodyog Sansthan, Vill. Ajitpur, PO-Mendu, Distt. Janpath, Hatras, Uttar Pradesh.
72.	M/s. Bundelkhand Gramodyog Seva Samiti, Pashimi Taraus, Maudaha, Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh.
73.	M/s. Atal Gramodyog Samiti, Shivakanthi Sadan, Chankyapuri, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh.
74.	M/s. Bhartiya Jan Kalyan Kendra, Uttar Gaon, PO Amethi, Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
	<i>West Bengal</i>
75.	M/s. Bharat Scouts & Guides, Calcutta State Headquarters, 5, Government Place North, Calcutta-700001, West Bengal.

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76.	M/s. Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha, Midnapur Vill Khirinda, P.O. Krishnapriya, Dist. Midnapore-721140, West Bengal.
	<i>List of NGOs to whom grants were given during 2001-2002</i>
	<i>Bihar</i>
1.	M/s. Nari Kalyan Sewa Sangh, Mosimpur Kurtha, Fatuha, Patna-803201.
	<i>Delhi</i>
2.	M/s. Society for Environment & Development, Shakarpur, B-122, 3rd Floor, Shivkunj, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092.
3.	M/s. Grassroot Action for Social Progress, BA-18, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110052.
4.	M/s. Jan Jagriti Educational Society, M-186, Mangol Puri, Delhi.
5.	M/s. Nari Utthan Samiti, Delhi. 185/31A, Main Krishna Gali No. 5, Maujpur, Delhi-110053.
6.	M/s. Resources Development Centre, 122, Katwaria Sarai, Saheed Jit Singh Marg, New Delhi-110016.
7.	M/s. Women Welfare Society, D-28, Gokul Puri, Delhi-110094.
8.	M/s. Bhartiya Shiksha Sanskariti Parishad, A-123, Paryavaran Complex, Maidan Garhi Road, New Delhi-110030.

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<i>Gujarat</i>	
9.	M/s. Volunteers of Charity, 374/A, Sector 23, Gandhinagar-382023, Gujarat.
<i>Haryana</i>	
10.	M/s. Rashtriya Yava Sanstha, Arya Hospital, Karnal, Haryana.
<i>Karnataka</i>	
11.	M/s. Gram Parivartan Kendra, Belgaum No. 30, 5th Main, Shivaji Nagar, Belgaum-590016, Karnataka.
12.	M/s. Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA), No. 12-11-61, Arab Mohella, Raichur-584101, Karnataka.
13.	M/s. Divya Jyothi Vidya Kendra, Bangalore, Karnataka.
14.	M/s. Dhvani-Institute for Rural Development, T.B. Extension, Nagamanagala-571432, Mandya Distt., Karnataka.
<i>Maharashtra</i>	
15.	M/s. Lokmanya Medical Foundation, Pune Chinchwad, Pune.
16.	M/s. Kum. Rajshree Parmar Memorial Foundation, Pune 289, Timber Market Road, Mahatma Phule Peth, Pune-411042.
17.	M/s. Swami Vivekanand Mission, 19, Somesh Colony, Near Rest House, Nanded-431602, Maharashtra.
18.	M/s. Sarvodya Educational Voluntary Association, H.No. 1-6-543, Akhtar Manzil, Shrinagar, Hanuman Road, Nanded-431605, Maharashtra.

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<i>Nagaland</i>	
19.	M/s. Planet Club Tsungiki, P.O. Workha, B.P.O. Chukitong, Wokha Nagaland-7971111.
<i>Orissa</i>	
20.	M/s. SNEHA, Shymacharanpur, College Bye-pass, Dhenkanal-759001, Orissa
<i>Rajasthan</i>	
21.	M/s. M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, 5-Jha-4, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004, Rajasthan
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>	
22.	M/s. Trust in the Area of Social Activities (TASA) No. 1, Polatchi Amman Koil-II Street, Arakkonam, Vellore Distt. Tamil Nadu-631001
23.	M/s. Bhagwati Welfare Trust, Erode, Kattupalayam-Mettur, Modakurchi (P.O.), Erode, Tamil Nadu
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>	
24.	M/s. Dehati Gramothan Vikas Samity, 437, Pashimi, P.O. Taraus, Maudaha, Ragaul, Hamirpur-210507, Uttar Pradesh.
25.	M/s. Shiva Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
26.	M/s. Avadh Grameen Vikas Sanstha, Vill. & Post Dhammour, Distt. Sultanpur-228001, Uttar Pradesh
27.	M/s. Ambedkar Shiksha Prasara Evam Seva Samiti, 1056, Patel Nagar Raidar, Urad Jalaun, Uttar Pradesh-265001.

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West Bengal

28. M/s. Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha,
Midnapur Vill Khirinda,
P.O. Krishnapriya,
Midnapore-721140,
West Bengal.
29. M/s. Basudha Centre for New World,
P-11/A, Dr. A.K. Paul Road (Estrn.),
Behala,
Kolkata-700034, West Bengal.
30. M/s. Bharat Scouts & Guides, Calcutta State
Headquarters,
5. Government Place North,
Calcutta-700001, West Bengal.
31. M/s. Indian Puppet Theatre,
36/C, Ballygunge Circular Road,
Flat No. E/1, 1st Floor,
Calcutta-700019,
West Bengal.

*[English]***Guidelines for Research Institutions**

647. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have issued any circular making it mandatory for all research institutions to follow the guidelines proposed by the Indian Council of Medical Research 20 years ago;

(b) whether these guidelines are not being followed by the Drug Manufacturers in the country having some lacuna and effective control of the guidelines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to revise these guidelines to make them more effective; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (e) Ethical guidelines for bio-medical research on human subjects prepared by the Indian Council of Medical research (ICMR) in the year 1980 were revised and published in the year 2000 in view of the current advances in science and technology.

All applicants for approval of clinical trials for new drugs are being specifically advised by the Office of DCG (I) to follow these revised guidelines.

*[Translation]***Expenditure Reforms Commission**

648. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission has recommended for checking expenditure in his Ministry and its merger with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations and the estimated reduction in expenditure with the implementation of these recommendations;

*[Translation]***Separate CGHS OPD**

646 SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open a separate CGHS OPD in Kalavati Bal Saran Hospital, Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and the Lady Harding Maternity Hospital in Delhi for the CGHS card holders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Due to constraints of resources and manpower, it will not be possible for the Government to open separate CGHS OPD in Kalavati Bal Saran Hospital, Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and the Lady Harding Maternity Hospital in Delhi.

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision so as to accept or reject any of these recommendations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the commercial activities being carried out by the Government at present and estimated annual income therefrom during the each of the last three years?

