

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eighth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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* The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Statement

Friday, December 7, 2001/Agrahayana 16, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Loans to Unemployed Youths

*261. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently issued any directives to the Public Sector Banks to discourage advancing loans below one lakh rupees to needy poor persons/unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets fixed for providing such loans to the above category of persons in each State during each of the last three years;

(d) the actual targets achieved in these States;

(e) whether rigid attitude of these nationalized banks and the corruption prevalent in the grant of loans, have discouraged the unemployed youths in particular to go in for self-employment;

(f) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) the number of applications pending in these banks pertaining to Bihar under various self-employment schemes; and

(h) the steps taken by these banks for early clearance of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Banks provide loans to unemployed youths including needy poor under various schemes such as Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY). The State-wise targets and achievement under PMRY and SJSRY for the year ended March, 1999, 2000 and 2001 are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II. The SGSY scheme was started w.e.f. 1.4.1999. The targets and achievements under the scheme for the year ending March' 2000, 2001 and for the year 2001-02 (upto. 1st October, 2001) are given in Annexure-III.

Loans are also being provided to weaker sections under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme for enabling them to take up productive and gainful activities. Further under the Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS) assistance is provided to liberate and rehabilitate scavengers and to provide them with alternate dignified occupation. The State-wise information in respect of SLRS scheme for the year ended 31st March' 2000 and 2001 is given in Annexure-IV.

(e) and (f) Committee have been constituted at the State/District level and in RBI where implementation of these schemes and redressal of grievances is regularly monitored. Instances of delay in sanction/disbursements due to procedural bottlenecks are being addressed by these forums.

(g) According to RBI, 1463 applications were pending as on 30th Sept., 2001 in Bihar under the PMRY scheme and 2682 applications were pending as on 30th March, 2001 under SGSY.

(h) RBI periodically advises Banks to ensure that applications are disposed of within the prescribed time limit. RBI has instructed the Banks to dispose of the applications, received under PMRY, upto Rs. 25,000/- within a fortnight and for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks. The cases relating to SJSRY and SGSY are being promptly taken up on case-to-case basis.

Annexure I

Details of Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under PMRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks for the Year Ended March' 1999

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	8300	7888	4408.18	5742	3168.47
Himachal Pradesh	2400	2340	1413.49	1913	1178.05

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jammu & Kashmir	5000	1473	1243.49	835	651.00
Punjab	9000	9733	6190.45	8075	4640.57
Rajasthan	16300	14005	7393.38	10059	5105.31
Chandigarh	100	105	83.46	75	56.09
Delhi	4700	691	394.44	508	288.64
North Eastern					
Assam	15000	10267	8395.65	5525	3968.14
Manipur	1350	828	461.00	407	176.11
Meghalaya	550	368	281.86	202	129.71
Nagaland	250	165	152.17	40	330.67
Tripura	1300	974	570.24	110	59.05
Arunachal Pradesh	500	205	175.83	166	125.39
Mizoram	350	163	145.15	37	30.05
Eastern Region					
Bihar	20500	10852	9056.31	8364	6493.81
Orissa	10100	8684	6837.43	3106	2146.50
West Bengal	23000	3780	2469.77	2726	1717.85
Andaman & Nicobar	100	94	75.51	77	53.88
Sikkim	150	87	44.48	45	20.95
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	30800	31169	19725.78	19102	11691.18
Uttar Pradesh	51600	44682	27795.02	35023	21052.55
Western Region					
Gujarat	14600	11437	4949.79	10607	4543.55
Maharashtra	42500	37106	19442.64	26346	14146.96
Daman & Diu	50	25	17.08	21	14.05
Goa	600	369	265.29	300	212.88
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	50	37	24.40	28	18.67
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	34200	24218	13394.14	15186	8320.93
Karnataka	21900	17351	9804.91	13188	7274.26
Kerala	20000	16031	8792.86	11749	6348.19

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamil Nadu	18500	15723	7637.75	11422	5523.55
Lakshadweep	50	33	27.20	31	25.59
Pondicherry	550	453	171.25	330	126.33
Not Specified	0	0	1.66	6	4.48
All India	354350	271342	161842.06	191351	109347.21

Details of Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under PMRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks for the Year Ended March' 2000

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	7500	7192	4485.05	5616	3308.39
Himachal Pradesh	2500	2300	1538.18	1948	1303.89
Jammu & Kashmir	4000	1275	1113.00	871	734.06
Punjab	9000	9573	6622.18	8308	5336.92
Rajasthan	16100	15210	8675.72	10731	5848.11
Chandigarh	100	67	51.57	51	39.87
Delhi	4800	860	565.87	598	380.57
North Eastern					
Assam	12800	9175	6767.08	5690	4027.41
Manipur	1350	963	774.00	294	226.01
Meghalaya	550	544	544.95	336	231.59
Nagaland	200	79	79.45	73	76.52
Tripura	1300	1056	652.04	230	124.91
Arunachal Pradesh	500	413	326.74	111	72.89
Mizoram	350	244	215.85	59	43.88
Eastern Region					
Bihar	21800	10745	9483.45	7753	6208.24
Orissa	12150	8353	6668.28	3662	2493.07

1	2	3	4	5	6
West Bengal	22800	3608	2382.82	2458	1578.32
Andaman & Nicobar	200	129	103.06	101	75.60
Sikkim	150	58	27.74	42	23.78
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	31600	29593	22187.77	18180	12864.97
Uttar Pradesh	52000	44152	29519.49	35559	22743.00
Western Region					
Gujarat	14600	10723	5061.78	10085	4720.54
Maharashtra	43600	35210	20311.29	24841	14115.04
Daman & Diu	50	17	8.67	16	8.27
Goa	600	481	452.65	408	380.72
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	50	36	20.62	25	19.12
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	33600	16688	9864.09	11604	6800.19
Karnataka	22200	18228	11562.69	14906	9290.54
Kerala	24000	16816	9570.31	12114	6807.75
Tamil Nadu	15000	13945	7809.05	11544	6052.64
Lakshadweep	50	33	28.76	33	22.89
Pondicherry	550	381	173.12	277	131.00
All India	356050	258147	167647.30	188524	116090.70

Details of Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under PMRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks for the Year Ended March' 2001

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	(Rs. in Lakhs)			
		Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	8600	8106	5240.19	4348	2578.78
Himachal Pradesh	2500	2269	1488.44	1862	1229.99
Jammu & Kashmir	4000	957	824.00	652	495.89
Punjab	9000	9483	6307.20	6291	3844.22
Rajasthan	16600	15040	8786.80	8291	4505.34

1	2	3	4	5	6
Chandigarh	100	61	47.32	42	33.04
Delhi	5000	963	664.91	648	444.86
North Eastern					
Assam	6600	3618	3144.45	1334	995.98
Manipur	1100	370	281.90	357	247.93
Meghalaya	600	413	299.85	381	254.94
Nagaland	200	27	35.85	21	25.65
Tripura	1300	391	314.04	35	22.86
Arunachal Pradesh	500	107	601.77	118	107.52
Mizoram	250	251	326.70	245	274.00
Eastern Region					
Bihar	21900	10191	9316.19	6159	5015.04
Orissa	15500	8652	6315.21	1027	649.51
West Bengal	22500	2612	1755.00	1622	1115.64
Andaman & Nicobar	150	535	117.96	106	85.43
Sikkim	50	50	25.34	33	17.25
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	32400	27005	19468.14	10065	6516.76
Uttar Pradesh	52200	53611	29915.88	28198	17987.81
Western Region					
Gujarat	14700	8891	4663.39	8105	4071.55
Maharashtra	45000	29866	16026.10	16555	9511.99
Daman & Diu	50	22	14.22	22	14.22
Goa	625	183	233.65	256	206.35
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	50	22	17.60	22	17.60
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	33800	13651	7837.84	6536	3976.88
Karnataka	22000	12424	7468.44	5873	3825.72
Kerala	23700	13536	7779.47	9372	5303.69
Tamil Nadu	18500	13907	6679.87	9184	4512.99
Lakshadweep	50	15	11.80	14	11.10

1	2	3	4	5	6
Pondicherry	625	300	120.32	159	59.93
Not Specified	—	1143	1072.03	690	598.59
All India	360050	229072	147201.87	128623	78558.26

Annexure-II

*Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under SJSRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks
for the Year Ended March' 1999*

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	574	429	115.79	170	51.4
Himachal Pradesh	30	26	6.95	21	4.7
Jammu & Kashmir	3262	1392	581.07	990	384.06
Punjab	88	188	55.06	102	36.91
Rajasthan	8777	3762	693.59	1763	315.20
Chandigarh	6	13	4.35	10	1.74
Delhi	842	0	0	0	0
North Eastern					
Assam	327	36	11.75	33	10.51
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Region					
Bihar	204	331	60.54	277	45.75
Orissa	4648	1837	249.17	1300	131.97
West Bengal	187	269	36.84	192	25.64
Andaman & Nicobar	0	1	0.1	1	0.4
Sikkim	0	16	1.4	4	0.5

1	2	3	4	5	6
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	35800	27403	7130.62	13683	3062.87
Uttar Pradesh	52210	28452	8256.39	17902	4805.16
Western Region					
Gujarat	5610	2845	645.24	2481	570.32
Maharashtra	7122	3871	784.96	1824	877.65
Daman & Diu	25	12	5.09	11	4.59
Goa	46	26	7.33	15	5.14
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1	0.2	1	0.2
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	1691	744	111.55	490	78.66
Karnataka	62	150	32.3	146	32.25
Kerala	0	78	25.81	58	6.56
Tamil Nadu	25	101	12.95	71	8.85
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	112	93	7.92	79	7.07
Not Specified	0	330	93.29	219	62.09
All India	121657	73406	18830.36	41823	10009.77

Source: Reserve Bank of India.

*Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under SJSRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks
for the Year Ended March' 2000*

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	2001	2291	578.29	1374	345.2
Himachal Pradesh	476	392	127.07	309	89.48
Jammu & Kashmir	4216	1659	681.29	1115	442.72
Punjab	1400	3159	981.79	2255	713.17

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rajasthan	11877	7710	1610.66	4436	920.06
Chandigarh	328	255	72.82	182	50.66
Delhi	2978	280	40.63	71	9.26
North Eastern					
Assam	215	242	41.47	157	24.21
Manipur	0	11	2.2	11	2.2
Meghalaya	104	57	14.3	45	8.65
Nagaland	15	10	4.55	6	2.85
Tripura	0	62	21.95	46	7.5
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Region					
Bihar	560	2079	236.38	1322	204.39
Orissa	3821	3151	568.54	2506	427.7
West Bengal	5158	1743	281.87	924	104.18
Andaman & Nicobar	0	9	1.17	5	0.85
Sikkim	2	26	6.73	21	5.04
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	24807	17763	4542.05	10550	2666.76
Uttar Pradesh	42097	25033	8477.36	16969	5530.17
Western Region					
Gujarat	11028	3968	1003.94	3877	907.49
Maharashtra	14838	11659	2531.38	8882	1728.41
Daman & Diu	22	0	0	0	0
Goa	79	215	61.16	179	52.27
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1	0.2	1	0.2
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	1862	3371	665.47	2445	529.65
Karnataka	5879	5982	926.52	4458	699.87
Kerala	997	2321	446.75	1900	315.58
Tamil Nadu	1405	4857	605.53	3130	376.97
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Pondicherry	37	102	6.38	87	6.04
Not Specified	0	98	13.99	79	10.18
All India	136000	98506	24552.44	67140	16181.49

Source: Reserve Bank of India.

*Target, Loan Sanctioned & Loan Disbursed under SJSRY by All Scheduled Commercial Banks
for the Year Ended March' 2001*

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/Union Territory	Target	Total Loan Sanctioned		Total Loans Disbursed	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
Northern Region					
Haryana	1787	1995	720.46	1300	465.13
Himachal Pradesh	335	359	120.01	298	96.3
Jammu & Kashmir	4260	1989	814.64	1238	488.83
Punjab	868	2705	836.7	1926	514.19
Rajasthan	16073	9721	1766.02	5274	1086.24
Chandigarh	121	91	28.99	44	14.43
Delhi	3745	320	81.75	159	39.04
North Eastern					
Assam	2064	1244	469.98	966	319.18
Manipur	10	30	8.78	23	6.78
Meghalaya	438	346	112.91	300	92.13
Nagaland	176	168	73.77	158	73.77
Tripura	725	399	145.64	285	98.79
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	390	305	256.87	277	231.71
Eastern Region					
Bihar	1713	3802	1036.99	2786	706.62
Orissa	7233	2429	480.34	2078	357.36
West Bengal	2991	6050	637.4	3486	301.44

1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman & Nicobar	4	7	2.35	6	1.3
Sikkim	0	30	7.46	25	7.05
Central Region					
Madhya Pradesh	24164	13348	4364.33	7977	2344.2
Uttar Pradesh	34641	22472	7641.31	14509	4904.31
Western Region					
Gujarat	13678	3027	765.25	2831	702.7
Maharashtra	16597	7384	1590.57	4923	1039.76
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0
Goa	198	142	56.02	136	53.02
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Region					
Andhra Pradesh	1443	1237	347.13	988	260.12
Karnataka	8396	5181	1241.21	4393	1061.24
Kerala	929	4246	889.66	3619	733.63
Tamil Nadu	1284	2921	389.97	2572	324.78
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	97	143	16.06	123	14.45
Jharkhand	43	105	24.85	93	16.61
Chhattisgarh	1534	1042	328.26	591	166.16
Uttaranchal	1766	1100	368.21	680	210.77
Not Specified	0	1505	250.59	1093	184.89
All India	147703	95833	25874.48	65157	16916.33

Source: Reserve Bank of India.

ANNEXURE-III

Target, No. of Applications Received & Sanctioned and Total Credit Disbursed under SGSY During 1999-2000

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)					
Name of the State/UT	Total Credit Target	No. of Applications received	No. of Applications sanctioned	No. of cases in which loan disbursed	Total Credit disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	21600.00	40174	32661	29692	9379.59
Arunachal Pradesh	880.00	91	78	78	13.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
Assam	7000.00	12213	6286	4637	895.89
Bihar	51000.00	196815	82847	65327	10839.06
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	170.00	NR	NR	NR	0.00
Gujarat	7500.00	41040	17816	16610	2213.59
Haryana	4200.00	27700	15406	14638	3000.13
Himachal Pradesh	2000.00	8690	6338	6719	2223.11
Jammu & Kashmir	1800.00	NR	NR	NR	695.44
Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	14000.00	11540	10511	8366	3364.84
Kerala	7000.00	39990	27373	24457	5006.72
Madhya Pradesh	31500.00	119810	61895	55564	10859.11
Maharashtra	28500.00	187223	92451	77505	15404.06
Manipur	500.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Meghalaya	600.00	NA	NA	NA	69.43
Mizoram	200.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Nagaland	400.00	757	743	757	94.16
Orissa	20700.00	122706	69917	65014	9417.58
Punjab	2000.00	11742	8933	869	227.96
Rajasthan	14000.00	83250	42769	33547	6116.18
Sikkim	230.00	681	681	—	119.07
Tamil Nadu	18000.00	19799	18163	18163	7374.61
Tripura	1100.00	10193	8160	8160	920.17
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	65000.00	133409	68311	59434	10207.32
West Bengal	20000.00	110362	105310	75386	7166.14
A & N Islands	125.00	127	92	92	6.41
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—
D & N Haveli	125.00	NR	NR	NR	0.00
Daman & Diu	120.00	NR	NR	NR	1.03
Delhi	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
Lakshadweep	125.00	1	2	-	0.40
Pondicherry	125.00	592	592	502	31.07
Total	320500.00	1178905	677335	565517	105646.27

Target, No. of Applications Received & Sanctioned and Total Credit Disbursed under SGSY During 2000-2001

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/UT	Total Credit Target	No. of Applications received	No. of Applications sanctioned	No. of cases in which loan disbursed	Total Credit disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	21600.00	34359	30312	30312	7727.35
Arunachal Pradesh	880.00	918	561	437	112.36
Assam	7000.00	11387	5055	3462	771.02
Bihar	37040.00	206843	96074	86885	13453.97
Chhattisgarh	10020.00	39251	18419	18175	3661.62
Goa	170.00	187	23	23	3.33
Gujarat	7500.00	52909	24918	23644	3803.66
Haryana	4200.00	43132	24576	24156	5812.11
Himachal Pradesh	2000.00	6633	4595	4580	2209.98
Jammu & Kashmir	1800.00	10459	5164	4702	1352.09
Jharkhand	13960.00	91461	46894	42305	5591.17
Karnataka	14000.00	15675	11141	10368	5471.37
Kerala	7000.00	49235	32726	29571	6012.73
Madhya Pradesh	21480.00	107427	57435	50683	10274.24
Maharashtra	28500.00	151255	80262	70233	17377.48
Manipur	500.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Meghalaya	600.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Mizoram	200.00	19	1	1	12.01
Nagaland	400.00	NA	-	-	35.34
Orissa	20700.00	133074	80386	72722	12333.87
Punjab	2000.00	12860	10020	10020	2605.08
Rajasthan	14000.00	106331	52642	44233	12416.61

1	2	3	4	5	6
Sikkim	230.00	2516	1873	1873	187.54
Tamil Nadu	18000.00	12732	11890	11890	8236.02
Tripura	1100.00	13301	11940	11940	1171.48
Uttaranchal	3245.00	NA	0	—	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	61755.00	236508	140279	121415	21286.78
West Bengal	20000.00	16777	8688	6723	763.00
A & N Islands	125.00	NA	0	—	3.90
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—
D & N Haveli	120.00	NR	NR	NR	0.00
Daman & Diu	125.00	29	3	3	0.00
Delhi	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	125.00	NR	NR	NR	0.50
Pondicherry	125.00	24	24	24	3.22
Total	320500.00	1355302	755912	680380	144530.11

Target, No. of Applications Received & Sanctioned and Total Credit Disbursed under SGSY During 2001-02 (up to October, 2001)

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/UT	Total Credit Target	No. of Applications received	No. of Applications sanctioned	No. of cases in which loan disbursed	Total Credit disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	21600.00	9649	9051	8836	2661.82
Arunachal Pradesh	880.00	114	27	23	4.34
Assam	7000.00	732	345	114	24.71
Bihar	37040.00	168380	35314	27459	4678.26
Chhattisgarh	10020.00	10821	2007	1991	594.58
Goa	170.00	24	21	21	1.59
Gujarat	7500.00	30310	9241	7757	1375.85
Haryana	6000.00	21497	7996	6708	1614.23

1	2	3	4	5	6
Himachal Pradesh	2000.00	2830	1303	1180	668.00
Jammu & Kashmir	1800.00	NR	NR	NR	467.42
Jharkhand	13960.00	9846	34606	8116	1189.70
Karnataka	14000.00	4080	2430	1543	1248.19
Kerala	7500.00	14832	6024	3921	990.04
Madhya Pradesh	21480.00	41884	11085	8513	2100.30
Maharashtra	28500.00	56559	11660	8329	2027.11
Manipur	500.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Meghalaya	600.00	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Mizoram	200.00	NA	NA	NA	3.90
Nagaland	400.00	237	48	48	0.00
Orissa	20700.00	45256	11753	7418	1283.19
Punjab	2600.00	4842	2720	2720	708.81
Rajasthan	14000.00	70453	23304	10372	3085.66
Sikkim	300.00	841	534	534	58.63
Tamil Nadu	18000.00	1230	1159	1159	1665.38
Tripura	2100.00	299	0	151	19.17
Uttaranchal	3245.00	NR	NR	NR	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	61755.00	114943	43389	30821	6036.46
West Bengal	20000.00	18680	4558	3497	476.91
A & N Islands	125.00	NR	NR	NR	1.04
Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-
D & N Haveli	120.00	NR	-	-	0.00
Daman & Diu	125.00	26	NR	-	0.00
Delhi	-	-	-	-	-
Lakshadweep	125.00	NR	NR	-	0.00
Pondicherry	125.00	29	29	29	19.66
Total	324470.00	592628	202450	128185	33005.30

Annexure-IV

State-wise Details of Target, Loan Sanctioned and Total Loan Disbursed under SLRS for the Year Ended 31 March, 2000. Name of the Bank: All Public Sector Banks

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/UT	Target	No. of Applications received	Total loan sanctioned		Total loan disbursed	
			No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	304	568	391	53.05	365	50.18
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	232	341	313	28.33	279	22.78
Bihar	50	33	26	5.30	24	5.00
Goa	—	55	45	6.38	45	6.38
Gujarat	2054	2124	1467	173.25	1442	167.83
Haryana	1524	1601	978	158.45	658	101.59
Himachal Pradesh	232	225	132	26.42	112	23.82
Jammu & Kashmir	47	5	3	0.65	3	0.65
Karnataka	537	1112	643	65.67	530	51.50
Kerala	21	31	9	2.02	9	1.90
Madhya Pradesh	6672	6090	3840	748.23	1702	362.62
Maharashtra	1301	2430	1227	198.39	997	151.66
Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	1375	1275	1084	111.71	990	100.92
Punjab	123	444	315	49.82	251	40.32
Rajasthan	2556	1166	546	103.32	329	55.20
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	1467	6535	4098	562.29	3301	432.10
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	15639	17798	11692	1424.17	6973	825.02
West Bengal	95	444	355	75.59	306	60.16
A & N Islands	—	1	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	100	88	64	5.82	58	4.39
D & N Haveli	-	33	29	5.00	29	5.00
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	1879	2235	1122	191.33	628	95.82
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pondicherry	-	118	67	9.20	54	7.67
Total	36208	44752	28446	4004.39	19085	2572.51

State-wise Details of Target, Loan Sanctioned and Total Loan Disbursed under SLRS for the Year Ended 31 March, 2001. Name of the Bank: All Public Sector Banks

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State/UT	Target	No. of Applications received	Total loan sanctioned		Total loan disbursed	
			No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	694	1177	816	111.78	710	90.93
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam	580	686	621	152.19	621	152.07
Bihar	85	113	48	9.04	48	8.00
Chhattisgarh	326	310	144	32.59	79	16.58
Goa	-	71	68	8.80	66	8.45
Gujarat	1911	1768	1357	142.90	1342	139.72
Haryana	1040	1407	900	177.54	682	123.60
Himachal Pradesh	110	145	108	23.87	99	21.87
Jammu & Kashmir	119	14	10	1.32	10	1.22
Karnataka	773	696	562	78.62	532	72.74
Kerala	-	152	139	21.67	135	20.91
Madhya Pradesh	5702	4717	3115	574.66	2503	428.09
Maharashtra	933	1407	793	107.91	692	87.66
Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orissa	693	918	659	80.39	639	70.80
Punjab	132	241	187	30.38	169	25.38
Rajasthan	2027	741	488	84.32	341	55.51
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	281	3540	3088	451.84	2888	408.85
Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	10142	10351	7033	823.67	5205	560.04
Uttaranchal	516	600	423	50.5	257	30.48
West Bengal	-	93	76	8.57	72	8.02
A & N Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chandigarh	-	1	1	0.30	1	0.30
D & N Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	1525	471	219	37.17	157	24.16
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pondicherry	10	170	158	16.14	129	14.58
Not Specified	-	2	1	0.07	-	-
Total	27599	29791	21014	3026.24	17377	2369.96

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way the Minister has replied the question seems that he has completed merely the formality. The essence of my question is extremely humanistic. The employment opportunities in the country are declining. Earlier unemployed people used to set up their cottage industries by taking loans from the banks but now it has been observed that the time since autonomy has been given to the banks and the control of Reserve Bank over them is over, the attitude of the banks is becoming quite passive and the unemployed people are very much defected. The unemployed people have adopted the path of revolt. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the efforts being made honestly in this regard by the Government besides issuing stereo type instructions? The Government have committed for the eradication of unemployment and provide employment to unemployed. Keeping in view the essence of my question the hon'ble

Minister should tell us about the concrete measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concern of hon'ble Member is quite genuine. However, committees have been constituted at the district level comprising of MLAs/MPs and the district heads for the monitoring of those projects which have been mentioned in Part (c) of the question. These committees will monitor and review the performance of the self employment projects to remove the hurdles in the way so that poor and unemployed people may get amount in time... (Interruptions)

DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, only DM/DC are consulted, M.P./M.L.A. are not consulted in this regard... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: In my constituency any M.P./M.L.A.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the hon. Minister's reply.

...(Interruptions) *

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: All the MPs will be intimated about the rules under which the district level committee has been constituted. I do not know whether DM calls any one at the district level or not however, when MPs will come to know that the committee has been constituted. I feel that we can proceed in the desired direction. It is a fact that we are fixing the targets in the Five Year Plan as per the schemes meant for employment and we have been achieving those targets. However, the demands are not completely met. These are several reasons behind this. I would not like to go in detail about these reasons. However, I feel that there is need to improve in this regard.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of the hon'ble Minister might have been prepared by the officers of the Ministry, however, I feel that the hon. Minister must be concerned in this regard. So we all should make honest efforts in this regard. The hon. Minister in his reply to part (h) of the question has said that under PMRY applications upto Rs. 25,000 are disposed within a fortnight, but reality is that what to talk of a fort night, monitoring is not completed even in a year and people are compelled to visit banks time and again. Secondly, he has said that instructions have been given by the Reserve Banks to dispose of the applications over Rs. 25000/- within 9 weeks, however, all the banks consider themselves superior to the Reserve Bank and violate the instructions issued by the Reserve Bank. I would like to know the efforts being made by the Ministry in this regard?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: It is wrong if any bank considers itself superior to the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank is a regulatory authority. I am going to bring it to the notice of the Reserve Bank. There is a complaint cell in the Reserve Bank and also in each of the banks. I fully agree with you that it might be that loans are not disbursed by the banks within stipulated time period. It is also a fact that at the closing of the year the targets of disbursing loans are met by way of accepting more and more applications from January to March. We are making efforts to fix target for every three months. Directions have also been given that the performance should be reviewed within every three months

* Not recorded.

and the yearly target should be completed gradually during the month to month basis and not at the end of the year so that deserving persons may get money.

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through, you I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that the unfortunate thing with regard to the loan given by the nationalised banks to the unemployed people is that while loan is to be given to 20 people, it is sanctioned to 40 people and therefore the problem in it is that while 20 people are to get the loan 40 people run after it. So much corruption is rampant in the distribution of loan that the genuine needy unemployed people are not getting loans and so unemployed youths are dejected on account of it. The BJP Government had promised that they would provide employment to ten lakh people in one year but what to talk of providing employment to the unemployed, here people are facing problem in availing the loans. Through you my submission to the Government is that if the loan is to be given to only 10 persons then the loan should be sanctioned to ten persons only and not to 20 persons. The level of corruption in it is so high that loan is not sanctioned without paying the percentage. The members are not consulted at all in this regard. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether any action is proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have given the instruction that collector should contact MPs while Lok Sabha or the House is in session and also that no meeting should be held without taking MP of the concerned region into confidence while the House is in session, however in...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Nobody pay attention to such things.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: I fully agree with you...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: There are loopholes in the guidelines, the guidelines are not clear. So it is due to this that the MPs have to bear insult...(Interruptions)

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: I fully agree with you. Your statement is correct. That is why in the very beginning I have told that a copy of the order should be immediately sent to all the Members and I would personally monitor whether the order is being complied or not, however it is correct...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please sit down. Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

[*Transiation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: So far the second question that has been asked by the hon'ble Member regarding the role of MPs is concerned, I will once again personally look into the matter.

The first question of the hon'ble lady Member is concerned with the sanctioning of loan more than the target that leads to corruption because as per the procedure, proposals are sent through district industrial centres. The screening of the applications is done at the Taluka Panchayat level then they are sent to the district level authorities and thereafter to the banks. Our workers also want that more and more applications should reach them. I would like to go a step further to state that the applications which are sent are not sufficient as sometimes the number of rejection of application increases. Sometimes excessive applications are received. Efforts are being made to improve the system. If the application is received at the district industrial centre then rejection is not necessary but presently applications are being rejected. So the Government have decided that the officials of the concerned banks should participate in the meeting at district industrial centre for the screening of the cases there so that loan may be sanctioned and the youths seeking loan do not face hardship. The order to this effect has been issued today only by the hon. Minister.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire country is aware of the fact that unemployment has become a burning problem. The number of unemployed is increasing in our country. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the figures given in course of reply by the hon. Minister. As per the figures of Madhya Pradesh, a target to provide loan to 30,800 people in 1999 was fixed but loan was actually disbursed to only 19,102 persons. Thus the target for the year 1999 was not achieved. Next year in 2000 target was fixed to provide loan to 31,600 people, however, loan was disbursed to only 18,180 people. Here too the target was not achieved. Rather there is decline in the number of persons availing loan. Further in 2001 a target to provide loan to 32,400 people was fixed however, loan has been provided to only 10,065 persons. Similarly the target for the next year was 35,000 but loan has been provided to only 13,600 persons and during the last year only 10,550 persons have been provided with loans. Thus one can see that there is constant decline in the amount of loan being given by the Government. People are not being encouraged to avail loan. Rather there has been decline in their enthusiasm of taking loan. The figures are reflecting that the number of unemployed are continuously increasing while there is decline in loan disbursement. What is the reason behind this. Whether

the Government have issued any instruction to limit disbursing the loans as there is clear indication that there is decline in the loans given to the people. I would like to know from the Government whether any new schemes are being implemented or other means explored by the Government to achieve the target and to provide loans to more and more people so that unemployed people may be benefited?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no such instruction has been issued by the Government to curtail the amount of loans or restricting the number of persons to be given loan. There is order to the effect that the benefit of the schemes should be provided to more and more people all over the country. You are correct in saying that in reality it does not happen. I had said in the beginning that the target that was fixed was not achieved. Though loans have been sanctioned however there is vast gap in sanction and disbursement. Now I am personally visiting every place and monitoring the things.

I have said it earlier also that the target has been achieved in this Five Year Plan and we can also achieve the target in regard to the granting of loan to the people in this year but this alone will not be sufficient. We want to achieve more and we are making efforts in this direction. We have also revised the target by 50 per cent to the one which was the fixed by the Planning Commission, so that shortfall in target may not occur. It is owing to this reason that you have been witnessing this difference.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: My original question is that shortfall is being witnessed.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: There are other Members also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether there is a scheme to achieve the target and for providing loans to the unemployed?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, as I have said earlier the target have been fixed by the Planning Commission and those are being achieved. We deliberately fix higher target to meet the demand. Second thing is that RBI has started monitoring the work of sanction and disbursement. The suggestions given by the hon. Member that a meeting in every ten to fifteen days should take place at district level through the Parliament and the progress may be reviewed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Member wants to know whether the Government is going to bring any new scheme.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The Government is not likely to introduced any new scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, unemployment is the biggest problem in the country. There is no other means to solve this problem other than the self-employment and to meet this purpose the Government of India has introduced various schemes like Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar, Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojana and Paradhanmantri Rozgar Yojana etc. as per the instructions given by the Government of India and Reserve Bank of India, neither any guarantee or any deposit is required to be sought from the beneficiaries of the loan. But the truth is that these instructions are not followed. The beneficiaries of these schemes are asked to bring guarantor as well as deposit...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.N. SINGH: They are asked to deposit 10 per cent.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: The percentage may vary between ten to twenty percent.

Sir, they are asked to produce guarantor as well as deposit and in case they fail to do so their loan is not sanctioned. This thing leads to corruption. I would like to seek an assurance from the hon. Minister as to whether the banks fulfil and comply, the guidelines *in toto*, given to them by Government of India and RBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are trying our level best to ensure the compliance of the guidelines given by the Government of India. I want to assure the House that I alongwith my colleagues have been meeting with the Chairman of Banks at least twice a year and have been stressing the need of the compliance of these guidelines besides reviewing the progress made in Savrojgar schemes in every meeting and ensure their proper implementation. I also want to say that we get these kind of complaints as has been mentioned and, when we visit those areas. Yesterday, while replying the discussion on the Supplementary demands on grants, I had myself accepted that a lot of shortcomings are being witnessed in the functioning of the banks and there is a need to overcome these. To achieve this we have fixed the responsibility on the Chairmen of the banks and have said that that either they themselves or other senior officers should visit the areas and branches and convene

the meetings and make efforts for removing the shortcomings and problems. Hon. Member has rightly said that there is no need to give any guarantee or collateral deposit to avail small loan under these schemes. As has been suggested by my colleague there should be a complete participation of the elected representative in these schemes.

Reserve Bank has issued these guidelines to the banks and districts officer in the end of May this year. I know that everyone is not aware of it. I want that it should get proper publicity. It has been mentioned under these guidelines that the meetings of MPs is called as per the convenience to ensure the implementation of the guidelines. I want to assure the hon. Member in the House that we will keep on reviewing it constantly besides ensuring that we are able to achieve our target. We should try to get rid of our problems by reforming the system. I would also like to submit that I will be ready to look personally into the matter if any such matter is brought to my notice...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Q. NO. 262 — Shri Saiduzzama.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Yerrannaidu, I could not hear what you have said.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, it is my humble request that you kindly allow Half-an-hour Discussion on this subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: we have already exhausted 20 minutes on the same Question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, this is the most important subject...*(Interruptions)* Though the Government of India has introduced so many schemes but they are not being implemented properly by the banks. So, we want to discuss this subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, the hon. Members are demanding for Half-an-Hour Discussion on this Question. Are you ready for Half-an-Hour Discussion?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, we are ready for the Half-an-hour Discussion on this Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. So, we will have Half-an-hour Discussion on this Question.

WTO Ministerial Meeting at Doha

*262. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference was held at Doha from 9th to 13th November, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of agenda prepared by developed countries;

(c) whether India and other developing countries have opposed the agenda particularly the 'Social Clause' issues like labour and environment of developed countries;

(d) if so, the agenda presented by India and other developing countries;

(e) whether India was compelled by developed countries to participate and support new round of trade;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Indian Government thereto;

(g) the developing countries which had supported India's view point and the extent to which the same had been accepted;

(h) the details of other issues raised by India at the meeting;

(i) the final outcome of the meeting; and

(j) the extent to which India has been able to protect the trade interest of the country at the aforesaid meeting?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (j) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (j) The Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference was held at Doha, Qatar during 9-14th November, 2001, copies of the declaration have been placed on the Table of the House on 22nd November, 2001.

Before the Doha Ministerial Conference, the Government held wide consultations with various stakeholders. Several formal and informal meetings were also held at Geneva prior to the Conference to decide

the agenda. The developing countries including India, the least developing countries and the developed countries participated in the discussions. The Chairman of the General Council forwarded a draft to Doha for consideration by the members.

The Government had attached high priority on resolution of the implementation of various WTO rules. Major gain has been achieved in the form of recognition of asymmetries for the first time. Some of the implementation concerns have been adequately addressed. The remaining items have been referred either to negotiations or to subsidiary bodies for further examination and thus are an integral part of the Work Programme.

India had strongly opposed linkage of core labour standards with trade. The Declaration reaffirms that ILO is the appropriate forum to address the issue of core labour standards.

The Ministers at Doha committed themselves to negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade distorting domestic support and gradual phasing out of export subsidies in agriculture. The special and differential treatment for developing countries including recognition of food security and rural development have now become an integral part of the mandated Agricultural Negotiations.

On the four Singapore issues, trade and investment, trade and competition, transparency in Government procurement and trade facilitation, the study process will continue until the 5th Ministerial Conference and a decision regarding any negotiation would be based on explicit consensus.

A separate landmark declaration on TRIPS and Public Health would now enable Member countries to take measures to protect public health as the Declaration recognizes the flexibility under the TRIPS Agreement when dealing with public health problems affecting human beings, such as HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other epidemics.

In the context of TRIPS Agreement, we have been raising the issue of extension of higher level of protection for geographical indications as provided for in the Agreement to items other than wines and spirits. This issue will be specifically taken up by the TRIPS Council for considering extension to products like Basmati rice, Alphonso Mangoes, Darjeeling tea etc. It has also been agreed that the Council for TRIPS will address the issues of biological diversity, protection of traditional knowledge and folklore.

Following the Uruguay Round Agreements (1994), the Committee on Trade and Environment was asked to study

certain issues and submit a report whether any modifications in the WTO rules were required. The Doha declaration proposes negotiations on three items, namely the relationship between the existing WTO rules and Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs), process for regular information exchange between MEAs and WTO and negotiations for market access for environmental goods and services. India is already a signatory to most of these MEAs and therefore, these negotiations would not widen the environmental window in trade.

Doha outcome is, therefore, in conformity with the shared stakeholders' interests — the interests of agriculture, industry and most importantly development of India.

[Translation]

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister could not give clear reply to my question. The hon. Minister also failed to take care of the interest of the country in Doha and have returned empty handed from there. The reply to my question is quite incomplete and the hon. Minister has not given a clear reply. I would like to know as to what was the stand of the Government at Doha in regard to the labour and environmental issues and what was the result thereof? I would also like to know as to what was the position of the issue of availability of cheap drugs under the Public Health Policy. Though cheap drugs are manufactured in India but now the Government is going to impose restrictions on their production. Hon. Minister did not give any clear reply in this regard and he also failed to protect the interest of the country at Doha. He tried to evoke the issues by saying that this issue will be addressed during the 5th Ministerial Conference of ILO. The hon. Minister could not protect the interests of the farmers and labourers of Doha and India do not have anything to benefit from it. It seems that he succumbed to the pressure imposed by the developed and rich countries and failed to protect the cause of the country.

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, from Doha, India has gained many advantages. The first gain is with regard to Implementation Issues. Secondly, we have gained in Agriculture to protect our agricultural interests. The third gain is that we had a landmark Declaration in TRIPS and public health. In services also, we have gained.

It is a success story. Not only that, I have made a statement that next year we are going to have a full-fledged discussion on this subject.

So, we have come with a significant victory from Doha.

[Translation]

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cheap drugs manufactured in our country will no longer remain cheap now. The Government is going to ban the production of cheap drugs being produced here to benefit the poor under the National Health Policy. The hon. Minister could not put up their cause in the Conference. Similarly the hon. Minister failed to reply in regard to the tax on the farmers. Right now the hon. Minister was speaking on agriculture but he failed to reply to my question as to what is the protection in regard to vegetation and the Darjeeling tea. He has left it for the fifth ILO Conference. I would like to know as to what had been the position in regard to the protection for various things. Besides I would also like to know as to what was the outcome of our efforts for availing protection for vegetation and Darjeeling tea.

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, regarding geographical indication like Basmati rice and Alphonso mangoes, it has been taken into consideration. The TRIPS is taking into account all these concerns. It has been a part of our Implementation Issues.

Sir, it was a great success. For example, special protection was given to wines and spirits. Now, we want the same kind of higher protection to some of our special products.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to congratulate the Government and hon. Minister for taking the initiative for protecting the interest of the country at ministerial conference of WTO at Doha by holding comprehensive and exhaustive talks with the parties which shared common interests with our country and also succeeding in bringing about positive amendments in the ministerial draft resolutions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, order please.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the opposition Members not to criticise just for the sake of criticism only and try to accept the truth. The biggest success on the part of the Government in this Conference is that Indian perspective on agriculture industries and labour related issues have been recognised. However, the general perception is that

WTO has become a tool for fulfilling the interests of the countries pursuing economic imperialism. In such a situation it is imperative that the country should make full efforts to lead the developing countries to protect their interests because this process is going to continue till 2005.

Sir, India is called the cradle of nature because it is the home to various kinds of flora and fauna. Hence, I would like to know as to what are the achievements of the Government in regard to protecting the interests of the country in the field of agriculture especially over the subsidy clause, labour and environment etc. and the problem related to their implementation?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no supplementary.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Supplementary is there, Sir.

[Translation]

The hon. Minister is requested to give details of the achievements of the Government of India on agriculture and industrial fronts.

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, as I have already told, we have made significant achievements in the field of Implementation Issues. We have kept out negotiation issues that are harmful to India, such as labour. We have got major gains in TRIPS and public health.

At the same time, in TRIPS and Transfer of Technology, we have gained a lot. We have protected our fundamental interests in agriculture services and industrial tariffs.

Sir, we have been in constant touch with the like minded groups (LMGs) along with the developing countries. We have some communality of interests. We have worked together and got all these things. We will work together in future also.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members please note that on Monday also we are going to discuss the same subject, under Short Duration Discussion.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: The hon. Minister and the team, which has participated in Doha deliberations, deserve to be congratulated, and there are no two opinions on it, for having successfully waded through the troubled waters of trade terrorism that took place in Doha.

I would like to seek a specific clarification on one issue. For both the supplementary questions, the hon. Minister has mentioned that there are some successful gains in agriculture. It is no secret that as far as the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) is concerned, most of the developed countries have violated the provisions particularly in regard to reduction of subsidies that they have been providing for agriculture. It has not been successfully contested by India and by other developing countries in the Dispute Settlement Board, as far as the violations are concerned. This has led to major apprehension in our country particularly, that since these developed countries have violated them, we are unable to compete with other countries; and a level-playing field has not been created between developing countries and developed countries. That is the reason why the Indian farmer is stuck up with the issue as to whether our foodgrains will move out of our boundaries or not. Huge stocks are prevailing here. May I know whether this specific issue has been discussed there which is to protect the interests of Indian farmers and whether a level-playing field is going to be created in absence of the non-withdrawal of subsidies by the developed countries and non-increase of the subsidies by developing countries particularly India?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Venkateswarlu, please put the question. What is this?

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Please give me just half a minute.

That was the reason why even cotton is being imported, and most of the cotton farmers in India are not able to get remunerative prices. Now, cotton is being sold at Rs. 1200 to Rs. 1300 as against an MSP of Rs. 1875. We are unable to protect the interests of our farmers. In the name of refined palm oil, crude oil is being imported in Andhra Pradesh and a big scandal has taken place. In the name of refined oil, crude oil is being imported at a lesser import duty; and it is being sold in the market.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: So, to protect the interests of the domestic farmers, what are the specific issues that India had raised at the Doha Conference and may I also know whether it was a successful one?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I thank the hon. Member for his views. The hon. Member is totally correct. The developed countries, especially the OECD countries, have not reduced subsidies and they are increasing them.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: It is a gross violation.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: That is right.

The domestic subsidies in OECD countries have risen to 326 billion dollars. It is such a huge amount. Within OECD countries, the annual state payments to the agricultural sector exceeds the amount which is equivalent to the GDP of all the African countries put together. This is something atrocious. Due to these subsidies, the international prices have been suppressed or depressed. So, we could not compete with them. That is why, at Doha Conference we made those countries to commit it firmly regarding agriculture.

I will read those words.

"They have agreed to reductions with a view to phasing out all export subsidies."

So, they have agreed to this. When will it take place?

"The modalities will be established not later than 31st March 2003."

So, the entire agreement comes to a completion by 2005. This is a great success for all developing countries, not only for India.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It is true that we can make tall claims that we have succeeded in Doha but the ground reality is otherwise. In the case of agricultural production, take the examples of cotton, tea, copra, and naturalised rubber, all these are primarily agricultural products but as per the terms of the World Trade Agreement, they have been included as industrial products. So, no subsidy can be given to them whereas developed countries are giving subsidy to their agricultural products for having included in the agricultural sector. But in India, unfortunately, all these major items of agricultural products are included as industrial products. Because of this inclusion, the Government of India or any other agency cannot give any subsidy to the agriculturists. Take the cause of *Soyabean*. The United States is giving subsidy to the farmers for it. Take the case of wheat. Australia is giving subsidy to their farmers for this agricultural product. But as far as India is concerned we are unable to give any subsidy to any of these agricultural products.

My question is, whether the Minister has made any attempt to change these items necessarily as agricultural products. If he has succeeded, I would give cheers to him. But unfortunately nothing has been achieved and the poor Indian farmers are committing suicides. The farmers in Kerala are committing suicides because of this tariff policy. I would like to know whether you have

succeeded in any of these matters. That being the case, it is true, it matters. Mere tall claims for political purposes will not serve the purpose. Please answer my specific question.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I would like to submit that Doha is not a trade Olympics. It is not a one-shot affair. It is a continuous process. Agreement on Agriculture came into being over the last five years since 1.1.1995. It is there from the year 2000. Negotiations started from 1.1.2000. Since then negotiations are going on in Geneva. So far, nothing has taken place in India affecting the farmers. I agree, farmers have a lot of problems. But if they have any problem, it is not because of WTO but in spite of WTO.

Not only that, 121 countries have submitted proposals. One of the proposals is, rubber and other things which are considered as industrial raw material should be considered as agricultural products. So, we are negotiating that. Negotiations are going on.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: We are interested to see a higher level of protection for geographical indications. There are certain queries. How are we going to protect our *Basmati* Rice, *Alphanso* Mangoes, *Darjeeling* Tea and if not, less than *Calcutta's Rasgullas* also? So, I would like to know whether any such issue would be taken up specifically in any short-term meeting so that a proper clearance is given that these are not being inducted and their patents are also protected.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: The hon. Member is right. I share his concern. The extension of protection of geographical indications, which has been given to wine and spirit, should be extended, for example, in the case of India, to *Alphanso* Mangoes, *Darjeeling* Tea and if possible to *Rasagullas* also. Actually, they would not say, 'Alphanso Mangoes'. They would say, 'fruits' and then they will be registered. We will have to enter it as 'Alphanso Mangoes'. Similarly, they would not say, 'Darjeeling Tea'; they would say, 'tea or coffee'. We will have to then include our things. Then comes the question of conventional biological diversities, protection of traditional knowledge and folk-lore and other relevant new developments. Bio-piracies should be prevented. All this has been taken into account. It is now before the TRIPS Council. It will be decided by 2002 negotiations will end in 2005. It is a feather in our cap.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the position today is that on agriculture, we are giving subsidy which is up to 7 per cent of the cost. In other countries, the subsidy given to the agriculturists on the cost of production is in the vicinity of 100 per cent. It is more than 100 per cent also in some countries like Canada, Australia, France,

Germany and USA. As the subsidy is very high, the cost of production of foodgrains or the agricultural produce comes down and because of that, the agricultural produce is cheap in prices. We have removed the quantitative restriction. The result is that agricultural produce like wheat, rice, cotton, coconut oil, and everything is coming to our country and being sold in our country at prices at which our farmers cannot sell those agricultural produce. This is the difficulty. If the Government has reduced the quantitative restriction, the Government could have imposed more import duty on the agricultural produce coming to India. The Government has not taken these decisions and that is why agriculturists are suffering, and only stand taken by the Government today, unfortunately, is that: "It was signed long back, so what can we do?" I do not think this is the policy which should be adopted. If you were there, you would have also signed WTO. But if we were there, we would have used the WTO Agreement in such a fashion that the interest of the agriculturists is protected. Will the Government do this thing?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: We are doing it. We have increased the duties. The hon. Finance Minister has done so many years ago...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not listening the Minister's reply. What is this?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, there is a bound rate. For example, we have bound in tariff of 100 per cent for primary products, 150 per cent for processed products, and 300 per cent for edible oil. So, we have to calibrate the tax system and the hon. Finance Minister has done it so often. He will try to do it if our agriculturists suffer.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We would like to know what the Government is doing and not what the hon. Finance Minister or the hon. Commerce Minister is doing...(Interruptions)

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, we have done it and we will be doing it. You wait for three months...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Why should we wait for three months. By that time, the farmers will die.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, we have been monitoring the 300 sensitive items including agricultural products...(Interruptions) There is negative growth...(Interruptions) That is the indication. The proof of pudding is in the eating...(Interruptions) Sir, if they do not want to listen, what can I do...(Interruptions) We are exporting sugar and wheat.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what was the strategy of the Government

regarding textile quota and how they are going to do it in future. Simultaneously, may I know from the Minister whether these medicine for diseases like HIV, TB, malaria, etc. will be cheaper after the year 2004? I would also like to know whether the Indian manufacturers would be able to produce medicines at the same price.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, it depends. We have five more years ahead of us.

[Translation]

Restoration of LTC

*263. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Leave Travel Concession/ Home Town LTC to the Central Government employees have been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Tourism Ministry have requested the Finance Ministry for restoration of the above LTC in order to restore domestic tourism which had been badly hit by September 11, 2001 events in USA;

(d) if so, the response thereto;

(e) the total amount saved in view of the above suspension of LTC to the Central Government Employees;

(f) whether the Union Government have also received requests from Members of Parliament for the restoration of the above LTC to promote domestic tourism especially in the light of the drop in International tourists; and

(g) if so, the decision of the Union Government thereon?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision to keep the facility in abeyance for two years has been taken as part of management of non-plan expenditure.

(c) and (d) The request from Ministry of Tourism is under consideration.

(e) Savings estimated are around Rs. 98 crores per annum taking into account the exemptions given.

(f) and (g) The suggestions/requests of the Members of Parliament in this regard are under consideration of the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply of the hon. Minister which has been laid on the Table. Despite the ban on All India Travel Concession/Home Town LTC, approximately 15.9 lakh employees of Railways, Defence, para-military forces still continue to be benefited from it. These also come under the Central Government but other employees have been adversely affected by the decision of the Government and approximately four crore families have been deprived from its benefit. My submission is that if even a single Government Tour is reduced, all these families may get the benefit.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is saying correctly that we have given exemption to the employees of paramilitary forces and other classes as far as LTC facility is concerned. They get two kinds of LTC—one for home town which is given once in two years and the other for All India Leave Travel Concession which is given once in four years. The former category is the effort to manage the non-plan management.

It is true that it has been conveyed in writing by several MPs that it has adversely affected the tourism, hence it should be revived. This matter is under the consideration of the Government. The Government do not propose to lift the ongoing ban immediately.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am of the opinion that the money given as LTC ultimately comes to the Government. Money may change hands from one department to another. However it also promotes tourism. The hon. Minister has himself accepted that the matter is under consideration. Many MPs have also written to the hon. Minister in this regard. On 9th November the Minister of Tourism has requested for stay on the ban on LTC. Our submission is that the ban in LTC should be lifted so that the deficit of the tourism department could be reduced and the persons may get relief and opportunity to meet their family members.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue can be taken up for reconsideration after two years. Right now, no such matter is under consideration.

[*English*]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, this is a very important question from the point of view of the poor

Class III and Class IV Central Government employees. Sir, you will kindly appreciate the position of a Government employee working in Punjab and his family is in the extreme Southern State of Kerala. I have put in 30 years of service in Central Government Department. My experience is that the LTC was given once in four years and Home Town Concession was given once in two years which is very minimum. Now, if this is treated as a Non Plan expenditure, I am afraid that Government may treat the payment of salary to the Central Government employees also as Non Plan expenditure in future. They may keep that also in abeyance for a specific period. I agree with my friend that if it is an expenditure to one Ministry, it is an income to Railways and it is an income to Indian Airlines. If we are keeping this in abeyance, can we keep in abeyance the tour programme of the Ministers and other officials also? It is because that is also Non-Plan expenditure. I want to know from the hon. Minister why this ban is imposed. How can you impose such a ban? When are you going to remove this ban?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, restriction on Leave Travel Concession was mentioned by me in my Budget this year. It is, at least, now nine months old. Now, what did I say in the Budget? I said that we will put a restriction for two years. That is all. It is true that an employee of the Central Government gets in block of four years, one Home Travel Concession and one travel concession, which is for anywhere in India. This is the arrangement. We have said that we will block it for two years. I would like to humbly plead with this House that the Government is often under severe criticism for the fact that it is not doing anything to control its Non-Plan expenditure.

In the Budget we have taken a number of steps in order to curtail the Non-Plan expenditure. Putting a restriction on Leave Travel Concession was one such restriction. We had hoped that we would be able to save something like Rs. 200 crore. Meanwhile, we received representations from the Army, from the Paramilitary Forces, those in the North-East and those concessions were made as far as Home Town Travels are concerned.

The hon. Member said that this is a Non-Plan expenditure. It, indeed is a Non-Plan expenditure and it has not been treated as Non-Plan expenditure by the Government in this Budget or in the earlier Budgets presented by me. It has been treated as Non-Plan expenditure all along. It is not a new thing that we are doing.

As far as salaries are concerned, let me tell you that except for those employees who are covered by the Plan schemes, salaries of all other employees are also Non-Plan. It is not something which should shock us that this is Plan and this is Non-Plan. The pressure on the Government, because of the large fiscal deficit that we are running, is always to curtail unproductive expenditure. It is not a very convincing argument that a part of this money will flow into the Railways through railway bookings because we will be ending up with a saving of Rs. 100 crore. Let me again humbly plead with this House through you, Sir, that every crore counts. Let us not laugh at Rs. 100 crore. Sir, Rs. 100 crore is a lot of money for me.

DR. V. SAROJA: Hon. Minister in his reply said that by keeping the LTC in abeyance for two years, the saving is Rs. 100 crore, but the Press Release says that it is Rs. 56 crore only. After restoration of LTC to Armed Forces and Para-military Forces, this figure must have come down further. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the correct figure and whether the Government will act swiftly on restoration of LTC to the Central Government employees.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: In the main body of the reply we have already said that the reference from the hon. Members of Parliament, reference from the Ministry of Tourism are under consideration. I know that constitutes an assurance to the House and we will be coming back to the House whenever we have taken our decision. But, as far as the figures are concerned, let me state once again that for the current year, after this ban came into force, we are going by the figures of the past expenditure. The estimate at the moment is that overall, broadly the figure was about Rs. 200 crore. Because of these concessions we will not be able to save Rs. 200 crore and we are hoping to save Rs. 100 crore.

[Translation]

Foreign Capital Investment

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

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken many encouraging steps during the last few years to attract foreign capital investments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have selected certain sectors for giving priority in foreign capital investments keeping in view the needs of the country;

(d) if so, the names of such areas;

(e) the total amount of foreign capital invested in these sectors during the last three years, sector-wise; and

(f) the total amount of foreign capital investments made in India during the above period till date, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has taken several steps to promote Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), which *inter alia*, include the following:

- (i) Simplification of the FDI policy with most activities placed on the automatic route for foreign investment up to 100%.
- (ii) 30-day time frame for disposal of investment proposals by FIPB.
- (iii) Simple notifying procedure for investment made through automatic route.
- (iv) A liberal FDI policy for Special Economic Zones.
- (v) 100% FDI permitted in additional sectors such as development of integrated townships and settlements, drugs & pharmaceuticals and mass rapid transit systems.
- (vi) FDI limit raised from 40 to 49% in private sector banking and from 49 to 74% in Internet Service Provider with gateways, radio-paging and end-to-end bandwidth.
- (vii) Defence industry sector opened to Indian private sector participation with FDI permitted upto 26%.
- (viii) Foreign Investment Implementation Authority has been set up to facilitate speedy implementation of FDI projects.
- (ix) Foreign investment promotion by, *inter alia*, organizing road shows and "Destination India" events in countries that are important sources of FDI.

(c) and (d) While considering FDI proposals, Government accords priority to infrastructure projects, activities having export and/or employment potential, items having a direct or backward linkage with agro-business/farm sector, and proposals involving induction of modern technology. Some of the priority sectors as per the above include telecommunications, power, food processing industries, automobile industry, information technology, services sector, electrical and electronic equipments, drugs

and pharmaceuticals, etc. Most of these sectors are open for FDI up to 100% on the automatic route.

(e) and (f) A statement containing the year-wise and sector-wise details of FDI during the last three years and for the current year up to 30th September 2001 in respect of the top 10 sectors in terms of inflows and also the total amount of FDI received during this period, year-wise, is enclosed as Annexure.

Annexure

Top Ten Sectors in Respect of FDI Inflows

(Amount Rs. in crore/US \$ in million)

Ranks	Sectors	1998 (Jan-Dec)	1999 (Jan-Dec)	2000 (Jan-Dec)	2001 (Jan-Sept)	% age in Rupee term with total inflows received during August, 1991 to Sept. 2001
1.	Telecommunications	1,741.02 (US \$ 440.8)	215.56 (US \$ 51.3)	685.54 (US \$ 159.4)	3,773.00 (US \$ 838.4)	14.59
2.	Electrical Equipments (Including computer software)	786.59 (US \$ 199.1)	703.61 (US \$ 167.5)	1,201.22 (US \$ 279.4)	1,500.10 (US \$ 333.4)	12.61
3.	Transportation Industry	1,476.92 (US \$ 373.9)	1,130.20 (US \$ 269.1)	1,225.98 (US \$ 285.1)	552.04 (US \$ 122.8)	11.90
4.	Service Sector	767.98 (US \$ 194.4)	402.38 (US \$ 95.8)	186.15 (US \$ 43.3)	601.08 (US \$ 133.6)	8.30
5.	Chemicals (other than Fert.)	1,064.00 (US \$ 269.4)	475.62 (US \$ 113.2)	538.07 (US \$ 125.1)	109.04 (US \$ 24.2)	7.96
6.	Fuels (power and oil refinery)	563.55 (US \$ 142.7)	748.46 (US \$ 178.2)	484.02 (US \$ 112.6)	313.72 (US \$ 69.7)	7.64
7.	Food Processing Industries	236.88 (US \$ 60.0)	404.70 (US \$ 96.4)	222.45 (US \$ 51.7)	143.61 (US \$ 31.9)	4.69
8.	Misc. Mech. Engineering Industry	118.11 (US \$ 29.9)	62.91 (US \$ 15.0)	109.85 (US \$ 25.6)	291.19 (US \$ 64.7)	2.15
9.	Paper and Pulp	234.17 (US \$ 59.3)	51.36 (US \$ 12.2)	259.95 (US \$ 60.5)	6.74 (US \$ 1.5)	1.94
10.	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	83.84 (US \$ 21.2)	75.73 (US \$ 18.0)	207.99 (US \$ 48.4)	75.17 (US \$ 16.7)	1.90

Note: *These figures do not take into account the amount of FDI inflows for ADRs/GDRs/FCCBs, RBI-NRI Schemes, acquisition of existing shares advance pending for allotment of shares, as these are not categorised sector-wise.

Year-wise inflows Received During 1998-2001

(Amount Rs. in crore/US \$ in million)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total FDI Inflows during January-December	Rs. 13,339.84 (US \$ 3,377.2)	Rs. 16,867.79 (US \$ 4,016.1)	Rs. 19,341.74 (US \$ 4,498.1)	—
Total FDI inflows during January-September	Rs. 10,987.44 (US \$ 2,781.6)	Rs. 9,874.83 (US \$ 2,351.2)	Rs. 11,114.93 (US \$ 2,584.9)	Rs. 16,306.47 (US \$ 3,623.7)

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have given this information during reply to the Question that there is a proposal for according top priority to foreign investment in ten infrastructural fields namely electric appliances, transport, chemical, fuel, refinery, various mechanical engineering industries, paper etc. But the traditional industries like agriculture, fisheries, textiles, tanneries, handicraft and rubber industry etc. are in a poor state. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government have submitted any proposal for giving priority to the foreign capital investment in the traditional Labour intensive industries and if so, what are the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: We have given permission to ten sectors. It does not mean that we have neglected other sectors. Say, for example food processing industry mean the background integration goes to the agriculture and it goes to the villages also. So, we are taking care of these interests also.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government have done any assessment for in regard to the foreign direct investment in irrigation sector which is the prime requirement for increasing the agriculture production, the backbone of country's economy? If so, how much investment has been made in this sector from April, 1998 to September 2001 alongwith the newly announced incentives to promote foreign investment in this sector during the said duration.

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, this question which is about water resources has to be put to the concerned Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a need for capital for the development of the country

and hence it was in this context the decision for foreign investment in the country was taken. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much foreign direct investment was proposed to be made and how much was actually made during the last three years?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I have given the figures in the Statement itself. For the year 2000, the amount which we have received as inflow is 4.4 billion dollars and the rate is about 52.22 percent. Upto September, 2001, there is 40 percent increase and the total amount of inflow is 3.6 billion dollars. It means that the realising rate is 72.19 percent. It is a considerable increase.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the reasons for not getting the Foreign Direct Investment for which the target was fixed and also asto what efforts are being made by the Government in this regard.

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I would say that in the year 1999, the approval was 6.7 billion dollars but the inflow was 4.01 billion dollars and the rate was 59.46 per cent. In the year 2000, the approval was 8.6 billion dollars, inflow was 4.4 billion dollars and the rate was 52.22 per cent. Upto September, 2001, the approval was 5 billion dollars, inflow is 3.6 billion dollars, that is, 72.19 per cent. There is a considerable increase not only in inflow but the rate of inflow and approval also.

SHRI P.C THOMAS: In my State, Kerala, there is a lot of human resources which are going and lending support abroad. Unfortunately, the foreign investment which comes to that State is minimal. Is it because the States have got some difficulty to get foreign investment on their own initiative? If so, what can be done in this regard? If there is any possibility to expedite the projects which are put forth by the State Government for approval, I think that will be helpful. I plead and urge upon the Government to do something in this regard to see that every State gets adequate foreign investments.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Regarding FDI, Government's role is very limited. We open only one door, that is, approval door and the destination is the States. It is chosen by the particular investor. Now, I think Kerala has become famous for eco-tourism and tourism is picking up due to ayurvedic and other industries also. It is for the State Governments to take the initiative, arrange road shows and pick up more investments.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, there is a snag in the implementation of FDI projects. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Ministry is going to take for the speedy implementation of FDI projects in our country.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: We have got a Foreign Implementation Authority, which is called Foreign Investment Implementation Authority, the FIIA. It has got Six-point programme. As per the first point, we will contact foreign investors, even at the Board level and invite them. According to the second point, after having come to India, if they have any specific problems, we will invite them and address them. If the problems are at the inter Ministerial level at Delhi, we will call the representatives of Ministries and settle them. Suppose the problems are with regard to States, then we will call the Chief Secretaries and we will write to the respective Chief Ministers and we will deal with them. So, we have got a Six-point Programme. Then, we have got a sector-wise approach. We take up the matter with the appropriate Ministry if we receive any complaint because we want to roll out red carpet for FDI. In FDI, speedy approval is very important. Nobody wants to delay it. The FIIA is in-charge of that. We are doing our best. That is why the flow of FDI is much more than last year.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Functioning of TV Transmitters

*241. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received by the Government about the erratic functioning of TV Transmitters, particularly in rural and backward areas of the country;

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

(c) the action taken to ensure that the TV transmitters function properly?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Complaints about erratic functioning of some TV transmitters in Doordarshan network have been received from time to time. However, Doordarshan does not maintain any centralized data in this regard.

(c) All out efforts are made by Doordarshan to attend to the complaints at the earliest possible. However, in case of VLPTs, it takes some time to attend to the complaints as these are unmanned transmitters and maintenance staff has to be sent from the nearby maintenance centres.

