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Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh (Etawah)	Singh, Shri Khel Sai (Sarguja)
Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram (Shimla)	Singh, Shri Lakshman (Rajgarh)
Shanmugam, Shri N.T. (Vellore)	Singh, Shri Maheshwar (Mandi)
Shanta Kumar, Shri (Kangra)	Singh, Shri Prabhunath (Maharajanji, Bihar)
Sharma, Capt. Satish (Raebareli)	Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Motihari)
	Singh, Shri Rajo (Begusarai)
	Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Arrah)

Singh, Shri Ramanand (Satna)
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan (Balial, Bihar)
 Singh, Shri Rampal (Domariaganj)
 Singh, Shri Sahib (Outer Delhi)
 Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba (Inner Manipur)
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Pasad (Kodarma)
 Singh, Shri Vishvendra (Bharatpur)
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti (Bikramganj)
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama (Aurangabad, Bihar)
 Sinha, Shri Manoj (Gazipur)
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant (Hazaribagh)
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S. (Thiruvananthapuram)
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh (Godhra)
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit (Mumbai North-East)
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar (Udupi)
 Srenivasan, Shri C. (Dindigul)
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C. (Chickmangalore)
 Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava (Anantapur)
 Subba Shri M.K. (Tezpur)
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M. (Sivaganga)
 Sudheeran, Shri V.M. (Alleppey)
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)
 Sunil Dutt, Shri (Mumbai North-West)
 Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Adoor)
 Swain, Shri Kharabela (Balasore)
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Jaunpur)
 Swami, Shri I.D. (Karnal)

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B. (Vadodra)
 Thakur, Dr. C.P. (Patna)
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai (Bhandara)
 Thakur, Shri Ramsheth (Kulaba)
 Thirunavukarasu, Shri (Pudukkottai)
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)

Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari (East Delhi)
 Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt (Nainital)
 Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal (Rewa)
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)
 Tripathi, Shri Ram Naresh (Seoni)
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani (Deoria)
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh (Tarantaran)

U

Uma Bharati, Kumari (Bhopal)

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh (Kapadvanj)
 Vaiko, Shri (Sivakasi)
 Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas (Dhandhuka)
 Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D. (Bharuch)
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N. (Tirupati)
 Venkateswarlu, Shri B. (Warangal)
 Venkateswarlu, Prof. Ummareddy (Tenali)
 Venugopal, Dr. S. (Adilabad)
 Venugopal, Shri D. (Tiruppattur)
 Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)
 Verma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)
 Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)
 Verma, Shri Ram Murti Singh (Shahjahanpur)
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash (Kheri)
 Vetrivelan, Shri V. (Krishnagiri)
 Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M. (Bhadrachalam)
 Vijayan, Shri A.K.S. (Nagapattinam)
 Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma (Nellore)
 Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

W

Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R. (Mysore)
Wanaga, Shri Chintaman (Dahanu)
Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar (Arunachal East)

Y

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh (Kannauj)
Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha (Mahendragarh)
Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh (Alwar)
Yadav, Shri Balram Singh (Manipur)
Yadav, Shri Bhal Chandra (Khalilabad)
Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)
Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh (Etah)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Saharsa)
Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan (Madhubani)
Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad (Godda)
Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Sambhal)
Yadav, Shri Ramakant (Azamgarh)
Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)
Yerrannaidu, Shri K. (Srikakulam)

Z

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob (Katwa)
Zawma, Shri Vanlal (Mizoram)

OFFICERS OF THE LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER
Shri G.M.C. Balayogi

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER
Shri P.M. Sayeed

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN
Shri Basu Deb Acharia
Shrimati Margaret Alva
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya
Shri P.H. Pandian
Shri Shrinivas Patil
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh
Shri Beni Prasad Verma
Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav
Shri K. Yerrannaidu

SECRETARY GENERAL
Shri G.C. Malhotra

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CABINET MINISTERS

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	The Prime Minister and also Incharge of the Ministries/ Departments not specifically allocated to the charge of any Ministers viz:	Shri Manohar Joshi	The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
	1. Ministry of Personel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Dr. Murlı Manohar Joshi	The Minister of Human Resource Development, Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Ocean Development
	2. Ministry of Planning	Shri Pramod Mahajan	The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Minister of Information Technology and Minister of Communications
	3. Department of Atomic Energy	Shri Murasoli Maran	The Minister of Commerce and Industry
	4. Department of Space	Shri Kariya Munda	The Minister of Agro and Rural Industries
Shri L.K. Advani	The Minister of Home Affairs.	Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu	The Minister of Rural Development
Shri Ananth Kumar	The Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation	Shri Ram Naik	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
Shri T.R. Baalu	The Minister of Environment and Forests	Shri Nitish Kumar	The Minister of Railways
Shri Sukh Dev Singh Dhindsa	The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri Jual Oram	The Minister of Tribal Affairs
Shri Jag Mohan	The Minister of Tourism and Culture	Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	The Minister of Coal and Mines
Shri George Fernandes	The Minister of Defence	Shri Suresh Prabhu	The Minister of Power
Shr Ved Prakash Goyal	The Minister of Shipping	Shri Kashiram Rana	The Minister of Textiles
Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain	The Minister of Civil Aviation	Shri Arjun Sethi	The Minister of Water Resources
Shri Arun Jaitley	The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs	Shri Shanta Kumar	The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment	Shri Arun Shourie	The Minister of Disinvestment and Minister of Department of North Eastern Region

Shri Ajit Singh The Minister of
Agriculture

Shri Jaswant Singh The Minister of
External Affairs

Shri Yashwant Sinha The Minister of
Finance

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj The Minister of
Information and
Broadcasting

Dr. C.P. Thakur The Minister of
Health and Family
Welfare

Kumari Uma Bharati The Minister of
Youth Affairs and
Sports

Shri Sharad Yadav The Minister of
Labour

MINISTER OF STATE (Independent Charge)

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi The Minister of State
of the Ministry of
Statistics and
Programme Imple-
mentation

Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta The Minister of State
of the Ministry of
Food Processing
Industries

Shri M. Kannappan The Minister of State
of the Ministry of
Non-Conventional
Energy Sources

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri The Minister of State
of the Ministry of
Road Transport and
Highways

Shrimati Vasundhara Raje 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.

Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy The Minister of State
of the Ministry of
Steel

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Ramesh Bais The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Information and
Broadcasting

Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Water Resources

Shri Bandaru Dattatreya The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Urban Development
and Poverty
Alleviation

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Petroleum and
Natural Gas and
Minister of State in
the Ministry of
Parliamentary Affairs.

Shri Vijay Goel The Minister of State
in the Prime
Minister's Office

Dr. Vallabhbai Kathiria The Minister of State
in Ministry of Heavy
Industries and Public
Enterprises

Shri Krishnamraju The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Defence

Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Tribal Affairs

Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar The Minister of State
in the Ministry of
Textiles

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resources Development	Shri O. Rajagopal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shri Subhash Maharia	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development	Dr. Raman	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power	Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Muni Lall	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour	Shri Bachi Singh Rawat "Bachda"	The Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology
Shri Shripad Yasso Naik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping	Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Shri Omar Abdullah	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Tapan Sikdar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications
Shri Harin Pathak	The Minister of State in the Department of Defence Production and Supplies of the Ministry of Defence	Shri Digvijay Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shri Annasaheb M.K. Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development	Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Shri Ashok Pradhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Shri I.D. Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal and Mines	Prof. Rita Verma	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shri Pon Radhakrishnan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
Shri A. Raja	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture

LOK SABHA DEBATES

First day of Eighth Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha

LOK SABHA

11.05 hrs.

Monday, November 19, 2001/Kartika 28, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(The National Anthem was played.)

11.01 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Madhusudan Devaram Mistry (Sabarkanta)

Shri Kailash Meghwal (Tonk)

11.03 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I would like to introduce to the House some newly inducted Members:-

Shri George Fernandes, the Minister of Defence...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. SPEAKER: Obituary References please.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

AND

REFERENCE TO VICTIMS OF TERRORISM IN INDIA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as we meet today after an interval of about three months, it is my said duty to inform the House of the passing away of two of our esteemed colleagues, Sarvashri Samar Choudhury and Madhavrao Scindia, sitting Members and ten of our former colleagues namely, Sarvashri Y.S. Mahajan, Pundlikrao Ramji Gawali, K. Vijayabhaskara Reddy, Sunrendranath Dwivedy, P.K. Deo, B. Devarajan, Shrimati Maragatham Chandrasekhar, Sarvashri P.K. Kodyan, Shyam Dhar Misra and Shrimati Kamala Bahuguna.

Shri Samar Choudhury was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Tripura West Parliamentary Constituency of Tripura. He was also a Member of Twelfth Lok Sabha during 1998-99 representing the same Parliamentary Constituency.

An active Parliamentarian, Shri Choudhury took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. He served as a member of the Committee on Home Affairs and Rules Committee. He was also a member of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs.

Earlier, Shri Choudhury was a Member of Tripura Legislative Assembly for five terms from 1972 to 1998. As an able administrator, he served in the State Government as a Cabinet Minister of Industries, Health, Labour and Animal Resource Development from 1986 to 1988 and Minister of Home Affairs and Revenue from 1993 to 1998.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Choudhury actively participated in the freedom struggle.

A well known social and political worker, Shri Choudhury was associated with various organisations connected with the welfare and uplift of farmers. His death is irreparable loss to the Kisan Movement in our country.

Shri Samar Choudhury passed away on 10th September, 2001 at New Delhi at the age of 71 after a brief illness.

* Not Recorded.

Shri Madhavrao Scindia was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Guna Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh. He was also a Member of Fifth to Twelfth Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1999 representing Guna and Gwalior Parliamentary Constituencies of Madhya Pradesh.

An able administrator, Shri Scindia served in the Union Council of Ministers as Cabinet Minister holding various important portfolios, such as Railways, Civil Aviation and Tourism and Human Resource Development.

An active Parliamentarian, Shri Scindia served as Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology during 1990-91 and member of various other Parliamentary and Consultative Committees. He was Deputy Leader of Congress Party in the present Lok Sabha. His contribution to parliamentary proceedings was monumental.

Keen on the promotion of education and sports, Shri Scindia was associated with several educational, cultural and sports organisations. He was President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India from 1990 to 1993 and in that capacity he infused new enthusiasm into the game.

A dynamic and foresighted leader, Shri Scindia understood the perspective of Indian industry and the socio-economic dimension of liberalisation. During his political career spanning three decades, he carved a niche for himself — be it in politics, Government or the field of cricket administration

A widely-travelled person, Shri Scindia was member of various Indian Parliamentary delegations a few of which were led by him. In 1989, he accompanied the then President of India, on his official trip to West Germany and Seychelles as Minister in Waiting. In 1995, Shri Scindia accompanied the then Prime Minister of India, as Minister of Human Resource Development, to Copenhagen to attend the Summit on Education for All. He also chaired the Ministerial meeting of E-9 Countries at Bali, Indonesia in 1995.

Though belonging to the royal family of Gwalior, Shri Scindia was a leader of the masses in the true sense of the world. He ceaselessly strove for their uplift and betterment.

In the demise of Shri Scindia, we have lost a great parliamentarian and the country has lost one of the most active and charismatic personalities in Indian public life whose absence would be greatly felt in Parliament and in the nation as a whole.

Shri Madhavrao Scindia's sudden and untimely demise left the nation numb with shock and grief. His death was a cruel manifestation of destiny. He was among the more positive and credible faces of our polity. He played a significant and constructive role in resolving several contentious issues in Parliament. A brilliant and promising political carrier was cut short when he died in a plane crash in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh on 30th September, 2001 at the young age of 56 years.

Shri Y.S. Mahajan was a Member of Fourth, Fifth and Seventh to Ninth Lok Sabha from 1970 to 1977 and 1980 to 1991 representing Buldana and Jalgaon parliamentary constituencies of Maharashtra.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Mahajan was a member of various parliamentary and consultative committees.

An educationist by profession, Shri Mahajan was associated with various educational institutions and social organisations.

An active social workers, Shri Mahajan worked relentlessly for improving the lot of slum dwellers and propagation of small family norms. He took keen interest in bringing social equality, economic planning and spreading of environmental awareness. He was also a member of the committee to finalise the Third Five Year Plan of Maharashtra State and the Study Group on Landless Labour, appointed by the Government of Maharashtra.

A man of literary bent of mind, Shri Mahajan authored three books, namely *Industrialisation of Karnataka*, *Introduction of Economics and Studies in Agricultural Production and Family Planning*.

A widely travelled person, Shri Mahajan was a member of delegations to Afghanistan and Yugoslavia.

Shri Y.S. Mahajan passed away on 27th August, 2001 at Jalgaon, Maharashtra at the age of 90.

Shri Pundlikrao Ramji Gawali was a Member of Eleventh Lok Sabha during 1996-97 representing Washim parliamentary constituency of Maharashtra.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Gawali served as Member of Committee on Energy during 1997.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Gawali worked relentlessly for ensuring remunerative price to farmers for their produce.

An active social and political worker, Shri Gawali dedicated his life for the uplift of the poor and the backward classes. He never fought shy of agitating the issues affecting common man such as price-rise etc.

Shri Pundlikrao Ramji Gawali passed away on 13th September, 2001 at Washim, Maharashtra at the age of 60.

Shri K. Vijayabhaskara Reddy was a Member of Sixth, Seventh and Ninth to Twelfth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1984; 1989 to 1993 and 1996 to 1999 representing Kurnool parliamentary constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

An able administrator, Shri K. Vijayabhaskara Reddy served in the Union Council of Ministers as Minister of Shipping and Transport, Industry and Company Affairs during 1983-84 and Law, Justice and Company Affairs during 1991-92.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Reddy ably served as a member of various parliamentary and consultative committees.

Earlier, Shri Reddy was a Member of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1955 to 1961 and Andhra Pradesh from 1955 to 1961 and Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council from 1967 to 1972. He was again elected to Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1993. He also served as Chairman, Public Accounts Committee and member of various committees in the State Assembly.

An outstanding statements, Shri Reddy served as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for two terms, that is 1982-83 and 1992 to 1994. His name is synonymous with honesty and integrity in public life. He was complimented as a 'Development Chief Minister'. He was instrumental in getting rice supplied at Rs. 1.90 per kilogram to the people of his State and supply of electricity to the agriculturists at highly subsidised rates. He played a vital role in imposing prohibition of arrack in his State. He also made efforts to release an amount of Rs. 40 crore as compensation for displaced families of Srisailem Project by settling the cases under Lok Adalat, which were pending in court for over a period of two decades. He gave top priority for energising the pumpsets, which tremendously helped the farming community.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Reddy actively participated in the freedom struggle.

Hailing from an agriculturist family Shri Reddy had established a large number of high schools and elementary schools in villages. He introduced mid-day meal scheme for students of primary schools in the State.

Reverentially called *Peddayana*, the octogenarian leader served the nation and the State in different capacities and his contribution to the irrigation development especially in Rayalaseema region was significant.

Shri Reddy took keen interest in sports his college days. He also served as Chairman, Sports Council, Andhra Pradesh during 1967-69.

Shri K. Vijayabhaskara Reddy passed away on 27th September, 2001 at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh at the age of 81, after a brief illness.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy was a member of Second to Fourth Lok Sabha from 1957 to 1970 representing Kendrapara Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa. Earlier, he was a member of Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1956.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Dwivedy served as a member of Panel of Chairmen, during Third Lok Sabha and Committee on Public Undertakings from 1964 to 1967.

Shri Dwivedy also adorned the august office of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh from 1991 to 1993.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Dwivedy suffered imprisonment for seven years for participating in the Quit India Movement and struggle against British imperialism.

A journalist by profession, Shri Dwivedy was an active social worker. He was associated with various *kisan*, youth and other movements in Orissa. He was also one of the Governors of *Khoj Parishad*, a socio-economic research institute, from 1948 to 1951.

A widely travelled person, Shri Dwivedy was a member of the Indian delegation to the first session of the Asian Socialist Conference, Rangoon, and to the United States of America.

A man of literary bent of mind, Shri Dwivedy was founder of *Krushak* an Oriya weekly, and for many years he was its Editor. He had many publications both in English and Oriya to his credit.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy passed away on 1st October, 2001 at Rourkela, Orissa at the age of 88.

Shri P.K. Deo was a member of Second to Sixth Lok Sabha from 1957 to 1979 representing Kalahandi Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Deo was the member of various Parliamentary and Consultative Committees.

Maharaja of the erstwhile State of Kalahandi, Shri Deo ruled the State from 1939 to 1947. An able administrator, Shri Deo carried on various administrative reforms like introduction of responsible Government having a Legislative Assembly and a popular Ministry, and separation of Judiciary from the Executive.

Shri. P.K. Deo served as member of Orissa Legislative Assembly during 1952-56.

A well-known social worker, Shri Deo took keen interest in welfare of tribals, promotion of anti-tuberculosis work and in removal of untouchability. He was deeply involved in promotion of national integration. He encouraged the spread of education and was instrumental in establishing libraries. He played a key role in establishing Indravati Hydro Electrical Project.

He took special interest in bringing about improvement in the road transport facilities in many parts of the State. He established the Archaeological Department in the State.

A man of letters, Shri Deo authored three books, namely, "My Humble Contributions", "Tuberluent Five Years" and "The Forgotten Forts of Kalahandi".

He took keen interest in study of classics and old Oriya literature and research in history and comparative study of Constitutions of different countries.

A widely travelled person, Shri P.K. Deo was the Leader of the Indian Delegation to Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference at Lagos, Nigeria.

Shri P.K. Deo passed away on 8 October, 2001 at New Delhi at the age of 82 after a brief illness.

Shri B. Devarajan was a Member of Sixth to Tenth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1996 representing Rasipuram Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Devarajan served as Member of various Consultative Committees and Parliamentary Committees of Lok Sabha.

A lawyer by profession, Shri Devarajan was an active social worker. He served as the Secretary, Salem District Depressed Classes League in 1972. He worked relentlessly for improving the lot of the weaker sections of the society, specially for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Keen on the promotion of sports, Shri Devarajan was also the Member of All India Sports Council during 1978-79.

Shri B. Devarajan passed away on 23 October, 2001 at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu at the age of 65 after a brief illness.

Shrimati Maragatham Chandrasekhar was a Member of First, Third and Eighth to Tenth Lok Sabha during 1952 to 1957, 1962 to 1967 and 1984 to 1996 representing Tiruvallur and Mayuram Parliamentary Constituencies of erstwhile Madras State and Sripurambudur Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu. She was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1970 to 1984.

An able administrator, Shrimati Chandrasekhar served as Deputy Minister in the Union Council of Ministers holding various important portfolios. She also served as the Minister of State holding independent charge of the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare during 1984-85.

An active parliamentarian, Shrimati Chandrasekhar was a Member of Committee of Privileges and Consultative Committee, Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals during 1990 and Committee on Science and Technology during 1991.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shrimati Chandrasekhar actively participated in freedom struggle.

A widely travelled person, Shrimati Chandrasekhar was a Member of Indian Cultural Delegation to Russia, erstwhile Czechoslovakia and Poland in 1954, Indian Trade Union Delegation to Sri Lanka in 1957 and the 25th anniversary of International Rice Research Institute, Manila, Philippines in 1985. She was a delegate to the United Nations Seminar on Human Rights in Developing Countries at Kabul in 1964 and the 13th International Conference of Social Work at Washington in 1966 and

International Women's Conference at Mongolia and Nairobi, 1985.

A keen social worker, Shrimati Chandrasekhar was associated with Nationalist Movement and took active part in the Indian League, London from 1946 to 1950. She worked relentlessly for ameliorating the lot of women, children and backward classes. She also served as a Chairperson of the Commission for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the National Small Industries Corporation during 1959-61 and Commission for Linguistic Minorities of India during 1967-70.

As a teacher by profession, Shrimati Chandrasekhar was connected with various educational institutions.

A person of letters, Shrimati Chandrasekhar wrote a number of articles in various newspapers and magazines.

Shrimati Maragatham Chandrasekhar passed away on 26 October, 2001 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu at the age of 84.

Shri P.K. Kodiyan was a Member of Second, Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabha from 1957 to 1962; 1977 to 1979 and 1980 to 1984 representing Quilon and Adoor Parliamentary Constituencies of Kerala.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Kodiyan was a Member of Public Accounts Committee during 1977-78.

A well-known social worker, Shri Kodiyan worked relentlessly for the uplift of tribals and other weaker sections of the society. He was committed to the social reforms and fought against caste discrimination and other social oppression. He actively participated in Paliyan Satyagraha for securing the rights of the weaker sections of the society in erstwhile Cochin State during 1946-47.

A trade unionist, Shri Kodiyan represented various workers' unions.

Shri P.K. Kodiyan passed away on 28 October, 2001 at New Delhi at the age of 78 after a brief illness.

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra was a Member of Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967 representing Mirzapur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Misra was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1962 and 1968 to 1974.

Earlier, Shri Misra was a member of erstwhile State of Banaras Assembly from 1943 to 1949 and served as Minister for Finance, Revenue and Police in the State during 1949. He was also a member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council from 1950 to 1952.

An able administrator, Shri Misra served in the Union Council of Ministers as Deputy Minister holding various important portfolios from 1962 to 1967.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Misra ably served as the member of Public Accounts Committee from 1956 to 1958.

A trader and agriculturist by profession, Shri Misra played a pioneering role in the cooperative movement in Banaras and adjoining region.

A keen social worker, Shri Misra took active part in drive against untouchability. Shri Misra was also responsible for establishing several social organisations and educational institutions.

A man of letters Shri Misra wrote several articles in various magazines and periodicals.

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra passed away on 2 November, 2001 at Gopiganj, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 83.

Shrimati Kamala Bahuguna was a member of Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

An active parliamentarian, Shrimati Bahuguna was a member of Committee on Petitions during 1978-79.

A well-known social worker, Shrimati Bahuguna helped in establishing various educational institutions and social organisations. She took keen interest in the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and uplift of the downtrodden.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shrimati Bahuguna took active part in Quit India Movement of 1942.

A widely travelled person, Shrimati Bahuguna represented Congress Women's Delegation to International Women's Year in 1975 at Berlin.

Shrimati Kamala Bahuguna passed away on 6 November, 2001 at Delhi at the age of 77 after a brief illness.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

Hon. Members, now the House may place on record its heart-felt sympathies for victims of terrorism in India and in other parts of the world. For us in India, terrorism has a special resonance because we have a victim of terrorism for over decade, and we know what it is like to lose a loved one in a wanton terrorist attack. That is why, India lost no time in lending its voice to the world community in condemning the recent terrorist attacks in the United States in which many Indians were among the victims. Our hearts go out to the families of those victims who are still trying to come to terms with the tragedy.

While each such attack is an assault on freedom and democracy, the attacks of September 11 in New York and Washington, as indeed the attack of October 1 on the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Building in Srinagar, brought home to the world just how far and wide the tentacles of terrorism have spread, and what resources and organisation capability they have at their command to hit targets, not only across borders but also across continents.

Terrorism has today emerged as the biggest challenge facing the world. It is imperative for the world community to stand together in the fight to destroy and defeat and global terror network, wherever it exists.

I am sure the whole House will join me in condemning this in-human and dastardly act of hate and terror, which has shocked the entire world.

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

As decided at the Leader's Meeting held today, this reference made from the Chair is also on behalf of Leaders of all Parties and Groups and the whole House.

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

11.31 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Cultivation of Genetically Modified BT Cotton Variant Crop

*1. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

(a) whether genetically modified BT cotton variant crop has been grown in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the name of States where such crops have been grown along with the total production and the area covered thereunder;

(c) whether the Government have given approval for the cultivation of BT cotton;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the offenders for providing such seeds to the farmers;

(e) whether the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has directed the concerned States to procure standing cotton crop from farmers for burning it;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor together with the reaction of the various States to such directives;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate the farmers who are likely to be affected; and

(h) the details of the policy of the Government in regard to the cultivation of genetically modified BT cotton variant crop?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (h) The Government has not yet given approval for commercial cultivation of genetically modified BT cotton in the country. In June 2001, the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) set up under Rule 4 of the Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and storage of hazardous microorganisms/

Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989" notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has directed the Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company (MAHYCO) to repeat large scale field trials of its three BT cotton hybrids (MECH 12, MECH 162, MECH 184) on farmers fields in an area of about 100 hectares in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamilnadu. In addition, the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also conducting field trials of MAHYCO's BT cotton under their Advanced Varietal Trials of All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project. ICAR is conducting these trials in about 7.5 hectares in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat in the central zone, and Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamilnadu in the southern zone.

In September 2001, it was brought to the notice of the Government that Navbharat Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad has marketed hybrid cotton seed by brand name Navbharat 151 as a conventionally developed hybrid which is tolerant to bollworm. Tests conducted on seeds from a sealed packet of Navbharat 151 as well on the spot inspection of six fields near Ahmedabad where this hybrid is under cultivation indicated that Navbharat 151 contains Cry 1A (c) gene which goes to establish that it is a transgenic variety, and not a conventional hybrid.

The 1989 Rules provide that approvals for any large scale releases into the environment, including any deliberate release into environment for the purpose experiment, of transgenic organisms are to be given by the GEAC. The company has marketed the Navbharat 151 transgenic hybrid without the mandatory approval of the GEAC. In Gujarat, nearly 11,000 acres is under cultivation of Navbharat 151 variety in 19 districts namely Kheda, Surat, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Junagarh, Amreli, Surindernagar, Kachchh, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Patan, Anand, Gandhinagar, Sabarkantha, Baruch, and Narmada. It has also marketed a small quantity of Navbharat 151 seeds in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. In addition, this company is undertaking seed production of transgenic cotton in 365 hectares in Nandyal and Kurnool districts of Andhra Pradesh. Since the crop has not been harvested, the expect production figures are not known.

For the last five years, MAHYCO has been involved in research, development, and testing of transgenic BT cotton, after carefully following the procedures stipulated under the 1989 Rules for evaluating the environmental risks. MAHYCO approached the GEAC for seeking environmental clearance for commercial cultivation of transgenic BT cotton in June 2001. However, GEAC

directed the MAHYCO to repeat the field trials considering that the field trials conducted earlier could not properly evaluate the potential of the BT cotton. Being the first transgenic crop to be considered for commercial cultivation in India, the GEAC adopted a cautious and pragmatic approach, to get a better picture about the potential advantages and environmental effects of BT Cotton. The large scale field trials of MAHYCO's BT cotton are presently underway.

Navbharat Seeds Pvt Ltd has marketed transgenic Bt cotton seeds without any bio safety assessment as laid down in the 1989 Rules thereby violating the provisions of these Rules and the Environment Protection Act. The GEAC has directed the Gujarat State Biotechnology Coordination Committee to:

- procure the cotton bolls of Navbharat 151 crop from the farmers at the appropriate support price;
- separate the lint and seed;
- destroy the seed and store the lint in safe custody till further order GEAC;
- complete destruction of crop residue by uprooting and burning and sanitation of fields.

To carry out the operations, the Government of Gujarat has tied up with the Gujarat Cooperative Cotton Federation (GUJCOT).

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been directed to take necessary action for stopping immediately the transgenic seed production and multiplication programme of the Navbharat Company, on the lines of the directives given to the Government of Gujarat. The States of Maharashtra, M.P., Karnataka, Chattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Haryana have been asked to gather information about cultivation of Navbharat 151 cotton seeds in their respective States.

The Government has also lodged a complaint against the Navbharat Company in the Metropolitan Magistrate Court in Ahmedabad on 12.11.2001 for penal action for violating Environment Protection Act.

The Government has directed the Gujarat Government to procure the cotton at appropriate support price so that the farmers are not adversely affected.

The Government is following a policy of case by case approval of transgenic crops. Introduction of any new technology requires careful evaluation and long term sustainable benefits. Environmental problems have long

term implications. Unless a cautious approach is adopted, gains accrued out of this new technology may be short lived, and may end up in irreversible damage. Extensive Rules and guidelines have been framed for evaluating environmental and health safety aspects of genetically modified organisms. Any company involved in the use of genetic engineering techniques has to obtain approval of the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) set up under the 1989 Rules in the Department of Biotechnology for conducting testing under laboratory conditions and confined field conditions. Thereafter approval of GEAC is required for large scale field trails and introduction into the environment.

Support Price of Bajra

*2. SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the support price of Bajra has been announced;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bajra has not been procured at support price till date in Rajasthan, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi etc., despite announcement to its support price;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which procurement of Bajra is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of bajra of fair average quality (FAQ) at Rs. 485 per quintal for the 2001-02 season.

(c) to (e) The Food Corporation of India is the designated central nodal agency for procurement of coarse cereals including bajra. A total quantity of 4718 tonnes of bajra has so far been procured and the State-wise details are as under:

(Figures in tonnes)

States	Procurement of Bajra
Madhya Pradesh	1523
Maharashtra	175
Rajasthan	3020
Total	4718

Drought affected States

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States hit by drought during the current year;

(b) the estimated loss and damage to crop, cattle and human-life recorded, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the extent of assistance sought by each of the State/Union Territory and the amount of assistance actually provided to them during the above period;

(d) the names of the States/Union Territory visited by the Central team for the purpose;

(e) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the basis of the reports given by the Central team; and

(f) the details of the target fixed and efforts made to provide employment to the drought affected people during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) During the first half of South-West Monsoon 2001 the following States received deficit rainfall:-

Andhra Pradesh	(12 districts)
Bihar	(9 districts)
Karnataka	(18 districts)
Maharashtra	(12 districts)

These States have reported crop damage as follows:-

State	Cropped area affected
Andhra Pradesh	56.91
Bihar	3.00
Karnataka	16.22
Maharashtra	Not reported by State Govt.

No loss of human or cattle life has been reported by these States.

All the four States sought assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and Central

Teams were deputed to assess the damage in all the four States.

The reports of the Teams to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were considered by the competent bodies keeping in view the items and norms of expenditure for assistance under the NCCF Scheme. Since the States have balance available in their Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), it was decided that they should first utilize the funds available in the CRF and the situation would be reviewed at a later date. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were informed accordingly.

The Reports of Central Teams which visited Bihar and Maharashtra are under consideration.

To provide for loss of wage employment due to early set-back in rains, these States were encouraged to provide employment through the Food for Work Programme and were allocated foodgrains free of cost as under:-

State	Foodgrains allotted (in lakh MTs)	Calamity
Andhra Pradesh	6.00	Drought
Bihar	1.00	Floods
Karnataka	1.00	Drought
Maharashtra	1.00	Drought (recommended)

Besides, 2 lakh MTs of cattle grade feed was also allocated to Karnataka.

The Central Share of the CRF for 2001-02 was released to these States as follows:-

State	Amount (in crores)	Remarks
Andhra Pradesh	155.97	Full
Bihar	58.72	Full
Karnataka	123.80	Full
Maharashtra	26.36	Half of Central share

50% of the Central share viz. Rs. 26.36 crores was released in the case of Bihar as the State had not established CRF account in accordance with the prescribed norms.

The number of drought affected districts in these States have reduced considerably due to receipt of a very good rains after 30th September, 2001.

Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a Memorandum on 13th November, 2001 reporting deficit

rainfall in 15 districts and has sought assistance from the NCCF. The Memorandum is being processed further.

(f) No targets are fixed for employment generation in the drought affected areas as the object is to raise employment to as many persons as possible. However the mandays generated through employment from Food for Work Programme (FFWP) during 2000-01 as reported by certain States is as under:-

State	Mandays generated
Gujarat	15.98
Madhya Pradesh	12.44
Orissa	2.28
Rajasthan	11.59

Safety Arrangements in Coal Mines

*4. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no mechanism to monitor the safety arrangements in small open coal mines;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the funds allocated for safety arrangements in these coal mines during 2000-01;

(d) the funds utilised so far in each State, company-wise; and

(e) the details of programme undertaken for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Coal India Limited has a mechanism to monitor safety arrangements in all open cast mines including the small ones.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply given to part (a) as above.

(c) and (d) Details for small open cast mines are not separately available readily. Details for the mines of coal India Limited are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Funds allocated for safety & rescue purposes of opencast mines are spent on safety components of transport arrangements, lighting, communications, survey

equipment, occupational health & safety, fire control & fire fighting, dust suppression measures, personal protective equipment, safety awareness & training for

safety, internal safety organisation, equipment for dealing with emergency, measures for countering danger of inundation etc.

Statement

Budgetary Allocation & Expenditure in Safety & Rescue in Coal India Limited in 2000-01

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Company	State	Safety				Rescue			
		Budget		Expenditure		Budget		Expenditure	
		Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue
ECL	W. Bengal/ Jharkhand	751.96	4316.00	567.21	4310.00	22.54	246.30	12.23	421.70
BCCL	W. Bengal/ Jharkhand	943.00	12549.00	592.00	10700.00	1.36	264.55	1.12	268.50
CCL	Jharkhand	141.00	793.00	141.00	684.00	4.70	181.31	5.30	185.50
NCL	M.P./U.P.	131.00	332.00	31.00	327.54	0	0	0	0
WCL	Maharashtra/ M.P.	400.00	4000.00	136.04	3879.00	300.00	400.00	3.76	261.79
SECL	M.P./ Chhattisgarh	1966.00	7171.00	1256.00	5435.00	160.00	48.00	73.00	50.00
MCL	Orissa	300.00	1149.00	150.00	710.00	23.00	85.00	21.00	84.00
NEC	Assam	149.00	250.50	81.40	220.00	10.00	10.00	0	0.76
CIL		4781.96	30560.50	2954.65	26265.54	521.60	1235.16	116.41	1272.25

Impact of Terrorism on Tourism Industry

*5. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tourism Industry has been affected badly due to terrorist attack in America on September 11, 2001;

(b) if so, the extent of decline of foreign tourism arrivals and the extent of the loss of foreign exchange earnings as a result thereof;

(c) whether a Conference of State Tourism Ministers to discuss/draft National Tourism Policy was held recently in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details of issues discussed and the decisions arrived at the conference; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost tourism and attract foreign tourists to the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been a decline of about 20 per cent in the foreign tourist arrivals and 16 per cent in the foreign exchange earnings through tourism in the two months of September and October, 2001 as compared to the same period of the year 2000.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Conference of Chief Minister and Tourism Ministers was conveyed to discuss and obtain the views of the States/U.T. Governments on draft National Tourism Policy, restructuring the Central financial assistance guidelines, uniformity and rationalisation of

State Government taxes on tourism units, providing a constitutional status to tourism and product development and marketing.

(e) Various steps taken by the Government to boost tourism and attract foreign tourists to India include development and improvement of tourist facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the foreign countries through overseas tourist offices, strengthening institutions of human resources development, use of information technology and encouraging private investment in tourism sector including hotels.

Efforts have also been made to send appropriate signals to countries all over the world that India is a safe destination. A reorientation in marketing efforts is also being made by focussing on markets in South East Asia and emphasising the significance of domestic tourism.

Procurement of Wheat

*6. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the procurement of wheat during the current season along with the success achieved in this regard and the financial incentives proposed to be given to different States to achieve the target, State-wise;

(b) the details of the action taken by the Government to achieve the target fully;

(c) the details of the representations received from the State Governments and the farmers unions regarding fixing the remunerative price of wheat; and

(d) the action taken by the Government so far thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As the procurement operations are voluntary in nature and the farmers have the choice to sell their produce to State Government, Food Cooperation of India or in the Open Market, as is advantageous to them, no targets are fixed for procurement of wheat. However, based on the estimated production and availability of wheat, procurement estimates are given by the State Governments prior to the commencement of each marketing season. The estimated procurement of wheat during the current rabi marketing season 2001-02 was 192 lakh metric tonnes (MTs). As on 12.11.2001, a

quantity of 206.30 lakh MTs of wheat has already been procured. No financial incentives have been proposed to be given to the different States to achieve the target.

(c) and (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACAP) has developed a practice of consultation with the State Governments and various other public institutions are concerned interests. CACAP visits different States for eliciting the view of the State Governments and various other interests including farmers, trade and industry and also invites the representatives of various organizations and State Governments for detailed discussions with the Commissions in New Delhi.

While taking a decision on fixing the minimum support prices (MSPs), the Government obtains the views of the State Governments and considers them along with other relevant factors in determining the MSPs. Usually, the State Governments suggest higher MSP for various agricultural commodities and the MSPs, suggested by various State Governments for wheat of 2000-01 crop to be marketed in 2001-02 ranged between Rs. 610 to 1244 per quintal. It is not possible to always agree with all the State Governments because a comprehensive view involving several other important factors has to be taken in fixing the MSPs.

[English]

Central Mining Research Institute

*7. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mining Research Institute (CMRI) has developed any new technology during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of achievements made by CMRI during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the information furnished by Central Mines Research Institute (CMRI), the details of new technologies developed and achievement made by them during the last three years are given below:-

Technologies		Achievement
1	2	3
1.	Mechanised depillaring of thick coal Seam with cable bolts	Technologies being used by mining companies
2.	Use of fly ash as mine fill	Technology has been demonstrated at laboratory successfully.
3.	Under-Pining based method of mining for depillaring thick contiguous seam	Technology being adopted at Chirimiri, Nowrozabad mines.
4.	Delayed bulk filling of open stopes with high density cemented fill for pillar extraction.	Technology demonstrated at laboratory successfully.
5.	Subsidence research	CMRI getting externally funded projects.
6.	Subsidence prediction models for Indian multi-seam mining situation.	Technology being utilised by coal companies
7.	Wide Stall method without stowing for partial extraction	Technology being used at Chirimiri, Umaria mines.
8.	Development of wooden spacers for air-deck blasting	Being used by mining companies.
9.	Development of new spacing and burden formulate	-do-
10.	Dynamic balancing of pressure technique and application of cryogenic technology.	Coal companies are given the technology through consultancy projects.
11.	Methodology for assessment of deflagration characteristics of permitted explosives.	Method has been adopted for in-house quality check.
12.	Methodology for determination of toxic fume generated by cap sensitive commercial explosives	-do-
13.	Development of explosive	Being manufactured in the brand name of 'INDOBOOST' and 'INDOGEL'
14.	Fire protective coating	Being extensively used
15.	On-line mine environmental monitoring system for underground mine	At negotiation stage with SSI for commercialization.
16.	Arsenic removal from water	Applied for patent; in the process of negotiation for commercialization.
17.	Mushroom cultivation in simulated abandoned mine condition	Development completed.
18.	Steel arch setting device	-do-
19.	Improved type steel cog	-do-

1	2	3
20.	Mechanised device for spraying fire protective coating material.	Being commercialized.
21.	Strata Movement Warning System	System placed in an underground mine on experimental basis and working well.
22.	Roof Bolting machine	Already patented.
23.	Coal Slasher	Already patented.
24.	Coal Sampler	Already patented.
25.	Improved device for temperature measure in hazardous environment.	Being manufactured and supplied to coal mines.
26.	Computerized package for equipment condition monitoring.	Lab model/proto type developed for field trial
27.	Universal un-interrupted power pack	Proto type developed for field trial.

[*Translation*]

Cotton Crop

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that existing cotton crop has been damaged in many States and the farmers suffered huge losses;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to affected States;

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

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cotton crop in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan have suffered losses on account of attack of American boll worm. The early onset of the rains in the month of May and June

2001 led to early build-up of pest. Subsequent intermittent rains and cloudy weather helped further multiplication of pest and hindered the spray operations, causing damage to cotton.

The losses of cotton lint estimated by these States are as under:-

S. No.	State	Loss of cotton lint (Lakh bales of 170 kg each)
1.	Punjab	4.33
2.	Haryana	7.78
3.	Rajasthan	3.39
Total		15.50

(c) and (d) Both the Central and State Governments sent teams to survey the extent of damage to the cotton crop.

The affected area was reported as 4.53 lakh hectare in Punjab, 2.85 lakh hectare in Rajasthan and 3.55 lakh hectare in Haryana. The States took suitable measures for the control of pest by guiding farmers for the appropriate use of pesticides, checking quality of pesticides, distribution of leaflets, organizing kisan goshties etc.

(e) to (g) Farmers are compensated under National Agricultural Insurance Schemes for crop losses. However, only those farmers who have insured their crop are provided compensation as per the rules/norms. However, the States of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan are not covered under the scheme as these States have not opted for the insurance scheme.