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

(b) Summary of recommendations is given in the statement enclosed. Reduction in expenditure after implementation of the recommendations has not been worked out.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) No commercial activities are carried out by the Ministry of Shipping directly. However, Public Sector Undertakings, namely Shipping Corporation of India, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Central Inland Water Transport Corporation, Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Dredging Corporation of India Limited and Ennore Port Limited; are engaged in providing shipping services, inland water transport, shipbuilding & ship-repairs, dredging and port activities. Out of them only Shipping Corporation of India and Dredging Corporation of India are providing dividends to the Government, the details of which are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	Shipping Corporation of India	33.93	36.19	67.86
2.	Dredging Corporation of India	9.24	14.00	14.00

Statement

Summary of Recommendations

1. Introduction of VRS in all major ports and the decision to roll back the retirement age from 60 to 58, has helped reduce the staff strength by 16000 persons. However, the staff strength Indian ports is still very high and the schemes should be perused actively to bring down the strength to normative levels.
2. Government should consider setting up port companies to which all the commercial facilities like berths and cargo handling equipment could be leased out, with the Port Trust retaining only the ownership of the land and water fronts. These port companies should be privatised at the earliest, preferably through public offering.
3. The post of Development Advisor and the Development Wing in the Ministry could be abolished.
4. There is no rationale for retaining the Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) a public sector undertaking and it should be privatised.
5. The Minor Ports Survey Organisation which is functioning under the Ministry should be corporatised or made to operate on commercial

lines or attached to the Office of the Chief Hydrographer to the GOI.

6. The Andaman and Lakshadweep Harbour works should either be handed over to the concerned UT Government or merged with the Calcutta/Chennai Port Trust and Cochin Port Trust.
7. Licensing of ship acquisition should be abolished and the Government should leave it to DG, Shipping to ensure the safety and sea worthiness of a ship.
8. The Indian Institute of Maritime Studies which is proposed to be set up under the Societies Registration Act, to run the four institutes, namely, (i) Training Ship Chanakaya, (ii) Manne Engineering and Research Institute, Mumbai, (iii) Manne Engineering and Research Institute, Calcutta, and (iv) LBS College of Advance Maritime Study and Research, Mumbai, should be given status of a deemed university or of an IIT and should become totally autonomous.
9. SCI is a candidate for disinvestment and the disinvestment should be completed.
10. Computerisation of the operations of Transchart would result in a reduction in the staff strength. This exercise should be carried out in six months.

11. Efforts should be made to secure a strategic partner for HSL, which is a loss making company and disinvest GOI holding.
12. There is no strategic or commercial rationale for continuing CSL in the public sector. The company should be privatised as soon as possible.
13. HDPE has valuable land in Calcutta and it should be sold as real estate.
14. The ship building and repair activity of CIWTC should be closed and the assets disposed of.
15. With the ship building and ship repairs carried out by professionally run shipyards, both in the public and private sector, and with ancillary development taking place in a liberalised economy, there is no case for the continuance of the SBR Wing. Development activities relating to ship building and ship repair should be best left to the yards themselves who have a much better awareness and understanding of the technology advances in the sector than the Ministry.
16. NSDRC need not remain under the administrative control of the Ministry.
17. The matter whether the establishment and operation of lighthouses and other navigational aids can be privatised with Government or an independent, regulator ensuring standard and quality, should be examined.
18. A Maritime Authority should be set up to oversee and regulate conservancy functions in the major and minor ports and exercise all the functions of the DG, Shipping and also of the DG, Lighthouses. The Maritime Authority should have a member in charge of the ports, a member in charge of shipping, a member in charge of lighthouses and a member, finance and be headed by one of them with the rank of an additional secretary. Consequently, the tariff authority of major ports could be wound up and the maritime authority empowered to look into cartelisation/monopoly issues and arbitrary fixation of tariffs by ports/shipping lines where necessary. With the setting up of Maritime Authority, it should be sufficient for one J.S. Level officer in the Ministry assisted by one or two Deputy Secretaries to look after port policy, international protocols and coastal shipping.
19. Government must accord the highest priority to the Inland Water Transport and formulate a National Waterways Development Programme on the lines of the NHDP and empower the IWA by broadening its Board by including Secretary, Expenditure, Secretary, Planning etc. to take all investment decisions relating to an approved waterway in order to make it navigable.
20. With the corporatisation of ports the setting up of a Maritime Authority to exercise the statutory powers of DG, Shipping and to ensure conservancy in ports and manage light houses, with the disinvestments of Shipping Corporation of India, the shipyards and other PSUs in the Ministry and with the abolition of the Development and the SBR Wings in the Ministry, the Ministry's work would get reduced very considerably.
21. It should be sufficient for the ministry to have on JS with two Deputy Secretaries to look after all port related matters and one Joint Secretary with one Deputy Secretary to look after residual shipping matters and inland water transport. Transchart should continue although its staff strength should be reviewed. With the reduction in the workload of the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways the possibility of combining the two ministries once again into a Ministry of Surface Transport should be considered so that an integrated approach can be brought to bear on all modes of surface transport, barring the railways.

[English]

Private Telephone Operators

649. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of village public telephones provided by the private operators during the last three years;

(b) whether private operators have paid the compensations to the Department for not honouring the commitment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) As per

information, a total of 607 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided by private operators of basic telephone service during the last three years.

(b) to (d) The Liquidated Damage (LD) charges have been recovered from them, as provided for in the licence agreement, for delay in fulfillment of the committed performance obligations in this respect. Further, they have also been asked to complete the unfulfilled committed roll out obligations by December, 2002 for which submission of additional Performance Bank Guarantees and Deed of Guarantees have been demanded.

Purchase of Towels by Kendriya Bhandar

650. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL New Delhi invited tender for the supply of 48,696 towels from reputed manufactures or their authorized distributors and the Kendriya Bhandar participated in that tender and bagged the same;

(b) if so, whether the Kendriya Bhandar is a reputed manufacturer or authorized dealer of any reputed manufacturer;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether the Kendriya Bhandar purchased the towels from some other source than the manufacturer who appointed Kendriya Bhandar as their distributor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Kendriya Bhandar is an authorized distributor of the manufacturer of the brand of towels supplied to MTNL and accordingly participated in the tender. The towels were supplied to MTNL after procuring the same from the local registered supplier of the manufacturer.

(e) Since Kendriya Bhandar participated and won the tender in open competition and was able to quote the lowest rates, there does not seem to be any irregularity in the transaction.

Indian Casualties in USA

651. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians killed, injured or missing in the recent terrorists strikes in USA; and

(b) the assistance extended by the Indian Embassies to the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) As per reports filed with the New York City authorities, 107 persons of Indian origin are missing and presumed dead as a result of the attacks on World Trade Centre, New York on 11th Sept. 2001. 77 persons of Indian origin were admitted in local hospitals and released after being treated for injuries.