Exploration of Oil and Gas Reserves in the Country

*242. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited has prepared a master plan to explore gas and oil reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States where such exploration has been planned; and

(c) the total allocations made for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) proposes an expenditure of around Rs. 8,650 crores, which includes approx. Rs. 4,685 crores for the offshore areas, for exploration of hydrocarbons in the country for the five year period, 2002-07. During the aforesaid period, ONGC envisages exploration of oil and gas in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

[Translation]

Survey for New Railway Lines

*243. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of surveys conducted for laying new rail lines during the Ninth Five Year Plan but such new lines have not been laid so far, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to lay these new lines; and

(c) the time by which such new lines are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The details of surveys of new lines completed during 9th plan but works have not been included in the budget are given as under:-

Sl. No.	Rly	State	Name of the Project
1	2	3	4
1.	CR	Maharashtra	Pune-Nasik
2.	CR	Uttar Pradesh	Hamirpur-Hamipur Road
3.	CR	Maharashtra	Wardha-Pusad-Nanded
4.	CR	Uttar Pradesh	Bye pass line between Idgah and Fatehpur
5.	CR	Maharashtra	Kalyan to Ahmednagar via Murbad
6.	CR	Maharashtra	Dhule-Nardana-Shirpur
7.	CR	Rajasthan	Dholpur-Simuttra-Gangapur
8.	CR	Uttar Pradesh	Agra area provision of Bye pass line
9.	CR	Maharashtra	Kopargaon to Shirdi
10.	CR	Madhya Pradesh	Biyavra-Rajgarh-Sirong and Bina
11.	CR	Maharashtra	Manmad-Dhule via Malegaon
12.	CR	Uttar Pradesh	Linking Bad with Bhainsa
13.	ER	Bihar	Banka-Nawadah
14.	ER	West Bengal	Murshidabad-Kandi via Khagraghat and Behrampur
15.	ER	Bihar	Dehri-on-sone to Banjari
16.	ER	West Bengal	Berhampur-Kandi
17.	ER	West Bengal	Budget Budget to Falta
18.	ER	West Bengal	Burdwan to Tarakeswar
19.	ER	Bihar/Jharkhand	Gaya to Daltanganj via Gura, Sherghati and Imamganj
20.	ER	Bihar	Dehri-on-Sone-Akbarpur
21.	ER	West Bengal	Dankuni to Sheakhala
22.	ER	Bihar	Chunar to Sasaram
23.	ER	Bihar	Danapur-Fatuah via Daniwan, Punpun
24.	ER	West Bengal	Bakreshwar-Siuri
25.	ER	Bihar, Jharkhand	Gaya-Chatra

1	2	3	4
26.	NER	Bihar	Koparia-Bihariganj via-Sonbarsaraj- Alamnagar
27.	NER	Bihar	Badlaghat-Alamnagar-Bhawanipur-Purnea-Dalkhola
28.	NER	Uttar Pradesh/ Uttaranchal	Tanakpur-Purnagiri
29.	NER	Bihar	Sitamarhi to Jayanagar via Sonbarsa
30.	NER	Bihar	Supaul-Araria via Triveniganj and Raniganj
31.	NER	Bihar	Pratapganj-Bhimnagar-Bathnaha
32.	NER	Bihar	Madhepura to Pratapganj via Singheswar and Triveniganj
33.	NER	Bihar	Bihariganj-Chattarpur Rd. via Murliganj
34.	NER	Bihar	Kursela-Rupoli-Saharsa
35.	NER	Bihar	Hajipur-Samastipur via Mahuwa
36.	NER	Bihar	Hassanpur to Barauni
37.	NER	Bihar	Deoria Sadar-Padrauna
38.	NER	Uttar Pradesh	Ghuguli-Pharenda
39.	NER	Bihar	Darbhanga and Saharsa via Kusheshwarasthan
40.	NER	Bihar	Laheria Sarai to Kusheshwarasthan
41.	NER	Bihar	Muktapur to Kusheshwarasthan
42.	NER	Bihar	Simri-Bakhtiarpur to Bihariganj
43.	NER	Bihar	Hazipur and Sagauli via Vaishali
44.	NER	Uttar Pradesh	Khalilabad to Naugarh
45.	NER	Uttaranchal	Kiccha-Sitarganj-Nanak Mata-Khatima
46.	NER	Bihar	Salauna (Bakhri) to Alauli
47.	NER	Bihar	Koparia/Simri Bhakhtiyarpur Alamnagar, Bihariganj
48.	NER	Uttar Pradesh	Farukhabad and Gola Gokamath
49.	NER	Bihar	Janakpur Road to Jayanagar via Madhubani
50.	NER	Uttar Pradesh	Sitapur-Bahraich via Laharpur-Tambore and Mihirpuwa
51.	NER	Bihar	Motihari to Sitamarhi via Shivhar
52.	NER	Bihar	Hajipur-Motipur
53.	NER	Bihar	Nirmali-Saraigarh
54.	NFR	Assam, N.E. Region	Murkongselek to Pasighat
55.	NFR	N.E. Region	Agartala to Sabroom via Belonia
56.	NFR	Assam	Makum to Saikhova Ghat

1	2	3	4
57.	NFR	Assam	Dangri-Dhola
58.	NFR	West Bengal	Sivok to Gangtok via Giellekhole and Singtam
59.	NFR	Assam	Sarthabari to Changasari
60.	NFR	Bihar, West Bengal	Araria-Forbesganj-Galgalia Thakurganj)
61.	NFR	Assam	Barpeta Rd. to Tihu
62.	NFR	Assam	Lekhapani-Kharsang
63.	NFR	Assam	Digaru-Byrnihat
64.	NFR	Bihar	Katihar-Tezrainpur with extn. to Bhakurabad
65.	NFR	Assam	Karimganj-Mahisashan
66.	NR	Punjab	Sahnewal-Ladowal
67.	NR	Punjab	Badowal-Sahnewal
68.	NR	Rajasthan	Kolayat-Pokaran Barmer
69.	NR	Punjab, Himachal Pradesh	Hoshiarpur to Una
70.	NR	Uttaranchal	Rishikesh to Dehradun
71.	NR	Rajasthan	Jalore-Falna
72.	NR	Haryana	Sirsa-Hisar via Fatehabad and Agroha
73.	NR	Haryana	Jakhal-Fatehabad via Bahuna-Ratia
74.	NR	Rajasthan	Churu to Taranagar
75.	NR	Haryana, Uttar Pradesh	Panipat-Muzaffarnagar via Kairana
76.	NR	Haryana	Jind-Sonepat
77.	NR	Uttar Pradesh	Panki to Mandhana
78.	NR	Uttar Pradesh	Maripet-Tuglakabad
79.	NR	Uttar Pradesh	Rail linking Hastinapur
80.	NR	Uttar Pradesh	Deurala Near Meerut and Bijnor via Hastinapur
81.	NR	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	Muzaffarnagar to Haridwar via Roorkee
82.	NR	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	Dehradun and Saharanpur
83.	NR	Haryana	Rewari to Rohtak
84.	NR	Uttaranchal	Rishikesh-Karanprayag
85.	NR	Rajasthan	Hanumangarh to Ratangarh via Sardar Shahr
86.	NR	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	Laksar to Beksar
87.	NR	Rajasthan	Kolayat to Phalodi
88.	NR	Haryana, Punjab	Patiala to Jakhal/Narwana via Samana

1	2	3	4
89.	NR	Rajasthan	Merta City to Beawar
90.	NR	Uttar Pradesh	Chola to Bulandshahar
91.	NR	Delhi, Haryana	Bijwasan to Bahadurgarh via Ghumankera-Hasanpur-Jaffarpur
92.	NR	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu to Poonch via Akhnoor-Rajouri
93.	NR	Rajasthan	Bar-Bilara
94.	NR	Punjab	Kapurthala to Beas
95.	NR	Rajasthan	Nagore to Phalodi
96.	NR	Haryana, Uttar Pradesh	Panipat to Meerut
97.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Zaheerabad-Secundrabad
98.	SCR	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad-Raichur
99.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Patancheru to Adilabad
100.	SCR	Maharashtra	Kolhapur to Ratnagiri on Konkan Rly via Talwade
101.	SCR	Karnataka	Bagalkot-Kudachi
102.	SCR	Karnataka	Bijapur-Athani-Shedbal
103.	SCR	Karnataka	Dharwad Belgaum via Bailhongal and Kitur.
104.	SCR	Karnataka	Nipani-Raibag via Chikodi
105.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Pattancheru-Jogipet
106.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Pandurampuram-Bhadrachalam
107.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Chandrampalem-Sarpavaram
108.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Ongole-Donakonda
109.	SCR	Maharashtra	Ghatnandur-Ambajogai
110.	SCR	Maharashtra	Beed-Jalna
111.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Gadag-Wadi via Yeilburga
112.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka	Cuddapah to Madanapalli
113.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Kachiguda to Chityal
114.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka	Cuddapah to Bangarpet via Madanapalli
115.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Armoor to Adilabad
116.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka	Chittur to Bangarpet
117.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah to Nellore via Badvel, Atmakur and Butchireddipalem
118.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Patancheru to Akkanapet
119.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Kumool-Kamalapuram
120.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Motumani-Jaggayapeta BG line to Miryalguda

1	2	3	4
121.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Bhadrachalam Rd (Kothagudem) and Vishakapatnam
122.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Kovvur to Bhadrachalam
123.	SCR	Karnataka	Almatti to Yadgir
124.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Nadikudi to Srikalahasti via Karempudi, Vinukonda, Kanigiri, Podili and Darsi
125.	SCR	Karnataka	Gulbarga-Hospet
126.	SCR	Andhra Pradesh	Yerraguntala to Dharmavaram via Pulivendla
127.	SER	Orissa	Puri-Konark
128.	SER	West Bengal	Dankuni-Champadanga via Seakhala & Seakha to Bargachia
129.	SER	Orissa	Bimlagarh to Talcher
130.	SER	Maharashtra	Wadsa-Gadchiroli
131.	SER	West Bengal	Jhargram-Purulia
132.	SER	West Bengal	Kharagpur-Dankuni-Sealdah
133.	SER	Orissa	Jharsuguda Bye Pass Line
134.	SER	Orissa	Jeypore-Kotametta
135.	SER	Andhra Pradesh	Kantakapalli-Ankapalli
136.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Jolarpettai to Hosur via Krishnagiri
137.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Tindivanam to Cuddalore via Pondicherry
138.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Katpadi-Chennai via Guindy-Poonamallee to Tindivanam
139.	SR	Karnataka	Dudda-Tiptur
140.	SR	Kerala	Thakazhi-Tiruvalla-Pathanamthitta
141.	SR	Kerala	Kayankulam-Trivandrum via Adoor and Kottarakkara
142.	SR	Kerala	Nilambur Road and Feroke via Manjeri and Mavur
143.	SR	Kerala, Tamil Nadu	Sabarimala to Dindigul
144.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Arakkonam to Tindivanam via Walajapet, Ranipet and Arcot
145.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Avadi-Sriperumbudur
146.	SR	Karnataka	Bangalore City-Belur-Mudigere-Shringeri
147.	SR	Karnataka	Guruvayoor-Edapalli
148.	SR	Karnataka	Medikere-Chennarayapatna
149.	SR	Karnataka	Kushalnagar-Chennarayapatna via Kananur

1	2	3	4
150.	SR	Karnataka	Davangere-Bhadravati
151.	SR	Andaman	Port Blair to Aerial Bay-Andaman Islands
152.	SR	Karnataka	Pandvapura to Shravanbelagola
153.	SR	Tamil Nadu	Manamadurai to Tuticorin
154.	SR	Kerala	Edappalli to Tirur
155.	SR.	Tamil Nadu	Thanjavur-Pottukkotai
156.	SR	Karnataka	Talguppa-Honnavar
157.	SR	Karnataka	Tumkur to Davangere
158.	SR	Tamil Nadu, Karnataka	Mettur and Chamarajnagar
159.	SR	Kerala, Karnataka	Nanjangod and Badagara via Vyitri- Poozhi-Hithod
160.	SR	Kerala	Punalur to Trivendrum
161.	SR.	Karnataka	Bisanatham to Marikuppam
162.	SR	Karnataka	Gadag-Harihar
163.	SR	Karnataka	Tellicherry-Mysore
164.	WR	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan	Ujjain-Ramganjmandi via Agar, Susner Jhalawar
165.	WR	Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh	Baran-Shivpuri
166.	WR	Madhya Pradesh	Indore and Budhni
167.	WR	Maharashtra	Dhanu Road-Nasik Road
168.	WR	Gujarat	Veraval to Kodinar
169.	WR	Gujarat	Kodinar to Pipavav coastal line
170.	WR	Gujarat	Porbandar to Porbandar Port
171.	WR	Rajasthan	Ajmer-Merta Rd.
172.	WR	Rajasthan, Haryana	Palwal to Alwar
173.	WR	Rajasthan	Jaipur-Tonk

(b) Due to heavy throw forward of ongoing projects, constraint of resources and unremunerative nature, it has not been found feasible to consider taking up these new lines. However, new line proposals are being considered as and when required depending upon traffic and other needs.

(c) Does not arise.

Refining Capacity of Crude oil

*244. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN;
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

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

(a) whether there has been an increase in the refining capacity of crude oil in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the refining capacity of crude oil during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the estimated refining capacity of crude oil during 2001-2002;

(d) whether the Government have assessed the quantum of production of various petroleum products in the country; and

(e) if so, the production of each of the petroleum products likely to be made in the country during the current year and the names of the products, the production of which is likely to exceed their consumption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The refining capacity of crude oil during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given below:-

Year	Million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) at year end
1998-1999	69.14
1999-2000	112.04
2000-2001	112.54

(c) The refining capacity by the end of year 2001-2002 is expected to be at 114.67 MMTPA.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The estimated production of major products in the current year is given in the Statement enclosed. Production of petrol, aviation turbine fuel and diesel are expected to exceed their consumption.

Statement

Production of Petroleum Products during 2001-2002 as per the latest outlook

Products	Production in million metric tonnes (MMT)
1	2
LPG	6.984
Petrol	9.773

1	2
Naphtha/NGL	10.951
Aviation Turbine Fuel	2.697
Kerosene	10.166
Diesel	40.478
Light Diesel Oil	1.380
Lubes	0.699
Fuel Oil/LSHS	12.495
Bitumen	2.602
Others	7.794
Total	106.019

[English]

Power Theft

*245. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of power theft in the country;

(b) whether it is on the increase; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the menace?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) The losses being incurred by the various State Governments on account of power theft are not being assessed separately. The percentage Transmission & Distribution losses including losses due to technical reasons and unaccounted losses being assessed by the concerned State Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments from the year 1992-93 to 1998-99 are given in the statement.

Power distribution falls within the purview of the State Governments and the activities pertaining to prevention of theft of electricity and removing illegal connection have to be taken up by the power utilities operating under their jurisdiction. Theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, and the utilities have to effectively implement the provisions of the law to curb theft of electricity.

Some of the steps being taken by utilities to prevent the theft of energy are as under:

- (a) Mass checking drive is carried out periodically by vigilance squads as well as field staff. Inspections are being carried out by the District-wise units of engineers and prosecutions of erring consumers are launched by Police Officers manning the anti-Power theft Squads.
- (b) Installations are being made puffer proof.
- (c) A scheme for incentive to informants is in vogue. A scheme to recognize the performance of individuals to curb theft of energy by providing incentive to deserving officers/employees has been introduced.
- (d) Load inspection study for major load centers is being conducted.
- (e) Penalty of imprisonment is also being imposed on the culprits.
- (f) With the help of computerization of billing process, the abnormal consumption of consumers is being detected. If consumption is less than 15% of the average energy consumption, cases are immediately inspected for detecting tampering of meter/theft of energy.

In the Chief Ministers'/Power Ministers' Conference held on 3.3.2001, it was resolved that State Governments/State Power Utilities would take the following steps to reduce technical and commercial losses:

- (i) Energy audit at all 11 KV feeders will be made effective within the next 6 months and accountability fixed at the local level.
- (ii) An effective Management Information System (MIS) for this purpose will be made operational.
- (iii) On the basis of the above, an effective programme will be launched for identifying and eliminating power thefts in the next 2 years.
- (iv) Full metering of all consumers will be completed by December 2001. Special efforts would be made to complete the programme.

- (v) The quality of power supplied especially in rural areas will be improved through the APDP.
- (vi) Commercial viability has to be achieved in distribution in 2-3 years through any or all of the following:
 - Creating Profit centres with full accountability.
 - Handing over of local distribution to Panchayats/Local Bodies/Franchisees/Users Associations, wherever necessary.
 - Privatization of distribution.
 - Or any other means.
- (vii) Efforts by States, at inviting private investment in the power sector need to be focussed towards the distribution sector.
- (viii) Current operations in distribution would need to reach break even in two years and achieve positive returns thereafter.

Funds are being provided to the power utilities under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) for improving distribution system and reduction of T&D losses. An amount of Rs. 1000 crores for R&M of thermal and hydro power stations and improvement of distribution systems was provided in the year 2000-2001. An amount of Rs. 1500 crores is to be allocated to the utilities during the year 2001-2002 under APDP. 60 distribution circles in various States have been taken up in the first instance for improvement of sub-transmission and distribution system under APDP. These identified circles are being developed as 'centres of excellence' so as to serve as models for remaining distribution circles in the country for improvement in a phased manner.

Government is also considering a proposal for making available substantial additional resources so as to ensure coverage of all the distribution circles in the country for improvement of sub-transmission and distribution system. The proposal would include time bound reduction of T&D losses, operationalisation of an effective Management Information System, fixing of accountability at various levels through Energy Audit and organizational restructuring.

Statement

Percentage Transformation, Transmission & Distribution losses (including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in SEBs/EDs

Region/SEB/ED	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Northern Region							
Haryana	26.78	25.00	30.80	32.39	32.77	34.04	33.81
Himachal Pradesh	19.51	18.31	18.21	16.09	18.02	20.13	20.13

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jammu & Kashmir	48.28	45.69	48.74	47.52	48.27	49.95	47.07
Punjab	19.24	19.37	16.70	18.49	19.10	18.94	16.83
Rajasthan	22.74	25.00	24.78	29.27	26.28	26.41	29.43
Uttar Pradesh	24.43	24.08	21.69	21.84	24.84	26.18	26.86
Chandigarh	26.21	27.27	28.44	33.72	21.88	22.38	NA
DVB (Delhi)	23.56	31.79	34.56	48.57	49.08	47.91	40.00
Western Region							
Gujarat	22.03	20.34	20.02	20.08	17.14	21.57	19.69
Madhya Pradesh	21.35	20.26	19.61	17.84	19.24	19.58	20.92
Maharashtra	17.83	16.22	16.33	16.95	16.55	18.75	18.14
D & N Haveli	17.98	12.64	11.35	09.31	08.80	12.90	NA
Goa	21.85	24.50	26.87	26.06	23.50	31.02	NA
Daman & Diu	15.67	22.34	16.30	12.80	08.15	14.69	NA
Southern Region							
Andhra Pradesh	19.88	19.91	17.95	19.34	33.19	32.14	31.80
Karnataka	19.55	19.55	19.41	19.06	18.73	19.31	30.08
Kerala	21.95	20.00	20.05	21.12	20.59	18.73	17.75
Tamil Nadu	17.50	17.18	17.11	16.19	17.65	17.29	16.90
Lakshadweep	18.72	16.99	17.84	17.23	15.11	15.70	NA
Pondicherry	15.31	15.80	15.00	16.54	17.38	13.56	NA
Eastern Region							
Bihar	22.00	20.35	19.76	15.91	25.31	16.26	23.00
Orissa (GRIDCO)	25.25	22.43	23.03	24.17	50.15	50.10	48.44
Sikkim	22.55	22.60	21.22	16.47	29.24	22.87	
West Bengal	24.87	20.82	21.51	19.26	18.01	19.67	25.50
A&N Islands	23.62	23.71	22.38	19.25	19.15	20.59	NA
North Eastern Region							
Assam	21.41	22.44	24.18	26.91	25.97	27.32	23.00
Manipur	22.35	23.92	25.30	24.85	22.95	21.09	NA
Meghalaya	11.79	18.03	18.47	12.55	19.75	12.28	20.17
Nagaland	27.26	33.45	36.12	35.17	26.81	29.79	NA
Tripura	30.64	30.53	31.96	30.86	30.11	31.11	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Arunachal Pradesh	32.32	42.04	45.30	37.12	32.62	34.10	NA
Mizoram	29.04	31.89	29.76	25.18	34.35	46.84	NA
All India (Utilities)	21.80	21.41	21.13	22.27	24.53	24.79	25.62

*As reported by SEBs/Electricity Deptt. and subject to change after reconciliation of inter-state sale of energy and are provisional.

[Translation]

Supply of Mineral Water at Railway Stations

*246. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules under which the contract of supplying mineral water at the railway stations and in the trains is awarded and the period for which it is awarded;

(b) whether the mineral water sold at the railway stations and in the trains is regularly tested;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government have received any complaints about supply of contaminated mineral water during the last two years;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(g) if so, the findings of the said inquiry and the action taken against the persons/firms found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) As per the extant policy guidelines, Railways procure and supply packaged drinking water having IS Specification No. 14543 and packaged natural mineral water having IS Specification No. 13428. For departmental units process of tendering is followed and contracts are awarded normally for a period of one year. However, the private licensees have been allowed to market any ISI brand of packaged drinking/natural mineral water either in bottles or in packets, which are certified by Bureau of Indian Standards

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the last two years, 18 complaints were received on all Indian Railways.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Action taken:-

Fine imposed -7

Supply withdrawn-4

Warning issued-2

Test report awaited-2.

[English]

Central Plan Allocation to States

*247. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for a larger deduction from the Central Plan Allocation for States in the Power Sector due to the payment obligations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) A Conference of Chief Ministers/ Powers Ministers held in March 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister noted that the large amount of dues owed by the State Electricity Boards to the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) was a major impediment to power sector reforms and resolved that an Expert Group would be set up to recommend a one time settlement of all Power Sector past dues to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and dues from CPSUs to State Power Utilities. The Expert Group was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia. The Group proposed a scheme of settlement of outstanding dues linked to a mechanism that would ensure payment of current dues in future. The recommendations of the Group, *inter-alia*, included

securitisation of the outstanding dues through bonds issued by the respective State Governments. Regarding current billings, the Groups has recommended regulation of supplies in case of default after 60 days from the date of billing and deduction from central transfer after 90 days from the date of billing.

A High Level Empowered Group of Chief Ministers' which considered the recommendations accepted them with minor modifications.

The States are being pursued to sign a tripartite agreement for the implementation of the scheme. The question of deductions from central resources transfers would arise only if there is a default after the scheme is operationalised.

Monitoring of Electric Energy Consumption in Traction

*248. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK:
SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are yet to evolve controls to monitor electric energy consumption in traction;

(b) if so, whether there is no provision for energy meters in locomotives to monitor electric energy consumption;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the specific standard for energy consumption adopted by Railways is erroneous;

(e) if so, whether some State Electricity Boards had charged higher tariffs from the Railways than those charged from other bulk consumers; and

(f) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid excess payment to State Electricity Boards?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. There is full control over electricity drawn for traction. At all sub-stations from where electricity is drawn for traction electric energy meters are provided for monitoring energy consumed for electric traction. The meters are periodically tested jointly with electric supply authority personnel. Monitoring of electric energy consumed for traction is closely linked with the speed of the train, braking requirements due to signals and the individual load to be hauled by the locomotive. Control is exercised by periodical review of total energy drawn at different substations and actual traffic moved.

(b) and (c) Electric energy meters are being provided on all new builds of 3-phase electric locomotives manufactured at CLW. In earlier builds, energy meters had been provided on a few electric locomotives on trial. Because of the intricacies involved in measurement of electrical energy at 25 KV on board the locomotive, the energy meters available in the earlier years were not found to be user friendly and the meters also did not meet all requirements of stringent operating conditions. With the advent of microprocessor application in different areas, it has now become possible to employ on board, direct reading user-friendly energy meters at reasonable cost. It has also become possible to integrate energy metering function with the speed measurement devices for more meaningful appreciation of the consumption pattern. Specification for microprocessor based speed and energy monitoring systems have been drawn up and prototypes have also been cleared after successful service trials.

(d) No, Sir. Electric energy drawn for traction is metered at supply points. There is no scope for unaccounted drawal of energy from the traction network or from the locomotives. From time to time RDSO conduct instrumented trials for measuring electric energy consumed in different services. Based on the trials, the norms are updated for appointment of relative consumption of electrical energy amongst different types of service for example, suburban trains, long distance Mail/Express trains, etc.

Such appointment does not alter the total energy drawn, which is metered at every point of supply by the supply authorities.

(e) It is true that some State Electricity Boards charge the railways a tariff higher than those charged from other bulk consumers. Presently, Railway is purchasing traction power from 17 State Electricity Boards (SEBs) situated in 17 state and three other power companies. Out of these 17 states, State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) are functioning in 12 states. SERCs decide the revision of tariff periodically as and when the proposals are submitted by the State Electricity Boards/Distribution licensees after examining presentations from different consumers including Railways. After presenting their case before SERCs during current financial year, Railways have been able to get reduction in tariff in 3 states, avoided increase in 2 states and limited increase in 2 states during the current financial year. However, so far Railways have not been fully succeeded in securing reasonable tariff as ordained under Section 29 of the ERC Act, 1998, in terms of which the tariff should progressively reflect the cost of supply of electricity. From five states, there has been no positive response in regard to reduction in traction tariffs.

(f) Besides pursuing the cases with the individual ERCs for reducing tariff to reasonable level, Railways are pursuing efforts for availing direct power from Central Generating agencies like National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Nuclear Power Corporation (NPC) etc.

Railways have already met with appreciable success by availing direct supply from NTPC for Ghaziabad-Kanpur section of Northern Railway at reduce cost since November, 2000. Proposals for availing power from NTPC and NPC at other places are under active consideration in consultation with Ministry of Power.

[Translation]

Pending Cases In Courts

*249. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at least three crore cases have been pending in various courts of the country and the Government is itself the litigant in most of such cases;

(b) whether the increase in the number of pending cases has been due to non-filling up the posts of judges and judicial officers in various High Courts and the Supreme Court and also due to transfer of judicial officers, strikes by the courts staff and postponement of date of hearing due to absence of lawyers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite disposal of these pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) As per information available, nearly 2.39 crore cases are pending in various courts of the country.

In most of the criminal cases in the District/ Subordinate Courts and in a considerable number of cases in the High Courts and the Supreme Court, the Government is necessarily a party.

(b) The increase in number of pending cases in different tiers of judiciary is due to various factors like non-filling up of the posts of Judges and Judicial Officers, adjournment of cases due to absence of lawyers etc. There are other factors also for pendency of cases which, inter-alia, include increased institution of cases on account

of increased awareness of rights on the part of the citizens, rise in population, increased industrial and business activity, socio-economic developments, legislative and administrative aspects touching on the life of the citizens of all levels, tendency of litigants, lawyers' strike, etc. Strikes by the courts' staff and transfer of Judicial Officers may also have limited impact on the pendency of cases.

(c) Both the Government and the judiciary have endeavoured constantly to bring about improvements in the functioning of courts with a view to simplifying procedures and delivering cost effective and speedy justice. The Government have also been constantly reviewing the accumulation of arrears in courts. Besides increasing the Judge strength from time to time, the Government has also set up/encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolution including conciliation, mediation, and arbitration. Special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunal, State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Labour Courts, Consumer Courts, etc. have been set up to expedite disposal of cases. Information technology is being used in generation of cause lists, providing information to the litigants/Advocates etc. for speedy disposal of cases.

Fast Track Courts have been set up for quick disposal of long pending cases, particularly sessions cases and cases involving under-trials in jails. All the Central Ministries/Departments have been requested to take necessary steps like review of Acts/Laws administered by them, filing of counter-affidavits in time and avoidance of unnecessary adjournments in cases where they are a party.

Satellite News Gathering Units (S.N.G.)

*250. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have extended the facility of Satellite News Gathering Units (SNG) to different States including Chhattisgarh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Satellite News Gathering (SNG) Units consist of portable satellite uplinking equipment capable of being

readily transported for optimal use in any part of the country. They are moved around as required. Presently, Doordarshan Network has seven Satellite News Gathering Units.

[*English*]

Fire in Ammunition Depots

*251. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ammunitions depots, where fire broke out during the last three months indicating the loss suffered therein;

(b) whether any investigation has been conducted into all such accidents; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) During the last three months no incident of fire has occurred in Ammunition Depots.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Theft of Booked Goods

*252. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the increasing number of thefts of booked consignments, looting of passengers, besides sabotages;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified the reasons for the increase in crime in Railways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Sir, The Government have taken note of the incidents of theft of Booked Consignment, looting of passengers and sabotage but the information available with this Ministry indicate that there is no increase in the number of cases reported in these heads.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Work, Education and Health as Fundamental Rights

*253. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to make work, education and health as fundamental rights;

(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 LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) A Bill, namely, the "Constitution (Ninety-Third Amendment) Bill, 2001" introduced in Lok Sabha for making right to free and compulsory education a fundamental right for children in the age group of six to 14 years has been passed by it.

However, there is no proposal to amend the constitution for incorporating right to health and right to work as fundamental rights.

Power Finance Corporation

*254. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has achieved any significant success to reduce the power imbalance in various States;

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

(c) the amount of loan provided to various States for this purpose during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Power Finance Corporation (PFC), as a Development Financial Institution, has been financing generation, transmission and distribution projects. The loans are extended to State, Private and Central Power utilities to generate new capacities, create transmission & distribution network and improve power system. Till 31st March, 2001, PFC has sanctioned 1163 loans amounting to Rs. 30674 crores and out of which Rs. 19221 crores have been disbursed. The impact of this funding on power is enclosed at Statement-I.

PFC has provided financial and technical support in reform and restructuring of various States and power utilities. PFC is also giving thrust on financing of power projects in North Eastern States and provides concessional loans.

PFC is implementing the Accelerated Generation & Supply Programme (AG&SP) under which 4% interest subsidy (5% for the North-East) is being given by Government to enable languishing projects and critical transmission links to be completed with concessional financing from PFC. Under the AG&SP, PFC has so far supported 9532 MW of new capacity addition in State & Central power utilities. As on March 31st 2001, 4174 MW has already been commissioned under AG&SP during 9th Plan.

Around Rs. 1000 crore financial assistance from Government to India in 2000-01 has been provided to the States under the new Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP). There is a provision of Rs. 1500 crores under this programme for this financial year. The States are expected to raise equivalent funds from financial institutions including PFC for the projects being taken up under Accelerated Power Development Programme. The APDP Cell is located in the PFC.

The amount of loans sanctioned to various States in the last three years is enclosed at statement-II.

Statement-I

*Impact of Power Finance Corporation Funding
(upto March 31, 2001)*

Category	2000-2001	Cumulative upto March, 2001
Renovation, Modernisation and Life Extension		
Hydro (MU/annum addition)	802	5786
Thermal (MU/annum addition)	2378	8347
(MU/annum addition)	3180	14133
Transmission and Distribution		
HT MVAR Capacitors	1197	11752
LT MVAR Capacitors	10	1136
Total Capacitors (MVAR)	1207	12888
MVA Transmission transformation capacity	2629	32964
MVA Distribution transformation capacity	71	5983
Total Transformation capacity (MVA)	2700	38947
Ckt.Km. Transmission Lines	3265	24764
Ckt.Km. Distribution Lines	228	5946
Total Ckt.Km. Lines (Ckt. Km.)	3493	30710
Generation		
Hydro (MW)	1058	2701
Thermal (MW)	985	13120
Total Generation (MW)	2043	15821

Statement-II**Borrower-wise Disbursement For 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Borrower	During 1998-99	During 1999-2000	During 2000-2001
1	2	3	4
Haryana	8730	20249	10194
Himachal Pradesh	2922	9686	5860
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	2089
Punjab	22060	28378	15873
Rajasthan	35583	29560	72393
Uttar Pradesh	5155	4660	155
Goa	372	984	849
Gujarat	21542	11820	14011
Madhya Pradesh	21270	18003	9492
Maharashtra	42916	37390	14093
CSEB	1121	7813	974
Andhra Pradesh	15017	41035	34927
Karnataka	31063	25439	27287
Kerala	2482	613	817
Tamil Nadu	14496	17277	26609
Bihar	0	0	0
Orissa	16970	11247	3190
Sikkim	0	0	0
West Bengal	5232	6071	13666
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
Assam	0	4474	1152
Manipur	0	0	0
MeSEB	0	0	0
Mizoram	1171	32	0
Nagaland	1266	1402	2495
BSES	4750	9994	0
SMHPP-MAHE	2000	2463	5470

1	2	3	4
Kondapalli	2500	14149	5565
NJPC	0	13800	12500
NHPC	0	0	0
NEEPCO	0	13558	8527
NTPC	0	0	10500
PGCIL	0	0	10000
GIPCL	0	1800	0
JAIPHPCL	6000	3000	4000
Malana P.C.	0	0	2500
Balaji	0	0	7808
Grand Total	264617	334895	322995

Working capital included.

FCL included.

[English]

Power Reform

*255. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had held any meeting with Chief Ministers of States/UTs to ensure the implementation of reforms measures relating to power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the instructions issued by the Union Government to States for implementation of reforms in power sector;

(d) the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(e) whether the State Governments have agreed to implement these reforms; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. A Conference of the Chief Ministers/Power Ministers was held in New Delhi on 3.3.2001 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister. It was agreed that there is urgent need to depoliticise power sector reforms and speed up their implementation. The resolution adopted in the Conference is at the statement

enclosed. A copy of the resolution has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.

Nineteen States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the Government of India for undertaking power sector reforms in a time bound manner. In the MoUs, the concerned States have committed to achieve milestones in reforming power sector. The milestones include setting up of the State Electricity Regulatory Commission, metering of all 11 kv feeders, 100% metering of consumers, energy audit, reduction of technical and commercial losses, achievement of commercial viability in distribution etc. Government of India has committed its support through additional allocation of power from Central Generating Stations, assistance to develop transmission system, financial assistance through Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution as well as for renovation and modernisation of thermal and hydel power plants.

Statement

*Resolutions of the Chief Ministers/Power Ministers
Conference on 3rd March, 2001*

1. The Chief Ministers/Power Ministers took note of the challenges confronting the Power Sector. It was agreed that there is urgent need to

depoliticise power sector reforms and speed up their implementation. For this purpose, an all-party consensus needs to be created. The Prime Minister is requested to convene all-party meetings including leaders of opposition in State Assemblies.

II. The following Resolutions were adopted:

A. Completing Electrification of all Villages and Households

- (i) Rural Electrification may be treated as a Basic Minimum Service under the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana;
- (ii) Rural Electrification may be completed by the end of the 10th Plan i.e. by year 2007;
- (iii) Full coverage of all households may be targeted for the end of the 11th Plan i.e. by year 2012.
- (iv) For the attainment of full electrification, States may be given flexibility for using funds under Rural Development Programs with the consent of the Villages/Block Panchayats for undertaking the task of electrification where it is required.
- (v) It was agreed that electrification of remote villages in the States would need a special mode of financing including an element of grant.

B. Distribution Reforms

The real problem of management and the challenge of reforms lies in the distribution sector.

- (i) Energy audit at all 11 KV feeders must be made effective within the next 6 months and accountability fixed at the local level.
- (ii) An effective management Information System for this purpose needs to be made operational.
- (iii) On the basis of the above, an effective program needs to be launched for identifying and eliminating power thefts in the next 2 years.
- (iv) Full metering of all consumers had been targeted for completion by December 2001. Special efforts should be made to complete the programme.
- (v) The quality of power supplied especially in rural areas needs to be improved through the APDP and other programmes quickly;
- (vi) Commercial viability has to be achieved in distribution in 2-3 years through any or all of the following:

- Creating Profit centres with full accountability.
- Handing over of local distribution to Panchayats/Local Bodies/Franchisees/Users Associations, wherever necessary.
- Privatisation of distribution.
- Or any other means.

(vii) Efforts by States, if necessary, at inviting private investment in the power sector need to be focussed towards the distribution sector.

(viii) Current operations on distribution would need to reach break even in two years and achieve positive returns thereafter.

C. Tariff Determination by Regulatory Commissions and Subsidies

- (i) State Electricity Regulatory Commissions may be made functional in the next six months and tariff filings made. Tariff orders issued by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions need to be implemented fully unless stayed or set aside by Court order. It is necessary to move away from the regime of providing free power.
- (ii) Subsidies may be given only to the extent of State Government's capacity to pay the subsidies explicitly through budget provisions.
- (iii) The past decision of CMs of a minimum agricultural tariff of 50 paise may be implemented immediately(*).

D. Generation

- (i) Special efforts need to be made to increase the PLF of existing plants through Renovation and Modernisation.
- (ii) In the short run, there is no alternative to increase in public sector investment in generation, as large-scale private investment in generation would flow only after reforms succeed in restoring financial viability. The Centre and the States need to take suitable decisions regarding increase in outlays for the 10th Plan. Priority should be given for investments at those locations which produce the cheapest power specially for hydro projects and pit head thermal generation. CEA has estimated the requirement for an additional 100,000 MW of generating capacity by 2012.
- (iii) Where the States and Financial Institutions are in agreement about the need for development of IPPs, they need to work together to achieve

*Punjab and Tamil Nadu did not agree.

financial closure at the earliest. The Centre would facilitate the finalisation of reforms based multi-partite agreements.

- (iv) The evolution of a National Grid for inter-regional transfer of power needs to be taken up on priority.
- (v) Some provisions of the Forest Conservation Act may require to be revised for expeditious completion of power and other projects.

E. Energy Conservation and Demand Side Management

An effective programme in the field of demand side management through - energy efficient bulbs, tube lights and agricultural pumpsets.

time of the day metering and differential tariff for peak and off peak hours needs to be implemented with suitable mass awareness and extension efforts.

F. Support from Government of India

- (i) The Government of India would support the States in their reform efforts. This support would be linked to time bound power reform initiatives in the States and achievement of definite milestone towards restoration of financial viability.
- (ii) Interest rates of PFC and REC should be brought down to reflect market conditions.
- (iii) An Expert Group would be set up to recommend one time settlement of all power sector past dues to CPSUs and dues from CPSUs to State Power Utilities. This would be linked to implementation of reforms with time bound milestones. The Group will give its report within three weeks of its constitution.

G. Supply From Central Generating Stations

Continued Supply of power from Central Generating Stations would have to be linked to demonstration of capacity to make payments for current purchases and securitisation of past dues.

H. High level Empowered Group

A High Level Empowered Group comprising of Minister of Power and Chief Ministers of some States may be set up to coordinate, monitor and review the implementation of Reforms.

[Translation]

Persons Employed in Hydel Power Project

*256. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of the concerned States are provided with employment opportunities in all the hydel power projects being undertaken by NHPC; and

(b) if so, the number of persons provided with employment so far in different States, particularly in Himachal Pradesh, project-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) has provided employment to the local people in its projects in accordance with the agreements/ understanding with the concerned State Governments. The scope for fresh employment in new projects is limited as NHPC needs to re-deploy existing surplus staff from completed/on-going projects to new projects.

In accordance with the agreements/understandings reached with the various State Governments, NHPC has provided employment in categories III & IV to 700 persons at Chamera H.E. Project Stage-I in Himachal Pradesh, 8 persons at Chamera H.E. Project Stage-II in Himachal Pradesh, 36 persons at Dhauli Ganga H.E. Project in Uttaranchal, 12 persons at Rangit H.E. Project in Sikkim and 59 persons at Koel Karo H.E. Project in Jharkhand.

[English]

Withdrawal of Coaches

*257. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coaches imported for Swarna Shatabdi Express form Alstom, LHB, were withdrawn;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the estimated loss on account of that;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the loss from the manufacturers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The M/s Alstom/LHB coaches running in Delhi-Lucknow Shatabdi train were withdrawn and services continued with conventional coaches. The LHB coaches were procured with a special high capacity,

tight lock center buffer coupler. Such couplers will enable running of longer trains (26 coaches). In view of the anti-climbing features, these couplers will also minimize if not eliminate altogether loss of life and/or injury to passengers during serious accidents. These couplers had been inducted for the first time in the country. Some teething problems erupted after a few weeks of running. These problems have been carefully studied and necessary modifications have been carried out by experts from AISTOM LHB in close coordination with Railway personnel to make them suitable for Indian conditions. These attention has been provided by the supplier free of cost under the contractual obligations. The coaches are now ready for re-induction in service.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Clearance to Hydro Electric Projects

*258. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the single window clearance system for all the important projects to ensure speedy completion of hydro-electric projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) It has not been found possible to have a single window clearance for hydro-electric projects in view of the involvement of several statutory and State agencies in clearance of such projects. Hydro projects impacting more than one State require consultation with the concerned States. However, the Government have streamlined the procedure of according clearances within the agencies of Government of India and have also set up a Crisis Resolution Group for resolution of last mile problem. A three-stage clearance for hydro-electric projects under Central Sector has also been introduced.

[*English*]

Pension for Men of Arts

*259. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons receiving Central Pension for 'Men of Arts' in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the criteria fixed for award of such pension; and

(c) the steps to be taken to award such pension to more persons in the country, particularly in Maharashtra during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Sir, a Statement giving the names of beneficiaries under the Scheme of Financial Assistance to Persons Distinguished in Letters, Arts and Such other Walks of life in indigent circumstances and their dependents, is enclosed.

(b) The criteria fixed are:

- (i) The applicant's contribution to art and letters, etc. must be of significance.
- (ii) Personal income of the applicant including that of his/her spouse must not exceed Rs. 2,000/- per month.
- (iii) The applicant should not be less than 58 years of age.

(c) In the past two years the scheme has been publicised through insertion of advertisements in leading newspapers of all States/UTs of the country. This year all the State Governments and Union Territories including Maharashtra were asked to recommend names of eminent artistes requiring assistance under the Scheme.

Statement

List of Central Quota

Andhra Pradesh

Shri/Smt./Kumari/

1. Azim Razvi
2. Bevara Gopinaidu
3. Bhagavatula Yagna N. Sarma
4. Bhusurapalli Adisheshaiah
5. Boddepalli Apparao
6. Chinta Ramamurthy
7. Chinta Venkateswarlu
8. Chundru Madhusudhan Rao
9. Garre Appa Rao
10. Hanumanchipalli Syamala
11. Josyula Seetharamaiah
12. K. Chakradhar
13. Kunisety Hanumantharao
14. Kasturi Venkata Subbarao

15. Kaleem Siddiqui
 16. Mahankali Srimannarayana Murty
 17. M. Dattateya Sarm
 18. Mahankali Subbarao
 19. M.P. Raju
 20. Nidamanuri Lakshmi Narayana
 21. Narse Bhadrachalam
 22. P. Satyanarayana
 23. Pashya Gopi Reddy
 24. Panyam Venkata Rama Sarma
 25. Pasumarthy Subrahananya Sastry
 26. Pittu Venkateswara Reddy
 27. Pinjala Subba Rao
 28. Prudhvi Siva Babdha Rao
 29. Polla Venkatesubarao
 30. Rao Balasaraswathi
 31. Rakandar Narsimha Rao
 32. R.P. Jemmy Babu
 33. Sandaka Raja Rao
 34. Shaik Nasar Saheb
 35. Tadepalli Chandraiah
 36. Tallapudi Venata Ramana
 37. Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma
 38. Yandakurthi Kameswari
 39. A. Manohar
 40. A Damodara Reddy
 41. A. Syamala Devi
 42. Battula Nagaraju Yadav
 43. Chinta Seeta Ramanhaneyula
 44. Josyyula Krishna Murty
 45. K. Buchi Raju
 46. Kurella Lakshman Rao
 47. Kadakanchi Papaiah
 48. K. Susheelamma
 49. Kandukuri Ganga Raju
 50. Munnam Nageswara Reddy
 51. Majji Rama Rao
 52. Nittala Lakshmana Rao
 53. P. Kameswari
 54. P.R. Srinivasa Moorthy
 55. Pusuru Ramamurthy
 56. Prudhvi Venkateswara Rao
 57. Rukmbatla Narasimha Swamy
 58. Saride Manikayamma
 59. T.T. Sita
 60. Tadepalli Venkanna
 61. V.V.A. Laxmi
 62. Yeleswarapu Nageswara Sarma
 63. Bhagavatula Rama Krishna Sarr
 64. Durgappa Gavudigara
 65. Siripurapu Prasada Rao
 66. N. Lakshmi Narayana
 67. Pitchuka Kota Subba Rao
 68. T.L. Kanta Rao
- Assam**
69. Amulya Chandra Sarma
 70. Baparam Borah
 71. Bharat Chandra Das
 72. Chandra Sahariah
 73. Kamal Gayan
 74. L. Chongtho Hmar
 75. Paramananda Bor Bayan
- Bihar**
76. Bahar Hussain
 77. Govind Rarh Sharma
 78. Guru Lingaraj Acharya
 79. Janardan Prasad Lal
 80. Jai Nandan Jain

81. Rashim Booshan "Junoo"
 82. Saral Rani
 83. Vishwa Nath Sahoo
 84. Yashoda Devi
 85. Annapurna Devi
 86. Daud Aktar
 87. Kopia Devi
- Chandigarh
88. Rattan Shankar
 89. Prem Parkash
- Delhi
90. Amar Singh
 91. Anil Sen Gupta
 92. Ansari Begum
 93. Chotte Lal
 94. Dinesh Sharma
 95. Jai Govind Sahay 'Unmukt'
 96. Kirti Kumari
 97. Kishan Chand Aryan
 98. K. Ramamurthy
 99. Majeda Khatoon
 100. Mahajanam Sriramurthi
 101. Mohd. Jafar Hayat Lucknavi
 102. Mehmood Jan Khan
 103. Narinder Singh Lal
 104. Oma Kaul
 105. Panna Lal
 106. Prem Prakash
 107. Ramu
 108. Ratan Shankar
 109. Sahil Brelvi
 110. Saligram Gosain
 111. Salma Khan
 112. Umardin
113. Virendra Singh Rahi
 114. Vidya Devi Pathak
 115. Ashok Kaushik
 116. Brij Lal Sharma
 117. Begum Khursheed Latif
 118. Chandra Kumar Mallick
 119. Jagdish Arya
 120. Leela Mukherjee
 121. Lakshmi Devi
 122. Lal Singh
 123. Rajkumari
 124. Reba Mukherjee
 125. Shanti
 126. Sharwan Devi
 127. Trilok Singh Latwal
- Goa
128. Dattaram V. Kanekar
 129. John Claro Fernandes
 130. Manohar Narayan Naik
 131. Naik Narasimha Babuso
 132. Prasad Raghuvir Sawarkar
 133. Radhabai Y. Kamat
 134. Manuel Santana Aguiar
- Gujarat
135. Indiraben Venubhai Pandi
 136. Saroj C. Rathod
 137. Mistry Devyaniben Ashok Kumar
- Haryana
138. Nathi Singh
 139. Shripal Sugam
 140. Jhuman Khan
- Himachal Pradesh
141. Swamy Ramanand
 142. Mangat Ram

Karnataka

143. A.S. Ramakrishna
144. Abdullah Alias Khumar Quresh
145. G.V. Thimmarayappa
146. Ismail Sultan Gaddekar
147. Jayalakshmi M. Inamdar
148. K. Gunda Jois
149. M.R. Ramkrishna Bhagavathra
150. Mallapa Basappa Gani
151. N. Vasantha Kumar
152. N.C. Desai
153. Ramachandra Subraya Hegade
154. S. Nanjundaiah
155. Subhadramma Mansoor
156. Somashekharayya S. Hiremath
157. Shantarambhau Shripad Sunthankar
158. Shareefa Bi
159. B.K. Shivaiah
160. D. Kanak Durga
161. Jon P. Alphonso
162. K. Venkataishmamma
163. Kashibai Bhotappagol
164. Kallappa Channappa Pattanshetty
165. Kallappa Ghulappa Magadum
166. M.N. Singaramma
167. Madivals Swamy
168. N. Chikavenkatappa
169. Shrishail Channappa Pattanshetty
170. Susheela Devi
171. T.V. Raju
172. V. Nagarathan
173. A. Subba Rao
174. K. R. Krishna Swamy
175. Mahabaleswara Shet

176. S.T. Manjunath

Kerala

177. C. Poulese
178. G. Vasanthi Amma
179. Jaganatha Sadagopan Iymgan
180. K. Narayana Pillai
181. K.N. Thankamony
182. Kurian Mambara
183. Kizhakke Veetil Narayana Mara
184. M.K. Anand
185. OPK Sankarankutty Nair
186. P.R. Sankaran Kutty
187. P.S. Marar
188. P.V. Kunhikanna Marar
189. P. Vaidyanathan
190. Paroth Karunan
191. Perinda K. Surendran
192. Pavanah
193. Pandit C.V. Joseph
194. R. Velayudha Pulavar
195. S. Appu Marar
196. Sankara Narayana Panicker
197. E.R. Nayanar
198. E.V. Sreedhar (Bhagavathari)
199. Lakshmim
200. K.M. Appu Marar
201. Kuttan
202. Kamalam
203. Kurien Mamber
204. M. Krishnan Panicker
205. P. Ravindren
206. N.P. Karunakaran Nair
207. P.R. Thilagam
208. R. Kannaiya
209. T.K. Narayanan Nair

210. T.N. Devaki Amma
 211. Thambulinga Rajan
 212. V.K.N. Kutty Nair
 Madhya Pradesh
 213. Asghari Bai
 214. Babulal Verma
 215. Barman Lal Nriyacharya
 216. Dindayal Vyas
 217. Hargovind Vishwa
 218. Kaldas Pant Agle
 219. Lala Jagdalpuri
 220. Mukut Bihari Saroj
 221. Mohan Amber
 222. Mahmood Zaki
 223. Mahendra Kumari Verma
 224. Ram Sahay Pandey
 225. Ram Kalibai Raikwas
 226. Babu Lal Verma
 Manipur
 227. Arambam Jogeshwar Singh
 228. Achom Mani Singh
 229. B. Gurumayum Ongbi Surajmukhi
 230. C. Rokhuma
 231. Chontham Khukhu Yaima
 232. Elangbam Joychandra Singh
 233. Elangbam Birkumar Singh
 234. Gurumayum Jadu Sharma
 235. Gurumayum Ravindra Sharma
 236. Jogen Das
 237. Kshetrimayum Ibohal Singh
 238. Krishna Kanta Mazumdar
 239. Khumdrakpam Mani Singh
 240. Khomlram Indumani Devi
 241. Khoisnam Dhaballo Khaba
 242. Khaidem Bihari Singh
 243. Lairanjam Angou singh
 244. Leitanthem Heramot
 245. Laisram Dananoy Singh
 246. Leimayum Ningol Mena Devi
 247. Leitanthem Chaona Singh
 248. Labuktongbam Shyam Dev Sharma
 249. Mangala Kanta Roy
 250. Maisnam Mani Singh
 251. Naorem Yaishkul Singh
 252. Naorem Munal Singh
 253. Nongmaithem Shakhi Devi
 254. Puyam Muktarei Devi
 255. R. Vanalwama
 256. Sashi Mohan Bhattacharya
 257. Samurailatpam Sanayuaime Sharma
 258. Sapam Manikchand Singh
 259. Thounaojam Biralalu Singh
 260. Sarungbam Amujao Singh
 261. Thiyam Bira Singh
 262. Takhellambam Shajou Singh
 263. Thokchom Amani Devi
 264. Wangkheirakpam Ombi Devi
 265. Wangkheimayum Nilachand Singh
 266. Y. Babudhon Singh
 267. Yumnam Dhananjoy Singh
 268. Yaima Singh Salam
 269. Haobijam Shyamkishor Singh
 270. Liphrakpam Phollo Singh
 271. Mangsidam Bindo Singh
 272. Pukhrambam Gandha Singh
 273. Rameswar Mahanta
 274. Shougaijam Sanahan Devi
 275. Takhellambam Nabakumar Singh
 276. Ngangom Ngoubi Singh

Mizoram

277. R. Vanlawama

Maharashtra

278. Akbar Ahmed Siddiqui
 279. Anand Bapurao Bhorkar
 280. Bhanjibhai L. Patabkar
 281. Bhaskar Tukaram Sawant
 282. Dada Ghatod
 283. Garab Kale
 284. Karosao Anandrao Bokde
 285. Maharudra Dhumal
 286. Manikrao Govinda Dupare
 287. Madhukar R. Khadilkar
 288. Mahadeo Aimaram Bhange
 289. Manikrao
 290. Manikraj Jadhav B.A.
 291. Maruti Tukaram Shind
 292. Mohan Janbaji Kalyankar
 293. Manaji Laxman Palav
 294. Nagnath Reddy Balanna
 295. Naresh Haribhau Nimhe
 296. Pandurang Narayan Wadhai
 297. Pintoji Hullaji Ravanpalle
 298. Pramila M. Dagar
 299. Ramchandra Kisan Kumbhare
 300. Shridhar Arjun Mulik
 301. Shriram K. Ingle
 302. Sonkamble Vishwanath Vithal
 303. Somnath Damodar Zochari
 304. Suryabhan Raoji Lanjwar
 305. Saraswatibai Sunderrao Rana
 306. Shantibai Bapurao Talle
 307. Shanker Ramahji Yewale
 308. Ustad Sher Khan Kutubee Khan

309. Uttamrao
 310. Vaikunth Shamrao Salodkar
 311. Vinayak Deoral Ambhaikar
 312. Mahadev Bansi Dongra
 313. Nandev Laxaman Kalmegh
 314. Nagappa Dattatraya Adam
 315. Sattar Mahabub Shaikh
 316. Tippanna Saoashev Mule
- Orissa
317. Alhadini Kar
 318. Ashok Kumar Chatterjee
 319. Brundaban Patra
 320. Bhagwan Nayak Verma
 321. Champamani Mahapatra
 322. Durlav Chandra Singh
 323. Gangadhar Naik
 324. Jogendra Sahu
 325. Laxminarayan Prasad Ram
 326. Nilamani Satapathy
 327. Pares Chakrabarty
 328. Pratulla Das
 329. Poet Priyanath Mishra
 330. Rabi Narayan Mishra
 331. Ramesh Chandra Beshayi
 332. Rangadhar Panda
 332. Sachidananda Kar
 334. Satchidananda Das
 335. Srihari Nayak
 336. Siba Prasad Das
 337. T. Laxmi Narayan Patra
 338. Tapati Misr
 339. Ananta Prasad Lall
 340. Akshaya Kumar Mohanty
 341. Bhupan Ghose

342. Bhagirathi Mishra
343. Balsar Sabar
344. Bhagaban Sahu
345. Dayanidhi Behera
346. Duryodhan Das
347. Deepak Narayan Singh Deo
348. Dhurba Charan Patra
349. Dwarikanath Mohanty
350. Durga Chandra Sahu
351. Gana Nath Shaw
352. Gloria Mohanty
353. Gopabandhu Nath
354. Golekha Behari Jena
355. Ghanshyam Swain
356. Jeeta Rani Das
357. Karunakar Pahan
358. Kasinath Panda
359. Krishna Chandra Mahapatra
360. Kailash Behari Das
361. Madan Mohan Lenka
362. Manimala Devi
363. Mandardhar Pradhan
364. N.C. Desai
365. Natabar Das
366. Nilamani Das
367. Natabar Panda
368. Nirmal Pattnaik
369. Premananda Mishra
370. Prafulla Kumar Singh Deo
371. Ramesh Chandra Pradhan
372. Radhakrushna Bhanj
373. Braja Mohan Dash
374. Sidheswar Dhal
375. Sarat Chandra Biswal
376. Suddhakar Nayak
377. Tanuja Devi
378. Upendranath Hota
379. Umakant Behera
- Rajasthan
380. Shyam Rai Bhatnagar
381. Zahoor Khan Mewati
- Tamil Nadu
382. G.P. Kamal
383. Mu Ramasubramania Sarma
384. T.M. Sreedhar
385. T. Sundaravaradachari
386. A. Aroulnathan @ Pudhuvai Dasan
387. K.R. Subramaniam
- Uttar Pradesh
388. Abdul Zabbar Hashmi
389. Akbari Begam
390. Amjad Ali
391. Acharaya Paramhans Pramod
392. B.R. Prajapati
393. Babu Lal Shukl
394. Bhairab Dutt Joshi
395. Chander Shekhar Mishra
396. Diwani Ram
397. Faqrullah
398. Gajraj Singh
399. Gulab Bai
400. Ishwari Lal
401. Jhandi Bai (Alias)
402. Jai Narayan Samal
403. Jagar Nath Dubey
404. Kedar Nath Sahoo
405. Krishna Kumari
406. Kalku

407. Kiran Devi
 408. Krishna Saraswat
 409. Lal Singh
 410. Laxmi Devi
 411. Munni Bai
 412. Mohd. Azar Khan Rahi
 413. Mohd Hamid 'Hamid Saharanpuri'
 414. Manik Chandra
 415. Maqsood Ali
 416. Makar Dhvaj Darogha
 417. Mangal Das
 418. Naseer Ahmad
 419. Natthu Master
 420. Nand Lal Sharma
 421. Robbein Shaw Pushp
 422. Ram Swaroop Sharma
 423. Ranjit Singh
 424. Ram Kailash
 425. Ram Narain
 426. Ram Kishore
 427. Shiv Murti Singh Vats
 428. Shiv Prasad Shukla
 429. Saroj Lata
 430. Shiv Murat Singh Yadav
 431. Shiv Nath Singh
 432. Sita Ram Mragendra
 433. Surinder Tiwari
 434. Sheo Prasad Shukla
 435. Shiv Raj Singh
 436. Than Singh
 437. Vidya Devi
 438. Vireswar Prasad
 439. Vishamber Nath Yadav
 440. Zubeda Latafat Husain
 441. Zahur Ahmed Zahur
 442. Ali Hussain
 443. Akhtari Begam
 444. Bangali Babu
 445. Bansidhar Chaurasia
 446. Balkishan Yadav
 447. Bholey Khan
 448. Bholu Datt Tewari
 449. Dhananjay Avasthi
 450. Jumai Khan Azad
 451. Kamal Shukla
 452. Krishna Devi
 453. Kanhiya Lal 'Kalas'
 454. Laiqia Begum
 455. Nasir Hussain Khan
 456. Rajendra Raghuvanshi
 457. Jai Prakash
 458. Janki Devi
 459. Krishna Ch. Nayak
 460. Nagendra Prasad Singh
 461. Mohan Ram
 462. Markandey
 463. Omkar Nath Upadhaya
 464. Prabhavati Dev
 465. Panna Lal Singh
 466. Ram Bholi
 467. Ram Chandra Bhatt
 468. Ramlakhan Yadav
 469. Ramrup Swarankar Pant
 470. Radhey Shyam
 471. Rajjab
 472. Shaida
 473. Ustad Aqueel Ahmed Khan

West Bengal

474. Juthika Roy
475. Mankumar Sen
476. Sunil Das Gupta
477. Tarun Kumar Paul
478. Abhay Charan Das
479. Bhaskar Fouzdar
480. Dilip Moulik
481. Devkumar Ghoshal
482. Deb Kumar Basu
483. Munni Begum
484. Rabindra Nath Datta

*List of Centre State Quota***Orissa**

1. Shri Blaunkeswar Rath
2. Shri Banamber Parida
3. Shri Baishnab Charan Jena
4. Shri Brundaban Mohanta
5. Shri Chandrabhanu Mohapatra
6. Shri Dwarikanath Das
7. Shri Gopal Ghose
8. Shri Golak Chandra Mohanty
9. Shri Gayadhar Barik
10. Shri Hadibandhu Mohanty
11. Shri Indramani Sahoo
12. Shri Kulamani Maharana
13. Shri Keshaba Chandra Meher
14. Smt. Kamala Devi
15. Shri Mukunda Prasad Mohanty
16. Shri Kailash Chandra Pati
17. Shri Khetra Mohan Moharana
18. Shri Madhabananda Kar
19. Smt. Minati Biswal
20. Shri Nidhiram Majhi
21. Shri Natabar Sena

22. Shri Narayan Tripathy
23. Shri Nirranjan Kar
24. Shri Nityananda Mohapatra
25. Shri Nirranjan Sahoo
26. Shri Puran Chandra Das
27. Shri Parbati Charan Rout
28. Shri Prafulla Chandra Mohanty
29. Smt. Pramodini Pattanaik
30. Smt. Parasmani Debadasi
31. Shri Raghunath Dutta
32. Shri Rama Prasad Mohanty
33. Smt. Rukmini Devi
34. Shri Rabi Singh
35. Shri Satyananda Nayak
36. Smt. Surekha Devi
37. Shri Udaybhann Mahapatra
38. Smt. Sundarmani Devi
39. Shri Sashi Bhusan Mohapatra
40. Smt. Amana Moharana
41. Smt. Basanata Manjari Mishra
42. Shri Gajendra Nayak
43. Shri Ghaan Shyam Kar
44. Shri Gopinath Senapati
45. Shri Guru Pankaj Charan Das
46. Smt. Kamla Nayak
47. Smt. Kashinath Puja Panda
48. Shri Kedamath Mohapatra
49. Shri Kumar Kabi Arakhita Pradhan
50. Shri Madan Mohan Mahapatra
51. Shri Ratnakar Das
52. Smt. Sarat Bhuyan
53. Smt. Sarojini Pattanaik
54. Shri Bansidhar Mahapatra
55. Smt. Bhanumati Devi

56. Shri Chaturbhja Sahoo
 57. Shri Ghanshyam Tripathy
 58. Shri Gumane Nayak
 59. Shri Haramani Padhi
 60. Shri Hari Saran Mahapatra
 61. Shri Jagannath Behera,
 62. Shri Iswar Chandra Mohanty,
 63. Shri Jogendra Kumar Mohanty
 64. Shri Jayahari Mohanta
 65. Shri Kalanidhi Banchanidhi Satapa
 66. Shri Kartik Ch. Swain
 67. Shri Kolha Charan Sahoo
 68. Shri Prandbadhu Mishra
 69. Shri Puma Chandra Surdeo
 70. Shri Ranjit Singh
 71. Smt. Sakuntala Das
 72. Smt. Sujata Priyambada
 73. Shri Nagendra Nath Ray
 74. Smt. Parbati Devi
 75. Shri Mukunda Prasad Mohanty
 76. Shri Bhagirathi Rout
- Pondicherry
77. Shri K. Rajnarayan
- Punjab
78. Shri Urmil Dinesh
 79. Shri Santosh Singh Dehir
- Maharashtra
80. Bapurao Verupaksh Vibute
 81. Chandrakant Ramchandra Hadkar
 82. Jamodekar Rustumboa Ababua
 83. Marutirao A. Karande
 84. Shahir Anandrao Keshav Suryawar
 85. Suman G. Dharmadhikari
 86. Shalini Navekar

87. Shivram Jayaram Parab
 Andhra Pradesh
88. A. Venkateswarlu
 89. Ch. Bhagayamma
 90. Desi Basavaiah
 91. Peddoju Namah Sivaiah Bhagava
 92. Sripada Sri Rama Murty
 93. Shaik Kuddan Saheb
 94. Vellaturi Poornananda Sarma
 95. Shri Veruri Ramaiah
 Mizoram
96. Shri Khawlkungi
 97. Shri P.S. Chawngthu
 Assam
98. Bharati Devi
 99. Dharani Dhar Das
 100. Jogen Sarnah
 101. Pona Ram Rajmedhi
 102. Mukul Hazarika
 103. Rabindra Nath Bhattacharya
 Haryana
104. Shri Munshi Ram
 Uttar Pradesh
105. Smt. Chunni Bai
 106. Sh. Gaffoor Khan
 107. Sh. Hukum Chandra Vashney
 108. Shri Hari Lal
 109. Sh. Hukum Chand
 110. Sh. Janardan Das
 111. Smt. Murat
 112. Smt. Rajendra Kumari Jain
 113. Smt. Sushila Acharya
 Karnataka
114. B.P.R. Vittal

115. B.S. Ramachar
 116. Chandrashekhar P. Puranikmath
 117. Channabasaiah Gubbi
 118. Pandit Manikrao Raichurkar
 119. Shri Seshanarayana
 120. V. Mangala Devi
 121. Sh. M.R. Rangaswami
- Kerala**
122. A.R. Thankappan
 123. Ammannur Parameswara Chakyar
 124. C.K. Panicker
 125. Cherthala Thankappa Panicker
 126. Evoor Demodaran Nair
 127. Edavalath Kunhi Kanna Peduval
 128. K. Bharathy
 129. K.Kutty
 130. K. Krishnan
 131. K.V. Chattu Kerala Varman
 132. K.V. Challapan Bhagavathar
 133. K.C. Parameswaran
 134. Kochammu
 135. Kalayani Kutty Amma
 136. L. Chellamma
 137. L. Janakiamma
 138. L. Sarasamma
 139. N.P. Sukumaran
 140. N. Gopalan Nair
 141. Narayanan Namboorthir
 142. Narayanan Swamy
 143. P.C. Baby
 144. P.K. Vijayabhanu
 145. P. Krishnam Nair
 146. Sarojini Amma
 147. Thiruvallam Bhaskaran Nair
 148. V. Hajara
 149. V. Krishna Pillai

- Goa
150. Alka M. Velingkar
 151. Kashinath Shanker Shirodkar
 152. Krishana Babu Mashelkar
 153. Nouseo Ramachandra Mhamal
 154. Vishwanath Y. Naik
 155. Waman G. Naik Pilgaonker
 156. Pandit Prabir Ghosh

Rajasthan

157. Roshan Akhtar Begum
 158. Gendi Devi
 159. Sh. Gopikrishan Bhat
 160. Sh. Nanu Singh
- West Bengal**
161. Bakul Chakraborty
 162. Bindhya Basini Devi
 163. Dakshina Ranjan Roy Choudhury
 164. Prunendu Sekhar Bandopadhyaya
 165. Nirmal Ghosh.

Defence Projects Scrapped by DEAL

*260. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Defence projects were scrapped by the Defence Electronic and Applications Ltd. (DEAL), Dehradun, during last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the projects that were scrapped alongwith reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of work which was completed on those projects and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) the projects which are presently taken in hand by DEAL alongwith the time by when these were initiated and targeted date of its completion, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) DEAL, Dehradun has not scrapped any project during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The details of current Projects of DEAL:

Title	Date of Sanction	Target Date for Completion
Trans-Receiver Development	3rd June 1999	3rd June 2003
Development of Network Management System	12th April 1999	11th October 2002
Development of Millimeter wave Focal Plane Array Imager	7th January 1998	6th January 2002
Development of Composite Net Radio and user trials	1st May 1992	31st March 2002

Commercial Frauds

*265. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the introduction of value based advance licence scheme and the subsequent implementation of various other export incentives, commercial frauds have shot up in the country;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard during the last one year;

(c) whether the various export schemes are grossly violated to evade duty etc. by exporters/importers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such commercial frauds by exporters/importers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Export incentive Schemes are announced by the Government to boost exports. The basic purpose of all these Schemes is to provide duty neutralisation in respect of inputs which have suffered the incidence of either Customs Duties or Central Excise Duties. Certain Schemes also aim to provide duty free inputs required for the manufacture of export product. Value based Advanced Licence (VBAL) Scheme was introduced in April, 1992 and it was in operation up to January, 1997. At present Advance Licence Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme, Duty Free Remission Certificate (DRFC) Scheme, Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme, Duty Drawback Scheme, 100% Export Oriented Unit (EOU) Scheme, Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Scheme and Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Scheme are in operation through which export incentives are given to exporters. Based on the extent of misuse/abuses detected and the

volume of exports/imports during the last one year, it would be incorrect to say that commercial frauds have shot up in the country.

(b) Details of fraud cases detected during last one year under various Export Promotion Schemes which are in operation and through which export incentives are given, are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Various Export Promotion Schemes have been devised to grant export incentive to the exporter with a view to boost exports. Although cases of abuse have been noticed by the Government, strict action against the offender is taken by imposing fine/penalty, detection under COFEPOSA, arrest, cancellation of licence, etc. besides recovery of duty.

(e) Following steps have been taken by the Government to check commercial frauds under various Export Promotion Schemes:-

- (i) Whenever a serious violation/novel modus operandi comes to the notice of Government, alert notices are issued to field formation to prevent recurrence.
- (ii) Various safeguards have been inbuilt in the Export Promotion Schemes to prevent misuse some of which are as follows:-

(1) Licences issued under Advance Licence Scheme are subject to actual user condition and are non-transferable.

(2) Capital Goods imported under EPCG Scheme are subject to actual user condition till fulfilment of export obligation.

(3) A close nexus is specified for duty free import under DFRC Scheme.

(4) In respect of items having DEPB rate of 17% or above, value cap is specified to prevent unintended benefit.

(5) Caps have been specified in All Industry Rate of Drawback to prevent availment of higher drawback by over-invoicing. Present Market Value checks have also been provided for goods exported to sensitive destinations.