Investment in Agriculture Sector

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have effected huge cut in the capital investment in the agriculture sector during the last few years; and

(b) if so, the amount of capital investment made in the agriculture sector during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and the percentage it bears to the total capital investment made by the Government during each of these years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The capital investment made by the Public Sector in agriculture including animal husbandry, forestry and fishing, measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF), during the three years, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as under:

Year	Public Sector GCF in agriculture including animal husbandry, forestry and fishing (Rs. Crore)
1997-98	6920
1998-99	7550
1999-2000	9485

As seen from the above Table, there is no reduction in the capital investment in agriculture by the Public Sector in the three years.

Agricultural Scientists sent abroad

*10. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Agricultural Scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been sent

abroad on the pretext of acquiring new technology under human resource development scheme during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred under the scheme during the last three years;

(c) the benefits accrued to the students engaged in educational activities under the scheme; and

(d) the details of the procedure/rule followed for selection of the agricultural scientists under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Agricultural Scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been sent abroad under the mandate of the Agricultural Human Resources Development project to acquire latest skills in teaching, research and extension.

(b) US \$ 1,230,041

(c) Scientists who were sent abroad sensitized the other scientists by sharing their experiences. Students have benefited from the new skills acquired by the scientists sent abroad.

- Course curriculum revised and new courses in tune with current needs introduced.
- More emphasise on the teaching of practicals
- Greater emphasis on evaluation of teaching and teachers by students
- Realization for and introduction of interdisciplinary courses
- Number of faculty members providing lecture handouts increased
- Scientists are increasingly using internet for literature search. This is leading to providing latest developments in agricultural sciences. Students are also induced to use internet to search literature for planning of research projects.
- Students performance evaluation system has improved by including class room discussions, case study etc.
- Increased number of laboratory manuals lecture notes are being prepared

(d) Procedure/rules for selection of scientists for overseas visits are well defined. Final selection of the country and laboratory for visit is made with the help of

FAO. The following procedure is followed in the selection of scientists:

- The priority areas, based on the country's needs and gaps in competence were identified by the AHRD project overseas nomination screening committee, composition of which is shown in enclosed statement.
- Selection of the scientists at the Division/ Department level by involving Board of Studies
- Recommendations of nomination at the Institute level by Dean/Director
- Approval of the nomination by the AHRD project overseas nomination screening committee
- Processing of the nominations by the DARE for approval of the Union Agriculture Minister.

Statement

Members of the Screening Committee for Finalizing Overseas Nominations under AHRD Project

• DDG (Edn.)	Chairman
• Concerned DDG	Member
• Secretary, ICAR	Member
• FA, Dare	Member
• US, Dare	Member
• ADG (Edn.)	Member Secretary

[English]

Starvation Deaths

*11. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the starvation deaths in some States particularly in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of such cases noticed during the current year;

(c) whether starvation and near starvation related deaths were not confined merely to Orissa but had manifested in various forms of suicides by farmers, cash crop growers, weavers and malnutrition deaths in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh as well;

(d) if so, whether the Government have sent any study team to any states or conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof;

(f) whether the Union and State Governments have failed to implemented the Supreme Court's directives in this regard;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) the total foodgrains stocks rotting in different Governmental warehouses and stores as on October 31, 2001; and

(i) the steps taken/being taken to utilize foodgrain stock properly, merge and integrate all employment generating schemes like food and work and self employment programme and prevent such starvation deaths in future?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a), (b), (f) and (g) The Government of Orissa have strongly denied allegations of "starvation deaths". This subject is currently sub-judice in a Public Interest Litigation, People's Union for Civil Liberties versus Union of India and others, Writ Petition (Civil) No. 196 of 2001 wherein such allegations have been denied by the States. Department of Food and Public Distribution which is representing the Union of India in the said case has already filed a Statement indicating compliance with the interim Directions of the Honourable Court.

(c) to (e) No case of suicide by farmers, etc. due to starvation has been reported by other States also.

(h) As per information furnished by the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the total stock of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India and the State agencies stood at 582.80 lakh MTs on as 1.10.2001. 27.65 lakh MTs of foodgrains have been allotted free of cost to various drought/flood affected States for Food for Work Programme.

(i) The recently approved Sampurna Grameena Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) also seeks to provide wage employment (with cash and foodgrains components) and a quantity of 50 lakh MTs of foodgrains has been earmarked for the purpose, to be provided to States free of cost. This scheme envisages merger of various schemes with employment generation potential.

Hijack Drama of an Alliance Airlines Plane

*12. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Alliance Air Boeing 737 flight on the Mumbai-Delhi route was reportedly hijacked on October 3, 2001 and later the message was found to be false;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a committee has been appointed to look into the declaration of hijacking;

(d) whether the said committee has since submitted its report;

(e) if so, the recommendations/observations made by the committee and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the details of the various steps and methods devised by the Government to meet the danger of hijacking in the passenger plane?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (f) On 3.10.2001 at 23.22 hours an anonymous telephone call was received about the imminent hijacking of Alliance Air flight CD-7444 operating on Mumbai-Delhi sector. This message was received when the flight was already airborne. The message was conveyed to the aircraft with instructions to take necessary precautionary measures. However, due to some misunderstanding, the pilot-in-command concluded that the plane had been hijacked and activated the hijack signal at around 00.12 hrs. The aircraft landed at IGI Airport at 00.50 hrs.

Based on the message received from the aircraft, an alert was sounded to all concerned. As per the systems in place, necessary measures were initiated on ground for handling the unlawful interference in aviation activity. It was only after the National Security Guard Commandoes entered the cockpit, and later into the cabin, that it became clear that there were no armed hijackers on the aircraft, and that a false alarm had been given.

A high level Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs to examine in totality the situation arising out of the chain of events triggered by an anonymous telephone call regarding the imminent hijacking of flight no. CD-

7444 operating on Mumbai-Delhi sector. The Committee has since submitted its report.

The Committee has *inter alia* recommended:-

- (i) revision of Contingency Plan, relevant manuals and guidelines to eliminate mismatch between flight crew and ground personnel;
- (ii) development of standardized phrases and words to avoid ambiguity;
- (iii) development of proper system of training and briefing of flight crew and cabin crew;
- (iv) fitment of Close Circuit TV cameras at appropriate points in the cockpit/passenger cabin;
- (v) to provide Caller-Identification as well as recording systems on important telephones.

The Committee also recommended that the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security and the Director General of Civil Aviation introduce new security measures being considered by ICAO and aircraft manufacturers. The report of the Committee has since been received and accepted by Government.

A number of precautionary measures have been taken to meet the danger of hijacking, which include induction of CISF, deployment of Sky marshals, ladder point checking, strict access control etc.

National Tourism Policy

*13. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a National Tourism Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether tourism is proposed to be included in the concurrent list; and

(d) if so, the benefits likely to be derived therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Draft of a National Tourism Policy has been prepared.

(b) The salient features of the draft tourism policy are as follows:

- (i) Providing for peoples participation in the development of tourism and in sharing the benefits of tourism.
 - (ii) Facilitating the development of a dynamic private sector in tourism industry.
 - (iii) Co-ordinating the efforts of different Government Departments and agencies in making India a tourism friendly country, and in providing the required infrastructure.
 - (iv) Facilitating domestic tourism by promoting amenities and facilities for budget tourists.
 - (v) Integrated development of identified tourist destinations with the involvement of all the infrastructural departments/State Governments and the private sector.
 - (vi) Development of tourism in the North East, Himalayan region, Jammu and Kashmir and the Islands of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, as part of overall strategy of economic development of the regions.
 - (vii) Enhancing outlay for infrastructure.
 - (viii) Enacting suitable legislation on travel trade/ Tourist Police for protection and security of tourists.
 - (ix) Liberalization of the visa regime.
 - (x) Uniformity and rationalization in taxation structure.
 - (xi) Focused and cost effective marketing strategy.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Inclusion of tourism in the concurrent list of the constitution will give constitutional recognition to the tourism sector and also help in channelising the development of tourism in a systematic manner.

[*Translation*]

National Agriculture Policy

*14. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Policy is under implementation;

(b) if so, whether the definition of small and marginal farmers has undergone a change in the new policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the new definition is likely to benefit these categories of farmers as compared to the previous definition; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (e) The definition of small and marginal farmers and other categories as per the All India Report on Agriculture Census is as follows:-

Marginal	1.0 ha. and below
Small	1.0 ha. to 2.0 ha.
Semi-medium	2.0 ha. to 4.0 ha.
Medium	4.0 ha. to 10 ha.
Large	10.00 ha. and above.

This definition has been in vogue since 1971 and there has been no change in the definition since then.

[*English*]

Security at Airports

*15. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have stepped up vigilance and security measures in and around airports and aircraft for safe air journeys after terrorist attack in America on September 11, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cases of security lapses are increasing despite various security measures being taken at airports;

(d) if so, the number of such incidents that had happened during the last three years;

(e) whether any action has been taken by the Government against the erring officials;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has been asked to work as regulator with power to decide security standards; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/ being taken by the Government for poor proof security at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) As a part of the ongoing processes, civil aviation security arrangements are constantly reviewed and suitably upgraded. The tragic terrorist attack in USA on September 11, 2001, added new dimension to aviation security. The prevalent security measures have been reviewed in the wake of the attack and following action taken, *inter alia*, for further strengthening of aviation security arrangements:-

- (i) Sky Marshals deployed in-flight on all routes for security coverage both on Indian Airlines as well as scheduled private airlines.
- (ii) Time bound programme for induction and deployment of CISF in all operational airports to provide uniformly airport security.
- (iii) Quick reaction teams deployed at major airports.
- (iv) Strict access control and ladder point security check of passengers and their hand baggage.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) No lapse of any major consequence has occurred. However, whenever any lapse is noticed, remedial measures are immediately taken by the concerned authorities.

(g) and (h) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security has been the designated Appropriate Authority and regulator for matters relating to civil aviation security., and has powers to decide security standards in the context of Standards and Recommended practices laid down by ICAO. Suitable steps are taken to ensure foolproof security at the airports through implementation of these Standards, and security at the airports through implementation of these Standards, and security measures have been further tightened to meet emerging threat perception.

Revision of Royalty on Coal

*16. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to revise the royalty on coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) has been appointed to consider the revision of royalty rates on coal. The Committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

[Translation]

Legislation for Unorganised Labour

*17. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact any legislation for labourers engaged in bidi industry, building construction, brick kilns and such other organised sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government has enacted separate legislations for the Beedi and Construction Workers. There is proposal at present to enact separate legislations for the workers engaged in brick kilns and such other categories of unorganised workers. However, one of the terms of reference of the Second National Commission on Labour includes a suggestion for an "Umbrella" legislation for ensuring minimum level of protection to workers in the unorganized sector.

National Tourism Advisory Council

*18. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to constitute the Tourism Advisory Council at the National level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this council is likely to be constituted; and

(d) the extent to which this council is likely to promote tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) It has been decided to constitute a Tourism Advisory Council at national level, having representatives of the Centre and State Governments, Members of Parliament, industry representations and eminent public figures. The Council will facilitate interaction amongst the various stakeholders in the tourism sector. It is not possible to indicate the time-frame at this stage.

Child Labour in Hazardous Industries

*19. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of child labour is still working in Carpet Industry and Glass Industry in the country in violation of several rules and laws made in this regard;

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

(c) the time by which child labour practice is likely to be eradicated from the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Authentic information on Child Labour in the country is generated by the decennial Census. According to the 1991 Census the number of working children in India is 11.28 million. 2001 Census figures have not yet been published. Industry-wise figures of working children are not maintained.

(c) Child Labour is a complex socio-economic problem, the elimination of which would require sustained efforts over a long period of time. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, a gradual and sequential approach has been adopted for withdrawal of children from work and their rehabilitation. In the National Conference on Child Labour held in New Delhi in January 2001, it was also resolved that all efforts be made for complete elimination of child labour.

[English]

Setting up of Grain Bank for Villagers

*20. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI SAHIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up grain banks in the all the tribal villages at a cost of Rs. 1100 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of villages likely to be covered under this programme alongwith the funds likely to be provided, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have taken some concrete measures to boost crop diversification and food exports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation organized a Conference of Chief Minister under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister on 21st May, 2001 at New Delhi to discuss issues relating to the WTO Agreement on Agriculture and Food Management. While concluding the proceedings of the Conference, the Prime Minister announced the consultation of a Standing Committee of Union Ministers and Chief Ministers on Food Management and Agriculture Exports to consider issues concerning agricultural strategies, food management and promotion of agricultural exports in the wake of WTO Agreement on Agriculture. During the third meeting, held on 31st October, 2001 at New Delhi, the Standing Committee recommended implementation of an expanded Grain Bank Scheme. It was felt that the Scheme should be extended to all types of calamities and that all BPL families in identified areas should be covered. During the first phase, the scheme is proposed to be extended to all Tribal villages and will cost about Rs. 1100 crore. With a view to ensuring recovery of grain loans from beneficiaries, the Scheme will be supplemented by the Sampooma Gramin Rozgar Yojana for providing wage employment.

The Standing Committee has made important suggestions for boosting crop diversification and agriculture exports. The Committee agreed that Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a very important tool and should be rationalized to facilitate diversification, particularly towards oilseeds and pulses. The Committee emphasized integration of livestock, fisheries and crops for efficient utilization of farm resources as well as providing additional returns to farmers. The Committee stressed the need to promote exports of agricultural products by way of enhancing the quality and value of such products in order to increase their competitiveness. Quantitative and other restrictions on exports of agricultural products should be progressively removed. Government is already in the process of removing restrictions on exports of rice, wheat and wheat products, grains, butter and pulses. The concerned Departments and Ministries will take further necessary action for implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Pending Applications for Mining Licences

1. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for grant of mining lease and prospecting licences pending for clearance with the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications out of the total cleared during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to dispose of the remaining applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Under Section 10 (3) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 Reconnaissance Permits, Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases are granted by the State Government concerned. Proposals for prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mineral concessions for minerals specified under the First Schedule to the aforesaid Act originate from the respective State Governments and are processed and disposed of by the Central Government as per provisions of law. All efforts are made to expedite approval of Central Government in least possible time. In certain cases, the proposals received from the State Governments are found incomplete and consequently, in such cases, the State Governments are asked to furnish complete information/ additional information for expeditious disposal of such cases.

130 applications for grant of reconnaissance permits prospecting licences and mining leases are pending with the Central Government on 15.11.2001. State-wise details are appended at Statement. 901 applications for grant of mineral concessions have been disposed of during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. The State-wise details are also given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl No.	State	No. of proposals disposed during 1998-2001	No. of proposals pending on 15.11.2001
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	164	7
2.	Bihar	30	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Goa	05	04
4.	Gujarat	50	01
5.	Haryana	09	01
6.	Himachal Pradesh	10	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	06	—
8.	Karnataka	51	40
9.	Kerala	18	10
10.	Madhya Pradesh	125	04
11.	Maharashtra	49	05
12.	Meghalaya	01	—
13.	Orissa	95	32
14.	Rajasthan	124	09
15.	Sikkim	01	—
16.	Tamil Nadu	149	04
17.	Uttar Pradesh	09	—
18.	Jharkhand	05	08
19.	Chhattisgarh	—	05
Total		901	130

Cooperative Credit Structure

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had finalised a rehabilitation package to revamp the cooperative credit structure;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Kapoor Committee have been implemented;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen and restructure the cooperative credit structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Government of India constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kapoor, the then Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India to study the functioning of the Cooperative Credit System and suggest measures for its strengthening/restructuring. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Ministry of Finance and a Joint Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Finance (Expenditure Banking & Insurance) has been constituted to suggest the modalities for its implementation.

Cooperative Scheme in Karnataka

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

(a) whether the Government are taking steps to strengthen the cooperative schemes in the country;

(b) whether financial assistance is extended to every State for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to strengthen the cooperative sector in Karnataka during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has been providing funds to State Governments under various Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes to strengthen the cooperative schemes in the country. The Government of India is also providing 100 percent financial grant to National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) for conducting cooperative training programmes in the country and to National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) for implementation of the special component for intensification of cooperative education. NCUI is also provided 20% grant for other approved activities for promotion of Cooperatives. The assistance is provided on the basis of the proposals received from the States.

(c) Financial Assistance provided to Karnataka to strengthen the Cooperative sector mainly through National Cooperative Development Corporation in last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in Lakh)

1998-99	3254.25
1999-2000	4582.37
2000-2001	8762.10

[Translation]

Agricultural Technique Information Centre

4. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of areas of Bihar where Agriculture Technique Information Centre have been set up;

(b) the amount spent by the Union and the State Government thereon; and

(c) the details of work done by the said centres in providing knowledge to the farmers about modern agricultural techniques?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has sanctioned establishment of an Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) in favour of Rajendra Agricultural University (RAU), PUSA, Samastipur in Nov. 1999; with the objective to create a single window system to provide technology products, diagnostic services and technology information to the farmers and other end-users.

(b) An amount of Rs. 43.325 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Council to RAU, Samastipur.

(c) The work done by the ATIC, RAU, Samastipur includes testing of 1490 soil samples, advisory services to 5710 farmers, besides providing planting materials for sugarcane, mango, litchi, lemon, guava, sapota, pomegranate, jackfruit and wood-apple.

Supply of Water from Hansdev Bango Irrigation Project

5. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give any assistance for the construction of left embankment canal

Hansdev Bango Multi-propose Irrigation Project at Korba in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred for completion of the canal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Union Government is providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to Hasdeo Bango Project including the Left embankment canal upto RD 32 km. So far CLA amounting to Rs. 34.78 crores has been released for this project.

(c) the latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1020 crore.

[English]

Supply of Sandal Wood

6. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of inadequate supply of sandalwood from the Karnataka Forest Department, the State Handicrafts Development Corporation has urged the State and Union Governments to prevail upon the Tamil Nadu Government to release sufficient quantity of sandalwood;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken up this issue with the Tamil Nadu Government;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Tamil Nadu Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which a final decision for supply to sandalwood to Karnataka is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No such request has been received so far from the State Handicraft Development Corporation, Karnataka to the Union Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Farming Community

7. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any agencies for plant virus diagnosis and quality control for the benefit of farming community;

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

(c) the potential demand for planting material of agricultural, horticulture, floriculture per year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for commercialization of plant tissue culture globally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology has set up a National facility for virus diagnosis and quality control of Tissue Culture raised planting material as a multi-institutional network project to ensure availability of virus free and high quality tested tissue culture plants for the benefit of farming community. The main centre is located at Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi with five satellite centres at Institute of Himalayan Bioresources Technology (IHBT), Palampur; Institute of Horticultural Research (IHR), Bangalore; National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune; Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi and Southern Petro & Industrial Chemicals (SPIC) Science Foundation, Chennai.

(c) Tissue culture is a developing technology in the field of agriculture, horticulture and floriculture. The potential demand is likely to increase.

(d) The Department of Biotechnology is making concerted efforts for promoting commercialization of plant tissue culture. Two Micropropagation Technology Parks have been established which act as an interface between the academia and industry. The Micropropagation Technology Parks also serve as an effective platform for transfer of proven technologies to the industry and provide consultancy for setting up of units on turn key basis. Training is an important component of the activity. The National Facility for Virus Diagnosis and Quality Control also aims at benefiting the industry through certification of the planting material which is produced.

Irregularities in Kendriya Bhandar

8. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Bhandar has since been inspected and the inspecting officer has submitted his report;

(b) if so, the outcome/details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure accountability and responsibility of the officials of the Bhandar in running the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) the Inspecting Officer has almost completed the inspection. The inspection report is awaited.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The measures taken to ensure the accountability and responsibility of the officials of the Bhandar can be decided on the basis of findings of the inspection report.

Establishment of Agro Service Centres

9. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh where farmers Agro Service Centres have been established till date;

(b) the functions of these centres; and

(c) the details of assessment of their performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Singareni Coalfields Limited

10. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to clear Rs. 500 crores as arrears in order to open the Singareni Coalfields Limited closed due to strike by workers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer given to part (a) above.

Modernisation of IISCO

11. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to modernise Indian Iron and Steel Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not modernising the said company whereas other PSUs of steel have already been modernised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) SAIL/IISCO has submitted a revival proposal for IISCO to Government for Rs. 1081 crores which includes funds for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) and investment at Bumpur Works and its mines and collieries besides provisions for meeting its cash losses. No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Food Processing Units

12. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the food processing units working in the public sector and in joint venture of Government as on date;

(b) the number of food processing units which are earning profits and running into loss;

(c) the names of the processed food items being exported and the details of their major importers; and

(d) the targets of exports in term of quantity during the last three years and current year and the achievements made thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) is the only Public Sector undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry. NERAMAC has one Cashew Processing unit at Agartala and one Fruit Juice Concentrate Plant (FJCP) at Nalkata. FJCP plant at Nalkata is not working at present. Modern Food Industries (India) Limited (MFIL) is now a joint venture between Hindustan Lever Limited

and Government of India. Hindustan Lever Limited holds 74% of equity share capital of MFIL. MFIL manufactures and sells bread and supplementary nutritional foods.

(b) Both North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited and Modern Food Industries (India) Limited are incurring losses.

(c) Nil.

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

Food Crops Production

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

(a) whether the Government have achieved the target of 212 million MT of food crops production during 2000-01;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether less investment, withdrawal of subsidies and squeezing the opportunity of using electricity in irrigation has badly affected the cultivation of food crops; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir. Against a target of 212 million tonnes of foodgrains for 2000-01, the production is expected to be 196.07 million tonnes as per the advance estimates released on 29.6.2001.

(b) and (c) Achievement of targets depends on a number of factors such as allocation of financial resources, performance of monsoon, technological developments, managerial skills of farmers, timely application of quality inputs, demand of different agricultural products, etc. The overall rainfall during monsoon 2000 was deficient by 8%. But the deficiency was accentuated during the subsequent seasons. The western parts of India especially Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh faced acute rainfall deficiency as a result of which large areas faced moisture stress. Deficient rains adversely affected the irrigation potential also. The position of investment and subsidies is regularly monitored and decision is taken after duly taking into account the requirement of the sector, resources available and related aspects.

(d) To increase production in different parts of the country, the Government switched over from the conventional Schematic approach to Macro Management mode for providing assistance to States from November 2000. The scheme integrates 27 schemes into one Macro Management scheme for supplementation/complementation of States' efforts through work plans which gives flexibility to States to address the specific problems faced by them, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-around development of agriculture.

Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production by taking various steps such as implementation of Minimum Support Prices Scheme, Market Intervention Scheme, procurement by public agencies and use of instruments of trade.

Pollution Control

14. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

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

(a) the details of improvement so far made to control pollution in air, land and water after the establishment of Pollution Control Boards; and

(b) the comparative figures in relation to quantity of pollution that existed before and after taking pollution control measures, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Control of pollution and improvement of environment has been made by installation of air pollution control devices in air polluting industries, laying down of emission standards and use of washed coal in major sectors of air polluting industries like, thermal power plants. For improving the ambient air quality, fuel quality specifications have been laid down and programs undertaken for improvement of fuel quality. For controlling of water pollution, water polluting industries have been persuaded to set up effluent treatment plants. Large & Medium industries have installed such effluent treatment plants. Under the National River Conservation Plan, the towns located on the river banks have been covered for setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants. Polluted river stretches have been identified for restoration of water quality. To prevent pollution of land, the standards for disposal of waste water on land have been prescribed. The steps taken include the following:

- Standards have been laid down for discharge of effluents, emission and solid wastes from different sources.
- Ambient water and air quality norms have been prescribed.
- The polluting industries have been identified and directed to comply with the pollution control requirements in a time bound manner.
- Fuel quality improvement programme have been undertaken.

(b) With the measures taken for pollution Control the pollution load in terms of Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) from the industrial and domestic sources in various States has been reduced from 9478 tonnes/day to 1776 tonnes/day and 4200 tonnes/day to 3350 tonnes/day respectively.

Collection of Copra

15. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for collection of Copra from the market;

(b) if so, the total quantity of Copra collected so far and the names of the agencies which have done this job; and

(c) the total amount of Copra available in the market presently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. Government of India is undertaking procurement of Copra under Price Support Scheme (PSS) from the farmers in coconut growing States/UTs.

(b) A quantity of 2.39 lakh MTs of Copra has been procured in the season 2000 and 2001 so far by National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) as a Central Nodal Agency through the State Co-operative Federations.

(c) Copra is derivative of coconut, which is a perennial crop. Therefore, it is difficult to give the exact quantity of copra available in the market presently.

Sardar Sarovar Project

16. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families affected due to construction of Sardar Sarovar Project in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat;

(b) the number of families rehabilitated so far in the States; and

(c) the time by which the remaining families are likely to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The total number of families estimated to be affected by submergence at Full Reservoir Level of 138.68 m of Sardar Sarovar Dam in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are 33014 and 4648 respectively. As per the information received from concerned State Governments, as on 31.10.2001, the total number of 3490 families in Madhya Pradesh and 9568 families in Gujarat (including 781 from Maharashtra and 4166 from Madhya Pradesh) have been resettled.

(c) The Narmada Control Authority has approved the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Action Plan for resettlement of Project Affected Families in four stages i.e. EL 100m, EL 110m, EL 121m and EL 138.68m. According to this plan, these families are likely to be resettled by December, 2004, in four stages i.e. upto EL 100m by December, 2001, upto EL 110m by December, 2002, upto EL 121m by December, 2003 and upto EL 138.68m by December, 2004 respectively.

Pawan Hans Helicopter Company

17. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Pawan Hans Helicopter Company is operating;

(b) whether Pawan Hans Company proposes to operate its service in the inaccessible areas in other States where it is not operating now; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) is operating 11 helicopters in the oil sector. Further, one helicopter each is being operated by the State Governments of Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Lakshadweep Administration. PHHL has also been helicopter service on Jammu-Katra-Sanjhichaat sector for the pilgrims fro Mata Vaishno Devi.

Other customers of PHL are National Hydro Power Corporation, Gas Authority of India Limited and Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) PHL has submitted proposals for deployment of helicopter on long term lease basis to Governments of Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Uttaranchal and to State Government agencies. Only the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has given its approval, in principle, for use of one Mi-172 helicopter of PHL.

Import of Agricultural Products

18. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agricultural produce in which the country is deficient and are importing them to cater the requirement of the people of the country;

(b) the time since when the country is deficient in those produces;

(c) the steps taken to achieve self-sufficiency therein during the last three-years and the success achieved so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to make the palm oilseed cultivation remunerative to motivate farmers to take up that new crop;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to review the National Pulses Development Project to increase the production of pulses to check frequent import thereof; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The production of edible oils and pulses has been fluctuating due to vagaries of monsoon. The country achieved near self sufficiency in 1998-1999 in oil seed production. However, there was a decline in production of oil seed in the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 due to drought conditions in major oil seed producing States. So far as pulses are concerned, there has been a gap

between demand and domestic production for a long time. This is due to the fact that pulses are grown in rainfed areas and on marginal and sub-marginal land.

(c) to (e) In order to increase the production, the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implemented under the ambit of Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation:-

(i) Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)

(ii) National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)

(iii) Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)

The efforts are being made to increase the production of oilseeds/edible oils and pulses under the above centrally sponsored schemes by way of providing incentives to the farmers growing oilseeds, oil palm and pulses in the country. Assistance is provided on production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, gypsum/pyrites, rhyzobium culture etc.

Under the scheme of OPDP, assistance is provided to the farmers on the planting material, cultivation, inputs and installation of drip irrigation system. A new component for providing subsidy to oil palm farmers for installing diesel pump sets has also been introduced under OPDP w.e.f. 8.2.2000.

There has been an increase in area coverage, productivity and production in case of oil seeds. There has been an increase of productivity and production in case of pulses.

In order to provide remunerative prices to the farmers the Government is implementing a Market Support Scheme through NAFED being the Central Nodal Agency for price support operation of various oilseeds except oil palm. For the procurement oil palm fresh fruit bunches (FFB) the Government of India is implementing market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to provide reasonable price to the Oil Palm growers. Besides, to reduce the adverse effect of import of edible oil on domestic prices of edible oils and to protect the interest of oilseeds, oil palm and coconut growers. Government has increased the import duty on various categories of edible oil from 1.4.2001.

(f) and (g) The Expert Committee on Pulses has already reviewed the scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) and the recommendations of Expert Committee on Pulses have already been incorporated in the revised scheme during the Ninth Plan w.e.f. 2000-01.

Failure of Airport Police in Detecting Bullets

19. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite various security measures being taken at various airports in the country security lapses are on the rise as reported in the Times of India dated September 19, 2001;

(b) if so, the number of incidents reported during the last three months where arms ammunition were not detected by the police personnel at the first check up;

(c) whether any action has been taken on such security lapses against the erring officials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government for taking fool proof security taken by the Government for taking fool proof security measures at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Sea Wall in Maharashtra

20. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal for construction of Sea Wall in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted two proposals for construction of sea wall in Maharashtra State. One proposal estimated to cost Rs. 4.53 crore was received in July, 2001 from

Government of Maharashtra for incorporation in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), namely, "Critical Anti-erosion works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" which is awaiting the approval of the Full Planning Commission. The proposal was examined in Central Water Commission (CWC) and comments sent to the State Government in the month of July, 2001 reply to which is awaited.

The second proposal estimated to cost Rs. 238.50 crore which includes 72.36 km of anti-sea erosion works for incorporation in the National Coastal Protection Project (NCPD) was received in March, 2001. The proposal was examined in CWC and the comments sent to State Government in May, 2001 for further modification of the proposal. The reply to the comments is still awaited from the State.

Welfare of Agricultural Labourers

21. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agricultural labourers in Gujarat and Orissa indicating the percentage of their population out of the total population of their respective States;

(b) the steps taken for their welfare at Union and State level; and

(c) the extent of achievements made during the last two years?

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

[English]

Insurance Surcharge on Passengers

22. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to impose a surcharge per passenger to cover the increased cost of insurance

premia after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Air India has approached the Government for getting a third party cover for the rest of the amount and has also approached the Finance Ministry in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has introduced insurance charge on its domestic/international sectors, as under:

Domestic. Rs. 100 per sector on rupee fares with effect from 01st October, 2001 increased to Rs. 250 per sector with effect from 01 November, 2001.

USD 2 per sector on USD fare with effect from 01st October, 2001 increased to USD 5 per sector with effect from 01st November, 2001.

International Services USD 2 per sector with effect from 01st October, 2001 for journey ex-India increased to USD 5 per sector with effect from 01st November, 2001.

Four journeys from other countries into India, practice of the national carriers of the country concerned is being followed.

Air India is charging an insurance surcharge of US\$ 3.50 (or its equivalent in local currency) per passenger, per sector for all tickets issued on or after 01 November, 2001.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government of India has provided indemnity to the tune of USD 500 million to Air India which is equal to the shortfall in the 3rd party cover required. This cover is valid only till 30.11.2001.

[Translation]

Economic Condition of Farmers

23. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the economic condition of the farmers has deteriorated after the adoption of new agriculture policy in the country;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government so far in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to conduct a survey of the economic condition of the farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The first ever National Agriculture Policy was announced in July, 2000. Not enough time has elapsed since then to assess deterioration, or otherwise, in the economic conditions of farmers.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As part of a study titled "State of Indian Farmers — a Millennium Study", it is proposed to conduct a country-wide Situation Assessment Survey on the professional and economic environment of farmers. The time scheduled of the Survey has not yet been firmed up.

Rice Production in Bihar

24. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achieved for rice production in the country during the last three years, State-wise particularly in Bihar;

(b) the reasons for shortfall in production; and

(c) the amount of special Central assistance provided to the State Governments particularly to Bihar for enhancing rice production, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The target and production of rice at all India level for last three years is as follows:

	(lakh tonnes)	
Year	Target	Achievement
1997-98	830.00	825.34
1998-99	860.00	860.77
1999-2000	860.00	894.75

It is evident from the above table that the rice production is higher than the target fixed except during

1997-98 which is marginally low due to adverse weather conditions in some States.

Year-wise and State-wise targets and estimates of rice production is given in the enclosed Statement I.

(c) Statements-II & III indicating Central Financial assistance provided to the States including Bihar under Centrally Sponsored ICDP-Rice and Central Sector Rice Minikit Programmes are enclosed.

Statement-I

Statewise Rice Production Targets and Achievements during 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(Lakh Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110.00	85.10	110.00	118.78	110.00	104.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.50	1.30	1.50	1.14	1.50	1.35
3.	Assam	33.00	33.83	34.00	32.55	34.00	38.61
4.	Bihar	68.00	71.33	71.00	67.69	68.50	77.42
5.	Goa	1.40	1.48	1.50	1.51	1.50	1.40
6.	Gujarat	9.00	10.42	9.50	10.16	9.50	9.85
7.	Haryana	20.00	25.56	24.50	24.25	24.50	25.94
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.30	1.20	1.30	1.18	1.30	1.20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.50	5.49	6.50	5.89	5.50	3.91
10.	Karnataka	30.00	32.13	31.50	36.57	32.00	36.35
11.	Kerala	11.30	7.65	11.00	7.27	8.50	7.71
12.	Madhya Pradesh	60.00	45.28	64.00	50.61	64.00	63.77
13.	Maharashtra	28.00	23.95	26.00	24.68	25.00	25.36
14.	Manipur	3.40	3.52	3.50	3.82	3.50	3.65
15.	Meghalaya	1.30	1.50	1.55	1.50	1.55	1.57
16.	Mizoram	0.70	1.10	1.00	1.09	1.00	0.88
17.	Nagaland	1.75	1.87	1.80	2.10	1.80	2.20
18.	Orissa	66.50	62.05	66.50	53.91	66.00	51.87
19.	Punjab	74.00	79.04	77.00	79.40	77.00	87.16
20.	Rajasthan	1.50	1.90	1.60	2.06	1.60	2.53
21.	Sikkim	0.25	0.21	0.25	0.22	0.25	0.23
22.	Tamil Nadu	71.00	68.94	75.00	81.41	75.00	72.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Tripura	5.13	5.36	5.00	4.91	5.00	4.91
24.	Uttar Pradesh	101.00	121.65	108.00	113.87	115.00	129.12
25.	West Bengal	122.00	132.37	125.00	133.16	125.00	139.51
26.	A & N Islands	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.26	0.30	0.26
27.	D & N Haveli	0.20	0.22	0.20	0.17	0.20	0.17
28.	Delhi	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.06
29.	Daman & Diu	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03
30.	Pondicherry	0.87	0.52	0.90	0.52	0.90	0.58
	All India	830.00	825.34	860.00	860.77	860.00	894.75

Statement-II*Release of Central Fund under ICDP—Rice during 1997-1998 to 1999-2000*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	719.00	749.74	614.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36.00	21.10	37.45
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	45.00
4.	Bihar	34.00	0.00*	0.00*
5.	Goa	7.00	10.00	22.75
6.	Kerala	134.00	131.00	111.64
7.	Madhya Pradesh	29.00	203.00	170.00
8.	Manipur	46.00	42.86	63.83
9.	Meghalaya	17.00	8.00	32.00
10.	Mizoram	36.00	28.00	29.27
11.	Nagaland	41.00	41.50	58.00
12.	Orissa	998.00	740.00	750.00
13.	Tamil Nadu	628.00	651.44	469.69
14.	Tripura	30.00	22.00	65.05
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1195.00	821.66	698.70
16.	West Bengal	144.00	80.00	90.00

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Pondicherry	20.00	20.00	20.61
18.	ICAR	27.00	25.00	11.52
Total		4141.00	3595.30	3290.11

*During the year Bihar State Government did not implement the scheme.

Statement-III

Statewise Financial Allocation and Actual Expenditure under Central Sector Rice Seed Minikit Programme since 1997-98 to 1999-2000

Sl.	State/UTs	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.28	8.25	12.45	12.05	13.10	13.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.61	0.62	0.90	0.90	0.99	0.99
3.	Assam	22.11	22.11	47.80	30.00	45.00	45.00
4.	Bihar	6.21	Nil	7.40	Nil	6.00	Nil
5.	Goa	0.50	0.20	1.20	0.54	1.50	0.24
6.	Gujarat	3.00	1.20	1.78	1.25	2.00	1.79
7.	Haryana	2.26	—	22.50	26.06	30.00	30.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.50	Nil	6.00	4.25	5.10	4.05
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.50	0.08	0.03	0.13	0.03	0.75
10.	Karnataka	5.63	5.36	30.00	28.62	22.00	20.40
11.	Kerala	5.75	5.75	6.82	Nil	6.90	11.45
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19.08	12.16	47.8	25.8	45.00	7.10
13.	Maharashtra	0.55	0.03	15.00	0.15	21.00	1.55
14.	Manipur	0.38	0.75	0.60	0.20	0.60	0.12
15.	Meghalaya	0.87	Nil	0.60	0.87	0.60	1.20
16.	Mizoram	0.25	—	0.30	0.30	0.30	—
17.	Nagaland	0.62	0.77	0.68	0.56	0.69	0.60
18.	Orissa	22.17	10.85	19.00	10.09	19.00	16.08
19.	Punjab	12.50	Nil	30.00	26.88	27.00	—
20.	Rajasthan	0.50	0.24	1.00	0.5	0.99	—
21.	Sikkim	1.88	1.88	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Tamil Nadu	10.03	10.01	15.00	15.02	20.80	20.80
23.	Tripura	5.80	1.36	1.16	1.16	1.40	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6.42	4.55	10.91	5.35	8.90	6.75
25.	West Bengal	0.41	0.37	4.11	2.76	4.20	1.82
26.	A & N Islands	0.25	0.02	0.30	0.08	0.30	0.15
27.	D & N Haveli	0.25	Nil	0.30	—	0.30	—
28.	Daman & Diu	0.25	—	0.30	0.25	0.30	—
29.	Pondicherry	0.63	0.57	1.50	Nil	1.50	0.90
Total RMDP		140.19	87.16	289.94	198.27	290.00	189.34
SLTP		7.00	4.30	7.00	3.09	7.00	6.50
Grand Total		147.19	91.46	296.94	201.36	297.00	195.84

*Including a sum of Rs. 5.50 lakh reimbursed to clear the arrears bills.

**Reimbursed to clear bills.

N.I. — Not implemented

RMDP — Rice Minikit Demonstration Programme

SLTP — State Level Training Programme

Recharging of Water Level in West Bengal

25. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal to recharge the ground water level in the State:

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether the said project is likely to be implemented in other States also;

(d) if so, whether the Government have mobilised any additional financial resources for the project; and

(e) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Central Water Board have received six project proposals from the Government

of West Bengal to recharge the ground water level in the State. The proposals concerns construction of various recharge structures in the districts of Hoogly, 24 Paraganas, Purulia, Midnapore/Salt Lake City and Bolpur of the State.

(c) to (e) The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a pilot Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 crore for the scheme during the IX Five Year Plan. This scheme is under implementation in 24 States/Union Territories and work is in progress in 136 areas. The approved proposals are expected to be implemented within 1-2 years.

[English]

Technology for Jhum Cultivation

26. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Haflong Soil Conservation Division, Assam has developed a technology for arresting Jhum cultivation;

(b) if so, the details of this technology indicating the precise benefits that are likely to be accrued thereby especially with regard to protection of forests and the soil; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to further promote this technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, a technology named "MODIFIED SCIENTIFIC SHIFTING CULTIVATION TECHNOLOGY (MOSSOCULT)" has been developed by Haflong Soil Conservation Division for arresting Jhum cultivation. It is equipped with the technology of replenishing the depleted soil of its nutrients. This is done firstly, by fixing the atmospheric nitrogen to the soil by help of the strip-planted leguminous plants, whose root systems nodules have nitrogen fixing bacteria. Secondly, the penned cattle's bio-manure is distributed into the fields by the orthodox bamboo conduits. This method conserves the soil and water and also keeps in tune with the age old rituals and customs, i.e. it allows Jhum-like-cultivation in a scientific way, by allowing to burn a patch of legumes strip in a controlled way.