(b) The Indian Embassy provided every possible assistance in tracing missing Indians, by operating 24 hour help-lines at CGI, New York, which liaised closely with the New York city authorities. Arrangements have been made with Air India, Indian Airlines and Indian Railways for free transportation of mortal remains of the victims of these attacks from New York to their destinations in India. The Consulate General of India, New York remains in touch with the New York city authorities for any further information regarding the missing persons.

[Translation]

Economic Package to Bihar

652. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to give special economic package to Bihar after the creation of Jharkhand from it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Initially, a reference was received from Government of Bihar forwarding the outlines of the developmental package for northern Bihar comprising of schemes/projects sent to the Union Government, schemes which are ready for submission, schemes which are necessary for taking the State to the level of national average and proposals which were sent to the Union Government for posing to the international financial institutions and which have not received approval so far. A financial summary of the proposed schemes has been attached as statement. Preliminary and detailed discussions were held in Planning

Commission and at Patna respectively with the State Officers of Bihar. In this connection, Government of Bihar has been requested to furnish some information which is still awaited. Further, a Memorandum dt. 28.11.2000 submitted to Hon'ble Prime Minister by Members of Parliament of Bihar for an economic package to Bihar after its bifurcation has also been received. However, it does not indicate any amount. The Memorandum is also under examination. Subsequently, Chief Minister, Bihar sent the details of the projects amounting to Rs. 20,646.28 Crores which were taken to be in supercession of all the earlier projects/documents sent by the Bihar Government. Thereafter, Bihar Government sent additional lists of projects which are pending with different Ministries/Deptts. of Government of India. The proposals were sent to the concerned Ministries/Deptts. for taking appropriate view in the matter at their end. The matter of 'Bihar Package' is also under consideration in the Planning Commission and consultations on this have been held with the State Government.

Statement

Financial Summary of the proposed Schemes

(Rs. in crores)

Department	Category I Sent to the Union Govt.	Category II Schemes which are ready for submission	Category III To reach the national average	Category IV Proposed for funding by International agencies	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Water Resources	23000	18,060	14,400	—	55,460
Minor Irrigation and Agricultural (Special) programmes	3,113	346	—	5,075	8,534
Energy	8,580	8,605	570	—	17,755
Road construction	925	5,604	25,334	—	31,863
Rural	—	9,644	5,262	548	15,454
Agriculture	80	—	—	—	80
Sugarcane Development	—	—	750	—	750
A.H. Dev. And Fishery	60	18	51	64	193

1	2	3	4	5	6
Industries	278	155	—	—	433
Education	1,520	3,165	10,196	—	14,881
Science & Technology	—	—	1,181	—	1,181
Health	—	—	—	—	—
Tourism	41	—	30		71
Urban Dev.	3253	9	35	217	3514
Total	40,850	45,606	57,809	5,904	150,169

Cancer Hospitals

653. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of deaths due to cancer is increasing particularly in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up cancer hospitals for research and treatment of this disease during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The number of deaths caused due to Cancer is not centrally available. Based on the cancer mortality observed in the Mumbai Population Based Cancer Registry of Indian Council of Medical Research, the projected number of deaths caused by Cancer in the country is about 4.3 lakhs.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to set up Cancer Hospital for Research and Treatment during the Tenth Five-Year Plan. However, this Ministry is running National Cancer Control Programme under which assistance is provided for spreading awareness, diagnosis, treatment, research etc. as per details given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

National Cancer Control Programme

There are various schemes for which central assistance is provided to the State Governments/Institutions. The schemes are as under:

Development of Oncology Wing

This scheme is available only for Government Medical Colleges to fill up the geographical gaps in the detection and treatment of cancer in the country. Financial assistance up to Rs. 2.00 crores can be provided to an Institute under the scheme for purchase of listed equipments. This is a one-time grant.

Setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit

Financial assistance up to Rs. 1.50 crore is provided to State Government for setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit in Government institutions. This is a one-time grant.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore is also provided for Cobalt Therapy Unit to the Non-Governmental Organisations on the specific recommendations of the State Government. This is a one-time grant.

Voluntary Organisation Scheme

The scheme up to Rs. 5.00 lakhs is provided to the Voluntary Organisations for undertaking health education and early detection activities in cancer on the specific recommendations of the State Government.

District Cancer Control Programme

A scheme for district project (duration-five years) for health education, detection and pain relief measures under National Cancer Control Programme was initiated during the year 1990-91. In this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Government/UT administration for each district selected under the scheme with a provision of Rs. 10.00 lakhs per annum for each district for the remaining four years of the project period. After five years, the project is to be taken over by the State Government.

Regional Cancer Centres

This Ministry has recognized 17 Regional Cancer Centres in different States and an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually is provided for procurement of equipment for development of the Institution. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of cancer.

[English]

Arrest of Indians in USA

654. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any persons of Indian origin or Indians have been arrested in the USA for their alleged hand in the September 11, 2001 air strikes;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) Two persons Mohd. Jawed Azmath and Ayub Ali Khan carrying Indian travel documents were detained in Texas shortly after the WTC attacks. They were held on immigration violations and are being treated as material witnesses in the WTC attacks.

(c) The Government is of the view that due process of law of the USA should be allowed to have its course in this case.

KVIC Units Revamped

655. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 15,000 outlets of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) were being revamped for accelerating sales;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether KVIC is planning to make collaboration with professional institutes in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) The Government has announced a package for the development and promotion of Khadi and Village Industries Sector which interalia includes provision for renovation and modernization of sales outlets of institutions registered with the KVIC. The Government has also decided to renovate and modernize the Khadi Bhavans of major towns including the Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan (KGB) located in Regal Building, Connaught Place, New Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has opened a Design Centre in collaboration with the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad. The NID is also a National Consultant to the KVIC for providing support to strengthen their capabilities for undertaking design projects.

The KVIC is also collaborating with IIT, Delhi for revamping the Jamnalal Bajaj Central Research Institute, Wardha for strengthening research and development activities in the areas of rural industrialization.

PMGY

656. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people of Rajasthan benefited by Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) during the current year so far;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any Project from the Government of Rajasthan under PMGY;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The number of beneficiaries under the various components of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojna during the current year (2001-02) are as follows:

Drinking Water Supply - 1 lakh population
 Nutrition - 8.46 lakh children in the relevant age group

Rural Housing (Households benefited)

New Houses : 2607 completed
 3099 under progress
 Upgradation 1598 completed
 1752 under progress

Primary Education] The Additional Central	Assistance has been recommended for release to the State Govt. for these three components.
Primary Health		
Rural Electrification		

(b) to (d) The proposals from the State Government of Rajasthan have been received for all the components of the PMGY except for Rural Electrification for the current year. The first instalment of funds for drinking water supply, rural housing and nutrition has already been released to the State Government. The release of funds to the State Government for primary health & primary education has also been recommended to the Ministry of Finance by the concerned Central Ministries.