Statement

Details of Cases of Commercial Frauds Detected During 2000-2001

Name of Chief Commissionerate	Number of cases	Amount involved (Rs. in Lakhs)
Calcutta	8	650
Bangalore	14	270
Pune	1	71
Jaipur	1	182
Ahmedabad	20	1046
Chennai	25	118
Mumbai	20	2141
Delhi	98	3073
Lucknow	3	195
DGRI	47	3905
Total	237	11651

US Restriction on Textile Imports

*266. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the textiles exported with its value during each of the last three years, country-wise, particularly to USA;

(b) whether the US restrictions on the textiles import from Asia have caused a great setback to the Indian textile industry;

(c) if so, the reasons for imposing restrictions;

(d) whether any concrete action plan has been worked out by the Government to meet this situation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which it will help Indian Textile Industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The value of textiles exports to US and other countries in the last three years are given below:-

(US \$ Million)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Textile exports to all Countries	9548.2	10508.5	12097.4
of which:			
Share of US	2501.5	2737.5	3218.7

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta.

(b) and (c) Till December 31, 1994, the exports of textiles to certain developed countries (e.g. US; member countries of EU; Canada) had been governed by bilateral textile agreements entered into between India and these countries under the aegis of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), outside the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). With effect from January 1, 1995, the quantitative restrictions (import quotas) in the bilateral agreements under the MFA, are being governed by the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT. Presently, our textiles and clothing items face restraints in USA, European Union and Canada. Quotas by themselves are trade restrictive.

(d) to (f) As per ATC, the textile quotas would be phased out and textile sector fully integrated into WTO by 1st January 2005. With a view to prepare the textile industry to successfully face competition of the quota free regime, Government have been taking measures from time to time. National Textile Policy — 2000 (NTP-2000) has been announced in November 2000 to provide the policy direction for sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

Some of the important initiatives taken are:-

- (i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector and has increased the SSI limit for Knitwear sector from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 5 crores.
- (ii) A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the B.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e. apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 15 crores has also been made in B.E. 2001-02 for scheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.

- (iii) The Technology Upgradation of Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector to that it can become more competitive in international trade. Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted.
- (iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.
- (v) With a view to strengthen entire value addition chain, the import of a large number of garment machinery (159 items) has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%. 12 items out of these will even not face any countervailing duty.
- (vi) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought to 5%. A programme has also been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- (vii) Foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route has been allowed in the textile sector with certain exceptions.
- (viii) The relaxations have been given under the Quota Policy to reduce the transaction costs for exports.
- (ix) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focussed steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products.
- (x) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

Public Distribution (Control) Order, 2001

*267. SHRI A. NARENDRA:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 sets a three month deadline to identify below poverty line (BPL) families;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have issued an order making it mandatory for the State Governments to identify people living below poverty line and also to ensure that they get food at fair price shops;

(c) whether 13 States and 4 Union Territories are still to identify the families covered by the Antyodaya Scheme;

(d) if so, the directions given by the Union Government to these States and the reasons for its delay; and

(e) the extent to which the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 will help the poor families to get the food in fair price shops?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR):
(a) and (b) The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 issued under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides that the exercise of identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya families, wherever it has not been done already, shall be completed by the State Governments within three months of the issue of the Order. The Order also provides that ration cardholders shall be entitled to draw foodgrains from Fair Price Shops on a weekly basis.

(c) and (d) Leaving aside Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Manipur, Lakshadweep and Tamil Nadu, the Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been implemented in all States/UTs. The above named States/UTs have been asked to complete the task of identification of Antyodaya families and issues of distinctive ration cards to them at the earliest so that the poorest of the poor families can avail the benefits under the scheme.

(e) The implementation of the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 will make the Public Distribution System more effective and ensure greater transparency and accountability. The Order has a number of provisions to help poor families get foodgrains from Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in time according to scale and prices fixed.

[Translation]

Value of Rupee

*268. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the value of Indian rupee touched an all time low against the major foreign currencies following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 in New York and Washington;

(b) if so, the value of Indian rupee against major foreign currencies during each of the last six months; and

(c) the steps taken to check the fall in the value of Indian rupee against major foreign currencies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The exchange rate of the rupee was

Rs. 47.45 per US dollar on September 11, 2001, and stood at Rs. 48.18 per US dollar on September 17, 2001. Since then, the exchange rate has been in the range between Rs. 47.85 to Rs. 48.08 per US dollar. In comparison, the exchange rate of the rupee against other major currencies, viz. the Yen, Pound Sterling and the Euro, after depreciating somewhat during the next two to three weeks after the attacks, recovered fully or strengthened significantly in the subsequent period.

(b) The monthly average exchange rates of the rupee against major world currencies from June 2001, to November 2001, are given below:

Month	Rs./US dollar (Period Avg.)	Rs./Yen* (Period Avg.)	Rs./Euro (Period Avg.)	Rs./Pound Stg. (period Avg.)
June, 2001	47.00	38.42	40.16	65.89
July, 2001	47.14	37.84	40.55	66.65
August, 2001	47.13	38.73	42.37	67.69
September, 2001	47.64	40.12	43.41	69.69
October, 2001	48.02	39.62	43.54	69.74
November, 2001	47.99	39.23	42.66	69.03

* Rupees per 100 yens.

(c) The movements in exchange rate of the rupee are largely determined by demand and supply conditions in the foreign exchange market. The developments in the financial markets in India and abroad are monitored closely both by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India and appropriate measures are taken, when necessary, to reduce excessive volatility in the exchange rate, prevent emergence of destabilizing speculative activities, develop an orderly foreign exchange market condition and to help maintain adequate level of foreign exchange reserves.

Bank Credit to Commercial Sector

*269. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Reserve Bank of India figures between early April and July 27, 2001, credit to the commercial sector has grown by just Rs. 1,193 crore against Rs. 18,550 crore in the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and loan granted to non-agricultural sector by banks during the months of August, September and October, 2001, separately; and

(c) the action plan prepared by the Reserve Bank of India to improve the credit flow for commercial/non-agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per information available with the Reserve Bank of India, non-food bank credit of scheduled commercial banks during the year 2001-2002 upto July 27, 2001 increased by Rs. 1,715 crore compared to an increase of Rs. 14,482 crore during the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) The expansion of bank credit and other flows to the commercial sector from the banking system remained sluggish due to subdued industrial growth and depressed investment demand. The non-food bank credit of scheduled commercial banks has however, increased by Rs. 4,024 crore, Rs. 3,913 crore and Rs. 12,751 crore, respectively during months of August, September and October 2001 (on the basis of the last reporting Friday of each month).

(c) On a review of macroeconomics and monetary developments, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced Bank Rate by 0.50 percentage point from 7.0 per cent to 6.50 per cent with effect from the close of business in October 22, 2001 as a part of monetary policy measures which are announced six monthly. Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) was also reduced by 200 basis points to 5.50 per cent from 7.50 per cent of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL.) Effective from the fortnight beginning November 3, 2001 CRR was reduced to 5.75 per cent; and effective fortnight beginning December 29, 2001, the CRR will be reduced further to 5.50 per cent of NDTL.

It is expected that these changes will facilitate the development of a short term yield curve, develop money market, reduce the regulatory arbitrage between banks and non-banks, enhance the availability of lendable resources with the banks and improve the efficiency of indirect instruments in the conduct of monetary policy. At the present level of NDTL, the combined impact of the above two measures will result in augmenting lendable resources of the banking system by about Rs. 8,000 crore.

Sanctions Imposed by Japan

*270. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sanctions imposed by Japan on India in the year 1998;

(b) the sectors affected due to imposition of these sanctions and the extent of loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) In May 1998, the Government of Japan had announced the following measures:

1. Freezing of Grant aid for new projects except emergency and humanitarian aid and Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects.
2. Freezing of Yen loan for new projects.
3. The Government of Japan cautiously examined the loans extended to India by international financial institutions.
4. Cancellation of Meeting of India Development Forum in Tokyo on June 30-July 1, 1998.

(b) and (c) During the period of sanctions, Japanese assistance to major on-going projects and Japanese

contributions in the area of emergency and humanitarian needs, such as assistance provided at the time of the Gujarat Earthquake, grants for Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, as well as grants for various grassroots projects continued. The sanction did not affect the ongoing projects and Technical Cooperation Schemes of Japan and the post sanctions years recorded the highest level of disbursement at JY 96.742 billion in 1999-2000 against the disbursement level at JY 64.58 billion in 1996-97. In terms of bilateral ODA inflow to India, the assistance from Japan is the highest even during the period of sanctions.

New commitments of Japanese ODA to India registered a decline in terms of assistance pledged. The commitment of Japanese ODA to India declined from JY 132.725 billion in 1997-98 (pre sanction year) to JY 11.537 billion in 1998-99 committed as second tranche to Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project with nil figure during the year 1999-2000. An amount of JY 18.926 billion was pledged as second tranche of loan for the ongoing MRTS project of DMRC and Simhadri Thermal Power Project of NTPC during FY 2000-2001.

During the period of sanctions, those projects which sought Japanese assistance were advised to tap funds from other donors or find out alternate funding arrangements so that the projects implementation do not suffer. The economic measures have since been discontinued w.e.f. 26th October, 2001 by the Government of Japan.

[English]

Trade Disputes

*271. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether of trade dispute cases filed by India with WTO against various countries and *vice-versa*;

(b) whether India has lost WTO dispute with the U.S. and the European Union on the provisions of the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding that foreign auto manufacturers had to sign with the Government on indigenisation and export obligations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of other cases where India lost under the WTO and under the agreements concerning thereto as on date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The details of the various cases in the Dispute Settlement Body of World Trade Organization where India is either the complaining country or the country complained against are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The dispute settlement Panel set up in WTO to consider the issue has not yet finalized its findings.

(d) The three disputes in which the findings of the Panels/Appellate Body went against India are the two separate complaints by the US and the European Commission (EC) against our patent policy and a complaint by the US against quantitative restrictions on imports maintained by India for balance of payments reasons.

Statement

Status of Disputes in Dispute Settlement Body of WTO between India and other Countries

S. No.	Subject to the Disputes	Complainant	Against	Status
	2	3	4	5
Disputes Raised by India				
1.	Quantitative restrictions on imports of textile and clothing products	India	Turkey	Won
2.	Ban on importation of shrimp and shrimp products from these countries imposed by the US	India	USA	Won
3.	Measures affecting imports of Women's and girl's wool coats	India	USA	Won
4.	Transitional safeguard measures affecting imports of woven wool shirts and blouses	India	USA	Won
5.	Import regime on Automobiles	India	Poland	Amicably Settled
6.	Application of Cumulative Recovery System (CRS) for India's exports of rice	India	EC	Settled
7.	Anti-Dumping actions on unbleached cotton fabrics (UCF)	India	EC	ED did not continue the anti-dumping duty. India is not pursuing
8.	Anti-Dumping proceedings against import of Cotton type Bed-linen	India	EC	Won
9.	Anti-Dumping duties imposed by South African Authorities on imports of anti-biotics from India	India	South Africa	Continuing
10.	Anti-dumping duties imposed by US on CTL Steel Plate imports from India	India	US	Continuing
11.	Anti Dumping duties imposed by Brazil on Jute bag imports from India	India	Brazil	Continuing
12.	Argentina Drugs Dispute	India	Argentina	Continuing

1	2	3	4	5
13.	US legislation on dumping and subsidy offset (Byrd Amendment)	India and 8 other countries	US	Continuing
<i>Disputes Raised by Other Countries Against India</i>				
14.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	EC	India	Amicably settled
15.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	Australia	India	Amicably settled
16.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	Canada	India	Amicably Settled
17.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	New Zealand	India	Amicably Settled
18.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	Switzerland	India	Amicably Settled.
19.	India's quantitative restrictions on imports on agricultural, textile and industrial products	USA	India	Lost
20.	Alleged absence in India of patent protection for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products and the absence of formal systems that permit the filing of patent	EC	India	Lost
21.	Restrictions on export of products including raw hides and skins	EC	India	Continuing
22.	Patent protection for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products	USA	India	Lost
23.	Concerning certain measures affecting the Automotive sector - Auto Policy	EC	India	Continuing
24.	Import restrictions maintained by India for reasons other than Article XVIII: B of GATT 1994	EC	India	Continuing
25.	A series of customs duties increases implemented by Indian authorities	EC	India	Continuing
26.	Concerning certain measures affecting the Automotive sector—Auto policy	USA	India	Continuing

Production and Export of Quality Cotton

*272 SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian industry is losing its cotton edge in the international market;

(b) if so, the main reason for the same;

(c) whether the Government have decided to take positive steps to encourage production and export of quality cotton at internationally competitive prices;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the ceiling for providing funds for development of the industry under textile upgradation fund has been removed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Cotton Textile Exports have been showing an increasing trend; the details for the last three years are as follows:

(In million US Dollar)			
Item	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Cotton Yarn, Fabrics & Made-ups	2771.76	3019.95	3499.60
Ready Made Garments of Cotton including Accessories	3147.29	3247.41	3926.63
Total	5919.05	6267.36	7426.23

(c) and (d) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, the Government launched in February 2000,

Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) 2000; the mission consists of four mini-missions with details as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Mini mission	Objective	Implementing Agency	Ninth Plan outlay (1999-2002) - Centre share
I.	Cotton Research and Technology Generation	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	40.00
II.	Dissemination of Technology	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	349.31
III.	Development of market infrastructure	Ministry of Textiles	42.75
IV.	Modernisation of ginning & pressing factories	Ministry of Textiles	18.75

(e) and (f) No ceiling has been prescribed for providing funds for modernization of the industry under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme.

[*Translation*]

Export of Gems and Jewellery to USA

*273. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the export of gems and jewellery items exported to America during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the export of these items;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost its export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) As per the provisional figures given by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai (GJEPC), the export of gems and jewellery items to the United States of America during each of the last three years is as under:-

Items of Export	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
	Rupees in Crores	US dollars in Millions	Rupees in Crores	US dollars in Millions	Rupees in Crores	US Dollars in Millions
Cut and polished Diamonds	7972.56	1900.18	10546.51	2442.44	9702.33	2144.33
Coloured Gemstones	319.74	76.52	418.88	96.96	472.18	103.72
Gold Jewellery	1827.99	436.55	2584.69	598.60	2930.39	646.21
Others	121.79	29.06	116.49	27.05	167.09	36.76
Total	10242.08	2442.31	13666.57	3165.05	13272.00	2931.02

From the above data it can be seen that there has been a growth of 29.59% in exports during 1999-2000 over the year 1998-1999 in dollar terms, (33.43% in Rupee terms) and a decline of 7.39% during 2000-2001 over the exports in the year 1999-2000 in dollars terms (a decline of 2.88% in Rupee terms). The over-all increase in exports in 2000-2001 over 1998-1999 is 20% in dollar terms (29.58% in Rupee terms).

As per the provisional figures of GJEPC, the export of gems and jewellery to USA during April 2001-October 2001 were US\$ 1478.22 million as compared to US\$ 1922.29 million during the corresponding period in the previous year showing a decline of about 23.1% in dollar terms and about 19.2% in Rupee terms.

The major reasons for decline in exports are as follows:

- (a) Economic slow down in the developed countries.
- (b) Fall in gold price in the international market resulting in corresponding decrease in the export value of the gold jewellery.
- (c) Tremendous growth in intake by major markets during the year 1999-2000 due to euphoria created by the millennium year, and some goods are still held in the pipeline by the trade.
- (d) The devastating earthquake in Gujarat on 26th January, 2001 also had a dampening effect on the diamond industry particularly in Ahmedabad and Surat.

Government have identified gems and jewellery as one of the thrust sectors for exports and in order to give

a boost to the exports of gems and jewellery, the Government and the GJEPC have taken several initiatives. Some of the important initiatives include:-

- Preparing of a medium-term export strategy;
- Exploring the possibilities of direct procurement of rough diamonds from diamond mining countries;
- Providing funds under Critical Infrastructure Balancing Scheme to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Centre of Jewellery Design and Manufacture, under the auspices of Indian Diamond Institute at Surat to give a fillip to jewellery design and manufacturing;
- Promotion of the image of India's gems and jewellery abroad through frequent advertisements/publicity campaigns in international trade journals; participation in international fairs, buyers-sellers meet, direct approach to mass retailers etc.;
- Exploring and identifying new markets by undertaking market studies through expert consultants and by deputing Indian designers to various international trade fairs and exhibitions for on-the-spot study for latest trends in designs;
- Newer markets in the Latin American Countries are also being closely analysed for evolving a strategy for promotion of gems and jewellery exports from India;
- Promoting Hall Marking of gold jewellery in India through publicity campaigns so as to create an image of quality for the made in India jewellery.

Based on the feedback and requests received from the exporters and GJEPC, necessary amendments were carried out in the last Exim Policy with a view to facilitate exports.

[English]

Transport Subsidy Scheme

*274. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether no transport subsidy has been given to Lakshadweep, though the scheme to promote industry in remote, hilly and inaccessible areas was launched in 1971;

(b) if so, whether Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have also not been given subsidy during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to release the transport subsidy to these U.Ts for the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Under the Transport Subsidy Scheme, 1971, the Central Government reimburses the amounts disbursed by State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to eligible industrial units located in the selected areas. No reimbursement claims have been received from the Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the State of Sikkim in respect of the period in question.

[Translation]

Black Money

*275. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total black money in the country;

(b) whether CBI has recently made any assessment in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of black money, fake currency, excise evasion and bank frauds estimated by CBI;

(d) the Government response thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Sir, there is no exact estimate of black money in the country. However, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy had made a study in 1983-84 where black money was estimated to be approximately 20% of GDP. No further study has been made at the instance of this Ministry.

(b) CBI has not made any study in this regard.

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

Rejection of Indian Wheat by Iraq

*276. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has once again refused to accept six lakh tonnes of the Indian wheat recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the other items exported from India, which have been rejected by Iraq during the last three years;

(d) whether it has affected the credibility of the country at the international level; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in the matter alongwith full details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) No allocation of wheat has been made by the Food Corporation of India after June 2001 for the purpose of export to Iraq.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such information. However, the exports to Iraq are on the increase as shown below:-

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Exports (US\$ Mn)	35.39	52.51	83.54

(d) and (e) The export of wheat to other countries is continuing. The Food Corporation of India has been asked to ensure that no wheat consignment is sent to Iraq unless the wheat is cleaned to meet the requirements of the Grain Board of Iraq.

Health Insurance

*277. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to allow private companies to enter into health insurance exclusively without foraying into enter the life or general insurance segment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) All new private insurance companies granted registration by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) to transact either life or general insurance business can provide health cover to individuals or group of individuals.

According to provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938, IRDA can give preference in registration to a new insurance company which agrees to provide such health covers

Further, IRDA (Third Party Administrators - Health Services) Regulations, 2001 have also been notified on 17.9.2001. These regulations provide for licensing of Third Party Administrators (TPAs). The TPAs would render services related to health insurance business under an agreed arrangement with an insurance company. The scope of these services will not include soliciting or underwriting of insurance business. It may, however, be mentioned that till date no such licence has been issued by IRDA

Inviting Foreign Partners for Setting up Godowns

*278. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have invited foreign partners for setting up godowns in the country;

(b) if so, whether Food Corporation of India has not been able to finalise the tender/bid till date; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains announced by the

Government seeks to harness the efforts and resources of public and private sectors, both domestic and foreign, to build and operate infrastructure for bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The policy also envisages creation of conventional storage capacity through private sector participation.

For creation of infrastructure for bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains on Build-Own-operate (BOO) basis, the Developer-Cum-Operator will be selected through the process of international competitive bidding. RITES, a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, has been engaged as a consultant for this process. In the first stage, Request for Qualification (RFQ) is to be invited for shortlisting of parties. In the second stage, detailed financial bids will be invited from the short listed parties. The FCI has already advised RITES to invite RFQ through global advertisement.

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for Textile and Jute Industry

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

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved any financial scheme for technology upgradation for textile and Jute Industry to enhance their production, quality and competitiveness in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of beneficiaries who have been provided funds since its inception;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment regarding the per capita requirement and production of cloth after the recent census; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for textile & jute industries, which is in operation since 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years. The principal objective of the scheme is to meet the modernisation needs of the textile and jute industries to enhance their viability, and competitiveness in the domestic as well as international markets.

(b) The scheme provides a reimbursement of 5% point on the interest charged by the lending agency on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with

the scheme. Any textile unit, which is eligible as per the normal lending norms of the concerned financial institutions and fulfils the benchmark criteria of the scheme, can avail of funds under the scheme.

As on 30.9.2001, an amount of Rs. 4820 crore has been sanctioned by the financial institutions to the 1098 applications, out of which Rs. 3023 crore has been disbursed to 830 applications.

(c) and (d) The projected per capita availability of cloth and the estimated production of cloth during the current year and the X Plan period are as follows:

Year	Per Capita Availability of cloth (in Square meter)	Estimated production of cloth in Million Square meter
2001-02	23.93	34200
2002-03	24.69	36200
2003-04	25.48	38300
2004-05	26.29	40550
2005-06	27.13	42950
2006-07	28.00	45500

Export of Sugar

*280. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has recently reduced the quota of sugar import from India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken up the matter with the Government of U.S.A.; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Production of NCES

2636. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government directly/indirectly on the production of non-conventional energy during the last three years;

(b) the various units of non-conventional energy produced during the said period; and

(c) the various methods used for producing non-conventional energy in the country, method-wise and quantity-wise, during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry has spent a total amount of Rs. 947.32 crores for production of non-conventional energy during the last three years i.e. 1998-99 to 2000-01. During this period, it is estimated that about 9787 million units of electrical energy have been generated from major non-conventional energy sources of wind, small hydro and biomass energy in the country. The Ministry is promoting and implementing various non-conventional energy programmes/schemes for producing decentralised rural energy based on standalone systems and for producing power based on grid connected systems. Various systems/devices such as biogas plants, improved chulhas, small hydro power systems, biomass plants, wind power plants, solar energy plants and waste to energy plants are being set up throughout the country. The quantum of energy produced from the major power generating systems, method-wise, and the number of decentralized systems installed are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of energy produced from the major power generating systems of non-conventional energy sources during the last three years (1998-99 to 2000-2001)

S.No.	Sources	Energy produced/generated (in million units)
1.	Wind Energy	4093
2.	Small Hydro Power	3236
3.	Biomass Cogeneration	2060
4.	Biomass Power	120
5.	Biomass Gasifier	184.2
6.	Waste to Energy	93.8
Total		9787

Number of Decentralized Energy systems installed during the last three years (1998-99 to 2000-2001)

S. No.	Systems/devices	Systems installed
1.	Biogas Plants (Nos. in lakh)	4.89
2.	Improved Chulha (Nos. in lakh)	55.05
3.	Solar Photovoltaic	
	a. Solar Home Lighting (Nos.)	82,112
	b. Solar Lanterns (Nos.)	1,72,493
	c. Solar Street Lighting Systems (Nos.)	8,797
	d. Solar Power Plants (kWp)	355

(kWp=Kilowatt Peak)

[Translation]

Irregularities by LPG Dealers

2637 SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:
SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:

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

(a) whether the employees of the LPG agencies visit frequently the consumers homes for checking gas stoves and install substandard spare parts and rubber tubes at exorbitant rates;

(b) whether the consumers are compelled to purchase the I.S.I. marked gas stove from the gas agency in the name of safety; and

(c) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard alongwith the action taken against the erring LPG agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) LPG distributors are under instructions from the OMCs to do mandatory inspection of LPG equipments at the

customer's premises once in two years for purpose of safety. For this purpose, they are authorised to collect Rs. 25/- as inspection charges. OMCs have not reported any complaint of overcharging on this aspect from customers. Further, consumers are free to purchase the ISI mark hot plate from any source as per their choice. The complaints received from consumers regarding forced sale of hot plates etc. are investigated by Oil Marketing Companies and on the establishment of a complaint, action against the erring LPG distributor is taken in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines, 2001.

Petrol Reserves in Rajasthan

2638. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any petrol reserves in Rajasthan alongwith the number of pumps installed to pump out petrol in the State;

(b) whether nay zones were constituted on exploration work for petrol with joint ventures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and break up of share of such ventures along with loss suffered by the Government, if any, in the exploration work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The estimated oil reserves in Rajasthan in the areas of operation of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Private/joint venture companies is 4.75-7.35 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) including about 2.20 MMT of heavy oil.

(b) and (c) Government of India had signed Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) for five exploration blocks in Rajasthan, out of which four were signed with private companies prior to NELP and one under NELP-II with OIL. However, PSC for one block has since been closed. The details of the other four blocks are given below:-

Block	Contractor	Participating Interest
RJ-ON-90/1	Cairn Energy India Ltd.	50%
	Shell India Prod. Dev. B.V.	50%
RJ-ON-90/5	Essar Oil Ltd.	75%
	Polish Oil & Gas Company	25%
RJ-ON/6	Phoenix Overseas Ltd.	100%
RJ-ONN-2000/1	OIL	100%

The Contractors are carrying out exploration work under the terms of their respective Production Sharing Contract and Government of India has not suffered any loss on this account.

[English]

Posts Reserved for DOPT

2639. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DOPT OM NO. 36012/196-Estt.(Res.) dated July 2, 1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, indicate the total number of persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit to different categories of service and not counted against the reserved quota of vacancies/posts for their communities during the last three years under Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources; and

(c) indicate the instances where candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has a sanctioned staff strength of 397, which includes Group A,B,C & D. Out of this, cadre of 127 staff belonging to the Central Secretariat are being controlled by the Ministry of Power and they are maintaining the reservation rosters etc. 13 Posts of Group "A" are being controlled by the DOP&T. The Deptt. of Official Language is controlling 5 posts of official language in the Group 'A', 'B' & 'C'. This Ministry is a scientific Ministry and having 81 scientific posts of Group 'A'. Reservation is applicable only on the entry grade in scientific posts. This Ministry is having administrative control over scientific and group 'D' posts only. Some isolated (ex-cadre) posts are filled in this Ministry on deputation basis, but no reservation is applicable to such posts. No recruitment for Scientific

posts has taken place for the last three years in this Ministry. Promotion of Scientists is covered under Flexible Complementing Scheme and no reservation is applicable. No group 'D' staff belonging to SC, ST and OBC have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit basis during the last three years.

(c) Does not arise.

SCs/STs and OBCs in PSUs

2640. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'posts' in Class I (Group A) Category Class II (Group B) and equivalents thereof under all Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises, Statutory Organizations/Corporations, Autonomous Organizations, Attached/Subordinate Offices under his Ministry; and

(b) the number of persons belonging to General, SC, ST and 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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The number of posts in Class I (Group A) and Class II (Group B) under all Public Sector Undertakings are as under:

	No. of Posts
Class I (Group A)	41919
Class II (Group B)	12160

(b) The number of posts occupied by General/SCs/STs & OBCs in Group A and Group B in all PSUs is given below:

	Group A	% age	Group B	% age
General	32979	78.67	9532	78.39
SCs	5767	13.76	1767	14.53
STs	1936	4.76	687	5.85
OBCs	1237	2.95	174	1.43

Building of Railway Freight Terminals

2641. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Eastern Railway has decided to build up railway freight terminals with private funding for public use;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the stations selected for this purpose;

(c) whether the Railway Board has reviewed performance of South Eastern Railway;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures decided to be taken to meet the financial crunch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) South Eastern Railway has issued a press advertisement inviting "Expression of Interest" from prospective investors for setting up privately funded freight terminals. The last date for receipt of "Expression of Interest" was 12.11.2001. The locations identified by the Railway include Shalimar, Sankrail, Visakhapatnam, Mandir Hasaud, Hatia, Tatanagar, Kalaikunda, Bhilai, Bondamunda and Berhampur. Individual firms/corporate entities having sound technical, financial and management capability in developing such facilities are eligible to apply

(c) and (d) Performance review of Zonal Railways including South Eastern Railway is an ongoing exercise with Railway Board. Loading and earnings therefrom constitute the important parameters monitored regularly. The loading and earning from goods traffic of South Eastern Railway upto October 2001 was 104.95 Metric Tonne and Rs. 3399.28 crores as against 102.66 Metric Tonne and Rs. 3274.72 crores in the corresponding period of last year.

(e) The major steps taken by the Railways to improve fiscal efficiency include: Marketing efforts capture additional freight/parcel traffic; drives against ticket-less travel; drives for realisation of outstanding dues; mobilisation of resources through commercial utilisation of Railway land, air space; expenditure control and austerity measures etc.

[Translation]

Survey for Tori-Lohardaga Rail Line

2642. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey work of Tori-Lohardaga new rail line has been completed and the work of land acquisition has been started;

(b) if so, the date on which the work of land acquisition was started and the percentage of work completed till date; and

(c) the time by which this work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) The Final Location Survey for new line between Lohardaga and Tori has been completed and the survey report is under finalisation. Land acquisition for the project will be processed once the report is finalised.

(c) No target date for completion of the work has yet been fixed.

Participation in Cantonment Council

2643. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local Members of Parliament are members of Cantonment Board Parishads;

(b) if so, the reasons for not inviting the local Members of Parliament in the meeting of Cantonment Board Parishads and depriving them from active participation;

(c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to Cantonment Board Parishads to associate local M.Ps in their meetings;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to amend the Cantonment Act, 1924 to nominate the Member of Parliament of the concerned area as a Member of the Cantonment Parishad; and

(e) if so, the time by which such an amendment would be made in the cantonment Act?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) This issue will be addressed at the time when framing of a new Cantonments Act is taken up. No definite time schedule has been fixed for this exercise.

[English]

Power Generation in Rajasthan

2644. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in power production in Rajasthan during the last two years;

(b) the power generated by Rajasthan through its internal sources and the total supply of power from neighbouring States and Central Grids;

(c) total consumption of power in Rajasthan and the percentage of its own power production against its total consumption;

(d) the progress made by Rajasthan till date in the power sector; and

(e) the reasons for charging higher rates in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) During the years 1999-2000 to 2001-02 (upto October, 2001), total addition in generating capacity in Rajasthan has been 940 MW. Out of this 500 MW has been in the

State Sector (coal based) and 440 MW in the Central Sector (nuclear). The details of energy generated by Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB)/Rajasthan Rajya Vidyt Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (RRVUNL) and Central sector units located in Rajasthan during the years 1999-2000 to 2001-02 (upto October 2001) are given below:

(Figures in Million Units)

	1999-200	2000-2001	April- October, 2001
RSEB Thermal	8184	9860	5865
RSEB Hydro	995	376	182
RSEB/RRVUNL	9179	10236	6047
Total			
Central Sector			
NTPC-Anta Gas			
Power Station	3189	2881	1829
Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (Nuclear)	2202	3578	2440
Rajasthan Total	14570	16695	10316

The details of supply of power to Rajasthan from neighbouring States, BBMB and central projects for the last two years and the current year are given below:

(Figures in MUs)

System/Sector/State	1999-2000	2000-2001	April-Oct., 2001
1. BBMB (Bhakra+Dehar+Pong)	3050	2375	1395
2. Central Sector (NTPC+NHPC+NPC)	12329	12186	6320
3. Assistance from neighbouring regions/States			
(a) Punjab	142	96	-
(b) Western Region	233	73	26
(c) Eastern Region	-	-	21
Total	15754	14730	7762

(c) Details of total consumption of energy (ex-bus generating stations) in Rajasthan for the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-02 (upto October, 2001) are as under:

	Consumption (MU)	Own Gen. (RSEB) (MU)	% of Own Gen. Against consumption
1999-2000	24024	9179	38.21
2000-01	24178	10236	42.34
2001-02 (April/October, 2001)	13512	6047	44.75

(d) The reform Bill has already been passed and State Electricity Board has been unbundled. Chairman and Members of SERC are already in position and they have already issued tariff orders. Rajasthan has already signed Memorandum of Understanding with Government of India for expediting Power Sector Reforms.

(e) The tariff of power for various categories of consumers have been fixed by the Rajasthan State Electricity Regulatory Commission after due consultation and considering the cost of various inputs like cost of power, operation and maintenance as well as other factors such as T&D losses, overheads and a return on the investment.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Load Dispatch Centres

2645. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to modernise all load dispatch centres of the country in view of failure of grid frequently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) POWERGRID has been entrusted with the task of modernisation of the Load Dispatch Centres in all the five regions, i.e. Northern Region, Southern Region, North Eastern Region, Eastern and Western Regions. The commissioning of these projects known as Unified Load Dispatch Centres would help in improved real time operation of the grid and shall minimize the grid disturbances. The details regarding the scope of these schemes, estimated cost and completion scheduled are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Scope of the Scheme	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Completion Schedule
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Unified Load Dispatch & Communication Scheme- Northern Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Regional Load Dispatch Centres, State Load Dispatch Centres, Sub-Load Dispatch Centres at appropriate places • Establishment of fibre optic/ Micro-wave communication network etc. • Establishment of Remote Terminal Units (RTUs) 	658.92	June, 2002
2.	Unified Load Dispatch & Communication Scheme- Southern Region	-do-	683.80	June, 2002

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Unified Load Dispatch & Communication Scheme- North Eastern Region	-do-	267.35	December, 2003
4.	Unified Load Dispatch & Communication Scheme- Eastern Region	-do-	290.01	December, 2004
5.	Unified Load Dispatch & Communication Scheme- Western Region	-do-	262.18	February, 2005

[English]

Import of Petrol

2646. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of petrol imported during the last three years and amount spent thereon;

(b) the quantum of petrol produced in the country during the said period; and

(c) the names of the States where petrol is being explored/produced in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The quantum of petrol produced and imported during last three years and amount spent thereon are as follows:-

Years	Production (TMT)	Import (TMT)	Value (Rs. Crore)
1998-99	5,573	251	191
1999-00	6,231	-	-
2000-01	8,068	-	-

(c) The States where crude oil is refined to produce petroleum products including petrol are as follows:-

1. Gujarat
2. Maharashtra
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Haryana

5. West Bengal
6. Andhra Pradesh
7. Tamil Nadu
8. Kerala
9. Karnataka
10. Assam
11. Bihar.

NTPC Power Plant at Raichur in Karnataka

2647. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units of National Thermal Power Plant at Raichur in Karnataka as on date;

(b) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Karnataka Power Corporation Limited have participated with the NTPC plant at Raichur; and

(c) if so, the ways in which their role in commissioning additional units at NTPC plant at Raichur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) As on date National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has not commissioned any unit at Raichur in Karnataka. However, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL), a state owned power utility in charge of generation in the State of Karnataka, has commissioned six thermal units of 210 MW capacity each at Raichur, for which the Main Plant & Equipment was supplied and erected by M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL). Besides these six units, KPCL is also presently setting up an additional unit of 210 MW (Unit-7) at Raichur without any participation from NTPC. BHEL is supplying and erecting the Main Plant & Equipment for this unit also. The unit is expected to be commissioned by February, 2003.

Unleaded and Low Benzene Petrol and Diesel

2648. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has taken any decision on the Union Government's plea to treat unleaded and low benzene petrol and diesel with 0.05 percentage sulphur as clean fuel for automobiles;

(b) if so, the action taken in the light thereof especially in regard to public transport in the capital; and

(c) the latest position about the availability and adequacy of the supply of CNG indicating the fleet of buses and other vehicles that can be sustained thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Supreme Court has observed that unleaded and low benzene petrol is regarded as clean fuel. In its order it has allowed diesel with 0.05% max. sulphur to be used for all categories of vehicles except buses in the National Capital Territory (NCT).

(b) Unleaded petrol with 0.05% max. sulphur content with 1.0% max. benzene content is being supplied in the NCT from 1.11.2000. Diesel with 0.05% max. sulphur content was introduced in the NCT at selected outlets from 1.4.2000 and at all retail outlets from 1.3.2001.

(c) The current CNG compression capacity of IGL is 4.4 lakh kg/day. The demand is approx. 3.6 lakh kg/day. The approximate number of CNG vehicles in Delhi are as under:-

Buses	3,614
Autos	33,000
RTVs	1,475
Private Cars	10,350
Taxis	3,750

**Implementation of Bioenergy Technology Package
in Karnataka**

2649. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement a bioenergy technology package to reduce GHG emissions and to promote a sustainable and participatory approach in meeting rural energy needs in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has agreed to provide funds for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details of the villages in Karnataka proposed to be taken up; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement the said project in villages of Bellary District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has agreed to provide support of about Rs. 1.9 crore (US\$ 0.39 million) for the project.

(c) 24 villages in Tumkur District are proposed to be covered under the project.

(d) Does not arise.

Solar Energy in Ladakh

2650. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Solar Energy Project is proposed to be initiated for supply of electricity to Ladakh;

(b) if so, the details of investments proposed to be made; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sanctioned a project in September 2001 to the Ladakh Affairs Department of Jammu and Kashmir Government for the electrification of 39 villages in Leh District and 18 villages and 27 hamlets in Kargil District through installation of 10,000 solar home lighting systems and distribution of 6,000 solar lanterns. The project is to be implemented through the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh in Leh District and the District Development Commissioner (DDC), Kargil in Kargil District. The project also envisages involvement of local non-governmental organizations in implementation. The estimated cost of this village

electrification project is Rs. 20 crores, out of which the share of this Ministry is Rs. 18 crores. The Ministry has already released Rs. 4.35 crores to the programme implementing agencies as advance grant. The balance Rs. 2 crores is to be met by the State Government. The project is to be completed by 31st March, 2003.

In addition, the Ministry has allocated 50 solar lanterns and 250 solar home lighting systems to LAHDC, and 250 solar lanterns and 250 solar home lighting systems to the Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDEG), Leh, a local non-governmental organization, under the solar photovoltaic programme for 2001-02. The estimated central financial assistance for these systems is Rs. 39 lakhs. These systems are to be installed/distributed by 31st March 2002.

[*Translation*]

New Passenger Coaches on Railway Route

2651. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms adopted for allocating new passenger coaches on railway routes;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from MPs to change the existing railway coaches on priority basis on the Pachora-Jamner narrow gauge line of Bhusaval division of Central Railway;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the times by when the scheme for allocating new passenger coaches on this route will be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Coaches are allotted to different zonal railways on the basis of replacement need and requirements for introduction of new services.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Shri Y.G. Mahajan, MP, vide his letter dated 30.11.2000 had pointed out that old coaches are running on Pachora-Jamner narrow gauge section with broken window glasses etc. The coaches have been attended to and instructions have been reiterated for proper upkeep and maintenance of coaches.

(d) There is no proposal to induct new coaches on this section as the existing coaches are well within their codal life and are in good fettle.

[*English*]

Under Water Telephone

2652. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an underwater telephone is under production by Keltrol, based on the indigenous design developed by the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory;

(b) if so, whether all major Indian Navy ships will be provided with thesis sets in a phased manner,

(c) if so, whether any concrete action plan has been worked out by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which all major Indian Navy ships will be provided with these sets?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The development of Under Water Telephone relates to operational information of the Navy and as such it would not be in the interest of National security to divulge it on the Floor of the House.

Setting up of Firing Range in Jharkhand

2653. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have abandoned the idea of setting up of a 'Firing Range' in Chhattra district of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government now propose to set up a firing range in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been under Government's consideration.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Bihar has not allotted land for setting up of a Field Firing Range in the State.

Allotment of LPG Agencies in Rural Areas

2654. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot LPG agency in every town or village with a population of 10000 or more;

(b) if so, the number of LPG distributorships are likely to be sufficient to cater to the needs of the rural areas;

(c) the number of new LPG distributorship existed in the rural areas; and

(d) the number of new LPG distributorships likely to be allotted for the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Since 1996-98, the Marketing Plans for setting up of LPG distributorships were prepared by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) taking into account the following:

- (i) All urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including the potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms;
- (ii) All viable urban locations having a population of 5,000 and above by taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms radius;
- (iii) Viable locations having cluster of villages within 15 Kms. radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 and above;
- (iv) Villages within 15 Kms. radius around towns having population of 1 Lakh and above to be surveyed for opening of LPG distributorships.

(b) to (d) OMCs have included 1247 locations for setting up of LPG distributorships exclusively for rural areas under various marketing plans. As on 1.10.2001, 217 LPG distributorships are operating exclusively in rural areas

[Translation]

Pending Projects

2655. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI HARI BHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects under construction were pending in September, 2001;

(b) if so, the total number of projects which were started five years back and more than that before, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have decided to complete these projects according to their priority;

(d) if so, the amount spent on these projects during the last three years and the amount required to complete these projects, State-wise; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 278 Railway projects are in progress at present. Number of projects, State-wise which were sanctioned five years or more than five years ago are at the statement enclosed.

(c) These projects will be completed as per the availability of resources and their relative priority.

(d) Railways is an integrated system where geographical boundaries of States do not form criterion for taking investment decisions. Very often a Railway project spans across more than one State. Accounting practices followed by the Railways do not lend themselves to State-wise allocation of expenditure. Therefore, information on expenditure on projects is not maintained State-wise.

(e) These projects will be completed as per the availability of resources and their relative priority.

Statement

State-wise Railway Projects Sanctioned 5 Years or More than 5 Years Ago

S.No.	State	No. of On-going Projects
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	6
4.	Bihar	12

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	5
6.	Delhi	1
7.	Gujarat	9
8.	Haryana	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
11.	Jharkhand	6
12.	Karnataka	14
13.	Kerala	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10
15.	Maharashtra	16
16.	Meghalaya	1
17.	Orissa	12
18.	Rajasthan	8
19.	Tamil Nadu	9
20.	Tripura	1
21.	Uttar Pradesh	17
22.	West Bengal	19

N.B.:A number of projects span across more than one State.

[English]

LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps in Maharashtra

2656. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and petrol pumps approved for Jalana, Aurangabad, Beed and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the number of allocations out of those cancelled by the orders of the Supreme Court alongwith the number of LPG agencies and petrol pumps still functioning despite the said orders; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The details of allotment of LPG distributorships and Retail Outlets (ROs) made by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies during the last three years in the concerned districts of Maharashtra is as under:-

Name of District	LPG distributorships	Retail Outlets
Jalana	-	1
Aurangabad	2	-
Beed	1	-
Jalgaon	4	-

(b) and (c) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India have not cancelled any of the allotments mentioned above.

Central Monitoring Services

2657. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take Central Monitoring Services out of the Prasar Bharati and convert it into an independent media until under its direct control;

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

(c) the nature and the type of programmes monitored by CMS; and

(d) the specific benefits expected to be derived from: this change?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The present Central Monitoring Service of All India Radio monitors various foreign and Indian Radio and Television programmes/channels considered relevant. Whereas on the one hand this is not a part of the core functions of Prasar Bharati, on the other, there is need for a monitoring agency independent of any broadcaster for more effective regulation of cable and broadcasting laws and codes. In the light of this, there have been suggestions that the possibility of the Central Monitoring Service being hived off into a separate media unit be explored.

**Gauge Conversion of Yelahanka-Bangarpet
Rail Line**

2658. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gauge conversion work between Yelahanka-Bangarpet has been started;

(b) the estimated cost of the project;

(c) the progress made and the amount spent thereon so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. the work has been completed and commissioned from Yelahanka to Chickballapur and Kolar to Bangarpet. Estimated cost of the work is Rs. 57.54 cr. The expenditure upto March 2001 is Rs. 57.4 cr. There is no proposal to take up gauge conversion between Chickballapur and Kolar.

Requirement of Power

2659. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of power by various States during the winter;

(b) whether there will be surplus power generation during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to utilize the surplus power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The anticipated requirement of energy by various States during the winter months from December, 2001 to March, 2002 is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Based on the generation targets for the period December, 2001 to March, 2002, and anticipated energy requirement, surplus energy is likely to be available in Eastern & North Eastern Regions to the tune of 2564 Million units (MU) and 38 MU respectively during the period December, 2001 to March, 2002. Other regions have only seasonal surpluses.

(d) Power to the tune of 1200-1300 MW from the Eastern Region is being exported to other regions/States commensurate to existing inter-regional transmission capacity and same shall continue during winter months also. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in Southern Region, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh in Western Region; Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Chandigarh, J&K and Haryana in Northern Region; and Assam in North-Eastern Region are major beneficiaries of surplus Eastern Region Power. Steps have been taken to strengthen/establish inter-regional links for increasing export of surplus power from Eastern Region.

Statement

Anticipated Energy Requirement during the period December, 2001 to March' 2002.

(All Figures in MU)

Name of the States/UTs	Dec.'2001	Jan.'2002	Feb.'2002	March.'2002
1	2	3	4	5
Chandigarh	83	97	78	76
Delhi	1519	1669	1396	1428
Haryana	1537	1451	1457	1594
Himachal Pradesh	302	307	292	297
Jammu & Kashmir	636	663	631	610
Punjab	2035	2030	2088	2178

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	2408	2477	2290	2408
Uttar Pradesh	3976	4157	3942	4142
Northern Region	12496	12851	12174	12733
Gujarat	5226	4864	4021	4950
Madhya Pradesh	4537	4251	3591	3833
Maharashtra	8063	7279	6650	7673
Goa	159	161	137	151
Western Region	17984	16555	14398	16607
Andhra Pradesh	4226	4263	4255	4948
Karnataka	3084	3239	2989	3434
Kerala	1220	1242	1146	1348
Tamil Nadu	3795	3717	3770	4479
Southern Region	12325	12462	12160	14207
Bihar	843	873	789	811
D.V.C.	701	687	634	699
Orissa	1071	1080	957	1061
West Bengal	1544	1623	1549	1892
Eastern Region	4159	4263	3929	4462
Arunachal Pradesh	11	11	11	11
Assam	262	276	279	267
Manipur	43	46	40	39
Meghalaya	57	65	58	59
Mizoram	26	27	23	23
Nagaland	22	24	20	19
Trpura	49	49	49	55
North-Eastern Region	468	499	481	473
All India	47433	46630	43141	48481

Theft of Idols

2660. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two idols of Madan Mohan and Narayan were stolen from the Jagannath temple in Puri (Orissa);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of inquiry conducted, its outcome and action taken against the guilty persons;

(d) whether these type of cases are on increase in various parts of the country during the last three years till date.

(e) if so, the details thereof, incident-wise;

(f) the details of inquiries conducted, their outcome and action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty persons, incident-wise; and

(g) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to stop such instances in future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The idols of Madan Mohan and Narayan were stolen from the Jagannath temple on 10.11.2001. These stolen objects are the property of the temple trustees. The Jagannath temple is protected monument under an agreement executed with the Jagannath Temple Managing Committee and the Archaeological Survey of India.

Under this agreement administrative matters including security of the shrine vest with the temple authorities and the State Government. The idol of Madan Mohan has since been recovered by the Police.

(d) to (f) The details of thefts of idols from the centrally protected monuments and their present status is given in the statement enclosed.

(g) Measures have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India in concert with the Central Bureau of Investigation, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Custom and the State Governments to check the theft of antiquities by intensifying checking at Customs exit points, as well as strict enforcement of the relevant enactments. Security in the protected monuments and museums has been stepped up by deploying State Police or private security as required.

Statement

Idols Stolen During the last three years from April, 1998 to till date

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the Monument/Site & the district	Description of the objects	Date of theft	Status of the Case	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Sculpture shed Ghantasala, Distt. Krishna	Buddha	27-30 November, 2000		Recovered
2.	Gujarat	Open sky Museum, Patan	Standing Ganesha & Brahma with his consort	09.10.2001	FIR lodged	
3.	Karnataka	Hampi, Distt. Belary	Hand of Sasivekalu Ganesa	09.07.2001	-do-	
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Mahua, Distt. Shivpuri	Shiva (Lower part missing) 8th-9th Century AD	27 to 31 December 1998	-do-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Somnath Temple, Badgaon, Distt. Katni	Bust of Lakshmi, 11th-12th Century AD, Head of Vishnu 11th-12th Century AD	22-23 August, 1999	FIR lodged	
6.	-do-	Varah Temple, Kavala, Distt. Mandsore	Two idols	29.02.2000	FIR lodged	
7.	-do-	Group of temples at Amarkantak, Distt. Sahadol	Vishnu	08.09.2000	-do-	
8.	Rajasthan	Ghateshwar Temple, Baroli, distt. Chittaurgarh	Ten armed dancing Shiva	15-16 February, 1998		Recovered
9.	-do-	Someshwar Temple, Bhangarh, distt. Alwar	Ganesh (broken) late 10th-11th Century AD	01-02 July. 1998	FIR lodged	
10.	-do-	Mahakal Temple, Bijolia, distt. Bhilwara	A sculpture of female deity possibly composit form of Uma, Saraswati and Lakshmi, 12th- 13th Century AD	27-28 October, 1998	-do-	
11.	-do-	Ancient Ruins & Structural remains, Krishna vilas, distt. Baran	Two armed Tirthankara with Chhatrawali.	21-22 September 1999	-do-	
12.	-do-	Jain Temple, Krishna Vilas, distt. Baran	Two Jain Tirthankaras	24-25 September 1999	-do-	
13.	-do-	Ancient Ruins & Structural remains, Krishna Vilas, distt. Baran	Four armed standing stone figure	07-08 January,	-do-	
14.	-do-	Ruins of Char Khamba Temple, Krishna Vilas, distt. Baran	Four armed standing deity probably Bhairava -Shiva	31.01.- 01.02.2000	-do-	
15.	-do-	-do-	Four armed standing Dikapala, probably Varuna	-do-	-do-	
16.	-do-	Mandaleshwara Temple, Arthuna, distt. Banswara	One female figure carved on stone	03-04 March, 2000	-do-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17	Rajasthan	Ancient Temple, Kaner-kr-Putli, distt. Bhilwara	Bhainrar	10-11 June, 2000	-do-	
18.	Tamil Nadu	Malavellala Street, Jayam Kon Dam, Distt. Perambadur	Jaina Tirthankara	09.01.1999	-do-	
19.	West Bengal	Basudev Temple, Bansberia, Hoogly	Buddha (Terracotta)	27-30 November, 2000	-do-	

Introduction of Super Fast Trains Between Delhi and Kanyakumari

2661. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the public demand for the introduction of a superfast express train between Delhi and Kanyakumari through the Cord Line in Tamil Nadu,

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

(c) the time by which the Government propose to introduce the new train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL.): (a) Yes, Sir. Some representations have been received in this regard.

(b) and (c) Introduction of a superfast train between Delhi and Kanyakumari has not been found feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints.

Sale of Electricity Through Smart Card

2662. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering selling of electricity through smart cards similar to the one made available by telephone companies;

(b) if so, the details of the functioning of the smart cards; and

(c) the extent to which the use of smart cards is likely to reduce transmission and distribution losses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The real problem of management and the challenge of reforms in the power sector lies in distribution and distribution is the responsibility of the State Governments. Ministry of Power is advocating use of technological advances in metering and application of information technology for finding technical solutions for effective energy audit and improved metering, billing and collection. Some utilities in other countries have been successfully using pre-paid meters.

Vacancies of SC/ST/OBC

2663. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt.(Res.) dated July 2, 1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, the total 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 five years under his Culture; and

(c) the details of instances in which candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Visit of Chinese Delegation

2664. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the aim of enhancing military-to-military contact between the two countries, seven-member Chinese People's Liberation Army delegation visited India in September, 2001;

(b) if so, the main points discussed in the meeting;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) As part of the existing Confidence Building Measures, military-to-military level exchanges have been taking place between India and China. Such exchanges are in the nature of goodwill visits and no formal discussions to resolve outstanding issues between two countries are held during such visits.

The visit by the Chinese delegation in September 2001 was a part of such exchanges.

Reservation of Posts for Disabled/Physically Handicapped

2665. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

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

(b) the number of persons of said categories given employment on such posts and number of posts lying vacant during the said period, post-wise/category-wise; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Culture is the appointing authority for the following category of posts:-

Category	Mode of Recruitment		
	DR	Promotion	Deputation etc.
Group A	-	2	1
Group B	9	9	-
Group C	24	8	8
Group D	9	2	-

The Department is yet to fill up vacancies in above category of posts by Physically Handicapped persons since the vacancies have not reached the last point in the first block of points from 1-33.

Leasing of Railway Land

2666. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have leased out railway land;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to recover outstanding dues of licence fee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Government have issued instruction for long term lease of railway land to other Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings. Railway land is also leased to Kendriya Vidyalayas and Container Corporation for setting up terminals etc.

(b) Details are as under:

Railway	Lease of land in Ha.
Central	52.59
Eastern	128.68
Northern	158.12
North Eastern	193.23
Northeast Frontier	6.99
Southern	137.08
South Central	41.66
South Eastern	52.91
Western	68.00
Total	839.26

(c) and (d) Problems are generally not felt in case of recovery of lease charges. However, where the land has been given on licence basis, action under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 is taken against the defaulters. Constant efforts including personal contacts by holding meetings with the parties, are made to recover the outstanding dues.

Exploration of Oil and Gas in Gujarat

2667 SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was signed by the Government, ONGC and Reliance Company recently on the exploration of Oil and Gas from the sea-shore of Kutch, Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India has signed a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) on the 6th September, 2001, with the consortium of Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) for exploration of oil and gas in Gujarat-Kutch offshore block, GK-OSJ-3, under the Joint Venture Exploration Programme-1995. The main terms of the Contract are as under:-

- (i) ONGC, OIL and RIL have a participating interest of 25%, 15% and 60% respectively.
- (ii) The Contractor is required to share profit petroleum with the Government.
- (iii) The Government has the first right of refusal to buy crude oil produced in the contract area.
- (iv) The Contractor has freedom to market the gas produced in the contract area.
- (v) Assignment of participating interest can be made with the prior approval of the Government.
- (vi) The minimum work obligation to be carried out by the contractor is specified.
- (vii) There are three exploration phases with contractor having the walk-out option at the end of each exploration phase, provided the minimum work programme for that phase has been completed.

[Translation]

Allotment of LPG Agencies/Outlets in Rajasthan

2668. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

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

(a) the number of Company owned Company operate (CoCo) petrol pumps in Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the number of applications lying pending for allotment of LPG, petrol, kerosene and diesel outlets as on date in Rajasthan;

(c) the time by which these applications are pending and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to dispose of the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) There are 28 Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) retail outlets in operation in the State of Rajasthan. Proposals for setting up 79 retail outlet dealerships, 82 LPG distributorships and 3 SKO-LDO dealerships are pending in the State of Rajasthan.

The process of setting up of dealerships/distributorships involves various stages like advertisements, holding of interviews by the Dealer Selection Boards, finalisation of merit panels, issue of Letters of Intent, procuring of land, obtaining various approvals, etc. which is a time-consuming exercise. Efforts are being made to complete the selection of dealers/distributors and the commissioning of these dealerships/distributorships as early as possible.

Local Train between Tata Nagar and Ranchi

2669. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce inter-city as local train between Tata Nagar and Ranchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

**Booking of Commercial Luggage
from Delhi to Attari**

2670. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the fact that CCM, Northern Railway has issued instructions to cancel the booking of commercial luggage/parcel from Delhi to Attari in the passenger trains.

(b) if so, the loss of revenue occurred in this account;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the passengers are being harassed by the Inspectors at destination on Attari charging penalty on account of non-booked luggages from the passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) No incident has been reported to the Railways.
(d) Does not arise.

Filing of Annual Returns by Companies

2671. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a very large number of companies are not filing their annual returns;

(b) if so, the number of companies that have not filed their returns during the last two years; and

(c) the strict measures proposed to be taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The number of companies which have not filed their annual returns during last two years is as given below:-

1998-99	187,776
1999-2000	220,370

(c) Department of Company Affairs had launched a scheme, namely, the Company Law Settlement Scheme, 2000 wherein companies which defaulted in filing documents in the past could come forward and avail of one-time declaration and settlement. The Scheme was in operation from 1.6.2000 to 30.9.2000. An amount of Rs. 136.83 crores was collected from 1.27 lakh companies under the Scheme.

The Companies Act provides for disqualifying director of a public company which has not filed the annual accounts and annual returns for any continuous three financial years commencing on and after the first day of April, 1999, from being appointed director of any other public company for a period of five years.

[Translation]

**Work done in English at 'A' Categories
Railway Stations**

2672. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that in the stations under category 'A', most of the official work is being done in English only even today;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is the responsibility of the Government to promote and propagate usage of the official language Hindi;

(d) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry in this regard during the last three years.

(e) whether his Ministry has nominated supervisors in the official language implementation committees at all levels; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Most of the official work in the various stations falling under 'A' region is being carried out in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The following steps have been taken during the last three years:-

(i) Hindi Workshops (ii) Table Training in Hindi (iii) Seminars on technical subjects in Hindi (iv) Noting - drafting, Essay writing and Elocution competitions in Hindi (v) Training of Hindi typing and Hindi stenography (vi) Incentive schemes to motivate officers and staff (vii) Providing help literature.

(e) The observers are nominated in the Official Language Implementation Committees at Zonal levels as well as the level of Production Units and PSUs.

(f) Does not arise.

Advertisements to Newspapers, Doordarshan and Akashwani

2673. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of advertisements released to daily, weekly and fortnightly newspapers during each of the last three years and 2001-2002 and the amount paid therefor. State-wise; and

(b) the number of advertisements given to Akashwani, Doordarshan and private T.V. channels during the said period alongwith the amount spent thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Details of advertisements issued to daily, weekly and fortnightly newspapers by Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) to newspapers empanelled with it during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto 30th November 2001) are given in statements I, II, III and IV respectively.

(b) No advertisements are being issued by DAVP to private T.V. Channels. The details of broadcasts, telecast got done by DAVP through Akashwani and Doordarshan during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto November 2001) are given in statement-V.

Statement-I

State-wise Break-up of Amount Committed by DAVP for Advertisements Released to Daily, Weekly and Fortnightly Newspapers During 1998-99 (1st April 1998 to 31st March, 1999)

S. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Dailies (in Rs.)	Weeklies (in Rs.)	Fortnightlies (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13934800	248147	122296
2.	Assam	6398647	325555	5236
3.	Bihar	17607278	1441576	143738
4.	Gujarat	26045065	402787	16968
5.	Haryana	2657575	200641	34592
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1773101	101261	7108
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	7448585	63076	10712
8.	Karnataka	20688823	67742	24802
9.	Kerala	20776877	483178	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	24196302	6353678	85386
11.	Maharashtra	70560805	369941	0
12.	Manipur	396763	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Meghalaya	1042634	18787	0
14.	Nagaland	35277	0	0
15.	Orissa	10045971	435553	34646
16.	Punjab	27185538	597973	54862
17.	Rajasthan	25669468	1807446	2043014
18.	Sikkim	0	153075	0
19.	Tamil Nadu	19501579	79764	21232
20.	Tripura	2464911	61585	0
21.	Uttar Pradesh	39346743	13281092	2192089
22.	West Bengal	44266287	1202509	429433
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	16007	12046
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	354829	8196	0
25.	Chandigarh	14348211	117522	8196
26.	Delhi	141446565	72744750	843848
27.	Goa	1216070	0	0
28.	Mizoram	153058	0	0
29.	Pondicherry	344787	6070	0
Total		539906549	100587911	6093804

Statement-II

State-wise Break-up of Amount Committed by DAVP for Advertisements Released to Daily, Weekly and Fortnightly Newspapers During 1999-2000 (1st April 1999 to 31st March, 2000)

S. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Dailies (in Rs.)	Weeklies (in Rs.)	Fortnightlies (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13453384	110153	48639
2.	Assam	8123579	306953	5178
3.	Bihar	15512937	460806	81015
4.	Gujarat	34256234	286896	17820
5.	Haryana	3153470	176454	27111
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2327926	93921	6147
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	10507243	51661	4590
8.	Karnataka	26156747	30570	9107

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Kerala	21785917	294152	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	24219608	4782723	68580
11.	Maharashtra	87704234	232285	0
12.	Manipur	594504	0	0
13.	Meghalaya	1313137	12648	0
14.	Orissa	12478402	344537	0
15.	Punjab	32702917	445889	37488
16.	Rajasthan	34063552	1408747	1662522
17.	Sikkim	0	198940	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	32723839	66622	20444
19.	Tripura	2949827	54354	0
20.	Uttar Pradesh	46152408	8505727	1520123
21.	West Bengal	60711627	1115324	330305
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	16620	4957
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	455978	9420	0
24.	Chandigarh	19328643	123431	0
25.	Delhi	174034982	103696134	647459
26.	Goa	1513638	0	0
27.	Mizoram	141675	0	0
28.	Pondicherry	365431	1726	0
29.	Chhattisgarh	5401580	150783	6147
30.	Jharkhand	5255210	28969	9282
31.	Uttaranchal	3076080	807599	68421
	Total	680464709	123814044	4575335

Statement-III

State-wise Break-up of Amount Committed by DAVP for Advertisements Released to Daily, Weekly and Fortnightly Newspapers During 2000-2001 (1st April 2000 to 31st March, 2001)

S. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Dailies (in Rs.)	Weeklies (in Rs.)	Fortnightlies (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12631747	21425	26607
2.	Assam	6980372	83550	0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	17973023	26190	12019
4.	Gujarat	30692118	146057	27494
5.	Haryana	4726250	44810	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2398090	31690	10245
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	12050849	22577	0
8.	Karnataka	24748099	8160	0
9.	Kerala	18471373	302215	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	22729472	969518	24537
11.	Maharashtra	76458813	106775	0
12.	Manipur	539193	0	0
13.	Meghalaya	1111581	8036	0
14.	Orissa	10977938	157384	5840
15.	Punjab	26343638	109006	8331
16.	Rajasthan	29787932	404406	865610
17.	Sikkim	0	83104	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	45102450	39894	3842
19.	Tripura	2896263	0	0
20.	Uttar Pradesh	43274968	1737110	446953
21.	West Bengal	57970948	275817	174226
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	17647	11339
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	339940	0	0
24.	Chandigarh	14787425	13123	0
25.	Delhi	166876557	94629690	389616
26.	Goa	880231	0	0
27.	Pondicherry	480281	0	0
28.	Chhattisgarh	4695238	41916	0
	Total	635924789	99280100	2006659

Statement-IV

State-wise Break-up of Amount Committed by DAVP for Advertisements Released to Daily, Weekly and Fortnightly Newspapers During 2001-2002 (1st April 2001 to 30th November, 2001)

S. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Dailies (in Rs.)	Weeklies (in Rs.)	Fortnightlies (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11281064	22048	14119
2.	Assam	5432686	42778	0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	11472699	21890	0
4.	Gujarat	24930660	102208	7532
5.	Haryana	3052423	34777	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1784290	22650	4098
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	9020014	6120	3060
8.	Karnataka	16944320	0	0
9.	Kerala	15413732	741015	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	18249349	392324	4710
11.	Maharashtra	61632729	122628	0
12.	Manipur	688677	0	0
13.	Meghalaya	851915	0	0
14.	Orissa	9291394	95266	8006
15.	Punjab	19250488	55061	4098
16.	Rajasthan	20956407	183166	218493
17.	Sikkim	0	90219	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	43116604	25914	8602
19.	Tripura	2246482	0	0
20.	Uttar Pradesh	32967764	1007802	116858
21.	West Bengal	43880487	435064	38872
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	10945	2886
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	130012	0	0
24.	Chandigarh	11550241	15722	0
25.	Delhi	158899004	53397053	131116
26.	Goa	925650	0	0
27.	Pondicherry	384291	0	0
28.	Chhattisgarh	4641364	23195	0
29.	Jharkhand	4484383	0	0
30.	Uttaranchal	3832846	102361	4098
Total		537311975	56950206	566548

Statement-V

Details of Broadcasts/Telecasts got done by DAVP through Akashwani and Doordarshan During the Year 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto November 2001)

Year	Number of Broadcasts/Telecasts	Amount (Rs.)
Akashwani		
1998-99	26,109 broadcasts in various languages on Primary Channels and Commercial Broadcasting Services (CBS) Stations of All India Radio (AIR) all over the country.	1,22,56,691
1999-2000	25,800 broadcasts in various languages on Primary Channels and CBS Stations of AIR all over the country.	1,19,18,706
2000-2001	22,528 broadcasts in various languages on Primary Channels and CBS Stations of AIR all over the country.	3,15,14,113
2001-2002 (upto November 2001)	4109 broadcasts in various languages on Primary Channels and CBS Stations of AIR all over the country.	31,12,071
Doordarshan		
1998-99	433 telecasts on National Network all over the country	3,14,20,150
1999-2000	292 telecasts on National Network all over the country	74,87,020
2000-2001	104 telecasts on National Network all over the country	1,65,28,290
2001-2002 (upto November 2001)	47 telecasts on National Network all over the country 27 telecasts on DD-7 (from Kolkata station of Doordarshan)	58,52,500 5,60,000

[English]

Construction of Road Over Bridges

2674. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the works of various road over bridges and road under bridges are held up or delayed due to paucity of funds;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any request from various Railway zones for allocation of more funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Under cost of sharing scheme Railway executes railway portion of work (bridge over/under the track) of Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges and State Govt. carries out the work on approaches. No works to be executed by Railway under cost sharing are held up delayed due to paucity of funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Japan/Austria Funds for Hampi

2675. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese and Austrian funding proposals for Hampi were stopped;

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

(c) the steps taken to re-negotiate these proposals afresh?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka have informed that a loan proposal for the development of Hampi and its surrounding area was made by them in 1997 directly to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan. The proposal was rejected by the Japanese authorities at the initial stage itself, and no attempt has been made thereafter to renegotiate the loan. They have further informed that no request was ever made to the Austrian Government for any loan in this regard.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Lines

2676. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fixed amount of money has been allocated for construction of railway tracks in the current budget;

(b) if so, the total amount of money allocated and the length of railway track assessed to be constructed;

(c) whether the Government have decided to spend money from Safety Fund for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the target fixed for the construction of new railway tracks during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) Rs. 1015 cr. have been provided in the Railway Budget 2001-02 for construction of new lines. 147 km of new line is planned to be completed during the year. No money from Safety Fund is to be spent for this purpose.