The ridgeline of the watersheds are to be covered by natural forest with indigenous viable species, the next lower reaches is for penning of the stray cattle and lower reaches for growing paddy, cash crops, horticulture etc. In the lowermost reaches (valley bottom), ponds are dug for practice of fishery and duckery. Similar ponds and poly ponds are dug at feasible places in the upper reaches to facilitate life saving irrigation and drinking purpose.

The technology is expected to infuse the barren abundant jhum field with NPK and other essential nutrients to produce better yields on sustainable basis and enthuse in the Jhumias a sense of permanency in hill cultivation.

(c) International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) of N.C. Hills branch has proposed to take up this technology during the current financial year.

NALCO Scam

27. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI enquiry into the alleged National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) scam involving the selling of metal to the Hyderabad based Pannar Group of Companies on clean credit basis has been completed;

(b) if so, the findings of the enquiry;

(c) whether the findings of enquiry necessitated any action against certain officers of the companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Purchase of Saplings

28. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has sought reports from the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) and Director of Horticulture about the prices of saplings to compare the same with those purchased for the centre's green belt projects in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the IARI and Director of Horticulture has submitted the reports to the court; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) From the Judgment Dated 01-08-2001 of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in Writ Petition No. 574/2000 filed by Rashtriya Mukti Morcha Vs CBI and others, it has been observed that the Hon'ble Court considered the expert report from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, (IARI) Delhi regarding the reasonableness of the cost of raising of saplings and planting in the Tamil Nadu Green Belt Project. After considering the Report and after hearing the Counsels for the Petitioner and respondents, the Hon'ble Court came to the conclusion that there was no merit in the case and hence it was dismissed.

Tourism Development in Uttaranchal

29. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttaranchal has submitted any action plan and sought financial assistance to enhance tourism and related activities in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for tourism projects prioritized in consultation with the State Governments/U.T. Administrations every year. Tourism projects of Uttaranchal have also been prioritized in consultation with the State Government.

(b) and (c) Forty three projects of Uttaranchal with estimated Central component of Rs. 968.19 lakhs have been included in the prioritized list for consideration during the current financial year.

*[Translation]***Drip Irrigation System**

30. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are providing subsidy to farmers for implementation of the drip irrigation scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise total area in the country especially in Himachal Pradesh which is irrigated through drip irrigation system;

(d) whether only big farmers are being benefit by this scheme; and

(e) if not, the facts of the matter in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The Government is providing subsidy @ 50% of the total cost of the drip irrigation system to the Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Women farmers and 35% of the total cost to other category farmers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture — Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plans.

(c) The State-wise details of area covered under drip irrigation till the year 2000-01 is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) No Sir. Under the Scheme, all categories of farmers are benefited. However, more subsidy assistance is being provided to the Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes farmers. Moreover, the assistance is limited to a maximum area of four hectares per beneficiary family.

Statement

State-wise Area Covered under Drip Irrigation till 2000-01 through Central Assistance

(Area in ha.)

State	Area irrigated under drip irrigation (Ha.)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	36330
Arunachal Pradesh	295
Assam	38
Bihar	0
Goa	407

1	2
Gujarat	7558
Haryana	2234
Himachal Pradesh	375
Jammu & Kashmir	162
Karnataka	66343
Kerala	5472
Madhya Pradesh	2658
Maharashtra	94116
Manipur	341
Mizoram	16
Meghalaya	124
Nagaland	816
Orissa	1948
Punjab	1759
Rajasthan	6054
Sikkim	162
Tamil Nadu	55859
Tripura	0
Uttar Pradesh	2543
West Bengal	9
D & N Haveli	3
Daman & Diu	24
Delhi	4
Lakshadweep	0
Chandigarh	0
Andaman & Nicobar	0
Pondicherry	60
Total	285710

*[English]***Cooperative Societies**

31. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cooperative stores/societies running in the country;

(b) the number out of them running losses;

(c) the quantum of Government money involved in them and the time since when they are running into losses separately; and

(d) whether the Government propose to amend/review the Cooperative Act to stop further registration of Cooperative stores/societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The total number of Cooperative stores (societies) is 27,150.

(b) Out of them approximately 16,779 stores are running in losses.

(c) The Government equity participation in these cooperative stores is Rs. 18,463.05 lakhs.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration.

Reserved Posts for Handicaps

32. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for disabled/physically handicapped persons in all the departments under his Ministry during the last three years, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise;

(b) the number of such posts lying vacant as on October 31, 2001, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise;

(c) the number of disabled/physically handicapped persons given employment on such posts, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation of Handicapped

33. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for disabled/physically handicapped persons in his Ministry/Department during the last three years, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise;

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

(c) the number of disabled/physically handicapped persons given employment, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise;

(d) the time by which these vacant posts are likely to be filled up; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Ban on Recruitment in Delhi Milk Scheme

34. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any ban on recruitment of staff in Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS);

(b) if so, since when and the categories of staff on which such ban was imposed;

(c) whether shortage of staff has been a factor for increasing losses to DMS; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to meet the shortage of staff and to make up the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No Sir. To make up the losses, Delhi Milk Scheme has taken many initiative/incentives for purchase of bulk milk; simplifications of procedure for issue of Home Delivery Cards; extension of opening and closing timing of booths, etc. Further DMS is adopting professional approach in different area of operations such as marketing, transportation and plant operations.

Ban on Free Meals to Officials by ITDC

35. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued instructions to the ITDC hotels to stop giving free meals to the officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some ITDC officials are staying in the hotels itself without any entitlement; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Necessary instructions have been issued to ban the practice of providing services on oral orders without proper authorization in writing.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. There are certain cases where officials are unauthorisedly staying in hotel accommodation. Appropriation action has been taken in such cases.

Air Taxi Services to smaller cities

36. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to introduce air taxi services to link smaller cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such small cities in the country, particularly in Gujarat identified for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these services are likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Airline operators are free to operate on any route/to connect any place based on their commercial judgment subject, of course, to compliance with the route dispersal guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

Mite Menace to Coconut Trees

37. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coconut trees affected in Karnataka due to mite menace;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought financial assistance therefor; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The expert team constituted by Government of India to conduct roving survey, visited mite infested areas in Karnataka and reported 185 lakh mite affected coconut palms in the state.

(b) and (c) Government of Karnataka sought an assistance of Rs. 336.37 crores for control of coconut mite. Government of India through the Coconut Development Board released a total of Rs. 8.90 crores to Government of Karnataka during the period 1998-99 to 2000-01.

[Translation]

Recovery of Annual Charges from Private Airlines by AAI

38. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) recovers any annual charges from the private airlines;

(b) if so, the details of the facilities being provided by the AAI to the private airlines in lieu of the aforesaid charges; and

(c) the details of the profit earned by the Government during the last three years as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No annual charge is recovered from the private airlines by the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Illegal Extraction of Coal

39. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons were trapped in an abandoned mine in West Bengal in the month of October this year;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether extracting of coal illegally in coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased in the last few years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken to check such illegal extraction of coal by mafias?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) The incident did not occur in an abandoned mine. Illegal mining was going on under a private land beyond ECL mine boundary at Lalbandh about 15 km. from Asansol town. As the site is not under the control of ECL/CIL, it is not possible to confirm the number of persons trapped.

(c) Cases of illegal mining activities from abandoned/closed/disused mine or from outcrop regions have been reported mainly from ECL, BCCL and CCL having such activities in their coal mines in West Bengal, Bihar/Jharkhand. As the said activities are carried out stealthily/ clandestinely, it is not possible to quantify the exact number. However, the police power to initiate criminal action against illegal mining vests with the State police. Upon getting information about illegal mining the same is passed on to the concerned police authorities.

(d) The steps taken by CIL to curb/check illegal mining are as under:

- (i) Sealing off the entries of abandoned underground mines.
- (ii) Dozing off and filling up of illegal pits wherever possible.
- (iii) Patrolling by own security forces and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
- (iv) Intelligence collection and close liaison with District authority.
- (v) Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining are seized during the course of raids, the same is handed over to local police and FIR lodged.

Extension of Runway at Calicut Airport

40. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the extension work of runway at Calicut Airport has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the extension work;

(e) whether the Government have any plan to operate flights for Haj Pilgrimage from Calicut Airport; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The runway has been extended from 6000 feet to 9380 feet and the work has been completed in April, 2001.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Calicut airport has been designated as an embarkation point for Haj-2002.

Backlog of Reserved Posts

41. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of STEEL 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 Steel when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. The ceiling of 50% on filling up of reserved vacancies would apply only on the reserved vacancies which arise in the current year and the backlog/carried forward reserved vacancies for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes of earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and would not be subject to any ceiling as per DOPT's O.M. No. 36012/5/97-Estt. (Res.)-Vol.II dated 20.7.2000. This however, does not apply to the other Backward Classes.

(b) Para (5) of the DOPT's OM No. 36012/96-Estt: (Res.) dated 2.7.1997 only deals with the adjustment of existing appointments in the new post based rosters and other guidelines for operating these rosters. Details of backlog of vacancies in the Ministry of Steel as on 29.8.1997 are given in the statement below:

Group of post	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
Group A	—	—
Group B	—	1
Group C	1	—
Group D	—	—

Ministry of Steel

Sl. No.	Name of Group of post	1997	1998	1999	2000
1.	Group 'A'	—	—	—	—
2.	Group 'B'	1 (OBC)	—	1 (OBC)	1 (ST)
3.	Group 'C'	1 (SC)	—	2 (1-ST and 1-OBC)	—
4.	Group 'D'	4 (SC)	4 (SC-3 and OBC-1)	—	4 (SC-3 and OBC-1)

As regards the attached office of M/s Steel, viz., Organisation of the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel, Kolkata no appointments have been made because of the on-going downsizing of the organization's manpower.

Backlog of Vacancies for SC/ST

42. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE 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 district group' as provided under Article 16 (4) B of the Constitution to overcome 50% ceiling limit on vacancies to be reserved in a year;

(b) if so, the details of backlog/carried forward vacancies ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM No. 36012/96-Estt. (Res) dated July 2, 1997 in respect of (1) SC, (2) STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C, and D

In the attached office of Development Commissioners for Iron and Steel, Kolkata, there is no backlog of vacancies for reservation for SCs and STs.

(c) The DOPT have clarified that the reserved vacancies are to be determined afresh on the basis of post-based revised rosters and are to be carried forward for future adjustments; and

(d) Details of fresh vacancies/posts accrued to reserved groups in all categories of posts during the four years from 1997 to 2000 as per post-based rosters are given below:

Categories of services as on August 29, 1997 in his Ministry when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

(c) the details of such backlog vacancies filled during each of the last four years and those which remain unfilled; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Farakka Barrage Project

43. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether anti erosion work of about Rs. 17.5 crores were allotted to Farakka Barrage Project in the financial year 2000-01;

(b) if so, the funds released so far;

(c) whether any progress has been made in the aforesaid work;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Rs. 3 crore has been allotted in 2001-02 for anti erosion works downstream of the Farakka Barrage. The fund is likely to be fully utilized current financial year.

Rationalisation of Cash Crop Cultivation

44. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are implementing a new plan across select districts in various State of the country in order to rationalize the pattern of cash crop cultivation and facilitate easier marketing;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) if so, whether to work out a strategy based on the fixed parameters in cultivation namely climate and soil quality is envisaged; and

(d) if so, the extent to which this strategy has been proved helpful for cash crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Improvement in Condition of Fishermen

45. SHRIMATI BHAVANABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of advance warning centres established in the country for the welfare of the fishermen, location wise;

(b) whether these Centres provide time signals to the fishermen going for fishing in the sea; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the deteriorating conditions of fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Department of Ocean Development a 'Shore to Fishing Vessel Communication Project' was initiated in 1991 to establish a communication link between fishermen out at sea and the shore in case of impending dangers of any cyclonic storm, rough weather, damage to fishing craft etc. Besides, selected fisherfolk were to be provided with hand-held VHF sets. This Project is implemented in two phases. Under phase I of the Project, shore stations had been established in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Goa. Under phase II, work was initiated for supply of equipments, installation, commissioning, maintenance and operation of 10 shore stations in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Orissa (two stations each) and Pondicherry, Goa, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep (one station each). In State like Maharashtra these Centres provide timely signals to the fishermen going for fishing in sea. Besides, warning messages are also broadcast through Akashvani, Doordarshan etc. in coastal States/Union Territories.

(c) Several Welfare Schemes for fishermen are under implementation to provide them basic civic amenities such as housing, drinking water and insurance cover besides subsidies for motorisation of traditional craft and State contributed saving-cum-relief to tide over the difficulties of fishermen house holds during non-fishing months.

Struggle By Farmers' Organisation

46. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain organizations of farmers have decided to launch struggle seeking solution to the problems faced by the farming community;

(b) whether with the implementation of directives of the world trade organization and the world bank the plight of farmers has worsened; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interest of our farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Some reports have been received that some organizations of farmers are agitating for seeking solutions to the problems faced by the farming community.

By virtue of signing the WTO Agreement, India is already entitled to get the Most Favoured Nation (M.F.N.) status of national treatment from all W.T.O. Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), India in its proposals submitted to W.T.O. has sought flexibility in the implementation of its domestic support, elimination of export subsidies, substantial reduction in tariffs including the elimination of tariff peaks and tariff escalations so as to get a meaningful market access for its agricultural products in the developed country markets.

In the wake of removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs), which were maintained on Balance of Payment grounds, Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and are committed to provide adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various W.T.O. compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound tariffs, anti-dumping and safeguard action, imposition of counter-veiling duties under certain specified circumstances, etc.

SCs/STs in Group A and B Services

47 SHRI A.K.S VIJAYAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 10.68% (SCs-08.41% and STs-2.27%) and in Class II (Group B) Services only at 13.20% (SCs-09.68% 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, the 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 his Ministry; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to (i) General, (ii) SC, (iii) ST and (iv) OBCs working against such posts and their respective percentages 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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Projects for Tourism Development

48. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned 159 projects for development to tourism infrastructure during 1992-97;

(b) if so, the number of such projects completed and commissioned till date;

(c) the progress on remaining projects and likely time by which these projects are likely to be completed, State-wise;

(d) the number of projects where time and cost over-run amount involved;

(e) whether some of the projects already completed and commission are being used for other purposes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned 948 projects for development of tourism infrastructure involving Central financial assistance of Rs. 158.90 crores to the State Govts./UT Administrations in consultation with them during 1992-97.

(b) Out of these 948 projects, 422 projects have been completed and 67 projects have been dropped.

(c) Remaining 459 projects are at various stages of completion.

(d) to (f) The State Governments/UT Administrations are responsible for completion of projects. They are advised to complete projects within the stipulated period of 30 months as per the guidelines of the Department of Tourism. Any cost escalation due to delay in completion of project is borne by the concerned State Govt./UT

Administration. The State Governments/UT Administrations are responsible for commissioning and maintenance of projects. They also sign a Management Agreement with the Department of Tourism to upkeep, maintain and operate the projects created for development of tourism.

[*Translation*]

Decline in Soil Nutrients

49. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural production is adversely effected due to decline in the soil nutrients;

(b) whether the fertility of soil is declining constantly due to inadequate and imbalanced use of fertilizers in the country since the Indian farmers are using fertilizers as per their own discretion and budget;

(c) if so, whether it is likely to be difficult even to provide food to the increased population; and

(d) the details of the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) Agriculture production depends on a number of factors like seeds, fertilizers, plant protection measures, irrigation/rainfall and crop management, practices etc. Fertilizers do make a significant contribution in increasing the agriculture production which has been gradually increasing with corresponding increase in consumption of fertilizers. During 1998-99 foodgrains production of 203.61 million tonnes was attained with average nutrient consumption of 88.05 kg per hectare. During 1999-2000 the foodgrain production was 208.87 million tonnes and the nutrient consumption declined due to drought like situation in many States. However, there are instances of decline in soil health and productivity due to inadequate and imbalanced use of fertilizers in certain parts of the country. The Government has taken some of the following steps to encourage the balanced use of fertilizers.

(i) The soil testing programme is periodically strengthened to make the fertilizer use recommendations according to the nutrient status of the soils.

(ii) Financial support is given to decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers so as to increase their consumption and thereby bring balance in N P K consumption.

(iii) Use of integrated nutrients through chemical fertilizers and organic sources like bio fertilisers, compost/vermicompost is being encouraged so as to maintain soil fertility and make cheaper source of plant nutrients available to the crops.

Government efforts have helped in improving nutrient consumption ratio which was 9.5:3.2:1 during 1992-93 and has narrowed down to 6.9:2.7:1 during 1999-2000. No problem is anticipated about providing food for increased population.

Veterinary Hospitals

50 SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum for setting up veterinary hospitals in the States;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the number of veterinary hospitals in Maharashtra and Uttaranchal;

(e) whether any veterinary hospital is proposed to be set up at Pipna village in Almora district of Uttaranchal; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) There is no provision for opening of veterinary hospitals under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Central Government. Opening of Veterinary Hospitals is undertaken by the State Governments.

(d) Number of Veterinary Institutions in Maharashtra are: Polyclinics-31, Veterinary, Dispensaries (Grade-I) 1221, Veterinary Dispensaries (Grade-II)-2075, Mobile Veterinary Clinics-61, the number of Veterinary Institutions of Uttaranchal are: Veterinary Hospitals-291, 'D' Class Veterinary Hospitals-14, Stockman Centres-584, Mobile Veterinary Dispensaries-11.

(e) and (f) The Government of Uttaranchal have informed that there is no proposal to set up any Veterinary Hospital at Pipna village in Almora district.

Funds to Maharashtra for Tourism Development

51. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to identify some new sites of tourists interest all over the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated during the Ninth Five Year Plan for promotion of tourism in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(d) the number of domestic/foreign tourists visited Maharashtra during the last three years;

(e) the amount likely to be allocated for this purpose during Tenth Five Year Plan to each state; and

(f) the total income earned during the above period by the State Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, Ministry of Tourism provides central financial assistance to various State Governments/UTs on

the basis of project prioritised annually including the new sites in consultation with them. In 2001-2002 a total number of 267 projects have been prioritised with the sanctioned amount of Rs. 810.00 lakhs as per the enclosed statement.

(c) In the 9th Five Year Plan the Planning Commission has approved Rs. 485.75 Crores for Dept. of Tourism. No separate allocation has been made for Maharashtra.

(d) During the last three years the domestic and foreign visited Maharashtra is given below:

Year	1998	1999	2000
Domestic	7183687	7542871	8297158
Foreign	980850	1033816	1075169

(e) The allocation of budget for the Dept. of Tourism for 10th Five Year Plan is in the process of finalisation with the Planning Commission.

(f) There is no mechanism to quantify the income earned from tourism by individual states. However during the last three years the following are the estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism for the country.

Year	1998	1999	2000
In Rs. Crores	12150.00	12951.00	14475.43
In US\$ Million	2948.00	3009.00	3295.54

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Amount Prioritised (CFA)
1	2	3
1.	Beautification of Elephanta Island Dist. Raigad	75.00
	- Beautification of the jetty area	
	- Provision of traditional canopies alongwith Walkway	
	Beautification of walkway & providing Resting facilities	
	- Signage's	
	Providing public amenities like toilets	
2.	Improvement of View points, protective railing Signage's & other tourist amenities at Mahabaleshwar Hill Station, distt. Satara	50.00

1	2	3
3.	Improvement of View points protective railing, signages and other tourist amenities at Matheran Hill station, Distt. Raigad	50.00
4.	Provision of tourist amenities & show casing of Gawilgad fort, Dist. Amravati	50.00
5.	Development of View points protective railings, signages, Mall road, Children park, Bhimkund point at Hill Station Chikhaldara, Dist. Amravati	50.00
6.	Introduction of Kokani house boats in Kalaval & Tarkari Creeks in Dist. Sindhudurg	50.00
7.	Introduction of house boats with a restaurant at Sangmeshwar creek in Dist. Ratnagiri	50.00
8.	Development of Kokani Huts at Velneshwar Dist. Ratnagiri	50.00
9.	Water side amenity on Tarkari creek in dist. Sindhudurg	40.00
10.	Water side amenity on Jaigad creed	40.00
11.	Upgradation of Technology & Computerization	90.00
	- Creating a Maharashtra Tourism Portal	
	- Video, Animation, Picture, etc.	
12.	Development of Heritage sites at Mumbai	50.00
	- Promote walking tours, putting plaques, signage's, General beautification, etc.	
13.	Integrated development of Kolwan Valley signages, Public amenities one restaurant, etc.	50.00
14.	Development of Sawantwadi, in Sindhudurg Dist., Landscaping at Chiwar Tekdi, Public amenities near Moti Talao, Tourist Complex etc.	50.00
15.	Koyana Valley Development Plan	10.00
16.	Yeor Development Plan	10.00
17.	Beautification of Hot Water Springs at Unapdeo dist. Jalgaon	25.00
18.	Providing Tourist Amenities like drinking water, toilet etc. at Paradsinga dist. Nagpur	10.00
19.	Fairs & Festivals	10.00
	(a) Elloora Festival (Rs. 5.00 lakhs)	
	(b) Elephanta Festival (Rs. 5.00 lakhs)	
Total		810.00

*[English]***Setting up of Processed Food Authority of India**

52. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Processed Food Authority of India to establish standards for food in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the major activities of the Authority;

(d) whether this Authority is likely to undertake the activities of some of the organisations already existing; and

(e) if so, the necessity of setting up a new authority for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) to (e) An outline of proposed draft Processed Food Development Bill has been drawn up by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, which envisages *inter-alia* setting up of a Processed Food Development Authority to establish standards for Processed Foods. As the proposal is only in a preliminary stage details have not been worked out.

Polluting Industries in Dadra and Nagar Haveli

53. SHRI MOHAN S. DELKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Team of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has visited the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli to study the pollution industries which are discharging air and water pollution in the villages of Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(b) if so, whether the Central Team has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of the report;

(d) the number of industries which have been given a legal notice; and

(e) the details of final decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A team from the Central Pollution Control Board has visited the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli during November 1-8, 2001, and inspected a number of industrial units. The team has collected samples of air and water during their visit from the industrial units for assessing the pollution potential. The report of the team has not yet been submitted.

(d) and (e) Action on the recommendations of the team would be taken after studying the report.

*[Translation]***Afghan Nationals Travel in Air India Flight without Ticket**

54. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI SAIDUZZAMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "No Ticket, No Passport, No Problem" appearing in The Hindustan Times dated October 30, 2001;

(b) whether recently two Afghan Nationals have travelled by Air India flight AI-III and reached London without any ticket, passport or visa;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether an enquiry has been ordered into this serious security lapse on the part of Air India officials;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with findings of the enquiry;

(f) the details of action taken against officials of Air India for this serious security lapse; and

(g) the further steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (g) Yes Sir. A High level Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (Security), Cabinet Secretariat has been constituted to enquire into the recent incident of stowaways in Air India's flight AI-III, operating on the Mumbai-Delhi-London sector on 28.10.2001. The committee will complete its enquiry by 20th November 2001. Four officers of Air India have been placed under suspension.

The following steps have been taken by Air India to ensure that such incidents do not reoccur in future: (i) Providing of photographs of domestic passengers in the Boarding Card; (ii) Different colour Boarding Card for domestic passengers; (iii) Separate counters for domestic passengers; (iv) Profiling of domestic passengers; (v) Cabin crew will take head count; (vi) Immigration officials to check transit flight.

Labour Force

55. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the strength of labour force has increased in the country during the year 2000 as compared to the year 1991;

(b) If so, the details of estimates thereof; and

(c) the estimates of the government regarding percentage of unemployed labour force out of the total labour force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force are obtained through Labour Force Surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) from time to time. As per the surveys conducted during 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the estimated labour force based on Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) approach has gone up from 382 million to 406 million respectively. The estimated unemployment rate as percentage of labour force during 1999-2000 was of the order of 2.23%.

[English]

Crisis in Food Processing Industries

56. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any crisis in the food processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of requests of such units pending for tax exemption; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) to (d) While no reports regarding any crisis in Food Processing Industries have been brought to the notice, the constraints faced by the industries include lack of infrastructural Facilities, Low Margins, Seasonality, High Perishability, Multiplicity of Laws, Tax Structure, Market Development etc.

Rationalisation of tax structure is a continuous process and Government have been taking steps in this regard from time to time. In the current financial year Excise Duty on Processed Fruits and Vegetable has been brought down from 16% to 0%.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has initiated action for formulating a National Food Processing Policy and for this purpose draft policy has been prepared which envisages, among other things, creation of enabling environment, Infrastructural Development, Linkages at farm level, Rationalisation of Tax Structure etc.

Deployment of Sky Marshal in the Flights

57. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI:
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the deployment of sky marshals in all the flights run by public or private airlines in the country;

(b) if so, the total funds allocated and disbursed for such security measures alongwith the amount of estimated expenditure involved therein;

(c) whether the owner of private airlines have objected to deploy sky marshals in view of financial burden;

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

(e) the action taken to ensure mandatory deployment of sky marshals on all flights especially on private airlines; and

(f) the extent to which the flying of sky marshals are going to check hijacking of planes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Sky Marshals are already deployed on all the routes of Indian Airlines and private airlines on random basis.

(b) No separate funds are required to be allocated for this purpose, as the Sky Marshals are from the National Security Guard (NSG) and their daily allowance and travel expenses are met by the airlines concerned.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Sky Marshals are deployed in private airlines as per the schedule laid down by BCAS.

(f) Sky Marshals are deployed to handle a hijack situation on board. Their deployment is expected to deter attempts to hijack aircraft, and they would also be able to handle any attempted hijacking taking place on board a flight.

[Translation]

Modern Technique for Landing of Aircraft

58. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any modern technique for landing of aircraft even in bad weather; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Instrument Landing System (ILS) is provided in many countries as a landing aid in bad weather. ILS is already in operation at 33 airports in India and is planned to be installed at 5 more airports.

[English]

Compensation for Victims of Natural Calamities

59. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa seeking additional funds to compensate the victims of natural calamities and the recent flood;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government have sent a team to the States to assess the situation;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In response to the Memoranda received from these States seeking Central assistance in the wake of floods/flash floods, Inter-Ministerial Central Teams were deputed for assessment of the situation.

(d) and (e) In addition to release of entire Central share of Calamity Relief Fund for 2001-02, assistance of Rs. 100 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was released to Orissa. In respect of Kerala, it was decided that, to begin with, funds from the CRF of the State be utilised and that the situation be reviewed at a later date. The State Government was

suitably informed. The request of Andhra Pradesh is under consideration.

Provident Fund Dues of Workers

60. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the properties of National Herald and Shama Magazine at Delhi were attached for default of provident fund dues of workers;

(b) if so, the details of amount outstanding in each case;

(c) whether the full recovery of provident fund dues had been carried out and workers' provident fund accounts have been/are being settled;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The amount payable by National Herald towards PF dues is Rs. 1,76,69,844/-, out of which Rs. 7,81,098/- has been recovered by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation by taking various recovery actions. The amount in default by Shama Magazine is Rs. 4,74,957/-. Steps have been taken for recovery of establishments have been attached/seized. Further, workers PF accounts are being settled.

(e) Does not arise.

Supply of Inferior Quality of Coal by WCL

61. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) has made a complaint that the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has been supplying inferior quality of coal to its Super Thermal Power Plant at Chandrapur (Maharashtra);

(b) whether the MSEB has deducted certain amount due to WCL as the inferior quality of coal has damaged the machineries of the said plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the MSEB has also gone to court on this account;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether other power plants in Maharashtra are also getting inferior quality of coal from WCL;

(g) whether the Government propose to get the issue of supply of inferior quality of coal by WCL enquired into by some independent agency, other than Coal India Limited; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) supplies about 10 lakh tonnes of coal per month to Chandrapur Thermal Power Station (CTPS) by different modes. There were some complaints regarding wet and sticky coal during heavy rains, and these were attended promptly by WCL.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

(f) WCL have not received any major complaint from other power houses of MSEB regarding quality of coal. However, some complaints for sticky nature of coal were received during the monsoon season and corrective action has taken to the extent possible.

(g) and (h) No such proposal is under consideration of Government in the Ministry of Coal & Mines.

Production of Oilseeds and Pulses

62. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of pulses, cereals and oilseeds and their requirement recorded during the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the steps taken to increase the production of the said items, separately;

(c) the target fixed and achievements made in regard to these items during the last three years separately, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether the production of said items have even been less than the target fixed;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the assistance provided to State Governments/ Union Territories to increase the production of said items during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) State-wise/UT-wise details of production of Pulses, Cereals and Oilseeds during the last 3 years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are given in the enclosed statement-I. The requirement of these commodities is not worked out State/UT-wise but the same is worked out for the country as a whole taking into account the total population as well as the other factors.

(b) To increase the production of Pulses, Cereals and Oilseeds, various Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) for Pulses, Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme

(ICDP) — Wheat, Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) — Coarse Cereals, Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) and Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) are in implementation in various States. Under these schemes various incentives by way of subsidies are being provided to the farmers in order to motivate them to take up the cultivation of these commodities on a large scale.

(c) State/UT-wise details of targets fixed for Pulses, Cereals and Oilseeds for the last 3 years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 is given in Statement-II. The achievements made against these targets is already given in Statement-I.

(d) and (e) The overall production of Pulses and Oilseeds is less than the target fixed for these crops during the said period due to severe drought conditions prevailing in the country and the attack of some diseases on these crops. However, overall production of cereals has been less than target in 1997-98, close to the target during 1998-99 and more than the targets fixed during 1999-2000.

(f) The statement-III containing the assistance provided to State/UT to increase the production of these crops under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last 3 years is enclosed.

Statement-I

State-wise/UT-wise details of Total Production of Pulses, Cereals & Oilseeds during the last 3 years i.e. 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(In '000 tonnes)

State/UTs	Pulses			Cereals			Oilseeds		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	515.7	827.0	761.1	10306.6	14078.0	12662.8	1424.1	2465.8	1470.4
Arunachal Pradesh	6.6	6.8	4.9	203.2	181.1	205.3	23.0	23.9	25.7
Assam	64.5	69.2	64.7	3513.1	3364.8	3977.9	173.9	154.2	147.9
Bihar	665.7	792.3	713.1	13427.5	12833.6	13848.0	166.5	189.8	191.4
Goa	7.8	9.5	9.0	150.6	154.9	141.8	2.5	2.5	2.2
Gujarat	613.3	633.5	405.6	5096.4	4933.2	3646.1	3834.0	3883.2	1733.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	374.7	353.2	76.5	10973.0	11770.0	12990.0	423.2	714.3	640.7
Himachal Pradesh	12.6	12.9	18.1	1428.6	1477.8	1323.1	9.1	9.9	9.3
Jammu & Kashmir	18.4	18.2	26.4	1401.6	1501.4	1244.7	47.1	51.0	51.0
Karnataka	496.6	746.9	838.0	7550.3	9249.7	9095.2	1198.6	1671.3	1243.6
Kerala	27.6	22.9	19.1	770.0	731.6	775.2	10.1	8.1	6.3
Madhya Pradesh	3282.2	3618.8	3796.9	14079.7	15882.4	17218.7	5687.8	5675.9	5591.5
Maharashtra	1187.8	2254.9	2188.4	8476.2	10497.9	10418.6	1682.4	2573.0	2642.2
Manipur	-	-	-	364.8	392.3	376.7	1.0	1.0	1.2
Meghalaya	2.5	3.5	3.4	184.1	184.3	190.3	5.9	6.1	5.5
Mizoram	6.7	9.3	7.0	126.8	125.7	98.1	12.3	7.5	7.1
Nagaland	12.5	12.5	15.0	224.4	269.5	292.1	24.8	35.4	43.3
Orissa	286.5	249.3	245.8	6351.3	5543.8	5354.4	191.2	160.6	155.1
Punjab	60.0	50.7	44.8	21053.2	22856.2	25153.0	218.6	170.5	112.5
Rajasthan	2634.9	2444.4	904.2	11414.0	10500.1	9795.8	3299.9	3815.4	3578.5
Sikkim	5.9	5.6	11.1	97.2	85.1	95.4	7.6	5.1	8.0
Tamil Nadu	244.2	304.3	368.9	7859.6	9114.4	8488.5	1476.7	1644.0	1511.5
Tripura	5.4	4.1	4.1	542.0	495.3	495.3	7.2	5.5	5.5
Uttar Pradesh	2285.2	2323.5	2599.2	39304.0	38093.7	42639.2	1006.4	1088.7	1301.4
West Bengal	151.6	126.3	216.8	14201.6	14241.1	14850.8	387.7	382.5	383.7
A & N Island	1.7	0.5	0.5	30.0	26.2	26.2	-	-	-
D & N Haveli	5.6	3.2	3.2	26.4	19.8	19.8	0.1	0.1	0.1
Daman & Diu	0.2	1.0	1.3	2.9	3.3	3.3	-	-	-
Delhi	1.0	0.1	0.1	38.0	40.2	40.4	0.7	0.7	0.7
Pondicherry	2.0	3.1	3.0	52.3	52.2	58.7	2.3	2.2	2.0
All India	12979.3	14907.3	13350.2	179279.4	188699.6	195524.6	21324.7	24748.2	20871.6

Statement-II

State-wise Production Targets & Achievements of Pulses, Cereals & Oilseeds during the last three years i.e. 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(In Lakhs tonnes)

State/UTs	Pulses						Cereals						Oilseeds					
	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Target	Act.*	Tar.	Ach.*	Target	Act.*	Target	Ach.*	Target	Act.*	Tar.	Ach.*	Tar.	Act.*	Tar.	Ach.*	Target	Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Andhra Pradesh	7.5		7.8		7.8		130.60		131.81		131.09		29.61		30.50		30.50	
Arunachal Pradesh	0.06		0.05		0.05		2.30		2.46		2.96		-		-		-	
Assam	0.6		0.65		0.65		34.20		35.40		35.40		1.85		1.35		1.35	
Bihar	8.4		8.37		8.37		136.50		137.00		137.02		4.32		4.55		4.55	
Goa	0.1		0.05		0.05		-		-		-		-		-		-	
Gujarat	6.2		6.95		6.95		43.36		45.45		50.98		31.85		33.70		33.70	
Himachal Pradesh	0.14		0.15		0.15		13.99		14.03		15.26		-		-		-	
Haryana	5.05		5.35		5.35		104.46		110.96		115.13		9.70		10.20		10.20	
Jammu & Kashmir	0.24		0.25		0.25		15.09		15.98		15.05		0.50		0.50		0.50	
Karnataka	7.8		7.45		6.95		83.00		84.75		87.42		17.60		18.05		18.05	
Kerala	0.3		0.4		0.4		11.38		11.38		8.50		-		-		-	
Madhya Pradesh	35.0		36.95		35.95		160.77		165.99		169.99		52.90		58.35		58.35	
Maharashtra	22.0		23.99		24.49		116.95		116.05		123.90		25.48		26.85		26.85	
Manipur	0.12		0.12		0.12		3.60		3.70		3.70		-		-		-	
Meghalaya	0.03		0.03		0.04		1.39		1.64		1.55		-		-		-	
Mizoram	-		-		0.03		0.03		1.05		1.35		-		-		-	
Nagaland	0.13		0.04		0.04		2.00		2.08		2.05		-		-		-	
Orissa	7.0		5.2		5.2		69.09		69.10		67.75		6.06		6.20		6.20	
Punjab	0.95		0.95		0.95		214.80		318.82		223.76		3.33		3.35		3.35	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rajasthan	17.5	17.5	17.5	102.20	105.75	113.16	32.15	34.30	34.30									
Sikkim	0.1	0.13	0.13	0.98	0.98	0.75	-	-	-									
Tamil Nadu	3.55	6.06	6.04	84.10	88.15	86.80	18.00	18.70	18.70									
Tripura	0.06	0.04	0.04	5.25	5.07	5.02	16.15	17.00	17.00									
Uttar Pradesh	25.25	24.9	25.9	381.72	391.38	413.94	4.70	4.80	4.80									
West Bengal	1.7	1.5	1.5	131.60	135.10	134.45	-	-	-									
A & N Island	0.04	0.02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Delhi	0.01	0.02	0.02	1.56	0.24	0.05	-	-	-									
Others	0.18	0.02	0.05	0.95	0.98	1.89	0.80	0.90	0.90									
Total	150.00	155.00	155.00	1845.00	1894.00	1986.85	255.00	270.00	270.00									

*Achievement made against these targets is given Annexure-I

Statement-III

Financial Assistance provided to different States/UTs. under National Pulses Development Project (NPDP). Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) & Various Schemes of Cereals during the last 3 years i.e. 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State/UTs	Pulses			Cereals			Oilseeds		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	221.00	245.00	105.00	751.50	800.04	651.93	1502.00	1200.00	976.81
Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	5.00	43.88	78.35	51.10	69.95	40.00	40.00	118.88
Assam	-	10.00	44.43	38.82	50.00	55.00	-	200.00	142.00
Bihar	-	-	-	38.00	-	-	-	-	-
Goa	1.00	1.00	3.00	7.00	10.00	22.75	-	-	-
Gujarat	90.00	208.00	108.22	140.44	136.27	75.25	1142.00	1030.00	1130.00
Himachal Pradesh	15.00	15.00	-	111.75	111.13	146.19	-	40.00	23.00
Haryana	60.00	35.00	68.00	533.00	279.10	485.57	296.36	280.00	328.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jammu & Kashmir	30.00	30.00	20.00	40.75	-	34.16	-	80.00	47.00
Karnataka	130.00	150.00	150.00	243.05	326.10	239.35	653.14	700.00	580.81
Kerala	12.00	12.00	12.00	134.00	131.00	111.64	50.00	50.00	50.00
Madhya Pradesh	555.00	485.00	369.00	630.00	685.24	441.30	1249.00	1241.50	1054.80
Maharashtra	412.00	430.00	430.00	544.32	1034.00	409.65	1050.00	1100.00	1030.43
Manipur	25.00	35.00	89.96	94.11	79.86	73.83	110.00	100.00	224.90
Meghalaya	5.00	5.00	77.33	24.10	8.00	38.31	20.00	25.00	80.00
Mizoram	-	-	30.00	48.10	39.05	36.58	-	-	120.00
Nagaland	18.00	30.00	100.00	53.10	52.00	63.00	-	-	-
Orissa	45.00	180.00	180.00	1029.50	803.00	785.18	500.00	500.00	500.00
Punjab	25.00	22.00	14.73	-	248.49	367.56	100.00	100.00	20.00
Rajasthan	684.00	525.00	474.90	867.83	808.43	885.64	1650.00	1230.00	1140.15
Sikkim	15.00	15.00	15.00	20.12	21.50	34.14	55.00	60.00	60.00
Tamil Nadu	165.00	150.00	150.00	642.99	675.59	488.49	832.00	625.00	624.66
Tripura	25.00	25.00	100.00	37.10	31.00	70.05	35.00	58.50	140.00
Uttar Pradesh	877.25	630.00	281.39	2225.87	1718.80	1373.51	921.00	704.00	458.00
West Bengal	13.75	25.00	54.16	151.20	80.00	108.89	250.00	246.00	246.00
A & N Island	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others				31.80	21.63	20.61			

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

63. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing Irrigation Projects in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the funds allocated, disbursed and utilised for implementation of the irrigation during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The details of ongoing irrigation projects, funds allocated in Ninth Plan and utilised during last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	IX Plan outlay	Expenditure during IX Plan		
				1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	3197.12	406.6	492.3	495
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	4	86.1	17.98	23.1	21.69
4.	Bihar	8	640.60	75.73	106.4	170.01
5.	Jharkhand	7	123.00	70.71	123.6	121.69
6.	Goa	1	232.27	32.6	18.6	56.7
7.	Gujarat	9	1460.09	66.1	38.89	7.15
8.	Haryana	5	167.76	2.86	0.26	34.19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	24.25	8.4	9.31	12.0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	12.8	2.1	2.95	3.42
11.	Karnataka	14	2617	1174	1401	1874.77
12.	Kerala	2	480	94.29	97.51	110
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19	1396.01	2108	286.6	302.91
14.	Chhattisgarh	5	570.00	39.95	47.2	48.18
15.	Maharashtra	44	7150.07	8307	7105	863.79
16.	Manipur	2	326.63	27.13	23.46	48.51
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	6	1631.22	338.1	286	273.6
21.	Punjab		18	3.06	3.5	2.2
22.	Rajasthan	6	1705.64	144.0	157.7	196.93
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttaranchal	2	206.00	17.8	6.95	6.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	15	2004.54	367	364.7	731.33
28.	West Bengal	3	724.03	87.71	71.34	72.5
Total		171	97708.02	1997	4213	5458.99

Construction of Field Drains in Tamil Nadu

64. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal under Command Area Development Programme (CADP) is under the consideration of the Government for construction of field drains for draining out excess water from the fields in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) For the year 2001-2002 the State Government of Tamil Nadu has proposed a target of 6450 ha. for the construction of field drains for draining excess water from the fields in Tamil Nadu in Cauvery command and Tambiraparani river basin project at a total cost of Rs. 64.50 lakh.