Failure of KVIC

657. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission failed to evolve an effective system to evaluate projects and institutions for grant of loans for watching recoveries;

(b) whether huge amount was pending for recovery as on March, 2000;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have rejected the proposal of setting up of National Institute of rural Industrialisation at Vardha for which foundation laying ceremony was fixed for October 2, 2001; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) KVIC has not been conceived as a financial institution and, as such, it has limited expertise in project appraisal and recovery of loans. It is mainly a promotional and facilitating organization.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Rs. 2315.51 crores had been disbursed as loans upto 31.3.2000 and the amount recovered, till that date, is Rs. 508.91 crores. The entire amount disbursed is not due for recovery immediately.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Ultimatum to Indians in Fiji

658. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indians are being asked to leave Fiji by the new Government of the country;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Promotion of E-Commerce

659. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
 SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian e-commerce is projected to touch Rs. 25,000/- crore by 2005;

(b) if so, the basis of this calculation and the role of the Government to promote e-commerce;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct focussed studies and create a trust in electronic environment to establish a digital signature framework; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD
MAHAJAN). (a) and (b) As per the report of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) National Committee on E-Commerce (June 2001), Indian e-commerce is projected to touch Rs. 50,000 crore by 2003. A joint study by National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) and Boston Consulting Group has projected total e-commerce transaction in India to be Rs. 1,95,000 crores by 2005. Government of India is promoting infrastructural and legal support for e-commerce.

(c) and (d) The Government has set up the Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) as part of the legal and administrative framework for creating trust in electronic environment as per provisions of the IT Act, 2000. The process of establishment of the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) in the country in the form of Certifying Authorities (CAs) has started with the finalisation of standards and guidelines for filing of applications by the prospective CA applicants. The CCA is interacting with the CA technology providers, Legal experts and Auditors through appropriate forums for creating conducive atmosphere for promoting the digital signature framework for the growth of e-commerce and e-governance.

Indian Passports and Visas to Terrorists

660. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some terrorist elements managed to procure passports and Indian visas through the Indian Embassy in Switzerland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into it; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Below Poverty Line

661. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set a target for the upliftment of all poor people living below poverty line by the year 2005;

(b) if so, the estimated number of poor people living below the poverty line at present, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh and the number out of them belonging to SCs/STs; and

(c) the number of the poor people targeted to be uplifted above the poverty line, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) as approved by the National Development Council has indicated reduction of poverty ratio (ratio of number of poor to total population) by 5 percentage points by 2007.

(b) The latest estimate of number of people living below the poverty line *i.e.* number of poor people, state-wise, is available for the year 1999-2000. This is given in the statement-I enclosed. In Andhra Pradesh, 11.90 million people lived below the poverty line in 1999-2000. The latest estimate of the percentage of poor among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population are available for the year 1993-94. These are given in the statement-II. The estimates of number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population living below the poverty line are not available.

(c) The number of the poor people targeted to be uplifted above the poverty line is not fixed annually.

Statement I**Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line State-wise 1999-2000**

(30-day Recall period)

Sl. No.	States/U.T.'s	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.13	11.05	60.88	26.63	119.01	15.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	40.04	0.18	7.47	3.98	33.47
3.	Assam	92.17	40.04	2.38	7.47	94.55	36.09
4.	Bihar	376.51	44.30	49.13	32.91	425.64	42.60
5.	Goa	0.11	1.35	0.59	7.52	0.70	4.40
6.	Gujarat	39.80	13.17	26.9	15.59	67.89	14.07
7.	Haryana	11.94	8.27	5.39	9.99	17.34	8.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.84	7.94	0.29	4.63	5.12	7.63
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.97	3.97	0.49	1.98	3.46	3.48
10.	Karnataka	59.91	17.38	44.49	25.25	104.40	20.04
11.	Kerala	20.97	9.38	20.07	20.27	41.04	12.72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	217.32	37.06	81.22	38.44	298.54	37.43
13.	Maharashtra	125.12	23.72	102.87	26.81	227.99	25.02
14.	Manipur	6.53	40.04	0.66	7.47	7.19	28.54
15.	Meghalaya	7.89	40.04	0.34	7.47	8.23	33.87
16.	Mizoram	1.40	40.04	0.45	7.47	1.85	19.47
17.	Nagaland	5.21	40.04	0.28	7.47	5.49	32.67
18.	Orissa	143.69	48.01	25.40	42.83	169.09	47.15
19.	Punjab	10.20	6.35	4.29	5.75	14.49	6.16
20.	Rajasthan	55.06	13.74	26.78	19.85	81.83	15.28
21.	Sikkim	2.00	40.04	0.04	7.47	2.05	36.55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Tamil Nadu	80.51	20.55	49.97	22.11	130.48	21.12
23.	Tripura	12.53	40.04	0.49	7.47	13.02	34.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	412.01	31.22	117.88	30.89	529.89	31.15
25.	West Bengal	180.11	31.85	33.38	14.86	213.49	27.02
26.	A&N Island	0.58	20.55	0.24	22.11	0.82	20.99
27.	Chandigarh	0.05	5.75	0.45	5.75	0.51	5.75
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.30	17.57	0.03	13.52	0.33	17.14
29.	Daman & Diu	0.01	1.35	0.05	7.52	0.06	4.44
30.	Delhi	0.07	0.40	11.42	9.42	11.49	8.23
31.	Lakshadweep	0.03	9.38	0.08	20.27	0.11	15.60
32.	Pondicherry	0.64	20.55	1.77	22.11	2.41	21.67
	All India	1932.43	27.09	670.07	23.62	2602.50	26.10

Notes:—

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A&N Island.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Rajasthan may be treated as tentative.

Statement II**Percentage of Population below Poverty Line, State-wise 1993-94**

S.No.	States	Rural		Urban	
		Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26.02	25.66	43.82	46.68
2.	Assam	45.38	41.44	14.34	7.11
3.	Bihar	70.66	69.75	55.16	35.76

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Gujarat	32.26	31.20	44.99	35.47
5.	Haryana	46.56	41.55	23.58	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	36.89	63.94	18.52	0.00
7.	Karnataka	46.36	37.33	61.59	62.05
8.	Kerala	36.43	37.34	31.59	1.08
9.	Madhya Pradesh	45.83	56.69	65.00	65.28
10.	Maharashtra	51.64	50.58	52.56	61.06
11.	Orissa	48.95	71.26	47.45	64.85
12.	Punjab	22.08	27.00	27.96	0.00
13.	Rajasthan	38.38	46.23	48.63	13.21
14.	Tamil Nadu	44.05	44.37	61.50	30.08
15.	Uttar Pradesh	58.99	37.11	58.02	36.89
16.	West Bengal	45.29	61.95	37.73	19.41
17.	All India	48.11	51.94	49.48	41.14

Note:

1. The estimates are based on the methodology outlined in the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.
2. The Poverty Line for all population is used for SC's and ST's.
3. All India poverty ratio is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line).