Projects Using Garbage

2677. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for generating power by using garbage in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether such more projects are proposed to be set up; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Only one project of 3.75 Mega Watt (MW) capacity for generating power from about 300 tonnes per day garbage was installed at Timarpur, Delhi in the year 1987.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. One project for generating 5 MW power from about 300 tonnes per day garbage in Lucknow is under installation under National Programme for Energy Recovery from Urban and Industrial Wastes. State Nodal Agencies and Urban Local Bodies have issued Letters of Intent to different entrepreneurs for setting up more such projects on Build, Own and Operate basis. The State-wise details of all these projects are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise Details of projects for Power Generation form Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)/Garbage under Installation/Proposed

State	Project	Promoters	Technology	Project Capacity		Status
				Input (MSW)	Output	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	MSW-to-Power PLant in Hyderabad	M/s Selco International, Hyderabad	Phase-I Production of fuel pellets	700 TPD	210 TPD fuel pellets	Installed. Under trial operations.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Phase-II: incineration	210 TPD fuel pellets	6.6 MW	Agreements at local level and with Financial Institutions being done by entrepreneur.
	MSW-to-Power plant in Vijayawada	M/s Shnram Energy Systems, Hyderabad	Pelletisation and Incineration	600 TPD	5.70 MW	Agreements at local level and with Financial Institutions being done by entrepreneur.
	MSW-to-Power Plant in Hyderabad	M/s RDF Power Projects Ltd., Hyderabad	Gasification	750 TPD	11.00 MW	-do-
Delhi	MSW-to-Power plant in Delhi	M/s Energy Developments, (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	1000 TPD	25 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Delhi	M/s Parv Holdings Ltd., New Delhi	Gasification	1000 TPD	12 MW	-do-
Gujarat	MSW-to-Power plant in Bhavnagar	M/s Shri Damodar Synthetic Limited, Mumbai	RDF+Incineration	250 TPD	3.9 MW	-do-
Madhya Pradesh	MSW-to-Power plant in Bhopal	M/s Bhopal Environmental Projects Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Gasification	500 TPD	10.8 MW	-do-
Mahara- shtra	MSW-to-Power plant in Mumbai	M/s Bermaco Energy Systems, Mumbai	Anaerobic Digestion	1000 TPD	14.98 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Mumbai	M/s Soundcraft Industries Ltd., Mumbai	Anaerobic Digestion	1000 TPD	12.8 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Mumbai	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	1000 TPD	21.6 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Pune	M/s Cicon Environment Technologies, Bhopal	Anaerobic Digestion	450 TPD	4.5 MW	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tamil Nadu	MSW-to-Power plant in Chennai	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	600 TPD	14.85 MW	-do-
Uttar Pradesh	MSW-to-Power plant in Lucknow	M/s Asia Bioenergy (India) Limited, Chennai	Anaerobic Digestion	500 TPD	5.00 MW	Under Installation.
	MSW-to-Power plant in Ghaziabad	M/s Flex Industries Ltd., Noida	Anaerobic Digestion	500 TPD	5.00 MW	Agreements at local level and with Financial Institutions being done by entrepreneur.
	MSW-to-Power plant in Kanpur	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	1000 TPD	21.4 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Meerut	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	500 TPD	10.8 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Varanasi	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	500 TPD	10.8 MW	-do-
	MSW-to-Power plant in Bareilly	M/s Energy Developments (India) Limited, New Delhi	Gasification	500 TPD	5.4 MW	-do-

[English]

Train From Hyderabad to Mount Abu

2678. SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh to introduce a direct train from Hyderabad to Mount Abu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some representations have been received regarding introduction of a train

between Hyderabad and Mount Abu. The same has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Sand Slips in Trivandrum-Kanyakumari Rail Route

2679. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that sand slips is a common phenomenon in Trivandrum-Kanyakumari rail route during monsoon season causing severe hardships to passengers and railways;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allocate more funds to provide side wall protection to arrest the sand slips; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Some of the cuttings in Trivandrum-Nagercoil section have failed due to heavy rainfall in this area.

(b) and (c) Protection works as considered necessary are being carried out. Funds as needed are provided.

Food Plazas in Selected Railway Stations

2680. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation are planing to set up Food Plazas in selected railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, whether the catering departments of each zonal railway is likely to be merged with IRCTC;

(c) whether any minimum qualifying parameters have been set for selection of vendors/licenses; and

(d) if so, whether women organisations will be given preference to set up and manage ground/base kitchens on selected locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since the award of licences will be based on two packet tender system provision of reservation/preference is not justified.

Royalty Rate on Crude Oil

2681. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the royalty rate on crude oil has not been revised for a long time despite several representations from the Government of Gujarat;

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

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has urged the Union Government to revise the royalty rate; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to fix regular royalty rate and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The rates of royalty are notified by Central Government in accordance with Oil Field (Regulation & Development) Act, 1948 and Petroleum & Natural Gas Rule, 1959, as amended from time to time. Royalty rate in respect of crude oil was formally notified last as Rs. 481/Metric Tonne (MT) for the period 01.04.1990 to 31.03.1993. The royalty rate was thereafter fixed "on account" at Rs. 528/MT for the period 1993-96. This was further revised "on account" to Rs. 539.80/MT. The provisional rate of royalty was subsequently revised to Rs. 578/MT w.e.f. 01.04.1996. The rate of royalty has subsequently been revised upward from time to time and it was last increased to Rs. 850/MT w.e.f. 01.12.1999 on provisional/adhoc basis pending finalisation and notification of the final rate w.e.f. 01.04.1998. The State Government of Gujarat have been representing for revision of the rate of royalty on crude oil. Government had constituted a Committee to look into the matter and devise a new scheme of royalty. The Committee has submitted its Report on 26.11.2000, which is under examination.

[*Translation*]

Funds to States for Projects

2682. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Northern Eastern States, Jharkhand and Orissa have requested to provide funds to set up power projects in their respective States;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Central Government does to provide funds for setting up power projects in the State Sector. The Central Government, however, provides funds to N.E. Region

under Non-lapsable Pool of Resources. The following projects have so far been sanctioned for release of funds: for release of funds from the non-lapsable pool.

Name of Scheme	Common Liability (Rs in Crore)
Ranganadi HEP along with trans. Line	53.17
Leimakhomg HFO based power project	121.30
Likimro HEP	37.01
1x21 MW gas based TPP at Rokhia Phase II	85.17
HFO based Bairabi TPP	76.69
Strengthening of Sub-transmission and Distribution schemes in North-Eastern Region	52.00

In addition, a proposal has been received in the Planning Commission as part of the Memorandum submitted by the Chief Minister of Meghalaya in the Planning Commission for grant of special Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 100 crore during the current year (2001-02) for various purposes including Rs. 25 crores of implementation of the proposed 2x42 MW Myntdu Leshka HEP. The proposal is being processed in Planning Commission. No other proposal from Government of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Orissa and other NE States has been received.

[English]

Programme in T and D Network

2683. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Accelerated Power Development Programme has been initiated to provide financial assistance to States for renovation, modernization and augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution network and metering;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance sought and given to Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Assam and other States for 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, funds under APDP for metering programme is restricted to install meters upto distribution transformer level.

(b) Government has launched APDP scheme to provide systematic financing to projects relating to (i) renovation and Modernisation/Life Extension/Upgrading of old generating stations and (ii) Upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution. Funds under APDP are provided to state governments as additional central plan assistance. Projects in Special category States get 100% financing under APDP in a combination of 90% grant and 10% central loan whereas projects in non-special category states are entitled for 50% of the project cost under APDP with half grant and half loan. The balance 50% of the project cost is to be raised from Financial Institutions or internal resources. Government have provided outlays of Rs. 1000 crores and Rs. 1500 crores for the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively.

(c) The project proposal received from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Assam and other States for the 2001-02 are being appraised for an early sanction. Details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Project Proposal Received	Cost of Project (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3
<i>State—Maharashtra (Non-Special Category State)</i>		
1.	Subtransmission and distribution schemes—South Mumbai (BEST)	113.15

1	2	3
2.	System Improvement Jalgaon circle	52.44
3.	Short term plan for system improvement & energy accounting - Solapur	53.41
4.	System Improvement—Osmanabad	24.57
5.	System Improvement-Cum-Metering—Shindudurg	9.45
6.	System Improvement—Ratnagiri	23.43
7.	System Improvement-cum-Metering—Aurangabad	52.60
8.	Scheme for O&M circle—Nasik	58.21
<i>State—Karnataka (Non-Special Category State)</i>		
1.	RM&U of Sharavathy gen. Station	16.88
2.	RM&U of Linaganamakky dam power house	1.75
3.	RM&U of Nagihari Power House	48.45
4.	RM&U Mani Dam power House	1.00
5.	RM&U of Varahi underground power house	0.90
6.	RM&U of Bhadra gen. Station	5.70
7.	Upgradation & Improvement of distribution system - Mysore (revised)	2.05
8.	Upgradation & Improvement of distribution system - Mysore (revised)	95.18
9.	Upgradation & Improvement of distribution system - Belgaum	77.32
10.	Upgradation & Improvement of distribution system - Bijapur	52.76
11.	Upgradation & Improvement of distribution system - Hubli	54.08
<i>State—Andhra Pradesh (Non-Special Category State)</i>		
1.	RM&U of Kothagudem 'A' TPS	54.03
2.	RM&U of Vijayawada TPS	76.09
3.	RM&U of Nellore TPS 30 MW	24.10
<i>State—Assam (Non-Special Category State)</i>		
1.	System Improvement of circles - Dibrugarh	24.49
2.	System Improvement of circles - Guwahati II	21.84
3.	System Improvement of circles - Jorhat	33.04
4.	System Improvement of circles - Sivasagar	22.46
5.	System Improvement of circles - Cachar	20.44

**Validity of Monthly Seasonal Ticket During
Magistrate Checking**

2684. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monthly Season Ticket holders are being treated as without ticket in super fast trains during the Magistrate checkings;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the revenue recovered from these commuters during surprise Magistrate checking in trains goes to the Railways account;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are aware that trial of these passengers are unduly long and sometimes they are detained overnight by the duty Magistrate at the station;

(f) if so, the reasons for such harassment therefor; and

(g) the remedial steps taken by the Government to redress the grievances of these commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMANTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Monthly/Quarterly season tickets have a separate fare structure and are not valid in reserved coaches and in superfast trains having distance restrictions. Persons violating this are treated as without ticket and charged as per the relevant rules.

(c) and (d) Revenue charged by way of fare and excess charge/penalty are credited to the Railways. However, judicial fine is credited to the State Governments.

(e) No, Sir. Trial of ticketless passengers does not much time unless challenged by the offender.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Grievances, if reported, are referred to the State Government for redressal.

Potential of Hydel Power Generation

2685. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hydel Power Generation is just 17 percent of the available potentials;

(b) if so, the details of average cost of hydel generation per unit; and

(c) the steps being taken to augment the potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The country is endowed with an economically exploitable viable hydro potential assessed at 84044 MW at 60% Load Factor. However, only 16.6% of this potential has been exploited, 6.3% is under various stages of development and 2.73% has been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(b) The cost of hydro generation per unit depends on factors such as date of setting up the generation projects, geological and technical factors, rehabilitation and other related issues. the average cost per unit in various States is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cost of Generation (P/Kwh) (Year 2000-01)
1.	Haryana	23.14
2.	Karnataka	40.37
3.	Himachal Pradesh	113.00
4.	Meghalaya	86.01
5.	Andhra Pradesh	36.31
6.	Tamil Nadu	24.00
7.	Maharashtra	44.95
8.	West Bengal	357.99

(c) Government of India is according high priority to development of hydroelectric projects in the country and has so far tentatively identified hydroelectric projects of 16,291 MW for benefits in the X Plan and 22,364 MW for benefits in the XI Plan. However, the capacity addition identified for benefits in these Plans would depend on obtaining statutory clearances and tying-up of necessary funds.

The budgetary support for hydroelectric projects under central sector has been substantial increased from Rs. 1265 crores to Rs. 2082 crores over the last four years. Government of India is also providing assistance to the State Sector projects through loans from Power Finance Corporation. A special Accelerated Power Development Programme has been launched for Renovation, Modernisation and Uprating activities of hydro stations.

Government of India has recently introduced 3 stage development of hydroelectric projects under Central Sector with a view to reducing time and cost overrun in implementing the hydroelectric projects. The Central Electricity Authority has also completed a preliminary ranking of all the potential hydro sites in all river basins of the country based on technical and non-technical parameters.

[Translation]

Gyan Darshan Programmes

2686. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Gyan Darshan Programmes shown on Doordarshan along with their subjects at present;

(b) whether the Gyan Darshan Programmes are less popular; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken to make it popular?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Restriction on Beggars and Hawkers

2687. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:
DR. RAJESWARAMAA VUKKALA:
SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether restriction as been imposed on the travelling of beggars and hawkers in some trains of the Central Railway in compliance with the verdict of the Mumbai High Court;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to impose the same restriction on all trains including local trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In compliance with the directions of the Mumbai High Court, restrictions have

been imposed on the travelling of beggars and hawkers in all Mail/Express trains and all local trains on Central Railway. During the checks conducted against unauthorised hawkers and beggars by the ticket checking squads, 3818 hawkers and 120 beggars were apprehended and prosecuted under the relevant provisions of Railways Act on the railway during the period April to October, 2001.

[English]

Vigil along Indo-Sri Lanka Coast

2688. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have jointly planned to step up vigil along the coast to prevent smuggling of narcotics;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been made between the two countries in that regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no formal agreement between India and Sri-Lanka for stepping up vigil along Indo-Sri Lanka Coast. However, there is an exchange of intelligence and information under South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances.

Power Plant in Gujarat with the Help of Israel

2689. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel jointly propose to build a \$ 100 million power plant in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether this power plant will use hot air currents to generate electricity;

(c) if so, the time by which this plant is likely to be completed; and

(d) the details of electricity generated by Energy Tower Technology?

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

Royalty on Crude Oil

2690. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Exploration) of this Ministry to decide the rate of royalty on crude oil payable to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) With a view to evolve a new Scheme of Royalty on crude oil applicable with effect from 01.04.1998, a Committee was constituted by the Government on 26.4.2001 under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Exploration), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. The Committee has submitted its Report of 26.11.2001, which is under examination.

Power Funds to Mobilise Requirement in Power Sector

2691. SHRI BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Power Funds to mobilize the massive investment requirement in the power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of amount expected to be contributed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The total investment required to meet the "Power on Demand" in generation, transmission and distribution by 2012 AD will be around Rs. 80000 crores. This huge requirement of funds is proposed to be met by funding from various sources. One of the suggestions mooted for resource mobilization is creation of a Power Fund.

Advertisement to Newspapers

2692. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Advertising Policy and Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP;

(b) whether DAVP has empanelled newspapers for advertisements on the basis of their circulation figures;

(c) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government to verify the circulation figures given by individual newspapers;

(d) whether any case of false submission of circulated figures have come to the notice of the Government;

(e) if so, the action taken against such newspapers;

(f) whether the arrangements made by the Government for verifying claims for circulation submitted by the newspapers journals are satisfactory; and

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The salient features of the 'Advertising Policy and Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP' are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The DAVP accepts circulation figures of the newspapers authenticated either by Audit Bureau of Circulation or by Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) or by a Chartered Accountant. However, the Chartered Accountant Certificate is accepted only upto 20,000 copies per publishing day for upto one year only.

(d) Yes, Sir. Instances have come to the notice of DAVP, where the newspapers have claimed higher circulation.

(e) If the circulation claimed by the newspapers is found to be exaggerated as compared to the circulation assessed by the RNI, the publishers is asked, *inter alia*, to refund the excess amount paid to him by DAVP because of excess circulation.

(f) Yes, Sir, the arrangements for circulation verification have been found by and large to be satisfactory.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement*Salient Features of the Advertising Policy*

Criteria For Empanelment:-

All newspapers journals should have been uninterruptedly and regularly under publication for a period of not less than 12 months and should comply with the provisions of the Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867. The applicant newspaper journal is required to substantiate that it is being published at a reasonable standard i.e.

- (a) the print matter should be legible, neat, clear and without smudges and overwriting;
- (b) there should be no repetition or reproduction of news items or articles in the newspapers journal;
- (c) masthead of its front page should carry the title of the newspaper, place, date and day of publication, it would also carry RNI Registration Number, volume & issue number and price of newspaper, journal; and
- (d) the newspaper should carry imprint line as required under PRB Act.

Regularity:-

The applicant Daily newspaper should have published the newspaper on at least 25 days in each month during preceding 12 months. Weekly journals should have published 46 issues during the preceding year, monthly journals 10 issues during the preceding year and quarterly journals 6 issues during preceding 2 years to be considered being brought out regularly. The applicant newspapers journal should also furnish a copy of the certificate of the registration issued by the RNI. A newspaper journal once declared unestablished by RNI after the enquiry will be considered established only from the date of issue of RNI certificate to this effect and not from any year/date in the past. However, a newspaper journal declared unestablished due to non filing of returns or some similar technical grounds can be declared established by RBI from the date of unestablished on the discretion of RNI.

Print Area:-

A newspaper journal should have the following minimum print area:

Penodicity	Print area not less than
Dailies	1520 Std Col Cms
Weeklies, Fortnightlies	700 Std. Col. Cms.
Monthlies and other Periodicals	960 Std. Col. Cms.

Issue of Bonds to Oil Companies

2693. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to issue bonds to oil companies to wipe out the oil pool deficit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Public Sector Oil Refineries are against the opening of the petroleum sector in April, 2002; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The management of the oil pool account is a continuous process and the strategy to manage the same depends *inter alia* on various factors viz. the prevalent international prices of crude oil/petroleum products, exchange rate, duty structure, domestic selling prices of controlled products (motor spirit, high speed diesel, kerosene for public distribution and domestic LPG) etc. No decision to wipe out the oil pool deficit by issuing bonds to oil companies has been taken as yet.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Quota of SCs/STs/OBCs

2694. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DoPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt.(Res.) under dated duly 2, 1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, the total 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 five years under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and

(c) the details of the instances in which candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Oil and Natural Gas Fields

2695. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Oil and Natural Gas fields in different States of the country;

(b) the quantum of oil and natural gas produced by these fields in the country during the last three years; and

(c) the details of research work being done on the production of oil and natural gas available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As on 1.4.2001 the total number of major oil and gas fields in different States of the country is 218.

(b) The quantum of oil and gas produced from these fields by ONGC, OIL and Private/Joint Venture companies during the years from 1998-99 to 2000-01 is as under:-

	OIL (Million Metric Tonne)	GAS (Billion Cubic Metre)
1998-99	11.40	7.15
1999-00	11.21	7.38
2000-01	11.74	7.70

(c) The research work being undertaken by ONGC and OIL include subjects pertaining to areas like development of oil and gas field, enhanced recovery methods, stimulation techniques, horizontal/multilateral completion techniques, drilling/workover fluids, water/

gas shut-of, artificial lift mechanism, pipeline engineering, crude oil stabilization, production system for high pour point crude, ultrasonic/electromagnetic treatments of paraffin deposition control and in-situ water separation.

SEBI Regulations, 1999

2696. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the names of the companies prosecuted by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) during the last two years for violating the SEBI Regulations, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Improvement of Earning and Extending Safety to Passengers

2697. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken some steps in improving earnings and extending safety to passengers;

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

(c) whether he has also written to Chief Ministers of all the States in this connection;

(d) if so, the details thereof with the response of the State Governments thereto; and

(e) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Steps for improving earnings and enhancing safety are a continuous process on Indian Railways.

Many steps have been taken for increasing the earnings like estimation of anticipated traffic well in advance and planning of special trains, analysis of

passenger traffic segment wise, augmentation of coaches and running of special trains, increasing the length of the trains to 23-24 coaches, capturing of additional passenger traffic for specific occasions, wide publicity and advance information of available accommodation through various medias, special schemes like tatkal scheme, National Train Enquiry service, improvements in availabilities of tickets, sustained and aggressive ticket checking improvements in customer interface etc.

Safety is accorded highest priority in train operation. Safety is an on-going and continuous process, and is being extended by adopting various methods like mechanized maintenance of track, Radio communication between drivers, station staff and control, Auxiliary Warning System, Anti Collision Device, intensive training by modern methods of training and frequent inspections at various levels to check lapses on the part of staff and others.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Railways writes to State Governments as and when situation warrants especially in respect of subject pertaining to level crossings/ROBs/RUB's etc. Few State Governments have assured necessary action. Action is taken by Railways on case to case basis as deemed necessary.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps from Discretionary Quota

2698. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to allot petrol pumps and LPG agencies from the discretionary quota or on priority basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applications pending for allotment of petrol pumps and LPG Agencies from discretionary quota at present and the time by which these are likely to be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Based on the Supreme Court's Order dated 31.3.1995 in the Writ Petition (C) No. 886/93, the Government issued the guidelines on 20.4.2001 for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships/SKO-LDO dealerships

under the discretionary quota. According to the guidelines, deserving persons in the following two categories are eligible for allotment of dealerships/distributorships on genuine compassionate grounds:-

- (i) Dependants of Defence/Paramilitary/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated;
- (ii) Dependants of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

The number of discretionary allotments in a year shall not exceed 10% of the average Annual Marketing Plan or 75, whichever is less, of which allotments of retail outlets will not ordinarily exceed 5% of the average Annual Marketing Plan.

(c) As on 1.11.2001, the Committee of the Directors (Marketing) of the Oil Marketing Companies and the Executive Director, Oil Coordination Committee, constituted, as per the guidelines, for processing applications for discretionary allotments, received 1248 applications. It is not possible to indicate the time by which dealerships/distributorships will be allotted to the applicants as the process of allotment *inter alia* consists of various stages, like processing by the Committee, sending recommendations to the Government and examination of the recommendations in the Government through established channel for obtaining appropriate orders of the Minister (P&NG), who as per guidelines, will personally decide each case.

[*English*]

Electrification in Andaman and Nicobar

2699. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of estimated cost of the four 2x24 KW Power Houses at Dugong Greek at Little Andaman, Strait Island, South Bay and Shompen Complex in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(b) the outlay for the Ninth Plan period for each of these Power House;

(c) the details of power available to the tribal consumers in these areas;

(d) whether there is any proposal of increasing the coverage to 24 hours; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Details of the Estimated cost of 2x24 KW Power House in tribal areas is given below:

Name of the Scheme	Estimated Cost (Rs in lakhs)
Srait Island	22.787
Dugong Greek	22.857
South Bay	22.731
Shompen Complex	22.752
Total	91.127

(b) The Ninth Plan outlet for Power Houses at Srait Island, Dugong Greek, South Bay and Shompen Complex is as under:

Name of the Scheme	Ninth Plan outlay (Rs in lakhs)
Srait Island	56.10
Dugong Greek	56.10
South Bay	50.60
Shompen Complex	33.60
Total	196.40

(c) Details of the power available to the tribal consumers in these areas:

Name of the Scheme	Duration of Supply (Hrs.)	
	DG Power House	Solar Power Plant
Srait Island	6 hrs.	6 hrs.
Dugong Greek	5 hrs.	6 hrs.
South Bay	5 hrs.	6 hrs.
Shompen Complex	8 hrs.	—

(d) and (e) The power supply timings are scheduled to be increased to 12 hrs. per day by the end of 9th Plan and to 24 hrs. per day after installation of new 2x24 KW DG sets in these areas in a phased manner. The DG sets are targeted for installation during the first year of 10th Plan on completion of civil works.

LPG/Petrol Outlets in Various Districts of A.P.

2700. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG dealers outlets allotted in various districts of Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(b) the number of outlets/LPG dealers to be set up in the State during the next few years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The number of LPG agencies and Retail Outlets set up by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 are as under:-

Year	LPG distributorship	Retail Outlet
1999-2000	16	6
2000-2001	40	61

(b) At present, Oil Marketing Companies have planned to set up 367 LPG distributorship and 164 Retail Outlets in the State of Andhra Pradesh under various marketing plans.

Petrol Pumps on National Highway

2701. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal to set up some Petrol Pumps on the sides of National Highway No. 5 are pending since long; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to consider those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) There are 17 proposals for the setting up of retail outlet dealerships on the National Highway No. 5. These are at different stages of selection of dealers/commissioning, like issue of advertisements, holding of interviews, finalisation of merit panels, issue of Letters of Intent, procurement of land, construction, etc. All efforts are made to complete the selection of dealers/commissioning of all pending dealerships, including those to be set up on National Highway No. 5, as early as possible.

Introduction of Link Express of Purushottam Express and Neelanchal Express

2702. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Link Express of Purushottam Express and Neelanchal Express between Tatanagar and Barbil;

(b) if so, the time by which link express is likely to be introduced; and

(c) the steps being taken to introduce passenger train from Banspani and Barbil to Tatanagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, introduction of passenger trains from Banspani and Barabil to Tatanagar is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

LPG Connections Released under Deepam Scheme in A.P.

2703. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details about the number of gas connections released to 'Deepam' scheme introduced by the Andhra Pradesh Government; and

(b) the details about the number of beneficiaries in each district under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Under 'Deepam Scheme', Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have released 10,90,608 new LPG connections in rural areas and 2,66,940 in urban areas to the beneficiaries identified by the State Government as on 31.10.2001. The details of beneficiaries in each district are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Release of LPG Connections in Rural/Urban Areas under "Deepam" Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

District Name	No. of LPG Connection Released	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
Adilabad	58,741	9,847
Anantapur	56,765	8,200
Chittoor	55,448	13,802

	1	2	3
Cuddapah		31,708	4,736
East Godavari		64,553	25,531
Guntur		68,469	19,751
Hyderabad		0	46,214
Karimnagar		56,003	8,368
Khammam		35,362	5,330
Krishna		71,599	11,033
Kurnool		50,995	8,651
Mahabubnagar		50,379	7,133
Medak		39,977	3,441
Nalgonda		53,833	4,116
Nellore		41,722	4,880
Nizamabad		43,730	7,255
Prakasham		43,888	4,346
Rangareddy		44,420	22,343
Srikakulam		35,580	4,174
Vizag		53,168	16,380
Vizianagaram		29,605	5,358
Warangal		55,394	16,003
West Godavari		49,269	10,048
Total		10,90,608	2,66,940

Irregularities in Indian Oil Depot in Rajasthan

2704. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been detected in the measurement of tanker in the Indian Oil Depot in Rajasthan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the inquiry conducted in this regard and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At Hanumangarh Depot, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) is having 2 Nos. Calibration filler of 1,000 litres each. These calibration fillers are used by Weights & Measures Department for regular calibration of tank trucks and accordingly, calibration fees are charged by Weights & Measures Department. These calibration fillers are also periodically checked and stamped by Weights & Measures inspector. On 03.11.2001, Weights & Measures inspector of Hanumangarh, during checking of such calibration filler has observed that one of the calibration filler is delivering 2.175 litres short for ever 1,000 litres and other filler is delivering short by 1.325 litres for every 1,000 litres. Seals of both the fillers were found to be intact by Weights & Measures inspector. However, the two fillers have been sealed by the Weights & Measures Department and that Department is investigating the matter.

Financial Assistance to Cantonment Boards

2705. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the various Cantonment Boards in the country for the construction works during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to deal with the problems of education, health and other amenities in these cantonment areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Year-wise and State-wise details of special grants provided by the Central Government during the last three years to the Cantonment Board for construction works are as under:-

State	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Maharashtra	30.00	28.08	—
Madhya Pradesh	65.52	—	—
Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	—	16.00	—
Bihar/Jharkhand	—	46.02	100.21
Total	95.52	90.10	100.21

(b) Under section 116 of Cantonments Act, 1924, it is duty of every Board to make reasonable provisions for education, health and other amenities. Each Cantonment Board makes provision for these activities from their own resources. However in case of deficit Boards, Central Government provides Ordinary Grant-in-aid to meet the

requirement of Cantonment Boards. In the year 2000-2001, Rs. 21.43 crore were disbursed as Grant-in-aid to deficit Cantonment Boards.

Clearance to Project by Environment and Forests

2706. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests take a long time in granting clearance to the hydel projects;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for expeditious clearance to small hydel projects and also to give some powers to State Governments to give clearance to small hydel power projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon; and

(d) the incentives being provided for setting up small hydel projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources had taken up the matter of expeditious clearance and exemption from environment and forest clearances for renewable energy based power projects including Small Hydro Power (SHP) projects. As a result of this, SHP projects whose cost is less than Rs. 50 crores have been exempted from obtaining environment clearance. This approximately covers SHP projects up to 10-12 MW station capacity. Irrespective of the size of the project, if any forest land is involved, forest clearance has to be obtained under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The regional offices of Ministry of Environment and Forests are empowered to provide these clearances.

(d) Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing a number of incentive schemes for setting up of small hydro power projects. These are for Detailed Survey & Investigation, Detailed Project Report Preparation, capital subsidy for Government sector projects, interest subsidy for commercial projects, scheme for Renovation & Modernisation of old SHP projects and for development and up-gradation of water mills. The incentives provided under these schemes are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement***Incentives under Small Hydro Power Programme***

Schemes	Area	Below 500 KW	500 KW upto 1 MW	Above 1 MW & upto 5 MW	Above 5 MW & upto 15 MW	Above 15 MW & upto 25 MW
Survey & Investigation	Plain	Upto Rs. 0.75 lakhs		Upto Rs. 1.00 lakhs	Upto Rs. 1.50 lakhs	
	Hilly	Upto Rs. 1.00 lakhs		Upto Rs. 2.00 lakhs	Upto Rs. 3.00 lakhs	
Detailed Project Report	Plain	Upto Rs. 0.75 lakhs		Upto Rs. 1.00 lakhs	Upto Rs. 1.50 lakhs	
	Hilly	Upto Rs. 0.75 lakhs		Upto Rs. 1.00 lakhs	Upto Rs. 2.00 lakhs	
Interest Subsidy for Commercial Projects	Plain	5.00%		2.50%	2.00%	1.50%
	Hilly & NE region	7.50%		5.00%	3.00%	2.00%
Capital Subsidy for Govt. Sector Projects	NE Region, Sikkim	90% cost of the project upto Rs. 75000/- KW	90% cost of the project upto Rs. 60000/-KW	75% cost of the project upto Rs. 45000/-KW	Equipment Cost+ 25% of Civil Cost limited to Rs. 22.50 crores/project	Nil
	Middle Himalayas, Ladakh, A&N	Equipment Cost+ 50% of Civil Cost upto Rs. 45,000/-KW		Equipment Cost+ 25% of Civil Cost upto Rs. 3.00 crores/MW	Equipment Cost+ 25% of Civil Cost limited to Rs. 15 crores/project	Nil
	Other Areas (only notified hilly regions)	Equipment cost + 50% of Civil Cost upto Rs.30,000/KW		Equipment cost + 25% of Civil Cost upto Rs. 1.5 crores per MW	Equipment cost + 25% of Civil Cost limited to Rs. 7.5 crores/project	Nil
Renovation & Modernisation of Old Projects		Upto Rs. 2 crores/MW			Limited to Rs. 10 crores/ project	Nil
Development/Upgradation of Water Mills						
Mechanical mode		Rs. 30,000				
Mechanical/Electrical mode		Rs. 60,000				

Circuit Bench in Jalpaiguri

2707. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of High Court Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri town in West Bengal which has been Supported by West Bengal Government and Calcutta High Court; and

(b) the time by which a final decision is likely to be accorded in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The State Government has been requested in August 2001 to indicate the time-frame within which infrastructural facilities

required for establishment of a High Court Bench at Jalpaiguri would be completed to the satisfaction of the Calcutta High Court. They have also been advised to indicate the names of districts proposed to be included in the jurisdiction of the proposed Bench. The State Government has also been requested to convey their agreement to bearing the entire expenditure on the proposed Bench. The response of the entire Government has not been received so far.

Further, as the proposal involves Parliamentary legislation it is not feasible to indicate the time by which a final decision can be taken.

Production of Goa Shipyard Limited

2708. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships built and delivered by the Goa Shipyard during Eighth and Ninth Plan; and

(b) the achievements made by the Goa Shipyard Limited during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Goa Shipyard has built and delivered 10 Ships during the 8th Plan Period. During the 9th Plan period, so far 9 ships have been built and delivered.

During the last three years Goa Shipyard Limited has supplied 2 Extra Fast Attack Crafts and 1 Survey Vessel to the Indian Navy. One Offshore Patrol Vessel and one Fast Patrol Vessel have been delivered to the Coast Guard. Besides, 2 Cranes have been delivered to another client.

Performance of Goa Shipyard during the last three years is as per the table below:-

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Value of Production (Rs. in Crores)	78.65	109.28	190.00
Capacity utilisation (in per centage)	52.25	77.49	101.04

Gas Flaring in Mumbai High

2709. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of gas being flared in Mumbai High;

(b) the extent to which it compares with the technical minimum level; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken under the new scheme to reduce the flaring of gas in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The details of daily average gas produced, supplied, internally

utilised and flared per day by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) during the year 2001-02 (April 2001 to September 2001) from Western Offshore including Mumbai High field are as under:

(Figures in Million Standard Cubic Metre per Day)

	2001-2002 (Apr. 2001-Sep. 2001)
Production	50.132
Supply	40.420
Integral Use	7.185
Flaring	2.228
% age Utilization	95.55%

(b) The requirement of minimum technical flare is dependent upon the facilities created and the technology available at the time of creation of facilities. Gas flaring in Western Offshore including Mumbai High field of ONGC has already come down to the level of about 4.4% of the total gas produced, which figure compares well with the world average of about 4.0% in this regard.

(c) ONGC is taking various measures to further reduce the flaring of gas, such as low pressure gas recovery, replacement of flaring systems, flare gas recovery and operational modifications.

Electrification of Railway Lines

2710. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have fully electrified South Central Railway tracks;

(b) if not, the tracks which would be electrified during the current year;

(c) the number of electric locomotives are running in South Central Railway presently;

(d) whether there is a proposal to increase the number of electric locomotives during the current year;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the safeguards which are likely to be taken in case of break down of power in South Central Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Electrification of Renigunta-Guntakal section (308 Route Kilometres) is in progress and is targeted for completion by March 2004.

(c) About 200 electric locomotives run on the territory of South Central Railway. 282 electric locomotives are homed in two sheds of South Central Railway. Electric locos are shared between the Zonal Railways for running the services.

(d) There is no proposal to further substantially increase the allotment of locos to South Central Railway's sheds during this year.

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

(f) Emergency feed arrangements exist for break down of power in one or more traction sub-stations in South Central Railway.

Advanced Light Weight Torpedos

2711. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DRDO has developed technology to produce advanced light weight torpedos;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the time by which the production of said torpedo is likely to be started and the names of the companies manufacturing the torpedo?

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

(b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed state-of-the-art Advanced Experimental Torpedo (AET) capable of being launched from ship and helicopter. The torpedo has gone through several user acceptance trials and it is in the pre-production stage.

(c) M/s. Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL), Hyderabad, the Production Agency for AET, is producing five torpedos. After evaluation of the pre-production units, Navy is likely to place bulk-production orders in a year's time.

U.S. Assistance

2712. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has sanctioned \$ 4 lakh to Indian Railways to boost its strategic techniques;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the areas identified for utilization of US grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Trade and Development Agency is part funding the development of Phase III of the Long Range Decision Support System (LRDSS) through a grant of US\$ 400,000 out of a total project cost of US\$ 1,024,757. Indian Railways will fund the remaining portion of the project cost.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The grant agreement has been signed between the Ministry of Railways and US Trade Development Agency on 19th November, 2001.

(e) The areas identified for the utilization of the grant include:

- (1) Terminal Analysis
- (2) Multi-modal Traffic Analysis
- (3) Benchmarking of trains.

Irregularities in Allotment of LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps

2713. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been irregularities in the allotment of LPG agencies and petrol pumps in U.P.,

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to check such irregularities;

(c) whether the Government have identified officials/persons involved in such irregularities; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The complaints received against selection for dealerships/distributorships by Dealer Selection Boards (DSBs) in the State of Uttar Pradesh have been referred to Oil Marketing Companies/Director General, Anti Adulteration Cell, for action as per the guidelines laid down by Ministry in the matter.

Improper Functioning of MES

2714. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the improper functioning of the MES in the country;

(b) whether due to unrealistic assessment of availability of water and electricity by Naval Officers and Engineers, a loss of Rs. 2.19 crore was suffered and the houses are lying vacant for months as it has been brought out by the CAG in their report 7 of 2001 on page 47;

(c) whether MES is also not providing economical and efficient and timely service to the occupants of military accommodation in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to tone up the MES?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a), (c) and (d) No, Sir. MES is functioning with well established procedures including providing economical, efficient and timely service to occupants of military accommodation in Delhi. However continuous efforts to upgrade the functioning, improving of the services are made.

(b) While the total cost of the project was Rs. 2.19 crores, the total rent reimbursed to the officers, watch and ward expenses, as per CAG report is reflected as Rs 6.7 lakhs only. Delays of handling over of projects of such sizes do occur once in a while.

Train Between Vijayawada-Tirupathi

2715. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing demand for trains between Vijayawada-Tirupathi:

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run train on the lines of Tirumala Express between Kakinada-Tirupathi via Bhimavaram; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Gas Through Pipeline in Mumbai

2716. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Gas is not able to fulfil its commitment to provide gas via pipeline in Mumbai;

(b) whether Mahanagar Gas were to start supply of gas in Eastern Suburb, particularly Mulund (East) and Mulund (West) before Diwali this year;

(c) if so, the reasons for its delay;

(d) if so, whether the pipeline has been laid in the eastern suburbs of Bhandup, Vikhroli, Kanjurmarg;

(e) if so, the programmes and time schedule for supply of gas in these areas; and

(f) if not, the reasons of such long delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir. Since its inception in May, 1995, Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) - a Joint Venture Company of Gas Authority of India Limited, British Gas Plc. and Government of Maharashtra has connected 74,522 domestic consumers for supply of piped natural gas out of the 3.15 lakh (approximately) potential domestic consumers covering Chembur, Deonar, Goandi, Chunabhatti, Kurla (East), Pant Nagar, Kala Nagar, Bandra (East & West), Andheri (East & West), Ghatkopar (West), Juhu, Varsova, Vile Parle (East & West), Goregaon, Malad, Kandivali, Mulund (West) and Vikhroli (East) in Mumbai.

(b) MGL is already supplying piped natural gas to domestic consumers in various parts of Eastern Suburbs including Mulund (West), where 3,800 domestic consumers have so far been connected. MGL has plans to expand the existing piped gas network to Mulund (East) during the current construction season.

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

(d) to (f) MGL has since laid the gas pipeline in the Eastern Part of Kanjurmarg (naer Crompton Greaves Plant and Jolly Board Plant) and Vikhroli (Godrej Plant). MGL is in the process of carrying out feasibility study on expansion of piped gas supply in Bhandup (East), Kanjurmarg and Vikhroli including Kannamwar Nagar and Tegore Nagar. The job for domestic connection in these areas is expected to be taken up during October 02, 2002 onwards after the technical feasibility is completed.

Harassment by Officers of Anti-Adulteration Cell

2717. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the officers of Anti Adulteration Cell (AAC) have started threatening the dealers;

(b) if so, the mode of appeal against the working and findings of this Cell;

(c) whether the Government have sought clearance/secret enquiry regarding the officers appointed in this cell from CVC;

(d) if not, the reasons for this lapse;

(e) whether the Government propose to conduct enquiry or seek report from CVC; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) So far no complaint has been received by the Government about any officers of the Anti Adulteration Cell threatening the dealers.

(c) to (f) Question does not arise in view of the above.

Bio-Gas Plants

2718. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Bio-gas Plants installed in the country during the last three years, State-wise separately;

(b) whether the target in respect of many States has not been achieved during this period;

(c) if so, the details of the States where achievement was less than the target; and

(d) the action proposed by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) A total of about 4.89 lakh family type biogas plants have been set up during the last three years, i.e., 1998-99 to 2000-01 under the Central Sector Scheme-National Project on Biogas Development. State-wise information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Most of the States achieved their respective targets except Assam, Bihar, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim during the period.

(d) To improve the achievement in all North-Eastern States during the current financial year 2001-02, the Government have started new measures, such as, greater involvement of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and grass-roots level non-governmental organizations; and enhancement in the rate of turn-key job fee from Rs. 700/- to Rs. 800/- per plant with effect from 31st August, 2001. For other States also, the turn-key job fee has been increased from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 700/- per plant to attract entrepreneurs to construct plants with three years' warranty for free maintenance servicing. A scheme for repairing old non-functional plants is being continued in all States and Union Territories. Besides, districts, which have high potential but lack adequate number of trained masons, are being identified for organizing on-the-job training under the aegis of State level Biogas Development and Training Centres.

Statement

State-wise total number of family type biogas plants installed during the last three years, i.e., 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, under the National Project on Biogas Development

State/Union Territory	Total number of plants set up
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	71339
Arunachal Pradesh	731
Assam	19033

1	2
Bihar	13802
Gujarat	29610
Haryana	7121
Himachal Pradesh	2668
Karnataka	72162
Kerala	18698
Madhya Pradesh	43987
Maharashtra	48591
Manipur	448
Meghalaya	1295
Mizoram	900
Nagaland	677
Orissa	26262
Punjab	19401
Rajasthan	3329
Sikkim	977
Tamil Nadu	6691
Tripura	646
Uttar Pradesh	45739
West Bengal	54356
Others	727
Total	4,89,190

Cancellation of Appointment

2719. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interviews conducted for the appointments of Group 'D' Posts were cancelled again and again by the Railways in Khurdha Road Division of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether in view of the difficulties faced by the applicants, the Government have conducted any investigation in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government against the officials held responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The selection scheduled to commence on 27.8.2001 for appointment to Group 'D' posts in Khurda Road Division has been postponed due to manhandling of candidates by unidentified locals on the first day itself. The steps to be taken to carry out the aforesaid selection are being finalised in consultation with the officials of State Government.

[Translation]

Decline in Consumption of Petroleum Products

2720. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

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

(a) whether the consumption of petroleum products has declined during the last few years;

(b) if so, the quantum of consumption of different petroleum products in the country during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the purposes for which each petroleum products is used in the country; and

(d) the names of the petroleum products likely to be used during 2001-2002 along with the estimated quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Demand for petroleum products has shown steady growth in the country. Consumption/sale of petroleum products for the periods 1998-1999 to 2000-2001 are given in Statement-I.

(c) Details of major end use of different petroleum products are given in the Statement-II.

(d) Demand Estimates for different petroleum products in the country during the year 2001-02 are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I**Consumption of Petroleum Products
(Including Imports/Sales by Private Parties)**

(Figures in TMT)

Product	1998-99	%Growth	1999-2000	%Growth	2000-01	%Growth
LPG	5353	11.4	6422	20.0	7016	9.3
MS	5507	6.3	5909	7.3	6613	11.9
NAPHTHA/NGL	9221	25.3	10892	18.1	11680	7.2
OTHERS	450	-13.9	1308	190.5	4005	206.1
SUB TOTAL	20531	14.9	24531	19.5	29314	19.5
ATF	2112	0.2	2200	4.2	2250	2.3
SKO	12243	10.6	11898	-2.8	11307	-5.0
HSD	37217	3.2	39295	5.6	37958	-3.4
LDO	1278	3.5	1512	18.3	1399	-7.5
OTHERS	480	13.4	528	10.0	553	4.7
SUB TOTAL	53330	4.8	55433	3.9	53467	-3.5
LUBES	1096	1.4	1244	13.4	1044	-16.1
FO/LSHS	12511	8.9	12453	-0.5	12653	1.6
BITUMEN	2412	10.7	2879	19.4	2714	-5.7
OTHERS	682	-11.5	546	-20.0	883	61.9
SUB TOTAL	16701	7.6	17122	2.5	17294	1.0
GRAND TOTAL	90562	7.4	97086	7.2	100075	3.1

Statement-II

Product	Major End Use
LPG	Domestic Fuel, Commercial Fuel and for industrial application.
NAPHTHA/NGL	Feed Stock/fuel for Fertilizer Units, feedstock for Petrochemical sector, fuel for Power Plants.
MS	Fuel for passenger cars, taxis, two & three wheelers.
ATF	Fuel for Aircrafts.
SKO	Fuel for cooking & lighting.
HSD	Fuel for transport sector (Railways/Road), agriculture (tractors, pump sets, threshers, etc.) and power generation.
LDO	Fuel for agricultural pumps sets, small industrial units, start up fuel for power generation.
FO/LSHS	Fuel for Power Plants, Fuel/feedstock for Fertilizers Plants, industrial units.
BITUMEN	Surfacing of roads.
LUBES	Lubrication for automotive and industrial application.

Statement-III

*Demand Estimates For The Year 2001-02
(Including Imports/Sales by Private Parties)*

(Figures in TMT)

Product	Estimated Demand
LPG	7864
MS	7049
SKO	10462
HSD	37100
ATF	2217
NAPHTHA/NGL	12271
LDO	1380
LUBES	1050
FO/LSHS	12868
BITUMEN	2657
OTHERS	4519
TOTAL	99437

Unflt Aircraft in IAF

2721. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of combat aircraft of the Indian Air Force which are not airworthy;

(b) since when these aircrafts are not being used alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make these I.A.F. aircraft airworthy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Besides some IAF aircraft which are under overhaul presently, as per the normal overhaul cycle, there are some more IAF aircraft which are not airworthy temporarily, as spares are being awaited from the manufacturers.

Action is being taken to expedite the supply of spares.

*[English]***Refund to Gujarat Electricity Board**

2722. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excess freight to the tune of Rs. 28 crores recovered by the South Eastern Railway, Kolkata, from the Gujarat Electricity Board, is to be refunded;

(b) if so, since when the matter is pending;

(c) the time by which the amount would be refunded to the Gujarat Electricity Board;

(d) whether the 15 per cent surcharge levied on the "To Pay" rakes, not indented by Guajrat Electricity Board for the period form October, 1997 to October, 1998, is to be refunded;

(e) if so, the time by when it is likely to be refunded; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The papers of refund claims of Rs. 28 crores approximately filed earlier by the Gujarat Electricity Board with the South Eastern Railway had got destroyed in a fire in Railway's Refunds Office on 4.7.1999. An amount of Rs. 1.36 crore had been paid before 4.7.1999. Claims for the balance amount were re-submitted in February, 2000 and are under verification. No refund is being allowed now on these cases as the claims found admissible would get adjusted against the outstanding amounts payable by the Gujarat Electricity Board to the Railways. This is a continuous process.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise. Railway levy "To Pay" surcharge of 15% when freight for the coal consignment is not paid at the booking station or under any of the approved mode of payment.

[*Translation*]**Rural Electrification**

2723. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of households electrified under 'Kutir Jyoti' and Pradhan Mantri Gramodya Yojana Programme till March 31, 2001 State-wise;

(b) the progress of electrification under the said programme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of households eligible to come under the said programme, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for the tardy progress in bringing electricity to the poor and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) In order to provide electricity to families below the poverty line, the Government through the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides 100% grant assistance to the States for release of single point connection under the Kutir Jyoti Programme. An amount of Rs. 70 crores has been provided for this programme in the current financial year. The State-wise details of households electrified under Kutir Jyoti Programme till March 31, 2001 are given in the Statement I. The progress of electrification under Kutir Jyoti Programme during each of the last three years is given in the statement-II. The State-wise details of number of rural families below poverty line eligible under Kutir Jyoti Programme for the IX Plan is given in the statement-III.

In the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 3rd March, 2001, it has been resolved to complete rural electrification by the end of 10th Plan i.e. by the year 2007 and the coverage of all households has been targeted by the end of 11th Plan i.e. by the year 2012. Rural Electrification has now been included under PMGY from the year 2001-02 under which an allocation of Rs. 41859.90 lakhs has been made. Besides, an amount of Rs. 175 crores has been allocated under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) for the year 2001-02 for rural electrification.

Statement I

No. of households reported as electrified under Kutir Jyoti Programme till March, 31.3.2001

Sl. No.	State	Cumulative 31.3.2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	584674
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28902
3.	Assam	46937
4.	Bihar	328527
5.	Goa	1050
6.	Gujarat	66478
7.	Haryana	9996
8.	Himachal Pradesh	24753
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1421
10.	Karnataka	924587
11.	Kerala	82043
12.	Madhya Pradesh	735959
13.	Maharashtra	274379
14.	Manipur	16066
15.	Meghalaya	28165
16.	Mizoram	39900
17.	Nagaland	34221
18.	Orissa	101381
19.	Punjab	27746
20.	Rajasthan	124974
21.	Sikkim	20415
22.	Tamil Nadu	471396
23.	Tripura	41538
24.	Uttar Pradesh	213980
25.	West Bengal	148826
26.	UTs	1724
Grand Total		4380038

Statement-II

No. of Households reported as electrified under Kutir Jyoti Programme during each of last three years, yearwise and State-wise

Sl.No.	State	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	104000	38000	130000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	112	7772	6000
3.	Assam	0	569	1688
4.	Bihar	27173	41945	25342
5.	Goa	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	5000	5000	4200
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4174	4080	2036
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	528
10.	Karnataka	100000	200000	145087
11.	Kerala	5000	15000	35152
12.	Madhya Pradesh	136250	35714	51770
13.	Maharashtra	36000	35757	14607
14.	Manipur	5000	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	9000	5625	3500
16.	Mizoram	8000	11500	10000
17.	Nagaland	5864	11815	12000
18.	Orissa	973	5286	41
19.	Punjab	5000	5000	2500
20.	Rajasthan	8954	9940	15012
21.	Sikkim	3000	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	46486	40421	45919
23.	Tripura	2344	19217	13783
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2584	131	509
25.	West Bengal	15000	4601	5000
Grand Total		529914	497373	524674

Statement-III*Statewise results of BPL Census During Ninth Plan*

Sl. No.	State	No. of rural families below poverty line
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4184628
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80627
3.	Assam	2164416
4.	Bihar	9399281
5.	Goa	23101
6.	Gujarat	1980879
7.	Haryana	503019
8.	Himachal Pradesh	286112
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	606545
10.	Karnataka	2202756
11.	Kerala	Not reported
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5111874
13.	Maharashtra	3860675
14.	Manipur	246980
15.	Meghalaya	156646
16.	Mizoram	74154
17.	Nagaland	88541
18.	Orissa**	4445736
19.	Punjab	650209
20.	Rajasthan	2097560
21.	Sikkim	Not reported
22.	Tamil Nadu	2737921
23.	Tripura	397798
24.	Uttar Pradesh	7541494
25.	West Bengal	4918296
26.	A & N Islands	6421
27.	D & N Haveli	17231
28.	Daman & Diu	395
29.	Lakshadweep	885
30.	Pondicherry	63262
All India		53847442

* Provisional

** Rural Households

Acquisition of Land by IAF in Rajasthan

2724. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Air base for the Air Force near Rawatsar town in Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total land acquired for the purpose alongwith the names of the villages from where land has been acquired;

(d) whether the Government propose to give compensation to farmers in lieu of their land; and

(e) if so, the time by which the compensation is likely to be given to the farmers alongwith the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a proposal to acquire about 47,000 bighas of land in district Hanumangarh, Rajasthan, is under consideration for building an Air-to-Ground Firing Range for the Indian Air Force.

(d) and (e) As the land is yet to be acquired, the question of payment of compensation does not arise, at this stage.

Supply of TU-22 Bombers by Russia

2725. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has agreed to provide four T.U.-22 bombers on lease basis to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said planes are likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) For its defence and strategic requirements, India has been procuring arms and ammunitions from various countries. Giving details of either the countries or ammunitions/weapons for acquisitions will not be in the interest of national security.

**Modernisation and Renovation of Power Plants by
Private Sector**

2726. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to hand over those power plants having low PLF to private sector for their modernisation and renovation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Enron Issue

2727. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry has offered to sort out the Enron problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Enron problem is one of the biggest hurdles in Indo-US relations; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to resolve the Enron problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) While the primary responsibility for resolving the issues involved in the matter rests with the Dabhol Power Company (DPC) and Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB), who had signed the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), the Government of India has agreed to facilitate an amicable solution.

[Translation]

Excavation of Mata Bagla Mukhi Temple in H.P.

2728. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will he Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there was a famous ancient and historical Mata Bagla Mukhi temple at Vankhandi in Tehsil Dehra, district Kangra (Himachal Pradesh), which subsided in the devastating earthquake of 1905;

(b) if so, whether the remains of the said temple was found during the course of excavation;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to undertake excavation of the said site in order to get the remains of this ancient and historical temple; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) The existing temple of Mata Bagla Mukhi at Vankhandi in Tehsil Dehra, District Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) appears to have been constructed over the remains of an ancient temple. Archaeological excavation of the site is not feasible in view of the heavy construction around the existing temple.

Missing of Scrap Track Materials

2729. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of redundant/scrap track materials, released on account of gauge conversions on Indian Railway's are either reported to be missing from the site, or not available at the site during inspection by the senior officers;

(b) if so, the details of such track materials found to be missing and the approximate value of the losses, detected by the Railway, section-wise;

(c) the number of such cases, where the Railways have sought permission for waiving of losses to exchequer on account of missing track materials, classified as redundant/scrap alongwith reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against Officers held responsible for such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from all Zonal Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Service Tax on Broadcast Services

2730. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to impose service tax on broadcast services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representation from FICCI against imposition of such tax;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Through an amendment in the Service Tax Rules 1994, the Government of India have included the broadcasting services for levy of 5% service tax, with effect from 16th July, 2001.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. FICCI, has been recently in a pre budget memorandum opposed the levy on the grounds that it affect the growth of the nascent broadcasting industry. FICCI has suggested that in case it is felt that this tax should continue, then it should be only on the consideration relevant to the services rendered in relation to broadcasting and not on the total invoice amount raised by Broadcasters. It is too early to react to FICCI's proposal.

[*Translation*]

Acquisition of land for Koderma-Ranchi Rail Line

2731. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land acquisition process has been started for construction of new railway line between Koderma and Ranchi;

(b) if so, the percentage of work done so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which land acquisition work for this purpose is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 100 Hectares of land have so far been acquired out of total requirement of about 2000 Hectares of land as initially assessed. No target date has been fixed for completion of land acquisition.

Doubling and Electrification of Daund-Manmad Rail Line

2732. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had approved the proposal for doubling and electrification of Daund-Manmad railway track;

(b) if so, whether implementation of this scheme is going on at a very slow pace;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target fixed for completion of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The survey for doubling and electrification of Daund-Manmad section is in progress. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

[*English*]

Mazagon Dock

2733. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mazagon dock supplies Defence related materials on demand;

(b) if so, the details of profits earned and losses incurred during the last three years;

(c) whether the establishment is not able to work as per its capacity due to non-availability of adequate supply orders; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Statement is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Capacity Utilisation of Shipbuilding Division of Mazagon Dock Limited has come down from 80% in 1998-99 to 53% in 2000-2001.

(d) Orders for series construction of warships have been placed on Mazagon Dock Limited. Further, series construction of submarines at Mazagon Dock Limited is also being finalised. These steps would improve the capacity utilisation at Mazagon Dock Limited.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Gross Margin	61.10	47.08	11.78
Profit/(Loss) Before Tax	28.23	23.90	(-) 18.36
Profit/(Loss) After Tax	16.23	13.07	(-) 18.36

Power Sector Reforms

2734. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the meeting of the Council on Trade and Industry held at New Delhi on September 7, 2001, the Government had assured to work out a time table for power sector reforms;

(b) if so, the main objects of reforms; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) At the meeting of Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry held on 7.9.2001, the importance of improving the financial health of State Electricity Boards was emphasized. Ministry of Power has been emphasizing the need for undertaking reforms with a sense of urgency. Chief Ministers/Power Ministers conference held in March 2001 resolved that commercial viability has to be achieved in distribution in next 2-3 years, effective programme needs to be launched for identifying and eliminating power thefts in next two years. Ministry of Power has signed MOUs with 19 States expressing joint commitment to Power Sector Reforms. In these MOUs States have

committed to achieve reform milestones and Government of India will extend financial support through APDP, additional allocation of power etc.

Procurement of T-90 Tanks from Russia

2735. SHRI A. NARENDRA:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether first installment of supply of T-90 tanks from Russia is likely to be received shortly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Russia has also agreed for transfer of technology of T-90 tanks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have set up/identified the units in which the technology is likely to be utilised in the initial stage;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the funds allocated in this regard during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The first consignment of T-90 Tanks is likely to be received shortly.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The transfer of technology will enable assembly and subsequent manufacture of T-90 tanks in India.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Certain Defence production units have been identified for this purpose.

(g) Requisite funds have been earmarked for this purpose.

Constitution of 10th Plan Committee

2736. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether to guide in policy and investment decisions the Government have constituted the 10th Plan Committee;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the purview of the Committee; and
- (d) the extent to which it likely to help the betterment of I&B?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The Planning Commission has constituted a Working Group on Information & Broadcasting Sector for the 10th Five Year Plan. The Working Group chaired by Secretary (I&B) comprises 17 other members including non-official experts in the field of mass media. The terms of reference of the Working Group are:

- (1) To evolve Approach to the Information & Broadcasting sector for the 10th Plan keeping in view the emerging trends in radio television and IT enabled media applications.
- (2) To examine the extent to which expansion of transmission network is needed and the best way to provide the reach of radio and television signals to the uncovered areas.
- (3) To assess the total needs of investment in broadcasting infrastructure including that for content creation and software and to assess the extent of private investment that may come forward in the 10th plan period and beyond and as to what steps should be taken to stimulate private investment.
- (4) To assess the human resources needed for the tele communications, broadcasting media, internet and IT and to suggest road map for making the same available.
- (5) To assess the status of the Film Industry and to suggest policy measures and other steps necessary to ensure production of good, socially relevant and aesthetically creative films.
- (6) To take a look at the needs of government publicity including sectoral publicity programmes and to re-assess institutional arrangements for bringing out Government publications advertisements and media products.

The Working Group consists of experts drawn from the information and Broadcasting Sector and their recommendation would provide guidance for future policy and investment decisions and improved performance of this Sector.

Advertisements of Small, Medium and Large Newspapers

2737. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the small newspapers are facing many problems particularly in the matter of securing advertisements from the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any concrete policy with regard to the issue of the advertisements to small, medium and larger newspapers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the other problems being faced by the small and medium newspapers; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for the removal of their difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Keeping in view the target audience, publicity requirements, recommendation of the client Ministries/ Departments and availability of funds, Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) releases advertisements to those publications which are empanelled with it on the basis of the provisions of the 'Advertising Policy and Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP', the salient features of which are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) The organisations of Small and Medium Newspapers have been raising various problems being faced by the Small and Medium newspapers such as uneconomical DAVP advertisement rates, delay in payment of DAVP advertisement bills and frequent circulation verification by Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) etc.

(e) The Government has been taking various steps to obviate the problems of newspapers especially the Small and Medium Newspapers. These steps include

formulation of revised advertising policy and empanelment guidelines; sitting up of a Rate Structure Committee for recommending a revised rate structure, priority circulation verification by RNI of those newspapers which are referred by DAVP. Efforts are also being made for expeditious clearance of advertisement bills.

Statement

Salient Features of the Advertising Policy

Criteria for Empanelment:-

All newspapers/journals should have been uninterruptedly and regularly under publication for a period of not less than 12 months and should comply with the provisions of the Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867. The applicant newspaper/journal is required to substantiate that it is being published at a reasonable standard i.e.

- (a) the print matter should be legible, neat clear and without smudges and overwriting;
- (b) there should be no repetition or reproduction of news items or articles in the newspaper/journal;
- (c) masthead of its front page should carry the title of newspaper, place, date and day of publication, it should also carry RNI Registration Number, volume & issue number and price of newspaper/journal; and
- (d) the newspaper should carry imprint line as required under PRB Act.

Regularity:-

The applicant Daily newspaper should have published the newspaper on at least 25 days in each month during preceding 12 months. Weekly journals should have published 46 issues during the preceding year, monthly journals 10 issues during the preceding year and quarterly journals 6 issues during preceding 2 years to be considered being brought out regularly. The applicant newspaper/journal should also furnish a copy of the certificate of the registration issued by the RNI. A newspaper/journal once declared unestablished by RNI, after due enquiry, will be considered established only from the date of issue of RNI certificate to this effect and not from any year/date in the past. However, a newspaper/journal declare unestablished due to non filing of returns or some similar technical grounds can be declared established by RNI from the date of unestablished, on the discretion of RNI.

Print Area:-

A newspaper/journal should have the following minimum print area:

Periodicity	Print area not less than
Dailies	1520 Std.Col.Cms.
Weeklies, Fortnightlies	700 Std.Col.Cms.
Monthlies and other Periodicals	960 Std.Col.Cms.

Modernisation of Power Utilities

2738. SHRI N. JANARADHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rs. 20,000 crore plan to modernise power utilities" appearing in the 'Hindu' on October 27, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to invest several crores in the next few years to renovate and modernise the existing power utilities;

(c) if so, the way in which the funds are likely to be mobilized for renovation and modernization of power utilities; and

(d) the extent to which the power production in the country is likely to be enhanced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to provide systematic financing for Renovation & Modernisation (R&M)/Life Extension (LE) with an investment of Rs. 20,000 crore for old power plants (thermal and hydro) and also for upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system under Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP).

(c) and (d) The Government have launched a new scheme called APDP to provide to the States necessary financial assistance in the form of grant and loan for the R&M/LE of the existing old generating units and also for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system including metering. 50% of the project cost is met under APDP in the combination of half grant and half loan in non-Special Category State. The utility is to raise balance 50% of the project cost from Financial Institutions. However, projects in Special Category States get 100% financing under APDP in a combination of 90% grant and 10% loan. Further, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is providing fund for R&M of power utilities at concessional interest rates under Accelerated Generation & Supply

Programme (AG&SP). An additional thermal generation of 39,000 MU/annum is expected to be achieved after completion of R&M works during the 10th & 11th Plans. In addition, LE of 140 thermal units (17,000 MW capacity) is envisaged to be achieved for another 15-20 years. Further, the life of about 6100 MW hydro capacity will get extended.

Blast at Kureru Railway Station

2739. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naxalites of the People's War Group (PWG) was blasted Kureru Railway Station near Parvathipuram in Andhra Pradesh on October 28, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the railway signaling and telecommunication equipment and other railway properties were completely damaged;

(c) if so, the total loss suffered by Railways in this blast; and

(d) the preventive steps taken to stop such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 76,500/- Approximately.

(d) Maintenance of Law and Order is a State Subject and hence the responsibility to prevent such incidents lies with the State Governments. However, the Railways on their part, have deployed armed pickets at vulnerable stations to supplement the efforts of the State Governments.

[Translation]

Removal of Encroachment from Railway Land

2740. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the buildings destroyed by dynamite to vacate unauthorised occupation on railway land in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the details of the TLR report about the land of each area;

(c) the number of cases for which suits have been filed in the courts;

(d) the details of cases in which decision was given in favour of Railways/against Railways;

(e) whether the Government propose to settle some cases out of the court in some cases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) One at Kalyan.

(b) The Taluka Inspector of Land Record (TILR)'s report is sub-judice and a Court case is going on in Kalyan.

(c) One.

(d) Case is yet to be decided.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Low Sulphur Petrol and Diesel

2741. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Petrol and Diesel containing 0.05% maximum sulphur content are being supplied to retail outlets in some metropolitan towns;

(b) if so, the time and manner by which the Government intend to supply such eco-friendly fuel to other towns in the country; and

(c) the time by which such fuel is likely to be available in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The four metro towns are being supplied petrol and diesel containing 0.05% max. sulphur.

(b) and (c) The Government has set up an Expert Committee, headed by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), to recommend to the Government an Auto Fuel Policy for the country and devise a road map for its implementation.

LPG Bottling Plants in Rajasthan

2742. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the LPG bottling plants in Rajasthan are very less in number as compared to those in other States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for installing additional LPG bottling plants in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) LPG bottling plants are set up on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of packed LPG in the area. At present, 10 LPG bottling plants are operating in the State of Rajasthan with the bottling capacity of 262 TMTA which is adequate to meet full packed LPG demand in the State. To meet the future packed LPG demand, oil industry has planned to set up 2 more LPG bottling plants in Rajasthan with the bottling capacity of 66 TMTA by March end, 2002.

[Translation]

Electrifications of Railway Lines in West Bengal

2743. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any time bound scheme for electrification of all the railway lines in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the distance of rail lines in kilometers in the State at present which have been electrified/being electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on 31st March, 2001, 1692 Route kilometres of railway track has been electrified in the State of West Bengal. Further, the electrification work is in progress on 180 Route kilometres.

[English]

Promotion of Official Language Hindi

2744. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is the responsibility of the Government to promote and propagate usage of official language Hindi;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry in this regard so far;
- (c) the details of official works being carried out in English only in the three wings of the defence during the last three years and the efforts made so far to do the same in the official language Hindi;
- (d) the number of official language implementation committee constituted in his Ministry at all level and the number of committee in which the Members of Parliamentary Hindi Advisory Committee have been nominated; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) In the Ministry of Defence, the following measures are being taken to promote the progressive use of Hindi in the official work:-

- (i) All documents falling under Section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act are issued in both the languages i.e. Hindi and English.
- (ii) All communications received in Hindi are replied to in Hindi.
- (iii) Hindi workshops are being organised from time to time.
- (iv) Facility to work in Hindi on electronic equipments/computers has been provided.
- (v) All the incentive schemes introduced by the Department of Official Language for promoting maximum work in Hindi are being implemented.
- (vi) All publications/brochures/invitation cards relating to the Republic Day ceremony/Independence Day ceremony are brought out in Hindi also.
- (vii) A biannual cash award scheme for writing original books on defence subjects in Hindi/translation of standard books in Hindi is being implemented.

(viii) Quarterly Progress Reports of the Departments of the Ministry are reviewed in the meetings of both the Official Language Implementation Committees.

(ix) Prime Minister's orders for promoting use of Hindi in official work have been circulated to all the senior officers for compliance.

(c) All possible steps are being taken to use maximum Hindi in the official work of the Ministry. No subject has been specified separately for being dealt with in English only.