[Translation]

Construction work done by CPCB

65. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

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

(a) the details of the construction work done by the Central Pollution Control Board during the last three years;

(b) the details of the ongoing construction works in various States; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on different construction works during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has not taken up any construction work during the last three years and no construction work of CPCB is going on in any State.

(c) Does not arise.

Hindustan Zinc Limited

66. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the Hindustan Zinc Limited to the private sector;

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

(c) whether all aspects of employees are being considered; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to protect their interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) is one of the Public Sector Undertakings identified for disinvestment.

(b) The Government had proposed to divest 26% equity of HZL and give management control to a strategic partner. HZL has been identified for disinvestment because it does not fall in 'strategic' category.

(c) and (d) As announced by the Finance Minister in the budget speech for the year 2000-2001, the Government is committed to protect the interest of the workers. This is done through adequate provisions in the Transaction Documents, which are signed at the time of disinvestment.

[English]

Depositing of Silt

67. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3210 on 13.8.2001 regarding depositing of silt and state:

(a) whether the proposal sent by the Government of Bihar for construction of storage reservoir in respect of Kamla Multipurpose Project on Kamla river and Bagmati Multi-purpose Project on Bagmati river has been approved by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the total outlay of these projects alongwith the Central and State share agreed to; and

(c) the time-frame by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Kamla Multipurpose Project on river Kamla and Bagmati Multipurpose Project on river Bagmati which have been proposed by the Government of Bihar are still under discussion with the Government of Nepal.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Online Employment Exchange

68. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the government have any plans to introduce online employment exchanges to facilitate people to know the exact day to day position regarding employment opportunities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) State-wise total number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live registers of employment exchanges as on 31st August 2001, is given in enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Job seekers on the live register as on 31-8-2001 (in thousands)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3222.43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.28
3.	Assam	1471.23
4.	Bihar	1809.85

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	811.95
6.	Delhi	1013
7.	Goa	104.58
8.	Gujarat	1094.55
9.	Haryana	720.38
10.	Himachal Pradesh	907.28
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	168.85
12.	Jharkhand	1511.40
13.	Karnataka	2037.95
14.	Kerala	4365.05
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1880.37
16.	Maharashtra	4461.00
17.	Manipur	398.53
18.	Meghalaya	38.61
19.	Mizoram	86.85
20.	Nagaland	38.03
21.	Orissa	929.33
22.	Punjab	539.17
23.	Rajasthan	795.23
24.	Sikkim*	—
25.	Tamil Nadu	4904.71
26.	Tripura	317.65
27.	Uttaranchal	311.59
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1931.98
29.	West Bengal	6087.17
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	33.60
31.	Chandigarh	90.80
32.	D & N Haveli	5.15
33.	Daman & Diu	7.60
34.	Lakshadweep	10.94
35.	Pondicherry	142.44
Total		42272.1

Note: *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State. Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Encroachment near Airports

69. SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of airports in the country in whose vicinity the dense population is a threat perception;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to remove these densely populated settlements to make the air journey more secured;

(c) if so, the name of the places where it is proposed to be done alongwith the details of the *modus operandi* in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to stop dense population, encroachment in future in the vicinity of the airports;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The density of population in the vicinity of an aerodrome does not pose a threat in itself to the aircraft operations. However, the height of structures in the vicinity of the aerodrome may restrict the usability of the aerodrome.

(b) to (e) The concerned State Governments have been requested to take urgent steps for removal of the unauthorised settlements bordering the airport lands for the safety of air passengers and aircraft. In addition, the height of the structures in the vicinity of aerodromes are regulated by the provisions of International Civil Aviation guidelines contained in annex-14 and Government of

India's Statutory Order 988. Action has been initiated to remove/prune the structures violating these at Hyderabad Airport.

(f) Does not arise.

Accidents in Mines

70. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents in coal mines and also in other mines have increased;

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

(c) the number of persons injured/died in coal mines in various States during January 1, 2001 to October 31, 2001 and how does it compares with the figures of the last three years;

(d) the extent of loss of property as a result thereof;

(e) the details of compensation paid to each injured and families of deceased in such cases; and

(f) the action taken against the guilty officials and to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The details of accidents in the mines of Coal India Limited, Singareni Collieries Co. Limited and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. during the last three years were as under:

		1998	1999	2000	2001 (Jan-Oct)
Fatal accidents	CIL	91	94	79	57+1
	SCCL	31	25	26	19
	NLC	2	2	3	4
Serious accidents	CIL	416	419	447	345
	SCCL	101	93	87	74*
	NLC	3	6	2	4

*Period January-September, 2001

Note: Figures for fatal accidents in CIL for the period 2000 and 2001 are subject to reconciliation with DGMS.

+ Bagdigi disaster.

(c) The number of persons injured/died in coal mines of Coal India Limited, SCCL and NLC during the period from 1998 to 2001 (upto October, 2001) is given below:-

		1998	1999	2000	2001 (Jan-Oct)
Fatalities	CIL	104	103	99	63+29*
	SCCL	36	27	33	19
	NLC	2	2	3	4
Serious injuries	CIL	432	447	471	372
	SCCL	103	106	90	93
	NLC	3	6	2	4

Note: Figures for fatalities in CIL for the period 2000 and 2001 are subject to reconciliation with DGMS.

*Bagdigi disaster.

(d) The loss of property due to accident is negligible in CIL and NLC. However, in SCCL due to the roof fall accidents and subsequent spontaneous heating GDK-8 incline, BG-II/II panel sealed off immediately. The material worth Rs. 5.51 crore have been left in the sealed off panel.

(e) The details of compensation paid by Coal India Limited for fatalities are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(f) The details of action taken against persons held responsible for fatal accidents in enquiries conducted by the Internal Safety Organisation of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries companies and Singareni Collieries Company Limited are given in the enclosed statement-II.

The following steps are being taken by Coal India Limited to reduce accidents.

1. Before every Monsoon the danger of inundation from both surface and underground sources of water and examined in every mine and wherever required action plans for preventive measures against the same is prepared and implemented.

2. Regular periodic safety audits of mines by experienced mining and electrical/mechanical engineers and implementation of the recommendations of the same.

3. Design of system of support of roof in the development workings in underground mines by scientific support systems based on Rock-Mass-Rating studies.

4. Progressive use of steel support in underground mines.

5. Greater use of quick-setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in underground mines.

6. Reduced exposure of workers to mining hazards by mechanisation of loading operations by increasing use of SDLs & LHD in below ground mines.

7. Thrust on training & retraining of workmen, supervisors to increase safety awareness of the workmen.

8. A comprehensive action plan has been framed to reduce accidents in opencast mines and at surface of mines.

Statement-I

Company	Date	Mine	Victim's Name	Compensation (In rupees)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
2001					
BCCL	1/21/01	5/6 PIT KB	Sadan Kumhar	156290	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Mohan Ghatwar	184170	

1	2	3	4	5	6
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Anup Yadav	131950	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Shantraj Prasad	213570	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Chotumia	121050	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Sheodharan Tanti	194170	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Monaj Kumar Jaiswara	218910	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Shyamilal Kora	205950	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Chandradeo Harijan	172520	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Swaminath Nonia	121050	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Rajendra PD Yadav	170490	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Ghura Singh	146200	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Brij Mohan Singh	188400	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Dasrath Bhuia	128330	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Ramawadh Paswan	197060	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Pritam Singh	199400	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Guljar	142680	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Jainul Abedin	142680	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Ashoke Kr. Mondal	192140	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Abdul Hamid	156470	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Jogmohan Gope	135560	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Shyamapod Bouri	175540	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Kala Rabidas	178490	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Lokhan Sorn	197060	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Situ Mahto	128330	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Narayan Barhi	135560	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Banshi Barhi	139130	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	Arvind Kumar	199400	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	A K Upadhyay	75540	
BCCL	2/2/01	BAGDIGI	P R Singh	114560	
BCCL	2/9/01	KATRAS CHOITUDIH	Ram Chandra Mahato	121050	
BCCL	3/15/01	BASDEOPUR	Mangar Mondal	159800	
BCCL	3/17/01	GHANOODIH	Barsati Chauhan	139000	
BCCL	4/21/01	AKASHKINARI	Ram Pratap Singh	149670	

1	2	3	4	5	6
BCCL	5/7/01	PB PROJECT	Bishundeo Gahlot	159800	
BCCL	5/26/01	KATRAS CHOITUDIH	Sudam Chand Roy	128330	
BCCL	8/1/01	NADKHURKEE OCP	Vijay Rabidas	159800	
BCCL	7/10/01	LOYBAD	Hiraman Mia	166290	
BCCL	9/1/01	NORTH TISRA PROJECT	Prabhat Banerjee		Under Process
CCL	6/4/01	SAUNDA D UG	Ram Harakh Ahir	149570	
CCL	8/9.01	ROHINI	Tara Singh-II		Under Process
CCL	3/23/01	CENTRAL SAUNDA	Dipak Sahrma		Under Process
ECL	2/8/01	PURE SEASOLE	Sona Lal Majhi	48424	
ECL	3/22/01	CHORA 10 PIT	Sagar Ghosh**		Under Process
ECL	4/5/01	SHANKARPUR	Braja Mohan Gorai	149670	
ECL	4/27/01	KUARDIH 13/14 PIT	Ramadhar Yadav	142680	
ECL	4/29/01	JHANJRA 1&2 INCLINE	Om Prakash Koiri		Under Process
ECL	3/9/01	MADHUJORE	Narayan Shaw	139130	
ECL	6/4/01	RAJAMAHAL OCP	Dost Mohammad	153090	
ECL	6/9/01	KALIPAHARI (G.M. GHUSICK)	Rameshwar Gope	124700	
ECL	6/15/01	KUMARDIH A	Ghurahu Prakash BP	163070	
ECL	7/19/01	PARASCOLE EAST	Bhola Giri	128330	
ECL	7/19/01	PARASCOLE EAST	Paresh Mukherjee	146200	
ECL	3/20/01	SIDULI	S K Singh	219930	
ECL	9/27/01	SHYAMSUNDARPUR	Dipan Mahato	124700	
ECL	9/29/01	BONJEMEHARI OCP	Shyamlal Chouhan		Under Process
ECL	10/14/01	BANSRA	Sukhai Bhuia		Under Process
ECL	10/29/0	NIMCHA	Jagu Yadav		Under Process
MCL	2/18/01	LAKHANPUR	Dinesh Prasad Singh	189580	
MCL	6/2/01	DEULBERA	R.C. Panda	163770	
MCL	7/5/01	LINGRAJ OCP	Srikanta Choudhary	221370	
NCL	3/19/01	NIGAHY PROJECT	Madh Sudan Mandal	172520	
NCL	6/20/01	BINA	Qasim	247397	

1	2	3	4	5	6
NCL	7/3/01	NIGAHI	Shiv Prasad Singh	146200	
NCL	8/31/01	AMLOHRI	Birendra Kumar	159800	
NCL	10/23/01	AMLOHRI	Jagannath Choubey		Under Process
SECL	1/18/01	JAMUNA 9 & 10	Ram Chandra	222710	
SECL	1/31/01	DHANPURI OCM	Rajendra Singh	159800	
SECL	3/15/01	KUSMUNDA	Shri Ganesh Maravi	211790	
SECL	3/17/01	UMARIA	Pramod Tiwari	205958	
SECL	3/19/01	GEVRA PROJECT	Sadashiv Naidu	198950	
SECL	5/30/01	KOREA	Baliram		Sub-Judice
SECL	6/12/01	PALI	Sukhdeo Prasad	214188	
SECL	6/17/01	BIRSINGHPUR	Govind Kotwar	181370	
SECL	7/19/01	DHANPUR OCM	Dhurwa Charan Mahato	419840	
SECL	7/24/01	GOVIND	Sidh Gopal	319600	
SECL	10/10/01	DIPKA OCP	Vinod Singh		Under Process
WCL	2/19/01	HINDUSTAN LALPETH NO. 1	Ramdas Ankloo Ardari	201660	
WCL	3/1/01	BAONER MINE NO. 3	Mohd. Jaffar Khan	225220	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI Co.	D. Prakash Rao	135508	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI CO.	Pradip Kumar Babulal	215280	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI CO.	Sitaram Kallu	153090	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI CO.	Wasudeo Dikhaji Srirame	181370	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI CO.	Chandraya Raimallu Amte	150390	
WCL	3/5/01	DURGAPUR RAYATWARI CO.	Rajya Ramaiya Nethru	135660	
WCL	3/20/01	TANDSI 3&4 INCLINE	Bhagwat	169440	
WCL	5/7/01	PADAMPUR OC	Basantaroo Dashrath Dha	194640	
WCL	7/19/01	BATPURA-II	Kesari Ratan	169440	
WCL	7/31/01	SAONER MINE NO. 1	Rewnath Maroti Durbade	186900	
WCL	8/29/01	KOLAR PIMPRI OC	Jiwa Raidas		Under Process

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	WM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEC	Exe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sup.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIL	Exe	22	1	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	14
	Sup.	20	0	1	7	4	0	0	0	0	12	8
	WM	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
SCCL		0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0

Construction of new terminal at Trivandrum Airport

71. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foundation stone for the new terminal at Trivandrum International Airports was laid in July last year;

(b) if so, whether the necessary sanction has since been accorded for its construction;

(c) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be started;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to meet the expenses for the construction of the new terminal;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have received any proposal from State Government for expansion/modernisation of Trivandrum Airport; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The foundation stone for the terminal was laid on 11th June, 2000.

(b) to (g) The Government has accorded on 25th July, 2001 "in principal approval" to the State Government of Kerala to the construction of a new international terminal building and related works on the Chakkai Canal side of the Trivandrum International Airport and the State

Government of Kerala has been requested to furnish a few clarifications and work out detailed project plans for final approval.

Honey Production

72. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Honey production potentials in Kerala are descending;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the details of Honey production in Tamil Nadu in the current year as on October 31, 2001, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The value of honey production in Kerala has increased from Rs. 132.21 lakhs in 1994-95 to Rs. 320.10 lakhs in 1999-2000. District-wise information on honey production is not being compiled.

(c) Does not arise. However, the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture — Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans. Under this Scheme assistance is being provided to the Kerala State Horticulture Produce Development Corporation for activities like production and distribution of honey bee colonies, organizing training programmes and honey festivals.

(d) District-wise information on honey production in Tamil Nadu has not been compiled for the year 2001.

Poultry Industry

73. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Poultry Industry is facing adverse effects of implementation of the WTO agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are certain irregularities prevailing at the time of import of Poultry items with regard to customs duty at various ports in the country;

(d) if so, whether any analysis has been made in this regard; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to curtail such unhealthy atmosphere?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

Area under Sugarcane Cultivation

74. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in the country under sugarcane cultivation alongwith the name of States producing maximum and minimum sugarcane separately;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to prepare any action plan to promote the sugarcane cultivation in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up sugar mills in Eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The total area in the country under sugarcane cultivation is about 40.67 lakh hectares. While maximum production is in Uttar Pradesh among the major sugarcane producing States, the minimum is in the State of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) A Centrally Sponsored on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas is being implemented under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture by the States.

(d) to (f) The Sugar Industry has been delicensed through notification dated 11.9.1998. The entrepreneurs are now free to set up sugar mills according to the techno-economic feasibility of their projects in any part of the country including the eastern Districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Projects under National Water Management

75. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects under National Water Management being implemented in Rajasthan and Maharashtra;

(b) the amount allocated and spent on each of the projects so far, separately; and

(c) the total area likely to be irrigated after completion of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Currently no such scheme is under implementation.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Construction of Canal of Bargi Reservoir Scheme

76. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give special assistance to Madhya Pradesh for completion of right Canal of Bargi Reservoir Scheme on Narmada river which is lying pending many years; and

(b) if so, the guidelines and assistance proposed to be provided by the Government to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Bargi dam is already completed and Bargi right bank canal is an approved project. The canal works can be considered for Central Loan Assistance (CLA) assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) if the State Government provides adequate budget provision for its time bound completion and if the project fulfils other norms of the AIBP.

Conversion of one third Land into Forest Land

77. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri A.K. Mukherjee to give necessary suggestions regarding the conversion of one third portion of the total land area into forest area;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government so far towards the implementation of the report?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. However, a Committee was set up of which Shri A.K. Mukherjee was a member, to develop an implementable plan for bringing 1/3rd of the country's geographical area under forest/tree cover.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee include institutional restructuring along with policy and legal reforms, involvement of communities in forest management, balanced development of forestry enterprises, support services, incentive systems and improved management practices. The Committee has also recommended an integrated approach for the overall development of forest and plantations by pooling resources from all the sources.

(d) The Working Group on Forestry for 10th Plan constituted by Planning Commission has formulated strategies for afforestation and regeneration of degraded lands, to increase forest/tree cover outside areas, to strengthen peoples participation in forestry activities,

creation of Forest Development Agencies, infrastructure development etc.

[English]

Contract to Air India for Transportation of Haj Pilgrims

78. SHRI E. AHAMED:
SHRI J.S. BRAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to award contract to Air India for transportation of Haj pilgrims;

(b) if so, whether Air India is likely to be able to undertake the job without affecting services on other international sectors;

(c) whether Air India is going to acquire additional aircraft for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Since after the events of 11.9.2001 in US, there has been a down-turn in passengers demand in the Civil Aviation sector and Air India/Indian Airlines have also been impacted creating spare capacity with them, it has been decided that Air India and Indian Airlines will transport approximately 40,000 pilgrims from India to Jeddah. Apart from this, Saudi Arabian Airlines is also participating in Haj-2002 operations and will transport 30500 pilgrims from India to Jeddah.

(c) and (d) It is expected that an additional A-310 aircraft on lease would be added in Air India's fleet before the start of Haj-2002 operations. This acquisition is not solely meant for Haj operation but part of long term plan for their scheduled operations as well.

Welfare of Beedi Workers

79. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount received by the Government out of cess levied on Bidi;

(b) the amount out of the total spent for various welfare activities for the Bidi Workers during the last three years; and

(c) the number of Tuberculosis Hospitals sanctioned for the Bidi workers by the Government alongwith location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The amount received by the Government out of cess levied on Beedi from 4/1998 to 3/2001 is Rs. 118.07 crore.

(b) The amount out of the total spent for various welfare activities for the Beedi Workers during the last three years is given as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Sub-head	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1. Administration	2.05	2.46	2.58
2. Health	15.26	17.93	21.35
3. Education	10.61	12.81	19.82
4. Recreation	0.17	0.17	0.27
5. Housing	3.33	4.47	8.04
Total	31.42	37.84	52.06

(c) One 50 bedded tuberculosis hospital has been sanctioned for the Beedi Workers at Karma, Jharkhand.

Nationalisation of Rivers

80. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Ministers of various States have requested the Union Government for nationalisation of rivers in the meeting of the Working Group of National Water Resources Council; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Insurance Coverage of Air Passengers

81. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the incident of World Trade Centre in New York, a special insurance coverage has been compelled upon air passengers by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry or the Airport Authority or Airlines Authority has asked for competitive bids in that regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any insurance coverage was existed previously; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) In the wake of terrorist attacks on the US cities, Insurance companies have levied a surcharge per passenger and increased insurance premium. As a result, Indian Airlines has introduced insurance charge on its domestic/international sectors as under:

Domestic: Rs. 100 per sector on rupee fares with effect from 01st October, 2001 increased to Rs. 250 per sector with effect from 01st November, 2001.

USD 2 per sector on USD fares with effect from 01st October, 2001 increased to USD-5 per sector with effect from 01 November, 2001.

International Services: USD 2 per sector with effect from 01 October, 2001 for journey ex-India increased to USD 5 per sector with effect from 01st November, 2001.

For journeys from other countries into India, practice of the national carriers of the country concerned is being followed.

Air India is charging an insurance surcharge of US\$ 3.50 (or its equivalent in local currency) per passenger, per sector for all tickets issued on or after 01 November, 2001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Indian Airlines has been taking third party liability cover (including terrorism outrages) insurance for USD 500 million to meet the requirements of the lenders/ lessors in addition to its own requirements. Effective October 01, 2001 Air India's re-insurers withdrew the cover

of US\$ 1500 million for losses incurred as a result of terrorist and allied activities. The cover available of US\$ 50 million only for this purpose was taken by Air India. The balance of US\$ 1450 million was covered by an indemnity from the Government of India. Effective November 01, 2001, insurance cover for losses resulting from terrorist and allied activities was available for US\$ 1000 million. The balance of US\$ 500 million has been covered by the Government of India upto November 30, 2001.

[Translation]

Provision of Black Boxes in Small Aircraft

82. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Black Boxes are not provided in small aircraft of the Government in which VIPs perform their journey;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide 'black boxes' in these aircraft in view of the fact that the causes of air crashes are not known due to non-availability of black boxes;

(d) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in these aircraft; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) As per the international standards specified by ICAO in Annex 6 aeroplanes whose all up weight is less than 5700 Kg are not required to be installed with Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) and Flight Data recorder (FDR).

(c) to (e) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Backlog of Reserved Posts

83. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether "backlog/carried forward vacancies" reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs are required to be treated as a 'separate and distinct group' as provided

under Article 16(4)B of the Constitution to overcome 50% ceiling limit on vacancies to be reserved in an year;

(b) if so, the details of 'backlog/carried forward vacancies' ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July, 1997 in respect of (1) SCs, (2) STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on 29th August, 1997 in the Ministry of Civil Aviation when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

(d) the details of 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 CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Damage due to Flood and Drought

84. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss suffered due to destruction of crops, houses collapses and death of animals in floods and drought during the last three years; and

(b) the funds released to various States for the purpose during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Statement-I indicating state-wise details of damage of life and property due to heavy rains and floods during 1998 and 1999, as reported by the Central Water Commission, and for 2000-01, as reported by the State Governments is enclosed. State-wise details of damage due to drought during 1998-99 to 2000-01, as reported by the State Governments are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) Details of release of Central share of calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and assistance provided to the State from National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) during 1998-99 to 2000-01 in the wake of natural calamities including floods and drought are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement-I*State-wise details of damage due to heavy rains and floods during 1998*

S. No.	State	Human Lives Lost (Nos.)	Cattle Lost (Nos.)	Houses Damaged (In lakhs)	Cropped Area Damaged (lakh ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	276	155	1.64	16.75
2.	Assam	125	86224	2.20	4.78
3.	Bihar	381	187	2.00	12.84
4.	Gujarat	153	4668	0.23	—
5.	Himachal Pradesh	71	221	0.05	2.78
6.	Kerala	255	N.R.	0.38	1.90
7.	Maharashtra	31	36	0.01	0.05
8.	Meghalaya	4	2609	Neg.	Neg.
9.	Orissa	34	61	0.73	4.37
10.	Punjab	18	34	Neg.	0.13
11.	Rajasthan	31	8248	0.09	0.97
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1390	3385	3.85	14.15
Total		2758	105828	11.18	58.72

State-wise details of Damage due to Heavy Rains and Floods during 1999

S. No.	State	Human Lives Lost (Nos.)	Cattle Lost (Nos.)	Houses Damaged (In lakhs)	Cropped Area Damaged (lakh ha.)
1.	Assam	3	992	Neg.	0.59
2.	Bihar	230	37	0.61	2.87
3.	Gujarat	73	36	N.R.	N.R.
4.	Himachal Pradesh	30	129	0.02	2.42
5.	Rajasthan	28	3650	0.07	0.20
6.	Tamil Nadu	103	628	0.37	0.01
7.	Uttar Pradesh	17	9	0.01	0.41
8.	West Bengal	79	3272	5.57	10.95
Total		563	8753	6.65	17.45

State-wise details of damage due to Heavy Rains and Floods, etc. during 2000-01

S. No.	State	Human Lives Lost (Nos.)	Cattle Lost (Nos.)	Houses Damaged (In lakhs)	Cropped Area Damaged (lakh ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	257	5368	1.04	4.22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26	9131	Neg.	0.04
3.	Assam	32	NR	NR	2.24
4.	Bihar	274	1861	3.12	3.92
5.	Gujarat	116	406	0.24	NR
6.	Himachal Pradesh	149	NR	NR	NR
7.	Karnataka	152	690	0.55	0.57
8.	Kerala	75	NR	0.09	NR
9.	Madhya Pradesh	13	147	0.03	Neg
10.	Punjab	7	NR	Neg.	0.25
11.	Sikkim	11	NR	Neg.	NR
12.	Uttar Pradesh	462	888	0.34	4.35
13.	West Bengal	1320	83630	21.95	19.20
Total		2894	102121	27.36	34.79

NR—Not Reported

Neg—Negligible

*Statement-II**State-wise details of number of district, Human & Cattle Population etc. affected by drought during 1998-99 to 2000-01*

S. No.	State	Districts Affected	Population affected		Cropped area affected (lakhs ha.)
			Human (in lakhs)	Cattle (in lakhs)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1998-99					
1.	Kerala	14	NR	NR	0.81
2.	Madhya Pradesh	7	43.75	43.84	11.85
3.	Orissa	19	12.33	NR	10.66
4.	Rajasthan	17	199.86	281.73	61.57
5.	West Bengal	10	25.24	NR	1.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
1999-2000					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	413.00	125.00	26.52
2.	Gujarat	17	250.00	71.33	NR
3.	Himachal Pradesh	12	NR	NR	2.87
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	NR	NR	2.96
5.	Karnataka	21	220.00	49.52	18.48
6.	Madhya Pradesh	7	26.64	34.28	9.53
7.	Manipur	5	NR	NR	0.71
8.	Mizoram	3	NR	NR	0.51
9.	Rajasthan	26	262.00	345.60	78.18
10.	Tripura	4	NR	NR	0.20
11.	West Bengal	10	NR	NR	1.20
2000-01					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	NR	NR	18.54
2.	Chhattisgarh	12	94.08	32.40	11.36
3.	Gujarat	23	291.00	107.00	13.50
4.	Himachal Pradesh	12	46.64	NR	0.88
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	NR	37.98	NR
6.	Madhya Pradesh	32	127.10	85.78	39.52
7.	Maharashtra	26	454.99	2.58	45.00
8.	Orissa	28	119.50	65.54	11.00
9.	Rajasthan	31	330.41	399.69	89.47

One district in Uttaranchal faced water scarcity conditions.

NR: Not reported.

Statement-III

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Central Share of CRF Released			Assistance Provided from NFCR/NCCF		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99 (NFCR)	1999-2000 (NFCR)	2000-01 (NCCF)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	103.30	107.69	148.54	26.50	75.36	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.86	6.10	9.02	13.47	—	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	41.60	43.37	76.12	59.90	—	—
4.	Bihar	43.22	33.79	50.22	11.45	38.18	29.67
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	20.60	—	—	40.00
6.	Goa	0.89	0.93	0.47	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	116.12	121.05	131.14	55.35	54.58	585.00
8.	Haryana	20.84	21.73	60.98	13.27	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	22.42	23.37	32.61	—	—	8.29
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	16.39	17.09	26.18	—	73.42	—
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	42.52	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	34.81	36.29	55.93	49.98	17.09	—
13.	Kerala	46.08	48.04	17.34	—	—	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	42.49	44.29	46.98	35.00	38.86	35.00
15.	Maharashtra	56.73	44.36	117.90	—	—	—
16.	Manipur	2.06	1.61	1.56	—	4.93	—
17.	Meghalaya	2.32	2.42	2.95	—	—	1.00
18.	Mizoram	1.05	1.10	1.12	—	6.00	—
19.	Nagaland	1.41	1.47	0.53	—	—	—
20.	Orissa	40.77	42.50	103.65	—	828.15	35.00
21.	Punjab	45.04	46.96	92.04	—	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	148.92	155.25	196.00	21.98	102.93	85.00
23.	Sikkim	3.92	4.08	2.95	7.67	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	49.37	51.47	76.98	—	—	—
25.	Tripura	3.74	3.90	1.41	5.05	5.34	—
26.	Uttanchal	—	—	7.10	—	—	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	104.07	108.50	32.08	131.15	16.68	—
28.	West Bengal	42.69	44.50	75.83	66.33	29.52	103.25

[English]

Soil Health of Agricultural Land

85. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has ever been undertaken on the soil health of agricultural lands especially in agricultural based States;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, whether any action is proposed to be taken in that regard in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been evaluating the long Term effects of fertilizer use on soil health and its productivity through its All India Coordinated Research Project on "Long Term Fertilizer Experiments" spread over 18 centres located at various State Agricultural Universities in the country. The study has revealed that intensive cropping involving high inputs and high yielding varieties results in decline in soil health and productivity due to deficiencies of certain macro and micro elements. The deficiencies arise due to removal of nutrients at rates higher than their replenishment. The Council is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to restore soil fertility. Besides, inclusion of legumes in cropping sequences is also being advocated.

(c) to (e) Not Applicable.

Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programmes

86. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) has been implemented in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Central allocation made and State Governments share in the scheme during each of the last two years;

(d) the achievement made in Gujarat during the said period;

(e) whether this scheme is also being extended to non-traditional but potential States; and

(f) if so, the names of States and the progress made in implementing the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme under Mini-Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton is being implemented in the 13 Cotton growing states including Gujarat. The funding pattern of the scheme is mostly 75:25 sharing basis between Government of India and States. The main objective of the scheme is to increase production and productivity of cotton. Assistance is being provided for transfer of technology through demonstration on production technology, Integrated Pest Management and training of farmers/extension workers. Besides, concessional inputs are also supplied to the farmers such as seed, sprayers, Bio agent, pheromone traps and water saving devices like sprinkler sets and drip irrigation system.

(c) The Central allocation and State share in the scheme for the state of Gujarat during the last two years are as under:

Year	(Rs. in lakh)	
	Central Share	State Share
1999-2000	300.00	100.00
2000-2001	642.00	214.00

(d) The physical achievement in the major component for the last two years may be seen at enclosed statement-I.

(e) and (f) The four non-traditional states of Tripura, West Bengal, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir have been included in scheme and the Mission became operational in 2000-2001. The states of Assam and Jammu & Kashmir have not implemented the same.

Component-wise physical achievement in Tripura and West Bengal during 2000-2001 may be seen at enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Component-wise Physical Target and Achievement under ICDP Cotton in Gujarat during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

Name of Component	1999-2000		2000-2001	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5
Production technology on field demonstration (ha.)	384	284	600	538
Farmers Training (No.)	75	57	100	89

1	2	3	4	5
Pheromones traps (ha.)	550	539	2000	1681
IPM demonstration-cum-training (No.)	187	182	100	100
Plant Protection Equipment	9156	9355	21800	27065

Statement-II*Progress of Non-Traditional States under ICDP Cotton in Tripura and West Bengal during 2000-2001*

Name of Component	Tripura		West Bengal	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Distribution of Certified seed (Quintal)	150	Nil	100	40
Field demonstration (ha.)	500	1511	1000	800
Training of Extension workers (No.)	6	2	10	8
Farmers Training (No.)	10	14	25	15
IPM demonstration-cum-training (No.)	8	1	10	Nil
Plant Protection Equipment	500	463	600	Nil

*[Translation]***Agriculture Graduates**

87. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme to impart training to Agriculture Graduates every year;

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

(c) if not, the way the Government propose to utilize the agriculture graduates so as to give impetus to agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) a new Scheme 'Establishment of a Network of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres' has been formulated which seeks to extend opportunities to all eligible agriculture graduates to support agriculture development through economically viable ventures as stakeholders by providing the much needed capital for this purpose by

way of bank finances on the one hand and entrepreneurship skill on the other, to set up information kiosks, tissue culture laboratories, soil testing laboratories, water testing laboratories, agri-clinics, agri-business centres and take up other related activities for which model scheme are being prepared by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development and Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium.

To begin with, the scheme aims at supporting 5,000 ventures annually to be undertaken by agriculture graduates on individual or joint/group basis. In joint enterprises upto 5 entrepreneurs could participate, one of whom could be a non-agriculture graduate with experience in business development and management. The average cost of each individual venture would be around Rs. 5 lakh with a outer ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh.

The beneficiaries under the Scheme will be trained before they set up their ventures. The nature and duration of the training will be linked to the activity of their choice. Generally, the duration of the training would be of upto 3-4 months. The training programme will comprise skill improvement and updating of the latest technological advances in the area of activity of choice, entrepreneurship and business management, agricultural

development problems and plans in the area to be served by the proposed ventures. For this purpose a number of centres will be identified in Agricultural Universities and other educational institutions throughout the country.

This Scheme will be implemented during the current year i.e. 2001-02.

[English]

Forestry Clearance to Private/Public Sector Companies

88. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications of some public sector and private sector companies for extraction of Iron ore, manganese and bauxite are pending for forest clearance;

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

(c) the total forest land leased out to each such company;

(d) the norms prescribed for giving forest clearance to these companies;

(e) whether clearance has been granted to any such company during the last three years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) A list of major proposals involving diversion of more than 20 hectare forest land for mining of iron ore, manganese and bauxite received for forestry clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the last three years i.e. 1999, 2000 and 2001 along-with their present status is enclosed as statement.

Every proposal requiring forest land for non-forestry purposes is considered on merit and in case the diversion is necessary and unavoidable, permission is accorded with suitable conditions having due regard to environmental security of the area.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Company/Individual	Forest (Ha.)	State	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
Iron Ore				
1.	M/s KJS Ahluwalia, Keonjhar	476.205	Orissa	Essential details sought on 23.10.01.
2.	M/s Doddanavar Brothers, Belgaum	43.30	Karnataka	Approved on 20.6.01
3.	M/s Gaviappa, Bellary	32.00	Karnataka	Essential details sought on 4.7.01
4.	M/s Ranipur Steel Ltd., Rajnandgaon	100.00	Chhattisgarh	Approved in-principle on 1.5.01.
5.	M/s AMTC Ltd.	244.327	Orissa	Approved in-principle on 10.10.00
6.	M/s S. Sarda & M. Sarda	947.046	Orissa	Approved in 29.6.01
7.	M/s D.C. Jain, Keonjhar	97.084	Orissa	Closed for non-furnishing of wanting details on 2.11.01
8.	M/s OMC Ltd.	50.802	Orissa	Approved in-principle on 4.5.01
9.	M/s MML at Thimapanagudi	295.00	Karnataka	Approved on 18.4.01.
10.	M/s Balaji Mines & Minerals Ltd.	22.66	Karnataka	Approved in-principle on 10.7.00
11.	M/s MML, Bellary	38.45	Karnataka	Essential details sought on 28.6.01
12.	M/s Tungabhadra Minerals	47.66	Karnataka	Approved on 9.1.01
13.	M/s Bharat Mines, Bellary	26.20	Karnataka	Approved on 20.3.01

1	2	3	4	5
14.	M/s Srinivasulu, Hospet	60.00	Karnataka	Closed for non-furnishing of wanting details on 16.7.01
15.	M/s Venganapatty, Hospet	123.84	Karnataka	Esseential details sought on 28.6.01
16.	M/s Rameshwar Jute Mills, W. Singhbhum	23.233	Jharkhand	Essential details sought by RCCF for site inspection.
17.	M/s Rungta Co., Keonajhar	61.53	Orissa	Approved on 2.6.00
18.	M/s Nagpur Alloy Co., Jagadapur	192.25	Chhattisgarh	Rejected on 30.11.1999.
19.	M/s Nadeem Minerals, Bellary	52.20	Karnataka	Returned to State on 17.11.99
20.	M/s KIOCL, Chikmaglur	46.05	Karnataka	Temporary working permission has been given up to 24.10.2002 as the matter is sub-judice.
21.	M/s Hothur Traders	38.38	Karnataka	Approved on 21.9.00
22.	M/s Goga Guru Shanthia	42.90	Karnataka	Returned to State on 23.12.99.
23.	M/s Ramghad Minerals, Sandhur	20.23	Karnataka	Rejected on 11.1.00
24.	M/s Rungta Co., East Singhbhum	131.081	Jharkhand	Approved on 18.6.01
25.	M/s Orissa MML, Singhbhum	141.447	Jharkhand	Closed for non-furnishing of wanting details on 2.11.01.
Bauxite				
1.	M/s APMDC, Vizag	54.66	A.P.	Returned to State on 30.7.01.
2.	M/s APMDC, Chittangondia	250.48	A.P.	Rejected on 3.5.01
3.	M/s BALCO, Dindori	35.855	M.P.	Approved in-principle on 16.3.00
4.	M/s BALCO, Dindori	101.00	M.P.	Rejected on 3.7.00
5.	M/s INDAL, Kolhapur	210.99	Mah.	Approved on 3.10.01.
Manganese				
1.	M/s VNK Menon, Bellary	22.45	Karnataka	Returned to State on 22.8.01
2.	M/s J.K. Minerals, Balaghat	33.00	M.P.	Approved on 15.2.00
3.	M/s Rungta Mines, Sundergarh	33.799	Orissa	Approved in-principle on 6.2.01/21.6.01
4.	M/s MOIL, Bhandara	34.43	Maharashtra	Approved in-principle on 18.6.01
5.	M/s MOIL, Bhandara	59.21	Maharashtra	Approved in-principle on 9.8.99
6.	M/s MOIL, Bhandara	70.67	Maharashtra	Approved on 24.10.00
7.	M/s MOIL, Nagpur	37.82	Maharashtra	Approved in-principle on 20.7.99.

*[Translation]***Employment of Children**

89. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the legal position in regard to employment of children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of legal reforms made by the Government during the last three years in the law relating to the employment of children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation Act, 1986, no child below the age of 14 year shall be employed or permitted to work in any of the occupations set forth in Part-A of the Schedule or in any workshop wherein any of the processes set forth in Part-B of the Schedule is carried on. The employment conditions of children in other Occupations and Processes are regulated under the Act.

Occupations and Processes are added to the Schedule on the advice of the Technical Advisory Committee. The Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 had 5 Occupations and 11 Processes in 1986. There were 7 Occupations and 18 Processes in 1994. 6 Occupations and 33 Processes were added in 1999 and 6 Processes in 2000 bringing the total number of Occupations and Processes to 13 and 57 respectively.

Destruction of Crops in Bihar

90. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale destruction of crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock is taking place in Bihar every year due to heavy and scanty rainfall;

(b) if so, the extent of such loss incurred in the state during the last three years;

(c) whether the economic condition of farmers of Bihar has worsened as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the farmers and to compensate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The State of Bihar is predominantly affected by floods. Drought was reported in some parts of the State in 2001-02. As per the information available floods caused damage to 3.49 lakh hectare of cropped area in 1999, 1.63 lakh Hectares in 2000. Floods recurred in 2001 damaging 1.01 lakh Hectare. During the early part of monsoon, 2001, there was drought causing loss of 1.72 lakh hectares in terms of cropped area. Subsequent rains brought considerable improvement in the drought situation. Central Government contributed its share of the Calamity Relief Fund of Rs. 45.05 crores in 1999-2000, 52.73 crore during 2000-01 and Rs. 26.36 crores so far during the current financial year.

Besides, Rs. 38.18 crores were sanctioned during 1999-2000 from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) and Rs. 29.67 crores from the National Calamity Contingency Fund during 2000-01 (Which succeeded NFCR).