*[Translation]***Private Telephone Operators**

662. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages where private companies have provided telephone connections;

(b) whether the private companies have achieved the target of 25 per cent;

(c) the names of the companies who have achieved this target;

(d) whether the corporation will have to face cut throat competition due to this; and

(e) the action taken against those companies who have not followed the conditions of the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) A total of 807 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided so far by the private operator companies of basic telephone services.

(b) The VPT targets committed by them are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) None of these private companies has achieved their committed targets.

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

(e) The Liquidated Damage (LD) charges have been recovered from them, as provided for in the licence agreement, for delay in fulfillment of the committed

performance obligations in this respect. Further, they have also been asked to complete the unfulfilled committed roll out obligations by December, 2002 for which submission of additional Performance Bank Guarantees and Deed of Guarantees has been demanded.

Statement

Private operator and licensed service area	Effective date of licence	Month of commencement of service	No. of VPTs Committed in first 3 years from effective date*	No. of VPT Provided by 15.10.01 **	No. of villages left uncovered as on 30.9.2001
Bharti Telenet Ltd. Madhya Pradesh	30.9.1997	June 1998	16500	348	23,309
Tata Teleservices Andhra Pradesh	30.9.1997	March 1999	9635	10	6,059
Hughes Telecom. Maharashtra	30.9.1997	Oct. 1998	25760	40	10,926
Reliance Telecom. Gujarat	30.9.1997	May 2000	8635	Nil	4,202
Shyam Telelink Rajasthan	4.3.1998	June 2000	31,834	209	14,791
HFCL Infotel. Punjab	30.9.1997	Sept. 2000	5,442	1	Nil
Total			97,806	608	59,287

*These commitments were to be met by 30.9.1998 in case of AP, Gujarat, Punjab and by 30.9.99 in case of Maharashtra. For MP and Rajasthan the same were to be completed by 30.9.2000 and 4.3.2001 respectively.

**Figures are as reported by the licensees.

[English]

Application Filed before the CAT for the Post of CBI Director

663. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal has directed that filling up of posts in the Director-General of Police Grade at the Centre shall be subject to the outcome of an application filed before the CAT by a senior State IPS officer pleading for considering him for the CBI Director's post;

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

(c) the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

The CAT, Bangalore Bench, *vide* its interim order dated 26.7.2001 in MA No. 243/2001 filed in OA No. 692/2001 by Dr. R. Vishwanathan, IPS (KTK:66), had directed that filling up of posts in the Director-General of Police grade at the Centre shall be subject to the outcome of the order in OA No. 692/2001. The OA No. 692/2001 was finally decided by the Hon'ble CAT *vide* its order dated 28.9.2001 and there was no such direction in the said order of CAT.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Link of National Highway with Major Ports

664. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 5387 dated April 23, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to provide a link road to Paradip by connecting National

Highway No. 5A with State Highway No. 12 in Orissa;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project and the fund released for construction that link road to connect with Paradeep Port; and

(c) the other projects launched to link other Roads with major ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir. The improvement of road connectivity to Paradip Port is proposed by way of four-lanning of National Highway-5A.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 350 crore. The civil work contract is yet to be awarded.

(c) The details of connectivity for other major ports are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Port Connectivity Projects

S.No.	Port	Likely Stretch/Stretches	Length in Km.
1.	Calcutta	NH-34 (from Barasat Bypass to Calcutta Dock via Kamalgaji and Joga)	60
2.	Haldia	NH-41 (from Kolaghat on NH-6 to Haldia)	53
3.	Vishakhapatnam	State Road	12
4.	Chennai and Ennore	Chennai-Ennore Expressway	6
5.	Tuticorin	NH-7A (Tuticorin-Tirvelalli section)	51
6.	Cochin	NH-47 (from Km. 348/382 to Km. 358/300 including 5 bridges)	10
7.	New Mangalore	NH-17 (Kasaragodu-Mangalore-Udupi section & NH-48 Mangalore-Bantwal section)	37
8.	Mormugao	NH-17B (from Port to Verna Junction on NH-17)	18
9.	Jawaharlal Nehru Port	NH-4B + NH-4 SH-54 +Amra Marg +Panvel Creek bridge	29 10 6
10.	Kandla	NH-8A (Samkhiali-Gandhidham)	56

**UN Security Council Resolution on
International Terrorism**

665. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN Security Council resolution on international terrorism passed in the wake of September 11 attacks on World Trade Centre, USA has been welcomed by India;

(b) if so, the details of the resolution passed;

(c) whether the UN resolution has considered the terrorist organisations operating in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to implement UN resolution?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) In the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks, on September 11 in USA, the Security Council adopted resolution 1363 which condemned these attacks. It subsequently adopted resolution 1373 on September 28 outlining a number of measures to combat terrorism. The resolution *inter alia* calls on all States to prevent and combat the financing of terrorism; to freeze all assets and funds of terrorist organisations; refrain from providing any form of support including recruitment, supply of weapons, safe haven; calls for intensified international cooperation to exchange information on movement of terrorists; strengthen border controls and cooperate with each other in other ways. All States are required to submit a report to the Security Council on the measures they have taken to implement the resolution in ninety days.

(c) and (d) The resolution does not identify specific terrorist organisations, but is intended to strengthen fight against Terrorism, globally. Each member State has to determine which terrorist organisations it has to take action against.

(e) The Government of India has welcomed Security Council resolution 1373 and is committed to implementing it. As a victim of terrorism for over two decades we have measures in place to combat terrorism. The recent Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance has a number of additional measures, specially relating to financial aspects. India will also report to the Security Council as envisaged in the Resolution.

[Translation]

Strengthen Homoeopathic Colleges

666. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has sent any proposal to Union Government for assistance to strengthen homoeopathic colleges in the State and conducting research work with them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The applications for Central assistance for strengthening the Colleges in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy are received through the State Government. During 2001-2002, five Homoeopathic Colleges in Maharashtra have been sanctioned Central assistance of Rs. 48.00 lakhs.