(d) There are two Official Language Implementation Committees functioning in the Ministry of Defence — one for Department of Defence and Department of Defence Research & Development and the other for Department of Defence Production & Supplies. No member of the Parliamentary Hindi Advisory Committee (perhaps the Hon'ble member intends to refer to Parliamentary Committee on Official Language as there is no Committee of the name of Parliamentary Hindi Advisory Committee) has been nominated on any of these Committees.

(e) No specific instructions from the Department of Official Language have been received for nominating members of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language on the departmental Official Language Implementation Committees.

Rehabilitation of War Widows of Kargil Soldiers

2745. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to the rehabilitation of widows of Indian soldiers who laid their lives in the Kargil war;

(b) whether the pace of work of rehabilitation of these war widows is found to be satisfactory; and

(c) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to accelerate the pace of rehabilitation work of these war widows?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As a measure of rehabilitation of widows of soldiers killed in Kargil operation, they have been paid an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 10 lakhs each and have been sanctioned Liberalised Family Pension equal to the last pay drawn by the deceased soldier in completion of necessary legal requirements. They have also been given an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs for housing and Rs. 1 lakh per child or Rs. 2 lakhs per family for education of children from the National Defence Fund.

Production of Diesel Smoke Scrubber

2746. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited had launched a project in 1986 viz "Diesel smoke scrubber" to find out a simple method to cut down on vehicular pollution.

(b) if so, the outcome of the project; and

(c) the steps taken for a large scale production of the "Diesel Smoke Scrubber" which has already been successfully tested and patented by GAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) GAIL started a project on development of Diesel Smoke Scrubber in 1996 with an aim to design a simple device to reduce pollution from diesel engines.

(b) The project resulted in development of the Diesel Smoke Scrubber (DSS) for the "Vikram" engine manufactured by M/s Scooters India Limited, Lucknow.

The use of DSS reduces pollutants such as particulates, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, etc. emitted by the vehicle and its use has been made compulsory in the "Vikram" allowed to ply in Lucknow.

GAIL has also applied for grant of a Patent on the device.

(c) GAIL had given licence of manufacturing and marketing of the device to the following three parties:

- (1) Scooters India Ltd., Lucknow
- (2) Micro Enterprises, Delhi
- (3) R.D. Engineers, Mumbai

GAIL Agreement with Shell International

2747. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited has signed an MoU with Shell International Gas:

(b) if so, the details of the fields incorporated in the MoU;

(c) the details of the expansion of business likely to take place after the implementation of MoU;

(d) the time by which MoU is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the targets fixed for exploration during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) GAIL has signed a Principles of Cooperation (PoC) with Shell International Gas Limited on 4th July, 2000 and an amendment to the PoC on 8th November, 2001.

(b) The PoC inter-alia involves joint evaluation of various potential areas/fields of cooperation, namely, import of liquefied natural gas (LNG) development of gas transmission and distribution pipelines for marketing of the re-gasified LNG, import and sale of gas from Bangladesh, exploration and production, gas importation opportunities from Iran, exploration and exploitation of off-shore hydrates, development of integrated gas to power opportunities and training of personnel etc.

(c) and (d) In pursuance of the PoC, the two companies have evaluated exploration and production opportunities in India, offshore hydrates, Iran LNG project, development of LNG facilities and marketing of re-gasified LNG. The joint evaluation is a continuous process. Although, no project has so far been identified for implementation as a consortium, the PoC has been extended till November, 2002 to continue the joint evaluation.

(e) There is no target for exploration during the current year.

[Translation]

Small Hydro Projects in Maharashtra

2748. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any small hydel power project has been set up in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 24 small hydro power projects (up to 25 MW station capacity) aggregating 198.32 MW have been set up in the State of Maharashtra. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Small Hydro Power Projects upto 25 Station capacity so far set up in Maharashtra

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Project	Capacity KW
1.	Vaitarna Dam Toe	1,500
2.	Yeoteshwar	75
3.	Dhom	2,000
4.	Surya RSB	750
5.	Bhivpuri Tailrace	2,500
6.	Teravan Medhe	200
7.	Eldari	22,500
8.	Bhatgarh	16,000
9.	Paithon	12,000
10.	Bandhardhara	10,000
11.	Pawna	10,000
12.	Khadakvasla-I	8,000
13.	Khadakvasla-II	8,000
14.	Bhatsa	15,000
15.	Vir	9,000
16.	Radhanagari	4,800
17.	Kanher	4,000
18.	Ujjaini	12,000
19.	Manikdoh	6,000
20.	Surya	6,000
21.	Dudhganga	24,000
22.	Wama	16,000
23.	Dimbhe	5,000
24.	Karanjwan	3,000
Total		198,325

*[English]***Allocation for Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad Rail Line**

2749. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the completion of Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad new Broad Gauge line project delayed due to non-availability of resources;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for allocation of Rs. 30 crore during 2001-2002;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The work is being progressed as per availability of resources.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The funds to the tune of Rs. 20 crore have been allocated to the work in Budget 2001-2002. Work will be progressed and completed in the coming years depending upon availability of resources.

Proposal from Gujarat for Setting up of Power Project

2750. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of power projects;

(b) the names of districts where such power projects are likely to come up;

(c) whether the Union Government have any plan to put up a power project in Saurashtra-Kutch region; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) No proposal for setting up of power project in Gujarat is pending in CEA for grant of Techno-economic Clearance.

(c) and (d) The Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) has submitted a detailed project report for 1x75 MW extension unit IV of Kutch Lignite thermal power station in Saurashtra Kutch region. The inputs/clearances such as land availability, fuel linkage, water availability, NOC from National Airport Authority, NOC from State Environment and Forests Department and compliance of Section 29(3) are yet to be obtained by GEB. The proposed scheme will be taken up for consideration of techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority after the above inputs/clearances are tied up by GEB.

*[Translation]***Exhibition of Nizam's Jewellery at New Delhi**

2751. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an exhibition of Nizam's jewellery of Hyderabad was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of persons visited the exhibition and income earned therefrom; and

(c) the objective behind this exhibition and the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Exhibition was held in National Museum, New Delhi from 30.08.2001 to 31.10.2001.

(b) 68,718 persons visited the exhibition. The total income during the period was Rs. 53,82,735/- including the sale of brochures, picture post cards, souvenir items, etc.

(c) The main objective behind the exhibition was to display the country's heritage, a rare collection comprising 173 items of Jewellery made of precious jewels of exquisite workmanship for the first time for public viewing. To organise this exhibition at National Museum, New Delhi, total expenditure incurred was Rs. 210 lakhs approx.

*[English]***Repairing of Bangalore-Mysore Rail Line**

2752. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangalore-Mysore railway line has been badly damaged due to heavy rain and breach of canal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to repair the said line and to resume the normal train service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Damaged portion of track was repaired and train services restored from 1800 hours on 09.11.2001.

Replacement of Old Bridges

2753. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to replace/repair all old bridges during the next five years;

(b) if so, the estimated cost involved therein, zone-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether any concrete action plan has been worked out in this regard;

(d) if so, the States where the work is likely to be started during the current financial year; and

(e) the amount allocated for replacement of bridges/culverts during the current financial year, State-wise and zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (e) Railways undertake rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges on a programme basis on the basis of availability of resources and physical condition of bridges as ascertained annually through inspections, the type of construction and ability to take the traffic load expected and not on basis of age alone. The creation of Special Railway Safety Fund has provided additional resources and work of rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges will get a boost in the next five or six years. Expected investment is about Rs. 2000 crore. The bridges to be rehabilitated/rebuilt are spread over the entire Railway system. Priority will be given to distressed and cast iron pile bridges. The work is being done by all zones of the Railway During the current year Rs. 96 crore has been allotted for bridge rehabilitation/rebuilding. Budget allocations are made Railway Zone-wise and not State-wise. Zone-wise distribution of funds allotted during the current year is as under:

Railway	Budget Allotment (Figure in crore)	Railway	Budget Allotment (Figure in crore)
Central	6.90	Southern	1.13
Eastern	22.90	South Central	7.30
Northern	22.90	South Eastern	5.80
North Eastern	2.78	Western	9.33
Northeast Frontier	16.96	Total	96.00

[Translation]

Auction of Artefacts of National Gallery of Modern Art

2754. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to auction artefacts kept in National Gallery of Modern Art;

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

(c) whether there is also a proposal to make the defunct Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Kala Kendra in Delhi active and attractive;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the financial assistance provided therefor; and

(e) the names of other museums proposed to be made attractive and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, museum-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, is not defunct and is carrying on its activities as envisaged in their Trust deed. The Department of Culture had provided a Corpus fund of Rs. 50.00 crores for the Centre, any they are to run the institution with the interest accrued on the same. In addition to this, a building grant of Rs. 100.00 crores was also provided to the Centre for setting up its complex at Janpath, New Delhi.

(e) Improvement of Museum under the administrative control of this Ministry is a continuous process and funds are released keeping in view the requirement and budget provision for the purpose from time to time. During the

current year the Plan fund allocated to the museums under the administrative control of the Department is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Organization	Plan B.E. (2001-02)
1.	Indian Museum, Kolkata	450.00
2.	Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad	400.00
3.	Allahabad Museum, Allahabad	90.00
4.	National Museum, New Delhi	400.00
5.	National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi	255.00
6.	Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata	125.00

[English]

Utilisation of Commercial Time

2755. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan failed to raise a claim of Rs. 8.93 crores on account of short accountal of commercial time utilized and non-building and uplinking and space segment charges from airtime selling agencies engaged in Bangladesh Independence Cup 1998 and French Open Tennis Tournament, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken against the authorities responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the short claim?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The C&AG in its report for the year ended 31st March, 2000 - No. 2 of 2001 have inter-alia observed that Doordarshan failed to raise a claim of Rs. 8.93 crore from the marketing agencies in respect of Bangladesh Independence Cup 1998 and in respect of French Open Tennis Tournament 1997. Parsar Bharati has disputed this amount and has informed that short recovery is to the tune of Rs. 6.12 crore. Further, the matter relating to French Open Tennis Tournament 1997 is under CBI investigation.

(c) Prasar Bharati has intimated that legal action against the marketing company for recovery of the said dues has been initiated.

Allocation of Kerosene for Fishermen

2756. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow fishermen Co-operatives in the Kerala to undertake duty free import of Kerosene for the traditional fishermen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Petrol and Natural Gas Reserves in Maharashtra

2757. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the petrol and natural gas have been struck in the sea near Vasai village of district Thane in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the time by which the sources are likely to be extracted; and

(c) the estimated quantum of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Crude oil and natural gas have been struck in a field to the east of main Basse in gas field in western offshore, off the coast of the State of Maharashtra. At present, the field is under delineation through seismic survey and drilling. Any estimate of the crude oil and natural gas recoverable and their production from the field can be made only after the delineation of the field.

Clean Water Supply at New Delhi Railway Station

2758. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Jal Board in its reports has declared that the potable water available at New Delhi Railway Station for passengers is unfit/dangerous for consumption and can cause different kinds of diseases;

(b) if so, whether the supply of the same has been stopped, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the railway authorities are providing drinking water from rainy well at New Delhi Railway Station;

(d) if so, the time since when it is being supplied from rainy well;

(e) whether the railway authorities at station got the water samples tested before supplying the same for passengers, if so, the results of the tests; and

(f) the number of passengers reported sick at New Delhi Railway Station during the last two years and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Delhi Jal Board has informed that water samples collected from New Delhi Railway Station can be used for drinking purpose after adequate chlorination.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Water is being supplied from RANNY-WELL since January, 2001 after taking clearance from Delhi Jal Board about its quality being fit for consumption.

(e) Water samples are checked frequently and results are satisfactory.

(f) Nil.

[*Translation*]

Fast Track Courts

2759. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to ensure quick disposal of long pending cases in the courts and instilling confidence among the common man on the courts, the Government have decided to set up fast track courts;

(b) if so, the details of such courts in Uttar Pradesh and other States;

(c) if so, the details of guidelines issued to State Governments and High Courts by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether Supreme Court has framed guidelines for monitoring and functioning of fast track courts; and

(e) if so, the steps so far taken by the State Governments with regard to setting up of these courts, appointment of judges, hiring or purchasing of buildings for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of Fast Track Courts to be set up in Uttar Pradesh and other States as recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission is at Statement-I.

(c) Initially the Ministry of Finance issued detailed guidelines on 3rd November, 2000 for the 'Special Problems Grants' made by the Finance Commission which includes grant for the 'judicial administration' wherein the scheme for establishment of Fast Track Courts has been envisaged. The relevant portion of the guidelines is at Statement-II. In addition to this, clarifications are issued to the State Governments from time to time on various issues.

(d) Recently, the Supreme Court in its Order dated 8th November, 2001 in the Transfer Case (Civil) No.22/2001, Brij Mohan Lal Vs. Union of India and Others has observed;

"it will be appropriate if some guide-lines are laid down with regard to the functioning of the fast track courts."

The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court of India.

(e) The State Governments have been taking necessary steps for setting up of the Fast Track Courts such as appointment of judges, construction or hiring of buildings etc. As a result, the number of courts set up and the number of courts started functioning in various States is per Statement-III.

Statement-I

No. of Fast track Courts Earmarked by the Eleventh Finance Commission

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of courts earmarked by the Eleventh Finance Commission
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86

1	2	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
3.	Assam	20
4.	Bihar	183
5.	Chhattisgarh	31
6.	Goa	5
7.	Gujarat	166
8.	Haryana	36
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12
11.	Jharkhand	89
12.	Karnataka	93
13.	Kerala	37
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85
15.	Maharashtra	187
16.	Manipur	3
17.	Meghalaya	3
18.	Mizoram	3
19.	Nagaland	3
20.	Orissa	72
21.	Punjab	29
22.	Rajasthan	83
23.	Sikkim	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	49
25.	Tripura	3
26.	Uttaranchal	45
27.	Uttar Pradesh	242
28.	West Bengal	152
	Total	1734

Statement-II

No. F. 16(2)-FCD/2000
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
Finance Commission Division

Block XI, 5th Floor
CGO Complex,
New Delhi 110002

Dated, the 3rd November, 2000

To

The Finance Secretary, Government of, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.

Sub: Guidelines for utilisation of the provisions recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission for Upgradation of standards of administration and tackling the special problems.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the "Guidelines for utilisation of the grants from the Central Government to the State Governments on the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission" for information and necessary action.

2. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

[Roopa R. Joshi]

Director

Tel: 4360647

Fax: 4360174

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi
2. Budget Division, DEA, North Block New Delhi.
3. JS (CS), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi - for necessary action as stipulated in para 4 of the guidelines.

4. The Director-General, Bureau of Police Research & Development, New Delhi—for necessary action as stipulated in para 4 of the guidelines.
5. JS(NE) Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi
6. The Secretary, Department of Justice,
7. The Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi
8. The Secretary, Education, New Delhi
9. The Secretary, Department of Culture, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
10. The Secretary, Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi.
11. Accountant General (Audit), Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.

Sd/-

[Roopa R. Joshi]

Director

Tel: 4360647

Fax: 4360174

**Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
(Finance Commission Division)**

Guidelines on utilisation of the provisions recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission for Upgradation of standards of administration and tackling the special problems.

The Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) has recommended Rs. 3843.63 crore grants for the following sectors for Upgradation of standards of administration in 25 States:-

- (i) District administration;
- (ii) Police administration;
- (iii) Prisons administration;
- (iv) Fire services;
- (v) Judicial administration;
- (vi) Fiscal administration;
- (vii) Health service;

- (viii) Elementary education;
- (ix) Computer training for school children;
- (x) Public libraries;
- (xi) Heritage protection; and
- (xii) Augmentation of traditional water sources.

2. Besides grant for upgradation, Commission has recommended grant of Rs. 1129.00 crore for tackling special problems of States, as in Chapter VII — 'Upgradation and Special problem Grants' of the Report of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

3. The Government of India has accepted the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission relating to grants for upgradation and special problems.

4. In order to give greater responsibility to the States for sanction of the schemes within the guidelines prescribed by them, the power to sanction individual schemes as well as to determine the units costs will vest with the State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC). Once a project has been sanctioned by the SLEC, a copy of the same indicating the time schedule for various stages of the project and for requirement of funds should be submitted to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. For schemes relating to Police and Prisons detailed guidelines will be separately issued by Ministry of Home Affairs/Bureau of Police Research and Development, in the interest of standardization of equipments, arms etc. However, any modification etc. departures for specific items will have to be suggested keeping in mind the overall allocation made to the individual States.

5. Physical and financial monitoring of the projects undertaken through the grants should be done by the SLEC. State Governments should also undertake evaluating through professional agencies in order to bring out the strengths and weaknesses of the programme as implemented in the past, which may help in introducing necessary improvements.

6. The plans of action both in physical and financial terms covering the entire award period of the EFC i.e. 2000-2005, formulated by individual administrative Department of the State should be submitted to the SLEC for approval. Once a project has been approved by the SLEC, a copy of the detailed action plan approved by the SLEC indicating the time schedule for the various stages of the project and for requirement funds may be forwarded by the Finance Department of the State Government to the Finance Commission Division, Deptt. of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. Action plan submitted by individual administrative Departments of the State

Government will not be accepted. All correspondence on the subject irrespective of the sector(s) involved will be only between Ministry of Finance in the Government of India, and the Department of Finance of the State Government.

7. After the plan of action is approved by the SLEC, the State Government was make suitable expenditure provisions in the Budget (including supplementary demand, necessary) under a suitable Head of Account. While such provision in the expenditure budget of the State Government should be made under the appropriate functional Major Head of Account and approved programme under minor head of Account thereunder, the provision should be made as a distinct and identifiable item of expenditure under a sub head "Upgradation of Standards of Administration recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission." Correspondingly, in its estimates of revenue receipts, the State Government should also assume receipts of equivalent amount of grant-in-aid from the Central Government such receipts being assumed under the Head of Account "1601 grants-in-aid from the Central Government. - A - Non-Plan grants", grants under proviso of Article 275(1) of the Constitution-Grants for Upgrading standards of administration and Special Problem."

8. After provision is so made in the State Budget, the competent authority of the State Government will issue formal sanction(s) for expenditure in respect of various schemes/works comprising the approved plan and a copy of each may be endorsed to the Finance Commission Division. Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

9. Apart from monitoring the performance in physical terms, as envisaged under para 7.54 in the Report of the Eleventh Finance Commission, it is of utmost importance to ensure that the expenditure actually incurred by a State Government, against the approved plans of action, is adjusted in its Budget and Accounts in a manner as would facilitate ready identification, verification and certification by Audit. It is, consequently essential to guard against such expenditure incurred on approved plans of action of upgradation of standards of administration and special problems being mixed up with the State Government's ordinary items of similar expenditure, plan or non-plan. This can be achieved by making, as laid down in paragraph 7 above, identifiable provision in the State Budget, and indicating clearly, in the formal sanctions for expenditure, the precise classification against the identifiable provision in the Budget. What is equally important to achieve this objective is to draw, wherever possible, separate bills for expenditures to be incurred against such items of provision for upgradation of standards and invariably indicate thereon the distinct classification in the Budget and Accounts. Where such

expenditure on upgrading the standards in particular field is not susceptible of segregation *ab-initio* from normal expenditure and, consequently, it is not practicable to draw separate bills for the former, the State Government concerned should devise with the advice of the Accountant General, suitable form in which the particulars of the upgradation expenditure may be separately maintained, proforma, outside the regular accounts. Such proforma accounts, wherever decided upon on the advice of the Accountant General, should be maintained scrupulously from month to month and made available for examination and certification by the Accountant General.

10. The plans of action formulated by the concerned administrative Departments of the States for the SLEC's approval should:-

- (a) Conform to the pattern contemplated by the Finance Commission for utilisation of the upgradation grants (for example, the schemes should be designed to provide facilities at the grass-root level in various sectors and not for improving the facilities at higher administrative formations)
- (b) Lay stress on backward areas and weaker sections of society. Care should be taken to earmark outlays for backward areas and weaker sections of society as per the guidelines issued by the concerned administrative Ministries from time to time.
- (c) Be drawn up both in financial and physical terms in sufficient detail (including the nature of the expenditure proposed, the norms adopted, the latest unit cost, location of the work plinth area, availability of sites, etc.) so as to be meaningful and give inter alia, the anticipated annual phasing of the expenditure over the five years (2000-2005).
- (d) Display the broad details of the existing facilities, facilities likely to be created on the basis of works already in progress and additional facilities intended to be created to that the goals to be achieved can identified.

11. The State Government should delegate to the executive agencies requisite administrative and financial powers for the expeditious execution of works. The sanctions issued in the beginning at the time of approval of the work/schemes should be so designed that the need for frequent references for approval of Heads of Department during execution of works is obviated as far as possible.

12. The release of grants-in-aid to States will be in the following manner:-

- (i) 50 per cent of the provision for the year 2000-01 will be released on "on account" basis during the year on receipt of detailed plans of action duly approved by the SLEC.
- (ii) The subsequent release of grants will be made in quarterly instalments depending upon the utilisation of the grants already released and submission of Progress Report to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. The State Government should submit the utilisation certificate in the prescribed proforma on quarterly basis. There will moreover, be a Central Level Review Committee, comprising of Ministry of Finance, Government of India, the State Finance Department and the concerned Administrative Departments, which will take an annual review of utilisation of funds.
- (iii) The maximum amount of grants to be released to a State in a particular year would be limited to the total amount recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission for the year; and
- (iv) 90 per cent of the EFC recommended Upgradation and Special Problem Grants would be released to the State Governments on the basis of the progress reports submitted on the utilisation of the grants already released. Balance ten per cent grant will be released only on receipt of completion certificate in the prescribed format.
- (v) The grants that remain unutilised as on 31st March, 2005 shall lapse.
- (vi) The grants, released in respect of capital works which will not be completed by 31st March, 2005, will be recovered from the State Government.

Statement-III

Number of Courts Set up and Started Functioning in the country, State-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of courts set up	No. of courts functioning
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	15	15
4.	Bihar	183	37
5.	Chhattisgarh	29	11
6.	Goa	—	—
7.	Gujarat	—	—
8.	Haryana	12	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	43	40
11.	Jharkhand	—	—
12.	Karnataka	13	8
13.	Kerala	1	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85	64
15.	Maharashtra	94	94
16.	Manipur	2	2
17.	Meghalaya	3	—
18.	Mizoram	3	—
19.	Nagaland	2	—
20.	Orissa	19	17
21.	Punjab	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	40	40
23.	Sikkim	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	30	—
25.	Tripura	3	2
26.	Uttaranchal	45	30
27.	Uttar Pradesh	182	150
28.	West Bengal	13	6
Total		862	542

[English]

ATF Station at Leh

2760. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

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

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited has commissioned its aviation turbine fuel station at Leh for enabling Indian Airlines and Jet Airways to carry more passengers to Leh on each flight;

(b) if so, whether this installation has helped to give protection to the Kargil and Leh; and

(c) if so, the extent to which it helped the Kargil and Leh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) have commissioned an oil depot at Leh on 10.10.2001, where they can stock and supply SKO, MS, Diesel and ATF. Presently, they have given priority for SKO, MS and diesel since these are large volume requirements. The tanks meant for ATF are also under use for HSD. IOCL propose to stock ATF in this depot from June 2002 when they can meet civil aviation demand including that of Indian Airlines and Jet Airways during the summer period. IOCL are also in the process of building additional tankage for supply of ATF in large volume to civil aviation industry throughout the year.

LPG Price

2761. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present price of a domestic LPG cylinder; and

(b) the number of times the price of LPG has been increased during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The ex-storage point price of domestic LPG sold by PSUs oil marketing companies is Rs. 176.46 per cylinder. The retail prices in the four metro cities are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The ex-storage point price of domestic LPG sold by the FSU oil marketing companies has been increased three times and has been reduced twice during the last three financial years.

Statement

The retail selling prices of domestic LPG in four metropolitan cities as on 10/11/2001 is given below:

	Rs. per cylinder
Delhi	223.30
Kolkata	246.65
Mumbai	226.70
Chennai	229.65

[Translation]

Training Centres about Bomb Explosion

2762. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of centres in the country where training about bomb explosion is provided to army personnel presently;

(b) whether the Government are aware that remains of exploded bombs are stolen from these centres;

(c) the total loss suffered by the Government due to theft and the number of persons lost their lives in these activities during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check these thefts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) College of Military Engineering (CME), Pune, provides training on bomb disposal. Firing of Artillery Guns and Tanks, on the other hand, is held at various Field Firing Ranges (FFRs). While bombs exploded components are held on the inventory of CME, Pune, and are accountable as controlled stores, the bombs exploded components in the FFRs are protected by regulations. The question of loss to the government, therefore, by way of theft etc., does not arise.

[English]

Gas Exploration in Gujarat

2763. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of wells of gas drilled in Gujarat during 1997-2000;

(b) the quantum of natural gas explored during the said period;

(c) the places where the exploration work is being undertaken;

(d) the time by which the gas is likely to be extracted from there; and

(e) the quantity of crude oil and gas expected to be extracted from those wells?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has drilled 427 wells during 1997-2000, out of which 315 were successful. Gas was found in association with oil in 290 wells and only Gas was found in 25 wells.

As far as private companies/joint ventures are concerned, a total of 14 wells were drilled during 1997-2000. Gas was found in association with oil in 10 wells and only Gas found in 4 wells drilled in Hazira field, which is located both onland and offshore.

Reserves of Natural Gas do not get directly established on completion of the drilling of a well but require detailed geo-technical assessments, which may in some cases lead to reprocessing of seismic data, reinterpretation and further drilling of wells, which is an ongoing process.

(c) 2D and 3D seismic surveys and exploratory drilling are being carried out by ONGC in eight districts viz. Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Kheda, Anand, Vadodara, Bharuch and Surat. As far as private companies/joint ventures are concerned, exploration work is being undertaken in districts viz. Vadodara, Bharuch and Khambat.

(d) and (e) The likely time of extraction of oil and gas and extractable quantum depend on the results of the exploratory inputs and their evaluation as also techno-economic considerations, for which no time frame can be specified.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps to Dependents of Kargil War Soldiers

2764. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies allotted to the dependents of soldiers killed in Kargil war in the country till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies out of these have become operational; and

(c) the time by which rest are likely to be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government have approved the allotment of 264 retail outlet dealerships and 165 LPG distributorships under the Special Scheme for widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil), of which 100 retail outlet dealerships and 89 LPG distributorships had been commissioned as on 1.11.2001. The State-wise details are given in Statement-I, and Statement-II.

(c) It may not be possible to indicate the time as such by which the remaining retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships are likely to be commissioned as this *inter alia* depends on the availability/procurement of land, construction, receipt of necessary approvals/clearances from various agencies, etc.

Statement I

State-wise details of allotments of RO dealerships under the Special Scheme to widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil).

Sl. No.	State	Number of allotments approved	Number of Retail Outlet dealerships commissioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1
2.	Bihar	6	4
3.	Chhattisgarh	1	—
4.	Gujarat	8	3
5.	Haryana	42	25
6.	Himachal Pradesh	15	4
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	21	4
8.	Jharkhand	1	—

1	2	3	4
9.	Karnataka	4	3
10.	Kerala	3	1
11.	Maharashtra	2	—
12.	Manipur	2	—
13.	Meghalaya	1	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3	1
15.	Nagaland	1	—
16.	New Delhi	11	5
17.	Orissa	5	2
18.	Punjab	22	7
19.	Rajasthan	38	20
20.	Uttar Pradesh	42	17
21.	Uttaranchal	33	3
22.	West Bengal	2	—
Total		264	100

Statement II

State-wise details of allotments of LPG distributorships under the Special Scheme to widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil).

Sl. No.	State	Number of allotments approved	Number of LPG distributorships commissioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	3
2.	Assam	3	—
3.	Bihar	7	3
4.	Jharkhand	1	—
5.	Haryana	22	19
6.	Himachal Pradesh	19	3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	18	11
8.	Karnataka	1	1
9.	Kerala	5	2

1	2	3	4
10.	Maharashtra	4	3
11.	Manipur	1	—
12.	Orissa	2	—
13.	Punjab	17	11
14.	Rajasthan	10	7
15.	Tamil Nadu	2	2
16.	Uttar Pradesh	33	19
17.	Uttaranchal	13	5
18.	West Bengal	3	—
Total		165	89

Frequency of Rajdhani Express

2765. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to increase the frequency of 2421-2422 Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express into a Daily train is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the date from which the frequency of the said train is likely to be increased; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Looting of Arms from Train

2766. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special train carrying arms from Panhagarh Cantonment to Assam was looted as reported in *Dainik Jagaran* dated October 31, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) A special train carrying ammunition consigned to 14 Field Ammunition Depot, duly escorted by 1 Junior Commissioned Officer, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and 6 other Ranks was dispatched from Ammunition Depot, Panagarh to New Guwahati on 19th October 2001. The Escort Commander reported on 27th October 2001 that a seal and lock of one of the wagons (No. NR 66207) was found broken at Andal railway station on the night of 26/27 October 2001. A team comprising 1 officer and 1 Junior Commissioned Officer was immediately sent from Panagarh to Andal railway station to investigate the affected wagon. The wagon was unloaded and ammunition counted. It was revealed that one box containing one cartridge of 105 MM was missing. An FIR was lodged at Andal with the Government Railway Police and Civil Police.

A Court of Inquiry has been ordered. remedial and punitive actions will be taken after the Court of Inquiry submits its report.

Procurement of Wagons by CONCOR

2767. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of High Speed Container Wagons procured by the Container Corporation of India (CONCOR).

(b) whether these wagons have not been given clearance by Commissioner of Railway Safety; and

(c) if so, the reasons for running these wagons on the railway network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) 1905 High Speed Low Platform Container Flat wagons have been procured by Container Corporation of India Ltd.

(b) No, Sir. The Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety had given its clearance for operation of these wagons over Indian Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

Women Reservation Bill

2768. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress been made to bring about a consensus on the Women Reservation Bill for reservation of seats for women in the State and Central Legislatures;

(b) the time by which the bill is likely to be brought up for consideration of the Houses of Parliament; and

(c) the reasons for the inordinate delay indicating the major differences that have emerged as a result of consultations for a consensus?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) In consonance with its commitment to empower the women and as agreed to in principle by most of the political parties in the meeting of leaders of parties/Groups in Parliament on 22.12.1999 chaired by the Prime Minister, the Government introduced on 23.12.1999 the Constitution (Eighty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1999, seeking to provide that as nearly as one-third of the seats shall be reserved for women in the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of States. The Bill was listed for consideration and passing in that House on 21.12.2000 and 22.12.2000 during Winter Session but could not be considered in the absence of consensus among the political parties. The Bill did not come up for consideration and passing in the Budget and Monsoon Sessions of Parliament this year. The notice of consideration and passing of the Bill in the Lok Sabha has also been given for the current Winter Session, 2001.

The issue of women's reservation was also informally raised in the all-parties meeting on electoral reforms convened by the government on 13.9.2001 but no concrete discussion could take place. Thus, it may be seen that the Government has all along made sincere efforts to debate and discuss the Bill in the Houses of Parliament and to evolve consensus among all the Political Parties. Now, it is for Parliament to take decision on the pending Bill.

Purchase of Aircraft Carrier from Russia

2769. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have entered into an agreement with Russia in the matter of supply of an Aircraft carrier;

(b) if so, the cost is likely to be spent on its refitting, modernisation etc., and the time by which it is likely to remain in service; and

(c) the reasons for, not being indigenously manufacturing aircraft carriers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) An Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) was signed on the 4th October, 2000 with the Government of the Russian Federation which, inter-alia, provides for the acquisition of 'Admiral Gorshkov', an aircraft carrier, from Russia and its refit and modernization. A Detailed Project Document (DPD) prepared by the Russian side has been examined by the Committee constituted for the purpose. An investment decision on 'Admiral Gorshkov' has not yet been taken.

Government have in 1999 approved the indigenous construction of an Air Defence Ship for the Indian Navy.

Rationalisation of Freight and Passenger Fares

2770. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to rationalise freight and passenger fares to deal with the low earnings, especially from freight traffic;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the freight traffic target fixed during 2001-2002 and the extent to which it has been achieved so far;

(e) whether the financial health of Indian Railways is not much good during the current financial year;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to boost the Railways earning from freight traffic and non-trading sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Rationalisation of freight rates and passenger fares is a continuous process and these rates are adjusted from time to time to generate internal resources and to meet the rising cost of inputs.

(d) A target of 500 million tonnes originating freight traffic has been fixed for the year 2001-02. Upto October, 2001, Railways have loaded 273.10 million tonnes (Provisional) against the proportionate target of 281.35 million tonnes.

(e) to (g) The financial position for the current year is under strain. The traffic earnings to end of October, 2001 (approximates) are short by Rs. 647 cr. against the proportionate target. Besides, earnings of Rs. 700 cr. budgeted from 'right of way for laying optic fibre cable' seem unlikely to materialise. Further, the targeted clearance of Railways' outstanding by Rs. 750 cr. during the year mainly from Power Houses/State Electricity Boards is not likely to be achieved. The overall shortfall in receipts is, however, likely to be offset with a saving of around Rs. 960 cr. under Ordinary Working Expenses during the year. Railways' freight loading is a derived demand, dependent on the traffic offered by the core and non-core sectors. Due to economic slowdown, the drop in traffic demand has adversely affected the freight earnings. Railways have initiated steps attract traffic from other modes of transport. The steps include extension of Volume Discount Scheme, liberalization of "Station-to-Station" rates scheme, new policy regarding Merry-go-round (MGR) system to attract short lead bulk traffic.

Determination of Documentary Films/News Reels

2771. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have devised a mechanism to determine the importance of documentary films and news reels produced by Films Division on the lines of Supreme Court's verdict;

(b) if so, the difference between the old and the new mechanism; and

(c) the extent to which the producers are likely to be benefited by the new mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Supreme Court vide its Judgement dated 15.7.1999 has upheld the compulsory exhibition of documentary films and news reels. No change in the existing mechanism has, therefore, been necessary.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Transfer of Diesel/Petrol Pumps in Maharashtra

2772. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of diesel/petrol pumps transferred with in the State of Maharashtra from 1996 to 2001, district-wise;

(b) the number of applications lying pending for transfer of diesel/petrol pumps;

(c) the time by which these diesel/petrol pumps are likely to be accorded permission; and

(d) the policy formulated for transfer of diesel/petrol pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) 145 retail outlet dealerships have been reconstituted in the State of Maharashtra during the period 1.4.1996 to 31.3.2001.

(b) At present, 49 requests/proposals are pending with the Oil Marketing Companies for reconstitution of retail outlet dealerships.

(c) The time taken for conveying the approval to the reconstitution of the dealerships depends on the dealers' complying with all the requirements of the guidelines laid down by the Government.

(d) The Government have issued guidelines delegating the authority for reconstitution of retail outlet dealerships/SKO/LDO dealerships/LPG distributorships to the Oil Marketing Companies. The main features of the guidelines *inter alia* include:-

- (i) Reconstitution will not be allowed before three years from the date of commissioning and subsequent reconstitution not before three years thereafter, except under the following conditions:

Compassionate Grounds

Death of a proprietor or partner(s)

Within the family

- (ii) New partner(s) must satisfy multiple dealership norms and generally satisfy other criteria for normal selection, such as, age, educational qualification, income, etc.
- (iii) The existing partner(s) will retain majority share.
- (iv) For dealerships belonging to SC/ST category, the incoming partner should also be from amongst SC/ST. Wherever an SC/ST dealer has married a non-SC/ST, reorganization for inclusion of spouse, who is non-SC/ST, may also be permitted.

(v) In case of partnership firm, if one or more partners wish to withdraw, remaining partner(s), may be permitted to reconstitute the firm, subject to the remaining partner(s) being acceptable to the corporation. The existing partner(s) must retain majority share and the newly inducted partner(s) will not be permitted to have majority holding.

(vi) The incoming partner(s) should not be convicted for any criminal offence or moral turpitude.

(vii) Deserving cases, which cannot be decided by the Oil Marketing Companies as per policy, may be referred to the Government for decision.

Irregularities in Allocation of Fund to Institute of Archaeology

2773. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will he Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the irregularities in the allocation of funds to the Institute of Archaeology functioning under ASI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) There are some allegations of irregularity in the excavations at Rakhigarhi in District Hissar, (Haryana) conducted by the Institute of Archaeology. The Central Bureau of Investigation have registered a case in this regard.

Sale of Gasohol Petrol

2774. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to sell gasohol petrol all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bureau of Indian Standard has approved the gasohol petrol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which it is different from the petrol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have decided to supply Gasohol, which is petrol doped with ethanol upto 5% in the country in two phases, for which modalities are at formulation stage.

(c) Blending of alcohol upto 5% is already within BIS specification no. BIS 2796-2000.

(d) Blends containing 5% ethanol is regarded as petrol only and these blends are rich in oxygen and help in reducing carbon monoxide emissions.

Independent Role of ONGC

2775. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARAGDI:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited has been divided into 17 virtual corporates to have a strategic business units which are likely to operate independently;

(b) if so, whether the restructuring process has started in August, 2001;

(c) whether these structural changes have taken place ever since the international consulting company Mc Kinsey suggested them in 1998; and

(d) if so, the time by which the entire plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The re-structuring process in Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) was initiated first as a Pilot Project for "Neelam Field" in August, 1997 and then in "Western Region Business Centre" in April, 1999. M/s Mc Kinsey & Company acted as the consultants to ONGC for re-structuring of the Corporation. The process was fine tuned from time to time in light of the experiences gained while implementing the pilot projects. The re-structuring plan was approved by the Board of Directors of ONGC in July, 2001 and implemented in ONGC. The plan was named as Corporate Rejuvenation Campaign.

(CRC). The CRC envisages continuous process of improvement in all activities to achieve and surpass international oil companies. The structural changes, concerning manpower resources, redistribution and re-assignment of responsibilities, envisage core activities being assigned to seven "Basins" for exploratory work and to ten "Assets" for production work. These Assets and "Basins" will function under the overall control and guidance of the management of Board of Directors and are not envisaged as independent units.

National Railway Museum

2776. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the National Rail Museum;

(b) whether the Rail Museum hold exhibitions in different parts of the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal to hold such exhibitions to enhance awareness amongst the people on safe rail travel; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Preservation of artifacts and heritage and their display in the Museum.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, Zonal Railways and Ministry of Railways do take part in various exhibition across the country to enhance awareness amongst the people about various aspects of the Railways.

(d) Does not arise.

Transporters Engaged with Petroleum Companies

2777. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the transport charges of the transporters engaged with various petroleum companies during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the last date on which the transport charges were revised;

(d) the names of the companies that have made payment/not made payment in accordance with increased charges so far;

(e) whether I.B.P. company has not paid the increased transport charges to the Delhi transporters so far;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the time by which the payment is likely to be made as per directions of the Government; and

(h) the action likely to be taken in the matter for not implementing the Government orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The contracts for transportation of petroleum products are finalised by individual Oil Marketing Companies with transporters through Public Tender System. The contracts is for a period specified therein and Oil Marketing Companies are making payment of transportation charges as per terms and conditions of the contract. The Government have no role in finalisation of Transport charges by the Oil Marketing Companies.

(e) to (h) The IBP Board in its meeting held on 29.11.2001 has approved the payment of revised transportation charges in Delhi. The payments is to be made by the Company after completion of the necessary formalities by the transporters.

School of Archives

2778. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of school of archives functioning in the country at present State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such schools at places where these do not exist at present;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) School of Archival Studies, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi.

(b) to (d) National Archives of India has no plan to start the School of Archival Studies at any other place in the country. However, University Grants Commission has contemplated to introduce Archival Studies as optional course at M.A. level.

Discretionary Allotment of petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies

2779. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with the Government for Discretionary Allotment of Petrol Pumps of LPG agencies to families or widows of officers of paramilitary organizations like ITBP, CRPF, etc. who were killed in action in Kashmir militancy;

(b) whether the Government has screened all such applications which were received prior to September 11, 2001;

(c) if so, the number of such applications pending with Government; and

(d) the names of applicants, particularly widows of officers slain in Kashmir during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) As on 1.11.2001, the Committee of the Directors (Marketing) of the Oil Marketing Companies and the Executive Director, Oil Coordination Committee, constituted, as per the guidelines, for processing applications for discretionary allotments, had received 1248 applications, including those from dependents of personnel belonging to various paramilitary organizations who were killed in action in operations against militants in Jammu & Kashmir. As on September 11, 2001, 613 applications were received by the Committee.

So far, the Committee has screened 83 applications and submitted its recommendations to the Government.

Maintenance and Repair of Oil Tanks

2780. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil tanks not in use in various States due to want of repair and maintenance at marketing terminals of various Oil Companies and depots; and

(b) the details of measures being taken by the Government to rectify the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) At present, 67 oil tanks are not in use in various States due to want of repair and maintenance at marketing terminals of various oil companies and depots.

(b) Tanks are taken out of service for periodical cleaning as per industry Quality Control Manuals. This is a routine job and part of the operations.

Power Generation by NTPC

2781. SHRI Y.S. VIVENAKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G. MALLIKARAJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has decided to add additional Power of 10,000 MW by 2012;

(b) if so, whether the Power Ministry has requested the Finance Ministry to provide Rs. 16000 crore budgetary Support for this purpose;

(c) if so, the response thereon;

(d) whether any action plan has been prepared by the NTPC in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a), (d) and (e) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) had formulated a Corporate Plan envisaging capacity addition of about 20,000 MW by 2012. NTPC has also been asked by the Ministry of Power to consider enhancing the capacity addition programme by additional 10000 MW. NTPC has agreed to explore the possibility of enhancing its capacity addition programme from 20,000 MW to 30,000 MW and initiated action for identifying additional projects from which benefits could accrue during 11th Plan further take action to obtain timely linkages, clearances/approval and funding tie ups.

(b) Ministry of Power has not made any proposal to the Finance Ministry to provide budgetary support for NTPC's capacity addition.

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

Military build-up in Sir Creek by Pakistan

2782. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan has increased its military build-up Sir Creek area in Gujarat Kutch region; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to step up surveillance and protection of coast line on the Gujarat and Maharashtra Coasts to check infiltration and arms drop from Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Available reports indicate that certain elements of Pak formations had moved out ostensibly for training in areas opposite Kutch. The Pakistani dispositions in the area presently appear to be defensive in nature.

Government continue to take all appropriate steps to ensure security of our borders, including the coast-line.

[*Translation*]

Power Reforms

2783. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those States with which the Union Government have made agreements for power reforms and the time by which such agreements are likely to be made with other States;

(b) the salient features of this agreement;

(c) whether any campaign has been launched to create awareness among the common man in respect of power reforms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Nineteen States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal having signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the Government of India for undertaking power sector reforms in a time bound manner. The State Governments commitment in these MoUs is in the following areas generally,

- (i) metering of all 11 kv feeders and energy audit
- (ii) 100% metering of consumers
- (iii) Reduction of T&D losses with definite milestones
- (iv) Development of Management Information System
- (v) Achievement of commercial viability in distribution
- (vi) Setting up of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions and filing of tariff petitions
- (vii) Payment of subsidies through budget.

Government of India has been assuring support and assistance to the State Governments on the following:

- (i) Provisions of additional power through:-
 - a. Allocation of additional power from Central Generating Stations
 - b. Development of new generating capacity through CPSUs
 - c. Support for enhancement of generating capacity in the State Sector
- (ii) Provision of necessary inter-State transmission lines and commitment to have PGCIL take up some identified intra-State lines.
- (iii) Provisions of additional financing by PFC in relaxation of standard requirements.
- (iv) Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP): The Government of India have launched the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) with last year and current year outlay of Rs. 1000 crores and Rs. 1500 crores respectively APDP financing is for projects relating to:
 - a. Renovation & Modernisation/Life Extension/Uprating of old power plants.
 - b. Upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution network including energy accounting and metering.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Power has launched a countrywide "Awareness Campaign" from 15th October, 2001. Nearly 2000 public interaction/road shows are being held through out the country. These road shows interaction

campaign are being conducted by senior officers of the Ministry of Power. Central Electricity Authority and Central Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power in different districts of the country for sharing with the citizens the plans for transformation of the power sector.

[English]

Wasteful Expenditure in Government Departments

2784. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Ministry of Finance have taken steps to minimise wasteful expenditure in Government Departments and have already identified that there are certain sectors in which wasteful expenditure is maximum in various Government Departments;

(b) if so, the details of such sectors of his Ministry/ Departments under him which have been identified for the purpose and quantum of wasteful expenditure identified therein during each of the last three years; and

(c) the corrective steps taken so far by his Ministry to curtail/stop such wasteful expenditure; if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Ministry of Finance have been issuing in guidelines and instructions regarding economy/austerity measures in expenditure from time to time. Ministry of Finance had issued such guidelines on 24th September, 2000 in continuation of their earlier office memorandum dated 5th August, 1999 on the subject. These guidelines have been reiterated to all concerned including Public Sector Enterprises under the control of this Ministry for observance. The guidelines of Ministry of Finance have, inter alia, prescribed austerity measures in respect of non-plan and non-salary expenditure, staff cars and officials vehicles, foreign travels, seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.

The Ministry is taking all necessary measures in the light of guidelines of Ministry of Finance to economise expenditure in respect of the above. The Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry have also taken a number

of measures to curtail wasteful expenditure. Measures taken by them in this direction, inter alia, include upgradation of technology, energy conservation, reduction in input cost, reducing cost of borrowings, repairs and maintenance and other various cost control measures.

Construction of Bridges

2785. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rail services between Patan and Mahesana were disrupted due to collapse of two bridges; and

(b) if so, the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed and to restore the said rail services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Due to breaches between Dhinoj and Panchot causing damage to bridges in June, 1997, all the trains running between Mahesana and Patan via Dhinoj-Panchot were cancelled.

(b) Damaged bridges were rebuilt and section has been reopened for traffic on 03.09.1999.

Nomination of SC/ST/OBC Liaison Officers

2786. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Departments/sub-ordinate and attached offices, public sector and autonomous organizations/corporations under his Ministry are not nominating Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs as required under MHA OM No. 16/17/87-Estt(C) dated April 10, 1968 (DOPT OM No. 36022/5/76 dated May 27, 1976 for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matter of reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs:

(b) if so, the reasons for the same indicating the names of such offices/organizations;

(c) if not, the total number of organizations/offices under his Ministry which function as "Administrative Units" dealing with establishment and staff matters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Indian Railways consist of 9 Zonal Railways, each headed by a General Manager. The Zones are further grouped into 59 operating Divisions, each under the control of a Divisional Railway Manager. In addition, there are 6 Production Units, each headed by General Manager or Chief Administrative Officer.

On each Zonal Railway/Production Unit, there are nominated Liaison Officers. The Chief Personnel Officer at the Zonal Headquarters has been nominated as Chief Liaison Officer and the Senior Personnel Officer (Reservation) as Liaison Officer in the matter of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Similarly, on each Division, the Divisional Personnel Officer is nominated as Liaison Officer.

On the Production Units, Officers of different levels have been nominated as Liaison Officer.

Besides, there are 8 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the control of Ministry of Railways. All these 8 organisations have Liaison Officers, except Railtel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL) which is a new set up and is the process of recruitment of officers and staff.

(d) On Indian Railways, there are 90 Liaison Officers to look after the proper implementation of reservation policies.

Renovation and Modernisation of Power Projects

2787. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide financial assistance for implementing R&M and Life Extension Programme of Thermal, Gas and Hydro Power stations at MSEB; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched a new scheme called Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) to provide to States financial assistance in the form of grant and loan for Renovation & Modernisation/life extension/uprating of old power plants (thermal and hydel) and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution

network in the country. The details of thermal schemes for which funds were sanctioned for power stations of

Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) under APDP during the year 2000-01 are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Thermal Power Station	Total Cost of scheme	Amount sanctioned under APDP		
			Grant	Loan	Total
1.	Parli	12.46	3.11	3.11	6.22
2.	Nasik	22.00	5.50	5.50	11.00
3.	Koradi, Nasik and Parli	6.00	1.50	1.50	3.00
4.	Koradi	48.00	12.00	12.00	24.00

Rs. in crores

For R&M and Life Extension of hydro Power Stations so far, no proposal has been submitted by MSEB for sanction under APDP.

Participants in Independence Day Celebration

2788. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kids go hungry, thirsty for greater glory of I-Day" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times,' New Delhi, dated August 16, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps/measures proposed to be taken to ensure good quality refreshments and adequate potable water to the school children participating in Independence Day Celebrations at Red Fort in future?

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

(b) and (c) The Government of Delhi has inquired into the matter. Inquiries have revealed that adequate/quality refreshment, etc. could not be made available to the children in view of the very tight security arrangements that were made. The Government of Delhi on the basis of the inquiry report has shifted some of the officers deployed for this function and is also proposing to impose penalty on contractors for the lapses, if any, on their part. Other corrective measures have also been taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

Amendment in Sharela Act to Check Child Marriage in Rajasthan

2789. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Sharela Act in order to check growing incidence of child marriages especially in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the time by which a new legislation in this regard to be brought before the Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) There is no Act known as the Sharela Act. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 is, of course, also popularly known as the Sharda Act. The National Commission for Women has proposed some amendments in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, and its proposals have been circulated to all the State Governments and Union territory Administrations to elicit their views. So far, 9 State Governments/Union territory Administrations, including State Government of Rajasthan, have agreed to the recommendations made by the National Commission for Women in this regard. The government would take a view in the matter after obtaining the views of the remaining State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in the matter.

Allotment of Petroleum Products to States

2790. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the quantum of diesel, petrol and kerosene allotted to each of the State in the country during the last three years; year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Diesel

and Petrol are supplied by the Oil Marketing Companies as per demand. Central Government make Kerosene allocation to various States/Union Territories for distribution under the Public Distribution System.

The details of State-wise Kerosene allocation made by the Central Government during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

State-wise SKO Allocation - 1998-99 to 2000-01

(Figures in MT)

States/UTs	1998-99			1999-2000			2000-01		
	Alloc.	Adhoc	Total Alloc.	Alloc.	Adhoc	Total Alloc.	Alloc.	Adhoc	Total Alloc.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andaman & Nicobar	7155	0	7155	6736	301	7037	6736	0	6736
Andhra Pradesh	675056	3891	678947	679848	0-	679848	650596	778	651375
Arunachal Pradesh	10240	0	10240	10295	623	10917	10346	0	10346
Assam	271235	0	271235	272623	0	272623	273270	0	273270
Bihar*	863745	0	863745	870036	0	870036	894246	0	894246
Chandigarh	21778	0	21778	15408	0	15408	15408	0	15408
Dadar N. Haveli	3237	0	3237	3238	0	3238	3238	0	3238
Daman & Diu	3064	0	3064	2438	0	2438	2438	0	2438
Delhi	248325	0	248325	204672	0	204672	204672	0	204672
Goa	28257	0	28257	28075	0	28075	28075	0	28075
Gujarat	831600	15564	847164	832432	4864	837295	832432	42023	874455
Haryana	170563	0	170563	171731	0	171731	175633	0	175633
Himachal Pradesh	60737	0	60737	61067	778	61845	61434	0	61434
Jammu & Kashmir	91433	6226	97659	91921	19844	111765	92376	12840	105216
Karnataka	528301	0	528301	531167	0	531167	534360	0	534360
Kerala	300006	0	300006	302078	0	302078	309149	0	309149
Lakshadweep	919	0	919	921	0	921	921	0	921
Madhya Pradesh*	661812	0	661812	666632	0	666632	685182	0	685182
Maharashtra	1576298	0	1576298	1577953	0	1577953	1488926	0	1488926
Manipur	22670	0	22670	22781	78	22859	22781	0	22781
Meghalaya	20847	0	20847	20960	74	21034	21086	0	21086
Mizoram	8102	0	8102	8146	0	8146	8195	0	8195
Nagaland	14207	0	14207	14284	78	14362	14370	0	14370

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Orissa	316597	0	316597	318903	62793	381696	327777	54475	382251
Pondicherry	15342	0	15342	15363	0	15363	15363	0	15363
Punjab	342376	0	342376	343127	0	343127	343127	0	343127
Rajasthan	440060	0	440060	443265	0	443265	450930	93385	544316
Sikkim	7885	0	7885	7895	0	7895	7895	0	7895
Tamil Nadu	716830	0	716830	720076	12451	732527	720076	12451	732527
Tripura	32386	0	32386	32562	0	32562	32757	0	32757
Uttar Pradesh*	1391123	12167	1403290	1401255	9650	1410905	1440246	16537	1456783
West Bengal	808013	3891	811904	812309	7782	820091	816158	15564	831722
All India:	10490199	41739	10531938	10490199	119316	10609516	10490199	248054	10738253

New States viz Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh & Uttaranchal have been carved out of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh respectively during November, 2000. The details of allocation & Upliftment in Respect of these New States for 2000-01 are included in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh.

Power Distribution Reforms

2791. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are going to take up district level distribution reforms;

(b) whether steps are being taken to improve revenue earning capacity of State Electricity Boards and plugging loopholes in generation and distribution of power; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Government of India has launched a scheme in the year 2000 called Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) with outlays for 2000-01 and 2001-02 of Rs. 1000 crores and Rs. 1500 crores respectively to provide systematic financing to projects relating to (a) renovation & modernisation/life extension/uprating of old generating stations (thermal and hydel) and upgradation of sub-transmission & distribution network. Through the projects aimed at upgradation of sub-transmission & distribution, the Government aimed to bring about distribution reform at the district level. For this purpose, initially 63 distribution circles have been taken up for upgradation of the sub-transmission & distribution network. It is proposed to ultimately operate a distribution circle as profit centre and a feeder as a business unit. The measures that would

be covered under APDP are metering at all transformation level, decentralized billing and collections, systematic replacement of LT lines with HT lines, augmenting transformation capacity, reconductoring, generating data base consumer-wise etc. It is also proposed to cover all the circles in the country during the 10th Plan (2002-2007). It is expected that the distribution reform will reduce technical and commercial losses in the transmission and distribution network and also result in improvement in the quality and reliability of power supply. The reduction of technical and commercial losses will improve the revenues of the State Electricity Boards.

Financial Support under MPLAD Scheme to Renewal Sources

2792. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the State Governments to ensure upward financial allocations alongwith proper utilization of the allocated funds for the new and renewed source of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have also been requested to avail the financial support under MPLAD scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the importance of renewed energy source abundantly available in the country is growing due to increased imported oil; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the funds to the States for such Energy Sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry is regularly taking up the matter with State Governments for matching financial requirement under State plan budget required for implementation of various renewable energy projects sanctioned by the Ministry. The Ministry also review utilization of allocated funds to the States for implementation of the programmes through periodic meetings with them.

(c) and (d) The Ministry have been requesting State Governments to avail financial support from the MPLAD Scheme for the implementation of socially oriented programmes such as Biogas, Solar Photovoltaic and Biomass Gasifier for meeting various energy needs of rural areas.

(e) and (f) As India has a vast potential of non-conventional energy sources such as solar, wind, small hydro power and biomass, the use of renewable energy sources is growing gradually for meeting various energy requirements such as cooking, heating, lighting etc. throughout the country. The Ministry has been providing financial support under its various renewable energy programmes to harness renewable energy sources such as Biomass, Wind, Solar, Biogas etc. and has allocated Rs.339.25 crores for the current financial year 2001-2002 for implementation of various non-conventional energy programmes in various States of the country.

Construction of Subway in West Bengal

2793. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the request of North-Eastern Railway to construct a subway at Kumitpur Railway Junction Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to construct subway at Kumitpur Railway Junction Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Railway station with the name "Kumedpur" exists on Northeast Frontier Railway in the State of West Bengal. No proposal for construction of subway at Kumedpur railway station has been received from Northeast Frontier Railway.

Representations have been received to provide a subway under Kumedpur by-pass line for access to station from a village. The village is already connected to railway station by railway road though by a little longer route. As such construction of subway is not justified. Moreover, the Kumedpur by-pass line is on low land and provision of a subway under it is technically not feasible.

Preservation of Indian Culture by DD

2794. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has been acting as a commercial organization whereas the policy of the Government is to preserve and enrich Indian culture and tradition; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No Sir. As per Prasar Bharati Act, the primary duty of Prasar Bharati is to organize and conduct public broadcasting services to inform, educate and entertain by providing adequate coverage to cultures of various regions of the country by broadcasting appropriate programmes.

Frequency of Hirakund Express

2795. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the frequency of Hirakund Express running between Bhubaneshwar and Nizamuddin via Sambalpur and Talcher;

(b) whether the Government have also taken a decision to increase the frequency of Bhubaneshwar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express; and

(c) if so, the date from which the frequency of these trains would be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of New Railway Station

2796. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering the demand of a new Railway Station at Nahur between Bhandup and Mulund sub-urban sector of Central Railway, Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the Railways has conducted any feasibility report; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The proposal for opening of a halt station at Nahur between Bhandup and Mulund stations has been examined but the same has not been found feasible on operational and engineering points of view.

Employment to Displaced Families in IRCF, Kapurthala

2797. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of displaced families pending for providing job to a family member whose land was acquired for Kapurthala Coach Factory (Punjab);

(b) the reasons for delay in providing the job; and

(c) the time by which their request is likely to be acceded to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

CBI Investigation against CDA Officials

2798. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a chargesheet against several senior and Assistant Accounts Officers and clerks of the Controller of Defence Accounts (CDA, HQ), New Delhi, and some proprietors of private firms in a special court for allegedly submitting and processing bogus and forged bills to CDA (HQ) causing an estimated loss of whopping Rs. 8 crore during 1994-97 to the State exchequer;

(b) if so, the names of all those charge sheeted and the action taken against them; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the non-repetition of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, details of the individuals charge-sheeted are enclosed as Statements-I and II.

(c) Necessary measures such as strengthening the system of authentication for ensuring genuineness of sanctions and specimen signatures, strict observance of modalities for receipt of bills and additional checks of passed bills have been taken.

Statement-I

*Officers and Staff of PCDA, New Delhi
(Erstwhile CDA HQ):*

Sl. No.	Name and designation of the official S/Shri	Whether placed Under suspension?	Departmental action taken
1	2	3	4
1.	T.P. Venugopalan, Senior Accounts Officer (Retd.)	Yes	The Officer (since retired) has been awarded the penalty of withholding of 50% of pension otherwise admissible

1	2	3	4
			on permanent basis and 50% of gratuity admissible to him.
2.	H.L. Gulati, Senior Accounts Officer	No	Major penalty Charge Sheet was issued on 7.7.1998. The Inquiry is in progress.
3.	R.K. Bajpai, Senior Accounts Officer (Retd.)	No	Major penalty Charge Sheet was issued on 2.7.1998. Inquiry has been completed and the case is under finalisation.
4.	P.R. Suman, Senior Auditor	No	Major penalty Charge Sheet was issued on 5.11.1998. Inquiry has been completed. The case is under finalisation.
5.	J.C. Sharma, Assistant Accounts Officer	Yes	Awarded the penalty of compulsory retirement w.e.f. 23.9.1999.
6.	J.B. Gupta, Senior Auditor	Yes	Awarded the penalty of compulsory retirement w.e.f. 31.8.1999.
7.	N.D. Nautiyal, Clerk (Retd.)	No	After completion of inquiry, he has been exonerated of the charges.
8.	R.N. Dhyani, Assistant Accounts Officer	No	Major penalty charge sheet was issued on 11.11.1998. Inquiry has been completed and the Inquiry Report is under examination.
9.	S.B. Sharma, Senior Auditor	No	Major penalty charge sheet was issued on 16.11.1998. Inquiry has been completed. The case is under finalisation.
10.	Surendra Singh, Senior Auditor	No	Major penalty charge sheet was issued in August 1999. Inquiry is in progress.
11.	Stephen George, Assistant Accounts Officer	No	Awarded the penalty of dismissal from service w.e.f. 19.9.2000.

Statement-II

Individuals Other than those of Defence Accounts Department Included in the Chargesheet:

Sl. No.	Name	Action taken
1	2	3
1.	Shri Deepak Dutt Mudgal, UDC (Army HQ)	Included in Chargesheet of CBI
2.	Ltd. Col. (Retd.) PRS Rao, Dy. Director Ordnance Services (I&BC), Army Hqrs.	-do-

1	2	3
3.	Shri Rahul Dutt, (Private Person)	Included in Chargesheet of CBI
4.	Shri Ashok Kumar Sharma, Asstt. Audit Officer of DGA (DS)	-do-
5.	Capt. (Retd.) Inder Bir Singh Uppal	-do-

Loss Suffered Due to Fire

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

2799. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3789 on August 16, 2001 regarding loss suffered by Railways due to fire and state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Year	Location	Amount of losses	Reasons	Steps taken to prevent such incident
1998	Scrap yards/ Stores	Rs. 37,300/-	Accidental, Electrical sparking, Agitation, Cigarette/ Bidi ends.	From time to time publicity campaigns are launched advising passengers not to throw cigarette. Railway employees and RPF staff have been instructed to be more alert to avoid incident of fire. Fire Brigades are summoned immediately on receipt of the information regarding the fire incident. General instructions are issued from time to time to keep the area clean and scrap materials separately from inflammable items. Security patrolling has been intensified in and around the scrap yard. Railway employees are given short course training fire fighting. They are also advised to have a good house keeping and not to throw lighted cigarette. Bidi ends inside the railway premises and finally the fire fighting equipments and installations are periodically inspected to ensure that they are kept in good fettle and ready to use. It is, however, mentioned that Fire Fighting wing of RPF has been closed in 1999 except for a few places.
1999	-do-	Rs. 6,20,000/-	-do-	
2000	-do-	Rs. 12,92,077/-	-do-	
2001 (Upto July)	-do-	Rs. 28,82,561/-	-do-	

Collapse of Computerised Reservation System

2800. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that computerized central reservation system has collapsed causing harassment to rail passengers;

(b) if so the causes of its collapsing;

(c) whether the Government will ensure non-recurrence of such incident; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, like any on-line computerized system, there has been interruptions of varying duration on different Zones on different accounts like telecom, slowing of CPU, network related problems etc.

(c) and (d) All failures are analyzed from technical point of view and remedial action is taken so that such failures do not recur. In order to increase the efficiency of the Passenger Reservation System the new Alpha System has been introduced on Indian Railways to minimize the chances of failure on account of slowing down of the Central Processing Unit.

Train Between Vijayawada-Delhi

2801. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Central Railway have cleared a proposal to introduce a new direct train between Vijayawada and Delhi;

(b) if so, the time by which this train would be introduced;

(c) whether this train will only stop at four stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Terminal Management System

2802. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways are launching Terminal Management System shortly;

(b) if so, the details of this new system;

(c) the advantages of this new system;

(d) the number of railway stations that would come under this new system; and

(e) the time by when the Terminal Management System would become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) It shall be launched after the Rake Management System (RMS) of Freight Operation Information System has stabilized.

(b) The system is designed to capture registration of indents for wagons by customers, wagon-wise supply and loading details, issue of computerised Railway Receipts and delivery at destination etc.

(c) Simplified customer interaction, continuous consignment tracking and automation of internal processes will be main advantages of the new system.

(d) The planning is under progress.

(e) It can be predicted only after RMS has stabilized, software testing has been completed and adequate funds are made available.

Expansion of DD in Trivandrum

2803. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of Trivandrum Doordarshan and improvement in its programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the type of equipment installed in the Trivandrum Doordarshan Kendra at present; and

(d) the total number of LPT working under Trivandrum Doordarshan location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Improvement in programmes and augmentation and modernization of facilities at Doordarshan Kendras including at Trivandrum is a continuous process. At present, major facilities (equipment) available at DDK Trivandrum are as under :

- (i) Studio set up comprising 2 Studios with associated facilities.
- (ii) Post Production facilities.
- (iii) EFP (Electronic Field Production) Van.
- (iv) ENG (Electronic News Gathering) equipment.
- (v) Two HPTs each 10 kW for DD1 and DD2 channels.
- (vi) Satellite uplink.

Additional equipments viz digital VCRs digital camcorder, digital switcher and teleprompter etc. are envisaged to be provided at DDK, Trivandrum.

(d) The following 19 LPTs in Kerala are linked to DDK Trivandrum through Satellite, for relay of regional programmes.

Adoor, Attapadi, Changanacherry, Chengannur, Cannanore, Idukki, Kalpetta, Kanangarh, Kasargod, Kayamkulam, Mallapuram, Pala, Palghat, Pathanamithitta, Punalur, Shoranur, Tellicherry, Thodupuzha and Trichur.

Doubling of Vijayawada-Guntur-Tenali Railway Section

2804. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to double Vijayawada-Guntur and Guntur-Tenali railway lines; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Vijayawada-Tenali via Krishna Canal is an existing double line section. Construction of 3rd line between Vijayawada-Krishna Canal including 3rd Krishna Bridge is an approved work, which is in progress.

As far as doubling of Krishna Canal-Tenali section is concerned, doubling of single line sections is taken up when their carrying capacity is saturated. The traffic on the subject section has not yet reached the level to justify its doubling. Doubling will be considered once the traffic warrants the same subject to availability of resources.

Foreign Equipments

2805. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign equipments are more reliable than the domestic products as reported in the 'Times of India' dated November 22, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted by the Director General, Quality Assurance for selection of equipments for the use of armed forces;

(d) the reasons due to which domestic products are not fit for defence use; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make indigenous equipments more reliable than foreign equipments?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Director General Quality Assurance (DGQA) does not select equipment for use of the armed forces. They only perform quality assurance of the equipment as per the contracted specifications.

(d) and (e) Indigenous equipment are being used for defence purpose. These are also subjected to stringent quality and reliability tests as applicable to foreign equipment.