For the current year's floods 1 lakh MT of Rice was issued free of cost to undertake the Food for Work Programme.

A number of schemes and programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development and Water Resources are under implementation to provide long-term benefits to the farmers.

Special Scheme for Handicapped for Visiting Tourist Places

91. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any special scheme for physically handicapped enabling them to visit tourist places easily;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Government of India encourages the service providers to provide facilities for physically handicapped.

Agricultural Science Centre

92. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Agriculture Science Centres in each of the districts of newly formed Jharkhand State to make it self-sufficient in the field of agriculture;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch any specific scheme to enhance fruit production in the State;

(c) whether all kind of fruits can be produced in abundance in Jharkhand State if financial assistance is provided and agriculture scientists are employed by the Government;

(d) whether India will become leading fruit producer of the world if some positive steps are taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government propose to pay attention to the quality of the fruits apart from their production to make it competitive in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has earlier established five Farm Science Centres commonly called Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in five districts of Jharkhand States. Besides, the Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) at Dumka has been strengthened to take up the additional functions of KVK. The Council has a proposal to establish a KVK in Palamau district. There is no proposal to establish KVK in the remaining districts at present.

(b) No Sir, as a major step towards achieving decentralization in pursuance of restoring primacy of State in agricultural development planning, the Central Government decided to move away from schematic approach to Macro-Management of agricultural schemes including horticulture formulated by each State Government.

(c) No Sir, mango, litchi, banana, amla, ber pomegranate, guava and jackfruit are some of the important fruits which can be grown successfully in the State.

(d) and (e) India is the second largest producer of fruits in the World. Depending on the requirement of each fruit, research efforts have been directed for improvement in quality aspects like Total Soluble Solid (TSS), pulp recovery, maximum fruit weight and minimum seed weight, yield of fruit latex etc.

[English]

Kakkadavu Dam

93. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government so far to complete the Kakkadavu Dam in the district of Kasaragod in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The detailed project report of Kakkadavu Dam was received in Central Water Commission in September 1974. It was sent back to the State Government in September 1985. Project authorities informed the CWC in October 1996 that the project has been withdrawn by the State Government.

(b) Water being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control & drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

[Translation]

Development of Breed of Buffaloes

94. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian scientists have developed the breed of buffaloes that give more milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated increase in milk production in the country as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

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

*[English]***Performance of Pollution Control Boards**

95. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the performance of State and Central Pollution Control Boards was reviewed last;

(b) the year in which the next review of performance is due;

(c) the names of States being strengthened under World Bank aided Pollution Control projects; and

(d) the progress made so far in strengthening the State Pollution Control Boards, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The performance of the Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees in Union Territories is reviewed from time to time. The last review was held on 12.11.2001 and the next review would be made during the next year.

(c) and (d) Under the World Bank aided Industrial Pollution Control Project, State Pollution Control Boards of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh were strengthened in terms of laboratory infrastructure, laboratory equipment and training of personnel in order to discharge their duties more effectively.

Amendment to Existing Relief Code

96. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government has made a suggestion to amend the existing relief code;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have since examined the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to provide relief to the people affected by natural calamities. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments. The State Governments have prepared their own relief codes and

manuals for management of relief. Any Amendment to the State Relief Code does not require the approval of the Central Government.

Posts of SCs/STs and OBCs

97. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DoPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 02.07.1997 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, the number of persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit to different categories of services and not counted against the 'reserved quota of vacancies/posts' for their communities during the last three years under his Ministry;

(c) whether candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The guidelines contained in Department of Personnel & Training's OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2.7.1997 are strictly being followed. Nominations of persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs selected/recruited/promoted on merit are made by Department of Personnel & Training to various Ministries/Departments. During last three years all the nominations received from Department of Personnel & Training were against the vacancies for the reserved categories intimated by this Ministry. However, in Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation, an autonomous body under the Department of Coal, during the last three years 3 persons of SC category were promoted against unreserved posts. Information in respect of two subordinate offices under Department of Mines namely Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Provident Fund Deduction

98. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make Provident Fund Deductions mandatory for all employees earning upto Rs. 6500 or less per month;

(b) if so, whether the present financial limit for provident fund deductions is Rs. 5000 per month;

(c) if so, the reasons for increasing the financial threshold;

(d) whether more employees are likely to come under the Provident Fund net;

(e) if so, whether the present number of employees coming under the Provident Fund net is not growing at the earlier rates of growth; and

(f) if so, the reasons for this stagnation in the Provident Fund numbers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Wage ceiling for coverage under the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 has been enhanced from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 6,500/- per month with effect from 1.6.2001. The reasons for increasing the financial threshold is to widen the PF net and to cover more eligible subscribers.

(d) and (e) There has been a net increase of 14.18 lakh and 17.63 lakh in membership for the financial year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively.

(f) Does not arise.

Suicide Cases of Agricultural Farmers

99. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several reports from various parts of the country that farmers are committing suicide;

(b) if so, the number of such cases recorded till date during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the reasons attributed thereto; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) As per reports available from the States for the period 1999-2001 the number of cases of suicides by farmers were as follows:-

Andhra Pradesh	-	27
Karnataka	-	54

For Punjab, an NGO documented alleged cases of suicide by farmers — the issue is *sub judice* before the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Reasons for suicide differ from individual to individual irrespective of occupation of the victims and are investigated by appropriate agency in each such case. Government of Karnataka has appointed a Committee of Experts to go into the causes of such unfortunate incidents. Central Government had also looked into the matter through a Study Group in 1998 which recommended a number of measures for improving provision of benefits to farmers. These have been brought to the notice of States.

[Translation]

Cow Slaughter

100. SHRI BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have noticed any increase in the number of cases of cow slaughter in several parts of the Rajasthan during the last six months;

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

(c) whether a Central team has been sent to the States to assess the situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (e) No Sir. The Central Government is not aware of any such incident. The State Government has also not brought to the notice of Central Government the slaughter of cows in Rajasthan. The matter is within the purview of limitation of the Rajasthan Bovine Animal (Prohibition of Slaughter and Regulation of Temporary Migration or Export) Act, 1995.

[English]

**Summit of Pacific-Asia Travel Association on
Tourism Reforms**

101. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-day Pacific-Asia Travel Association Summit is going to be held in Delhi from April 14, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Government are planning to make reforms in the tourism sector before the summit is held;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of areas identified by the government for such reforms; and

(e) the extent to which these reforms are likely to help the tourism sector in India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The 51st Pacific-Asia Travel Association (PATA) Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in Delhi from 14th April, 2002;

(b) to (e) Department of Tourism has set up different Committees for making arrangement for PATA delegates. Hosting of PATA Annual Conference is likely to give a boost to the tourism products in the country by showcasing the tourism attractions of India to the members of international travel industry who are expected to participate as delegates in the conference.

[Translation]

Task Force Committee on Agriculture

102. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have dissolved high level work-force committee constituted for agriculture;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to constitute any new work force committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to implement information/programmes furnished by the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A High level Task Force on Agriculture (TFA) was constituted on 12th September, 2000. The TFA was required to submit its report by 28th Feb. 2001 in the first instance. However, on the request of Chairman, TFA the term of the Task Force was extended by four months, i.e. upto June, 2001 with the direction that the final report should be submitted by the end of the extended term i.e. June, 30th 2001. On the request of the Chairman, TFA, the term of the TFA was once again extended by a month to enable it to submit its report by July, 2001. The twice extended term of TFA expired on 31.7.2001 and the Chairman TFA has submitted his report.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Department has already set in motion several measures for implementation of the recommendations.

[English]

**Withdrawal of Flight by IA between Hyderabad-
Sharjah**

103. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has withdrawn the direct flights between Hyderabad-Sharjah-Hyderabad-Muscat-Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received requests from Andhra Pradesh Government for restoration of these flights;

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has been operating one stop services between Hyderabad-Sharjah since November 1999 and between Hyderabad-Muscat since November 1997 without the passengers having to change the aircraft.

(c) and (d) Request has been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government for operation of direct non-stop services between Hyderabad-Sharjah and Hyderabad-Muscat. Indian Airlines has, however, no plans at present to operate these services due to low traffic potential.

[Translation]

Proper Utilisation of Water for Agricultural Production

104. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper arrangement has not been made to utilise the water in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as there is no concrete arrangement to utilize this water for agricultural purpose;

(b) if so, the whether the Government propose to construct a check dam in Andaman & Nicobar Islands as constructed in Radha Nagar of Havlock Islands to tap water;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey to identify these sources of water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these check dams are likely to be constructed on Nullahs which were included in Annual Plan of 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) According to an estimate utilizable surface water potential is 15000 hectare in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Out of the above 1100 hectare has been utilised through Minor Irrigation Projects.

(e) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) in all States and Union Territories including Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Under this scheme various Watershed Development Programmes are being implemented including construction of small check dams across the Nullahs for rain water harvesting.

[English]

International Flight from Dum Dum Airport

105. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a plan to introduce new International Airlines from Dum Dum Airport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Operation of International flights from different airports is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand as part of ongoing process. During last Government level air services consultations with Sri Lanka in February, 2000, designated airlines of Sri Lanka has been granted access to Kolkata, although actual operations are left to their commercial judgement. Bangladesh Biman, British Airways, Druk Air, KLM Airlines, Royal Jordanian Airlines, Royal Brunei Airlines, Singapore Airlines and Thai Airways are presently operating international services from Dum Dum (Kolkata) Airport apart from Indian Airlines and Air India.

SCs/STs in Group A and B Services

106. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the total number of 'posts' in (i) Class I (Group-A) category, and (ii) Class II (Group-B) category and equivalent thereof under his Ministry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As on 1.1.1998, the representations of SC/ST in Class I (Group A) posts and Class II (Group-B) posts in the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation are:

Class I (Group - A) — 18.18%

Class II (Group - B) — 29.70%

(b) Total number of posts in Group - A - 286

Total number of posts in Group - B - 505

(c) Category-wise distribution & percentage

Group - A

General & OBC - 234 81.82%

SC - 43 15.03%

ST - 9 3.15%

Group - B

General & OBC - 355 70.30%

SC-116 22.97%

ST-34 6.73%

Labour Reforms

107. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sharad Jolt to Labour Reforms" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated October 12, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts of the case regarding labour reforms essential to kick start the second generation of economic reforms; and

(c) the action taken to amend the relevant Acts to empower managements as recommended by the Labour Commission in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Review/updation of Labour Law is a continuous process in order to make them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs. Taking into consideration the emerging global economic situation and particularly after the introduction of new economic policy in 1991 by the Govt. of India, the need has been felt to make amendments in certain labour legislations so as to bring them in tune with the market oriented economy giving the domestic industry a level playing field to face the global competition. The Government have also set up the Second National Commission on Labour on 15.10.1999. The Commission would *inter-alia* take into account the emerging economic environment involving rapid technological changes, globalisation of economy, liberalization of trade and industry, emphasis on international competitiveness and also the need for

bringing the existing laws in tune with the future labour market needs and demands. The report of the Commission is expected by 15.02.2002.

Development of Small and Medium Airports

108. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently announced the development of small and medium airports like Jabalpur;

(b) whether any criteria has been fixed for this purpose;

(c) if so, the whether the airports with greater potential are not being given development funds; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to have a transparent and fair policy of development of airports serving medium sized towns?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) Development of airports is taken up depending upon traffic potential, demands from public, requirement projected by airline based on the commercial viability and availability of funds. Development work has accordingly been taken up at Jabalpur airport also.

Pending Cases of Provident Fund

109. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases are lying pending for the payment of Provident Fund;

(b) if so, the number of such cases as on date particularly in Tamil Nadu, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for early settlement of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) A statement showing pending Provident Fund claims, region-wise, as on 30.09.2001 is annexed. The PF claim complete in all respects are required to be settled within 30 days from the date of their receipt in the concerned Employees Provident Fund Office. However, sometimes settlement of PF claims is delayed due to incomplete application forms,

lack of succession certificates, photographs etc. A Computerization programme has been launched in Employees Provident Fund Organisation for prompt settlement of PF claims. Procedures and rules have been reviewed and simplified for facilitating expeditious disposal of EPF claims. Public Grievances machinery has been strengthened and computerized. The vigilance machinery has also been strengthened and activated to check and prevent malafide delays in settlement of PF claims. Lok Adalats are being organised in the EPF offices for on-the-spot redressal of grievances of EPF subscribers. Facilitation centres for providing updated information to the subscribers have also been set up.

Statement

Region	Annexure
	Pending Provident Fund Claims as on 30.9.2001
Andhra Pradesh	2,540
Bihar	491
Chattisgarh	567
Delhi	5,085
Goa	38
Gujarat	12,600
Himachal Pradesh	567
Haryana	4,679
Jharkhand	655
Karnataka	15,886
Kerala	6,195
Maharashtra	28,937
Madhya Pradesh	94
North Eastern Region	610
Orissa	1,876
Punjab	4,411
Rajasthan	2,702
Tamil Nadu	16,314
Uttar Pradesh	7,535
West Bengal	4,491
Total	1,16,273

Foreign Airlines to Land on Indian Airports

110. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether more overseas Airlines being permitted to land on Indian Airports;

(b) the number of airlines and the airports permitted there for during the last one year;

(c) whether more airlines are approaching the Government for such permits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) During last one year, Oman Air and Silk Air have been permitted to operate air services to Cochin whereas Lufthansa and Cathay Pacific have been granted access to Bangalore. Besides, Hyderabad has also been granted as an additional point of call to Emirates Airlines.

(c) and (d) Allowing foreign airlines to operate international flights from different airports is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand as part of ongoing process.

[Translation]

Functioning of CCL, BCCL and ECL

111. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) is very miserable;

(b) if so, the factors attributed thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve their condition and functioning as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) are the three subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) which are running under losses consistently. These companies have been referred to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 for substantial erosion of their net-worth.

The main reasons for losses in ECL, BCCL & CCL are (i) existence of a large number of small underground (UG) mines which are no longer amenable to viable operation. (ii) low productivity for UG mines as compared to successive increases in wages, (iii) surplus manpower, (iv) adverse geo-mining conditions, and (v) problem of land acquisition and resettlement of land oustees affecting production from a new large coal mines.

In February, 1996, a package for capital restructuring of CIL was approved by the Government whereby CIL's overdue liabilities of Rs. 2,228.57 crores were taken care of by waiver of arrears of interests, partly by conversion to preference equity and partly by moratorium on repayment and interest accrual. These benefits were passed on to the loss making subsidiaries such as ECL and BCCL. Further, in order to improve the performance of the loss making companies of ECL and BCCL, CIL had affected an internal restructuring of the equity and loan structure of its subsidiaries, whereby debts of Rs. 994 crores in ECL and Rs. 1,180.70 crores in BCCL were converted into equity.

Following steps have been taken to check the losses and to make the coal mines profitable:-

- (i) Conversion of underground mines to opencast mines, wherever practicable.
- (ii) Mechanisation of underground mines wherever feasible by introducing SDLs, LHDs and continuous Miners.
- (iii) Encouraging Voluntary Retirement Scheme to reduce manpower and facilitate introduction of mechanisation.
- (iv) Effective utilisation of existing resources by motivation to achieve higher productivity by way of close monitoring and incentives.
- (v) Coal Quality Improvement drive in all mines.

[English]

Use of Spurious Seeds

112. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to bring a legislation on seeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its objectives;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost production and availability of quality seeds;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of Indian farmers with regard to seed trade; and

(e) the details of steps taken to safeguard farmers who lose their crop due to the use of spurious seeds supplied by the concerned seed companies, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Government of India proposes to replace the present Seeds Act, 1966.

(b) The salient features of the proposed Seeds Act, and its objectives are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Government of India are, *inter-alia*, operating the following schemes to boost the production and availability of quality seeds.

1. Transport subsidy on seeds.
2. Pilot scheme on seed crop insurance.
3. Establishment of Seed Bank.
4. Quality Control arrangement on seeds.

In addition, States have been advised to ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of Seeds Act, 1966 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. In order to further protect the interest of Indian farmers with regard to seed trade, suitable provisions are proposed to be introduced in the revised Seeds Act.

(e) Information is being called from the State Governments.

Statement

The salient features of the proposed revised Seeds Act & its objectives

- Establishment of National seeds Board is proposed in the place of Central Seed Committee and Central Seed Certification Board.
- The Central Government may establish a Central Seed Testing Laboratory (CSTL) or declare any seed Laboratory as a CSTL, to carry out the functions.
- Seed of any kind or variety for the purpose of sowing or planting will be sold in the country

only if the said kind or variety has been registered by the National Seeds Board as per the criteria prescribed.

- Registration will be granted for new varieties on the basis of multi-locational trials to determine Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) over a minimum period of 3 seasons or as otherwise prescribed.
- The Board will accredit ICAR Centres, State Agriculture Universities and private organizations to conduct VCU trails for the purpose of registration.

A National Register of Varieties of registered under this Act will be maintained by the National Seeds Board.

- The Government will have the right to exclude certain kind or varieties from registration to protect public order or public morality or human, animal and plant life and health or to avoid serious prejudice to the environment.
- National Seeds Board will specify minimum standards on germination, genetic and physical purity with respect to any seed of a registered kind or variety.
- The mark or label on the seed consignment will indicate that such seed conforms to the minimum standards, as specified.

The registration will be granted for a fixed period.

- The National Seeds Board will have power to cancel the registration granted earlier.
- For regulating sale of seeds, no person or dealer will be allowed to carry on the business of selling or supplying any seed which is not of a registered kind/variety.
- Every dealer will maintain relevant records and submit periodic returns regarding sale particulars.
- It is considered necessary in public interest, the National Seeds Board can direct a dealer to sell or distribute seed in a specified manner.
- All dealers are required to follow specific procedure with respect to the business of selling seeds. Farmers will not be required to register their kind or variety to save, use, exchange, share or sell his farm seeds and planting material. The State Government or the National Seeds Board, in consultation with the State Government, will establish one or more

certification agencies for the State to carry out the functions relating to certification of seed.

- National Seeds Board or the State Government may accredit individuals or organizations to carry out certification, including self-certification on fulfillment of criteria prescribed by the Board.
- There are suitable provisions for revocation of certificate, appeal, designation of Seed Inspectors and Seed Analysts etc.
- For controlling export and import of seeds, suitable provision have been made which are in harmony with the provisions of the Plant, Fruits and Seeds (Regulation of import into India) Order, 1989.
- Import of seed for sale shall be permitted only of registered varieties. Registration of such varieties shall be granted on the basis of trials conducted for minimum period of 3 seasons in India.
- An unregistered variety may be allowed to be imported in limited quantity for research and trial purposes on the basis of data from trial over one season in the country of origin.
- Any person intending to import seed or planting material will declare that such materials is, or not, as the case may be a product of transgenic manipulation or involves Genetic Use Restriction Technology.
- The penalty provisions have been made more stringent compared to the existing provisions in the Seeds Act, 1966.

Bina River Pariyojana in Madhya Pradesh

113. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Bina River Pariyojana in Madhya Pradesh was started;

(b) the estimated cost of the project and the amount sanctioned by the Government so far;

(c) the progress made on the project so far; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Bina Complex Project was

broadly examined in Central Water Commission in 1987 and preliminary comments sent to the State Government. The State Government submitted the modified proposal costing Rs. 202 crore in 1992. This was scrutinised and comments were sent in October 1993 requesting the State Government to submit modified report, which is still awaited.

The completion of any project depends on various factors such as its size, acquisition of land, obtaining clearance from various Central Appraising Agencies by the State Governments, implementation of rehabilitation measures for project affected families *pari-passu* with the construction, geological conditions etc. Equally important are funds allotted by the State Governments to individual projects.

Coverage of ES/EPF

114. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to enhance the coverage of Employees State Insurance (ESI) from present 86 lakh to two and a half crore employees, Provident Fund (PF) from 2.6 crore to five crore;

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

(c) whether despite requests to the States to formulate guidelines for creating welfare funds under the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996, only three-four States have complied so far; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to impress upon other State Governments to formulate the said guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The enhancement of coverage under the ESI Scheme and EPF Scheme is a continuous process.

(c) and (d) Under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, States are required to frame the State Rules, constitute the State Advisory Committees and the State Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards. The Government of Kerala and Assam have constituted the Welfare Funds under Welfare Boards whereas the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and

Arunachal Pradesh have completed most of the activities towards completion of the necessary groundwork for the implementation of the Act. The other States have been advised to complete the requisite process for implementation of the Act.

Extention of Project Tiger

115. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the Karnataka Government's proposal to extend Project Tiger to the Nagarhole Rajiv Gandhi National Park;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has issued a notification for denotifying land in the park for project Tiger;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to provide additional grants for developing the habitat in the Nagarhole Park; and

(e) if so, the amount proposed to be sanctioned during 2001-02 for the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Central Government, has released Rs. 473.90 Lakhs to Nagarhole National Park under World Bank aided India Eco-Development Project, during 2001-2002 of which about Rs. 87.00 Lakhs is for eco-system/habitat restoration.

[*Translation*]

Cleaning of Rivers

116. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the dirt and filth due to pollution in the river Ganga, Yamuna, Gomati and Ghagra;

(b) if so, the name of the States from where maximum complaints have been received in this regard; and

(c) the comprehensive steps taken by the State as well as Union Governments to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The pollution in rivers Ganga, Yamuna, Gomati and Ghagra is caused by the discharge of untreated or partly treated domestic and industrial effluents. Governments in the States, through which these rivers are flowing have been sending proposals of pollution abatement and these are considered on merit subject to availability of funds.

(c) The following schemes of pollution abatement have been undertaken by the Government to check pollution in these rivers under the National River Conservation Plan:

- Interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the rivers through open drains and divert them for treatment.
- Sewage Treatment Plants for treating the diverted sewage.
- Low Cost Sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks.
- Improved wood crematoria to conserve the use of wood and help in ensuring proper cremation of bodies brought to the burning ghats.
- River front development works including improvement of bathing ghats.

Monitoring and control of Industrial pollution is done under the existing environmental laws.

Compulsion of Agriculture Subject at School Level

117. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make agriculture compulsory subject at school level keeping in view the dependency of Indian economy on agriculture;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Agriculture education is a state subject and it is for the State Govt./boards to take action on this issue.

Devastation by Rivers

118. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the devastation caused by the rivers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Flood Management being a State subject, flood control schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Government themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Central Government renders assistance that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) under the Ministry of Water Resources have however, prepared comprehensive plans for flood management for all the 23 river systems of Ganga basin including rivers flowing through Uttar Pradesh and forwarded the same to the State Governments for taking follow up action on the recommendations made in these plans. Both short term and long term measures have been suggested in these plans.

The Government of India has constituted several expert committees to study the problem of floods in the country. The Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) set up in 1976 examined the problem in detail and submitted its report in 1980. The recommendation of RBA, which form the framework for flood management strategy in the country, including Uttar Pradesh, were forwarded to all the State Governments for implementation. Further, a number of other Expert Committees/Task Forces were constituted from time to time to examine the area/region specific

problem relating to floods, whose recommendations were also sent to the respective State Governments for implementation.

The Central Government has also set up 159 flood Forecasting stations on major inter-state rivers which give timely advance warning to flood affected regions in various States including Uttar Pradesh for mitigating flood damages.

In December, 1999, the Government of India had set up a Central team led by the Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) for assessment of critical anti erosion problems in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. The team identified critical sites/reaches and recommended anti erosion measures to be taken up immediately by the State Governments. With a view to provide financial assistance to the States to carry out river erosion works in critical reaches, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, viz., "Critical anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States and raising and strengthening of embankments along Kosi and Gandak rivers" has been formulated during IX Five Year Plan and is in operation. An amount of Rs. 8.00 crore has so far been released against the scheme, as advance to the State of Uttar Pradesh to take up the anti-erosion works.

For dealing with the problems of inundation in the vicinity of Indo-Nepal border a Standing committee on Inundation, Problem between India and Nepal has also been constituted in the year 1986 to take care of flood problems near Indo-Nepal border between the countries 11 meetings of the Committee have been held so far in which various issues relating to inundation problem near India-Nepal border have been discussed and decision taken thereon from time to time for needful action in the matter.

[English]

Export of Milk by Karnataka

119. SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether milk production in Karnataka is high;
- (b) if so, whether Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has asked the Government to help in export of excess milk and its products to the neighbouring countries; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

- (a) Yes, Madam, Milk production in Karnataka is high.

- (b) and (c) Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has not made any specific request to Government of India for export of excess milk and milk products to neighbouring countries. Moreover, in the liberalised trade regime, no permission is required for export of milk and milk products.

[Translation]

Air Service upto Vaishno Devi

120. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem under the captioned "Vaishno Devi Tak Ki Hawai Sewa Mein Badintjami" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 5, 2001;

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

- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government for the facilitate of Air journey upto Vaishno Devi; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The complaints contained in the news item are under examination and suitable action will be taken.

- (c) and (d) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited has been operating 15 daily flights on Katra-Sanjhichhat-Katra six days in a week. Besides, 2 daily flights are also being operated on Jammu-Sanjhichhat-Jammu sector.

[English]

Ban on Mining and use of Asbestos

121. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to ban mining, import and use of asbestos fibres and products in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the large scale and small scale industries involved in producing asbestos sheets and pipes;

(d) the number of persons employed in these units;

(e) whether according to WHO there is no safe level of exposure of asbestos against cancer; and

(f) if so, the measures to be undertaken by the Government to safeguard the health of employees?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, mining and manufacture of asbestos and asbestos-based products are regulated as per the provisions and procedures of EIA Notification, 1994. Crocidolite (Blue Asbestos) has been placed on the restricted list of imports by Ministry of Commerce, Directorate-General of Foreign Trade in October, 1994. Further, import of waste asbestos (dust and fibre) has been prohibited by Gazette Notification dated 13.10.1998.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected.

(e) WHO had constituted a task force on environmental Health Criteria (EHC) for chrysotile asbestos in July, 1996 and brought out its report namely; IPCS Environmental Health Criteria 203 in 1998. No threshold has been identified for carcinogenic risk.

(f) The Government has put in place various measures to safeguard the health of employees which, *inter-alia*, include mandatory environmental clearance for asbestos based industries (new and expansion/modernisation) irrespective of investment as per the provisions and procedures under EIA Notification 1994. Strict adherence to medical health care, occupational health monitoring and compliance to various BIS standards

are prescribed while granting clearance. Further, Government has amended the factories Act, 1948 in April, 2001 to make stringent the permissible exposure limit for chrysotile asbestos at 1.0 fibre/cc.

Irrigation Schemes

122. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have contemplated to initiate any new irrigation schemes in the States;

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

(c) the amount allocated to these schemes so far during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Water being a State subject, irrigation schemes are planned, funded and executed by the Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The projects are however, required to obtain investment clearance of the Planning Commission before they are taken up for construction.

(b) The details of new projects of IX Plan received in the Central Water Commission from various States for techno-economic appraisal are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Central Plan assistance to the States is given in the form of block grants/loans and is not tied to any scheme or sector of development.

Statement

State	Major	Medium	ERM
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	8	9	3
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
Assam	—	3	3
Bihar	2	—	—
Goa	—	—	1
Gujarat	2	29	6

1	2	3	4
Haryana	4	1	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	2	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	11	—
Karnataka	5	8	2
Kerala	—	—	2
Madhya Pradesh	4	3	—
Maharashtra	1	9	—
Manipur	—	—	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—
Mizoram	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	1	—
Orissa	3	3	9
Punjab	—	—	3
Rajasthan	6	14	1
Sikkim	—	—	—
Tamilnadu	—	—	—
Tripura	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	1	—	—
West Bengal	6	12	3
U.T.	—	—	—
Total	42	105	35

Technical Cooperation Project on Banana Production

123. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) on improvement of banana production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have signed a Technical Cooperation Project on Improvement of Banana Production for Small Scale Growers with FAO at a total cost of \$ 231,000. Main object of the project is to increase banana production of small farmers by setting up an efficient system for production of disease free planting material and post harvest management system. Total duration of the project is fifteen months. The expected project outputs are:

- Establishment of a nuclear stock from local and external sources, of clean and high quality tissue culture plant lets of high yielding and adapted banana varieties;
- An establishment protocol for the propagation and distribution of high quality banana planting

materials within the areas covered by the project:

- A cadre of professional/technical staff well trained in handling tissue culture plantlets, virus indexing using PLISA kit, rapid multiplication and acclimatization of planting materials and training of farmers;
- A group of selected farmers trained in banana production technologies to achieve high productivity;
- An improved model for post-harvest handling.

Suspension of Telugu-Ganga and Srisaillam Projects

124. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court issued notices to the Union Government and the Andhra Pradesh on an application by the Government of Karnataka seeking the suspension of the Telugu-Ganga and Srisaillam projects for drawing surplus water from Krishna river;

(b) if so, whether the Supreme Court has given its verdict in favour of Karnataka;

(c) if so, whether any final decision has been taken on this issue; and

(d) if not, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The application of the Government of Karnataka before the Supreme Court on the construction by the Government of Andhra Pradesh of the Telugu Ganga and Srisaillam Left Bank Canal projects on River Krishna came up for hearing on 8.10.2001 before a two Judge Bench who ordered that since in dealing with this application the interpretation of a judgment of Constitution Bench is required to be gone into, the matter be put up before the Constitution Bench.

Loss in CIL

125. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries have suffered loss worth crores of rupees during 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have transferred most of its officials in the wake of losses suffered by CIL;

(d) if so, whether the transfer of officials will have any impact on the losses of CIL; and

(e) the other strategies being adopted to check losses of CIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The profits (+)/losses (-) earned/incurred by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the year 2000-2001 are given below:

	(Rs. in crores)
Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	(-) 917.19
Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	(-) 1276.70
Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	(-) 792.91
Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)	(+) 1025.05
Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	(+) 28.23
Southern-Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	(+) 116.92
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)	(+) 641.35
Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL)	(-) 3.81
Coal India Limited (CIL)	(+) 280.21
Total	(-) 898.85
Less dividend from subsidiaries	(-) 515.62
Over all CIL	(-) 1414.47

(c) and (d) Some officials of CIL were transferred during 2000-2001 as a part of the normal transfer policy of CIL.

(e) In February, 1996, a package of capital restructuring of CIL was approved by the Government in order to revive the loss making companies, whereby CIL's overdue liabilities of Rs. 228.57 crore were taken care of by waiver of arrears of interest, partly by conversion to preference equity and partly by moratorium on repayment and interest accrual. These benefits were passed on to the loss making subsidiaries such as ECL and BCCL.

Further, in order to improve the performance of the loss making companies of ECL and BCCL, CIL had effected an internal restructuring of the equity and loan structure of its subsidiaries whereby debts of Rs. 994 crores in ECL and Rs. 1,180.70 crores in BCCL, were converted into equity. Since 1982, the losses of the losing companies of CIL were being subsidised through a mechanism of Coal Price Regulation Account. This has been discontinued since 1997.

Following steps have been taken to check the losses and to make the coal mines profitable:—

- (i) Conversion of underground mines to opencast mines, whereby practicable.
- (ii) Mechanisation of underground mines wherever feasible by introducing SDLs, LHDs and Continuous Miners.
- (iii) Encouraging Voluntary Retirement Scheme to reduce manpower and facilitate introduction of mechanisation.
- (iv) Effective utilisation of existing resources by motivation to achieve higher productivity by way of close monitoring and incentives.
- (v) Coal Quality Improvement drive in all mines.

[Translation]

Expansion of Bhuntur, Kangra and Shimla Airports

126. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan for expansion of Bhuntur, Kangra and Shimla airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up work relating to extension/resurfacing of runway, construction of an apron/taxiway, terminal building, car park, sub-station, drainage system, two conveyor belts and other miscellaneous work at Kangra airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.34 crores. At Bhuntur Airport, AAI has taken up construction of new terminal building, apron, taxiway, car park at an estimated cost of Rs. 747.03 lakhs. At Shimla Airport, AAI has taken up the extension of runway and resurfacing the runway at an estimated cost of Rs. 249.25 lakhs.

[English]

Safety of Peasant's Interest

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

(a) whether multinationals have been taking agricultural lands from ordinary peasants on lease, possessing Government Khas lands and making investment for fetching higher profit through cultivation of horticulture, livestock farming, producing seeds and fisheries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to save the peasants from such acts of multinationals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

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

Level of Ground Water

128. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the level of ground water in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of ground water extracted for irrigation purposes resulting in receding of water table each year, State-wise; and

(c) the corrective steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1981-2000) has been observed in different States is given in the enclosed statement-I.

A Statement-II indicating state-wise position of utilisable irrigation potential, potential created and potential utilised from ground water in the country is enclosed.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. Government of India is also promoting rainwater

harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. Various measures as initiated by the Central Government for water conservation and augmenting ground water resources are indicated below:-

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/ Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of pilot Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Recharging and rain water harvesting are integral part of this scheme. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging.

Statement I

Name of the State/UT/District having Pockets with fall in ground water level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)

State/UT	Districts
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Ananthapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddi, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum, Darbhanga
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Sarna, Sidhi.

1	2
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendernagar.
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarjanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapor, Tumkur, Uttara Kannada.
Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwarior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsingpur, Neemmuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur Wardha, Yavatmal.
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanja, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.

1	2	1	2
Punjab	Amritsar, Bathinda, Fatehgarh, Firozepur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana Moga, Nawan Shehar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvarur, Tuticorin. Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Budaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai Bareli, Saharanpur, Unnao.
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalwar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sikar, Udaipur.	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Medinipur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia.
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapur, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukottai, Sivaganga, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli,	NCT of Delhi	Mehrauli, Najafgarh and City block.
		Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Statement-II*Irrigation Potential from Ground Water (as on 1996-97)*

Sl. No.	States	Utilisable Potential Irrigation M.ha.	Potential created M.ha.	Potential Utilised M.ha.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.96008	1.77420	1.73910
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.01800	0.00240	0.00240
3.	Assam	0.90000	0.20680	0.15180
4.	Bihar	4.94763	4.29180	3.81590
5.	Goa	0.02928	0.00190	0.00170
6.	Gujarat	2.75590	1.77890	1.69370
7.	Haryana	1.46170	1.54490	1.49930
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.06850	0.01570	0.01150
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.70795	0.01160	0.01100
10.	Karnataka	2.57281	0.78010	0.76410
11.	Kerala	0.87925	0.14060	0.12420
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9.73249	1.62290	1.50630
13.	Maharashtra	3.65197	1.63630	1.58840
14.	Manipur	0.36900	0.00060	0.00050

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	0.06351	0.01020	0.01000
16.	Mizoram		Not assessed	
17.	Nagaland		Negligible	
18.	Orissa	4.20258	0.71720	0.60070
19.	Punjab	2.91715	3.41200	3.35300
20.	Rajasthan	1.77783	2.04840	2.01250
21.	Sikkim		Not assessed	
22.	Tamilnadu	2.83205	1.31450	1.31190
23.	Tripura	0.08056	0.02120	0.02120
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16.79896	22.63400	20.35800
25.	West Bengal	3.31794	1.85520	1.41310
	Total States	64.04514	45.82140	41.99030
	Total UTs	0.00504*	0.06240	0.06180
	Grand Total	64.05018	45.88380	42.05210

Note *Relates to Dadra & Nagar Haveli only.

M.Ha. Million hectares.

Drought Prone Areas Programme

129. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 2195 crore approximately has been spent on the Drought Prone Area Programme since its inception but drought and ecological conditions have shown to perceptible improvement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Department of Land Resources have informed that an amount of Rs. 2593 crore has been released under the Drought Prone Areas Programme since its inception and it has been observed that in the targeted areas where this programme is under implementation, there is visible improvement in the availability of water and other related ecological factors.

(b) and (c) According to them, in order to make the programme more effective, the guidelines for Watershed Development have been revised based on the feed back received from the concerned State Governments, Research institutions, etc.

Hospitals and Dispensaries for Beedi Workers

130. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2241 dated August 6, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the number of hospitals and dispensaries set up under the Beedi Workers Welfare fund are inadequate is compared to the need of the workers in view of the growth in their ailments; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to set up additional hospitals and dispensaries for beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Expansion of Health care facilities is an ongoing process taken up on the

basis of specific needs and resources available with the organisation.

(b) Construction of three 30 bedded hospitals has been taken up for providing health care facilities to the Beedi Workers.

Lack of Coordination between CISF and AAI for Airport Security

131. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "CISF ill equipped to handle airport security" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated September 18, 2001;

(b) if so, whether there is no coordination between CISF and AAI in regard to airport security;

(c) if so, whether MHA has asked his Ministry to provide all the logistics to operate for the better security of the airports;

(d) if so, whether CISF has taken up the matter with his Ministry to procure necessary communication sets and other equipments for the security; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) There is regular coordination between CISF Headquarters and AAI Headquarters to address the issues related to CISF induction and functioning at the airports. AAI is providing all logistic support to CISF as per the norms of Ministry of Home Affairs agreed to by Ministry of Civil Aviation. Requisition for small weapons, long-range weapons and 301 walkie-talkies with base sets have been received, and action for procurement is in hand.

Rassiyal-Khurda Lautam Dam

132. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal Government has asked to stop construction of Rassiyal-Khurda Lautam Dam across Danav river near Lumbini in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Government of Nepal conveyed its concern this year regarding alleged inundation in bordering areas of Nepal as a result of construction of bund across Danav river.

(b) Construction of bund proposed for a length of 12.5 Km between Lotan and Rasiawal villages in Siddharthnagar district of Uttar Pradesh, to address the problem of possible flooding in the area, was initiated by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in November, 2000. About 1.8 kms out of proposed 12.5 km. length of this bound which is 2.2 metres in height, has already been completed. The bund also has provision of six regulators to ensure that no excess water accumulation takes place on the Nepalese side.

(c) The matter was referred to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, who are of the view that the six regulators should address Nepalese apprehension. In the meantime two joint meetings have since been held between concerned officials of India & Nepal and useful technical information exchanged. The discussions are to continue. The construction of the bund has been suspended since July 10, 2001.

[*Translation*]

Chlorine in Ground Water in Maharashtra

133. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that ground water in some districts of Maharashtra contain a large quantity of chlorine; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures being contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rajasthan Districts Linked with Narmada Plan

134. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts of Rajasthan being linked with Narmada Plan;

(b) whether the work is likely to be completed as scheduled;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether his Ministry has prepared any plan to divert the overflowing water of Ganga to Rajasthan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Narmada Canal Project of Rajasthan envisages to irrigate 73157 Ha. of land in drought prone districts of Jalore & Barmer by utilizing 0.5 million acre feet of water allocated to Rajasthan by Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal. The project is expected to be ready by 2006.

(d) and (e) As a part of carrying out studies of National Perspective Plan, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has completed the pre-feasibility studies of Sardar-Yamuna Rajasthan link. As per the pre-feasibility report prepared by NWDA, Yamuna-Rajasthan link envisages 2.44 lakh Ha. of irrigation benefit to Rajasthan. Survey and investigation for preparation of detailed project report of the link has been taken up by NWDA and is programmed for completion by 2007.

Employment Exchange in Bihar

135. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the employment exchanges working in Bihar, district-wise; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons registered with each of the Employment Exchange as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The names of the Employment Exchanges in Bihar along with the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of these Employment exchanges as on 31.12.1999 (latest available) are given in the enclosed statement. District-wise information are not maintained.