[English]

New National Highways in Orissa

667. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has sent any proposal for the declaration of Fulnakhara (at N.H. No. 5) Niali-Madhab-Charichhak-Gop-Konark-Puri (at N.H.No. 203) length about 100 km. as a new National Highway;

(b) if so, when and in view of Konark being declared by UNESCO as an international heritage centre;

(c) whether the Central Government would declare the road connecting Konark as a new National Highway and take steps for developing the road expeditiously; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) The proposal for upgradation of Phulnakhara-Puri road had been received from the State Government of Orissa in January, 2001. The proposal would be considered alongwith similar proposals received from other State Governments after finalisation of the Tenth Five Year Plan keeping in view the traffic needs, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

Alarming Rate of T.B.

668. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will with Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the World Health Organisation have issued a joint warning to the international community that tuberculosis is spreading globally at an alarming rate;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether they have suggested certain measures for combating T.B.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. They have stated that with a death toll of nearly two million people would wide last year alone. TB's deadly association with the HIV/AIDS pandemic and its growing drug resistance. TB is an imminent public health emergency.

(c) and (d) These agencies are seeking the expansion of national access to DOTS a strategy under which drugs are given under the direct observation of a health worker to ensure compliance. They have appealed to Governments in both developed and developing words to substantially increase their financial backing for combating T.B. They want all countries to reach T.B. control targets of 70 percent detection of smear positive cases and 85 percent cure rate of these new cases detected by 2005.

(e) Government is committed to expand its efforts for T.B. control in India. The Revised National T.B. Control Programme using DOTS strategy is being implemented in a phased manner. Coverage has increased from about 20 million in end 98 to about 440 million population at present. It is envisaged to cover 500 million population by 2002 and 800 million population by 2004.

[*Translation*]

Anti-India Propaganda

669. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani High Commission situated in various countries are indulging in Anti-India propaganda and are also providing shelter to terrorists;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the concerned countries; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of these countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) It is well known that Pakistan, as part of its hostile and negative approach towards India, sponsors cross-border terrorism and hostile propaganda against India. It is also well known that contrary to well-established norms of diplomatic behavior Pakistan has been using its High Commissions and Embassies in third countries for this purpose. There have been instances of Pakistani diplomats, posted abroad, being asked to leave the host country because they were indulging in activities that were incompatible with their diplomatic and official status.

Government have appropriately and effectively brought to the attention of the international community facts regarding Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism in India. There is a widespread recognition in the international community that there can be no justification for terrorism which must be eradicated wherever it exists

[*English*]

Global Threat of Bio-Terrorism

670. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level meeting of health experts' etc., was held recently on global threat of Bio-Terrorism;

(b) if so, the findings of the meeting; and

(c) the steps are being taken to implement the findings?

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

(b) and (c) Two expert group meetings were held (1st & 17th October) under the chairmanship of Dr. C.P. Thakur, Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare to review the management (diagnosis, treatment, IEC activities etc.) of recently emerging diseases of public health importance like Dengue, Anthrax etc. Eminent experts in the field of medical science from different

organizations in the country, senior officials of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and chiefs of different Government and private hospitals in Delhi participated in the meeting and deliberated on various aspects of the bio-terrorism in the backdrop of the current global situation.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has convened a meeting-cum workshop on Biological and Chemical Terrorism on 29th October 2001 at New Delhi wherein Health Secretary, Home Secretary and Director of Health Services from various States and Union Territories, eminent experts in the field of medical science from different organizations in the country and heads of different hospitals in Government and private sector in Delhi participated and deliberated on various aspects.

The officials from the State Governments gave a brief account of their preparedness to tackle bio-chemical terrorism. All of them assured that they have got the expertise and sufficient stock of medicines to tackle the situation.

[Translation]

Opening of Post Offices in Bihar

671. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for opening of Post Offices in rural and urban areas of all districts of Bihar during Ninth Plan period and the achievement made in this regard; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to complete the remaining work within the target period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The targets fixed for opening of post offices in Rural and Urban areas of all districts of Bihar during Ninth Plan period and achievement made in this regard are as under:—

Plan Year	Target		Achievement	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1997-98	41	04	31	4
1998-99	72	02	72	2
1999-2000	53	Nil	51	Nil
2000-2001	54	Nil	71	Nil
2001-2002	63	02	06	Nil

(b) Opening of post offices is dependent on norms based justification and sanction of requisite new posts by the Government.

[English]

STD/ISD/PCO

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

(a) the total revenue from STD/ISD/PCOs in Andhra Pradesh in 2000-2001;

(b) whether it is a fact that some PCOs have become unviable due to competition;

(c) if so, the manner in which the Union Government propose to enhance the incentives for PCOs to operate all over the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether any discussions have been held with PCO owners and their representatives;

(e) if so, the details of such discussion thereof; and

(f) the outcome thereof?

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

[Translation]

New Transport System through Waterways

673. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a new Transport System through the national waterways of 14,500 K.M. long rivers;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the rivers in which waterways are likely to be developed and the places to be connected thereby;

(c) names of places where waterways is available at present; and

(d) the details of the proposal of the Government to utilize the available waterways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The National Transport Policy Committee report (1980) identified ten watersays as having potential for declaration and development as National Waterways namely

- (i) The Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system
- (ii) The Brahmaputra
- (iii) The West Coast Canal
- (iv) The Sunderbans
- (v) The Godavari
- (vi) The Krishna
- (vii) The Mahanadi
- (viii) The Narmada
- (ix) The Mandovi, Zuari rivers and Cumberjua canal in Goa
- (x) The Tapi

So far three waterways have been declared as national waterways namely :

National Waterway No. 1—Allahabad-Haldia stretch (1620 k.m.) of Ganga Bhagirathi-Hoogly river system.

National Waterway No. 2—Dhubn Sadiya stretch (891 k.m.) of river Brahmaputra.

National Waterway No. 3—Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal along with Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals (205 k.m.)

Techno-economic feasibility studies for assessing the potential/navigability of the following inland waterways have been conducted.

1. The Sunderbans from Haldia to Raimangal rivers confluence at Bangladesh Border.
2. The Barak River from Lakhipur to Karimganj.
3. Kakinada-Mercaunam canal integrated with rivers Krishna from Wazirabad to Vijayawada and Godavari from Wazirabad to Vijayawada and Godavari from Badrachalam to Rajahmundry.
4. East Coast Canal from Paradeep to Haldia integrated with Brahmani river from Talcher to Paradeep/Dhamra.

5. DVC Canal from Durgapur to confluence with Kunti river in Tribeni.
6. Extension of NW-3 upto Kovalam in the South and Kasargode in the North.

The declaration of the above waterways as national waterways and subsequent development would be considered subject to availability of resources.

Various schemes for provision of infrastructure such as navigational channel, terminals at selected locations and navigational aids are being planned and executed in phased manner by Inland Waterways Authority of India on the three national waterways.