Allotment of LPG/CNG/Petrol Pumps to Cooperative Societies

2806. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any provision/preferences in allotment of LPG/CNG/petrol pumps to Co-operative Societies/Trusts/Local Bodies/State Government Undertakings/Corporations;

(b) if so, the details of such applications received in this regard during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per extant guidelines for selection of Retail Outlets/LPG distributorships, Co-operative Societies/Government organisations are eligible for allotment of such dealerships/distributorships. However, no preference is given to them in selection. As far as CNG is concerned which is supplied at present only in Delhi and Mumbai, outlets are collected in the existing Retail Outlets depending upon their suitability, apart from the own outlets set up by Indraprastha Gas Limited at Delhi and Mahanagar Gas Limited at Mumbai.

(b) and (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have allotted Seven Retail Outlets (2 in Himachal Pradesh and 1 each in Maharashtra, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand and West Bengal) and 1 LPG distributorship in Maharashtra to various Co-operative Societies/State Bodies through Dealer Selection Board process during the last three years.

Target for Dealerships In Uttar Pradesh and J&K

2807. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

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

(a) the details of target fixed for dealership/distributorship in Uttar Pradesh and J&K during the last three years;

(b) the number of interviews held by Uttar Pradesh and J&K Dealer's Selection Board for dealership so far;

(c) the number of complaints regarding selection of dealership received by the Government; and

(d) the outcome of investigation conducted on these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) No year-wise targets are fixed for the setting up of dealerships/distributorships in various States/Union Territories in the country including Uttar Pradesh and

Jammu & Kashmir. Marketing Plans for setting up retail outlet dealerships/SKO-LDO dealerships/LPG distributorships in the States/Union Territories including Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir are prepared by the Oil Marketing Companies and approved by the Government.

The locations included in the Marketing Plans are advertised by the Oil Marketing Companies and the selection of dealers/distributors is made by the Dealer Selection Boards as per the prescribed procedure which includes holding of interviews.

The complaints received against selection of dealers/distributors are investigated and decided in accordance with the guidelines for selection of dealer/distributors.

[*Translation*]

Service Charges Payable to Cantonment Board

2808 SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the service charges are payable to Cantonment Boards in respect of properties held by the Ministry of Defence;

(b) whether service charges are being paid regularly and promptly by Air Force Authority, Devlali to Cantonment Board from 1982 onwards;

(c) if so, the amount paid as service charges by Air Force Authorities, Devlali to Cantonment Board for their 25 ED Air Force Station South Devlali; and

(d) if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government against those Air Force officers who are responsible for non-payment of service tax and for non-compliance of Government notices/orders?

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

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The issue of payment of Service charges by the Air Force Authorities in respect of their properties at Devlali Cantonment has been taken up with the concerned Air Force Authorities by the Cantonment Board/Director General Defence Estates for release of payments.

*[English]***Foreign Assistance for Missile Technology**

2809. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government continue dependence on foreign assistance for key missile technology;

(b) if so, the nature of foreign dependency and the country from which the assistance is being obtained; and

(c) the efforts made so far to attain self-sufficiency in the field?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Missiles technology developed by DRDO is largely self-reliant in all key aspects and systems design, aerodynamic propulsion, control and guidance and warheads etc. In selected sub-systems imported components or foreign technical support is utilised in order to accelerate the development and improve cost effectiveness.

Sanctioned Posts of Judges in Rajasthan High Court

2810. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sanctioned posts of judges in Rajasthan High Court and the number of vacant posts at present;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to fill up the vacant posts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Rajasthan High Court has 32 sanctioned posts of Judges/Additional Judges of which, as on 3.12.2001, 8 posts were vacant.

(b) and (c) Filling up of vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts is a continuous, consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. Some recommendations have been received for appointment of Judges in the Rajasthan High Court which are under process.

Electronic Security Surveillance

2811. SHRI K. BALRAM KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce electronic security surveillance for sea, air and ground to reduce potential threat to national security; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) It is the constant endeavour of Government to improve the surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities of the country. It would not be in the national interest to disclose details.

Sale of Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel

2812. SHRI N. JANARADHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sales of Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel and Ordinary Diesel in the country percentage-wise;

(b) the value of additional cost that is borne by the refineries in manufacturing the diesel having sulphur contents less than .005 percentage;

(c) whether the Supreme Court of India has directed/ allowed to charge extra money for the supply of the clean diesel in NCR and NCT;

(d) if so, whether the old tractors/comboines pumps sets are required to be modified for using this clean diesel and allowing emission affluents as per norms; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Low sulphur diesel with 0.05% max. sulphur content is being supplied in the National Capital Region of Delhi, Greater Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. The sale of this quality of diesel is about 11% of the total sale of diesel in the country, the balance 89% being 0.25% max. sulphur diesel.

(b) Refineries are not producing diesel having sulphur content less than 0.005 percentage.

(c) The Supreme Court has not given any directions on the pricing of better quality diesel in the NCT/NCR.

(d) No, Sir.

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

Role of MDG in Dealership Agreements

2813. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government in Writ Petition No. 2876 of 1998 has submitted an affidavit regarding the importance of Marketing Discipline Guidelines as a part of dealership agreement to provide homogenous and similar punishment for various irregularities and to avoid termination in the first instance;

(b) if so, whether the dealers and Oil Corporations are bound by MDG and content of this affidavit;

(c) if not, the impact of avoiding/overriding the contents of this affidavit and provisions of MDG;

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider such matter where the said contents and provisions of MDG have been avoided by the Oil Corporations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) issued by the Oil Marketing Companies with the approval of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas prescribes the penal action that could be taken against dealers for the irregularities committed at the retail outlets. The provisions contained in the MDG were challenged in the Delhi High Court by Delhi Petrol Dealers' Association and Others by filing CWP No. 2876 of 1998. The petition was dismissed by the Delhi High Court by judgement dated 18.08.1999. The petitioners have filed LPA No. 490/99 against this judgement of the Single Judge and the same is pending in the Delhi High Court.

In the affidavit filed by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in CWP No. 2876, it was stated inter-alia that "the relationship between oil companies and dealers is guided by Dealership Agreement. Under the same various rights

and obligations are there for both the parties. This agreement provides that dealership can be terminated for various malpractices/offences which includes not following law of the land, Government and company Guidelines/instructions. Government Oil Companies, in order that they do not have to terminate the agreement for every such offence and different levels of punishment/penalty are provided for major and minor offences and also because there is consistency in their actions against different dealers for the same type of offences, have formulated common Guidelines. Accordingly, for most offences, dealership is terminated only in second or third instances. For minor offences, generally dealership is not terminated. These are guidelines only for taking action under dealership agreement. Any punishment provided in Act/Control Orders are criminal and the same is independent of action to be taken under Dealership Agreement."

The Oil Marketing Companies are to keep in view the provisions contained in the Marketing Discipline Guidelines before taking any penal action against the dealers, as per terms of agreement. These does not seem to be any need for issuing separate instructions to this effect.

Introduction of New Shatabdi and Rajdhani Expresses

2814. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Shatabdi Express and Rajdhani Express trains introduced in the country during the last three months indicating the starting and ending destinations;

(b) whether the Government have added more facilities/amenities in Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) One pair of Shatabdi Express between Howrah and Patna & two pair of Rajdhani Expresses, one between New Delhi and Raipur-Bilaspur & the other between New Delhi and Ranchi-Hatia have been introduced during last three months.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Railways have plans to introduce state of the art coaches to Alstom LHB design with many improved features as follows:

- Better riding comfort due to reduced riding index.
- Noise free ride due to provision of anti-drumming feature and sound insulation.
- Environment friendly controlled discharge toilets.
- Enhanced safety with anticlimbing feature of the couplers and use of fire retarding materials.
- Mini pantry in each coach for serving food and drinks.
- Speed potential up to 160 kmph.
- Light weight and therefore fuel efficient.

Shatabdi service between New Delhi and Lucknow are likely to be introduced shortly.

Karnataka's Interest in Enron's Dabhol Power Company

2815. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka State Electricity Board have shown keen interest in drawing power from Enron's Dabhol Power Company;

(b) if so, whether any decision in regard to the rate at which the power is likely to be obtained from the Enron's Dabhol Power Company has been taken; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) has shown interest to purchase power to an extent of 300 MW from Dabhol Power Company during the lead period; January - May, @ Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 2.60 per unit on 'Take and Pay' basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Arjun Tanks

2816. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given orders to the production of Arjun Tanks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Orders have been placed on Ordnance Factory Board in March 2000 for the production of 124 Nos MBT-Arjun.

Law to Prevent Criminals from Decision Making Bodies

2817. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal or move to suitably amend election laws to public bodies to prevent criminals and other such persons from entering decision making bodies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) There is no indication as to the public bodies about which the information has been sought. There are election laws governing the elections to Parliament and State Legislatures, which have been framed by Parliament. There are laws governing elections to the local bodies like the Panchayati Raj institutions, urban local bodies, etc. which are framed by the concerned State Governments. Again, there are institutions like the marketing federations cooperative societies, sports bodies, etc., which may be considered public bodies. These institutions also hold elections to their decision-making bodies through their own election laws.

(b) Does not arise.

Pakistan Nuclear Assets

2818. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nuclear assets of Pakistan are in safe hands as reported publicly by him;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the sources of such information; and

(c) the details of agreement, if any, existing between India and Pakistan on sharing information about the safety of nuclear assets?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) While responding to a question from the audience at a seminar on 30.10.2001 at New Delhi, it was stated that one hoped that those in charge of nuclear arsenal in Pakistan were responsible people so as not to allow such weapons to fall into wrong hands.

(c) There is no such agreement between India and Pakistan.

[*Translation*]

Direct Rail Service Between Rewa and Delhi

2819. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any Memoranda/letters to introduce a direct rail service between Rewa and Delhi;

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

(c) the time by which the aforesaid rail service is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Examined, but not found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

[*English*]

Commissions Appointed Since 1998

2820. SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Commission (enquiry and welfare) appointed since 1998;

(b) the number out of them are permanent/temporary;

(c) the total amount spent on such Commissions annually;

(d) the number of reports being received from these commissions; and

(e) the number of reports considered for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Funds for Renovation of Wind Power Mills

2821. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide funds for reconstruction and repair work of the old hydel power projects, water mills and wind mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds provided for this purpose during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing two schemes to provide financial assistance for Renovation & Modernization (R&M) of old small hydro power projects and for development an up-gradation of water mills. As per the scheme, the Ministry is providing support of up to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per MW for the R&M works of old SHP projects. For development and up-gradation of water mills, the Ministry is providing a support of up to a maximum of Rs. 60,000 for mechanical and electricity generating water mill. The Ministry is not providing any financial support for reconstruction and repair work of old wind mills.

(c) A sum of Rs. 4.96 crores during 1999-2000 and Rs. 2.14 crores during the year 2000-2001 was provided by the Ministry for this purpose.

Reserve and Production of Crude Oil

2822. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

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

(a) the quantum of crude oil produced in the country during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent by the Government to increase the domestic crude oil production during this period;

(c) the details of oil reserves in the country at present, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to explore more oil reserves in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Oil production in the country during the last three years is given below:-

Oil production (Million Metric Tonnes)

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
37.72	31.95	32.43

(b) The expenditure incurred on production of oil during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in Crores)

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
5917.08	6818.94	7243.08

(c) The details of oil reserves in the country State-wise (in million metric tonne):

Gujarat	142.98
Assam	160.12
Nagaland	2.69
Andhra Pradesh	1.52
Tamilnadu	3.23
Arunachal Pradesh	4.84
Rajasthan	2.19

(d) and (e) To attract more investment in the area of exploration and production of oil and gas in the country,

Government, implemented a New Exploration Licensing Policy in 1999 with more attractive terms and conditions and giving level playing field to private and National Oil companies. So far contracts for 47 blocks have been signed with various companies in the first two rounds of NELP. ONGC and OIL are also carrying out exploration and production activities in the area allotted to them on nomination basis.

[English]

Multimodal Rail System

2823. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was entered between the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Indian Railways on September 25, 2000 to implement Hyderabad and Secunderabad MRTS Project on 50:50% cost sharing basis;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has already released its share of Rs. 38.00 crore in the budget 2000-01;

(c) if so, whether the share of railways is pending for clearance;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in releasing the railway share;

(e) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government in this regard;

(f) the time by which Indian Railways is likely to release its share; and

(g) the time by which project is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) An MoU was signed between Ministry of Railways and Government of Andhra Pradesh to strengthen the suburban rail infrastructure and services in the city of Hyderabad as a part of a comprehensive Multimodal Suburban Commuter Transportation System.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) to (f) The project has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) and sanctioned by Ministry of Railways for out of turn funding. The project has been included in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2001-02, in November 2001. Further action for releasing funds to this project will be taken once the same has been passed by the Parliament.

A letter, in this regard, was received from the Chief Minister Andhra Pradesh requesting for the provision of adequate funds in the Railway Budget 2001-02.

(g) Time frame for completion of this project in respect of fixed rail infrastructure development is November 2002 subject to the availability of funds.

SCs, STs and OBCs in Service

2824. SHRI SHAMSER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS 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% & STs-2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on January 1, 1998 under Central Government.

(b) if so, indicated the total number of posts in Class-I (Group-A) Category and equivalents thereof under the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Representation of SCs and STs as on 01.01.1998 under Central Government in Group 'A' services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs-3.44%) and in Group 'B' services it was 15.37% (SCs 12.35% and STs-3.02%).

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

Power Demand in Country

2825. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any 7 points Agenda of Hon'ble Prime Minister to overcome problems plaguing the power sector;

(b) if so, the present physical and financial dimensions of the problems,

(c) the requirement of power in the country at present and expected requirement by 2005 and 2010 AD against the expected availability; and

(d) the sources from which the additional power can be made available at reasonable cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) A conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers was held on 3rd March, 2001 when the challenges confronting the power sector were discussed. The following resolutions were adopted:

- (i) Completing the electrification of all villages and households by 2007 and 2012 respectively.
- (ii) Carry out distribution reforms.
- (iii) State Electricity Regulatory Commissions to be made functional and subsidy be given to the extent of State Government's capacity to pay the same.
- (iv) To add new generation capacity and make efforts to increase the PLF of existing plants through Renovation and Modernisation.
- (v) Implementation of Energy Conservation and Demand Side Management programmes.
- (vi) Support from Government of India to the States on reforms, etc.
- (vii) A high level Empowered Group comprising of Minister of Power and Chief Ministers of some States to be set up to coordinate, monitor and review the implementation of reforms.

The actual power requirement in the country at present (as on 31.10.2001) is 74,226 MW (peak demand). As per the 16th Electric Power Survey report, the projected peak demand in the country for year 2004-05 would be 1,02,160.8 MW and by the end of 11th Plan (2011-12), it would be 1,57,107 MW. Based on the projections of 16th EPS, a capacity of 1,00,000 MW approx., is required to be added by 2012 to make available "power on demand". The Working Group on Power for 10th Plan set up by the Planning Commission has finalized a feasible capacity addition of 46,939 MW comprising 17,311 MW hydro, 28,328 MW thermal and

1300 MW nuclear. The capacity during 11th Plan would have to be about 62,000 MW. The Working Group on Power for 10th Plan have estimated the total fund requirements for 10th Plan at Rs. 5,66,000 crore.

The sources from which additional power during 10th and 11th Plans would be made available are hydro, thermal (including gas) and nuclear apart from non-conventional sources. The capacity addition programmes as worked out by ISPLAN model takes care of least cost criteria of power generation.

[Translation]

High Court in Ahmedabad

2826. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat regarding construction of the building of High Court in Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not according approval to the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The New building of Gujarat High Court has already been constructed at Sola, Ahmedabad with State Government funds, funds under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to development of infrastructural facilities for judiciary and Additional Central Assistance from the Planning Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Reservation of SC/ST in Services

2827. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SC 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 113.20% (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 January 1, 1996 under Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, indicate total number of 'posts' in Class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) and equivalents thereof under all Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises, Statutory Organizations/Corporations, Autonomous Organizations. Attached and Subordinate Offices under his Ministry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Representation of SCs/STs in Central Public Sector Enterprises as on 1.1.96 in respect of Group A & B posts was as under:-

Group	Total No. of Employees	No. of SCs	% age of SCs	No. of STs	% age of STs
Group 'A'	1,98,625	16,710	8.41%	4,505	2.27%
Group 'B'	1,64,402	15,921	9.68%	5,788	3.52%

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

Fast Track Courts

2828. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fast Track Courts have started functioning;

(b) if so, the total number of such courts to be set up in the country, State-wise and those already functioning;

(c) the total number of persons in different categories likely to be employed in these courts; and

(d) the number of pending cases expected to be dispose of in 2001-02 and 2002-2003 by these courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) As per the norms laid down by the Eleventh Finance Commission, one Presiding Judge, one peshkar/ahalmat, one stenographer and one peon, will be employed in each Fast Track Court.

(d) As per available information, as on 31st October, 2001, 16,066 cases have been disposed of. While the exact number of cases cannot be indicated, each court is expected to dispose of 14 sessions cases or 20 to 25 other criminal/civil cases per month.

Statement

Number of Courts to be set up and already functioning in the country, State-wise

Sl. No.	States	No. of Courts to be set up	No. of courts functioning
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86	25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	—
3.	Assam	20	15
4.	Bihar	183	37
5.	Chhattisgarh	31	11
6.	Goa	5	—
7.	Gujarat	166	—
8.	Haryana	36	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12	40
11.	Jharkhand	89	—
12.	Karnataka	93	8
13.	Kerala	37	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85	64
15.	Maharashtra	187	94
16.	Manipur	3	2
17.	Meghalaya	3	—
18.	Mizoram	3	—
19.	Nagaland	3	—
20.	Orissa	72	17
21.	Punjab	29	—
22.	Rajasthan	83	40

1	2	3	4
23.	Sikkim	3	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	49	—
25.	Tripura	3	2
26.	Uttaranchal	45	30
27.	Uttar Pradesh	242	150
28.	West Bengal	152	6
		1734	542

Shortfall of Power Supply in Andhra Pradesh

2829. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Central Electricity Authority Andhra Pradesh faced 20 percent shortfall of power supply, the third highest in India; and

(b) if so, whether the State Government has requested the Union Government to release more power for Andhra Pradesh so that the demands of the State Farmers and other consumers are fully met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) During the period April-October, 2001, Andhra Pradesh had an energy shortage and peak deficit of 9.3% and 17.6% respectively. The State experienced the third highest peaking shortage during the period April-October, 2001.

At the request of the State Government, allocation from the unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations was increased from 40% to 54% and allocation of 33 MW from Rajasthan Atomic Power Station Unit No. 4 was made in favour of Andhra Pradesh upto 30th September, 2001. Andhra Pradesh also receives 200-210 MW of power from NTPC stations in the Eastern Region over the Gazuwaka HVDC link and another 150-160 MW from Orissa over Upper Sileru-Balimela 220 KV link under bilateral agreement. However, in October, 2001 power supply position in Andhra Pradesh improved due to good rainfall which led to higher hydel generation and fall in demand. In view of this, the State has not drawn its entitled power in full from Orissa as well as Central Sector Stations during October and November, 2001.

De-Reservation of SCs/STs/OBCs Vacancies

2830. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of vacancies posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs are being 'de-reserved' and filled by 'others' despite imposition of a ban on 'de-reservation of vacancies reserved for SCs, STs, and OBCs with effect from April 1, 1989 by DOPT OM No. 36012/6/88-Estt (SCT) dated April 25, 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of instances in which vacancies/posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs have been de-reserved and filled by persons other than those for whom they were reserved since April 1, 1989 in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting including all the PSUs autonomous statutory organisations, attached and subordinate offices coming under its administrative control?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representations of SCs/STs under PSUs

2831. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING 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 113.20% (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 January 1, 1996 under Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the total number of 'posts' in Class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) and equivalents thereof under all Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises. Statutory Organizations/Corporations Autonomous Organizations. Attached and Subordinate Offices under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to General, SCs, STs and 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 INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Frequency of Passenger Trains

2832. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the frequency of trains for the passengers commuting everyday between Agra, Mathura, Kosi, Hodal, Palwal, Faridabad and Delhi to and fro during morning and evening;

(b) whether the proportion of tickets issued to the passengers matches to the number of trains;

(c) if not, whether there is any plan to improve the condition of the commuters from such areas which are industrially backward due to Taj Tripezium;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the steps taken by the Government to increase the frequency of trains in the said places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) At present, 16 pairs of EMU trains, one pair of conventional Passenger and one pair of Intercity Express trains besides the other Mail/Express trains are available for the passengers commuting between Agra, Mathura, Kosi, Hodal, Palwal, Ballabgarh, Faridabad and Delhi. These services are by and large considered adequate for the present level of commuters on the section.

(c) to (e) Introduction of additional trains between Agra-Mathura-Kosi-Hodal-Palwal-Faridabad-Delhi is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Welfare Scheme for Lawyers at National Level

2833. SHRI VAIKO:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether welfare scheme for lawyers has been introduced at national level;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the details of procedure for enrolment to the scheme; and

(d) the time by which the welfare scheme will become fully operational?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (d) The Advocates' Welfare Fund Act, 2001 has already been enacted and brought into force with effect from 01.11.2001.

(b) The Advocates' Welfare Fund will be used for making ex gratia grant to a member of the Fund in case of a serious health problem, payment of a fixed amount on cessation of practice and in case of death of a member, to his nominee or legal heir, medical and educational facilities for the members and their dependents, purchase of books and for common facilities for advocates.

(c) Section 18 of the Advocates' Welfare Fund Act, 2001 provides for admission of advocates as members of the Advocates' Welfare Fund.

Filling of Vacancies of SCs/STs

2834. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'backlog/carried forward vacancies' reserved for SCs/STs and OBCs' are required to be treated as a '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 'backlog vacancies' ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res) dated July 2, 1997 in respect of SCs, STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C & D categories of services as on August 29, 1997 in his Ministry and when Special Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

AIR Stations

2835. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of All India Radio Stations in the country and the expenditure incurred on each station during each of the last three years and the amount earmarked for 2001-2002, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have any plan for the self-earning of AIR so as to reduce the huge expenditure by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the number of listeners are very low for most of the AIR programmes and the proportion of the staff strength is larger than the resources;

(e) if so, the concrete measures being initiated by the Government in this regard; and

(f) if not, the justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati is making efforts to earn revenue by offering its infrastructure to IGNOU/ Private broadcasters on licence fee basis, providing turn-key consultancy, installation services and archival material, etc.

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

Territorial Army

2836. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government employees are taking interest in joining the Territorial Army;

(b) if so, the number of personnel serving the Territorial Army as on date;

(c) whether the Government are considering to reduce the minimum service for pension from 20 years in Territorial Army;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Government servants constitute 3.23% of the total strength of the Territorial Army.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Amendment in Property Law

2837. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to amend property laws governing inheritance in favour of women;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received in this regard from various organisations;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken during the current year to ensure grant of property right to women in inherited property on par with their brothers; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

A. Production

Year	(In million metric tonne (MMT))	
	Crude oil	Petroleum Products
1999-2000	31.95	82.94
2000-2001	32.43	99.58
2001-02 (Estimated)	32.50	106.02

B. Import and Export

1	2	Crude Oil		Petroleum Products	
		Quantity (MMT)	Value (Rs. Cr.)	Quantity (MMT)	Value (Rs. Cr.)
		3	4	5	6
1999-2000	Import	57.81	40,028	16.61	14,185

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The property rights of women are governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, the Indian Succession Act, 1925 and other personal laws relating to different communities. As far as the property rights of Hindu Women are concerned, 174th report of the Law Commission of India on "Property rights of Hindu Women-proposed Reforms" was received and the Government has written to all the State Governments and Union territory eliciting their views in this matter.

(d) A number of State Governments and Union territory Administrations have responded to the letter written by the Government and the Government will take a view in the matter after replies from most of the State Governments/Union territory Administrations send are received.

Production, Import and Export of Petroleum Products

2838. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production, import and export of petroleum and petroleum products, items-wise, by value and by weight during the current financial year; and

(b) the corresponding actual figures for the preceding two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b)

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Export	—	—	0.75	698
2000-01	Import	74.10	65,932	9.27	12,093
	Export	—	—	8.37	7,672
2001-02 (Estimated)	Import	80.40	67,600	4.96	5,937
	Export	—	—	8.72	7,684

Role of Territorial Army in Counter Insurgency Operations

2839. SHRI K. BALRAM KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which territorial army helping in the counter insurgency operations in the North-East and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the number of units of Territorial Army deployed in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether the strength of the Territorial Army proposed to be increased in view of disturbed borders and insurgency problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Territorial Army units have been deployed on the counter-terrorism grid, primarily for relieving army units from static security duties. Nine Infantry Battalions of Territorial Army are deployed in Jammu & Kashmir.

(c) and (d) While it is not proposed, at this stage, to increase the overall strength of the Territorial Army, certain steps regarding restructuring of the organization have already been initiated.

Shifting of DVC Headquarters

2840. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to shift the DVC (Damodar Valley Corporation) Head Office from Kolkata to Ranchi in the Jharkhand State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government of Jharkhand has requested that the Headquarters of DVC be shifted to Ranchi, as most of the area of operation of DVC falls in the State of Jharkhand. The views of constituent States, have been solicited in the matter.

Profit/Commission Earned by SKO Dealers

2841. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total gross profit/commission earned by SKO dealer on a sales of 75 KLS per month, considered as Economical viable sales;

(b) whether the costs elements are considered value-wise for deciding Dealer's commission of these dealers and their net income for their livelihood;

(c) whether there is net loss or negligible profit earning by them and the reasons/justification for developing this system;

(d) whether such dealers are forced to earn livelihood through malpractices; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for improving the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The gross commission earned by the SKO dealers on a sale of 75 KLs per month is as under:

- (i) dealers having license in form XIII
-Rs. 12,675 per month
- (ii) dealers having license in other than form XIII
-Rs. 9,450 per month

(b) The SKO dealers' commission takes into account the following cost elements:

- (i) return on capital investment
- (ii) return on addition investment in equipment (applicable for dealers having license in form XIII)
- (iii) return on working capital
- (iv) operating cost
- (v) product loss

(c) There is no net loss or negligible profit earning by the SKO dealers as the commission takes into account the cost elements mentioned at (b) above.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) & (d) above. The SKO dealer's commission is revised by the Government from time to time.

[Translation]

Delay in Setting up Fast Track Courts

2842. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been noticed by the Government that some State Governments are delaying the constitution of fast track courts;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Central Government in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the States in this regard at the All India level Conference of the Law and Home Secretaries of the States and Union territories held recently in New Delhi; and

(d) the details of such courts set up, district-wise in Uttar Pradesh as on 30th September, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are being periodically persuaded to set up Fast Track Courts as envisaged by the Eleventh Finance Commission.

(c) The reaction of the States at the All India level Conference of the Law and Home Secretaries of the States and Union territories held on 30th October, 2001 in New Delhi was very encouraging.

(d) The district-wise details of Fast Track Courts set up in Uttar Pradesh as on 30th September, 2001 is at the Statement enclosed.

Statement

District-wise Fast Track Courts Set up in Uttar Pradesh As on 30th September, 2001

S.No.	District	No. of Fast Track Courts
1	2	3
1.	Agra	5
2.	Aligarh	5
3.	Allahabad	5
4.	Azamgarh	5
5.	Banda	5
6.	Barabanki	5
7.	Badayun	5
8.	Bulandshar	5
9.	Deoria	5
10.	Etah	5
11.	Etawa	5
12.	Faizabad	5
13.	Kanpur (Rural)	5
14.	Firozabad	5
15.	Gazhiabad	5
16.	Gazipur	5
17.	Gonda	5

1	2	3
18.	Gorakhpur	5
19.	Hardoi	5
20.	Jaunpur	5
21.	Kanpur city	5
22.	Khiri	5
23.	Lucknow	5
24.	Mathura	5
25.	Meerut	5
26.	Muradabad	5
27.	Muzaffar Nagar	5
28.	Pratap Garh	5
29.	Rae Bareilly	5
30.	Saharanpur	5
31.	Shah Jahanpur	5
32.	Sitapur	5
33.	Sultanpur	5
34.	Varanasi	5
35.	Gautam Budh Nagar	5
36.	Fateh Pur	4
37.	Rampur	3
Total		182

[English]

**Recommendations by the Law Commission
to curb Menace**

2843. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission of India has recommended drastic measures to curb the menace of illegal entry into India by foreigners from neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Commission; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on various recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main suggestions of the Law Commission include establishment of Immigration Tribunals, establishment of special courts and creation of separate immigration cadre for the detection and deportation of foreigners staying in India illegally.

(c) The recommendations of the Law Commission were considered by the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was felt that the recommendations are not likely to help the Government to curb the menace of illegal entry of the foreigners into India and as such, it has been decided to go ahead with the original proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs to amend Section 14 of the Foreigners Act, 1946, providing for enhanced punishment from the existing five years to eight years' imprisonment so that the cases of violation of the Act could become triable by the Court of Session.

Foreign Training to Officers

2844. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government selects/sponsors/nominates/deputes officers for training to the reputed foreign institutions for improving their academic, managerial, technical and administrative capabilities in various fields and disciplines where in some cases cost of such training are borne by the sponsoring countries/agencies under bilateral/international agreements;

(b) if so the number of persons from Power Ministry who underwent such short/long term training courses during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of SCs, STs and OBCs among them and their percentage;

(d) the 'special provisions' made for ensuring adequate representation to SCs, STs and OBCs for availing such opportunities as provided under Article 46 of the Constitution in the absence of which historical educational handicaps suffered by them as well as deep rooted social prejudices prevailing against them may deprive them of their due share in such opportunities; and

(e) if not, the reasons for ignoring the said constitutional Directives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) Officers in the Power Sector are deputed to various

foreign countries for enhancing their technical capability in various specialized fields of power development from time to time under various country aided, bilateral and project related training programmes. The officers holding posts under Central Staffing Scheme, belonging to a few specific services/categories such as IAS, CSS, State Civil Services and such officers of the other two All India Services and Group 'A' Central Services are also nominated for various training programme abroad under Indo-Australian Training and Capacity Building Project, technical cooperation of Government of Japan and France.

While making nominations of officers for the training programmes abroad, it is endeavoured to give adequate representation of SC/STs and OBCs Officers subject to availability of applications/nominations from such categories, fulfillment of prescribed eligibility criteria, suitability of training programme, co-relation between training and the nature of work handled by the officers, etc.

Information on the number of persons from Power Ministry who underwent such short/long term training courses during the last three years, year-wise, and the number of SC/STs and OBCs among them with their percentage is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supreme Court Bench at Chennai

2845. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to set up a Bench of Supreme Court at Chennai after the rejection of such proposal by the Supreme Court in 1999; and

(b) whether the Government propose to bring any constitutional amendment for setting up a Bench of Supreme Court at Chennai?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) In view of the opposition of the Full Court of the Supreme Court of India, on several occasions, to setting up its Bench, away from its principal seat at Delhi, the Government does not propose to bring any Constitutional amendment in this regard.

[Translation]

Increase in Production of Crude Oil

2846. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

(a) whether there is no increase in the production of domestic crude oil in the country in comparison to the target fixed during the past few years;

(b) if so, the production of crude oil during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the details of production from new oil production fields during the said period and their capacity; and

(d) the assessment of total crude oil production during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the period 1998-99 and 1999-2000 there was a shortfall in the crude oil production as against the targets. However, in 2000-01 this trend could be reversed. The details in this regard are given below:

Year	Production of oil in million metric tonne (MMT)	
	Target	Actual
1998-99	34.77	32.70
1999-2000	33.05	31.93
2000-2001	31.96	32.43

(c) The total production of crude oil from the new fields of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) during the last three years was as given below:

Year	Production (MMT)		
	ONGC	OIL	Total
1998-99	0.16	0.28	0.44
1999-2000	0.18	0.60	0.78
2000-2001	0.31	0.60	0.91

The assessed potential/capacity of the new fields of ONGC is about 800 tonnes per day. The production from the new fields of OIL is in line with their potential

No new field was put on production during the last three years by Private/Joint Venture companies.

(d) The expected production of crude oil during 2001-2002 is 32.5 MMT.

Rules for setting up of High Court Benches

2847. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules for setting up a bench of a High Court;

(b) whether efforts have been made for setting up a Bench of the Gujarat High Court in south Gujarat; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not setting up a Bench in the said areas so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principle seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15.10.86 and was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20.4.87 and 21.4.87 respectively, which may be referred to. The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a proposal is received from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

(b) and (c) The setting up of a Bench of a High Court away from its principle seat is considered on the receipt of a complete proposal from the concerned State Government with the consent of the Chief Justice of that High Court. No complete proposal for setting up of a High Court Bench of the Gujarat High Court in South Gujarat has been received.

Maintenance of Monuments

2848. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India is organizing any drive for maintenance/upkeep of many glorious historical monuments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of such monuments which are yet to be repaired;

(d) the funds allocated for the aforesaid purpose monument-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) It is the constant endeavour of Archaeological Survey of India to maintain the 3606 centrally protected monuments in a proper state of conservation. Besides, regular maintenance, conservation of the monuments are taken up, depending upon their actual needs according to the archaeological norms, subject to the overall availability of resources.

(d) The funds allocated and expenditure incurred on maintenance, conservation and development of centrally protected monuments in the country are as under:

Year	Budget Provision (Rs. in lacs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)
1998-1999	2930.00	2913.09
1999-2000	3016.00	2873.50
2000-2001	2948.00	2917.45
2001-2002 (Provisional)	4935.00	

(e) The conservation of the protected monuments in an ongoing process.

[English]

LPG Agencies in Maharashtra and Delhi

2849. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Maharashtra and Delhi;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to open more LPG agencies in Maharashtra and Delhi in the next few years;

(c) if so, the time by which new agencies are likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 769 LPG distributorships in Maharashtra and 301 in Delhi.

(b) to (d) OMCs have planned to set up 238 more LPG distributorships in Maharashtra and 23 more distributorships in Delhi under the various Marketing Plans. The selection of distributorships is a continuous process and it is not possible to indicate a definite time frame by which these distributorships are likely to be commissioned.

[Translation]

Reduction in Oil Prices

2850. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the oil prices for the domestic consumers due to reduction in oil prices in the international market;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) At present, no proposal to reduce the prices of controlled products is under consideration of the Government.

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

(c) Since the oil pool account deficit is, high, reduction in the domestic consumers prices of controlled petroleum products can be considered after the position of oil pool account has improved.

[English]

Purchase of Power from Private Producers

2851. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to allow exorbitant capital cost to private power producer Spectrum-GVK in Andhra Pradesh has snow-balled into a major controversy;

(b) if so, whether the AP Transco of Andhra Pradesh has contracted to purchase power from private producer at high cost;

(c) if so, whether seven public sector banks led by SBI and 7 FIs led by IDBI are lenders to the project; and

(d) if so, the Government propose to protect the interest/stake of the banks/FIs if the NRI consortium walk out of the deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded Techno-Economic Clearance to the Jegurupadu Power Project (216 MW) of M/s GVK Industries at a provisional cost of Rs. 827 crores (including Interest During Construction) and to the Godavari power project of M/s Spectrum Power Generation Limited at a provisional cost of Rs. 748.43 crores (including IDC). Some representations received by the Government alleging that the completed capital cost of these projects is exorbitantly high, has been forwarded to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. As per information received from the IDBI in regard to the Godavari power project, a total of 11 Financial Institutions/Banks including IDBI (not including SBI) have exposure in the project. As regards SBI, due to failure by the Company to raise equity to the expected level, there was development of Letters of Credit by SBI. The dues under the LC have since been converted to a Term Loan and the present exposure on the Company by SBI stands at Rs. 170.29 crores. In the Jegurupadu power project, as per the tentative financial package cleared by the CEA, a total of 7 Indian Financial Institutions have been exposed for debt financing of the project. The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has informed that the Godavari project suffered time overrun of nearly 9 months and commenced commercial operation from April, 1999, as against July, 1997 at an estimated revised cost of Rs. 990 crores. The CEA, which is the statutory body responsible for granting concurrence to the above projects, has not so far accorded clearance to the final completed cost of both projects due to non-receipt of certain details from

the Government of Andhra Pradesh/Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited (AP Transco). The Power Purchase Agreements in regard to the above mentioned projects were signed between the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board and the project developers.

Skirmishes with Infiltrators and Neighbouring Countries

2852. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Skirmishes with infiltrators and neighbouring countries on various borders during the last three months;

(b) the details of the total loss of lives and property; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop almost daily skirmishes on the border?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) There has been no confrontation along the borders during the last three months (1st August to 31st October, 2001), except along the Line of Control in J&K. As per available record, a total of 250 infiltrators/terrorists have been killed in J&K LoC Sector. During the same period, 11 Indian army personnel were killed and 17 army personnel were wounded on account of direct action (firing or otherwise) in this sector.

Adequate steps continue to be taken to counter infiltration from across the Line of Control. All routes of ingress/infiltration are being guarded and patrolled by troops deployed on ground.

SCs/STs and OBC in Services

2853. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES 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% & STs-2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on January 1, 1998 under Central Government.

(b) if so, indicate total number of 'posts' in Class I (Group A) Category and 9(I) Class II (Group B) category and equivalents thereof under Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources; and

(c) the persons belonging to General, SC, ST and OBC categories working against them including their respective percentage of 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 NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Representation of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government in Group 'A' Services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs-3.44%) and in Group 'B' Services, it was 15.37% (SCs-12.35% and STs-3.02%).

(b) and (c) The requisite information is furnished in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Group	Total No. of posts	No. of persons in position	General (%)	SC(%)	ST(%)	OBC(%)
A*	87	87	77 (88.50%)	6 (6.89%)	4 (4.59%)	—

*(1) Position is given in respect of the Scientific posts only. In these reservation is applicable to entry level posts only.

(2) Other Group 'A' posts (12 in number) are Centrally Controlled by Department of Personnel and Training who maintain the reservation position for these.

(3) 1 (one) Group 'A' post belongs to Department of Official Language Cadre and they are maintaining reservation etc.

(4) 2 (two) Group 'A' posts (1-Photo Officer and 1-Administrative Officer) are isolated posts (ex-cadre) and no reservation is applicable to these posts.

- (5) As no recruitment was made for the last 6-7 years in the Scientific grade, representation of OBC category is 'nil'.

Group B posts

- (1) 64 numbers of posts of Group 'B' belong to the Ministry of Power cadre and the reservation of etc. are being maintained by the Ministry of Power.
- (2) 9 (nine) posts belonging to this Ministry's cadre are isolated (ex-cadre) single posts of each category and no reservation is applicable to these.
- (3) 1 (one) post belongs to Department of Official Language cadre and the reservation position etc. are being maintained by them.

International Safety Standards in Power Plants

2854. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power plants in the country are observing/ implementing international safety standards for maintaining health records of the employees to monitor safety standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether workers union/Association of these plants have been pressing for transparency in the maintenance of health records; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and steps taken/proposed to ensure implementation of safety standards strictly as per international guidelines?

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

Use of LPG in Transport Sector

2855. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to use LPG in transport sector despite its shortage in fuel in domestic sector; and

(b) if so, the reasons for taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) LPG being a clean and environment friendly fuel, decision has been taken to introduce LPG as an auto

fuel. The use of LPG as auto fuel has been permitted only out of imported LPG (including import substitution) and is not likely to affect the requirement of domestic LPG.

War Like Situation

2856. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern Area Commander, Lt. General R.K. Nanavati has warned that the tension is mounting along the border with Pakistan and that the current situation is similar to the one that existed just before the 1965 war erupted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Army Commander, Northern Command had made certain observations during the course of a key-note address delivered by him at the University of Jammu recently about Pakistan continuing a covert war and its support to terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir and the resolve of the nation to tackle the threat effectively. Government have seen certain media reports on the subject where a few of such observations have been exaggerated.

Cost of Manufacturing Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel

2857. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an area of 100 kms only from NCT Delhi has been identified/marked as the area of NCR;

(b) if so, whether some maps showing the area of NCR has been published and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the value of additional cost of manufacturing ultra low sulphur diesel borne by the private and public sector refineries separately;

(d) whether these refineries/Oil Corporation are earning higher profits in marketing/selling ultra low sulphur diesel;

(e) whether the Government propose to direct the Oil PSUs to write down the actual sample test result of ULSHSD on the invoices, batch-wise, while supply these products in fulfilment of court's direction; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) NCR has been identified as the area consisting of NCT and the adjoining regions in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan.

(b) Yes, Sir. The map of NCR has been published by National Capital Region Planning Board.

(c) and (d) Effective 1.4.1998 refineries both private and public sector are being compensated at tariff adjusted imported parity prices. Accordingly the compensation for the better grade of diesel is higher to the extent such grade carry higher prices in the international market.

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

Private Companies Engaged in Generation

2858. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some private companies are working in the field of power generation;

(b) if so, the details of the companies engaged in this field in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh;

(c) the details of projects being carried out by these companies in the said States;

(d) the details of employment created for local people by these companies in these States;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints against these companies; and

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

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

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

Derailment of Trains

2859. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of derailment/accidents of trains including goods trains during the last three years, State-wise, Train-wise and date-wise;

(b) the number of persons injured/killed;

(c) the compensation paid to the injured persons including the families of killed; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Details of accidents is maintained Zone-wise in Railway Board. Zone-wise details of consequential train accidents (including derailments) during the last three years are as follows:

Railway	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001*	
	Derailments	Total No. of Accidents	Derailments	Total No. of Accidents	Derailments	Total No. of Accidents
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Central	57	68	47	68	42	58
Eastern	25	31	21	31	29	35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Northern	35	54	54	80	25	66
North Eastern	16	23	9	25	23	37
Northeast Frontier	23	27	67	76	88	95
Southern	50	59	34	48	33	43
South Central	31	45	34	49	33	48
Southern Eastern	38	55	36	52	44	53
Western	17	26	23	30	27	29
Metro	—	—	—	—	—	—
Konkan	8	9	4	4	6	9
Total	300	397	329	463	350	473

(b) The number of persons injured/killed during last three years are as follows:

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001*
Number of persons killed	489	616	216
Number of persons injured	852	1121	488

The causes of accidents are as follows:

Causes	Years		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001*
(i) Failure of Railway Staff	268	287	293
(ii) Failure of persons other than Railway Staff	63	105	109
(iii) Material/Equipment failure	33	28	33
(iv) Sabotage	11	21	19
(v) Combination of factor	1	—	4
(vi) Incidental	14	15	11
(vii) Not Established	7	7	4
(viii) Total	397	463	473

* Figures for 2000-2001 are provisional.

(c) The compensation paid to persons injured and families of the deceased are as follows:

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001*
Compensation Paid (Rs. in crores)	10.41	2.60	10.15

* Figures for 2000-2001 are provisional.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents are as follows:

- (i) A non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000 crore, has been set up for renewal of over aged assets and for safety enhancement works.
- (ii) Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark (FM to FM) track circuiting on entire 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' and 'D Spl.' routes where speed is more than 75 kmph. have been completed. Remaining portion of the work is under progress.
- (iii) Modification of signaling circuitry has been carried out to minimize chances of human error in causing accidents.
- (iv) A pilot project of AWS on trial basis for Tughlakabad — Mathura section of Central Railway has been sanctioned on trial basis. The tender for the same is under process.
- (v) Extended field trials of Anti Collision Device (ACD) has been sanctioned for being conducted on Northern Railway. After successful completion of extended field trials, decision would be taken for its implementation on other routes of Indian Railways.
- (vi) Last vehicle check by Axle Counter have been introduced on over 150 block sections and more sections are being progressively added.
- (vii) State of the art technology of Digital Mobile Train Radio Communication has been sanctioned on some important sections for providing duplex radio communication between driver/guard and control.
- (viii) Walkie—talkie sets have been provided to Drivers and Guards of all trains for faster and better means of communication.
- (ix) Drivers and Guards are also being progressively provided with LED based electronic flashing tail lamps and hand signal lamps which have better visibility than the conventional kerosene lit lamps.
- (x) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance. Track Renewal Trains are also being used.
- (xi) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cards and portable accelerometers are being used progressively.
- (xii) For detection of rail fractures/weld failures, adequate double rail Ultrasonic Flaw detectors have been procured. Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.
- (xiii) Maintenance Facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.
- (xiv) Routine Over Hauling Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles so as to prevent cases of cold breakage of axles.
- (xv) Funds being received from the diesel cess are being used for safety related works pertaining to level crossings.
- (xvi) Whistle Boards/speed breakers and road signs have been provided at unmanned level crossings.
- (xvii) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.
- (xviii) Level Crossings having heavy traffic density are being progressively interlocked with signals on a planned basis.
- (xix) Steps are being taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.
- (xx) Periodical Safety Audit of different divisions by inter-disciplinary teams from Zonal Headquarters is being conducted.
- (xxi) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernized including use of Simulators for training of drivers.

- (xxii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training courses also.
- (xxiii) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff and road users
- (xxiv) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.

[Translation]

**Introduction of Advance Technology for
Production of Oil**

2860. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

- (a) whether the country is producing less quantity of oil from various oil projects in the absence of advanced technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether the production of oil from current ongoing projects can be increased with the introduction of advance technology;
- (c) if so, the extent of production likely to be increased alongwith the additional funds required for the introduction of advanced technology for the aforesaid purpose; and
- (d) the reasons for not utilizing advanced technology of oil production so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As far as the technology for oil production is concerned, the oil producing companies have the requisite technology in almost all the aspects related to this area. The help of international expert agencies is also being taken as and when needed in certain specific areas of advanced technology and new emerging areas.

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

[English]

T and D Losses in SEBs

2861. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have blamed some SEBs for the tardy progress of power schemes;
- (b) if so, whether the power schemes of the Union Government are not being implemented by the State Governments resulting high T&D losses;
- (c) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government have made out some more schemes for implementation to cut T&D losses; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) The progress of Schemes for improvement of Sub-Transmission & Distribution systems in most of the States has been slow due to paucity of financial resources resulting in high T&D losses in most of the States. A statement indicating the reported T&D losses by the utilities is enclosed.

The Government of India has launched a scheme for Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) for renovation & modernisation/uprating of existing old power plants and upgradation of Sub-Transmission & Distribution network including energy audit activities and 100% metering in the distribution circles in a phased manner. An amount of Rs. 1000 crores for R&M of thermal and hydro power stations and improvement of Sub-Transmission & Distribution systems was provided in the year 2000-2001. An outlay of Rs. 1500 crores is available in the year 2001-2002 for these activities under APDP. Initially sixty distribution circles have been identified wherein techno-commercial interventions in the form of improving HT:LT ratio, increasing transformation capacity, reconductoring, reconfiguration of the entire network, metering and other steps to reduce T&D losses are being implemented. The remaining distribution circles in the country would also be taken up in a phased manner.

Statement

Percentage Transformation, Transmission & Distribution losses (including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in SEBs/EDs

Region/SEB/ED	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Northern Region:							
Haryana	26.78	25.00	30.80	32.39	32.77	34.04	33.81
Himachal Pradesh	19.51	18.31	18.21	16.09	18.02	20.13	20.13
Jammu & Kashmir	48.28	45.69	48.74	47.52	48.27	49.95	47.07
Punjab	19.24	19.37	16.70	18.49	19.10	18.94	16.83
Rajasthan	22.74	25.00	24.78	29.27	26.28	26.41	29.43
Uttar Pradesh	24.43	24.08	21.69	21.84	24.84	26.18	26.86
Chandigarh	26.21	27.27	28.44	33.72	21.88	22.38	NA
DVB (Delhi)	23.56	31.79	34.56	48.57	49.08	47.91	40.0
Western Region:							
Gujarat	22.03	20.34	20.02	20.08	17.14	21.57	19.69
Madhya Pradesh	21.35	20.26	19.61	17.84	19.24	19.58	20.92
Maharashtra	17.83	16.22	16.33	16.95	16.55	18.75	18.14
D&N Haveli	17.98	12.64	11.35	09.31	08.80	12.90	NA
Goa	21.85	24.50	26.87	26.06	23.50	31.02	NA
Daman & Diu	15.67	22.34	16.30	12.80	08.15	14.69	NA
Southern Region:							
Andhra Pradesh	19.88	19.91	17.95	19.34	33.19	32.14	31.8
Karnataka	19.55	19.55	19.41	19.06	18.73	19.31	30.08
Kerala	21.95	20.00	20.05	21.12	20.59	18.73	17.75
Tamil Nadu	17.50	17.18	17.11	16.19	17.65	17.29	16.9
Lakshadweep	18.72	16.99	17.84	17.23	15.11	15.70	NA
Pondicherry	15.31	15.80	15.00	16.54	17.38	13.56	NA
Eastern Region:							
Bihar	22.00	20.35	19.76	15.91	25.31	16.26	23.0
Orissa (GRIDCO)	25.25	22.43	23.03	24.17	50.15	50.10	48.44
Sikkim	22.55	22.60	21.22	16.47	29.24	22.87	
West Bengal	24.87	20.82	21.51	19.26	18.01	19.67	25.5
A&N Island	23.62	23.71	22.38	19.25	19.15	20.59	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
North Eastern Region							
Assam	21.41	22.44	24.18	26.91	25.97	27.32	23.0
Manipur	22.35	23.92	25.30	24.85	22.95	21.09	NA
Meghalaya	11.79	18.03	18.47	12.55	19.75	12.28	20.17
Nagaland	27.26	33.45	36.12	35.17	26.81	29.79	NA
Tripura	30.64	30.53	31.96	30.86	30.11	31.11	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	32.32	42.04	45.30	37.12	32.62	34.10	NA
Mizoram	29.04	31.89	29.76	25.18	34.35	46.84	NA
All India (Utilities)	21.80	21.41	21.13	22.27	24.53	24.79	25.62

* As reported by SEBs/Electricity Deptt. and subject to change after reconciliation of inter-state sale of energy and are provisional.

Impact on Refineries of APM

[Translation]

2862. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector oil refineries are against the opening up of the oil sector by April 1, 2002;

(b) whether there are apprehensions that falling demand for petro-products combined with decontrol (with free imports) would adversely affect the public sector refineries;

(c) if so, the fall in demand for Motor Spirit, HSD and LPG product-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to consider shelving the plan to open-up the oil sector till the demand for petro-products catches up again; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

(d) No such proposal is under consideration.

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

LPG Agencies in Madhya Pradesh

2863. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVARAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) the number of applications received by the Government so far the opening of LPG agencies in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the number of applications disposed of by the Government and the time by which the remaining applications are likely to be disposed of;

(b) the actual requirement of the number of LPG agencies to cater the needs of the people of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fulfil the needs of Madhya Pradesh and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) At present, 270 locations of LPG distributorships are pending for commissioning in Madhya Pradesh under the various Marketing Plans.

The selection of distributorship is a continuous process and it is not possible to indicate a definite time frame by which these distributorships are likely to be

commissioned. At present, the existing distributors are meeting the requirement of enrolled customers satisfactorily and no backlog has been reported in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Storage Capacity of LPG

2864. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) the present LPG storage capacity of Public Sector Oil Companies, company-wise;

(b) whether this storage capacity is sufficient to meet the future demand; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to enhance the storage capacity of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The LPG storage capacity of the Public Sector Oil Companies was about 368 TMT as on 1.10.2001. The company-wise details is as under:-

Name of the company/Location	Gross LPG storage capacity (TMT)
ONGC	15.25
GAIL	24.58
OIL	2.10
Refineries	58.10
Import Locations	47.10
PSU Oil Marketing Companies (Bottling Plants)	221.15

(b) and (c) The storage capacity is augmented depending upon the demand. At present, the storage capacity is sufficient to meet the demand and to meet the future demand, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have planned to increase the storage capacity by 45.67 TMT under IX plan.

Demand of CNG

2865. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CNG is in high demand to control pollution in metro cities;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide CNG on priority;

(c) the total production of CNG annually vis-a-vis its demand; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the gap between supply and demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) At present the supply of CNG is limited to the two cities of Delhi and Mumbai among the metros 87 stations in Delhi and 24 in Mumbai have already been opened to provide CNG to vehicles.

(c) There is no production of CNG. Natural gas is merely compressed to a high pressure for use in vehicles. Total allocation of Natural Gas to Mumbai & Delhi is 1.08 MMSCMD, which is greater than present demand.

(d) Keeping in view the future demand of vehicles for CNG, measures are being taken to increase the number of stations and to enhance the compression capacity. Apart from the expected marginal increase in the domestic gas production import of Liquefied Natural Gas is being planned.

Heavy Industry in North-East Region

2866. SHRI M.K SUBBA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister during his recent visit to the North East in October this year reiterated Government's commitment to strengthen and revitalise the Central Public Sector Undertaking in the North Eastern States, for balanced development of the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Government's plans for strengthening each of the Central PSUs in the region, during 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) what are the figures showing the production capacity of each of the PSUs the actual production, the profits and losses incurred during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and the like figures for 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) During the visit, the Government policy towards Public Sector was reiterated i.e. inter-alia to restructure and revive potentially viable PSUs, which has been enunciated in the Budget Speech of 2000-01. As regards revival of HPC, a restructuring plan was sanctioned in 1996 and implemented.

(b) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to restructure and revive the CPSUs. Under the present arrangements, BIFR decides the viability and sanctions rehabilitations plans for revival of sick industrial PSUs under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies Act. For other CPSU, the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments explore various options for revival/restructuring of the enterprises under their control on case to case basis.

(c) The details with respect to profit/loss, turnover etc. of the CPSUs for the year 1999-2000, till which period the information is available, are given in the Public Enterprises Survey 1999-2000 which was laid in the Lok Sabha on 27.2.2001 and is a published document. The information for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 would be available in the subsequent Public Enterprises Survey reports.

[Translation]

Ambedkar Gram Yojana

2867. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI LAXAMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Ambedkar Gram Yojana' is being implemented in all the villages of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to cover all the villages of the country thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No such scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment or Ministry of Rural Development.

(b) to (d) The question does not arise.

[English]

Sale of Girls in Karnataka

2868. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether both State Governments of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have decided to order a CBI probe into sale of baby girls in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Central Adoption Resource Agency has failed to do its job assigned to it by the Supreme Court;

(c) whether the Supreme Court had also given its verdict to conduct and enquiry;

(d) if so, whether the enquiry has been conducted by the CBI; and

(e) if so, action has been taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) There is no State Government order from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh for a CBI probe. The State Government are inquiring into the matter.

(b) Central Adoption Resource Agency has been functioning as per the "Revised Guidelines for Adoption Indian Children 1995" and the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as given from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Ministry has asked both the State Governments to inquire into the matter and action will be taken as per the Inquiry Report.

'India as Drug Producing Country'

2869. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether America has included India in their list of major drug/smack producing countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. India is amongst the major drug producing and/or drug transit countries as listed by USA. India is the sole licit producer of opium gum in the world which is used for supply to the international market for production of pharmaceuticals.

(b) The Foreign Assistance Act, 1961 of the USA requires a certification by the US President every year in respect of each country identified as major drug producing countries/major drug transit countries. India has always been certified by the US President because of its effectiveness of its efforts to counter drug trafficking and regulate cultivation.

Federal Reserve's Penalty on SBI

2870. SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether US Federal and State Banking regulators have asked SBI to tighten internal reporting and auditing system and appoint an independent firm to review its US operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and other observations/charges made by the US Federal Reserve;

(c) whether after the issue of the orders SBI will not be able to accept new funds from NRI's and others;

(d) if so, the details of the loss likely to be suffered by the SBI thereafter; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue with US authorities and avoid the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the Regulatory Authorities in USA had conducted inspection of its New York cluster branches as on 31st March, 2001. The regulators had pointed out certain deficiencies in the systems & procedures and tools for monitoring mechanism, "Know Your Customer and Enhanced Due Diligence" procedures, especially in the areas of remittances, funds transfer and inter-office accounts. Based thereon, as per a recent order the US regulators have

asked it to appoint an independent firm to review its US operations and also to appoint a new internal audit firm to conduct an internal audit of its US offices.

(c) and (d) SBI has reported that it shall have to confirm to certain enhanced due diligence procedures as per the order before accepting new funds from NRIs and that it is unlikely to suffer any loss on this account.

(e) SBI has assured the regulators in USA that the desired improvements in systems and technology and procedures at its New York branch will be carried out as per the stipulation given by the regulators and will be subject of special monitoring at the highest level in the Bank in India. Appointments of Chief Compliance Officer, Chief Financial Officer, internal Auditor and Consultants as desired by the Regulators will be made in the shortest possible time. Government of India is in consultation with SBI in this regard and the matter is also being taken up with the US authorities through diplomatic channels.

[*Translation*]

'Smuggling Activities'

2871. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received information regarding involvement of terrorist organisations in smuggling activities;

(b) if so, whether any special drive has been started by the law enforcing agencies to check the smuggling of drugs and take currency notes; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases came to the notice of the Government during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Some cases of smuggling of weapons, explosives, narcotic drugs and counterfeit Indian currency by smugglers operating in connivance with terrorists have come to notice.

(b) Government of India has already taken a number of steps to prevent and put effective check on smuggling activities including drug trafficking and terrorism. These include maintenance of utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, close interaction between agencies of the Centre and State Governments, neutralizing plans of anti-national elements by coordinated action, modernization and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons, fencing of Indo-Pak border provided with flood lighting, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the

Customs Act, quarterly coordination meetings by NCB, holding of quarterly cross-border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a part of the border meetings of BSF and Pak Rangers.

(c) In one case on 28th/29th October, 2000, Delhi Police caught 8 Pakistani nationals reported to be ISI agents with 50 kgs. of heroin and 14.5 kgs. of RDX.

[English]

Excise Exemption in Beedi

2872. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many big beedi manufacturers are taking illegal advantage of exemption from excise duty on beedi production upto Rs. 20 lakhs per month though their production is much higher than this quota; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far by the Government to prevent this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) One case has been detected in 2001-02. Necessary action under the law has been initiated against the evader.

[Translation]

FCI Godowns in Jharkhand

2873. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of covered and uncovered godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Jharkhand and U.P. alongwith their locations and storage capacity;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains kept in open outside these godowns in Jharkhand during the last year and in U.P. during the last three years alongwith the value of the foodgrains; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to save the foodgrains from rotting and getting damaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) As on 1.10.2001 the number of covered and uncovered godowns alongwith

the storage capacity available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh are as under:

JHARKHAND

	No. of godowns (owned & hired)	Total capacity (in MTs)
Covered	14	1,08,780
CAP (Open)	—	—

UTTAR PRADESH

	No. of godowns (owned & hired)	Total capacity (in MTs)
Covered	183	28,80,900
CAP (Open)	69	11,35,620

Location-wise details are given at Statement-I, II respectively.

(b) The quantity and value of foodgrains kept in uncovered (CAP) godowns in Jharkhand during the last year and U.P. during the last three years alongwith the value is as under:

	Quantity of Foodgrains (MTs)	Value in Rs. Crore
Jharkhand	Nil	Nil
Uttar Pradesh (As on 31/3)		
As on 31-03 1998-1999	2,27,610	144.32
1999-2000	1,39,910	98.07
2000-2001	2,55,180	179.55
2001-2002 (as on 1-10-2001)	10,27,770	758.35

(c) The stocks of foodgrains with FCI are preserved on scientific lines to prevent damage. The following steps are also taken to preserve foodgrains:-

- (i) Foodgrains are stored in rodent and damp proof godowns.
- (ii) Pest control measures are undertaken regularly.

- (iii) Qualified and technically trained staff is deployed for conducting periodical inspection for proper upkeep of foodgrains.
- (iv) To avoid damage in transit, the foodgrains are moved in covered wagons, as far as possible. When moved in open wagons, the same are covered with tarpauline etc.
- (v) They are subjected to prophylactic and curative treatments also.
- (vi) In CAP storage, the stocks are stored in wooden crates and covered with low density black polythene cover (LDPE) which are water proof. These are tied with nylon ropes to prevent damage by ballooning of covers during high velocity winds.