Statement

Sr. No.	Name of Employment Exchange	Scheduled Caste Job seekers as on 31-12-99 (in Thousands)	Scheduled Tribe job seekers as on 31-12-99 (in Thousands)
1	2	3	4
1.	Arrah (Bhojpur)	7.29	0.50
2.	Aurangabad	9.28	0.08
3.	Bagusarai	14.80	0.98
4.	Bettiah	4.31	0.63
5.	Bhagalpur	15.67	0.82
6.	Biharsarif (Nalanda)	15.10	0.02
7.	Chapra	13.69	0.24
8.	Gaya	21.33	0.41
9.	Gopalganj	1.04	0.16
10.	Katihar	6.79	8.71
11.	Khagaria	1.78	0.30
12.	Darbhanga	10.33	0.38
13.	Madhubani	3.24	0.04
14.	Madhepura	2.37	0.13
15.	Munger	11.18	1.59
16.	Motihari	0.39	0.18
17.	Muzaffarpur	3.56	0.85
18.	Nawada	5.05	0.09
19.	Patna	7.74	3.47
20.	Patna (P&E)	1.71	1.32
21.	Patna (P.H)	0.39	0.12
22.	Patna (SC)	26.59	Nil
23.	Purnia	2.98	0.38
24.	Saharsa	1.67	0.23
25.	Sewan	4.18	0.28
26.	Sitamarhi	6.40	0.27

1	2	3	4
27. Samastipur		4.16	2.89
28. Vaishali (Hajipur)		8.79	0.25
29. Kahalgaon		5.98	1.96
Total		217.79	27.28

[English]

Air Services between India and China

136. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the improved relations between India and China, there has been spurt in the tourist traffic between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to start air services between India and China; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) No significant increase in tourist traffic has been observed recently between India and Peoples Republic of China. Even now Air Services Agreement between India and China provides for operation of two frequencies per week by the designated carriers of both countries. However, due to lack of viable traffic, Air India does not have any plans at present to introduce direct services to China. No Chinese carrier has indicated its plan to start operation between India and Peoples Republic of China.

Expenditure Reforms Commission

137. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up in his Ministry to give recommendations for reducing the existing wasteful expenditure in the Ministry and its departments;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) the details of recommendations made by this Commission so far;

(d) the details of the recommendations which are yet to be implemented by his Ministry or departments along with the reasons for not implementing them till date; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) No Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Expenditure Reforms Commission

138. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up in his Ministry to give his recommendations for reducing the existing wasteful expenditure in the Ministry and its departments under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) the details of recommendations made by this Commission so far;

(d) the details of the recommendations which are yet to be implemented by his Ministry or departments alongwith the reasons for not implementing them till date; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) No separate Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up in Ministry of Civil Aviation. However, the Expenditure Reforms Commission set up by Ministry of Finance has made recommendations in respect of Ministry of Civil Aviation in Part-IV of its 10th Report. Composition of the Expenditure Reforms Commission set up by Ministry of Finance is as under:

(i) Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan, Chairman.

(ii) Shri V.S. Jafa, Member.

(iii) Shri Kirit Parekh, Member.

(iv) Shri C.M. Vasudev, Ex-Officio Member.

(v) Shri Narayan Valluri, Member Secretary.

(c) The recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission in respect of Ministry of Civil Aviation are as under:

1. The proposal for conversion of DGCA into Civil Aviation Authority with full powers and regulations over all aspects of aviation industry should be processed and put in place early. Pending this, action should be initiated for matching recoveries to be raised for meeting the expenditure on DGCA.
2. Recommendations of Staff Inspection Unit in respect of DGCA and BCAS should be implemented.
3. Considering the comfortable financial position of Airports Authority of India, the feasibility of reducing further the draft on Government budgetary support should be explored.
4. Step should be taken to ensure that plan allocations are fully utilized.
5. Urgent action should be taken for phasing out the subsidy on operation of Haj Charters. Pending finalisation of modalities in this regard, the subsidy should be restricted at the present level.
6. The feasibility of private participation in the management as well as financing of IGRUA should be explored. If these efforts do not fructify, the Academy should be closed down with effect from 1.4.2003.
7. The BCAS should not be engaged in executive functions like operations of Bomb Detection & Disposal and Dog Squads. These functions should be entrusted to other agencies like CISF, State Police etc.
8. The question of continuation of Railway Safety under the Ministry of Civil Aviation or its transfer to Ministry of Railways should be settled early.
9. One post of Joint Secretary redeployed from the strength of Ministry of Tourism should be abolished immediately.
10. The present arrangements entrusting additional charge of Chairman & Managing Directors of PSUs to the officers of Ministry of Civil Aviation should be terminated as it could lead to conflict

of interest situations in the disinvestment process and in providing a level playing field.

11. Since the post of CMD, Indian Airlines is held by Joint Secretary in the Ministry, it shows that the functions attached to the post of Joint Secretary are not onerous and therefore this post should be abolished.

(d) and (e) The report of the Expenditure Reforms Commission has been received recently; recommendations contained therein are being processed and a final decision thereon is yet to be taken.

[Translation]

Setting up of Food Processing Industries

139. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out the scope and potential for setting up of food processing industries based on agro products in various States;

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

(c) the number of such industries proposed to be set up in each State during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 indicating the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) to (c) Various studies have indicated high potential for food processing industries in the country. Areas of potential vary from state to state. The Ministry under their Plan Scheme have also extended financial assistance to different organisations for conduct of such studies. The Ministry's Plan Schemes are project oriented and not State specific. The Ministry does not set up any food processing units on its own.

Funds for MPLAD Scheme

140. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the funds being given at present for developmental works

under Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Construction of Canal in Haryana

141. SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the construction work on the proposed canal from Loharu via Pipli Ladunda in Haryana upto Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan is likely to be started;

(b) the reasons for not providing water to Jhunjhunu district and some parts of Rajgarh tehsil of Churu district out of the Yamuna water sanctioned to Rajasthan for the purpose of irrigation; and

(c) the time by which the said water is likely to be made available there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Construction work in the proposed Canals in Haryana and Rajasthan can be taken up only after the relevant modified Detailed Project Reports are prepared by the Government of Haryana and Rajasthan *inter-alia* the quantum of water to be conveyed from Haryana to Rajasthan through the conveyance system of Haryana and submitted to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. Thereafter, upon finding the project techno-economically viable, the project would need to be considered by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects which, upon finding the project acceptable, has to recommend the same to the Planning Commission for considering it for investment clearance. Thus, the construction work of this project can start only after investment clearance is accorded to it by the Planning Commission.

Lalbandh Mine Collapse

142. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lalbandh mines of the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) in Asansol district of West Bengal has collapsed due to illegal mining activities;

(b) if so, the number of casualties reported therein;

(c) the financial loss suffered due to this incident;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon;

(f) whether the Administration and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as well, have failed to prevent such illegal mining in ECL;

(g) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(h) the steps ECL propose to take to prevent subsidence in Raniganj Asansol coal belt area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no coal mines by the name of Lalbandh in Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL). Illegal mining was going on under a private land beyond ECL mine boundary at Lalbandh about 15 km. from Asansol town. As regards number of casualties, the district authorities have not been able to confirm it.

(c) No financial loss suffered by ECL.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (d) above.

(f) and (g) District authorities are to prevent the illegal mining taking place in areas outside ECL's control. The steps taken by ECL to curb illegal mining are as under:

- (i) Sealing off the entries of abandoned Underground mines.
 - (ii) Dozing off and filling up of abandoned OC mines.
 - (iii) patrolling by own security forces and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
 - (iv) Intelligence collection and close liaison with District Authority.
 - (v) Cases of illegal mining are reported to District Authority.
 - (vi) Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police and FIR lodged.
- (h) Extraction of coal is done with sand stowing to prevent subsidence where important surface features exist.

There are some shallow old underground workings of the past (erstwhile owners) which are now inaccessible and waterlogged. Many of these are unstable and may cause unplanned subsidence. Illegal mining may lead to subsidence also. Stabilization of old unstable underground workings by Hydro-pneumatic stowing has been taken up in priority areas in Raniganj Coalfields at Fatehpur, Borachak, Palasbon, Gowala Basti, Porarband, Pottery, Bhutdoba, Haripur, Arun Talkies and Kumar Bazar under EMSC and CCDA.

Animal Research Centres

143. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of Animal Research Centres in the country and also the existing Centres are not functioning properly;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the places where these Centres are located, State-wise; and
- (d) the names of various breeds developed by these Centres during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise, in view of 'a' above.

Land under Irrigation

144. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have explored any possibility of the area of land that can be brought under irrigation out of the total land under cultivation at present;

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

(c) whether the Government have asked the State Governments to prepare and submit schemes to bring said land under irrigation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Exploring the possibility of the area of land that can be brought under irrigation out of the total land under cultivation, the Government of India has assessed the Ultimate Irrigation Potential of the country as 139893 thousand hectare. The State-wise details of the assessed Ultimate Irrigation Potential using various sources of irrigation are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the need to cover additional area under irrigation and as per the National Water Policy 1987, the State Governments are advised from time to time to prepare integrated water resources development plans keeping river basin/sub-basin as a hydrological unit. Irrigation planning either in an individual project or in a basin as whole should take into account the availability of water, irrigability of land, cost-effective irrigation options possible from all available sources of water and appropriate irrigation techniques. Accordingly, the State Governments formulate Plans and take up irrigation projects from their own Plan allocations and as per their own priorities.

Statement*State-wise Ultimate Irrigation Potential from major, medium and minor irrigation**(In thousand hectares)*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Ultimate Irrigation Potential				Total
		Major & Medium irrigation	Minor Irrigation		total	
			Surface water	Ground water		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5000.00	2300.00	3960.00	6260.00	11260.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	150.00	18.00	168.00	160.00
3.	Assam	970.00	1000.00	900.00	1900.00	2870.00
4.	Bihar*	6500.00	1900.00	4947.00	6847.00	13347.00
5.	Goa	62.00	25.00	29.00	54.00	1160.00
6.	Gujarat	300 0.00	347.00	2756.00	3103.00	6103.00
7.	Haryana	3000.00	50.00	1462.00	1512.00	4512.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.00	235.00	68.00	303.00	353.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	250.00	400.00	708.00	1108.00	1358.00
10.	Karnataka	2500.00	900.00	2574.00	3474.00	5974.00
11.	Kerala	1000.00	800.00	879.00	1679.00	2679.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh*	6000.00	2200.00	9732.00	11932.00	17932.00
13.	Maharashtra	4100.00	1200.00	3652.00	4852.00	8952.00
14.	Manipur	135.00	100.00	369.00	469.00	604.00
15.	Meghalaya	20.00	85.00	63.00	148.00	168.00
16.	Mizoram	0.00	70.00	0.00	70.00	70.00
17.	Nagaland	10.00	75.00	0.00	75.00	85.00
18.	Orissa	3600.00	1000.00	4203.00	5203.00	8803.00
19.	Punjab	3000.00	50.00	2917.00	2967.00	5967.00
20.	Rajasthan	2750.00	600.00	1778.00	2378.00	5128.00
21.	Sikkim	2.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	70.00
22.	Tamilnadu	1500.00	1200.00	2832.00	4032.00	5532.00
23.	Tripura	100.00	100.00	81.00	181.00	281.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh*	1500.00	1200.00	16799.00	17999.00	30499.00
25.	West Bengal	2800.00	1300.00	3318.00	4619.00	6918.00
	Total States	58367.00	17337.00	64045.00	81382.00	139749.00
	Total UTs	98.00	41.00	50.00	46.00	144.00
	Grand Total	58465.00	17378.00	64050.00	81428.00	139893.00

Note: *Figures include the Ultimate Irrigation Potential (UIP) for Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal in the UIP of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively.

Corruption in Steel Plants

145. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of corruption cases noticed in various steel plants in the country during the last two years;

(b) the details of action taken against the guilty officials in each case; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to eradicate corruption from steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The number of corruption cases noticed in the steel plants in the public sector during the last two financial years are as follows:

(i) Steel Plants/Units of SAIL	-	340	cases
(ii) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)/ Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP)	-	08	cases

(b) In the steel plants/units of SAIL, against 340 corruption cases, major penalty was imposed on 150 officers and minor penalty was imposed on 247 officials.

Against 8 corruption cases in RINL/VSP, major penalty was imposed on 4 officials and minor penalty was also imposed on 4 officials.

(c) A number of steps have taken by the Government to eradicate corruption from steel plants, some of which broadly are as follows:

- (i) Instructions have been issued to the steel plants to identify area/organisation and carry out study with a view to simplify the existing rules and procedures.
- (ii) Regular/surprise inspections are being conducted at the level of Chief Vigilance Officer of the plant who detect cases of corruption and remedial follow up actions are being taken.
- (iii) Directions have been issued to the steel plants to draw a plan of rotation of staff posted in sensitive posts and effect rotation of staff as per instructions issued by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- (iv) Agreed List and List of Officers of doubtful integrity are being drawn up and appropriate surveillance is being kept on the conduct of the officers included in these Lists.
- (v) Vigilance matters/activities of steel plants are being reviewed at the level of Secretary (Steel) quarterly.
- (vi) Property return filed by the officers are being scrutinised regularly.
- (vii) Guidelines/instructions issued by Central Vigilance Commission/Chief Technical Examiners Organisation under CVC/Department of Personnel & Training are being circulated to steel plants for strict compliance.

- (viii) Stress is being laid on expeditious completion of departmental proceedings initiated against the accused officials.

[English]

Setting up of Agricultural Export Zone

146. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Agri-Export Zones to boost agricultural exports;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is in the process of helping the States to establish Agri-Export Zones in various States that have export potential. The concept of Agri-Export Zones takes a comprehensive view of a particular produce/product located in a geographically contiguous area for the purpose of developing and sourcing raw material, their processing/package, leading to final exports. The entire effort is centered around cluster approach of identifying the potential products, geographical region in which these products are grown and adopting an end to end approach of integrating the entire process, right from the stage of production till it reaches the consumption stage. The idea behind Agri-Export Zone is to dovetail all the incentive schemes of the State and Central Government and evolve a comprehensive package of services provided by all state government agencies and Agricultural Universities and all institutions and Agencies of the Central Government for intensive delivery in these Zones. Such services would be managed and coordinated by the State Governments. The State Governments will identify the produce which would be developed for exports having comparative advantage and potential in the markets abroad and submit the proposal to the Government of India for clearance. It will thereafter enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with APEDA for the implementation of the proposal.

(c) The Government has already given "in principle" approval for setting up of six Agri-Export Zones in various States. These are at various stages of implementation and export from some of these zones could commence by the end of this financial year.

Losses to Indian Airlines and Air India

147. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI BRAMHA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of losses suffered by Indian Airlines and Air Indian during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Indian Airlines has sponsored a Fashion Show recently in a Five Star Hotel despite its huge losses;

(c) if so, the total amount spent thereon;

(d) whether Indian Airlines and Air Indian propose to sponsor someother such Fashion Shows in future;

(e) the relevance of such sponsorship *vis-a-vis* Indian Airlines' operational field; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to make the Airlines profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The Net Profit/(Net Loss) of Indian Airlines during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Net Profit (Before Tax)
1998-99	14.17
1999-2000	51.42
2000-01	(159.17)

The losses made by Air India during the last three years are as under:-

	(Rs. in crores)
1998-99	(174.48)
1999-2000	(37.63)
2000-01	(44.40)

(b) to (e) Indian Airlines has been associated with two Fashion Shows of Ritu Beri and Ritu Kumar, since the target audience was identified with Air travellers. The association was on barter basis in view of the following mileage/publicity :

- Branding at the venue.
Promotional tools like invitation etc. carried Indian Airlines' media coverage both print and television. Media invitees included feature writers from the dailies and the national magazines.
Credit on stage to Indian Airlines.
- Maximum brand recall alongwith association with social causes.

The details of association are as follows:

Ritu Kumar Show (14.12.2000)—(1) Ten tickets for sector Delhi-Chennai-Delhi (2) Ten tickets for sector Delhi-Mumbai-Delhi (3) Ten tickets for sector Delhi-Kolkata-Delhi (4) Ten tickets for sector Delhi-Colombo-Delhi

Ritu Beri Show (25.08.2000)—(1) Eight tickets for sector Delhi-Mumbai-Delhi (2) Eight tickets for sector Delhi or Mumbai-Kolkata-Delhi or Mumbai

All the Government levied taxes were paid by the party concerned.

Depending on the kind of mileage/target audience and publicity, Indian Airlines is likely to gain from participating in the event, a decision will be taken on merits of the offer.

Air India has no plans to sponsor a fashion show.

(f) Indian Airlines has taken/proposes to take the following measures to improve its profitability.

Deployment of aircraft based on the present market requirement.

Ban on recruitment for post other than those required for operational reasons.

- Cost Control.

- Acquisition of aircraft on lease to replace/ augment the aircraft capacity.
- Introduction of market responsive flexi fare policy.
- Strict Budgetary Control.
- Improvement in the quality of product.
- Innovative marketing strategies.

Air India has taken various steps to make them viable which include (i) withdrawing of capacity from inherently loss making routes and redeploying it on more profitable routes; (ii) maximising the utilisation of the fleet within the constraints of pilot availability; (iii) dry leasing of aircraft to augment capacity; (iv) improvement in inflight service; (v) introduction of e-marketing effective January 2002 to enable passengers to make on-line bookings through the net; (vi) reduction in staff strength in India and abroad and (vii) abolition of several posts of India based officers abroad in the various departments.

[Translation]

Airbus on Lease by Indian Airlines

148. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Airlines propose to take A-320 Airbus on lease;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (d) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines has finalized with ORIX Aviation System Ltd., dry-leasing of four A-320 aircraft for a period of five years at monthly lease rental of US\$ 244000 per aircraft (Rs. 1.17 crores @ US\$= Rs. 48/-). Two A-320 aircraft are scheduled to be inducted in November, 2001 and two A-320 aircraft in March, 2002. This was done after issuance of global tenders.

[English]

Vocational Training in Private Sector

149. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for accreditation facilities for vocational training institutes to facilitate by private sector in vocational training;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) In the Craftsman Training Scheme, there is a provision for affiliation of the trades run by various vocational training institutions including private institutions with the National Council for Vocational Training, which lays down policies, training standards, norms for affiliation and conducts final trade test of craftsmen on national basis.

[*Translation*]

Training of Forest Officers

150. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of institutions working in the country for imparting training to the forest officers, State-wise;

(b) the number of trainees provided with the training by these institutions during the last three years, institution-wise;

(c) whether any criteria has been prescribed to nominate the trainees to these institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) State-wise details of the Institutions under the Ministry of Environment and Forests located in various States and imparting training to the Forest officers along with the number of officers trained in these Institutions during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Indian Forest Service Officers are nominated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for undergoing training at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun after being selected by the Union Public Service Commission. Besides, the Academy also imparts Advance Forests Management Training to IFS Officers having 10, 17 & 21 years of service. The State Forest Service Colleges provide training to the State Forest Officers appointed by the State Governments in terms of Revised Rules for Two Years Diploma Course in Forestry for SFS Officers. The nominations of Forest Rangers for Training are made by the State Governments in accordance with the 'Entrance and Training Rules for Forest Rangers Course in Forestry (Revised in 1992)'. The Wild Life Institute of India and the Forest Survey of India also impart specialized training on Wildlife Management and Remote Sensing respectively.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Institutions	State	No. of trainees trained in last 3 years
1.	Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun.	Uttaranchal	766
2.	State Forest Service College, Burnihat,	Assam	79
3.	State Forest Service College, Coimbatore.	Tamil Nadu	191
4.	State Forest Service College, Dehradun,	Uttaranchal	358
5.	Wild Life Institute of India, Dehradun.	Uttaranchal	198
6.	Eastern Forest Rangers College, Kurseong.	West Bengal	50
7.	Forest Survey of India, Dehradun.	Uttaranchal	62

*[English]***Backlog of Reserved Posts**

151. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether backlog/carried forward vacancies 'reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs' are required to be treated as '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 a year;

(b) if so, the details of 'backlog carried forward vacancies' filled up 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 his Ministry when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Irrigation Facilities in Kerala

152. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to the Union Government to increase irrigation facilities in the State;

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared; and

(c) the amount released/likely to be released to the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala submitted 7 projects to Central Water Commission for techno-economic clearance. The details of the projects with estimated cost; annual irrigation benefits and the status of clearance are as follows :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Annual Irrigation Benefit (Th. Ha.)	Status of Clearance
1.	Idamalayar	107	27.51	Accepted by advisory Committee subject to conditions
2.	Attapady	110	8.38	Linked to Cauvery Tribunal Award
3.	Modernisation of Neyyar Irrigation	17.25	20	Sent back to the State Government due to major deficiencies.
4.	Kuriarkutty Karapara	231.03	39.64	
5.	Kuttiadi augmentation	17.98	4.80	
6.	Regulator cum bridge at Chamaravattam	70	8.11	
7.	Meenachel Valley	89.5	9.96	

The clearance of the projects is linked to early submission of modified Detailed Project Reports/

compliance of outstanding observations of Central appraising agencies.

(c) Irrigation being a State subject, all types of irrigation and drainage schemes including the above schemes are planned and executed by the State Governments from their own plan funds. In addition, under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Central Loan Assistance of Rs. 41.15 crore has so far been released to Kerala for two major irrigation projects for their expeditious completion. Moreover, under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme (CADP), central assistance of Rs. 9366.20 lakh has been provided to Kerala till June 2001 for 16 projects included under the programme since 1974-75 for improving utilization of created irrigation potential and agricultural productivity.

Air Crash near Kanpur

153. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director-General, Civil Aviation has completed his investigations into the tragic plane crash in which some VIPs and journalists were killed near Kanpur;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken in the light of this inquiry report and to review the flying aspect of private small aircraft in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) The air crash is under investigation by a Committee of Inquiry constituted under Rule 74 of Aircraft Rules 1937. The Committee has not yet submitted its final report.

Crop Zoning Project

154. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crop zoning project is bringing about a revolution in Indian agriculture by maximizing returns per hectare;

(b) if so, the main features of this project and the extent to which it has achieved fruitful results so far;

(c) whether this crop zoning project is now running only in 12 districts of the country; and

(d) the time by which all the districts in the country are likely to be covered under this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No such project is being implemented.

Merger of Subsidiaries of CIL

155. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements of Coal India Limited (CIL) and each of its subsidiaries during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to merge all the subsidiaries of CIL into one company; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The details of achievement of Coal India Limited (CIL) and each of its subsidiaries during the last three years are given below:

Company	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ECL	32.00	27.16	29.00	25.12	28.00	28.03
BCCL	32.30	27.17	27.50	27.90	29.50	25.97

(in million tonne)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CCL	35.00	32.17	33.50	32.40	34.00	31.75
NCL	37.00	36.52	37.50	38.43	39.00	41.40
WCL	32.00	31.75	32.00	33.86	33.00	35.20
SECL	58.70	57.56	58.00	58.75	60.00	60.33
MCL	41.00	43.51	41.00	43.55	43.00	44.80
NEC	00.85	00.64	00.60	00.57	00.50	0.66
CIL	268.85	256.48	259.10	260.58	267.00	268.14

(b) and (c) A proposal to restructure the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies, from the existing holding company-subsidiary set-up to unitary set-up is under examination of the government and any decision would be taken after an in-depth analysis of all its pros and cons.

Food Processing Training Centres

156. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Food Processing Training Centres at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided to each State particularly to Tamil Nadu by the Union Government during each of the last three years;

(c) the quantum of funds released to each Centre during the above period;

(d) whether utilisation certificates are being submitted by these training centres timely;

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

(f) whether large scale bungling of funds by the Food Processing Training Centres have come to the notice of the Government;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(i) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) MFPI does not operate any Food Processing & Training Centres (FPTCs). FPTCs are operated by State Governments, institutions, NGOs etc. 326 FPTCs have been assisted by this Ministry since the inception of the scheme in various States/Union Territories. The State-wise list is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) The quantum of assistance released for FPTCs State-wise (including Tamil Nadu) during the last three years is at Statement-II. This includes State Government departments, Institutions, NGOs in that State.

(c) Assistance up to Rs. 2.00 lakh for equipment and Rs. 1.00 lakh for raw-material is admissible for a single product line FPTC. For multi product line FPTC the assistance admissible is up to Rs. 7.50 lakhs for equipments and Rs. 2.00 lakhs for raw-material.

(d) and (e) The utilization certificates have been received or the funds given received back from the organisation in all cases except for 18% of the assistance released. Of this UCs for 10% of the assistance released are due from Government Department/Institutions.

(f) to (i) No Sir. However, as a part of study, conducted on behalf of this Ministry, National Council of Applied Economic Research found that in some centers

emphasis is being placed on commercial production.
Pursuant to this the procedure for sanction of funds and

monitoring of the FPTC projects has been revised recently
and instructions issued to all concerned in October, 2001.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Food Processing & Training Centres Assisted during the period 1992-93 to 2000-2001.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of FPTCs Assisted	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	1	Diglipur (North Andaman)
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Hyderabad Jadcheria (Dist. Mahaboobnagar), Gandhinagar (Hyderabad), Karim Nagar, Nagarkurnool (Dist. Mahaboobnagar).
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	West Siang Distt.
4.	Assam	25	Ulubari (Dist. Guwahati) Nagaon, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Tinsukia, Silchar, Kokrajhar, Mongoldoi, Chandrapur Bagicha (Dist. Kamrup), Tejpur, Jagi Road, Nalbari, Rangiya, Dhubri Howli (Dist. Barpeta), Seuj Nagar of Beltola (Dist. Guwahati), Majgaon (Dist. Nagaon), Topatoli (Dist. Kamrup), Sonapore (Dist. Kamrup) Chamata (Dist. Nalbari), Morigaon, Mangoldoi (Dist. Darrang), Morigaon, Kharapara or Jalukbari.
5.	Bihar	28	Bariatu, Angara, Gumla, Gotra, Torpa, Dumka, Gumla, Sahibganj, Torpa Lumbai (Distt. Bandgaon) Baradwari (Distt. Jamshedpur), Chandil (Dist. East Singhbhum), Bhandra (Dist. Lohardaga), Chakradharpur (Dist. West Singhbhum), Asansole (Dist. Dumka), Danapur Road (Dist. Patna), Ramgarh Cantt. Danapur, Deoghar, Sutihaar-Nawada (Dist. Saran-Chhapra), Jaiprakash Nagar of Arrah (Dist. Bhojpur), Titauthur (Dist. Rohtas), Sridhamagar of Raghunathpur (Dist. Muzaffarpur), Baktiyarpur (Dist. Patna), Nayatola (Dist. Patna), Gulzarbagh (Dist. Patna), Behat, Manjhauli (Patna).
6.	Delhi	7	Delhi Cantt, Burari (North Dist. of Delhi), Hastsal (West Delhi), Baprola (West Delhi), Patparganj (East Delhi), Kanjhawala (North Delhi), Ladpur (Dist. North Delhi).
7.	Gujarat	3	Gandevi, Jungarh, Bardoloi (Dist. Surat)
8.	Haryana	9	Kamal, Murthal (Dist. Sonapat), Tauru (Gurgaon), Ambala, Sirsa, Narnaul, Sonapat, Bhubaneshwari (Dist. Gurgaon), Farrukh Nagar (Dist. Guragaon).
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	Shogi, Kartrail (Dist. Kullu) Kalpa (Dist. Kinnaur), Fagu (Dist. Shimla), Subathu (Shimla Hills), Taradevi, Udaipur (Dist. Chamba)
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	Kathua, Kupwara, Sri Nagar, Rajouri, Anantnag, Phulwama, Udheywala West (Jammu City), Shalimar Campus.

1	2	3	4
11.	Karnataka	11	Habbal, Hulkoti (Dist. Dharwar), Gulbarga, Bidar, Gonikoppal (Dist. Coorg), Mudigere (Dist. Chickmagalur), Arabhavi (Dist. Belgaon), Belgaon, University of Agri. Science of Bangalore, Hudli (Dist. Belgaon), Belgaon.
12.	Kerala	6	Vellayanai, Vellanikkara, Aluva (Dist. Cochin), Changacherry, Narikkuni (Dist. Kozhikode), Mattannur (Dist. Kannur).
13.	Maharashtra	17	Dhanu, Nasik, Wardha, Latur, Wardh, Indria Nagar (Latur), Chakan (Dist. Pune), Umri, Khadgaon Road (Dist. Latur) University of Mumbai (sub centre, Ratnagiri Theeba Palace Road Ratnagiri), Budhoda (Dist. Latur), Gulewadi (Dist. Ahmednagar), Kandhar (Dist. Nanded), Kasturbawadi (Pune), Astvinayak Nagar (Dist. Nanded) Aurangabad, Babhaleshwar (Ahmednagar), Nandurabad (Dist. Dhule).
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5	Satpura, Sagore, Jabalpur, Indore, Jabalpur.
15.	Manipur	3	Porompat (Dist. Imphal) Tausem, Tamei.
16.	Mizoram	6	Sairang, Lawngt-lai, Vairengta, Khawzawl, Chhingchhip, Lunglei.
17.	Meghalaya	1	Shillong (Happy Valley)
18.	Nagaland	2	Dimapur, Kohima.
19.	Orissa	62	Nayagarh, Bhubaneswar, Sundergarh, Puri, Kishore Nagar (Cuttack), Nayagarh, Potlampur (Ganjam), Paralakhemudi Gajapati, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Keonjhar, Baikala (Keonjhar), Narla Road (Kalahandi), Ashrayagada (Gajapati) Sabolong (Kendrapada), Delang (puri), Denkanal, J.S. Pur, Dhenkanal, Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Bhapur (Dist. Dhenkanal), Dhenakanal, Bhubaneswar, Tigris (Cuttack) Deula Sahi (Cuttack), Sankumari (Dist. Balasore), Debidwar (Dist. Jajpur), Mahimagadi (Dist. Denkanal), Deogaon (Dist. Dhenkanal), Barikpur (Dist. Bhadrak), Sankumari (Dist. Balasore), Kishore Nagar (Cuttack), Balishahi (Dist. Jagdishpur), Jatni (Dist. Khurda), Odegaon (Dist. Nayagarh) Chandipur (Dist. Balasore) Rourkela, Bali Sahi of Nuapara (Dist. Cuttack), Gandhi Nagar (Dist. Koraput), Pardhanpalli (Dist. Rourkela), Hosanga (Dist. Cuttack), Virsat (Dist. Dhenkanal), Neelgiri (Dist. Balasore) Baidyaketeni (Dist. Dhenkanal), Ankoli Berhampur (Dist. Ganjam), Borida of Kabi Surya Nagar (Dist. Ganjam), New Jamposi of Sukinda (Dist. Jajpur), Aruhan of Chirulei (Dist. Dhenkanal), Belapadapatna (Dist. Nayagarh), Mancheswar of Rasulgurh (Dist. Khurda), Sarion (Dist. Dhenkanal), Raghunathpur of Baripada (Dist. Mayurbhanj), Chhatrapur (Dist. Ganjam) Dayavihar College of Kanas (Dist. Puri), Khalari (Dist. Angul), Balabhadrapur PO Dhenkanal, Bantala (Dist. Angul), Balipatna (Dist. Khurda).
20.	Punjab	2	Counikalan (Hoshiyarpur), Patiala.
21.	Rajasthan	3	Udaipur, Bharatpur, Udaipur.

1	2	3	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	33	Tiruppattur, Samathuvapuram Village (Distt. Pudukkottai), Palanippa Nagar (Dist. Pudukkottai) Trichi, Gombum Valley (Dist. Madurai) Wellington (Dist. Nilgiris), Omachikulm (Dist. Madurai), Thirmullaivoil (Dist. Chengai MGR), Shivgangai (Dist. Muthuramalinga Thever), Wadhwa Valli (Dist. Coimbatore, Valayathur (Dist. North Arcot Ambedkar), Jawaharpuram (Dist. Madurai), Velluthareddy (Dist. Villupuram) Shanmugapuram (Dist. Puzhal), T. Kalupati, Madurai, Tiruchangodu (Dist. Salem, Nallamanarkottai (Dist. Dindigul Anna), Tuticorin, Ponnuthu near Pannimadai Vill. (Dist. Coimbatore, Ramavaram (Dist. Chennai) Vikkiramangalam, (Dist. Madurai), Okkuppatti, (Dist. Sivagangai), Campus of T.N. Agri. Univ. Kovilangulam (Dist. Virudhnagar), Kelambakkam (Dist. Kanchipura), K.K. Nagar (Dist. Trichi), Karpagam (Dist. Coimbatore), Krishnagiri (Dist. Dharampuri), Coimbatore, Natarajapuram (Dist. Sivagangai), Thanxdiambu (Dist. Dindigul), Rajapalayam.
23.	Tripura	1	Agartala.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	67	Deoria, Allahabad, Ramgarh, Ramnagar, Amethi, Haldwani, Ghazipur, Hordoi, Allahabad, Lucknow, Meerut, Lucknow, Saharanpur, Lucknow, Sahampur, Faizabad Gorakhpur, Basti, Sitapur, Palia (Dist. Amethi), Sultanpur, Madhupur (Dist. Mirzapur), Illia (Dist. Varanasi), Chail (Dist. Allahabad), Autarpur (Dist. Pratapgarh), Lansdown, Ranikhet, Barelli, Fatehgarh, Lucknow, Faizabad, Lucknow, Dahaelamau (Dist. Pratapgarh), Ashokpur (Dist. Gonda), Phaphamau (Dist. Allahabad), Bhairabha (Dist. Sonbhadra), Lalgopalganj (Dist. Pratapgarh), Tankuhiraj (Dist. Padrauna), Kalakankar (Dist. Paratapgarh), Bari (Dist. Sitapur), Sirdo (Dist. Bhimtal), Lochanganj (Dist. Allahabad), Gauhania (Dist. Allahabad), Adarsh Nagar (Dist. Unnao), Kapsethi (Dist. Banaras), Kondhiara (Dist. Allahabad), Pratapgarh, Rae-Barelli, Mau (Dist. Shanoji), Ashram Vihar (Dist. Pratapgarh), Devakali (Dist. Faizabad) Jamalpur (Dist. Sultanpur), Dedaur (Dist. Rae-Barelli), Haldwani, Varanasi, Lucknow, Saora-Bharose (Distt. Lucknow), Rae-Barelli, Vikashpuram (Dist. Faizabad), Mohadpur of Malihabad (Dist. Lucknow), Sadarpur-Sadat (Dist. Gazipur), Lorhan (Dist. Varanasi), Bir-Qazi of Phulpur (Dist. Allahabad), Guleria of Amroha (Dist. Jyotiba Phule Nagar), Haldia, (Dist. Allahabad), Lakawali (Dist. Agra), Bopara (Dist. Muzaffarnagar).
25.	West Bengal	13	Baruipur (Dist. South 24 Parganas), Malda, Howrah, Burdwan, Hattuba Gram (Dist. North 24 Praganas), Jhargram, Belpahari, South 24 Praganas, Ichapur, Kalyan of Vivekanand Nagar (Dist. Purulia), Kalagarchiya (Distt. South 24 Parganas), Sujapur (Dist. Malda), Krishnanagar (Dist. Sealdah).
Total		326	

Statement-II*Quantum of Grant-in-Aid released for setting up of FPTCs during the last three years*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	Years			Total
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	
1.	Orissa	68.90	25.475	0.998	95.373
2.	Tamil Nadu	22.43	20.983	6.60	50.013
3.	Uttar Pradesh	17.14	14.716	3.119	34.975
4.	Maharashtra	30.00	57.90	4.00	91.90
5.	Haryana	—	7.50	—	7.50
6.	Assam	—	3.96	—	3.96
7.	Andhra Pradesh	2.00	12.50	0.30	14.80
8.	West Bengal	4.00	0.54	—	4.54
9.	Bihar	19.00	9.78	5.00	33.78
10.	J & K	7.50	7.565	—	15.065
11.	A & N Islands	7.50	—	—	7.50
12.	Delhi	6.00	0.065	1.00	7.065
13.	Karnataka	—	0.065	—	0.065
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	0.065	—	0.065
Total		184.47	161.114	21.02	366.60

Detention of Wagons Loaded with Timber

157. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two hundred wagons loaded with swan timber sold during October 1999- January 2000 in public action as orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court were later detained;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a thorough inquiry has been conducted into the whole episode; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) On receipt of information about transport of illegal timber North-Eastern Region in the garb of legal timber, physical verification of about 200 wagons loaded with timber was done. During physical verification and subsequent investigation, significant irregularities and illegalities were found. For detailed investigation and follow-up action, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted. The investigations revealed that large scale illegal timber was transported in garb of legal timber. After necessary investigation, issues of show cause notices and personal hearings, final decisions in respect of about 198 wagons have so far been taken by the Special Investigation Team for confiscation of illegal timber, imposition of penalty and action against those responsible for various irregularities/illegalities.

Occupancy Rate of Air India

158. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the occupancy rate of Air India before and after the terrorist attacks on America;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the impact of terrorist attacks on civil aviation sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The seat factor for the period 1st September to 11 September 2001 was 63%, which dropped to 59% for the period 12th September to 30th September 2001. The seat factor (occupancy rate) before and after the terrorist attacks on America indicates a decline of approximately 4%.

(b) and (c) Even though no comprehensive study has been made so far to assess the overall impact of the recent terrorist attack on the U.S. cities on the aviation industry. International Air Transport Association (IATA) has estimated the loss to be around USD 7 billion (Rs. 35,000 crores) on international services worldwide. There has been severe crisis of confidence in air travel amongst the consumers. This has led to reduction of about 17% in passenger traffic in September itself as compared to previous year. The passenger load factor fell from 78% in August to 69% in September. IATA has also estimated that member airlines have laid off 1,20,000 employees (7% of their total staff). Additionally, aircraft manufacturers have announced lay off on nearly 56,000 employees. Airlines have also resorted to capacity cuts between 10% and 20% on different sectors. Insurance companies have also limited 3rd party liability cover in respect of war, terrorist and other allied activities to USD 1 billion and imposed additional war risk insurance charge at the rate of USD 1.25 per passenger.

As far as India is concerned, there has been large scale cancellation of travel plan by tourists and business travellers from the US and Western Europe leading to decline in traffic post September 2001. Air India was

forced to cancel its flights from the US due to the closure of US air space for 4 days suffering a loss of Rs. 8.5 to 10 crores. Due to declining international traffic, United Airlines has discontinued operation to/from India, North West Airlines has discontinued its operation to Delhi, Gulf Air has withdrawn 3 frequencies between Bahrain and Mumbai, Swiss Air has withdrawn its operations, SAS has decided to discontinue operation w.e.f. February 2001, Canada 3000 had deferred its plan for operation and has now closed down and Air India has curtailed flights of UK/USA, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong and Muscat. Air India budgeted to earn a revenue of Rs. 1894.75 crores for the period October 2001 - March 2002. However, due to the impact of 11 September, 2001 incident, Air India estimates to earn a revenue of only 1644.62 crores approximately which is 86% of the original budgeted revenue. Hence, the loss of revenue on account of the impact works out to Rs. 250.12 crores.

Winding up of Indian Iron and Steel Company

159. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has decided to wind up the Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO);

(b) if so, whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) as well as its Employees have prepared separate alternate revival plans for the company; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has issued a Show Cause Notice to wind up Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO).

(b) and (c) SAIL/IISCO has submitted a revival proposal for IISCO to Government for Rs. 1081 crores which includes funds for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) and investment at Bumpur Works and its mines and collieries besides provisions for meeting its cash losses. No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Damage to Cotton Crop

160. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been huge losses to the farmers due to widespread damage of cotton crop in the country during the current season;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) the financial loss caused to the farmers, State and UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government have provided any financial assistance to the State/UTs;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cotton crop in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan have suffered losses on account of attack of American boll worm. The early onset of the rains in the month of May and June 2001 led to early buildup of pest. Subsequently intermittent rains and cloudy weather helped further multiplication of pest and hindered the spray operations, causing damage to cotton.

(c) The financial losses based on Minimum Support Price (MSP) estimated for these states is as under:

Sl. No.	State	Financial Loss (Rs. in crores)
1.	Punjab	380.88
2.	Haryana	684.13
3.	Rajasthan	298.60
Total		1363.61

(d) to (f) Farmers are compensated under National Agricultural insurance Scheme for crop losses. However, only those farmers who have insured their crop are provided compensation as per the rules/norms. However, the states of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan are not covered under the scheme as these states have not opted for the insurance scheme.

[Translation]

Export of Agriculture Products

161. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the export of some agricultural products and agriculture related goods;

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

(c) the target fixed for export of agricultural products during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The Policy of exports of agricultural products forms an integral part of the export-import policy of the country and is governed principally by the concerns of India's Food Security, maximizing farm income and earning foreign exchange. Review of export performance of agriculture products is an ongoing process. Barring a few, most of the agricultural exports are now freely exportable. The steps taken by the Government to boost agricultural exports include providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries; grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, quality improvement and modernisation; arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets; and providing assistance in development of database and dissemination of market information.