Provisions also exist under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Inland Water Transport Sector for loan assistance to State Governments upto 50% of the cost of the schemes on reimbursement basis for development of inland waterways and waterway infrastructure.

With a view to giving an impetus to IWT sector and to encourage private sector participation in IWT infrastructure development and ownership and operation of inland vessels, the Government has approved an IWT policy which include several Policy measures and incentives to facilitate and promote private sector participation and investment in this sector.

[English]

Special Category States

674. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modify the conditions laid down for declaration of Special Category State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to declare Orissa a Special Category State; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Central Government plan to assist the poorest State like Orissa by extending them the benefit of Special Category State for sustainability of their financial positions?

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

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The issue of modifying the conditions laid down for declaration of a State as a Special Category State has to be examined in the context of revision of Gadgil Formula which is the basis for *inter-state* allocation of Central Assistance. The revision of Gadgil Formula for allocation of Central Assistance, and change in the criteria for classification of Special Category Status was considered in the full Planning Commission meeting held on 27th and 29th June, 2001, and it was felt that given the difference of opinion among the State Governments, and the sensitivity of this issue, it was necessary to discuss it further and evolve a consensus before alternatives are considered by NDC. It was agreed, therefore, that this agenda would be taken up separately. Subsequently, NDC meeting was held on 1st September, 2001 wherein it took note of suggestions made for looking into the criteria for granting special category status to some States and it was agreed that these should be examined.

Subsidy to Haj Pilgrims

675. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy is given on air ticket to each of the Haj pilgrims;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given on each air ticket during the year 2000-2001;

(c) whether a decision has been taken to withdraw this subsidy in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the amount of subsidy of the current year is more than the subsidy of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Subsidy is given to only those pilgrims who undertake Haj pilgrimage through Central Haj Committee.

(b) The amount of subsidy on each air ticket for Haj pilgrims during Haj 2001 was Rs. 21,000/- approximately.

(c) The Cabinet has directed that a proposal be brought up before it for phasing out the subsidy over the next few years.

(d) The proposal is under examination and yet to be submitted.

Extradition of Mafia Don

676. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cooperation of Bush administration has been sought for the extradition of mafia don Dawood Ibrahim from Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scheme for Terrorist Affected Areas

677. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy of the Government to develop terrorist affected areas;

(b) whether it is fact that Gaya, Bihar is a terrorist affected area and groups like MCC, Ranbir Sena are very active in that area; and

(c) if so, quantum of funds released for the all round development of Gaya, Bihar in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Opening of New Post Offices in Gujarat*[Translation]*

678. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Post Offices sanctioned and set up in the rural areas of Gujarat during 2000-2001 district-wise;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of places where no Post Office has been set up though they fulfil the prescribed criteria for opening of new post offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 9 (Nine) new Post Offices have been sanctioned and set up in rural areas of Gujarat during 2000-2001. District-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Post office are opened on norms based justification subject to the availability of resources.

Statement

District-wise Details of New Post Offices sanctioned and set up in the Rural Areas of Gujarat during 2000-2001

S.No.	District	Number of post offices sanctioned and setup
1.	Banaskantha	1
2.	Gandhinagar	1
3.	Sabarkantha	2
4.	Dahod	1
5.	Panchmahal	1
6.	Valsad	1
7.	Narmada	1
8.	Surat	1
	Total	9

Recognition of Importance of Human Resources

679. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to recognise the importance of Human Resources during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan States that the development process must be viewed in terms of the efficiency with which it uses an economy's productive capacities, involving both physical and human resources, as means to attain the desired social ends (and not just material attainment). To this end it is absolutely essential to build up the economy's productive potential through high rates of growth without which we cannot hope to provide expanding levels of consumption for the population. However, while this is a necessary condition it is not sufficient. It becomes imperative therefore to pursue a development strategy that builds on a policy focus on exploiting synergies between economic growth, desirable social attainments and growing opportunities for all.

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

*[English]***Cross Border Terrorism**

680. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been able to convince the world community about the cross border terrorism being perpetrated by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether most leading nations have supported India's stand thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The international community is fully aware that Pakistan sponsors cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India. This is also indicated by the fact that a number of Pakistan based terrorist groups have been banned by some countries.

The international community recognizes that there can never be any justification for terrorism, which must be eradicated wherever it exists.

Revamp of Hospital Management

681. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of inadequate capacity of the major hospitals in Delhi;

(b) whether there is a need to expand the capacity in each hospital and also to revamp the management planning in the hospitals to reduce the queues and crowds at the registration counters; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Speed Post Service

682. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth of Speed Post Service has been slowed because of stiff competition from courier services;

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

(c) the measures being taken to overcome the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Speed Post Service was started by the Department in 1986 to provide fast and time-bound delivery service to the customers. Speed Post has been constantly growing and the revenue figures from Speed post in the last three years are given below:

1998-99	Rs. 91.36 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 126.17 crores
2000-2001	Rs. 151.44 crores

Courier industry is an open market and is highly competitive in nature. The Department has, therefore, also taken a number of steps to strengthen the Speed Post service to meet the challenge from the private couriers. The network of Speed Post Centres has been extended to 120 towns in the national network and more than 500 stations in the State level network. The tariff for speed post has also been restructured on commercial principles to increase market share. To enhance the satisfaction of the customers, delivery system has been restructured by creating nodal offices with dedicated delivery staff and special recognition has been given to the bulk consumers as per market practice. In addition, all the 120 Speed Post Centres have been computerized. On-line tracking system has been developed for the consumers to track the speed post consignments through internet. Free pick up service facilities from the customers' premises have also been introduced to increase the market share.

Simhashta Kumbhamela

683. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra has sought grant-in-aid for the Simhashta Kumbhamela to be held at Nasik and Trambakeshwar in Maharashtra during 2003-2004 to the tune of Rs. 100 crores from the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have principally agreed to provide the grant-in-aid; and

(c) the time by which the grant-in-aid is likely to be released by the Union Government?

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

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra requested, a Special Central Assistance of Rs. 100 crore, Rs. 50 crore each to be given for the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 for the Simhastha Kumbh Mela at Nasik and Trimbakeshwar to be held during 2003-04. In the meeting held between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra on 23 August, 2001, to finalise the Annual plan 2001-02, it was agreed to provide one time additional Central Assistance of Rs. 50 crore for creation of urban infrastructure for Kumbh at Nasik. Union Government has released this amount to Government of Maharashtra.