Statement-I

Statement Showing the covered Storage Capacity (owned in hired) available with F.C.I. in Jharkhand As on 30.9.2001

(Fig. In '000 tons)

Jharkhand State

Name of the FCI Distt.	Name of the Revenue Distt.	Name of the Centre	Covered Storage Capacity		
			Owned	Hired	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Ranchi	Palamau	Daltonganj	14.64	—	14.64
-do-	East Singhbhum	Jamshedpur	10.84	4.50 CWC	15.34
-do-	Gumla	Gumla	4.17	—	4.17
-do-	Ranchi	Ranchi	11.67	—	11.67
		Titisiwal	—	15.00 Pvt.	15.00
-do-	Garwha	Garwa	—	1.50 SWC	1.50
-do-	Lohardanga	Lohardanga	—	—	—
Hazaribagh	Dhanbad	Dhanbad	13.74	—	13.74
-do-	Koderma	Koderma	—	2.65 Pvt.	2.65
-do-	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	—	10.20 CWC	10.20
-do-	Giridih	Surya	—	5.00 Pvt.	5.00
-do-	Deoghar	Jasidih	12.50	—	12.50
-do-	Sahibganj	Sahibganj (1.00 SWC + 1.37 Pvt.)	—	2.37 (2)	2.37
Total of Jharkhand State Covered (Capacity)			67.56	41.22	108.78

****SUMMARY****

Agency	Capacity	Stocks Held	Utilisation	No. of Godowns
1	2	3	4	5
FCI Owned	67.56	33.61	50%	6

1	2	3	4	5
Hired From:				
C.W.C.	14.70	7.54	51%	2
S.W.C.s	2.50	1.34	54%	2
Pvt. parties	24.02	14.56	61%	4
Total	108.78	57.05	52%	14

Statement-II

Statement showing the Covered Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired) Available With Food Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh As on 30.9.2001

(Fig. In '000 tons)

State: Uttar Pradesh

Name of the FCI Distt.	Name of the Revenue Distt.	Name of the Centre	Covered Storage Capacity		
			Owned	Hired	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agra	Agra	Agra	54.80	6.38 SWC	61.18
-do-	Ferozabad	Shikohabad	24.21	4.65 SWC	28.86
-do-	Mainpuri	Feorzabad	0.54	53.86 SWC	54.40
		Mainpuri	-	13.18 SWC	13.18
Allahabad	Allahabad	Naini (Allahabad)	51.97	-	51.97
		Allopibagh	-	14.12 SWC	14.12
		Dhuman Ganj	-	7.44 SWC	7.44
		Karchana	-	15.92 SWC	15.92
		Kanodia	-	1.97 SWC	1.97
-do-	Fatehpur	Fatehpur (45.71 SWC 5.00 Pvt.)	8.34	50.71(2)	59.05
		Jahanabad	-	9.45 SWC	9.45
-do-	Pratapgarh	Pratapgarh (7.35 SWC 5.00 Pvt.)	-	12.35 (2)	12.35
Aligarh	Aligarh	Aligarh	12.50	35.04 SWC	47.54
		Harduaganj	82.20	-	82.20
-dc-	Hathras	Hathras	13.36		13.36

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Sikandra Rao	-	8.24 SWC	8.24
Aligarh	Etah	Etah	11.89	15.59 SWC	27.48
		Kasganj	9.16	-	9.16
-do-	Mathura	Kosikalan	56.58	6.81 SWC	64.39
		Mathura	13.10	28.99 SWC	42.09
Azamgarh	Azamgarh	Azamgarh	22.30	-	22.30
-do-	Deoria	Deoria (9.02 SWC 5.00 Pvt.)	-	14.02 (2)	14.02
-do-	Mau	Mau	-	-	-
	Padarauna	Padarauna	2.50	-	2.50
Bareilly	Bareilly	Baheri	-	4.10 SWC	4.10
		Pareilly	39.51	-	39.51
-do-		Parsakhera	25.00	46.90 SWC	71.90
	Pilibhit	Pilibhit (0.36 SWC 2.00 Pvt.)	7.50	2.36 (2)	9.86
		Bislanda	-	2.00 Pvt.	2.00
		Pumpur	-	4.73 SWC	4.73
Bulanshahar	Bulanshahar	Bulanshahar (Imalia)	13.34	8.22 SWC	21.56
		Khurja (FSD)	16.10	2.88 SWC	18.98
		Khurja (Silo)	20.00	-	20.00
		Shuam Nagar	8.79	-	8.79
		Jokhabad	-	31.53 SWC	31.53
		Jhangirabad	-	4.82 SWC	4.82
		Chandpur Road	25.84	-	25.84
		Gulathi	-	1.91 SWC	1.91
		Sankariang	-	2.94 SWC	2.94
		Debai (8.00 CWC 8.04 SWC)	-	16.04 (2)	16.04

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Sikandrabad	-	5.00 Pvt.	5.00
		Bhati	-	3.09 Pvt.	3.09
		Sikarpur	-	2.48 SWC	2.48
Banda	Banda	Attrra	12.31	5.68 SWC	17.99
		Banda (1.02 CWC 10.00 Pvt.)	5.00	11.02 (2)	16.02
		Manikpur	-	1.36 SWC	1.36
-do-	Mahoba	Mahoba	10.00	1.22 CWC	11.22
-do-	Chitrakut	Karwi	-	0.93 SWC	0.93
Faizabad	Barabanki	Barabanki (old)	17.56	-	17.56
		Barabanki (New)	55.00	-	55.00
-do-	Faizabad	Faizabad	39.23	-	39.23
-do-	Sultanpur	Sultanpur	-	9.00 Pvt.	9.00
Gorakhpur	Basti	Basti	5.74	15.78 CWC	21.52
	Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur	35.34	-	35.34
		Nakha	-	5.25 CWC	5.25
Ghazipur	Ghazipur	Ghazipur	-	4.81 CWC	4.81
-do-	Ballia	Ballia (4.03 CWC 2.75 Pvt.)	-	5.78 (2)	5.78
Gonda	Behraich	Behraich (2.25 Pvt. 4.19 CWC 1.34 SWC)	-	7.78 (3)	7.78
		Kaiserganj	-	3.00 SWC	3.00
-do-	Gonda	Gonda	30.00	-	30.00
Hapur	Ghazibad	Hapur (FSD)	61.91	3.82 CWC	65.73
		Hapur (Silo)	15.36	-	15.36
		Loni	—	29.40 CWC	29.40
		Shahibabad	—	3.61 CWC	3.61
-do-	Meerut	Partapur	29.58	—	29.58
		Meerut	—	29.93 SWC	29.93
Jhansi	Jhansi	Jhansi (2.67 Pvt. +7.87 CWC+9.54 SWC)	19.04	20.08 (3)	39.12
		Chirgaon	—	5.41 CWC	5.41
		Mauranipur	—	4.14 SWC	4.14

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jhansi	Jalaun	Orai	24.98	27.62 SWC	57.10
		Karpi	—	6.18 SWC	6.18
		Konch	—	5.31 SWC	5.31
		Jalaun	—	1.58 SWC	1.58
	Lalitpur	Lalitpur	—	2.57 SWC	2.57
Kanpur	Etawah	Etawah	3.06	13.67 CWC	26.73
		Jaswant Nagar	—	22.46 SWC	22.46
-do-	Auriya	Auriya	—	10.57 SWC	10.57
		Jainpur	—	7.26 SWC	7.26
		Kampli	—	3.00 SWC	3.00
-do-	Farrukhabad	Farrukhabad (5.00 Pvt. + 3.20 SWC)	—	8.20 (2)	8.20
		Chibramau	—	4.83 SWC	4.83
		Kaimganj	—	1.69 SWC	1.69
		Dumanganj	—	2.05 SWC	2.05
-do-	Kanpur Dehat	Pokhrayan	—	2.50 SWC	2.50
		Chaubeypur	—	1.05 SWC	1.05
		Rooma	—	5.61 SWC	5.61
		Bharthana	—	5.97 SWC	5.97
		Bhawanpur	—	1.54 SWC	1.54
		Khemepur	—	23.58 SWC	23.58
		Bhaunti	—	3.15 SWC	3.15
-do-	Kanpur	Chanderi (Kanpur Fsd)	121.08	—	121.08
		Chanderi (Silo)	72.00	—	72.00
		Naubasta	—	9.93 SWC	9.93
		Pahri	—	2.40 SWC	2.40
Lucknow	Lucknow	Talkatora (Lucknow FSD)	36.50	3.90 CWC	40.41
		Talkatora (Silo)	20.00	—	20.00
-do-	Raibareilly	Raibareilly	40.00	—	40.00
-do-	Unnao	Bangarmau	—	6.90 SWC	6.90
		Unnao	—	10.46 SWC	10.46

1	2	3	4	5	6
Moradabad	Badaun	Badaun (17.36 SWC + 14.35 Pvt.)	—	31.71 (2)	31.71
		Basauli	—	2.95 SWC	2.95
		Bitori	—	9.00 Pvt.	9.00
		Ujhani (2.86 SWC + 3.95 Pvt.)	—	6.81 (2)	6.81
		Wazirganj	—	2.82 SWC	2.82
		Babrella	—	10.40 SWC	10.40
-do-	Bijnor	Bijnor	—	5.08 CWC	5.08
		Nagina	—	2.50 SWC	2.50
-do-	Moradabad	Moradabad	23.34	—	23.34
		Chandausi (22.15 CWC+20.00 Pvt. + 8.00 SWC)	—	50.15 (3)	50.15
		Thakurdwara	—	4.20 SWC	4.20
		Dalpatpur	—	14.96 SWC	14.96
-do-	Rampur	Damora	35.00	—	35.00
		Rampur (10.33 CWC + 8.62 SWC)	—	18.95 (2)	18.95
		Bilaspur	—	16.96 SWC	16.96
		Tanda	—	4.15 SWC	4.15
-do-	J.B. Nagar	Gajrulla	—	36.36 SWC	36.36
Sahajanpur	Sahajanpur	Roza	50.00	—	50.00
		Sahajanpur (18.25 CWC+ 31.73 SWC)	13.98	49.98 (2)	63.96
		Prasadpur	—	4.97 SWC	4.97

1	2	3	4	5	6
Sitapur	Hardoi	Hardoi (17.82 CWC + 5.18 SWC) Sandila	11.92 —	22.80 (2) 27.10 SWC	34.72 27.10
-do-	Lahimpur	Lahimpur Kheri	12.34	32.87 SWC	45.21
	Kheri	Pallia	—	10.79 SWC	10.79
		Gola	—	13.57 CWC	13.57
		Mehmoobadabad	—	4.53 SWC	4.53
		Tinkunia	—	2.46 SWC	2.46
-do-	Sitapur	Sitapur	25.77	0.72 SWC	26.49
Varanasi	Jaunpur	Jaunpur (3.34 Pvt. + 2.00 SWC) Shahganj	— —	5.34 (2) 2.36 CWC	5.34 2.36
-do-	Mirzapur	Mirzapur	7.32	13.12 SWC	20.44
-do-	Sonbhadra	Robertganj (0.83 SWC+ 1.00 Pvt.)	—	1.82 (2)	1.83
-do-	Varanasi	Varanasi	71.42	12.64 SWC	84.06
		Vyasnagar	25.00	—	25.00
Sharanpur	Muzaffarnagar	Bamanheri (105.06 CWC + 4.23 SWC)	—	109.29 (2)	109.29
-do-	Saharanpur	Pilkhani (72.04 CWC + 13.08 SWC)	—	85.12 (2)	85.12
Total (Covered) Capacity in Uttar Pradesh States			1464.71	1416.19	2880.90

****SUMMARY****

Agency	Capacity	Stocks Held	Utilisation	No. of Godowns
FCI Owned	1464.71	1331.92	91%	52
Hired From C.W.C.	375.47	375.47	100%	24
S.W.C.s	931.33	932.35	100%	88
Pvt. Parties	109.93	99.36	91%	19
Total	2880.90	2739.10	95%	183

The CAP (open) Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired) available with F.C.I. in Uttar Pradesh as on 30.9.2001

STATE : UTTAR PRADESH

(Fig. In '000' tonnes)

Name of the FCI Distt.	Name of the Revenue Distt.	Name of the Centre	CAP (open) Storage Capacity		
			Owned	Hired	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agra	Agra	Agra	16.01	—	16.01
		Mainpuri	28.28	—	28.28
Aligarh	Aligarh	Harduaganj	3.15	—	3.15
		Hathras	0.84	6.98	7.82
Allahabad	Allahabad	Naini (Allahabad)	7.16	—	7.16
		Iradataganj (A/S)	—	101.32	101.32
-do-	Pratapgarh	Prithiviganj	—	40.65	40.65
-do-	Fatehpur	Fatehpur	—	10.55	10.55
Azamgarh	Azamgarh	Azamgarh	4.62	—	4.62
Bareilly	Bareilly	Bareilly	2.40	63.67	66.07
		Narwal	—	19.73	19.73
		Bhuta	—	30.37	30.37
		Parsakhera	2.13	—	2.13
-do-	Pilibhit	Bilaspur	—	1.00	1.00
		Puranpur	—	4.50	4.50
		Pilibhit	1.26	—	1.26
Banda	Banda	Attra	2.40	—	2.40
		Banda	1.20	—	1.20
-do-	Mahoba	Mahoba	2.60	—	2.60
Bulandshahar	Bulandshahar	Bulandshahar (Imlia)	1.50	—	1.50
		Chandpur	6.16	—	6.16
		Khurja	1.40	—	1.40
		Lalpur	55.40	—	55.40
		Siyana	—	7.10	7.10
Faizabad	Barabanki	Barabanki	24.00	—	24.00
-do-	Sultanpur	Sultanpur	—	1.50	1.50
-do-	Faizabad	Faizabad	—	28.00	28.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Prithviganj (AS)	—	70.00	70.00
Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur	2.40	3.68	6.08
	Basti	Basti	2.50	—	2.50
Ghazipur	Ghazipur	Ghazipur	—	11.17	11.17
Gonda	Gonda	Gonda	31.90	—	31.90
-do-	Behraich	Behraich	—	1.00	1.00
-do-	Shrawati	Kaisarganj	—	1.80	1.80
-do-	Balrampur	Balrampur	—	1.71	1.71
Hapur	Ghaziabad	Hapur	6.34	4.32	10.66
Jhansi	Jalaun	Orai	—	10.85	10.85
-do-	Jhansi	Jhansi	8.12	4.41	12.53
-do-	Lalitpur	Lalitpur (AS)	—	120.00	120.00
Kanpur	Kanpur	Chanderi (Kanpur)	24.00	—	24.00
		Naubasta	—	12.00	12.00
Lucknow	Lucknow	Talkatora (Lucknow)	8.40	—	8.40
-do-	Raibareilly	Raibareilly	25.00	—	25.00
Moradabad	Moradabad	Moradabad	1.66	1.75	3.41
		Dalpatpur	—	18.74	18.74
-do-	Badaun	Babrella	—	13.70	13.70
	Bijnor	Nagina	—	1.90	1.90
-do-	Rampur	Dhamora	65.00	—	65.00
Sahajahanpur	Sahajahanpur	Roza	20.00	—	20.00
		Sahajahanpur	—	32.13	32.13
		Tilhar	—	26.38	26.38
		Jammora	—	7.20	7.20
Saharanpur	Saharanpur	Pilkhani	—	8.00	8.00
		Bamanheri	—	23.40	23.40
Sitapur	Hardoi	Hardoi	2.24	1.10	3.34
	Sitapur	Sitapur (Mishnikh)	—	9.97	9.97
Varanasi	Bhadohi	Ugarpur (AS)	—	39.94	39.94
-do-	Chandauli	Vyas Nagar	13.34	—	13.34
-do-	Jaunpur	Shahganj	—	9.77	9.77

1	2	3	4	5	6
Varanasi	Mirzapur	Mirzapur	1.12	—	1.12
-do-	Varanasi	Varanasi	2.80	—	2.80
Total CAP		Capacity	375.33	750.29	1125.62
(Open) of		Stocks	342.30	685.45	1020.77
Uttar Pradesh		Utilisation	91%	91%	91%
		No. of Godown	32	37	69

*[English]***Mutual Funds**

2874 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI is going to implement several measures to make mutual funds more transparent;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken or likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether any special programme is likely to be launched for the education of agents who are selling mutual funds, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced several reforms from time to time to make the operations of mutual funds more transparent. These requirements include: strengthening of disclosure standards, that two-thirds of the trustees and 50% of directors of the Asset Management Company (AMC) should be independent; disclosure of NAVs on a daily basis in case of open ended schemes and on a weekly basis in case of close-ended schemes; publishing of unaudited half-yearly results in a prescribed format; AMCs to maintain records in support of each investment decision; guidelines for investment/trading in securities by employees of mutual funds and the mutual funds to disclose large unit holdings in their schemes.

(c) and (d) With effect from November 1, 2001, SEBI has made it mandatory for all mutual funds to appoint agents/distributors certified by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). Existing agents/distributors are expected to pass the certification programme by March 31, 2003.

*[Translation]***NRI Investment in India**

2875. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for investment sent by the Non Resident Indians during the last three years;

(b) the amount involved and the number of proposals concerning to Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the State-wise details of the proposals approved as on date and the amount involved in it;

(d) the actual investment made under the approved proposal;

(e) whether several Non Resident Indians have not invested even after the approval of the project because of the tough official formalities and corruption; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) 525 NRI investment proposals, involving an amount of Rs. 3160.02 crore, were approved during 1998 to September, 2001;

(b) 22 proposals, involving an amount of Rs. 66.64 crore, were approved in respect of Uttar Pradesh during the period;

(c) The information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) The information on actual investment by NRIs is not centrally maintained.

(e) and (f) The time taken for inflow is usually longer because of several factors such as acquisition of land, obtaining various statutory clearances arranging funds, etc., which take time. Apart from these, international factors such as global market conditions and trade

fundamentals also determine major investment decisions. With a view to making the Indian economy competitive and creating an investor-friendly environment, a dynamic policy for encouraging Foreign Direct Investment, including NRI investment, is already in place. However, the review of the policy is an ongoing and consultative process involving several Departments and Ministries of the Government.

Statement

State-wise details of the NRI proposals approved during January, 1998 to September, 2001 and the amount involved therein:-

State	No. of Approvals			Amt. of FDI Approved (Rs. Crore)	% to Total Approved
	Total	Tech	Fin		
Andhra Pradesh	78	0	78	555.84	17.59
Gujarat	20	0	20	77.04	2.44
Haryana	16	0	16	138.53	4.38
Himachal Pradesh	2	0	2	0.79	0.02
Karnataka	68	1	67	188.78	5.97
Kerala	14	0	14	107.40	3.40
Madhya Pradesh	3	0	3	3.04	0.10
Maharashtra	108	0	108	1169.35	37.00
Orissa	3	0	3	8.87	0.28
Punjab	5	0	5	8.79	0.28
Rajasthan	9	0	9	60.99	1.93
Tamil Nadu	74	1	73	230.73	7.30
Uttar Pradesh	22	0	22	66.64	2.11
West Bengal	12	0	12	91.47	2.89
Jharkhand	1	0	1	0.20	0.01
Chandigarh	3	0	3	2.98	0.09
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	1	0.86	0.03
Delhi	61	0	61	326.07	10.32
Pondicherry	5	0	5	13.26	0.42
Daman & Diu	1	0	1	0.25	0.01
State Not Indicated	19	0	19	108.14	3.42
Total	525	2	523	3160.02	

Note: Increase/Decrease in FDI Approvals on account of change in Location.

(English)

Expenditure Reforms Commission

2876. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY 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 of his Ministry and Departments under his Ministry.

(b) if so, the date on which Commission has been set up alongwith its composition.

(c) the details of recommendations made by this commission so far.

(d) the details of those recommendations which are yet to be implemented by his Ministry or Departments under his Ministry alongwith for not implementing them till date; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented in true spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The Expenditure Reform Commission was set up by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) on 28th February, 2000. The composition of the Commission are as follows:-

(i) Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan Former Finance Secretary	Chairman
(ii) Shri V.S. Jala Former Financial Adviser Ministry of Defence	Member
(iii) Shri Kirti Parekh Economist	Member
(iv) Shri C.M. Vasudev Secretary (Finance) Ministry of Finance	- Ex Officio Member
(v) Shri J.S. Mathur Additional Secretary (Budget) Ministry of Finance	- Member-Secretary

(c) The details of recommendations made by the Commission in respect of Department of Commerce are given in its Ninth Report. The Report was submitted to Finance Minister on 19.9.2001. The details of recommendations are enclosed as statement.

(d) and (e) The report is under examination and is likely to be implemented before 31st March, 2002.

Statement

4. Analysis & recommendations

a. Directorate General of Foreign Trade

4.1 With the onset of reforms and the shift away from intensive control of imports and exports the workload of the DGFT has come down drastically. In the normal course this vast organisation with over 2500 staff strength should have been either drastically pruned or in the alternative wound up altogether and a new small organisation set up to take up the more supportive role now envisaged for it by the Department of Commerce. However, except for some reduction in staff strength nothing much has changed. The DGFT is a good example of the popular perception that in government while controls may wither away, the controllers would continue, though under different garb.

4.2 Of the supportive functions now entrusted to the DGFT, the single largest items is the advance-licensing scheme. While the task of determining the input and output norm is handled by the head office, the issue of advance licenses is the main item of work in the 31 field offices. With computerisation, the workload in the processing of these applications has come down drastically. It is therefore necessary to refix the staff strength of each of these offices taking into account, on the one hand, the drastic reduction in the control functions and the computerised work procedures now in force for the advance licensing scheme on the other. The Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad has been entrusted with the task for reassessing the staff strength of these offices. Such studies may however usually take a long time to complete. Considering that possibly no more than one fourth or one third of the staff strength may actually be required, given the aspects mentioned earlier, it is recommended that even as the Administrative Staff College of India is requested to expedite the completion of the task assigned to it, the SIU should be concurrently required to reassess the staff strength within the next two months based on a sample study of the functioning of two or three of the field offices.

4.3 With the phasing out of quantitative restrictions, the scheme is now no different from duty draw back schemes, with the duty on export related imports being altogether exempted even at the first instance. Thus, while the office of the DGFT provides the first interface to the exporters in their quest for getting advance licenses, after they get the advance licenses and the import-export pass books, they are required to register with the concerned

Custom Offices along with bonds and bank guarantees where necessary. Thereafter, at every stage of the import stream as well as the export stream, they deal only with the Customs Department. Once the export obligations are fulfilled by the exporters they go back to the DGTD for obtaining the export obligation discharge certificate. Later with this certificate they approach the customs authorities for the redemption of bonds/bank guarantees. Such follow up action as may become necessary in the event of any malpractices or shortcomings is taken only by the Customs Department. Thus in Advance Licensing cases, the exporter has to deal more with the Customs Department than with the DGTD. Vesting of the entire operational work, including the initial issue of licence with the Customs Department would thus lead to reduced transaction time and cost for the exporters. In particular when the process of introducing Electronic Data Interchange System and Electronic Declaration of Imports and Exports at all the 'ports' is completed by the Customs Department, the saving in transaction time for the exporter will be considerable. It will therefore be necessary for the government to examine, say two years down the line, whether the task of grant of advance licenses should not be vested in the Customs Department. The responsibility for fixing the input-output norms in consultation with the other Ministries as also the policy issues could however continue to remain with the Department of Commerce.

b. Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence

4.4 At present the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) headquarters at Mumbai and with an office at New Delhi, is also bringing out comprehensive data on the trade statistics with a much shorter time lag than the DGCIS. More importantly the CMIE data also captures items like income earned in foreign exchange by way of dividend, royalty, consultancy fees etc. and thus project a more complete picture of the export statistics than the DGCIS reviews.

4.5 But then the CMIE analysis is based essentially on DGCIS data. Thus the DGCIS data would continue to be the basis on which the trade statistics will have to be compiled. The major problem however has been the inordinate time lag in DGCIS bringing out the 8 digit level results. With the efforts already taken to streamline the procedures it is expected that before the end of this year the time lag would be brought down to about 8 weeks only. This should remove a major drawback in the DGCIS data.

4.6 The DGCIS staff strength had earlier been determined with reference to the manner in which the data was received from Custom Houses and the work

involved is 'cleaning', compilation and analysis of the data adopting the procedures in vogue and facilities available then in DGCIS. As indicated earlier already 85% of the data now received from the Custom Houses is on magnetic media thus reducing considerably the workload in cleaning up as well as compilation of these data. This itself would call for a considerable reduction in the support staff levels (423 at group B, C & D) in DGCIS. Further Customs Department has launched a massive computerisation drive and it is expected that the present practice of export-import data being entered into tapes would undergo a major change when the export shipping bills are being generated electronically. This process when completed would virtually eliminate the need for verification and also reduce the compilation workload in DGCIS. The small Custom Houses, which now send the data on manual DTRs, would also be shifting to the magnetic media in the coming years. When these changes are put through by the Customs Department, the staff strength requirement of DGCIS would come down further. It is ascertained that IIM, Kolkata has been entrusted with the task of reassessing the staff strength requirement of the DGCIS. They should be specifically required to take into account the improvements in the quality and type of data availability that has already taken place as also the further improvements expected in the coming years and give the report expeditiously so that it can be put into effect from 1.4.2002. In case the IIM study is expected to take an year or more to be completed, the SIU could be requested to take up this assessment on a priority basis.

c. Custodian of Energy Property, Mumbai and branch office at Kolkata

4.7 It would be necessary to determine as to which of the assets are still required to be maintained in their present form and identify those, which could be disposed off, and the proceeds kept in a special account. There is not much merit in continuing to 'preserve and manage' all these properties indefinitely. Likewise it would also be necessary to examine the claims for ex-gratia payments by Indian nationals/companies whose properties were seized by Pakistan in 1965 conflict and settle these one way or other quickly. All these aspects of work should be completed in a time bound manner — say within two years — so that the organisation can be wound up and such items of work that remain entrusted to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

d. Export Processing/Special Economic Zones

4.8 As pointed out earlier, the support staff strength has been kept low in FEPZ Kolkata through outsourcing of some services. The feasibility of introducing similar arrangements should be explored in the other EP/SE

Zones so that the staff strength is kept down to the minimum. This will facilitate greater attention to the problems and issues relating to the zones limiting the time and effort to be allocated for staff managing issues to the minimum.

4.9 The Special Economic Zones, though approved, are yet to take off. As these will be set up and maintained in the private sector, only monitoring will be the responsibility of the Government. Hence there may not be any need for additional staff.

e. Commodity Boards

4.10 The functioning of the Commodity Boards has been examined recently by Shri P.P. Prabhu, former Secretary (Commerce) at the instance of the Department of Commerce. The report presented to the Department in May 2001 covers an extensive ground—the organisation structure and functions and activities of these boards and contains a large number of specific recommendations. These recommendations *inter-alia* stress the need for broad basing of these Boards, while at the same time reducing government representation, giving these Boards greater financial, administrative and management responsibility, making export promotion and research the main focus of activities etc.

4.11 Shri Prabhu has suggested closure of the five foreign offices of the Tea Board leading to an annual saving of about Rs. 5 crore and also a drastic downsizing of the staff strength in the Tea Board, Coffee Board and Rubber Board. In the case of the Tea Board a 25% reduction of the staff strength is visualised. Closure of the offices at Chennai and Cochin, withdrawal of all compulsory registration and licensing, and privatisation of the tea houses, except in the head office and in Parliament House have been recommended. In the case of the Coffee Board, the proposals envisage *inter-alia*, privatisation of the Coffee houses and downsizing in non-technical cadres and in extension work and administration. The measures are expected to lead to a reduction of nearly 330 out of the present staff strength of over 1100. In the case of the Rubber Board, the report places the surplus in the production department at over one third (about 450), while abolition of licensing work and phasing out of subsidies is expected to lead to a reduction of over 230. Reduction in administrative, finance and support staff on the research side has also been recommended. Possibly in the final analysis no more than 60% of the present strength of 2274 would be required. The report has pointed out that in spite of this surplus position, the Board has been recruiting staff every year, with the result in the last 10 years the staff strength has gone up by 60% in Group A, 35% in Group B and 50%

in Group D! Clearly there is a case for issuing directions to all the Boards to stop recruitment at all levels forthwith, pending refixation of the staff strength based on the recommendations given by Shri P.P. Prabhu. For facility to easy reference the summary of recommendations contained in that report is given at Annex-IV.

4.12 The Expenditure Reforms Commission recommends that the suggestions for restructuring of the Boards, with reduced government representation, making export promotion and research the main focus of activities, closure of Tea Board's foreign offices, privatisation of the coffee houses, and downsizing of the staff strength in the Tea Board, Coffee Board and Rubber Board should be implemented straightaway. Having said this, the Expenditure Reforms Commission would also underline the need for carrying the thrust of these recommendations forward. To be specific, these boards should be enabled to become independent of government control and government procedures and function more on the lines of the export promotion councils, except for the addition of developmental role, which will be focused on research rather than level support activities. Action should be initiated straightaway in the Department of Commerce for reducing the financial, administrative and management control over these Boards. This process may also require either repeal of or effecting major amendments in the Acts under which these Boards have been set up. This aspect would therefore need to be taken up on an urgent basis. All this should be put through expeditiously, and the practice of an officer of the Department functioning as the Chairman of the Board should be dispensed with. Once foreign offices are closed and the organisations downsized on the lines suggested by Shri P.P. Prabhu there should be a fresh evaluation of the funds required for meeting the annual recurring expenditure of each of these Boards. These Board should be required within a specific time frame — 2 years and no more — to meet all their recurring and non-recurring expenditure from the funds released out of the cess amounts collected by government and through internal case generation and there should be no further demand on government budgetary support. The Boards should be given full functional autonomy, subject, only to broad guidelines on the range of functions to be undertaken and restrictions on the disposal of assets and creation of new posts and making any commitments of a medium or long term nature.

f. Autonomous Organisations

i. Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

4.13 IIFT should be encouraged to become a premier institute in training as well as the research in trade and related matters. It has a potential for increasing its internal

cash generation to a point where it should not be dependent upon Government for its day-to-day expenditure requirements. A time bound programme should be drawn up for achieving this objective, say in 2 to 3 years. When this is achieved, the Institution could be freed from Government controls altogether. It can then become a governing body managed organisation. The practice of a government official functioning as the Chief Executive could be dispensed with.

ii. *Export Inspection Council, New Delhi*

4.14 While in some cases export of substandard goods by some unscrupulous exporters has adversely affected the entire exports in these sectors, the fact remains that the export certification should be largely demand driven. It will therefore be necessary for the Ministry to review the list of items for which the export certification is prescribed mandatory and restrict it to only those areas, when non-insistence of certification could jeopardise the entire export efforts in that area. In all other cases export certification should be demand driven. Apart from the Export Inspection Council, other organisations, including agencies like MPEDA etc. could also be authorised to provide such certification if they have the necessary facilities. Such competition could lead to improvement in quality of, and reduction of charges for the certification work. The workload of the Export Inspection Council will then be largely demand driven and in a competitive environment and this could well call for a predetermination of the staff strength in its various offices, in line with the actual work load. Pending such a review in all field offices of EIC, action should be taken straightaway to implement the IWSU report which had, after examining the staff strength of the Kolkata office, recommended that 183 of the employees deployed on the jute scheme out of the total strength of 277 be declared surplus.

iii. *Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai and Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi*

4.15 The nature and range of activities of both organisations are such that it is not essential for government to participate in, or control these organisations. The governing body of both organisations could be suitably recast to provide for management responsibility to vest totally in the various concerned interests and government could withdraw from both organisations. Government's budgetary support for the Indian Council of Arbitration should be phased out over the next two years. For both these organisations, government could extend assistance, on a case-by-case

basis, for specific projects, as is now being done for the Indian Institute of Packaging.

iv. *Maring Products and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authorities*

4.16 The recommendations earlier made in respect of the Commodity Boards would apply equally to these two organisations also.

v. *Federation of Indian Export Organization*

4.17 Though visualised as an apex body for various export promotion organisations, FIEO today functions primarily as a servicing agency and some of the funds of the Government meant for rendering assistance to exporters are routed through FIEO. As in the case of export promotion councils there is no need for government to participate in or control this organisation. Government Budget support should be limited to providing market development assistance for specific projects.

vi. *Indian Diamond Institute*

4.18 This Institute has the potential for being developed, as a premier Institute for meeting the training and research needs of the gem and jewellery industry. Towards this end government's role in, control over this institute should be phased out in the coming two years. The Institute should be allowed to adopt such procedures — financial administration and management — as are best suited to its requirements and the gem and jewellery industry should have a greater role in the Institute's management.

vii. *Export Promotion Councils*

4.19 The present arrangement whereby export promotion councils are run by the industries in the respective group and government giving market development assistance for specific activities as and when they consider it necessary can be continued. The government does not exercise any control over these organisations and this arrangement should continue.

g. *Department of Commerce*

4.20 Department of Commerce is manned at the top by a Secretary and a Special Secretary. Special deals with WTO matters, trade policy issues and also foreign trade matters relating to Europe. While it can be argued that WTO matters could be considered on a stand-alone footing, in the general scheme of things, for several years to come, WTO and trade policy issues and trade promotion and bilateral trade matters would have to be looked at in an integrated manner. For this, the Secretary of this Department should be directly responsible for the

efficient functioning of both areas of work. The present arrangement whereby an equivalent level officer, though designated as Special Secretary, looks after WTO and Trade Policy divisions undermines this unified approach. The post of Special Secretary should therefore be downgraded to that of an Additional Secretary so that the Secretary is fully accountable for all functions of this Department.

4.21 As pointed out at the end of section I, WTO and multilateral issues an integrated trade policy that seeks to optimise the export efforts, and protection of domestic industry from "dumping" have now emerged as the more important functions of the department. The department would need to be strengthened at the senior levels to handle these tasks efficiently. As far as WTO and multilateral issues are concerned, the Department of Commerce should also have the capability to give sound and timely advice to other departments like Agriculture, Industrial Policy & Promotion etc. Given the procedural bottlenecks in quickly assembling a high qualified professional team of 'in house' experts for this purpose, one option would be to explore the feasibility of having a think tank of eminent experts. This think tank need have just one full time senior level professional, appointed on a contract basis, to function as the coordinator. There could be a large panel of experts, who could take part in the deliberations and consultations of the think tank, for short periods, depending upon their convenience. This think tank could be located in the, IFT campus so that it has access to the facilities there, including the library. At the same time it has to be a separate entity with a management council on which could be represented the Departments of Commerce, Industrial Policy and Promotion and Agriculture etc. The expenditure on the think tank could be shared by the different user departments.

4.22 The functioning of the Economic Division would not to be fully integrated with the Trade Policy Division so as to give the Trade Policy Division an added edge. Its links with the commodity and technical divisions would need to be put on a firm footing

4.23 The Office of the Directorate General of Anti Dumping is of cooperatively recent origin and the organisational set up and procedures are yet to be fully evolved. With the removal of most of the quantitative restrictions w.e.f. 1.4.2001 it is only now that the capabilities of the organisation and in fact the government itself, to respond quickly to the challenges will be fully tested. As the number of cases to be dealt with increases the technical capabilities of this organisation for timely examination of the cases coming before it would have to

be strengthened. After a clear idea on the demands on this organisation and on the Directorate General of Safeguards under the Department of Revenue emerges, the question whether these functions could be combined along with the task of tariff revision and be entrusted to an independent statutory commission could be examined.

4.24 As far as work relating to Commodity Boards is concerned, it would be necessary to retain in the Department, only a minimum complement of staff necessary for putting throughout the intended delegation of powers, amendments/repealing of the concerned Acts etc. All other positions, now sanctioned exclusively for dealing with Commodity should be abolished forthwith.

4.25 There are 66 trade missions abroad under the Department of Commerce to attend to trade enquiries and also assist in setting trade disputes and in organising exhibitions, fairs etc. An expenditure of nearly Rs. 60 crore was incurred on these missions last year. Out of the 171 officials deployed in these missions only 12 were officials of the Ministry of Commerce. In the review of the functions, activities and structures of the Ministry of External Affairs, it has been suggested that the need for offices abroad of all Ministries/Departments other than MEA should be examined afresh and wherever considered feasible the activities of these other Ministries should be undertaken by MEA's offices abroad within the budget and staff allocated to them. It is only in those cases where full justification is advanced for other Ministries to have their own offices abroad should they be allowed to post their own officials in such offices. In such cases the expenditure on establishment of such offices would naturally be reflected in the budget of that Ministry/Department. The same procedure should be followed in respect of 60 odd trade missions abroad of the department of Commerce. The trade missions abroad should be equipped to handle all enquiries from not only the organisations under the Department of Commerce, but from private sector parties as well, thus obviating the need for establishment of separate offices by these other organisations.

4.26 While the functions and activities of the five public sector undertakings are not examined in this report, three issues of a general nature merit mention. First, in line with the decision already in place to privatise the State Trading Corporation and the Mines & Minerals Trading Corporation, there is a case for privatising the Project and Equipment Corporation also, while the Spices Trading Corporation could be made autonomous on the lines suggested for the Commodity Boards. The ECGC ownership and management would also need to be broad based bringing about government's role considerably.

Following these changes, the staff specifically sanctioned in the Department for overseeing these undertakings would need to be correspondingly downsized. Second as highlighted earlier the Federation of Indian Export Organisation has not been able to function as the apex body for various export promotion organisations. The feasibility of ITPO playing this apex role in a complimentary and supportive manner, rather than in a control mode, should be explored. Thirdly while some overlap, between ITPO and IIFT in undertaking research studies is unavoidable, and in fact may even be desirable, there needs to be a mechanism for coordinating the research activities of both these organisations.

4.27 Except in the case of DGFT where the administration of a large number of personnel is involved, the other functions of the department of Commerce are such as could be handled by an officer oriented system supported by the Desk Officer system. The officer/support staff requirements should therefore be predetermined division by division and the new arrangements put in position in a phased manner within the next one year. Likewise the implementation of the suggestions for giving full autonomy to the Commodity Boards and Autonomous Organisations should also lead to reduced staff requirements in the Department over the next two to three years. In any case, even the suggestions, which could be implemented straightaway, would call for one post of Joint Secretary, along with the support staff being declared surplus immediately. Moreover in 1992 it was mandated that, of the sanctioned staff strength in 1992, 10% should be reduced. It is seen that in the department proper, as against a total staff strength of 671 only 32 posts have been reduced, while of the 1560 posts in the subordinate offices only 67 have been reduced so far. The department should take action for completing action on these economy instructions within the next three months.

Annex-1

**A Brief History of the Ministry of
Commerce & Industry**

1. A separate Department of Commerce was first created in the Government of India in 1921. Earlier, the subjects under the Department were dealt with by the Department of Commerce and Industry (set up in 1905). In 1937 when the Department of Commerce and Industries and Labour was bifurcated into the Department of Communications and the Department of Labour, the Department of Commerce also took over certain subjects pertaining to Industries. These subjects were, however, transferred in 1943 to the newly created Department of Industries and Civil Supplies.

2. After independence, the Department of Commerce was re-designated as the Ministry of Commerce and was placed along with the Ministry of Industries and Supplies under the charge of a Cabinet Minister. The two Ministries were amalgamated in February 1951 to form the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. This arrangement continued for about five years when in September, 1956, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry was split into two separate Ministries, viz. the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Industries and the Ministry of Heavy Industries. The two Ministries were again merged in April 1957 to form the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The new Ministry also took over the work connected with most of the public undertakings previously dealt with in the Ministry of Production, which was abolished in 1957. In 1958, the Department of Company Law Administration was transferred from the Ministry of Finance to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which was subsequently reorganised, into three Departments, viz. Industry, Commerce and Company Law Administration.

3. In April 1962 the subject 'Heavy Industries' was taken away from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry was reconstituted into the following three Departments:

- I. Department of International Trade;
- II. Department of Industry, and
- III. Department of Company Law Administration

4. In July 1963, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry was bifurcated into the Ministry of International Trade and the Ministry of International Trade and the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industry and Company Law Administration). The Ministry of International Trade took over all subjects under the Department of International Trade. In June 1964, the Ministry was redesignated as Ministry of Commerce.

5. In February 1969, the Ministry's designation was changed as 'Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply' with two Departments, namely;

- (a) Department of Foreign Trade; and
- (b) Department of Supply

6. In November 1969, the Department of Supply was separated and the Department of Foreign Trade was redesignated as Ministry of Foreign Trade.

7. In February 1973, the Ministry was again redesignated as Ministry of Commerce and the Department of Internal Trade added to it. The Ministry had two Departments under its control at that time, namely;

- i. Department of Foreign Trade;
- ii. Department of Internal Trade

8. In January, 1974, the Department of Foreign Trade Under the Ministry of Commerce was bifurcated into two separate Department, namely-

- (c) Department of Foreign Trade; and
- (d) Department of Export Production

The third Department viz., the Department of Internal Trade remained unchanged.

9. In October, 1974, the Department of Internal Trade was transferred to the charge of reorganised Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies, leading to restructuring of the Ministry with two Departments:

- i. Department of Foreign Trade; and
- ii. Department of Export Production.

10. In March 1976, this Ministry was further reorganised and one more Department, namely, the Department of Textiles was added to the charge of this Ministry. In June 1977, this Ministry was restructured as a single organisational entity as Ministry of Commerce with a Department of Textiles within the Ministry.

11. In November, 1977 all functions, being dealt with in the Department of Textiles were transferred to the charge of Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development) and from out of textile items only the export activities in respect of textiles, jute, handicrafts, etc. remained under the charge of this Ministry.

12. In February, 1978 this Ministry was reorganised with the nomenclature "Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation" consisting of the following two Departments:

- ii. Department of Commerce; and
- iii. Department of Civil Supplies & Cooperation

13. The work relating to the Textile Industry, with the exception of exports, continued to remain under the charge of the Department of Industrial Development till a full fledged Department of Textiles was revived in April, 1980 in the Ministry of Commerce. In April, 1980, the work relating to the development of textile industry was retransferred from the Ministry of Industry to the newly created Department of Textiles in the Ministry of Commerce and the organisational structure of this Ministry at that time consisted of the following three departments:

- i. Department of Commerce;

- ii. Department of Civil Supplies; and
- iii. Department of Textiles

14. In July, 1980, the erstwhile Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies was further restructured organisationally with the nomenclature of "Ministry of Commerce" consisting of the following two Departments:

- i. Department of Commerce; and
- ii. Department of Textiles.

15. In January 1985, the Department of Supply was also brought under this Ministry. The Ministry of Commerce then comprised of the following three Departments:

- i. Department of Commerce;
- ii. Department of Textiles; and
- iii. Department of Supply.

16. In November, 1985, an independent Ministry of Commerce with the following two Departments was constituted.

- i. Department of Commerce; and
- ii. Department of Supply.

17. In October, 1999, the Ministry was merged with the Ministry of Industry and renamed as the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, consisting of four departments:

- i. Department of Commerce
- ii. Department of Industrial Development
- iii. Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion and
- iv. Department of Supply.

18. In April 2000, the Department of Industrial Development was merged with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, reducing the number of departments in the Ministry to three.

19. Further, in August 2000, the number of departments was pruned to two with the abolition of the Department of Supply.

Annex-IV

A Study of the Functioning of the Commodity Boards
By Shri P.P. Prabhu
Executive Summary

Plantation Commodities constitute an important segment of India's agricultural economy. Apart from

meeting the domestic requirements, the plantation commodities, the marine products and the agricultural and processed food products contribute significantly to the country's foreign exchange earnings.

2. The statutory Commodity Boards formed to look after the development of the plantation commodities, and the Marine Products Export Development Authority and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority have played a significant role in the growth and development of their respective sectors.

CHAPTER II

3. Over a million growers are engaged in the cultivation of plantation commodities. In addition, the plantation sector alone provides direct employment to nearly two million. The sector also earns substantial foreign exchange for the country (2.8-9).

4. The growth of production in the last three decades (100% increase in the case of tea to six times increase in the case of natural rubber) as well as the comparatively satisfactory achievement in productivity levels speak for the performance of the Boards (2.11-13).

5. The expenditure on the bureaucracy of the Boards has not been high. The resources requirements have also been mostly generated from the industry itself by way of cess. (2.14-15)

6. The Boards have been able to develop a sense of belonging and establish credibility with the growers. The Boards have thus demonstrated their accountability to the growers and so the grower community want the commodity Boards to continue (2.17-20)

7. Government of India have been allocating sufficient funds to the Boards, much more than the cess amounts collected from the respective sectors (2.21-22)

8. The suggestion to form a combined plantation Board as a measure of economy is neither practical nor a sound proposal. (2.23-25).

9. The membership of the Boards can be rationalised and the strength reduced. (2.26-27).

10. Though Tea, Coffee and Natural Rubber Boards have to be basically grower oriented, it would be advantageous to have representation for all interests and stockholders in the Boards. (2.29)

11. The present practice of election to represent large grower representatives in the Rubber Board can be modified. (2.30)

12. Effective representation has to be given to small growers in the Boards and hence 50% of the small grower nominees may be selected from among those growers owning less than 4 hectares. (2.31-32)

13. The Boards may form three Board Committees — research, executive and development committees; the Boards with prime mandate of export promotion, may also form an export promotion committee (2.33)

14. The financial powers of the Boards be enhanced to rupees one crore, subject to some restrictions (2.35-36).

15. The organisation of the Boards, as have evolved over the years would need to undergo changes gradually but surely, if the plantation sector has to effectively meet the emerging challenges and demands. (2.37-39).

16. The responsibility for research in respect of all spices except for cardamom is with ICAR. Either the responsibility for major spices should be transferred to the Spices Board practical difficulties. A possible solution could be to place the operational control over the spices research stations with the Spices Board with the scientists/ staff continuing to be part of ICAR and continuing to enjoy the privileges. (2.45-49).

17. Annual evaluation of the research programmes as well as periodical evaluation once in 7, 8 years by a technical and scientific team to evaluate the performance of research work and programmes and recommend the future course and direction of research is desirable. (2.50-53).

18. The Boards may have to concentrate on research, as very little work is being carried out outside the 'Boards' research stations. The Boards may also explore the possibilities of entrusting some research work to universities. (2.54-57).

19. Development activity has to continue as an important function of the Boards. The loan and subsidy schemes may have played an important role in the development of the industry but may have to be phased out. Subsidy needs to be confined primarily to quality improvement programmes (2.58-65).

20. The extension service has also been an important activity, but most of the services, from supply of planting materials to farm advisory services soil testing to processing techniques are being increasingly provided by the private sector; hence the Boards may gradually withdraw from these activities. (2.66-68).

21. The Boards may take recourse to growers' participatory workshops for the dissemination of advice and information. (2.69)

22. The logical further step and progress will be in the direction of harnessing the communication and computing technologies for providing better extension services. Establishment of internet kiosks in production centres and converting field offices into virtual extension offices will go a long way in making available the best of extension services to growers. (2.70)

23. There is no justification to continue the Board's foreign offices. The need for the offices arises because of the dissatisfaction with the performance of our commercial missions that they have not been rendering the needed services to exporters and to the industry, as expected of them. UPASI has brought to notice a recent instance of indifference by our commercial missions (2.72-75)

24. One possible solution could be to place the commercial missions in important countries under the joint control of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce. The officers for manning the commercial posts in the missions may be jointly selected out of qualified professionals and held accountable. (2.77)

25. There is little justification to continue domestic promotion outlets, which can be progressively privatised. (2.78)

26. The Boards are not equipped to undertake and may desist from, market intervention operations. The minimum and maximum prices are difficult to implement. (2.79).

27. Processing, post harvest management and quality assurance are the areas deserving more attention from the Boards. (2.80).

28. All the control provisions in the various statutes regarding planting, movement, marketing, etc. need to be given up. Experience with the regulations regarding registration of growers has shown that it cannot be enforced. Periodical census may be a better option. (2.82-88)

29. Registration of exporters and export permit system may also be discontinued once the DGCI&S and customs complete the computerisation of their operations. (2.89-94)

30. Quality certification will become necessary in the future. The Boards may accredit private labs on the basis of transparent criteria for this purpose.

31. Schemes for popularisation of cultivation and marketing of organic products may be evolved (2.96)

32. Most of the Boards have excess manpower. Rubber Board, which has the largest surplus, has been creating and recruiting additional staff during the last few years. VRS facility when announced by the Government can be extended to the surplus staff. (2.98-100)

33. Most of the Boards bring out useful publications but delay robs them of their utility. There is also scope for improvement in the contents (2.101 to 106)

34. The Boards have achieved little progress in computerisation and the objectives of achieving and reducing delay are yet to be achieved. (2.107-115).

35. The web sites of the Boards require to be vastly improved. The Boards have to pay attention to periodical updating also. (2.116-119)

36. There is great potential for the development of plantation commodities in the North Eastern States. The Boards have done commendable work in this regard and are implementing a number of schemes in North East. A well planned programme of development of plantations including the creation of processing and marketing facilities and an effective strategy of implementation will go a long way in making the programme a success. The development of plantations will ensure employment for thousands and steady incomes and help make some parts of North East as well developed as Coorg or Kottayam (2.120-153)

CHAPTER III

I. Tea Board

37. The strength of membership of the Tea Board may be reduced to 25. (3.1.10)

38. The present system of industry-managed research, with grants from the Board, may continue. The Darjeeling research station may be strengthened for specialised application research relevant to Darjeeling tea (3.15-23)

39. The orientation of the development activity may be shifted towards the small grower. (3.1.24)

40. Teahouses may be progressively privatised. (3.1.25)

41. The overseas offices of the Board are an unnecessary luxury and the performance does not justify their continuation. (3.1.26-33).

42. Licensing of planting, registration requirements etc. may be discontinued. (3.1.35-41).

43. The provision in the Marketing Control Order 1984, which gives authority to the Board to prescribe a minimum percentage of production to be compulsorily sold through auction, may be withdrawn. (3.1.43-53)

44. The auction rules and procedures require to be streamlined. (3.1.54-58)

45. The Tea Warehouse Licensing Order 1989 may not be enforced; the licenses issued to auctioneers may prescribe the specifications for warehouses attached to auction halls. (3.1.59-60)

46. There is no need for any control over distribution or exports of tea. (3.1.61-62)

47. The scope of the Tea Waste Control Order 99 may be restricted only to tea waste moving out of factories for sale (3.1.63-66)

48. The powers of management or control of tea undertakings or tea units may not be acted upon. (3.1.67-69)

49. The Board is operating a number of schemes; some of them may be phased out; some of the schemes may be reformulated. (3.1.70-72).

50. Tea Board has excess staff; with the withdrawal of licensing work and some of the schemes being phased out, there will be surplus staff in licensing, marketing and development departments—a little over 150 in all. Three offices can be closed. (3.1.73-74).

51. To improve the quality of service, the Board must concentrate on research, productivity improvement, training of labour, improvement of co-op and Bought Leaf factories and training of small growers. The improvement of auction system, assistance for the setting up of quality labs for independent testing, implementation of a price and market information system, improving the content and quality of web pages are other areas for action (3.1.75-80).

II. Coffee Board

52. The strength of the Coffee Board can be reduced to 24. (3.2.9)

53. The pool marketing system was the most important activity of the Board till it was disbanded. Now research will have to continue as the most important activity. The extension service will continue to be important. (3.2.12-14)

54. The development schemes have been taking much of the attention and time of the extension personnel (3.2-20)

55. Some of the tasks such as supply of planting materials etc., can be given up gradually; participatory workshops with farmers groups may be increasingly resorted to. (3.2.22)

56. Market development will be hereafter a knowledge based activity and the Board may have to out source some of these tasks. (3.2.24-25)

57. The export permit system may be discontinued once the Board is able to obtain the required information from the customs. (3.2.26-27)

58. The domestic promotion outlets may be gradually privatised to cut down the losses. (3.2.28-29)

59. Processing and quality upgradation require greater attention. The logo scheme may be used to encourage quality. Private laboratories may be encouraged. (3.2.30-33)

60. The Board may evolve a scheme to document cup quality to enable aggregation of some cup quality coffees, which will facilitate the aggregation of minimum quantities for export. (3.2.34)

61. The Board is operating only one scheme in the area of production. i.e., water augmentation which is essential and may continue. In the area of market promotion some of the schemes may be phased out. (3.2.36-40)

62. The Board has around 200 excess non-technical staff in administration and extension departments. With the discontinuation of some development schemes, a third of the extension staff also will be surplus. (3.2.41-43)

63. The research department has performed fairly well and has many achievements to its credit but far short of potential. The evaluation of research activity and programmes by an independent technical committee in 1996 has brought out the deficiencies and weak points. The Board has to devote much more attention to research; the strengthening of scientific staff, improvement of physical infrastructure ensuring better motivation is some of the important areas requiring attention. Funds allocation may also be stepped up. (3.2.44-57)

64. The service most expected of the Board is in terms of the high yielding varieties and improved pest control measures. Better extension service, improved and useful web page, more information cells are the other areas to which the Board needs to pay attention (3.2.61-69)

III. Rubber Board

65. Rubber production has grown spectacularly in the last two decades as also productivity. Government have extended full protection to the industry and ensured that domestic prices remained at higher levels than international prices. (3.3.5-8)

66. The constitution of the Board may be recast. The election procedure for selection of large growers may be given up (3.3.12)

67. Among the activities research and production need to be given the highest importance. (3.3.15-16)

68. The production department has established a vast and many tier field set up. Increasing recourse to participatory approach especially with the help of Rubber Producers Societies will help to render better service to growers. (3.3.17-19)

69. The department also undertakes many subsidiary activities. While perhaps the activity of biogas plants may continue, the rest of the activities may be handed over to specialised organisations meant for them. Nurseries also need to be run on cost recovery basis. (3.3.20-24)

70. The registration of large estates and collecting production data only from them serves to purpose—can be discontinued. (3.3.27)

71. Licenses are prescribed for the dealers, processors and manufacturers and monthly and annual returns—over 2 lakhs in all—are processed every year only to enable the assessment of consumption of rubber and levy the cess. This is avoidable work involves cost to all. The whole system can be given up and the cess amount collected along with central excise. If this is not acceptable, then registration may continue only for the manufacturers and half yearly returns only may be prescribed. (3.3.28-33)

72. As part of the processing and product development activity, a number of commercial activities have been started; substantial capital expenditure has been incurred. Most of them could have been encouraged in the private sector. Most of the units may be gradually privatised. (3.3.35-40)

73. The work of the training and consultancy division is important but the consultancy division should progressively become self-supporting. (3.3.42-43)

74. The Board operates many schemes, some of them have been continuing for decades. Some of the schemes need to be phased out, excepting quality improvement schemes, tappers training etc. (3.3.44-51)

75. The Rubber Board has huge surplus staff; there have been avoidable recruitment. The establishment expenditure has gone upto over Rs. 25 crore annually; substantially reduction is called for. (3.3. 54-56)

76. The performance of the research institute has been very satisfactory. The productivity improvement has been commendable. Most of the research schemes may continue. The major area of concern is the high dependence on a single variety. (3.3.57-62)

77. Some of the regional stations can be converted into demonstration farms. (3.3.65)

78. The Board has instituted an effective system of annual evaluation of its performance. The Board may subject its research programmes to an independent scrutiny once in 7, 8 years to assess the progress of research efforts and set the direction for future research (3.3.66-69)

79. The Rubber Board may encourage private service providers and increasingly adopt participating approach in extension. The Board has to become a facilitator and become a knowledge centre. (3.3.70-75)

IV. Spices Board

80. The export of spices has shown excellent progress but with pepper prices coming down, there will be a set back. Notwithstanding our 40% share in world exports, there is considerable need to step up production to meet the growing domestic needs and to maintain our share in the world market. (3.4.3-4)

81. The strength of the Board can be reduced to 20. (3.4.10)

82. The contentious issue of status of cardamom research and development activity has to be settled once for all. The cardamom growers are opposed to the transfer to ICAR, though it is a more logical option; hence the only option feasible appears to be to continue the status quo and strengthen the research activity. (3.4. 15-21)

83. The number of offices for the development activities can be reduced. (3.4.23)

84. Post harvest development activity demands more attention and resources. Quality improvement including training and encouragement for the establishment of private laboratories needs to be followed up (3.4.24-27)

85. Cardamom marketing is well organised; though there is no compulsion to sell through auctions, nearly 2/3rds of produce is bought to auction. (3.4.29)

86.k Export promotion is the major function of the Board but the Board may withdraw from some market activities. The system of registration of exporters may also be withdrawn once the customs and DGFT streamline their procedures. (3.4.31-33)

87. Some of the schemes of the Board may continue, but individual exporter oriented export promotion schemes may be phased out; anyway the incidence of subsidy is too insignificant to make any impact. (3.4. 34-38)

88. There is scope for some reduction in the strength of non-technical manpower. (3.4. 39-40)

89. The performance of research station is not upto expectations though some promising clones are under trials. Lack of irrigation and inadequate attention to farm practices by small growers are the major reasons for low average productivity levels. (3.4.42-45)

90. The Board has to concentrate on research work closely with ICAR/State governments in the matter of widespread adoption of post harvest practices and control of pesticide usage, and ensure that exports meet international standards. Quality certification has to be populansed as also a virtual spices bazaar. (3.4.49-57)

V. Marine Products Export Development Authority

91. The strength of the Board can rationalised to 20. (3.5.10)

92. Among the major activities, the promotion of capture fisheries has to continue as also the promotion of aquaculture, though the Ministry of Agnculture and the State governments should have taken over the responsibility for aquaculture development. The modernisation of processing is another key activity, which has to continue to receive attention. (3.5.13)

93. MPEDA maintains two foreign trade promotion offices and their continuation is being justified on the ground that they render high quality service to the industry and not only merely to individual exporters. The industry also feels that our commercial missions will not be able to render the required services. (3.5.14-16)

94. The registration and licensing activities can be streamlined and in course of time, accredited private agencies may be encouraged to perform inspection functions. (3.5.18-19)

95. Most of the schemes of MPEDA may continue though some may have to be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture/State agriculture departments. (3.5.21-40)

96. There is only marginal surplus in the staff strength in one or two departments. (3.5.41-42)

97. To improve the quality of service, the trade information service has to be improved; assistance needs to be given to shrimp farmers in the control of viral attack; dissemination of developments including rules and regulations regarding aquaculture farming has to be organised (3.5.43-46)

VI. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

98. The strength of the Board can be reduced to 23. (3.6-7)

99. The mandate of APEDA is wide and apparently overlaps that of MFPI and the Department of Agriculture but in practice APEDA has been confining its activities to only these aspects relevant for exports (3.6.10-11)

100. The major activities of APEDA - post harvest management infrastructural upgradation, quality improvement and market intelligence — have to continue. (3.6-12).

101. Most of the Schemes of APEDA are relevant for exports. Some of the schemes may though desirable may be phased out, as they are not related to exports. A programme to build capacity for risk analysis may be necessary. (3.6.13-34)

102. The airfreight scheme needs to be critically reviewed and discontinued in respect of those products with limited potential (3.6.36-38)

103. APEDA may establish standards for all scheduled products and work towards harmonisation of standards with international standards. (3.6.39-40)

104. APEDA may encourage quality and testing labs in the private sector. (3.6.41)

105. Special schemes to encourage the cultivation of organic products and fresh fruits and vegetables may be worthwhile. (3.6.42-44)

106. APEDA has so surplus staff. It may be permitted to engage experts and consultants for specialised work and to carry out projects rather than recruiting personnel on a permanent basis. (3.6.45-46)

107. APEDA's major responsibility will have to be in the areas of dissemination of appropriate post harvest management techniques, quality standards etc. The virtual trade fair of APEDA has to be made a success. The web site needs to be made more comprehensive. (3.6.47-54)

CHAPTER IV

108. A change in the mandate and functions of the Boards may be necessary in the light of the liberalisation policy initiatives of the Government and the developments in the commodity sector and in the economy. The Boards have to move away from controls to complete deregulation; the emphasis has to shift from mere development and production, to competitiveness. The incentive based approach should give way to capacity building, information and education. The Boards would need to withdraw from many activities and rather than being providers of services become facilitators. Most important, the Boards should cease to be mere bureaucratic organisations and become knowledge centres.

PART II

109. Plantation commodities are important for many developing countries either because of their contribution to GDP or trade or employment. But the commodity producing countries have suffered adverse terms of trade for two decades now.

110. Prices of commodities especially of coffee etc. have been subject to violent fluctuations. In the past stabilisation of prices was achieved through International Commodity Agreements. The International Coffee Agreement restricted supplies through quotas and the International Natural Rubber Agreement regulated the availability through Buffer Stock Operations. However, the possibility of such arrangements hereafter is remote.

111. Commodity Boards if statutory authorised, could regulate production and supplies and through a combination of deficiency payments and retention of a portion of the prices when the market prices are satisfactory can attempt to stabilise prices and incomes. But with the global integration of the economies the scope for such intervention is limited.

112. Price volatility is a serious problem afflicting the growers in the developing countries only as the farmers in the developed world are fully protected with subsidies and direct income payments.

113. There have been few worthwhile international attempts to help the developing countries to cope with the problems of price volatility. The World Bank had convened an International Task Force on Commodity Risk Management in the Developing Countries. The ITF's recommendation is for the creation of an International Intermediation, which will bridge the gap between the providers of the risk management instruments and the entities in the developing countries.

114. The proposal is for a price insurance scheme under which a guaranteed price based on the quotations of futures exchanges can be ensured against payment of premium. While such an arrangement will no doubt eliminate the uncertainty, the proposal would still fall short of growers' expectations.

115. Growers can be protected from the risks of price volatility either through regulation of production or supplies. Both are not practical. Export tax coupled with deficiency payment is one possible method of stabilisation of prices and indirectly of incomes of growers; but it is an imperfect system and may be possible only in the case of a predominantly export commodity like coffee. Straight subsidy payment to compensate the growers when prices fall to a low level may be one option but can be resorted to only in exceptional cases in view of the financial implications.

116. A price insurance scheme, which will guarantee deficiency payments to growers if there were to be a fall in prices below a threshold level, may be acceptable to the growers. The price threshold has to be attractive and the scheme has to be simple. Such a scheme may be feasible for commodities subject to large-scale fluctuations in prices like coffee, cardamom even cotton or chilli.

117. There will be some practical difficulties and some details may have to be worked out but for some commodities a self-sustaining insurance scheme can be envisaged.

118. A Price Stabilisation Fund for commodities may be created to help the growers. But it has to be commodity specific as otherwise there may be resistance from the growers. The Fund can be built up through transfer of a portion of cess amount and any export tax proceeds and such other amounts generated from the industry.

119. Direct payments to growers from the Fund when the prices fall below a minimum level or collection of a cess amount from the growers when the prices go above a threshold level to augment the Fund may not be a practical proposition. But the Fund may be useful when in exceptional cases direct payments may have to be

paid. Such a Fund may be helpful in many ways for making part payment of premium for the proposed price insurance scheme.

120. The scheme may be workable only for some commodities. The suggestion can be tried out for one or two commodities and on the basis of experience refined and expanded to benefit the growers of many commodities.

Income Tax Return Forms

2877. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to revise the forms for submission of income tax returns;

(b) whether the proposed new form of 10-12 pages will not be more cumbersome and will put the users to avoidable difficulties in filing up the new forms and defeat the very purpose of simplifying the existing return forms;

(c) whether in view of the technology advancement the form should not be made more simpler than the cumbersome; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government on these aspects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir. The revised return forms have already been notified.

(b) The new Forms notified in the current year are easy to fill in and provide standardised and structured formats for computation of head wise income. The different pages of the return form correspond to different sources of income and in most cases a taxpayer will not be required to fill in all the pages.

(c) The new forms have been designed keeping in view technology advancement and the ongoing computerisation the Income-tax Department. They are amenable to faster processing on computers and at the same time will enable the capturing of essential data on computers, which could help in formulation of tax policies.

(d) In view of above, does not arise.

BBK Salutes Scheme for Senior Citizens

2878. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has given consent to bank of Bahrain and Kuwait for starting BBK Salutes Scheme for senior citizens in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the benefits that are likely to be given to the senior citizens through this scheme; and

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has permitted the banks to formulate, with the approval of their Boards of Directors, fixed deposit schemes specifically for Resident Indian Senior Citizens offering higher and fixed rates of interest as compared to normal deposits of any size. Accordingly, Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait (BBK) has formulated "BBK Salute Senior Citizens Scheme", and launched the same with effect from 3rd October, 2001, in terms of which extra interest of 0.5% p.a. is granted to senior citizens over and above the normal rates of interest on term deposits and certain other benefits.

'Narcotics Intelligence Cell in Karnataka'

2879. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka have requested to release financial grants to that State to set up narcotics intelligence cell in the State for drug abuse control;

(b) if so, the financial implication of these proposals;

(c) the funds released by the Union Government for the purpose; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A proposal for funding of Rs. 88.62 lakh for creation of posts for the Narcotics Intelligence Cell was received from the State Government of Karnataka.

(c) and (d) The State Government has been informed that the Union Government has no objection to the State setting up the Special Cell provided it is funded from its own resources. The Union Government has not earmarked any funds for this purpose.

Retirement Age of Public Sector Undertakings

2880. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are facing stiff resistance to roll back in retirement age of their employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that PSUs are downsized in spite of opposition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Enterprise-specific steps for downswing are taken by the managements of the concerned PSUs and these include implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme. PSUs employees have generally shown commendable understanding in this regard.

Tax Collection

2881. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been commensurate increase in tax collections after the broad-basing of tax net;

(b) whether the tax collection expenses have also recorded an increase in tune with the broadening of tax base,

(c) if so, whether other taxpayer friendly measures are being taken to increase tax revenue thereby saving on the tax collection expenses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir, there has been no significant increase in the tax collection expenses.

(c) and (d) Some of the tax friendly measures are: simplified tax returns with structural guidance for filling-up; selection of only 1% of the returns filed for scrutiny; issue of a vision document and a 'Citizen's charter' for time bound action in various areas of public dealing; reduction of time limit for various actions like assessment, issue of refund, disposal of appeal etc. for quicker action/decision and large-scale computerisation of the Income-tax Department.

Revival of Burn Standard Company, Howrah

2882. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several representations have been made to the Government for the revival of Burn Standard Company, a public sector undertaking unit at Howrah;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revive it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Some representations from employees' unions forwarded by MPs Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi and Shri Dipankar Mukherjee and a reference from Hon'ble Minister of State for Communication, Shri Tapan Sikdar regarding revival of Burn Standard Company including its unit at Howrah Works have been received.

(c) A rehabilitation scheme was sanctioned by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body, on 16th April, 1999. The Government of India extended more assistance than envisaged in the scheme. This included cash support of Rs. 184 crore (against an envisaged amount of Rs. 158.30 crore in the BIFR scheme) and financial restructuring of Rs. 465.36 crore.

However, the company could not achieve the required results and continue to incur heavy loss. The BIFR, therefore, declared the scheme as failed in February, 2001 and issued orders for change of management on 1.4.9.2001. Simultaneously, the Government has also initiated action for locating a strategic partner who would be able to provide the requisite financial, marketing and technology support.

Proposals from Singapore Capital Market

2883. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singapore's capital market authorities have invited Indian companies to get listed on its stock exchange and also tap its money market;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered Singapore's proposal; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government and Indian companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. As per existing regulations, listing of rupee shares of Indian companies on overseas stock exchange is not permissible. As per current foreign investment policy ADR/GDR issues with fresh underlying shares require no prior approval of the Government if the foreign equity investment is within the prescribed limits. The issuers have to comply with Reserve Bank of India's reporting requirements regarding issue details. The Indian ADR/GDR issuer companies have freedom to choose the overseas stock exchanges in which their issues would be listed. The choice of overseas stock exchange listing of GDRs is the prerogative of the Indian issuer companies based on the marketability of their scrips. Currently the ADRs/GDRs of several Indian companies are listed in stock exchanges abroad.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Textile Mills with Foreign Aid

2884. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some textile mills in the country are being modernised at present with foreign aid;

(b) if so, the names of such textile mills, State-wise;

(c) the names of countries alongwith the details of financial institutions which have provided funds for modernisation; and

(d) the year-wise details of funds provided by them during the last three years, mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As per information available in this Ministry, no foreign aid is being provided for modernisation of textile mills.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Funds Through NABARD

2885. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand have sought assistance from NABARD for construction of pucca roads and bridges in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by NABARD thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the Government of Bihar had sought loan from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for construction of roads and bridges. However, the newly carved out State of Jharkhand has not so far sought any loan. The details of the sanctions made by NABARD to the State Government of Bihar are as under:

Purpose	Year of Sanction	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount of Loan Sanctioned (Rs. Crore)
Rural Bridges	1999-2000	2	1.57
	2000-2001	47	28.92
	2001-2002	18	11.53
Rural Roads	2001-2002	1	1.37
Total		68	43.39

(c) NABARD has always impressed upon the State Governments including the Govt. of Bihar to utilize RIDF for creation of infrastructure including roads and bridges in their States. To expedite the availment of RIDF, Regional Offices of NABARD as also the senior executives of NABARD have followed up the matter with the State Governments and have drawn the State Government's attention towards the availment of RIDF in all States. Recently, at a meeting of the Chief Ministers, NABARD had drawn the attention of the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of all States for optimum utilization of RIDF loans in their States.

[*English*]

Pension and PPF

2886. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any specific investment plans in respect of Pension Funds and Public Provident Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the profit percentage being earned by the Government from investment of these funds;

(d) the estimated funds invested by the Government in various securities/PSUs presently; and

(e) the matter in which the Government propose to recover the invested funds from PSUs and securities in case of their failure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to available information, as of now, there is no separate Pension Fund/Account for Central Government employees except for Railways. As such, pension payments to Government employees are largely made out of current revenues.

The investment of non-government provident funds, superannuation funds and gratuity funds are carried out as per the "Investment Pattern" notified by the Government of India.

The receipts under Public Provident Fund (PPF) Scheme accrue to the National Small Savings Fund in the Public Accounts of India and the disbursements are also made from this Fund in the Public Account. The net accretions under the Public Provident Fund (PPF) scheme are shared between the Central and the State Governments in the ratio of 20:80. The share of States is meant for financing their plan schemes.

(b) to (e) As PPF are not further re-invested by the Governments, part (b) to (e) do not arise.

[Translation]

Misusing of Funds by Banks

2887. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public sector banks found guilty of misusing the funds by the Reserve Bank of India till October 31, 2001;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry of the accounts of the said banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) While there may be some violations of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) norms, no instances of misuse of funds by public sector banks have come to the notice of

Government and RBI in the recent past. As and when such violations are detected during the course of RBI's inspection appropriate remedial measures are taken.

[English]

Cases of Excise Evasion

2888. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1295 dated March 3, 2000 regarding case of excise evasion and state:

(a) whether the methods adopted to check evasion of excise duties has brought any fruitful results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that evasion of excise and customs taxes is evaded with the connivance of the senior authorities; and

(d) if so, the number of senior officials identified and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Methods to check evasion of excise duty have borne fruitful results as the detections of duty evasion have gone up:

Year	No. of Cases	Duty Evasion Detected (Rs. in Crores)
2000-2001 (upto Oct.)	2874	882.40
2001-2002 (upto Oct.)	3559	3253.31

(c) and (d) Whenever cases of connivance are noticed necessary action as per law is taken against the authorities.

Withdrawal of Excise Concessions

2889. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has withdrawn Central Excise Concessions recently for some items made by small scale industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Since the enactment of the Finance Bill 2001, central excise exemption available to goods manufactured by small scale units has not been withdrawn in respect of any item.

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

RBI Enquiry Against Bogus OCBs

2890. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has conducted a detailed enquiry on the alleged bogus Overseas Corporate Bodies which came to its notice;

(b) if so, the details of the scope of this enquiry of RBI with the findings of the RBI; and

(c) the safeguards suggested to protect the economy from bogus OCBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had conducted inspection of Global Trust Bank's branches at Nariman Point and Fort, Mumbai with reference to the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) transactions of certain Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs). The inspection report pointed to the system deficiencies of Global Trust Bank and a possible instance of violation of Exchange Control Regulations. The inspection report has been forwarded by RBI to the Enforcement Directorate.