(c) Performance of the previous year serves as a benchmark target for export of agricultural products. Since international trade in agricultural commodities is dependent on domestic supply matched with international demand, prevailing consumer preferences, traded varieties are quality concerned, targets set are essentially an indication of intent.

[English]

Administrative Changes in Coal India Limited (CIL)

162. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring major administrative changes in Coal India Limited (CIL and its subsidiaries in view of widespread corruption in CIL and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received reports against a large number of officials of CIL its subsidiaries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring transparency in the functioning of CIL and its subsidiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. However, with a view to curbing the incidence of corruption, Coal India Ltd. has initiated the following measures;

- (i) Identification of sensitive posts/Departments.
- (ii) Transfer of officers who figured in agreed list and list of officers of doubtful integrity in terms of Central Vigilance Commission Circular.
- (iii) Rotation of officers in sensitive Departments as per CVC's guidelines.
- (iv) Transfer/suspension of Officers involved in CBI Preliminary enquiry/regular case on the advice of CBI.
- (v) Annual exercise to verify the stock position of coal.

(c) and (d) In Coal India Limited, complaints are received from various sources regarding corruption, malpractices and procedural irregularities indulged in by officials of CIL and subsidiary companies. Out of such complaints those containing specific allegations are taken up for investigation by the company vigilance and in cases where allegation is *prima facie* substantiated during investigation, appropriate disciplinary proceedings are initiated against the concerned officials. During the period from April 2000 to September, 2001, 279 cases were taken for investigation by CIL and its subsidiaries in respect of officials against whom complaints were received.

(e) The following steps are being taken by Coal India Limited to bring transparency in its functioning and functioning of the subsidiary companies;

- (i) Simplification and updating of various operational manuals.
- (ii) Wide dissemination of the rules and procedures of the working of the company amongst the users.
- (iii) Making audit report available to vigilance for follow up action as directed by CVC.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Cases of Plane Hijacking

163. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a long term policy to check increasing cases of plane hijacking; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The following measures have been taken, *inter alia*, to strengthen security at the airports in order to prevent hijackings and other unlawful interference with civil aviation operations:-

- (i) Development of Sky Marshals on all routes of Scheduled Airlines at random basis,
- (ii) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at all operational airports in a timebound manner,
- (iii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports,
- (iv) Strict access control and screening of passengers and their baggage, including at ladder point.

[*English*]

Closer of Overseas Offices by Air India

164. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has decided to close their twenty overseas offices and also downsizing the staff employed at other stations;

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

(c) the reasons for the same with its impact; and

(d) the quantum of funds required for making payments to employees who are going to be retrenched as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Air India decided to close twenty offline stations and review downsizing staff employed at other stations in view of the present scenario in the aviation industry worldwide. The following stations are to be closed down:

USA & Canada region—Boston/Montreal

UK & Europe Region—Manchester/Stockholm/Barcelona/Budapest/Prague/Warsaw/Belgrade/Lyons/Nice

Africa—Entebbe/Johannesburg/Blantyre/Gabrone

Gulf & Middle East Region—Cairo/Tehran/Beirut

Far East Region—Nagoya/Manila

(c) To effect savings by way of salaries which may work out to approximately Rs. 470.25 lacs per annum at offline stations and approximately Rs. 1438.40 lacs per annum at online stations.

(d) Expenditure likely to be incurred on retrenchment of employees would be approximately Rs. 29 crores. This, however, will be a onetime payment like in the case of VRS. The outgo as per the company act will be accounted over a five year period. The figure quoted is approximate.

Installation of AVRAS at Airports

165 SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the installation of Automatic Visual Range Accessors (AVRAS) for safety of Air Passengers at all the twelve locations throughout the country has been completed and made functional;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds allocated for the project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Automatic Visual Range Access (AVRA) is a meteorological instrument to measure visibility along the runway. This equipment is installed by India Meteorological Department. AVRA is at present available at eight airports in India namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Guwahati, Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Hyderabad.

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

Agricultural Subsidy

166. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite commitments to reduce subsidy the European Union Countries are continuing their agriculture subsidiaries in some form or the other;

(b) if so, whether Indian agricultural sector has been deprived of such subsidiaries;

(c) if so, whether the agriculture sector is being affected in every state as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the concrete measures being taken by the Government to stop mass unemployment and mass migration from rural to urban areas by the Indian Agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There is no report of violation of commitment for reduction of subsidies by European Union countries under Agreement on Agriculture.

(b) As per the Agreement on Agriculture, all those countries who were not giving export subsidies prior to the Agreement on Agriculture, are not permitted to give new export subsidies. Developing countries are, however, permitted to provide certain subsidies in their export programmes to meet the cost of transport, packing etc.

(c) Continuation of export subsidies by developed countries adversely affects the competitiveness of agricultural export of developing countries.

(d) In order to increase employment opportunities in the rural areas the Government is implementing various employment generating programmes including the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY). Besides for increasing overall development of agriculture, the Government, *inter alia*, have switched over from the conventional schematic approach to Macro Management Mode for providing assistance to States.

Transportation of Coal by WCL

167. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on engagement of private contractors, transporters and labour for production and transportation of coal in the Coal Industry;

(b) if so, whether the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has engaged private contractors and labour for the purpose, despite a ban thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof, area-wise during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount paid to the private labour and transporters by the WCL in each area during the said period; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 prohibits engagement of contract Labour for coal raising and over burden removal. There is no prohibition on engagement of contract labour for coal transportation as such. As permissible under the law, WCL is hiring equipment (pay loaders and tippers) from private parties for transportation of coal to sidings as well as pit heads. WCL is also hiring equipment like excavators, tippers, drills, dozers, etc. from private agencies for OB removal.

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

Increase in Unemployment Rate

168. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of unemployed Graduates, Post Graduates, Engineering Graduates, Diploma holders in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): State-wise details of the number of Jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed with Graduates, Post Graduates, Engineering Graduates and above and Diploma holders qualification on the live register of the Employment Exchanges as on 30-6-99 (latest available) are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of seekers on the Live Register as on 30.6.99 with qualifications (in thousands)			
		Graduates	Post-graduates	Engineering Graduates & above	Diploma Holders
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	427.39	50.83	39.94	63.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.16	0.09	0.02	0.04
3.	Assam	115.01	3.44	4.97	4.52
4.	Bihar	357.53	17.67	7.89	28.28
5.	Goa	12.09	1.04	0.38	1.97
6.	Gujarat	112.62	17.45	6.78	9.99
7.	Haryana	82.23	11.75	0.95	6.39

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.81	19.91	2.16	4.18
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	18.98	6.21	1.37	4.14
10.	Karnataka	232.60	22.75	17.63	39.55
11.	Kerala	221.25	28.77	16.68	42.18
12.	Madhya Pradesh	297.47	87.99	3.90	24.57
13.	Maharashtra	345.68	38.21	21.03	46.89
14.	Manipur	38.50	5.27	1.06	2.85
15.	Meghalaya	3.88	0.26	0.13	0.26
16.	Mizoram	6.64	0.52	0.19	—
17.	Nagaland	2.99	0.17	0.10	0.45
18.	Orissa	171.78	6.24	2.68	33.98
19.	Punjab	69.88	11.65	1.01	8.21
20.	Rajasthan	165.46	25.92	0.78	6.80
21.	Sikkim*				
22.	Tamil Nadu	492.05	96.47	24.20	136.98
23.	Tripura	35.13	3.39	0.75	0.43
24.	Uttar Pradesh	363.20	100.54	5.09	38.87
25.	West Bengal	638.50	47.05	8.27	32.43
26.	A & Islands	1.56	0.24	0.13	0.18
27.	Chandigarh	6.87	5.08	0.56	5.15
28.	D & N Haveli	0.18	0.019	0.012	0.02
29.	Delhi	150.33	36.64	3.98	23.12
30.	Daman & Diu	1.01	0.09	0.071	0.10
31.	Lakshadweep	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
32.	Pondicherry	10.86	2.26	0.92	2.88
Total		4432.68	647.94	173.67	569.34

Note *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Information in respect of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal are included in M.P., Bihar and U.P. respectively.

⊙ figures less than 50.

Foreign Training to Officers

169. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government selects/sponsors/deputs. Officers for training to the reputed Foreign Institutions for improving their academic managerial, technical and administrative capabilities in various fields and disciplines wherein cost of such training is borne by sponsoring countries/agencies under bilateral/international agreements;

(b) if so, the number of persons under his Ministry which underwent such short/long term courses during each of the last three years;

(c) the number of SCs, STs and OBCs among them and their percentage;

(d) whether adequate representations are being given to the SCs, STs and OBCs in selections of Officers for training abroad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The requisite information is as under:

Year	Total No. of Officers deputed on training abroad	SCs/STs & OBCs Among them	Percentage
1998	22	2	9.00
1999	48	3	6.25
2000	14	2	14.29

(d) and (e) Ministry of Water Resources recommends the nomination of suitable officers for foreign training as per the criteria laid down in the circular received from the Department of Personnel & Training and Department of Economic Affairs. While recommending such nominations, due consideration is given to ensure adequate representation of SC/ST and Women Officers. The nomination of officers for training Course is done out of the applicants on the basis of seniority, technical qualifications, age restrictions and relevant experience required by the Course conducting authority. The candidates are finally selected by the sponsoring/course conducting institutions as per their own criteria.

Tourism Development in Tamil Nadu

170. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Vellore Fort of Tamil Nadu into a Tourist Hotel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to focus attention on the potential role of tourism in Vellore District of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to tap tourism potential in Vellore District, State Government of Tamil Nadu has taken up refurbishment & integrated development of Vellore Fort by way of providing illumination, tourist information centre, landscaping/gardening, construction of Yatri Niwas and promotion of nature trails at Elagirl.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Air Fare

171. YOGI ADITYA NATH
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase air fare;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the percentage of the hike proposed in passenger fares?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) In view of the increase in insurance premium, Indian Airlines has now introduced Insurance Charge on its domestic/international services as follows:-

Domestic Services:

- INR - 100 per sector on rupee fares with effect from 1st October, 2001 increased to INR - 250 per sector with effect from 1st November, 2001.

- USD - 2 per sector on USD fares with effect from 1st October, 2001 increased to USD - 5 per sector with effect from 1st November, 2001.

International Services:

- USD - 2 per sector with effect from 1st October, 2001 for journey ex-India increased to USD - 5 per sector with effect from 1st November, 2001.
- For journeys from other countries into India, practice of the national carriers of the country concerned is being followed.

Indian Airlines has with the approval of the Government adopted a Flexible Fare Policy w.e.f. 25th May, 2001. The Flexible Fare Policy will enable Indian Airlines to consider fare variations (increase or decrease) on sector to sector and season to season basis depending on a variety of factors including market size, share price sensitivity and other market related factors. With the Flexi Fare Policy an endeavour has been made to make the fares market based.

[English]

Development of Shiva Temple in Kashmir

172. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that another ancient Shiva Temple has been found in south Kashmir such as of "Amarnath", a prominent Hindu pilgrimage;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has drawn any plan for the development of this pilgrimage center in Kashmir, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board has constructed a Helipad near the temple and wide publicity has been given to public through both print and electronic media.

Irrigation Projects in Tamil Nadu

173. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major Irrigation Projects under implementation in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount allocated, disbursed to State Government to complete Irrigation Projects during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) There is no ongoing major irrigation project in Tamil Nadu.

(b) No proposal has been received by Union Government from Government of Tamil Nadu for techno-economic appraisal.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Water being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control & drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities. Central Assistance to the State is given in the form of block grants/loans and is not tied to any scheme or sector of development.

High Powered Committee on Disaster Management

174. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered committee on Disaster Management has recommended for constitution of full-fledged Ministry of Disaster Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) No structural details have been indicated by the Committee.

(c) The Government has also set up a National Committee on Disaster Management under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to *inter-alia* suggest long term institutional arrangements. The HPC is now functioning as a Working Group of the National Committee. It is not possible to lay down any specific time limit in this regard.

Agricultural Produce Export Development Authority

175. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Produce Export Development Authority (APEDA) has identified certain fresh flowers for future growth in its exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agricultural Produce Export Development Authority (APEDA) has identified Orchids (*cymbidiums*), *Alstromeria*, Oriental and Asiatic Lilies, Spray Carnations, Spray Roses, *Gypsophila*, *Freesia*, *Ornithogalum*, *Zantedeschia*, *Paenia*, *Nerine*, Tropical Greens (Fillers) and other seasonal flowers for future growth of exports.

(c) The Government of India have taken initiative to set up Flower Auction Centre in Bangalore. Similar centres are being considered for Bombay and Noida (U.P.). These will help exports and domestic growth of the floriculture sector.

APEDA has also set up a marketing centre at Amsterdam, Holland in order to maintain consistency in the supplies for better value realization.

[*Translation*]

Gram Farming

176. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gram farming in Madhya Pradesh was adversely affected due to sudden heavy rains in October;

(b) whether thousands of tonnes of gram seeds have been destroyed as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the estimated loss thereof, district-wise;

(d) the quantity and rate of Gram Seed provided to the farmers by the State Government;

(e) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has informed to the Union Government about the said loss and relief sought on account of this; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the information received from Government of Madhya Pradesh there has not been any adverse affect due to heavy rains in October and also there is no loss to the seed of grams as reported by them.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has distributed 16690 quintals of gram seed @ Rs. 2500/- per quintal to the farmers.

(e) and (f) The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has not received any such information from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Milk Production

177. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 5% of the people are being adversely affected by the consumption of milk which is being supplied to them;

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have not yet been able to achieve the target of producing 1000 litres of milk per annum per cattle in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this direction so far; and

(e) the policy made by the Government for convenient supply of milk at cheaper rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Consumption of milk supplied through organised agencies such as cooperative milk unions, federations, public and private sector dairies do not have any adverse effect on the health of people.

(c) and (d) The adverse annual yielded of milch animal (in milk) has increased from about 858 litres per annum in 1985-86 to 1291 litres per annum in 1998-99.

(e) The cooperatives' network in the country market good quality milk at reasonable rate.

Approval to Dalli-Rajhara-Ranghat-Bastar Line

178. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the joint proposal of Steel Authority of India and the State Government regarding Dalli-Rajhara-Ranghat-Bastar Rail Line has been rejected by the Ministry of Environment & Forests;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to accord approval to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MOEF) has not accorded approval to the Rail Line as the MOEF feels

that it would result in environment damage as it passes through the Bastar forest which is rich in flora and fauna. Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has proposed to take up the matter again with the MOEF.

[English]

Joint Venture Flight of Air India and Indian Airlines

179. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Joint Venture flight of Air India and Indian Airlines from Calicut to Muscat, Dubai and Abudhabi is incurring heavy loss to airlines due to their unprincipled fare structure;

(b) whether the Government are aware that fare fixed for joint venture flight is much higher than that fixed by these airlines in their respective airlines for the same destination; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify this unfair fare system?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Bharat Coking Coal Limited

180. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) has implemented all the Tribunal Awards;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the Awards where BCCL has lost in High Court and in Supreme Court;

(d) the further steps taken thereon;

(e) whether BCCL is facing prosecution cases in the courts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Awards of Tribunals have been implemented excepting those which have been challenged in High Court/Supreme Court.

(c) and (d) The following cases have been lost in High Court/Supreme Court. Steps taken against each are mentioned below:-

Cases	Steps Taken
Damoda Colliery involving employment of 137 persons claiming to be employees of BCCL. These cases relate to period 1982-84.	Jharkhand High Court, Ranchi has given liberty to the Management for taking up the matter before Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) <i>vide</i> Order dated 28.2.2001. Application has been submitted before BIFR for relief under Section 22(3) of Sick Industries Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985.
Bhurungia Project involving employment of 105 workmen claiming to be employees in BCCL. Case relates to the period prior to 1982.	Supreme Court <i>vide</i> order dated 19.7.2000 passed order that workmen would be required to fill up the performa prescribed by the Management in support of their identification. Formats have been issued.
Claim of employment in BCCL by Security followers of CISF involving 39 persons. Case relates to the period 1982-84.	Application has been submitted before BIFR for relief under Sec. 22(3) of SICA.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. 46 prosecutions under Industrial Disputes Act are pending against the different officials of the management of BCCL. These are *sub-judice* in various courts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The constitution of the Indian Overseas Workers' Welfare Fund is under consideration of the Government at present.

Welfare Fund for Overseas Indian Workers

181. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to create a special Indian Overseas Workers Welfare Fund;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent exploitation of immigrant workers both at home and abroad;

(d) whether 92 percent of the total workforce in the country is in unorganised sector; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide social security net to workers in the unorganised sector?

(c) to (e) As regards the migrant workers in India, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1979, provides for provision of pass book to every inter-state migrant workman, payment of equal wages, payment of displacement allowance, journey allowance and suitable residential accommodation, medical facilities, etc. The Emigration Act, 1983 provides for safeguarding of interests of Indian workers going overseas for employment on contractual basis. Sporadic complaints regarding delayed payment/non-payment of wages, extra hours of work are received. As and when such complaints are received, Indian Missions and Recruiting Agents are requested/directed to take up the matter with concerned Government/employer to settle the dispute. If the recruiting agent does not comply with the directions, a show-cause notice is issued and if the reply is not found justifiable, the license of the recruiting agent is suspended/cancelled.

As per sample survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organization in 1999-2000, about 92 percent of the total workforce in the country is employed in the unorganised sector.

A large segment of the unorganised sector is employed in agriculture. To provide them social security-cum-pensionary benefits, Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana has been launched in July, 2001 and is presently implemented in 50 selected districts of the country and about 10 lakh agricultural workers are expected to be covered over a span of three years. The benefits include life-cum-accident insurance, money-back and pension-cum-superannuation benefits. The other programmes extending social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector include National Social Assistance Programme consisting of Old Age Pension Scheme, National Family Benefit Scheme and National Maternity Benefit Scheme, Janshree Bima Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, etc. The Government also operates five Welfare Funds for beedi workers and mine workers through collection of cess providing various types of welfare amenities to the workers in the field of health care, housing, education, etc. In addition to these schemes implemented by the Central Government, State Governments like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are also implementing various schemes for providing social security benefits to the workers engaged in various occupations/activities in the unorganised sector.

Visa-on-Arrival Scheme

182. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have cleared the scheme of visa-on-arrival for the tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the countries likely to be covered thereunder; and
- (d) the procedure and other modalities likely to be followed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) In order to facilitate and increase tourist arrivals the proposal of Visa-on-Arrival has been taken up by Ministry of Tourism with Ministry of Home Affairs. It has been suggested that it should be introduced in respect of few selected countries.

Those countries are:—

Belgium
Netherlands
Luxembourg

Sweden
Finland
Norway
Japan
Germany
Argentina
Chile
Australia
New Zealand
Brazil
Mexico
France
Spain

The procedure and modalities are still being worked out in consultation with other Ministries.

Risks to Crops

183. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the potent risks in new genetically engineered crop varieties;
- (b) if so, whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research or other Agricultural Universities are undertaking any research on the efforts of bio-technological risks in new varieties of crop;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India is the nodal Department for research on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). The risk assessment of GMOs including genetically engineered crops is primarily done by the Department of Biotechnology. However, studies on effect of Bt Cotton are being done on fish at Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai; on buffalows at National Dairy Research Institute, Kamal and Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar.

The Research on transformation of Bt toxin genes is being carried out an Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi on tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, brinjal and paddy; at Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry on Bt tobacco; at Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla on Bt potato, Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur and University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwar on cotton. At Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore experiments are being conducted to produce rabies antigen in watermelon under the supervision of Institute Biosafety Committes.

(d) Does not arise Sir.

[*Translation*]

Foodgrain Production

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's foodgrain production is likely to increase during 2001-02 in comparison to 1997-98;

(b) if so, the production of foodgrains recorded during 1997-98 and expected in 2001-02;

(c) whether per capita availability of foodgrain has come down during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details of per capita availability of foodgrains during 1997-98 and 2000-01 along with the name of those foodgrains which are minimum in availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Production of foodgrains recorded in 1997-98 and that expected in 2001-02 is as below:

	(Million Tonnes)	
Season	1997-98	2001-02
Kharif	101.58	105.59*
Rabi	90.68	107.87@
Total	192.26	213.46

* Advance Estimates as on 28.09.01

@ Target

(c) and (d) The details of per capita net availability of important foodgrains during 1997 and 2000 are given below :

	(Kgs. per capita per annum)	
Item	1997	2000
Rice	78.5	75.1
Wheat	65.7	58.4
Other Cereals	26.7	21.9
Gram	4.5	4.0
Pulses	13.6	11.7
Foodgrains	184.5	167.2

Per capita net availability given above is not strictly representative of the actual level of consumption in the country, because it does not take into account any change in stocks in possession of traders, producers and consumers. Therefore, it is not scientific to compare per capita net availability at two different points of time.

[*English*]

Grants-in-Aid to Agricultural Universities

185. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for providing grant-in-aid to various Agricultural Universities; and

(b) the details of the grants-in-aid provided to the Agricultural Universities during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The criteria adopted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for providing grant-in-aid to the Agricultural Universities is based upon the recommendation of Dr. V.L. Chopra Committee constituted for providing need based support keeping in view the number of colleges/campuses, under university intake capacity, educational programmes, developmental stages of the universities/colleges/campuses and the reports of visiting teams constituted by the ICAR for quality improvement programme. Single State universities get more aid since their jurisdiction is large.

(b) Given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise details of grant-in-aid during last three years under the scheme of "Development and Strengthening" of State Agriculture Universities

S.No	Name of the State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Assam	100.00	100.00	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	90.00	90.00	69.48
3.	Bihar	182.00	153.33	82.54
4.	West Bengal	215.00	189.25	89.00
5.	Uttar Pradesh	268.00	286.61	144.98
6.	Gujarat	100.00	94.50	59.80
7.	Haryana	96.00	95.00	51.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	172.00	145.00	73.58
9.	Madhya Pradesh	250.00	150.00	68.00
10.	Kerala	95.00	60.00	55.00
11.	Maharashtra	321.00	305.00	193.18
12.	Orissa	100.00	170.00	55.00
13.	Punjab	100.00	96.00	60.00
14.	Rajasthan	140.00	190.00	128.00
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	110.00	425.00	56.20
16.	Tamil Nadu	150.00	120.00	80.00
17.	Karnataka	204.17	159.34	130.37

**Relaxation of Provisions under Forest
(Conservation) Act, 1980**

186. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to relax the provision under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to permit construction of rehabilitation colonies for the oustees of Government irrigation or other projects, settlement of lands of adivasis who are occupying lands for their homestead for the last many decades and electrical connections, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to delegate powers to the Central Chief Conservators posted in every State instead of concentrating it with the Ministry and

enhancement of powers to extend assignment of larger extent of forest lands than provided for at present; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, no forest land is normally diverted for any non site specific activity like construction of residential or dwelling houses including construction of rehabilitation colonies for the oustees of Government irrigation or other projects. However, there is a provision for regularising such pre-1980 encroachments in respect of which the State Governments had already taken a decision prior to the enactment of the Act to regularise the encroachments, based on certain eligibility criteria fixed at that point of time, but could not implement their decision either wholly or partially before the enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act.

Regarding other developmental projects including electrical connections, etc., every proposal is considered on merit and in case the diversion is necessary and unavoidable, permission is accorded with suitable conditions having due regard to environmental security of the area.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes needs to be done with utmost caution, keeping in view the impact of such activities on the ecology and environmental, which requires expert and dispassionate scrutiny.

There are six Regional Offices of the Ministry at Chandigarh (North Zone), Bhopal (West Zone), Bangalore (South Zone), Bhubaneswar (East Zone), Shillong (North-East Zone) and Lucknow (Central Zone) and not in every State.

Private Mines Companies in Orissa

187. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of private companies dealing with mineral exploration, extraction and other mining activities in Orissa;

(b) the steps taken by each of these companies for the peripheral development of the districts where they are operating; and

(c) the works done by each of these companies on renovating the roads they are using and providing health care to the workers who are working in their mines during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of the Department of Mines, a list of mines in the private sector in Orissa is enclosed as statement. However, the information regarding the steps taken by the mining lease holders for the peripheral development of districts, renovating the roads, providing health care etc. are not maintained centrally.

Statement

Mineral Name	Lessee Owner Name
1	2
Bauxite	Orissa Industry Ltd.
Chromite	B.C. Mohanty & Sons Pvt. Ltd. Ferro Alloys Corpn. Ltd.

1	2
	Indian Charge Chrome Ltd.
	Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd.
	Misrial Mines (P) Ltd.
	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.
Dolomite	A.N. Patnaik Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. Vijay Kishan Lal
Fireclay	Ipitata Refractories Ltd. J.K. & K.P. Jhunjhunwala K.C. Pradhan Konark Minerals Ltd. Rungta Sons (P) Ltd. Tata Refractories Ltd.
Graphite	Bridhi Chand Aggrawal Diamond Graphite India (P) Ltd. Girdhari Lal Agrawal H.K. Sahoo. Himansu Kumar Sahu Mohammad Zeferulla Natwarlal Agrawal Omprakash Agrawal P.P. Vyas Prabhas Chandra Agrawal Prabha Chandra Agrawal Pradhan Industries Pramod Kumar Agrawal Ramesh Kumar Agrawal Smt. L.P. Devi T.P. Mineral Industries T.R. Mediratta Tilak Raj Mediratta
Iron Ore	Mrs. Sarojini Pradhan Aryan Mining & Trading Corpn. Ltd. B.D. Agarwala B. Roy & A. Roy Bhanja Minerals (P) Ltd. Birat Chandra Dagara Bonai Industrial Co. Ltd. D.R. Patnaik

1	2	1	2
	Drupadachandra Dagara	Limestone	R.A. Jalan
	Essel Mining & Industries Ltd.		Rungta Sons (P) Ltd.
	Feegrade & Co. (P) Ltd.		S.C. Padhee
	Gandamardhan Sponge Industries (P) Ltd.		Sadasiva Tripathy
	Geetarani Mohanty		Shiva Cement Ltd.
	Ghanshyam Misra & Sons (P) Ltd.		United Minerals
	H.G. Pandya & Others	Manganese Ore	Vijay Kishan Lal
	J.N. Patnaik		Aryan Mining & Trading Corpn. Ltd.
	Jindal Strips Ltd.		Bhanja Minerals (P) Ltd.
	K.C. Pradhan		D.R. Patnaik
	Kalinga Mining Corpn. Ltd.		K.C. Pradhan
	Kamaljee Singh Aluwalia		Kamaljeet Singh Ahluwalia
	Kaypee Enterprises		Mangilal Rungta
	Khatau Narbheram & Co.		Matadin Sarda
	Lal Traders & Agencies		Orissa Manganese & Minerals (P) Ltd.
	M.G. Mohanty		Patnaik Minerals (P) Ltd.
	M.S. Maitri Shukla		Rungta Mines (P) Ltd.
	Narayani Sons		S.C. Padhee
	National Enterprises		S.N. Mohanty
	Pratha Das		S.N. Paul
	Patnaik Minerals (P) Ltd.		Smt. D.K. Bai Pandya
	Penguin Trading & Agencies Ltd.		Sun Alloys & Minerals Ltd.
	Rungta Mines (P) Ltd.		Tarini Minerals
	Rungta Sons (P) Ltd.		Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.
	S.A. Karim	Pyrophyllite	Banwari Lal Newatia
	S.C. Padhee		Keonjhar Minerals (P) Ltd.
	S.N. Mohanty		Sanjya Pratap
	Serajuddin & Co.	Quartzite	B.D. Patnaik
	Shiv Dutt Sharma		Dinesh Chandra Das
	Smt. Kavita Agarwala		Drupadachandra Dagara
	T.B. Lal & Co.		Indian Metals & Carbide Ltd.
	Tarini Minerals		K.U. Raghua Rao
	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.		N.C. Dass
Kaolin	Ajit Samanta Roy	Steatite	Jhana Ranjan Tripathy
	Jagdish Mines & Metals (P) Ltd.		Kamalendu Kumar Das
	P.K. Sahu		Prabhas Chandra Agrawal
Limestone	G.S. Sharma & Others		Shiv Dutt Sharma.
	OCL India Ltd.		

[*Translation*]**Award to Agriculture Scientists**

188. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on July 16, 2001 scientists have been awarded for outstanding contribution in Agriculture;

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

(c) whether these awards can be called lucrative as the value of money has depreciated;

(d) the amount of different awards given separately;

(e) whether these awards are equivalent to the awards given to scientists of other countries; and

(f) whether the Government propose to give attractive and lucrative awards in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are provided in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has substantially enhanced the prize money of most of the existing awards since 1999 to make them more lucrative. New awards like Choudhary Charan Singh Award for excellence in Journalism in Agricultural Research and Development and Chaudhary Devi Lal Outstanding All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) Award have been instituted recently. The details of existing prize money for various ICAR Awards have been provided in statement-II.

(d) Details of awards/amount are given the enclosed statement-II.

(e) These awards are equivalent to awards in any other country in their importance and in terms of recognition of contributions of scientists/Institutions.

(f) Yes, Sir.

Statement-I

Name of the Award	Amount
1	2
I. Sardar Patel Outstanding Institution Award, 2000	
1. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	Rs. 1,00,000/-
2. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin	Rs. 1,00,000/-
3. Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora	
Total	Rs. 3,00,000/-
II. Jawaharlal Nehru Award, 2000	
1. Dr. Rajeev Shrivastava (J.N. K.V. Vidyalaya, Jabalpur)	Rs. 20,000/-
2. Dr. Girish Kumar K. (JK Agri-Genetic, Secunderabad)	Rs. 20,000/-
3. Dr. (Ms) Ambika Baldev (NBPGR, New Delhi)	Rs. 20,000/-
4. Dr. Prabhuraj. A. (College of Agri., Raichur)	Rs. 20,000/-
5. Dr. (Miss) Sharmistha Barthakur (IARI, New Delhi)	Rs. 20,000/-
6. Dr. (Mrs.) Uma Bagavathi Ammal (JLN College of Agri. & Res.Instt., Pondicherry)	Rs. 20,000/-
7. Dr. V.K. Bhosekar (College of Agri., Hyderabad)	Rs. 20,000/-

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8. Dr. (Mrs.) Archana Mukherjee (Regional Centre of CTCRI, Bhubaneswar)	Rs. 20,000/-
9. Dr. Gandra V S Saiprasad (IIHR, Bangalore)	Rs. 20,000/-
10. Dr. R. Rajendra Kumar (College of Agri., Thrissur)	Rs. 20,000/-
11. Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya (DWMR, Walmi Campus, Patna)	Rs. 20,000/-
12. Dr. Rajendra Kumar (NRCC, Bikaner)	Rs. 20,000/-
13. Dr. Minakshi (HAU, Hissar)	Rs. 20,000/-
14. Dr. U.K. Mukhopadhyay (NDRI, Karnal)	Rs. 20,000/-
15. Dr. Leela Edwin (CIFT, Kochi)	Rs. 20,000/-
16. Dr. Bhubaneswari G. (UAS, Dharwad)	Rs. 20,000/-
17. Dr. K.N. Ramanna (UAS, Bangalore)	Rs. 10,000/-
18. Dr. M.A. Shanmugham (SIMA, Cotton Development & Res. Asson., Coimbatore)	Rs. 10,000/-
Total	Rs. 3,40,000/-
III. Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist Award, 1999-2000	
1. Dr. Supriya Chakraborty (IIVR, Varanasi)	Rs. 12,500/-
2. Dr. Suman Gupta (IARI, New Delhi)	Rs. 12,500/-
3. Dr. S.K. Nag (IGFRI, Jhansi)	Rs. 12,500/-
4. Dr. D. Damodar Reddy (IIS, Bhopal)	Rs. 12,500/-
5. Dr. Debasis Pattanayak (CPRI, Shimla)	Rs. 12,500/-
6. Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya (DWMR, Walmi, Patna)	Rs. 12,500/-
7. Dr. Shrikrishna Isloor (PD-ADMAS, Bangalore)	Rs. 12,500/-
8. Dr. U.K. Mukhopadhyay (NDRI, Karnal)	Rs. 12,500/-
9. Dr. B.K. Das (CIFA, Bhubaneswar)	Rs. 12,500/-
10. Dr. Seema Jaggi (IASRI, New Delhi)	Rs. 12,500/-
Total	Rs. 1,25,000/-
IV. Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Extension Scientist/Workers Award, 2000	
1. Dr. J.C. Markanaday (KVK, NDRI, Karnal)	Rs. 25,000/-
2. Dr. U.S. Gautam (DWMR, Walmi Patna)	Rs. 25,000/-
3. Dr. (Mrs) Manju Dutta Das (AAU, Jorhat)	Rs. 25,000/-
Total	Rs. 75,000/-

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V. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award, 1999-2000

1.	Dr. G.S. Nanda (PAU, Ludhiana)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
2.	Dr. R. Sai Kumar (ARS, Hyderabad)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
3.	Dr. Balraj S. Parmar (IARI, New Delhi)	Rs. 1,50,000/-
4.	Dr. S.K. Gupta (CSSRI, Karnal)	Rs. 1,50,000/-
5.	Dr. S.R. Singh (DWMR, Walmi, Patna)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
6.	Dr. G.S. Shekhawat (CPRI, Shimla)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
7.	Dr. P.P. Gupta (PAU, Ludhiana)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
8.	Dr. Jag Mohan (CARI, Izatnagar)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
9.	Dr. K.J. Rao (CIFA, Bhubaneswar)	Rs. 3,00,000/-
Total		Rs. 24,00,000/-

VI. Jagjivan Ram Kisan Puruskar, 2000

1.	Shri Randhir Singh Sheokand Village, Jajanpur, Distt. Kaithal, Haryana	Rs. 1,00,000/-
Total		Rs. 1,00,000/-

VII. Hari Om Ashram Trust Award, 1999-2000

1.	Dr. B.N. Narkhede Dr. C.B. Salunkhe Sh. M.S. Shinde (MPKV, Rahuri)	Rs. 20,000/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
2.	Dr. Puran Swarup Sirohi (IARI, New Delhi)	Rs. 40,000/-
3.	Dr. Geeta Mahale Dr. Sunanda Kalkannavar Dr. Sakshi (UAS, Dharwad)	Rs. 20,000/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
4.	Dr. P.K. Vij Sh. Avnish Kumar Dr. A.E. Nivsarkar (NBAGR, Karnal)	Rs. 20,000/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
Total		Rs. 1,60,000/-

VIII. N.G. Ranga Farmer Award, 2000

1.	Shri Pradeep J. Patil, Village Boardi Thane, Maharashtra	Rs. 1,00,000/-
Total		Rs. 1,00,000/-

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IX. Vasant Rao Naik Award, 2000

1. Dr. J.S. Samra, ICAR, New Delhi	Rs. 50,000/-
Dr. V.N. Sharda	Rs. 12,500/-
Dr. A.K. Sikka	Rs. 12,500/-
Dr. P. Samraj	Rs. 12,500/-
Dr. V. Lakshmanan	Rs. 12,500/-
Total	Rs. 1,00,000/-

X. Panjabrao Deshmukh Woman Scientist Award, 2000

1. Dr. Akella Vani (IIHR, Bangalore)	Rs. 50,000/-
2. Dr. K.V. Bhagyalakshmi (SBI, Coimbatore)	Rs. 25,000/-
3. Dr. (Ms) Meera Chakraborty (Claris Life Sci. Ltd., Ahmedabad)	Rs. 25,000/-
Total	Rs. 1,00,000/-

XI. Chaudhary Charan Singh Award, 2000

1. Devinder Sharma (New Delhi)	Rs. 50,000/-
2. G. Venkatramani (Srinivasapuram, Chennai)	Rs. 50,000/-
Total	Rs. 1,00,000/-

XII. ICAR Young Scientist Award, 1995-96

1. Dr. S. Mohankumar (TNAU, Coimbatore)	Rs. 5,000/-
2. Dr. Rajendra Hegde (IISR, Madikeri, Karnataka)	Rs. 5,000/-
3. Dr. Debabrata Sarkar (CPCRI, Shimla)	Rs. 5,000/-
4. Dr. Rajendra Singh (IIT, Kharagpur)	Rs. 5,000/-
5. Dr. N.K. Praharaj (PD on Poultry, Hyderabad)	Rs. 5,000/-
Total	Rs. 25,000/-

Grand Total

1. Sardar Patel Outstanding Institution Award, 2000	Rs.3,00,000/-
2. Jawaharlal Nehru Award, 2000	Rs.3,40,000/-
3. Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist Award, 1999-2000	Rs.1,25,000/-
4. Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Extension Scientist Award, 2000	Rs. 75,000/-
5. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award, 2000	Rs. 24,00,000/-
6. Jagjivan Ram Kisan Puruskar, 2000	Rs.1,00,000/-

1	2
7. Hari Om Ashram Trust Award, 1999-2000	Rs.1,60,000/-
8. N.G. Ranga Farmer Award, 2000	Rs.1,00,000/-
9. Vasant Rao Naik Award, 2000	Rs.1,00,000/-
10. Panjabrao Deshmukh Woman Scientist Award, 2000	Rs.1,00,000/-
11. Chaudhary Charan Singh Award, 2000	Rs.1,00,000/-
12. ICAR Young Scientist Award, 1995-96	Rs.25,000/-
One Time Special Award	
1. Dr. S.K. Bandyopadhyay	Rs.2,00,000.00/-
2. Dr. R.P. Singh	
3. Dr. B.P. Sreenivasa	
4. Dr. P. Dhar	
5. Dr. N. Roy (IVRI, Mukateswar)	
1. Dr. Rishendra Verma	Rs.1,00,000.00/-
2. Dr. T.N. Jaiswal (IVRI, Izatnagar)	

Statement-II

Name of the Award	Amount
1	2
1. Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award (3 Annual Awards)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each
2. Jawaharlal Nehru Award for outstanding Post Graduate Agril. Research, 2000	Rs. 20,000.00 each
3. Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist Award (10 biannual awards in 7 different categories)	Rs. 25,000.00 each
4. Panjabrao Deshmukh Woman Agril. Scientist Award (2 annual awards)	Rs. 50,000.00 each
5. Hari Om Ashram Trust Award for the biennium (4 annual awards in 4 different categories)	Rs. 40,000.00 each
6. Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Extension Scientist/ Worker Award for the biennium (4 biannual awards in 4 different areas of extn. Activities)	Rs. 25,000.00 each
7. Vasant Rao Naik Award for research applications in Agri. (1 annual award for outstanding research contribution in Water Conservation and Dryland Farming)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each

1	2
8. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award (biannual awards in 7 different categories)	Rs. 3,00,000.00 each
9. Jagjivan Ram Kisan Puruskar (1 Annual Award for innovative farming)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each
10. N.G. Ranga Farmer Award for diversified Agriculture (1 Annual Award)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each
11. Chaudhary Charan Singh Award for excellence in Journalism in agril. each Research and Development (1 Annual Award)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each
12. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Awards for Outstanding Agril. Research in tribal areas (2 biannual awards in 2 different categories)	Rs. 50,000.00 each
13. ICAR Awards for Multi-disciplinary Team Research (9 biannual awards in 7 different categories)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each
14. ICAR Awards for Outstanding Teachers (8 biannual awards in 7 different categories)	Rs. 20,000.00 each
15. Best Krishi Vigyan Kendra Awards (2 biannual awards for outstanding extension work i.e. on-farm research, training etc.)	Rs. 50,000.00 each
16. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Puruskar for Technical Books in Hindi in the field of agri. and allied sciences. (8 biannual awards in 8 different categories)	Rs. 50,000.00 each
17. Chaudhari Devi Lal Outstanding All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP Award) (1 annual award for outstanding performance of AICRP)	Rs. 1,00,000.00 each

[English]

Implementation of Coconut Mission

189. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken to implement the Coconut Mission declared by Hon'ble Prime Minister last year at Kumarakom, Kottayam, Kerala; and

(b) the total amount spent for the implementation of the Technology Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Coconut Development Board prepared a draft report of Technology Mission on Coconut which was thoroughly discussed in a meeting with all stake holders in the coconut industry including representatives of coconut

producing States. The participating State Governments were requested to give their suggestions, if any, for further modification. Suggestions were received only from Government of Kerala. For coordinating the efforts of various organizations and build up synergy through vertical and horizontal integration among them and bridge the technology gaps through new programmes, the proposal for Technology Mission on coconut including programmes to largely address issues which have not been attended to under the on-going programmes has been prepared for implementation during remaining parts of the year 2001-2002, the last years of the IX Plan. The proposal has been sent to Planning Commission for their approval in-principle. The Mission has been structured to address issues relating to development of technologies for management of insect, pest and diseases affected gardens; product diversification and market promotion; and demonstration and adoption to technologies with focused attention.