Pulse Polio

684. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

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

(a) the details of the immunization and pulse polio programme launched by the Government so far;

(b) the districts covered under the above programme as on date;

(c) whether the Government have set up a target to achieve "zero incidence of polio" cases;

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and

(e) the time by which the target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (e) India has accepted the World Health Organization's goal of Zero Incidence of Polio in this country by 2002. In order to achieve this goal, the Intensified Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, covering the entire country, was launched in 1995. This programme will continue till the goal is achieved. The number of polio cases has declined from 1934 in 1998, to 1126 in 1999, 265 in 2000 and 161 (as on Nov. 17, 2001). All necessary measures are being taken to achieve the goal of zero incidence of polio in the country by 2002.

Indian Nursing Council

685. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware the Indian Nursing Council (Nursing Council of India) has not been given enough statutory powers as in the case of Indian Medical Council of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Proposals have been received from the Indian Nursing Council to amend the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947 for improving the regulation of the Nursing profession in the country. These proposals are under examination.

India's Role in Fighting Terrorism

686. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India being the prime mover of the peace in the world took initiative to mobilize the third world countries through the platform of non-aligned movement to oppose terrorism as a whole as well as to defuse tension of escalating any war in any part of the world by the big powers in the world; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) As a victim of Terrorism for over two decades, India has consistently stressed that combating Terrorism has to be given a high priority in the global agenda. The tragic events of September 11 have brought a heightened awareness and urgency in the fight against Terrorism. In our interactions, particularly with developing countries and the Non-Aligned Movement, we have emphasised that Terrorism is a global menace which cannot be compartmentalised and that the fight against it has to go beyond the immediate and has to be comprehensive, global and sustained.

India has also conveyed that there can be no justification for acts of Terrorism religious, ethnic, ideological or any other. The international measures to counter Terrorism should encompass not only the perpetrators of terrorist acts, but also those who incite, support, finance or extend safe havens to terrorists.

India has welcomed international efforts including efforts under the UN to counter Terrorism. In this framework, India has welcomed the Security Council Resolution 1373 of September 28. India is also piloting a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) to strengthen the legal framework in countering Terrorism. Discussions on CCIT are continuing at the United Nations. During the UN General Assembly, the Prime Minister forcefully conveyed India's point of view, including our concerns on the cross border aspects of Terrorism, in his address to the UNGA on November 10.

Many countries with whom we had discussions, share India's views and concerns.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Social Services and Education

687. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation made by the Union Government for Social Services including health and education during the Ninth Plan;

(b) the break-up of percentage of total expenditure spent by the Government on social services including health and education during the last two years;

(c) whether the Union Government have advised all the states to spend more funds on social services out of their total administrative expenditure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The total allocation by the Union Government for Social Sectors, namely, Health, Education (including Youth Affairs & Sports and Culture), Rural Development (including Rural Employment & Poverty Alleviation and Land Resources/

Wasteland Development), Social Justice & Empowerment, Women & Child Development and Tribal Affairs during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) is of the order of Rs. 1,03,661 crore, in nominal terms.

(b) During the last two years (1999-2000 and 2000-2001) the total anticipated expenditure *vis-a-vis* the budget allocations made by the Union Government on the above mentioned social sectors was of the order of 88 per cent. The corresponding figures for the Health and Education sectors were of the order of 95 per cent and 86 per cent, respectively.

(c) to (e) The Union Government is concerned with the allocation of Central Assistance to State and UT Plans and finalisation of their respective Plan Outlays. During the formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the States were reminded of the consensus arrived at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 4th - 5th July, 1996, "that the focus should be placed on seven Basic Minimum Services which include drinking water, primary education, housing to the shelterless, mid-day meals in Primary Schools, connectivity of villages and the public distribution system. It was also stated that major efforts need to be made to reduce population growth through intensified family welfare programmes so that the social and economic benefits can be maximised. Therefore, these services were treated as areas of highest priority in the Ninth Plan proposals and States are expected to also increase their contribution for these sectors". Subsequently, in the year 2000-01, the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana was introduced to achieve the objective of sustainable human development at the village level with focus on creation of social and economic infrastructure in critical areas of health, education, drinking water, housing and rural roads for improving the quality of life of our people, especially in rural areas.

[English]

E-Post Scheme

688. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch the e-post scheme in the country;

(b) if so, names of the districts in Karnataka proposed to be covered;

(c) the time by which all the districts in Karnataka are likely to be provided with this e-post scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The Department of Posts has launched the e-Post scheme as a pilot project for six months in August, 2001. In this pilot project, the e-Post facility was introduced through 200 Post Offices in the 5 States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala and Maharashtra. Its extension to the rest of the country would depend on the success of the pilot project.

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

Financial Assistance for Medical Colleges

689. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

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

(a) whether the Government have received proposal from the State Governments for extension of financial assistance to improve the situation of Medical Colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the colleges in the country which have been selected for this purpose; and

(c) the amount being allotted to each college, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have recently introduced a Pilot Project for providing financial assistance to the selected Government Medical Colleges for strengthening of diagnostic facilities. Under the above Pilot Project, this Ministry has received proposals from Governments of Tamil Nadu, Assam, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala and NCT of Delhi. No financial assistance has so far been released under this pilot project to the States.

Dengue and Malaria

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

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

(a) whether large number of cases of dengue and malaria reported in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Malaria incidence has been showing a declining trend since 1997 in the capital.

84 cases of Dengue, transmitted by aedes mosquitoes, with one death amongst the residents of Delhi have been reported during the last 6 months (from May till 10th November, 2001) as against 93 cases with one death reported during the corresponding period of last year. This does not include the figures of Dengue Cases belonging to other States and treated in Delhi Hospitals.

(c) Steps taken for prevention and control of Malaria & Dengue include:—

Malaria

- Early case detection and prompt treatment
- Selective Vector control
- Promotion of personal protection methods
- Early detection and containment of epidemics
- Information, Education and Communication towards personal prevention and community participation.
- Institutional and Management Capacity Building, Trained Manpower Development and efficient Management Information System (MIS).
- Issuance of advance warning to States/UTs suggesting all the preventive and control measures.

Dengue

- Dengue/Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) has been made a notifiable disease in Delhi.

- Disease and vector surveillance
- Vector control mainly through source reduction
- Early diagnosis and case management in hospitals
- Information, Education and Communication for community awareness
- Early response to epidemics
- Regular monitoring and review of Dengue situation by the concerned authorities.
- Deployment of domestic breeding checkers for vector surveillance, source reduction and community education.
- Enactment of legislative measures by MCD providing imposition of fine for abetting mosquitogenic conditions.

- Development and issue of guidelines to States for prevention and control of Dengue/DHF and containment of outbreaks.
- A control Room has been established at the Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme, Delhi for closely monitoring the Dengue situation and providing technical guidelines to the States reporting incidence of Dengue.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 22nd November 2001 at 11 a.m.

11.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, November 22, 2001/
Agrahayana 1, 1923 (Saka).*

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