Mineral Survey by GSI in Orissa

190. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has undertaken any mineral survey in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the exploitation of coal in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI), a subordinate organisation under the administrative control of the Department of Mines has undertaken mineral survey in Orissa during the last three years.

(b) Investigations were carried out for PGE (Platinum Group of Elements) in Baula-Nuasahi area, Keonjhar District, for Gold in Mayurbhanj & Malkhangiri Districts, for Manganese in Bolangir & Sundargarh Districts, for Diamond in Bolangir, Bargarh, Sonepur, Kalahandi, Jharsuguda, Koraput & Nawarangpur Districts, for Dimension Stones in Koraput & Rayagada Districts, for Iron Ore in Sundargarh & Keonjhar Districts, for Chromite in Jajpur & Dhenkanal Districts and for Coal in Talcher and IB-River coalfields.

As a result of these surveys the following mineral reserves have been estimated:-

1. 2.06 million tonnes of Manganese ore in Bolangir District.
2. A indicated resources of 14.2 million tons of Platinum Group of Metals (Platinum and Palladium) Ore in Baula-Nuasahi area, Keonjhar District.
3. 2274.08 million tonnes of Coal in Talcher & IB-River Coalfields.

(c) Exploitation of minerals/deposits does not come under the purview of GSI.

Impact of Import of Agricultural Products

191. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study on the impact of liberalized imports of agricultural products on Indian agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the timeframe by which such a study is likely to be conducted;

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of Indian farmers; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the competitiveness of Indian farmers, so as to face the challenges of agricultural imports effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The Government has not conducted any specific study on the impact of liberalized import of Indian agricultural products. However, the Government is continuously monitoring the import of all sensitive items including the agricultural products. A Committee of Secretaries headed by the Commerce Secretary closely monitors the import of all sensitive items including agricultural products.

(d) In order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and is committed to providing adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels, imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances.

As a sequel to these measures, during the year 2001-02, the import duty on edible oils (both crude and refined) tea, coffee, copra and coconut and certain other agricultural commodities has been increased. Presently, milk powder and poultry meat and chicken legs attract an enhanced import duty @ 60% and 100% respectively.

(e) The new EXIM Policy of the Government envisages safeguards to protect the domestic farmers from the indiscriminate imports of agricultural commodities into the country. These safeguards include:

- Imports of agricultural products like wheat, rice, maize, other coarse cereals, copra and coconut oil have been placed in the category of State Trading. The nominated State Trading Enterprise will conduct the imports of these commodities solely as per commercial considerations.
- Import of all food products will be subject to compliance of all the provisions of Food

Adulteration Act and Rules thereunder.

- Import of meat and poultry products will be subject to compliance of all the provisions of Meat Food Product Order.
- Import of tea waste will be subject to compliance of Tea Waste (Control Order).
- Care has been taken to ensure a level playing field to domestic producers *vis-a-vis* imports. In conformity with the "National Treatment Principle" of GATT, imports have also been made subject to the following domestic regulations:
 - No import of textile material using the prohibited dyes like azo dye shall be allowed. For this purpose, a pre-shipment inspection certificate has been made mandatory.
 - To ensure that import of agricultural products do not lead to unwanted infiltration of exotic diseases and pests in the country, it has been decided to subject import of primary products of plant & animal origin to 'Bio Security & Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary permit' to be issued by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. This permit will be based on import Risk analysis of the product to be conducted on scientific principles, in accordance with the WTO Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures.

Flood Prone Areas in Karnataka

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

- (a) the areas in Karnataka which are prone to flood and water logging;
- (b) whether Karnataka has sought financial assistance to relocate the villages prone to water-logging and flood in rainy season; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) According to the Ministry of Water Resources, an area of 0.20 lakh ha. is prone to floods.

(b) and (c) No such proposal has been received in this Ministry.

Anti-Sea Erosion Works in Kerala

193. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for anti-sea erosion works in the State; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has submitted two proposals for anti sea erosion works in Kerala State. One proposal estimated to cost Rs. 3.00 crore received in December 2000 from Government of Kerala for incorporation in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), namely, "Critical Anti-erosion Works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" which is awaiting the approval of Full Planning Commission. The proposal was examined in Central Water Commission (CWC) and comments sent to the State Government in January, 2001. The compliance to comments received from the State in July, 2001 was again examined in CWC and further comments sent to the State Government in August, 2001, the reply to which is awaited.

The second proposal estimated to cost of Rs. 267.47 crore which includes construction of 76 km. new sea wall, 58 km. of reformation works and 23 numbers of groins for incorporations in the National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) was received from the Government of Kerala in March, 2001. The proposal was examined in CWC and the comments sent to the State Government in July, 2001 for further modification of the proposal, the reply to which is still awaited from the State.

Falling Price of Natural Rubber, Coffee etc.

194. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that rubber including natural rubber, coffee, cardamom and coconut etc. are falling day by day;
- (b) whether the rubber farmers are facing serious crisis due to falling price of rubber;
- (c) the total quantum of these items available in the market, separately;

(d) whether the Government have taken any step to procure said items from the market; and

(e) if so, the name of agencies authorized and quantum of these items collected so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. In recent times the prices of rubber, coffee and coconut have shown a declining trend while prices of cardamom showed a fluctuating trend.

(b) The prices of rubber in the country have shown a declining trend during the last four years but are still ruling higher than the international Prices.

(c) the latest available production of the relevant commodities is indicated below:

Year	Commodity	Unit	Production
2000-2001	Rubber	Lakh tonnes	6.30
1999-2000	Coconut	Million nuts	14084.1
2000-2001	Coffee	Lakh tonnes	3.01
1999-2000	Cardamom	Thousand tonnes	10.40

(d) and (e) To protect the cultivators of coconut from distress sale the Government is implementing Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme for copra under which 2.32 lakh tonnes of copra was procured during 2000-01 by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), a Central nodal agency.

To ensure remunerative prices to the rubber growers for their produce, the Government has made market intervention in four phases since August, 1997 and procured a total of 53687 tonnes of Natural Rubber through State Trading Corporation (STC).

Coffee, being an exportable items, its prices are influenced by the operation of international demand and supply forces. There is no plan to procure coffee from the market through any Government agency. However, as regards cardamom, it can be covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under conditions of glut.

Review of Ganga Water Treaty

195. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Government in Bangladesh has requested to review Ganga Water Treaty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Private Funding in Food Processing Sector

196. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to involve private sector funding in food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FICCI organised an Indo-French seminar and buyer-seller meet on agriculture and food processing recently;

(d) if so, the extent to which private sector has been attracted to involve in food processing sector; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to boost the processing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) Private Sector funding has all along been there in the Food Processing Sector. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any Food Processing Industry on its own. It only provides financial assistance under the Plan Scheme for the industry. Much of the investment in food processing industries has been from the Private Sector.

(b) 6,587 Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (IEMs) for setting up of Food Processing Industries have been filed during the period from July, 1991—March, 2001 involving an investment of Rs. 53,868 Crores. In addition, 680 approvals have been granted by the Government for setting up 100% Export Oriented Units, Foreign Collaboration etc. during the post-liberalisation period involving an investment of Rs. 9,942 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The meet evoked enthusiastic participation from both Indian and French companies interested in forging strategic partnerships and Joint Venture initiatives in Dairy sector, Food Parks, Meat & Poultry processing. Many French Companies were reportedly looking forward to invest in joint ventures including technology transfer.

[Translation]

Expansion of Airports in Maharashtra

197. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the airports in Maharashtra found by the Central Government suitable for landing the passengers aircrafts;

(b) the number of airports out of them provided with financial and technical assistance by the Central Government for their expansion; and

(c) the details of progress made in their expansion work?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Airports at Aurangabad, Mumbai, Juhu, Kolhapur, Nagpur, Pune and Sholapur in Maharashtra are operational at present.

(b) Government of India has provided Budgetary support of Rs. 12.37 crores as 100% equity only at Aurangabad Airport for meeting the Capital Works.

(c) The runway at Aurangabad Airport has been extended and strengthened at a cost of Rs. 18.15 crores.

[English]

Lifting of Water from Nagarjunsagar Reservoir

198. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Government to lift 16.5 TMC of water from the foreshore of Nagarjunsagar Reservoir on the Inter-State Krishna River which requires clearance from Central Water Commission for World Bank Funding;

(b) if so, whether the project has been cleared by Central Water Commission; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh during April, 1998 had sent a project report to the Central Water Commission (CWC) which envisaged to draw 16.5 TMC of water from Nagarjunsagar reservoir on Krishna river. As it involved consumptive use of 3.30 TMC, the State Government was requested to furnish details for meeting this requirement from Nagarjunsagar project. The State Government in their reply during August 2001 has proposed to meet the requirement of 3.30 TMC of water out of the savings from evaporation losses for the Srisailem reservoir. The Integrated Working Tables of Srisailem, Nagarjunsagar Project and Prakasham Barrage received during October, 2001 in CWC are under appraisal from Inter-State aspects. As such, the project, as of now, has not got the approval of the Central Water Commission.

[Translation]

Plantation in Andaman and Nicobar

199. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 27890 hectare of land has been brought under plantation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of farmers benefited therefrom;

(d) whether any arrangement has been made to bring the production of these plantations into the market;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) As per available information, the area under plantations in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is about 29681 hectares which includes Coconut (25000 hectare), Arecanut (3600 hectare) and Cashewnut (1081 hectare). Under Area expansion scheme of the Coconut

Development Board 5562 farmers have been benefited. There is no programme for expansion of area under Arecanut.

(d) to (f) Financial assistance is provided by the Government to Andaman Nicobar Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd., and other Cooperative societies/Organizations in the Union Territory for development of infrastructure for post-harvest handling and processing which helps in marketing of the produce. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) is supporting marketing of coconut by implementing Price Support Scheme under which the agency has procured 11430 MT of copra in Andaman & Nicobar during 2000 crop season.

[English]

Report of Commission on Labour

200. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of 2nd National Labour Commission; and

(b) if so, the salient recommendations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Excessive Coal Mining

201. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive coal mining is taking place in many mines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether wide cracks have appeared in various coal mines and the surrounding areas which have caused danger to the mines and residence and the situation can be more dangerous in the rainy seasons; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) No, Sir. Excessive coal mining are not taking place in the mines of CIL and its subsidiaries as well as in the mines of Singareni Collieries Company Limited which are the major coal producing companies.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above.

(c) and (d) Extraction of coal by caving method causes cracks/subsidence at surface. However, these are planned and done where there is no surface feature. Prior permission is obtained from DGMS for such caving operation. Thus such planned subsidences do not cause any danger to the mines or houses.

These cracks are being filled up and are regularly blanked with muck/soil, which is a regular operation in coal mining areas. This prevents breathing of air from surface and reduces the danger of spontaneous heating of coal.

As regards entry of water through these cracks, garland drains are made around the area which may be effected due to depillaring operations. In some cases, bunds are also made to prevent entry to water through these cracks.

There are many shallow old underground workings of the past (erstwhile owners) which are now in accessible, water logged and unstable. Due to failure of pillars in such old working, cracks/subsidence takes place. Illegal mining may cause cracks/subsidence also.

A High Level Committee was constituted by Government to study the problems of fire and subsidence prone areas in Raniganj & Jharia coalfields. Recommendations of the above high level committee is under implementation.

Flight Delayed due to Hoax Calls

202. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether many flights are delayed due to hoax calls;

(b) the airports in the country which are not equipped with Call Tracing facilities;

(c) the reasons for not installing such facilities at all phones in the airports by the International Airport Authorities of India;

(d) whether a time bound programme is proposed to be undertaken to improve the functioning of airports under the IAAI; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) On receipt of a specific threat call elaborate search is carried out which may result in delay in flights.

(b) and (c) In all the major airports, Caller-identification facility has been installed on all important telephones.

(d) and (e) A time bound programmes has been drawn up for deployment of CISF in all operational airports so as to ensure uniformity in standard of security. Quick reaction teams have been provided in major airports. Strict access control is being exercised. Airport Director has been made overall incharge of the Airport Security, and all necessary steps are being taken to ensure airport security.

Arecanut Growers

203. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of arecanut growers in the country;

(b) whether these growers are facing crisis due to low price of arecanut;

(c) the details of arecanut price prevailed during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to help arecanut growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Estimate of number of farmers engaged in individual crops is not maintained.

(b) and (c) During recent months the prices of arecanut have shown a downward trend. The annual average month-end wholesale prices at selected markets during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) To protect the interest of arecanut cultivators, the Government has—

- (i) enhanced import duty from 35 per cent to 100 per cent during 2001-2002;
- (ii) issued instructions to custom officials to keep strict vigil so as to prevent illegal entry of the commodity into the country;
- (iii) Arecanut has been procured by the Government authorities during 2001-2002 under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) so as to enable prices to stabilize; and
- (iv) Constituted an Expert Committee under the Coconut Development Board, Kochi to examine issues relating to production technology, demand, duty structure, prices and other related issues.

Statement

Annual Average of month-end wholesale prices of Arecanut during last three years

(Rs. Per qtl.)			
State/Market	Variety	Year	Price
Kerala			
Alleppey	Ripe (1000 Nuts)	1999	1033
		2000	617
		2001	485*
Karnataka			
Shimoga	Bette	1999	14470
		2000	14505
		2001	13625
Mangalore			
New		1999	13795
		2000	9212
		2001	4911*

* Ten months average.

Diversification by ITDC

204. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) proposes to diversify itself towards a business relating to management, railways catering and food plazas etc.;

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

(c) the time by which these ventures are likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) No decision has been taken by Government.

Modernisation of Irrigation Projects

205. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects in various States which require modernization;

(b) the details of projects that have been taken up for modernization during the Ninth Plan, State-wise; and

(c) the other projects likely to be modernized in various States during the remaining period of Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Assessment of the need for modernization of existing irrigation projects is made by the State Governments themselves keeping in view irrigation potential currently utilized *vis-a-vis* original potential, condition of canal system, equity in water supply to tail-enders and water use efficiency. Proposals for modernization of identified projects are submitted to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(b) 35 Numbers of irrigation projects in various States have been taken up for modernization during the Ninth Plan. The State-wise details of these projects are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Water being a State subject such schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	ERM
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—

1	2	3
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	—
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	Haryana	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
10.	Karnataka	2
11.	Kerala	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—
13.	Maharashtra	—
14.	Manipur	—
15.	Meghalaya	—
16.	Mizoram	—
17.	Nagaland	—
18.	Orissa	9
19.	Punjab	3
20.	Rajasthan	1
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	—
23.	Tripura	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2
25.	West Bengal	3
26.	U.T.	—
Total		35

Agitation by Farmers' Organisation

206. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are agitating against the ply by multinational organisations to make them dependent on terminator seeds;

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to protect the farmers' interest;

(c) whether Environment Ministry has ordered the destruction of crops cultivated by unapproved Bt. Gene seeds;

(d) whether the 'pesticide lobby' is opposing the new seeds for its monetary interest; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) There is no fear of terminator seeds entry into India through legal channels. The Government has issued instructions to permit issuing authorities to keep strict watch on any likely import of seeds having terminator gene. These authorities have been asked to be vigilant so that in no case any seed material having terminator gene is imported. In the Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Right Bill, 2001, a provision has been made that no variety which involves terminator technology shall be registered under this Act.

(c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment & Forests has directed the Gujarat State Bio-technology Coordination Committee to undertake following action regarding cultivation of unapproved Bt. Cotton seeds in Gujarat:

- procure the cotton bolls of Navbharat 151 crop from the farmers at the appropriate support price;
- separate the lint and seed;
 - destroy the seed and store the lint in safe custody, and
- complete destruction of crop residue by uprooting and burning and sanitation of fields.

(d) and (e) This Department has not officially received any such information.

National Child Labour Project Centres

207 SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Child Labour Project Centres set up by the Government so far for rehabilitating children in child labour endemic States;

(b) whether such centres in some districts of various States could not be opened for lack of adequate funds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Government of India has been implementing the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) for benefit of the children withdrawn from work. So far 100 NCLPs have been sanctioned in 13 child labour endemic States, for 3967 centres to cover 2.11 lakh children withdrawn from work.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Mithun Project

208. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Mithun' project in Nagaland approved in October, 2000 is yet to be started;

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

(c) the time by which the said project is likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) National Research Centre on Mithun is in operation since 1988 to undertake research programmes of relevance.

(c) Not applicable.

Projects from Sikkim and other North-Eastern States

209. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects relating to Sikkim and other North-Eastern States pending with the Ministry for clearance;

(b) the reasons for their pendency; and

(c) the time by which all the pending projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) On the request of

the State Government of Sikkim, a team of Airports Authority of India (AAI) officers visited Sikkim for studying the feasibility of developing an airport in Sikkim and identified a suitable site at Pakyong. The project of an airport at Pakyong is at a preliminary stage. No other project pertaining to any North-Eastern State is pending with the AAI.

[*Translation*]

Technical Status for Agriculture

210. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture subject has been provided technical status in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for not providing technical status to agriculture so far; and

(d) the time by which agriculture subject is likely to be provided a technical status by his ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) The details are being collected.

Decline in Cultivable Land

211. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decline in cultivable land in the country;

(b) whether the use of cultivable land for other purposes is likely to be completely banned; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made for expansion of cultivable land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir. The cultivable land consisting of net sown area, fallow land, culturable waste land and area under miscellaneous tree crops, has remained constant at the level of 183.6 Million hectares during the years from 1995-96 to 1997-98.

(b) and (c) Land is a State subject and therefore, a 19-Point National Land Use Policy Outline (NLPO) has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation. One of the points in NLPO stresses on the need to control the diversion of cultivable land for other purposes. Government of India have taken steps to supplement the efforts of the State Governments to develop the degraded lands for putting them into productive use through Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP) and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR); Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA), Reclamation of Alkali Soil (Usar land) and Externally Aided Projects.

[*English*]

Promotion of Ancillary Units

212. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) propose to promote more ancillary units as recommended in recent report on Development of Vidarbha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any strategy has been formulated to attract private investment in mining and distribution of coal by WCL; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Western Coalfields Limited has been constantly pursuing programme for development of ancillary units. The details of the ancillary units in existence and proposed to be taken are given below:

(i) Number of ancillary units	— 26
(ii) Number of items identified for ancillarisation for additional units	— 21
(iii) Anticipated annual off take of items as per (ii) above	— Rs. 845 lakhs

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given in parts (a) & (b) above.

(d) and (e) The Central Government deals with the policy matters relating to attracting private investment in the field of mining and distribution of coal. In order to attract more private investment in coal mining sector the Government has introduced Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, in Rajya Sabha to allow private investments in coal industry. The Bill has been introduced with the following objectives:-

- (i) To allow the Indian companies to mine coal and lignite in the country without the existing restriction of captive mining. In other words, the objective is to allow the Indian companies in public and private sector to mine coal and lignite and also allow them to sell off coal and lignite in the country.
- (ii) To allow the Indian companies in the public and private sector to be engaged in exploration of coal and lignite resources in the country.

[Translation]

Marble Quarry in Rajasthan

213. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the land areas for marble quarry in Alwar district of Rajasthan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which mining work is likely to be started there; and

(d) the expected benefit to the marble industry therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Marble is a minor mineral defined under section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the State Governments are fully empowered under section 15 of the Act to frame rules for grant of mineral concessions for minor minerals. The State Government of Rajasthan has informed that 18 marble plots each of 4.00 hectares has been recently identified in Alwar district. After delineation, these plots shall be granted under mining lease by the State Government, and mining work would start after completion of necessary formalities.

(d) The State Government of Rajasthan has informed that the marble industry is likely to be fed with approximately 2500 tonnes of additional raw material per month from mining in Alwar district.

[English]

Pending Tank Improvement Project of Karnataka

214. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of tank improvement project was sent by Karnataka to the Union Government during sometime past;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is still lying pending with the Union Government;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a long pendency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The Minor Irrigation Schemes including tank improvement are planned, funded and executed by the respective State Governments and are not required to be submitted to the Union Government except where external assistance is proposed to be availed. The Karnataka Tank Improvement Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 996.47 crore was submitted by the Government of Karnataka, for World Bank assistance to the Government of India. The proposal has been recommended by the Government of India to the World Bank on 5.10.2001. Presently the project is under appraisal by the World Bank.

Implementation of Recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission

215. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has implemented the recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the meeting of Chairmen and other officials of all the subsidiaries of CIL, has been held recently in this regard;

(d) if so, the decision taken at the meeting; and

(e) the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (e) The recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) have been examined in the Ministry. The comments of the Ministry have been duly sent to Ministry of Finance and their response is awaited.

Passengers Safety

216. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme under consideration to bring Air India and Indian Airlines at par with top international Airlines and ensure passengers safety; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) There is no such scheme under consideration. However, various steps taken to ensure passengers safety include implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of past aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents; monitoring of EFDR and Cockpit Voice recorder (CVR); inspection of aerodromes; safety audit of operators; dissemination of safety information through Air Safety Circulars; safety seminars and workshops. It is ensured that the standards and recommended practices of ICAO are complied by the airlines.

Better Utilisation of River Water in Orissa

217. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission (CWC) has prepared any action plan for the better utilization of water of Mahanadi, Vansandhara and other major rivers of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Projects Affected by Floods in Maharashtra

218. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects affected by recent floods in several districts in Maharashtra;

(b) the extent of damage caused to the projects; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to renovate the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the available records, no information has been received about the number of irrigation projects affected by recent floods in several districts in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Performance of Arid Forest Research Institute

219. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of the Arid Research located at Jodhpur in Rajasthan during the last five years in physical and financial terms;

(b) whether the scientists working there have invested any new technical know-how during the last five years; and

(c) if so the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The performance of Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI) Located at Jodhpur in Rajasthan during the last 5 years in physical and financial terms is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) and (c) The achievements made by the Scientist working at the Institute during the said period are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

The Physical and Financial performance of Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur during the last five years are summarised as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	No. of projects completed	No. of ongoing projects	No. of new projects taken up	Financial Expenditure Rs. in lakhs)
1.	1996-97	Nil	31	12	290.09
2.	1997-98	2	39	2	263.53
3.	1998-99	9	32	Nil	321.14
4.	1999-00	14	15	3	329.59
5.	2000-01	4	14	4	294.08

Statement-II

Some of the major achievements made by the Scientists at AFRI, Jodhpur during the last 5 years are as follows:-

- 3 Plant species of arid zone identified for biocidal activities on various insects causing defoliation.
- Calligonum and Cenchrus species with *Carsia angustifolia* have been identified for their ability to control sand drift.
- Single ridge mound method of plantation in arid region.
- The cause of mortality by canker disease and mineral deficiency in *Acacia ampliceps* identified.
- Bibliography of pests of forest nurseries with special reference to arid regions prepared.
- Silvi pastoral techniques for *Zizyphs mauritiana*, *Alainthus excelsa*, *Acacia Nilotica*, *Azadirachta indica* and *Dichrostachys nutans* with *Cenchrus ciliaris* as intercrop, standardized.
- Most efficient methods of rainwater harvesting to improve establishment and growth of forestry plantations in Indian desert developed. The techniques of water harvesting have shown dramatic response in Aravali eco-restoration.

- The work on Neem received recognition in the form of "Award on Neem Research" by ICFRE in 1996 and Vishist Vaighyanik Puruskar in 1998 by Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Funds to Bihar

220. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the Government of Bihar to increase their outlay for irrigation projects to obtain funds from the Union Government to achieve the target in food production; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Union Government is providing assistance to Government of Bihar under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). For the current financial year, Planning Commission has determined an indicative ceiling of Rs. 200 crore under AIBP. No request has been received from Government of Bihar to raise the ceiling under AIBP nor has the Union Government asked Government of Bihar to increase the outlay for irrigation projects. Central Loan Assistance of Rs. 333 crore has so far been released for seven projects in Bihar.

*[English]***Bilateral Agreement of Air India with Hong Kong**

221. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India's expansion plan to US is likely to be affected in the absence of bilateral agreement with Hong Kong which does not allow the airlines to take traffic from Hong Kong to places like Los Angeles, San Francisco etc.;

(b) if so, the extent to which the service is viable without incorporating the high growth Hong Kong sector; and

(c) the steps taken for the execution of a bilateral agreement with Hong Kong?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) No Sir. According to the existing Air Services Agreement between India and Hong Kong, Air India can operate to Hong Kong via points in Thailand and Vietnam and to beyond points in Japan and Seoul with traffic rights.

As regards USA, Air India can operate any number of services without any restrictions on type of aircraft to New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and 4 additional points as selected by the Government of India.

Wasteful Expenditure in Various Government Departments

222. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wasteful expenditure identified in various departments under his Ministry during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken so far by his Ministry to control/stop such wasteful expenditure in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Curtailment of Wasteful Expenditure

223. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has identified any sectors of his Ministry/departments in which wasteful expenditure is maximum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of wasteful expenditure identified therein during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken so far by his Ministry to curtail/stop such expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) There are no sectors/schemes of this Department in which wasteful expenditure is incurred. The guidelines of Government on austerity are being followed in non-plan/non-development expenditure.

*[Translation]***Agricultural Production**

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

(a) the details in regard to Indian standing in the field of agricultural production in the world at present;

(b) the Indian standing in production of wheat, rice, cotton and pulses etc. in the world; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to make India a leading country in the world in the agriculture production during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The latest year for which the details of India's position in the field of agricultural production in the world are available is 1999. The statement giving these details in respect of some major crops is enclosed.

(c) To increase production in different parts of the country, the Government switched over from the conventional Schematic approach to Macro Management mode for providing assistance to States from November 2000. The scheme integrates 27 schemes into one Macro Management scheme for supplementation/complementation

of states' efforts through work plans which gives flexibility to states to address the specific problems faced by them, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aims at all-round development of agriculture. This is expected to further improve the position of Indian agriculture in the world.

Statement

India's position in world in production of food items during 1999

Item	Production in million tonnes		India's Position		
	India	World	% Share	Rank	Next to
1. Total Cereals	230	2064	11.1	Third	China, USA
1.1 Wheat	71	584	12.2	Second	China
1.2 Rice (Paddy)	131	596	22.0	Second	China
1.3 Coarse grains	28	884	3.2	Fourth	USA, China, Brazil
2. Total Pulses	16	59	27.1	First	—
3. Rapeseed	6	43	14.0	Thlrđ	China, Canada
4. Fruits & Vegetables					
4.1 Vegetables & Mellon	59	629	9.4	Second	China
4.2 Fruits excluding Mellon	39	445	8.8	Second	China
4.3 Potato	23	294	7.8	Third	China, Russian Fed.
4.4 Onion (dry)	5	44	11.4	Second	China
5. Commercial Crops					
5.1 Sugarcane	282	1275	22.1	Second	Brazil
5.2 Tea	0.75	2.87	26.1	First	—
5.3 Coffee (Green)	0.27	6.48	4.2	Seventh	Brazil, Colombia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cote Divoire, Mexico
5.4 Tobacco (Leaves)	0.70	7.09	9.9	Second	China

Source: FAO Production Year Book, 1999.

Foodgrain Production

225. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains produced during the Rabi Crop in the country during 2000-01, State-wise;

(b) whether the production of foodgrains is less *vis-a-vis* its demand;

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

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) As per the Fourth Advance Estimate, the foodgrains production in the country during Rabi season of 2000-01 is estimated at 92.96 million tonnes. The latest state-wise final estimates of production of Rabi food grains are available for Rabi 1999-2000. These are placed in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) As per the normative requirement of foodgrains, the total requirement of foodgrains for the country is estimated to be 192.39 million tonnes in 1999 and 195.42 million tonnes in 2000. As against this, the production of foodgrains was 203.61 million tonnes in 1998-99 and 208.87 million tonnes in 1999-2000. Thus, the production of foodgrains is not less *vis-a-vis* its demand based on normative requirements of foodgrains.

(d) To increase production and to develop agriculture in different parts of the country, the Government switched over from the conventional Schematic approach to Macro Management mode for providing assistance to States from November, 2000. The scheme integrates 27 schemes into one Macro Management scheme for supplementation/complementation of states' efforts through work plans which gives flexibility to states to address the specific problems faced by them, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture. Implementation of this scheme will further boost the agriculture production.

Statement

Final Estimates of Production of Rabi Foodgrains

(thousand tonnes)

State	Production 1999-2000
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	4412.5
Arunachal Pradesh	6.6
Assam	811.0
Bihar	6212.0
Goa	8.4
Gujarat	1122.6

1	2
Haryana	9805.0
Himachal Pradesh	515.0
Jammu & Kashmir	389.0
Karnataka	2987.2
Kerala	154.1
Madhya Pradesh	11774.0
Maharashtra	4362.8
Meghalaya	8.8
Mizoram	3.5
Nagaland	20.7
Orissa	1006.9
Punjab	16028.9
Rajasthan	7867.9
Sikkim	19.7
Tamil Nadu	2110.5
Tripura	93.5
Uttar Pradesh	28599.1
West Bengal	5652.0
A & N Islands	0.5
D & N Haveli	0.6
Daman & Diu	1.3
Delhi	28.8
Pondicherry	17.0
All India	104019.9

Loss Due to Flood

226. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated the loss to life, property and livestock in various parts of the

country particularly in eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar due to the recent floods;

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

(c) the assistance provided to each of the affected State during the last six months and the basis thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have received any action plan from State Governments to prevent the losses caused by the floods;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the said losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) State-wise details of damage to life and property during 2001-02, as reported by the State Governments, are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) is provided to States for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including floods. State-wise details of release of Central share of CRF during 2001-02 are given in the enclosed statement-II. In addition, Rs. 23.94 crore to Chhattisgarh and Rs. 100 crore to Orissa have been released from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of floods.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Ministry of Water Resources is already implementing schemes in this regard.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Damage to Floods/ Flash Floods during 2001-02

State	Population affected (in lakhs)	Human Lives lost	Cropped area affected (lakh ha.)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	NR	108	1.14
Arunachal Pradesh	NR	1	Neg.
Assam	1.94	NR	0.13
Bihar	81.21	203	5.32

1	2	3	4
Chhattisgarh	4.12	36	0.89
Himachal Pradesh	0.32	24	Neg.
Kerala	0.59	Nil	NR
Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Neg.
Orissa	96.78	99	9.0
Punjab	NR	10	0.58
Tripura	0.56	3	0.14
Uttaranchal	Neg.	18	NR
Uttar Pradesh	23.73	148	1.57

Neg.—Negligible.

NR—Not reported.

Statement-II

Release of Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund during 2001-2002

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund Released
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15597.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	947.00
3.	Assam	3996.00
4.	Bihar	2636.50
5.	Chhattisgarh	2163.00
6.	Goa	—
7.	Gujarat	11701.49
8.	Haryana	3201.50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3424.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
11.	Jharkhand	—
12.	Karnataka	5872.00
13.	Kerala	8603.61

1	2	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4932.00
15.	Maharashtra	12380.00
16.	Manipur	—
17.	Meghalaya	155.00
18.	Mizoram	—
19.	Nagaland	—
20.	Orissa	6465.75
21.	Punjab	4832.00
22.	Rajasthan	12225.75
23.	Sikkim	495.34
24.	Tamil Nadu	4041.50
25.	Tripura	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13521.06
27.	Uttaranchal	2992.59
28.	West Bengal	3981.00
Total		124164.09

Negligence in Security Measures by Aviation Agencies

227. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item published in the daily newspaper 'Hindustan' dated November 2, 2001 under the caption "Hawai Adde Par Paryapta Satarkata Nahi";

(b) if so, whether the officers of immigration department have alleged negligence in security measures by the aviation agencies; and

(c) if so, the action being taken against these aviation agencies for showing negligence in security measures?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

[English]

New Aircraft with Air India

228. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether not a single aircraft has been added to the fleet of Air India since long;

(b) if so, whether it has an adverse effect on its revenue income;

(c) if so, the present financial position of Air India; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make Air India profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Air India had recently inducted four A310-300 aircraft on dry lease with a view to augment its routes and passenger carrying capacity.

(c) The net loss suffered by Air India during the year 2000-2001 was Rs. 44.40 crores. As per budget estimates for the year 2001-02, Air India is expected to earn a profit of Rs. 21.50 crores. During the first six months of the current financial year, Air India has posted a net profit of Rs. 12 crores and is poised to meet the budgeted profit.

(d) Air India has taken various steps to make them viable which includes: (i) withdrawing of capacity from inherently loss making routes and reemploying it on more profitable routes; (ii) maximising the utilisation of the fleet within the constraints of pilot availability; (iii) dry leasing of aircraft to augment capacity; (iv) improvement in inflight service; (v) introduction of e-marketing effective January 2002 to enable passengers to make on-line bookings through the net; (vi) reduction in staff strength in India and abroad, and (vii) abolition of several posts of India based officers abroad in the various departments.

[Translation]

Air Taxi Operated by Private Aviation Companies

229. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private aviation companies running Air Taxis in the country and the number of aircraft with the category/class/type and age operated by each of them respectively;

(b) whether any guidelines about their safety, operation and maintenance have been issued and enforced by the Government/Director-General of Civil Aviation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the period after which certification about air worthiness is required;

(e) whether the Inspectors for the purpose are private individuals or are officials of the Government;

(f) the number of accidents involving the small private aircraft during each of the last three years; and

(g) the reasons attributed thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) There are 37 private aviation companies who have been granted non-scheduled operating permit. The details of aircraft are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The guidelines about safety, operation and maintenance of aircraft have been issued by Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) under Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR), Section-3 series C, part-III. The

enforcement of these guidelines are ensured by DGCA. The Certificate of Airworthiness is issued/renewed by DGCA, under the provision of Rule 50 of Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(d) The Certificate of Airworthiness is normally valid for a period of one year. DGCA has laid down regulations that the validity of Certificate of Airworthiness of all civil registered aircraft of 20 years of more, be restricted to 6 months instead of one year, which enables DGCA officers to inspect the aircraft more frequently to ensure compliance with manufacturers and DGCA requirements.

(e) The Inspectors the above purpose are officers of the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

(f) The number of accidents during the last three years are give below:

1999	—	Nil
2000	—	3
2001 (Sept.' 2001)	—	4

(g) The reports from the investigators have been received in 5 cases and are under examination in DGCA/ Ministry of Civil Aviation prior to their acceptance for formal release to general public. In two cases including the crash at Mainpuri is under investigation by a Committee of Inquiry. The reports are still awaited.

Statement

List of Non-Scheduled Operator's permit holders

Sl. No.	Name	Aircraft Type	Aircraft No.	Age
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ace Airways Pvt. Ltd.	AS 350 B (H)	1	19
2.	Aerial Service Pvt.	Beech jet-400	1	—
3.	Ahmedabad Aviation Academy	Cessna 172 Piper Aztec Cessna 172 P	1 1 1	26 21 20
4.	Airworks India (P) Ltd.	King Air C-90	1	23
5.	Asia Aviation Ltd.	Cessna Cit II	1	19

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Azal India Pvt. Ltd.	Bell 412 HP (H)	6	12 08 04 13 10 15
7.	Blue Dart	B-737-200	3	26 26 21
8.	Century Textiles and Industries Ltd.	Cessna Caravan II	1	12
9.	Delhi Flying Club	Cessna 152	1	16 16
		King Air C90		10
10.	Deccan Aviation	Bell 206 L3 (H)	2	04 03
		Bell 206 B3 (H)	2	11 10
		Bell 212 (H)	1	20
		Bell 407 (H)	1	05
		Ecureil AS 355 (H)	1	17
		Pilatus PC-12	2	02 02
11.	Dwarka Air Taxi	Cessna 404 Titan	1	20
12.	Escorts Ltd.	Bell-407 (H)	1	03
13.	East India Hotels	HS-125-700 C-90 A	1 1	— 16
14.	Govt. of Rajasthan	Allouette III (H)	1	—
15.	Great Eastern Shipping Co. Ltd.	Bell 212 (H)	2	21 21
16.	Hindustan Institute of Engg. Technology	Cessna 172 L	1	29
17.	India International Airways	Bell 222 UT (H) HS-125 B	1 1	12 —

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Indo Pacific Aviation	Bell 206 L 4 (H)	1	07
19.	Jagson Airlines	DO-228	2	—
20.	J.K. Corp.	King Air B-200	1	17
21.	Jindal Strips Ltd.	King Air C-90	1	24
22.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.	Allouette III (H)	1	25
23.	Malhotra Helicopters	Bell - 47G5 (H)	1	32
24.	Megapode Airlines	HS-125-700B	1	—
		Falcon 2000	1	3
25.	Orient Flying School	Cessna-152	3	20
				18
				16
		Seneca III	1	20
26.	Pawan Hans	Dauphin 2 (H)	20	15
				15
				—
				15
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				14
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				14
				—
				14
				14
				15
				14

1	2	3	4	5
		Bell 206 L4 (H)	3	14 08 06
		Robinson (H)	2	05 07
		MI 172 (H)	3	07 — —
		Bell 407 (H)	2	— 04 03
27.	Rajputana Aviation Academy (P) Ltd.	Cessna-172 P Cessna-152	1 2	20 05 20
28.	Raymond Ltd.	AS 355N (H) Bell 206 L3 (H)	1 2	07 09 11
		Cessna Cit-II	1	20
29.	Reliance Transport Travels Ltd.	Gulfstream-IV	1	13
30.	Sahara India Airlines	B-737-200 B-737-400 Ecureuil AS 355N (H)	1 1 3	— — 04 04 04
		Dauphin 365 N2 (H)	1	04
31.	Saraya Aviation (P) Ltd.	Beech B-58	1	24
32.	Span Air Pvt. Ltd.	Bell 206 L4 (H) Bell 407 (H) Super King 200	1 1 1	06 05 18
33.	Taneja Aerospace Aviation Ltd.	PC 68-TC P 68C	1 4	05 05 04 03 03

1	2	3	4	5
34.	Tata Tea Ltd.	MD 600 N (H) (Proposed)	1	03
35.	Trans Bharat Avn.	Beech 99	2	32
		Bell-206 B3 (H)	2	33
		Bell 407 (H) 01	1	09
		Piper Seneca		02
36.	U.B. Air	Chetak (H)	1	05
		Bell 212 (H)	3	06
				12
				23
				21
				22
37.	Vidyut Travel Services	Kingair C-90	1	07

Note: Seating capacity indicates passenger seating capacity excluding pilots seat.

H: Helicopter

Agricultural Production

230. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have encouraged agriculture sector in order to increase agricultural production;

(b) if so, the details of developmental work undertaken during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are facing difficulties in this task; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made to do away with the difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) The major developmental work undertaken by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation during Ninth Plan for increasing the production and productivity of agricultural crops during 9th Plan, *inter-alia*, includes the following:-

- (i) Integrated developmental programme on Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals;
- (ii) Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses;

- (iii) Watershed Development Programme;
- (iv) Balanced & Integrated use of Fertilizers;
- (v) Technology Mission for Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern India;
- (vi) Making available Quality/Hybrid Seeds;
- (vii) Macro-Management Scheme; and
- (viii) Strengthening of Extension Services.

The difficulties faced by the Government in implementing these programmes are discussed with States in National Conference, Zonal Conferences, Field Visits of Area Officers etc. and do away with the problems, if any.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 20, 2001.

11.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, November 20, 2001/Kartika 29, 1923 (Saka).

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