(c) The RBI have brought out an amendment in the FEMA Regulations on 29.11.2001 banning fresh investment by OCBs under the Portfolio Investment Scheme in India.

[Translation]

Private Sector Banks

2891. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government for granting permission for opening of a private bank in a State;

(b) the number of private banks functioning in the Sikkim State and other North-Eastern States;

(c) whether any proposal is pending with the Government for opening of private bank in these States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued revised guidelines in January, 2001 on entry of new banks in the private sector. These guidelines, inter-alia, stipulate initial minimum paid-up capital for a new bank shall be Rs. 200 crore (which shall be increased to Rs. 300 crore in three years), minimum promoter's contribution of 40% of the paid up capital, maintaining arms-length relationship with business entities in the promoter group, no large industrial house shall promote a new bank, maintenance of minimum capital adequacy ratio of 10% permitting conversion of NBFCs with good track record into banks etc.

(b) RBI has reported that no private sector bank has its head office/registered office in Sikkim and North-Eastern States.

(c) RBI has reported that no such proposal is pending with it.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Under Invoicing by MNCs

2892. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of foreign based companies operating in India who were given licence for import of scotch concentrates have been found under invoicing and not declaring of value of imported goods and evaded customs duty amounting to crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the names of these companies and the amount evaded in each case as on June 30, 2001; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to ensure that such companies do not indulge in such malpractices in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s Seagram Manufacturing Limited was prima-facie found to be under-invoicing imports of scotch concentrates. Two show cause notices have been issued involving Customs duty of Rs. 50.04 crores.

(c) During adjudication of the show cause notices, appropriate penal action would be taken against the importer in the light of gravity of offence as adjudged by the adjudicating authority. Besides this, a complaint for prosecution has also been filed against M/s Seagram Manufacturing Limited and its officials in the judicial court at New Delhi.

Indo-EU Summit

2893. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-European Union has carried out any assessment study on Trade and Investment;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the study group;

(c) whether these recommendations have been discussed in EU-India summit held on November 22 and 23, 2001;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether India has also urged the EU to take steps to improve market access for Indian products; and

(f) if so, the response of the European Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) The Trade and Industry representatives of India and the European Union have undertaken a joint study 'EU-India Joint Initiative for Enhancing Trade and investment' in the sectors of Information Technology, Telecommunications, Engineering and Food Processing for enhancing trade/investments and the same was submitted to the India-EU Business Summit held on 22-23, November 2001. The study includes recommendations for action by Government of India, European Union and the trade and industry of both the sides pertaining to policy/regulatory aspects, taxation/fiscal issues, technological upgradation, training, harmonisation etc.

(e) to (f) Bilateral market access issues are regularly discussed in various India-EU institutional fora and bilateral interactions. During the summit meeting, EU and India inter-alia committed to intensifying dialogue to identify further action for enhancement of bilateral trade.

[Translation]

Declaration of Export as National Priority

2894. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to declare export as the national priority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the norms and procedure laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Promotion of Exports has been a constant endeavour of the Government and it is one of the priority areas of economic policy. Potential items of export are identified from time to time and efforts are made to realise the potential in various sectors. Accordingly, schemes are formulated and implemented to boost exports in these identified sectors.

Several measures to boost exports have been taken in order to provide competitive edge to Indian goods in the global market. The measures include reduction in transaction costs through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the EXIM Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions & setting up of Special Economic Zones. Besides, the measures announced in the new EXIM Policy 2001-02 inter-alia include promotion of agricultural exports, market access initiative and setting up of business cum trade facilitation center. Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, extension of normal repatriation period, and upward revision of duty drawback rates on a number of product groups.

[English]

SC/ST Representation in Government Services

2895. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) services stood only at 13.59% (SCs-10.38% & STs - 3.21%) and in Class II (Group B) services only at 14.41% (SCs-11.73% & STs - 2.68%)

as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, the total number of posts in Class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) Category and equivalent thereof under his Ministry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Department of Personnel & Training, representation of SCs and STs as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government in Group A services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs - 3.44%) and in Group B services it was 15.37% (SCs - 12.35% and STs - 3.02%). However, no centralised data in case of representation of SC/ST officers in various Groups 'A' and 'B' Services individually under the Ministry of Finance is maintained. The provisions contained in para 5 of the DOP&T's O.M. dated 2.7.1997 is regarding initial operation of post-based roster and identifying excess/shortfall in respective categories in the cadre.

Loan to SEBI

2896. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government granted an interest-free loan of Rs. 115 crore between 1992-97 to SEBI to meet their capital expenditure but did not give any plan to repay the loan;

(b) if so, whether SEBI has repaid the loan amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps the Government have taken or propose to take to recover the loan from SEBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) During the years 1992-93 to 1996-97, the Government of India had extended various interest-free loans aggregating Rs. 115.00 crores to SEBI for the purpose of meeting its capital expenditure requirements. These loans are repayable over a period of 12 years in 10 equal instalments after an initial moratorium of 2 years.

(b) and (c) As on March 31, 2001, an amount of Rs. 53.00 crores which was due till end March, 2001, has already been refunded to the Government by SEBI.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Export of Buffalo Meat

2897. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unit Value realization from export of Buffalo meat is nearly half of international market;

(b) if so, the investigations have been made for depriving the country of foreign exchange;

(c) whether exporters are allowed to be sending consignments to Dubai/Simar ports and re-exporting at higher rates; and

(d) if so, the investigations for malpractices have been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Unit Value realization from export of buffalo meat from India is lower than some other countries. As per FAO Trade data 1999 the unit value realization of buffalo meat for India and various regions of the world is as follows:

Region	Realization per MT in US\$
India	1021
Africa	2298
Asia	2000
Europe	2370
South America	2094
North & Central America	2533
Oceania	1683

(b) to (d) Export prices depend on many factors. The fact that Indian exports merit less value does not, by itself, call for investigation. Further, once exported, it is upto the importers to dispose off the consignment in a manner of their choosing, including re-exporting to other destinations.

[Translation]

**Share of Industrial Sector in
Development of Villages**

2898. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government asked the industrial sector to invest a part of its profit for the development of villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of industrial sector thereto;

(d) whether the Government have issued any clear directions in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which clear directions in this regard are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (f) Addressing the National Summit on 'Public-Private Partnership for Rural Prosperity', organised jointly by ASSOCHAM and the Ministry of Rural Development on 16.10.2001, the Hon'ble Prime Minister congratulated the Indian Companies engaged in philanthropic activities and called upon the private sector to set aside a far greater portion of profits for socially useful philanthropy in rural and backward areas. Translation of the concept into action will depend on appropriate changes in the legal framework and convergence in the programmes and activities of different agencies at the Centre and State level and volition and initiative of the private sector.

[English]

Storage of Foodgrains in FCI Godowns

2899. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1267 dated 2 March, 2000 regarding "Storage of foodgrains in FCI godowns" and state:

(a) whether FCI has investigated the causes of shortages in those godowns where shortages were pointed out by C&AG and have investigated the causes of shortages and submitted any report to the Union Government;

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

(c) the measures taken to check pilferages and shortages in FCI godowns; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found responsible for the shortages with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) FCI has disputed the volumetric method adopted by C&AG for measuring physical stocks. According to the Reconciliation Report submitted by FCI, the net shortage comes to 1.57 lakh tonnes of foodgrains and not 4.74 lakh tonnes as computed by C&AG. The matter is under examination in the Department of Food and Public Distribution for formulating its opinion/decision and reporting the position to Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) as per directions give by Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP)/Cabinet who are monitoring the case.

(c) Food Corporation of India has taken the following measures to avoid loss of foodgrains:-

- (i) Adoption of 50 kg packing in a phased manner.
- (ii) Installation of weighbridges.
- (iii) Administrative measures such as tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks at the loading/unloading points, ensuring regular stock verification etc.
- (iv) Identification of vulnerable points.
- (v) Induction of Central Industrial Security Force at vulnerable depots to curb theft and pilferage.
- (vi) Special squad checking at selected railhead transshipment and destination points.
- (vii) Speed up of write off cases and fixation of responsibility wherever called for.
- (viii) Not to place the godowns under the charge of officials whose antecedents are doubtful.

- (ix) Inspection of depots and record by Senior Regional Manager/District Managers.
- (x) Inspection of wighbridges by Joint Manager (Mechanical) and District Manager.
- (xi) Double line machine stitching of bags.
- (xii) Reduction in open wagon movement to the extent possible.
- (xiii) Improvement in the size and quality of gunnies.
- (xiv) A Project has been prepared by NIC under which it is proposed to upgrade Management Information System (MIS) in FCI. The project involves computerization of the FCI Depots and linking of the same with District Offices, Regional Offices, Zonal Offices and Headquarters of FCI. A software for use in FCI Depots has been developed by NIC which is being tested in practical conditions at two Depots of FCI at Naraina and Karnal. The Project may take more than one year to complete.
- (xv) A Project has been entrusted to Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) to develop a cost effect sampling scheme for physical verification of stocks of wheat and rice in the godowns of FCI. The Project Report submitted by ISI is being examined in consultation with FCI.

(d) FCI has initiated disciplinary action against erring officials for abnormal shortages.

[*Translation*]

External Debt

2900. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the proportions between commercial and concessional credit in India's external debt profile;

(b) whether the Government have made any efforts to increase the concessional debt so as to reduce interest charges;

(c) the detail of the types of debt which India has in its external account;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to reduce India's foreign debt; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per Government of India's definition of concessional debt given in the Status Report on External Debt and submitted to the Parliament in October, 2001, the share of outstanding concessional debt of India declined from 45.9 per cent of total external debt at end-March 1991 to 35.9 per cent at end-March 2001. However, as per the World Bank definition of concessional debt given in the Global Development Finance, 2001, the share of concessional debt in total external debt of India increased from 46.2 per cent at the end of 1990 to 47.3 per cent at the end of 1999.

(b) The variations in the share of India's concessional debt are largely due to change in lending policies by bilateral and multilateral creditor institutions and liberalisation of external commercial borrowings policy in India. However, as per the World Bank classification of concessional debt, India's share of concessional debt at 47.3 per cent at the end of 1999 is the highest among the top fifteen debtor countries, followed by Philippines at 25.7 per cent, Indonesia at 20.8 per cent and China at 19.2 per cent. In order to minimize cost of external borrowings, the Government attempts to maximize commitments as well as utilization of loans from concessional sources.

(c) India's external debt outstanding position from major creditor sources as on end-March, 2001 is as under:

External Debt Outstanding as on March 31, 2001

Creditor Category	USD Million
1. Multilateral	31,104
2. Bilateral	16,624
3. IMF	0
4. Export Credit	5,838
5. Commercial debt	24,203
6. NRI Deposits	15,432
7. Rupee Debt	3,693
I. Total Loan term debt	96,894
II. Short term debt	3,462
III. Total external debt	100,356

(d) and (e) India's external debt management policy focuses on keeping the maturity structure as well as the total commercial debt under manageable limits, limiting short-term debt, retiring more expensive debts, and encourage non-debt creating financial flows and high growth rate of exports.

[English]

I.T. Exemption on Donation

2901. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought income tax exemption for donations to the State cultural foundation being set up by the Andhra Pradesh cultural council to promote diverse cultural activities in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the provisions of section 80G of the Income tax Act, 100% deduction is allowed to donations made to certain funds of national importance or to certain State funds for disaster management and medical relief to the poor. Other funds enjoy concession of 50% deduction, for which the foundation set up by the Andhra Pradesh Cultural Council would also be eligible.

[English]

Atrocities on Weaker Section

2902. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the statement made by the Chairman of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission in the State of Andhra Pradesh in which he has said that one incident of atrocity on downtrodden is taking place at every six hour;

(b) if so, the assessment of Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action at national level to render help and protection to weaker sections of the society; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has informed that no such statement was made by the Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Two special central legislations viz. the Protection of Civil Right Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 for eradicating practice of untouchability in any form and preventing atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by persons other than Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments on 50:50 basis and to Union Territory Administration on 100% basis, for effective implementation of the Acts, provision of legal aid, appointment of officers for initiating or exercising supervision over prosecution, setting up Special Cells, Special Courts, conducting periodic surveys, identification of atrocity prone areas and providing relief and rehabilitation to victims/dependents of atrocity victims.

Construction of Warehouses in Villages

2903. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct warehouses in several villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of villages proposed to be covered under the scheme, State-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the fund earmarked for the purpose alongwith the steps initiated/proposed to be initiated by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government is operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Construction of Godowns' to assist the State Governments/UT Administrations in their efforts to strengthen the Public Distribution System (PDS) for

construction of godowns upto 2000 MT, capacity for smooth flow of PDS commodities especially in rural, remote, hilly and tribal areas. FCI creates additional storage capacity by constructing godowns at the micro level, as per the requirement, at the most strategic locations. In pursuance of the announcement made by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has formulated a new scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/renovation/expansion of Rural Godowns. No financial allocation has yet been approved for this scheme.

In addition, the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) has got 90 rural warehouses in different States. The details may be seen at Statement-I.

(c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme envisages extension of financial assistance to States/UTs, on proposals received from them, for construction of small godowns. Six hundred & eighty three (683) godowns have been constructed upto March 2001 under the scheme. The details may be seen at Statement-II.

(d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, financial assistance is provided to State governments/UT Administrations on 50% grants-in-aid (subsidy) and 50% loan basis. An outlay of Rs. 11.50 crores has been earmarked for the financial year 2001-2002 under the scheme.

Statement-I**State-wise List of No. of Warehouses in Rural Area**

1.	Tamil Nadu	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12
3.	Assam	1
4.	Bihar	1
5.	Gujarat	8
6.	Haryana	3
7.	Karnataka	9
8.	Madhya Pradesh	8
9.	Maharashtra	15
10.	Rajasthan	9
11.	Uttar Pradesh	1
12.	West Bengal	20
Total		90

Statement-II**Financial Assistance to States/UTs Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Construction of Godowns**

As on 20.3.2001
(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total 1983-84 to 95-96 Amount	1996-97			1997-98				
			Capacity	No. of Godns.	Amount	Capacity	No. of Godns.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0	0	129.20	5400	18	8.20	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.70	800	5	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
3.	Assam	20.00	2000	1	95.04	8000	4	168.66	13300	7
4.	Bihar	106.40	9000	9	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
5.	Goa	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Gujarat	212.42	9500	17	0.00	0	0	183.30	8500	12
7.	Haryana	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	26.00	1700	9	0.00	0	0	77.76	1800	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	528.82	13950	52	0.00	0	0	26.72	250	1
10.	Karnataka	132.00	8200	31	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
11.	Kerala	41.50	2000	1	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	294.12	18000	18	228.76	14000	14	0.00	0	0
13.	Maharashtra	206.16	10442	21	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
14.	Manipur	194.80	5000	25	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	46.00	2400	3	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
16.	Mizoram	183.81	7200	29	0.00	0	0	112.44	6000	10
17.	Nagaland	32.82	1200	20	60.00	850	17	0.00	0	0
18.	Orissa	208.00	13000	52	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
19.	Punjab	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	175.66	14400	8	30.00	1800	1	67.40	5400	3
21.	Sikkim	64.50	2600	7	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0	0	50.00	2480	18	0.00	0	0
23.	Tripura	30.00	1250	5	0.00	0	0	83.02	2000	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0	0	162.00	5400	20	460.50	15350	43
25.	West Bengal	96.48	6000	12	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
26.	A&N Island	46.00	1000	2	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
30.	Delhi	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
31.	Lakshadweep	7.50	500	1	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
Total		2679.67	130142	328	755.00	37930.	92	1188.00	50600	85

Sl.No.	State	1998-99			1999-2000			2000-2001			Total		
		Amount	Capacity	No. of Godns.	Amount	Capacity	No. of Godns.	Amount	Capacity	No. of Godns.	Amount	Capacity	No. of Godns.
1	2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	137.40	5400	18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	27.70	800	5
3.	Assam	258.88	16000	8	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	542.58	39300	20
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	106.40	9000	9
5.	Goa	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	395.72	16000	29
7.	Haryana	165.29	12170	7	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	165.29	12170	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	102.76	3500	12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	138.29	0	0	693.83	14200	53
10.	Karnataka	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	132.00	8200	31
11.	Kerala	30.00	1000	2	207.50	10000	5	0.00	0	0	279.00	13000	8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	522.88	32000	32
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	206.16	10442	21
14.	Manipur	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	194.80	5000	25
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	46.0	2400	3
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	83.48	2504	4	379.73	15704	43
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	92.82	2050	37
18.	Orissa	0.00	0	0	1247.735	58500	96	292.65*	0	0	1748.38	71500	148
19.	Punjab	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	430.42	37650	22	105.09	0	0	120.82	11400	7	929.39	70650	41
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	64.50	2600	7
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	50.00	24800	16
23.	Tripura	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	113.02	3250	11
24.	Uttar Pradesh	365.41	14000	7	688.40	24000	12	248.40	15700	8	1904.71	74450	90
25.	West Bengal	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	96.46	6000	12

1	2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26.	A&N Island	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	46.00	1000	2
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
30.	Delhi	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	7.50	500	1
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
Total		1250.00	80820	46	2228.725	92500	113	833.64	29604	19	8985.03	421596	683

* RS. 292.645 lakh has been issued to Orissa during 2000-2001 as a balance amount already sanctioned during 1999-2000.

Sick Industries

2904. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major, medium and small scale industries functioning at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the workers working in these industries, State-wise, the amount of foreign exchange earned in Indian currency by these industries;

(c) the number of such industries closed downs so far during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 till date;

(d) the number of sick units in each of these categories of industries in the country; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Information sought, to the extent available, is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). According to the RBI, the details of non-SSI sick/

weak industrial units reported closed as at the end of March 2000 and 2001 are given below:

Year (upto)	non-SSI sick/weak Units
1. March, 2000	1399
2. March, 2001 (Provisional)	1671

Data on closed Small Scale units are not maintained centrally.

(d) According to the RBI, the details of sick industrial units in the country are given below:

	March 2000	March 2001 (Provisional)
SSI sick/weak units	304235	249630
Non-SSI sick/weak units	3164	3317

(e) The Government has taken number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include, guidelines of the RBI to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, National Equity Fund etc.

SC/ST Cell

2905. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-functioning of SC/ST cell, the service interests of employees belonging to SCs/STs are not being protected in his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the action programme proposed to protect the interests of SC/ST Employees in his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) There is a Liaison Officer in this Ministry to ensure the senior interests of SC/ST employees and for monitoring the recruitment of SC/ST candidates. Vacancies in every grade are intimated to the Deptt. of Personnel & Training after approval of the Liaison Officer. So far as the Departmental Promotion of SCs and STs are concerned, a member belonging to SC/ST category is nominated in every Departmental Promotion Committee to safeguard the interests of SC/STs employees.

Anomaly in Interest Rates

2906. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received complaints from State Governments in regard to anomaly in the interest rates of Small Industries Development Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to lower down the interest rates of SIDBI loans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) Some State Governments/State Financial Corporations have suggested restructuring of interest rate on existing refinance accounts and also to re-structure the present re-finance interest rates.

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that in line with the policies of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), it had reduced its Long Term Prime Lending Rate (PLR) from 14.0 per cent in February, 1998 to a level of 13.0 per cent in March, 1999 which was further reduced to 12.5 per cent in March, 2001. The medium Term PLR and Short Term PLRs were also revised to 12.25 per cent and 11.75 per cent from previous levels of 12.5 per cent and 12.00 per cent respectively.

In refinance, the rate of interest on loans above Rs. 2 lakhs has been reduced from 16% in 1996 to 11.5% presently. For loans below Rs. 2 lakhs, concessional rates of refinance are provided by SIDBI out of which for very small borrowers with loans upto Rs. 50,000 a special slab of 9.75% has been provided.

Smuggling of Narcotics through Courier Agencies

2907. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the large scale smuggling of narcotics by the international courier agencies through packets of drugs concealed in brass wares;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No case involving international courier agencies in smuggling activities through packets of drugs concealed in brass wares, has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Steps to Fill up Vacant Posts in PSUs

2908. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in many of the public sector undertakings a large number of vacancies are yet to be filled in accordance with the DOPT rules and guidance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve job opportunities in public sector undertakings in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) As on 31.10.2001, 34 posts of Chief Executives and 68 posts of Functional Directors were lying vacant in different public sector undertakings (PSUs). The details are given in the statement.

(c) Presently the thrust is on rationalisation of surplus manpower in PSUs to improve their efficiency and competitiveness. New job opportunities are, however, created in some cases largely through expansion/diversification of existing activities, etc.

Statement

Vacancies of Chief Executives and Functional Directors in PSUs as on 31.10.2001

A. Chief Executives

1. MD, Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation Ltd.
2. CMD, Educational Consultants India Ltd.
3. CMD, Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.
4. MD, Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd.
5. MD, Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.
6. MD, Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.
7. CMD, Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation Ltd.
8. CMD, National Aluminium Company Ltd.
9. CMD, Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd.
10. MD, Praga Tools Ltd.
11. MD, Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.
12. CMD, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd.
13. CMD, National Textile Corporation (APKMM) Ltd.
14. CMD, Project & Development India Ltd.
15. CMD, Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation Ltd.
16. CMD, India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.
17. MD, Maharashtra Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
18. CMD, National Jute Manufacturer Corporation Ltd.
19. CMD, Madras Fertilizers Ltd.
20. CMD, Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd.
21. MD, Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.
22. MD, Burn Standard Company Ltd.
23. CMD, Machine Tools Ltd. (H.M.T. Ltd.)

24. CMD, Pawan Hans Ltd.
25. CMD, Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd.
26. CMD, National Textile Corporation (SM) Ltd.
27. CMD, National Textile Corporation (MN) Ltd.
28. CMD, Indian Airlines Ltd.
29. MD, Southern Pesticides Corporation Ltd.
30. MD, Indian Iron & Steel Company Ltd.
31. CMD, Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd.
32. MD, Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.
33. CMD, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.
34. MD, Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd.

B. Functional Directors

1. Director (O&M), Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd.
2. Director (Tech), Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.
3. Director (Fin.), Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.
4. Director (Mktg.), National Fertilizers Ltd.
5. Director (P&M), National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
6. Director (Fin.), National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
7. Director (Pers.), Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.
8. Director (Prod.), Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.
9. Director (Pers.), Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd.
10. Director (Fin.), Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.
11. Director (Mktg.), Hindustan Cables Ltd.
12. Director (Fin.), Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.
13. Director (T&P), Hindustan Cables Ltd.
14. Director (Pers.), Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.
15. Director (Proj.), Telecommunications Consultant India Ltd.

16. Director (Comm. & Mktg.), India Tourism Development Corporation
17. Director (CP&M), Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
18. Director (Fin.), Mazagon Dock Ltd.
19. MD (MIG Com.), Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
20. Director (Tech), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.
21. Director (Tech), Northern Coalfields Ltd.
22. Director (Tech), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.
23. Director (Tech), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.
24. Director (ID&A), Power Finance Corporation Ltd.
25. Director (Pers), Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation Ltd.
26. Director (P&A), National Aluminium Co. Ltd.
27. Director (Fin.), Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
28. Director (Planning), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
29. Director (HR), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
30. Director (M&O), Container Corporation of India Ltd.
31. Director (P&S), Container Corporation of India Ltd.
32. Director (DD), Container Corporation of India Ltd.
33. Director (PS), Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd.
34. Director (Ope.), Cochin Shipyard Ltd.
35. Director (Fin.), National Textile Corporation (U.P.) Ltd.
36. Director (Fin.), Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.
37. Director (Prod.), Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
38. Director (Tech), North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd.
39. Director (Tech), Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants India Ltd.
40. Director (Fin), National Textile Corporation (TN&P) Ltd.
41. Director (Fin.), Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.
42. Director (Mktg.), Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.
43. Director (Tech.), Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd.
44. Director (Fin), National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Ltd.
45. Director (Fin.), Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.
46. Director (Fin), Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.
47. Director (Prod.), Instrumentation Ltd.
48. Director (Fin), Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.
49. Director (SH&E), Mazagon Dock Ltd.
50. Director (Mktg.), State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.
51. Director (Com.), National Aluminium Company Ltd.
52. MD (RSP), Steel Authority of India Ltd.
53. MD (BSP), Steel Authority of India Ltd.
54. Director (Com), National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
55. Director (Fin), National Textile Corporation (MN) Ltd.
56. Director (Fin), Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd.
57. Director (Tech), Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.
58. Director (Fin), Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd.
59. Director (Engg. & Com.), Jessop & Company Ltd.
60. Director (Fin), Bridge & Roof Co. (I) Ltd.
61. Director (Fin), Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
62. Director (Tech), Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.
63. Director (CP&P), Steel Authority of India Ltd.
64. Director (Tech), British India Corporation Ltd.
65. Director (Engg.), Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd.
66. Director (Fin), British India Corporation Ltd.

Juvenile Homes

2909. SHRI M. CHINNASAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a sizeable number of children are abandoned in the streets and such children are brought to Juvenile Homes;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that such children have to live under thoroughly uncongenial atmosphere and whenever they get opportunity, they escape from such Juvenile Homes;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to improve the conditions of Juvenile Homes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No such report or information has been received in the Ministry. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been giving financial assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on 50 : 50 basis for establishing and maintaining Juvenile Homes. The administration and maintenance of these Homes wholly rests with the concerned State Governments and the Union Territory Administration. Cases, if any children escaping from Juvenile Homes due to uncongenial atmosphere is available only with State.

[Translation]

Ban on Import of Edible Oils

2910. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to ban the import of refined edible oils in order to safeguard the interests of the oil industry and oilseeds growing farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints of adulteration of refined edible oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. In order to harmonise the interests of domestic oilseeds growers, consumers and processors and to regulate large import of edible oils to the extent possible, the duty structure on edible oils is revised from time to time.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Schemes for SCs/STs Welfare

2911. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently received the proposal from State Government of Kerala for getting financial assistance for the centrally-sponsored schemes for SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals, Scheme-wise;

(c) the amount of financial assistance sought; and

(d) the amount of money released so far?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) Details of proposals received from Government of Kerala and funds released for welfare of Scheduled Castes/ Schedule Tribes by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs during 2001-02 is enclosed. The fund is released as per guidelines under the scheme on the State submitting required proposal subject to utilization of fund sanctioned in the earlier years.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Financial assistance sought (Rs. in lakhs)	Financial assistance released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Construction of Hostels for Scheduled Castes Boys and girls	49.50	Nil
2.	Coaching & Allied Scheme for Scheduled Castes	20.86	20.86
3.	Book Bank Scheme for Scheduled Castes	42.00	Nil
4.	Pre-Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations	14.00	Nil
5.	Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989	110.00	44.15
6.	Boys Hostels for Scheduled Tribes	22.05	Nil
7.	Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes	14.70	Nil
8.	Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan areas	277.50	Nil
9.	Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribes	150.00	Nil
10.	Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Tribes	1.50	0.75

Backlog of Reserved Vacancies

2912. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT 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, indicate backlog/carried forward vacancies ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT O.M. No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997 in respect of SCs, STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on August 29, 1997 in her Ministry when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) backlog/carried forward vacancies reserved for SCs, and STs are treated as a separate and distinct group and are not subjected to any ceiling. However this does not apply to the vacancies reserved for OBCs.

(b) The details are placed at Statement I.

(c) The details are placed at Statement II.

(d) The details are placed at Statement III.

Statement I*Excess/Shortage of Vacancies Ascertained in the Ministry*

Sl.No.	Group	Excess (+)/Shortage (-)		
		SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Group 'A'	.	.	.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Group 'B'	+5	-3	-7
3.	Group 'C'	+4	-8	-12
4.	Group 'D'	+14	-3	-12

* Recruitment to the Group 'A' posts is being done centrally by DOPT. However some the posts in Group 'A' are filled up on deputation basis in consultation with UPSC and reservation in these posts does not apply.

Statement II*Information in Respect of Carried Forward Vacancies*

Year		Group 'A'			Group 'B'			Group 'C'			Group 'D'		
		SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
1998	Filled	.	.	.	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unfilled	.	.	.	02	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
1999	Filled	.	.	.	02	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unfilled	.	.	.	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
2000	Filled	.	.	.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unfilled	.	.	.	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
2001	Filled	.	.	.	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unfilled	.	.	.	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil

REMARKS

*Centrally recruited by Department of Personnel and Training.

Statement III*Information in Respect of Accrued Vacancies*

1998	.	.	.	02	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
1999	.	.	.	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
2000	.	.	.	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil
2001	.	.	.	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil

REMARKS

*Centrally recruited by Department of Personnel and Training.

Mis-Appropriation of Soiled Notes

2913. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether mis-appropriation of soiled notes by the Bangalore Regional Office of Reserve Bank of India has been reported in October, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved; and

(c) the action taken against the erring officials alongwith the steps taken to check the recurrence of such mis-appropriation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An incident of pilferage of Rs. 50.50 lakh of soiled notes from one of the Vaults of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Bangalore was reported to the RBI Central Office on October 13, 2001.

(c) An FIR was lodged immediately after the incident. Based on preliminary investigations, one of the joint custodians of the Vault for the relevant period, Shri S. Sathyanarayana, was arrested. Departmental action has also been initiated by the RBI against the officials for violation of prescribed procedures & negligence of duty. To check recurrence of such incidents, security checks at the RBI offices including the Bangalore Office have been reinforced.

Tea Farmers

2914. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea growers are facing difficulties in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tea growers have submitted Memoranda to address their grievances;

(d) if so, the details of the demands; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The tea growers are facing difficulties on account of steep fall in prices over the past two years, due to which most of the tea estates are incurring losses. The overall average auction prices in North & South India have fallen to the level of Rs. 58.34 per kg. and Rs. 41.20 per kg. respectively, during October 2001. In a number of memorandums submitted, tea growers have raised issues, which include addressing the problem of low prices, increase in import duty on tea, promoting exports of tea and extending financial assistance for developmental activities.

(e) The Government and Tea Board have taken various steps to resolve the problems faced by the tea growers. These include implementation of various developmental schemes by the Tea Board under which financial assistance is provided by the Tea Board for encouraging extension planting, replanting, rejuvenation pruning, infilling, creation of irrigation facilities and drainage etc.

To promote Indian Teas in the overseas markets, Tea Board has taken various steps which include registration of Tea Board Logo and Speciality Tea Logo in major tea importing countries, remove bottlenecks in exports to individual markets, participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad; field sampling at speciality stores and in principal markets; media campaign to increase consumer awareness of speciality Indian teas and to popularise the Tea Board marketing symbol; exchange of tea delegations etc. Tea Board has also entrusted a study to an international consultant to prepare a medium term export strategy for boosting exports of tea.

In order to help the tea industry come out of its problems of low price realizations at auctions, Govt./Tea Board has taken various steps which include:

- implementation of a price subsidy scheme during 2000-2001 through the Tea Board under which subsidy was provided to the small growers of tea (holding upto 10.12 hectares of tea plantation) for an amount equal to the shortfall between the auction price and Rs. 55 per kg subject to a maximum of Rs. 8 per kg.
- amendment of Tea Marketing Control Order 1984 to remove the condition of obligatory sale of 75% of tea production through public tea auctions.

- launch of a Quality Upgradation Programme in the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu for improving quality of tea manufactured by small growers;
- increase in basic customs duty on tea from 35% to 70% in the Budget of 2001-2002;
- ban on sale of tea in the Domestic Tariff Area by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs).
- increase in the allowance under the Section 33 AB of Income Tax Act from 20% to 40% in the Budget 2001-02, designed to enhance productivity and quality through rejuvenation and replantation.

Mid-Day Meals to Poor and Destitutes Through Small NGOs

2915. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced any scheme for distributing Mid-day meals to the poor and destitutes through small NGOs;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government is implementing schemes namely "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" and "Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Castes". Under these schemes grant-in-aid is given to NGOs for providing a shelf of services which inter-alia include support for nutrition/mid-day meals to the poor, destitutes and neglected Street Children and students of non-residential school of Scheduled Castes. The main objectives of these Schemes are providing of shelter, nutrition, health care, sanitation and hygiene, safe drinking water, recreational facilities, protection, improvement of educational and socio-economic conditions of the target group against abuse and exploitation to poor and destitutes.

(c) Does not arise.

CRB Mutual Fund Scam

2916. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 24th August 2001 to Unstarred Question No. 4929 regarding CRB Mutual Fund Scam and state:

(a) whether the departmental enquiry against the Executive Director of SEBI has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of its findings; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Activities of MMTC in Orissa

2917. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various activities of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) in Orissa;

(b) the additional facilities proposed to be provided by the Government for them;

(c) whether priority is given on the recruitment of local tribals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Sir, the various activities in Orissa in which MMTC, a public sector undertaking under Department of Commerce, is engaged, includes the following:

- Export of minerals like iron ore, chrome ore and manganese ore produced in the State.
- Import of coke and coking coal, non-ferrous metals, gold and fertilizers for distribution in Orissa.

- *Setting up of Steel Plant and Coke oven plant:* MMTC is the managing promoter of the iron and steel plant namely Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Ltd. (NINL); and coke oven and power plant namely Konark Met Coke Ltd. (KMCL) in association with Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL) and Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC), both Government of Orissa Undertakings.

(b) Additional facilities/concessions etc. would be provided by the State Govt. of Orissa as per its Industrial Policy.

(c) and (d) MMTC has not recruited any employees in Orissa in the last few years. However, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. (NINL), in which MMTC is the major promoter has recruited 30 tribals (STs) and 10 SCs from local area (Orissa). Besides this, 200 local tribals are indirectly given employment through various agencies, deployed for construction activities of iron and steel plant.

Export of Coffee

2918. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum and value of coffee exported during each of the last three years till date;

(b) the percentage of increase/decrease registered in coffee export during the above period;

(c) the specific plans formulated by the Government/ Coffee Board to boost the coffee export during coming years;

(d) whether there is abnormal decline in coffee export after September 11, 2001;

(e) if so, upto what extent the foreign exchange earnings likely to be reduced during 2001-2002; and

(f) the corrective steps proposed by the Coffee Board to protect the interests of country as well as of small planters in this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The total quantum and value of coffee exported during the last three years alongwith percentage increase registered are given below:

Year	Quantity in lakh tonnes	Value Rs. crores	US \$Mn.	Percentage increase registered in Qty. of coffee exports
1998-99	2.12	1752	431.41	+15.57
1999-00	2.45	1901	447.33	+13.47
2000-01	2.47	1376	333.39	+0.80
2001-02 (Apr.-Nov.)	1.22	620	142.80	—

(c) For boosting exports of coffee, the Coffee Board is concentrating on targeted import markets like Italy, USA, Germany, Japan, Russia and West Asia etc. The Board also participates in selected food fairs/exhibitions abroad, releases advertisements on unique features of Indian Coffee in selected overseas trade journals, sponsors trade delegations/invites roasters' delegation from all target markets to India, arranges service of Indian coffee abroad through our embassies, distributes gift packets of Indian Coffee through our embassies on special occasions and festivals, publishes and distributes literature on Indian Coffee.

Coffee Board is also implementing a medium-term export strategy to sustain and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in the global markets over the next few years.

(d) and (e) There appears to be no major shortfall in terms of quantity of coffee exports after the September 11 events. However, due to all-time low prices of coffee prevailing in the global markets, the foreign exchange earnings from coffee exports during the current year is likely to be of the tune of US \$ 200 million.

(f) The Govt. of India through Coffee Board has already been implementing various developmental schemes under which various types of financial and technical assistance are provided to the coffee growers. Further, thrust is being given for increasing productivity of coffee particularly in the small grower sector and also for improving quality of the product to achieve competitiveness in the global markets.

Recently, at the behest of Govt. of India, the commercial banks have rescheduled the crop loans of small coffee growers besides extending fresh working

capital loans to the coffee growers. The Coffee Board has also been permitted to implement an Interest Subsidy Scheme which will provide 5% subsidy to targeted small coffee growers on the crop loans availed of by them from the financial institutions/Commercial Banks.

[Translation]

Un-utilised Foreign Aid

2919. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received by the Government in the form of foreign assistance during the last two years and the amount utilised out of the total amount received;

(b) the names of the various projects for which the said amount have been spent; and

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of the balance amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The amount of foreign aid received/utilised during the last 2 years is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total Aid Received/ Utilised
1999-2001	14296.96
2000-02	14254.31

(b) The names of projects for which the said amount were utilised are given in the statement.

(c) the external assistance is received on reimbursement basis. The Project implementing agencies have to first incur the expenditure and after that they apply for payment. Therefore, there is no non-utilised amount at any given time.

Statement

Asian Development Bank

1. Second Madras Thermal Power
2. Second Road
3. Railways Freight Haulage Capacity
4. Coal Ports Project
5. National Highways

6. Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development
7. Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development
8. Karnataka Urban Development & Coastal Environment Management
9. Gujarat Public Sector Resource
10. MP Public Resources Management Program
11. Gujarat Power Sector Development Program
12. Gujarat Power Sector Development
13. PGCL Power Transmission Sector
14. Renewable Energy Development
15. ICICI Private Sector Infrastructure Facility
16. IFCI Private Sector Infrastructure
17. Mumbai Port Trust
18. Chennai Port Trust
19. LPG pipeline project
20. HUDCO Urban & Environmental Infrastructure Facility
21. Urban & Environmental Infrastructure Facility
22. IDFC-Urban Environmental Infrastructure Facility
23. NTPC Unchahar
24. IDBI-Industrial Energy
25. NHB-Housing Finance
26. HUDCO Housing Finance
27. HDFC Housing Finance

Canada

1. Chamera Project
2. Rajasthan Agriculture Drainage

Denmark

1. Women & Youth Training Extension Phase-II, Project in Karnataka
2. Integrated Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Karnataka Phase-I
3. National Leprosy Eradication Programme, Phase-II.
4. Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Koraput, Orissa

5. Integrated Livestock Development, Koraput Distt. Orissa
6. Tamil Nadu Women in Agriculture (TANWA)-Phase II
7. M.P. Women in Agriculture
8. Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Ramanathapuram
9. Comprehensive Watershed Development, Tirunelveli Phase II
10. TEWA, Phase-II, Orissa
11. Rural Water & Sanitation Phase-II Kamataka
12. Rural Water & Sanitation, Phase II Tamil Nadu
13. Revised National T.B. Control Prog. Orissa Phase-I
14. Live Stock Development, Bastar MP
15. Health Care Project Phase III Tamil Nadu
16. Pudukottai Livestock Development Project Phase II
17. Watershed Development in Western M.P.
18. Karnataka Watershed Development Ph-II
19. National Programme for Control of Blindness Ph-III
20. Leprosy Eradication Programme Phase-III
21. Women & Youth Training Phase III
22. M.P. Basic Health Services

European Economic Community

1. Cooperative Rural Storage Centres in Bihar
2. Water control system for Development of Crops, Maharashtra
3. Agriculture Markets in Kerala (supply of fertilizer)
4. Tank Irrigation System (Ph. II) in Tamil Nadu
5. Strengthening of Veterinary Services for Live Stock
6. Rehabilitation of common lands in Aravalli Hills
7. Supply of Fertilizer (Alkaline Land Reclamation)
8. Doon Valley Integrated Watershed Management
9. Kerala Horticulture Development
10. Kerala Minor Irrigation

11. Sidhmukh & Nohar Irrigation, Rajasthan
12. Support of Primary Education
13. Minor Irrigation in Orissa
14. Saline Lands Reclamation in Maharashtra
15. Haryana Community Forestry
16. Tank Rehabilitation, Pondicherry
17. Ravine Stabilization in U.P.
18. Health & Family Welfare Sector Development

Ford Foundation

1. Film Festival of India

France

1. FRGL27 FF 1130 Million Protocol
2. FRGL38 FF223.3 M
3. FRGL39 FF151 M
4. FRGL40 FF376M
5. FRGL41 FF-125M
6. Calcutta Port Trust
7. FRGL42 FF-105M
8. FRGL04 FF37 M-Reheating Furnaces for RSP (SAIL)
9. FRGG36 FF 149.4 M
10. FRGG38 FRF 15.4 M
11. FRGG39 FRF 3.3 M
12. FRGG40 FRF 376 M

Germany

1. MSEB equipments
2. AL 8465924 DM 520M
3. AL9765223 DM 185 M
4. AL9765173 DM 45 M
5. AL 9466500 DM 29.74M MSEB equipments
6. Ramagundam Open Cast Mines-II
7. RCS, Sithouli
8. AL 8465924 DM 520 M
9. Lift irrigation Orissa

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| 10. Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant | 43. Multi-purpose Cyclone shelter-Orissa |
| 11. PFC Energy Investment | 44. Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme |
| 12. Rejuv. Min. Equipm. Mine | 45. Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme-Ph. II |
| 13. NSIC National Renewal Fund | 46. SIDBI-II |
| 14. NLC Expan. Legnite Mine & Pwr. | IBRD |
| 15. HUDCO Housing for Economically Weaker | 1. Nathpa Jhakri Power |
| 16. Indian Renewal Agency Development | 2. Northern Region Transmission |
| 17. AL 9566944 DM 23M KSLHDP | 3. Agricultural Development-TN |
| 18. Residential School Projects Rajasthan | 4. Capital Restructuring |
| 19. NLC Study Expert | 5. Second National Highway |
| 20. Minor Irrigation, Rajasthan | 6. Industrial Pollution |
| 21. AL 8570152 DM 2.5M Experts & Studies | 7. Second Madaras Water Supply |
| 22. AL 9370321 Study Expert Fund-VI | 8. Bombay Sewage Disposal |
| 23. Karnataka Watershed Development | 9. Orissa Power Sector Restructuring |
| 24. RWS-Rajasthan (Grant) | 10. UP Rural Water Supply & Environment |
| 25. AL 9070137 DM 2M NDDDB-Studies & Experts Fund-IV | 11. State's Road Infrastructure Development Technical Assistance |
| 26. AL 9170226 Study & Experts Fund-V | 12. Andhra Pradsh Hazard Mitigation |
| 27. Rural Water Supply West Bengal | 13. Andhra Pradesh Irrigation |
| 28. AL9765496 DM 60 M | 14. Andhra Pradesh State Highway |
| 29. Basic Health Maharashtra | 15. Haryana Power Sector Restructuring |
| 30. AL 8570152 DM 2.5M Experts & Studies | 16. National Agricul. Technology |
| 31. Social Marketing by PSS & PSI | 17. A.P. Economic Restructuring |
| 32. Watershed Maharashtra-II (NABARD) | 18. U.P. Diversified Agricultural Support |
| 33. HUDCO-VI | 19. A P Power restructuring |
| 34. HDFC-III (Low Cost Housing) | 20. Second Tamil Nadu Urban Development |
| 35. HDFC-II | 21. Integrated Watershed Dev. (Hills II) |
| 36. NABARD-V Adivasi Programme Gujarat | 22. U.P. Power Sector Restructuring |
| 37. AL 9570052 NSIC-XII | 23. Telecommunication Sector Reforms Tech. Asstt. |
| 38. HUDCO-III Prom. of Bldg. Technology | 24. Third National Highway |
| 39. AL9765165 Adivasi Development Programme (NABARD) | 25. Gujarat State Highway |
| 40. Rajasthan Rural Water Supply | 26. Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring |
| 41. Fertiliser Programme VI | 27. Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring |
| 42. Karnataka Sec. Hospital Development | 28. IInd Bombay Urban Transport Infrastructure |
| | 29. P-362-IN Calcutta Water Supply Sewerage & Drainage |

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| <p>30. P368-0-IN Kamataka Water Supply Management & MS</p> <p>31. PGCL Powergrid System Development</p> <p>32. CONCOR Container Transport Logistics</p> <p>33. IDBI Industrial Pollution Prevention</p> <p>34. ICICI Industrial Pollution Prevention</p> <p>35. 38576-IN IDBI Modernisation & Industrial Development</p> <p>36. IL&FS Private Infrastructure Finance</p> <p>37. Coal Sector Rehabilitation</p> <p>38. IREDA Second Renewable Energy</p> <p>39. Urban Environmental Management</p> <p>40. Bombay Resettlement & Rehabilitation</p> <p>41. Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority</p> <p>42. Integrated Agricultural Demand Side Management</p> <p>43. DSM Planning in State Power Sector</p> <p>44. TF-022033 Info. Dev. Programme</p> <p>45. TF-25404 DSM Planning in State Power Sector</p> <p>46. TF-25573 West Bengal Municipal Development</p> <p>47. TF-27056 Power Sector Reform Programme</p> <p>48. TF29474-IN Third National Highway Project</p> <p>49. India Audit Skills</p> <p>50. Grant for Infrastructure Financing</p> <p>51. Urban Infrastructure Financing</p> <p>IDA</p> <p>1. Vocational Training</p> <p>2. Integrated Watershed Development (Hills)</p> <p>3. Technical Education Ph-1</p> <p>4. Integrated Watershed Development (Plains)</p> <p>5. Second TN Nutrition</p> <p>6. Second Technical Education</p> <p>7. Dam Safety</p> | <p>8. Industrial Pollution Control</p> <p>9. Maharashtra Forestry</p> <p>10. National Aids Control</p> <p>11. Kamataka RWS & ESP</p> <p>12. Shrimp and Fish Culture Project</p> <p>13. Second National Highways</p> <p>14. Family Welfare (Urban Slum)</p> <p>15. Rubber Project</p> <p>16. Agricultural Development (Rajasthan)</p> <p>17. Bihar Plateau Development</p> <p>18. Renewable Resources Development</p> <p>19. Second Integrated Child Development</p> <p>20. UP Basic Education</p> <p>21. U.P. Sodic Lands Reclamation</p> <p>22. National Leprosy Elimination</p> <p>23. Forestry Res. Educatn. & Extention</p> <p>24. Andhra Pradesh Forestry</p> <p>25. Haryana Water Resources Consn.</p> <p>26. Cataract blindness control</p> <p>27. Family Welfare</p> <p>28. Industrial Pollution Prevention</p> <p>29. District Primary Education</p> <p>30. AP Health System</p> <p>31. Agricultural H.R.D.</p> <p>32. M.P. Forestry</p> <p>33. Assam Rural Infrastructure</p> <p>34. T.N. Water Resources Cosolidation</p> <p>35. Hydrology Project</p> <p>36. Orissa Water Res. Consolidation-Part-H</p> <p>37. Orissa Water Resources Consolidation</p> <p>38. Second State Health Systems Development</p> <p>39. Private Infrastructure (IL&FS)</p> <p>40. Coal Sector Env. & Social Maintenance</p> <p>41. Seocnd District Primary Education</p> |
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42. Ecodevelopment Project
43. Capacity Building Technical Assistance
44. Tuberculosis Control
45. Rural Women's Development & Empowerment
46. A. Hazard Mitigation & E.C.R.
47. Turd A.P. Irrigation
48. Malana Control
49. Coal Sector Rehabilitation
50. Third District Primary Education
51. U.P. Basic Education Project II
52. U.P. Forestry
53. National Agricultural Technology
54. Kerala Forestry
55. AP Economic Restructuring
56. U.P. Diversified Agri. Support
57. Maharashtra Health Systems Development
58. Uttar Pradesh Sodic Land Reclamation Project-II
59. Second National HIV/AIDS Control
60. Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II)
61. U.P. Third district Primary Education
62. A.P District Poverty Initiatives
63. U.P. Helath Systems Development
64. Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives
65. Immunization Strengthening
66. Second Renewable Energy
67. Third Technician Education
68. MP District Poverty Initiatives
69. Reproductive & Child Health
70. Orissa Health Systems Development
71. Women and Child Development
72. Rajasthan District Primary Education
73. Economic Reform Tech. Assistance
74. Rural Women's Development & Empowerment
75. Renewable resources

76. Renewable Resources Development
77. Punjab Water Resources MG Project
78. Second District Primary Education
79. Alternate Energy

IDF (WB)

1. Development of Commodity Futures Market
2. Disinvestment Technical Assistance
3. Strengthening of Debt Management Capacity
4. Eco Development Project Global Environment Facility
5. Strengthening of Procurement Capacity

IFAD

1. TN Women Development
2. Maharashtra Rural Credit
3. AP Parti. Tribal Development
4. Mewat Area Development
5. Rural Women's Dev. & Empowerment
6. NE Regn. Community Resource Management
7. A.P. Tribal Development

Japan

1. IDP-40 Teesta Canal Hydro
2. Assam Gasturbine Dt. 18.3.87
3. Ghatghar T.P.
4. Mysore Paper Mills
5. Power System & Small Hydro
6. IDP-72 Teesta Canal Hydro
7. Afforestation Dev. Project (IG Nahar)
8. IDP-C/8 NTPC
9. Urban City Water Supply
10. National Highway (Mathura Agra)
11. Ajanta Ellora Conservation
12. Yamuna Action Plan
13. Srisailam Power Transmission System
14. IDP-088 Anpara B Thermal Power
15. Faridabad G.B.P. S&ATSP

16. Yamuna Bridge at Naini
 17. NH 5 Improvement
 18. IDP-094 Srisailem Left bank P.S.P. II
 19. IDP-095 Srisailem Left bank T.P.S.
 20. IDP-096 Assam Gas TPS & Transmission
 21. Bakreshwar TPS Extension
 22. Purulia Pumped Storage
 23. Kothagudem 'A' TPS
 24. National Highway Improvement
 25. National Highway-24 Improvement
 26. Madras Sewerage R&F improvement
 27. Lake Bhopal Conservation & Management
 28. Rajasthan Forestry Development
 29. Industrial Pollution Control (WB)
 30. IDP-108 Anpara Power Transmission System
 31. Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage
 32. Attappaddy Wasteland Comprehensive Environment
 33. Gujarat Afforestation & Development
 34. Kumool-Cuddapah Canal Modernisation
 35. Pipavav Port Ship Breaking
 36. West Bengal Transmission System
 37. Umiam Hydro Power Stn. Ren.
 38. Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System
 39. Calcutta Transport Infrastruct. Development
 40. Kerala Water Supply
 41. Eastern Karnataka Afforestation
 42. Tamil Nadu Afforestation
 43. Rajghat Canal Irrigation
 44. Simhadri and Vizag Trans. System
 45. Srisailem Left 3k. Power
 46. Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Project-II
 47. Punjab Afforestation
 48. Chhattisgarh Sericulture
 49. Manipur Sericulture
 50. Rengali irrigation
 51. Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Project-III
 52. Industrial Pollution Control
 53. Dhauliganga Hydro Power Plant
 54. PCCL Northern India Transmission
 55. NEEP Tuirial Hydro-Electric Power
 56. NTPC Simhadri Thermal Power Station
 57. IDP-129 NHPC Dhauliganga Hydro Power
 58. TPDP Tuticorin Port Dredging
 59. Debt Relief (Consolidated)
 60. Construction of Dredger for Fishing Ports
 61. Debt Relief of 1997 (Phase-II)
 62. Development of Economy & Welfare of People
 63. HUDCO Urban Water Supply & Sanitation
- Kuwait**
1. Kalinadi Hydro Electric II
- Netherlands**
1. ORET-Loan for Gujarat Health Care Project
 2. Grant India 1994-01
 3. Grant India 1995-03-Supply of Dredger
 4. Kerala Water Supply, Revority
 5. Bundel Khand Integrated Water
 6. Training & Documentation Centre
 7. Ganga Action Plan Support
 8. Gogha Regional Water Supply
 9. Upgrading Hydrgraphic Survey
 10. ORET Grant for Gujarat Health Care
 11. Training Women in Agriculture-Gujarat PH-II
 12. Mysore Paper Mills Phase-III
 13. Usar Reclamation in U.P.
- Norway**
1. HP Environment Programme
 2. ICICI-Export Finance ASA

3. Orissa Environment
4. National Databuoy
5. Environment Programme
6. Women's Economic Programme
7. Trout Farming HP

OPEC

1. Rewa Hospital
2. Basti Dist. Hospital
3. Raichur District Hospital
4. Kerala Rainfed Farming Development
5. Shimla Sewerage

Russian Federation

1. Kundakulam Nuclear Power

Saudi Arabia

1. Koraput Rayagadh Railway
2. NHA VSHEVA Port

Sweden

1. Durgapur Integrated Waterland Development
2. I.C.D.S. Ph. III
3. Orissa Forestry/Capacity Building
4. Lok Jumbish Phase-II
5. JRI Project

Switzerland

1. Indo-Swiss Participative Watershed Dev. Karnataka
2. PAWD Project Rajasthan
3. Sericulture-2000

United Kingdom

1. Energy Efficiency
2. Cuttack Slum Improvement
3. Kribhco Rainfed Farming
4. A.P. Energy Efficiency
5. Himachal Pradesh Forestry
6. Eastern India Rainfed Farming
7. Orissa Power Sector Reforms

8. AP Dist. Primary Education
9. Polio Eradication
10. Jhangra Coal
11. Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction
12. West Bengal Primary Education
13. Karnataka Watershed Development
14. Orissa Helath & Family Welfare Project Phase-III
15. Cuttack Urban Services Improvement
16. Andhra Pradesh Urban Services Improvement for Poor
17. Maharashtra Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation
18. A.P. Rural Livelihood
19. AP Urban Services for the poor
20. Western India Rainfed Farming Proj.-II
21. Calcutta Slum Improvement
22. West Bengal Distt. Primary Education Exp.
23. Forest Training
24. Revised TB Control
25. Lok Jumbish Ph. III L.C.G.
26. Western Orissa Rural Development
27. Partnership for Sexual Health in AP, GU, KR and OR
28. Polio Eradication
29. Shiksha Karmi Project Phase III
30. Western Ghats Forestry

U.N.D.P.

1. Agricultural in Punjab (ITSAPSP)
2. Vocational Training for Employment Generation
3. Community Based Pro-Poor Initiatives
4. Green Rating of Indian Industry
5. Capacity Building in Environmental
6. Environment Management in Semicon. & Printed Circuit Board
7. Agro-forestry for Poverty Alleviation & Envo. Rest.

8. Upgrading Environment Quality of Delhi
9. Medicinal Plants Conservation & Sustainability
10. Inland Wetland of India
11. Development & Use of Natural Dyes in Textiles
12. Sub Programme on Small Grants
13. Center for Conservation Education-Goa
14. Wildlife Protected Area Management in West Bengal
15. Biodiversity Conservation & Tribal Development
16. Urban Services Environmental Rating System
17. Community Adoption & Monitoring Prog. for Schools
18. Olive Ridley Turtles Conservation
19. Empowerment of Women Farmers for Food Security-UP
20. Sustainable Dryland Agriculture
21. Natural Rce. Mgt. & Sus.Livelihood for Women-OR
22. Economic Reforms
23. Capacity Building for Preparation of State HDRs
24. Decent. Eng. Systems Komna Block, Orissa
25. Demo. of Comm.-based Solar Energy (SWRC)
26. Energy Serv. for Rural ind. Angara Bihar
27. Jute Programme
28. Non-Mulberry Silktasar Production and Processing
29. Integrated Angora Wool Programme
30. Hand-Knotted Carpets
31. Cane & Bamboo Sector Development
32. Integrated Development of Spice Industry
33. Support to Children with Disabilities

UNFPA

1. Media Advocacy
2. Gender Sensitizing Census of India 2001
3. Population Education in Vocational Training

4. Extension of Non-Scalpel Vasectomy
5. Integrated Population & Dev. in Rajasthan
6. IPD Gujarat
8. Reproductive Health-Wardha
9. District Reproductive Health-Sirmour
10. District Reproductive Health-Malappuram
11. Interated Population & Dev. in Kerala
12. Population & Deve. Education in Schools (NCERT)
13. Pop. & Dev. Ed. in Post Literacy & Continuing Education
14. Dist. Reproductive Health-Patna
15. Training for Women's Empowerment-Maharashtra
16. Haryana Integrated Women's Empowerment & Dev.
17. Our Bodies Our Lives
18. Integrated Population & Development in Orissa
19. Advocacy on Population, Reproductive Health
20. District Reprodutive Health-Bundi
21. Emergency Relief Fund
22. Improving Status of Reproductive Health
23. Population Education in Higher Education

U.N.I.C.E.F.

- *1. AWWC Training Courses under ICDS Scheme

United States of America

1. Programme for Advancement of Comm. Tech.
2. Private Vol. Orgn. for Health-II
3. Plant Genetic Resources
4. Technical Assistance and Support
5. Aids Prevention & Control
6. Innovations in Family Planning Services
7. Greenhouse Gas Pollution Prevention
8. AVERT Project
9. Quality Control

*[English]***SCs/STs & OBCs in Government Jobs**

2920. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59% (SCs-10.38 & STs-3.21%) and in Class-II (Group B) Services only at 14.41% (SCs-11.73% & STs-2.68%) as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them (15% for SCs and 7.5% in respect of STs) as on January 1, 1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, the total number of 'posts' in class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) Category and equivalents thereof under his Ministry; and

(c) the persons belonging to General, SC, ST and 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 O.M. No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The representation of SCs and STs as on 1.1.1998 under Central Government in Group 'A' Services was 14.24% (SCs-10.8% and STs-3.44%) and in Group 'B' services it was 15.37% (SCs-12.35% and STs-3.02%)

(b) and (c) The details are placed at the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Group	Total Number of Posts	In Position	Posts as ascertained in view of instruction as contained under para 5 DOPT O.M. No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July 1997	In Position as on 1.1.98 and the %age representation
1.	A	60	45	#	#
2.	B	159*	150	SC	18 (11.67%)
				ST	09 (33.33%)
				OBC	12 (16.67%)
				Gen.	110 (112.72%)

* Recruitment to the Group 'A' post is being done centrally by DOPT. However some of the posts in Group 'A' are filled up on deputation basis in consultation with UPSC and reservation in these posts do not apply.

* Out of the 159 posts shown 08 posts are Ex-Cadre/Technical posts which are filled up on deputation basis and reservation criteria does not apply. One of the posts belongs to Central Secretariat Official Language Services and nomination against the post is done centrally by them. Similarly, the nomination against one of the other post is done centrally by the office of C.G.A.

*[Translation]***Handicapped Persons Registered with Employment Exchanges**

2921. SHRI BHUPENDRA SINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of handicapped persons registered with the employment exchanges in various parts of the country is increasing;

(b) if so, the number of handicapped persons provided jobs by the Government during each of the last three

years and the number of handicapped persons registered in employment exchanges waiting for employment; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide them employment?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The placements effected by the employment exchanges in respect of persons with disabilities in 1998, 1999 and 2000 (upto June) are 3,600, 4,200 and 1,800

respectively. 4.66 lakhs persons with disabilities are on the live registers of employment exchanges as on 30th June 2000.

(c) 3% vacancies in the identified posts in the Government establishments are reserved for persons with disabilities suffering from blindness or low vision, hearing impairment and locomotor disabilities. The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFD) provides soft loans for self-employment ventures.

'Arrest of Income Tax Officials'

2922. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Income Tax Officers have been caught red handed while taking bribe;

(b) if so, the details of the last three years;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to prevent corruption in I.T. Department;

(d) whether it is a fact that due to nefarious activities of these corrupt officials there is substantial reduction in collection of revenues by the departments; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to increase collection of revenues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of officers caught while taking bribe during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of cases
1999	5
2000	2
2001	6 (upto 30.11.2001)

(c) A restructured set up has been put in place in the Income Tax Department, under which there shall be close monitoring by supervisory authorities, to check corruption. The vigilance machinery of the Department has been strengthened by upgrading the existing Directorate of Income Tax (Vigilance) to the level of Directorate General of Income Tax (Vigilance). Four regional Directorates of Income Tax (Vigilance) have also been created at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.

(d) Figures regarding collection of direct taxes have not been ascertained so far.

(e) The following steps have been taken in respect of direct taxes:

(i) Legislative amendments are periodically brought about to expand the tax base and ensure better tax compliance and tax administration.

(ii) Collection out of arrear demand by monitoring of Dossier cases having demands more than Rs. 10 lakhs of various levels.

(iii) Expeditious disposal of stay petitions.

(iv) Monitoring of Advance Tax payments by top corporates, tax payments by exporters and foreign exchange earners, TDS deductors and Action Plan for Tax Recovery Officers.

(v) Ensuring early hearing by ITAT in cases where demands are stayed, expeditious disposal of high demand cases by CIT (Appeals) and early completion of assessment in big cases.

[English]

Recruitment of SC/ST

2923. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2.7.1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, indicate total 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; and

(c) the candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Department of Personnel & Training, persons belonging to communities for whom reservation has been made, but who are

appointed on merit and not owing to reservation should not be shown against reserved points. They will occupy the unreserved points. No centralised data is maintained in case of persons belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs recruited/promoted on merit under various offices of the Ministry of Finance.

Krusha Co-operative Urban Bank

2924. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:
 DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
 SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:
 SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
 SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:
 SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
 SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
 SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Krushi Co-operative Urban Bank, Hyderabad had a mismatch of funds, high profile publicity campaign and also a high interest rate offered on deposits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action has been taken against the bank authorities for violation of guidelines and norms issued by the RBI; and

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of investors who have deposited their hard earned money in this bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Krushi Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd., Hyderabad was facing liquidity problems and hence was not able to repay its depositors. The bank had resorted to wide media advertisements hoardings, etc. and also offered higher rates of interest on deposits ranging from 15 days to 3 years which varied from 11% to 16%.

(c) and (d) In view of the serious irregularities in the working of the bank, the Chairman of the bank was called by the Regional Director of RBI, Hyderabad for a discussion. He was warned that a serious view would be taken if no perceptible improvement is seen in the bank's operations. The irregularities in operation of the bank were again reviewed and the bank was issued directions under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (As Applicable to Cooperative Societies) to streamline its operations. The bank was also directed to freeze its loan

business to the level as on March 31, 2001. However, with a view to securing proper management of the bank, the Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS), Andhra Pradesh was issued a requisition to supercede the Board of Directors and appoint an Administrator to manage the affairs of the bank. The bank Board was superceded and an Administrator was appointed on August 16, 2001. A criminal complaint was filed against the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the bank in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Hyderabad. RBI also issued a requisition to the RCS to make an order for winding up the bank and to appoint a liquidator to take charge of the bank. The bank has since been taken into liquidation by RCS, Andhra Pradesh. The claims of the depositors will be settled as per Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act as and when received from the liquidator.

Reservation for SC/ST and OBCs

2925. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Departments/Sub-ordinate and Attached Offices. Public Sector and Autonomous Organisations/Corporations under the Ministry of Finance are not nominating Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs as required under MHA OM No. 16/17/67-Est (C) dated 10.4.1968 (DOPT) OM No. 36022/5/76 dated 27.5.1976 for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matters of reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs;

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

(c) if not, indicate total number of Organisations/Offices under the Ministry of Finance which function as 'Administrative Units' dealing with establishment and staff matters under his Ministry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Inflation Rate

2926. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of inflation is declining constantly;
- (b) whether in view of the economic recession inflation rate is likely to decline further; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to contain the inflation rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Starting with an over 5% annual point to point inflation rate (based on Wholesale Price Index) at the beginning of the current fiscal year, there was a gradual decline in the inflation rate which reached a low of 2.4% by mid November 2001.

(b) Last year's rise in inflation was triggered by an increase in the energy prices (petroleum and electricity) in response to the rise in international prices of crude oil. If International crude oil prices continued to remain subdued, there is likely to be less pressure on domestic inflation rate despite prices of primary products having registered an inflation rate of 3.8%.

(c) Government has been following an effective supply management policy to ensure adequate viability of essential commodities of mass consumption at reasonable prices. It has also adopted measures on the demand side to control inflationary pressures. These include bringing about greater fiscal discipline, and regular monitoring of monetised deficit and broad money (M3) growth.

[English]

Ban on Export of Certain Items

2927. SHRI P.D. ELENGOVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there still exists a ban/heavy restrictions on export of certain commodities/items from India;
- (b) if so, the names of such commodities/items;
- (c) whether Indian trade has been affected adversely due to such imposition; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction keeping in view the Indian trade situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Under current Export and Import Policy, most of the commodities/items can be exported free without restrictions. However, a few items are either

subject to licensing requirements or quantitative ceilings or their export is allowed through certain designated State Trading Enterprises. Apart from above, a very few items like "all forms of wild animals including their parts and products, exotic birds, beef, human skeleton, tallow, fat or oil of animal origin, certain plants belonging to endangered species, sandalwood, wood and wood products" etc. are prohibited for export. The list of the items where restrictions apply is given in Schedule 2 of ITC (HS) Classification of Export & Import Items (incorporating amendments made upto 31st August, 1998) and as amended from time to time, the copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) and (d) The review of export policy is an ongoing process and policy interventions are made as and when considered necessary with a view to making our exports increasingly viable and competitive in the international market.

Low Statutory Price for Rubber

2928. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had taken into consideration the actual cost of production of rubber as on date while declaring the statutory minimum price for RSS 4 and RSS 5 at Rs. 32.09 and Rs. 30.79 respectively;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that consequent to the declaration of low statutory minimum price, trading in rubber has stopped causing unbearable hardship to the rubber farmers and allied workers in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps contemplated by the Government to mitigate the suffering of the farming community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government has fixed minimum price for RSS 4 and RSS 5 grades of natural rubber on the basis of an import parity price keeping in view the international prices under the Quantitative Restrictions free regime. Any price fixed not taking into consideration the international price would have led to surge in imports thereby causing undue hardship to the rubber growers.

(c) and (d) Initially rubber dealers had some misapprehensions about the minimum price but after discussions with the trading community, the market has since settled and normal trading is taking place. At the same time it should be stated that there is an overall demand recession for rubber based products in the domestic as well as international markets which has affected off-take of natural rubber.

Visit by RBI and SBI Teams to USA

2929. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether teams of the Reserve Bank of India and the State Bank of India visited the United States of America to have a meeting with the US Federal Reserve Bank on the issue of Indian banks operations in the United States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the composition of two teams;

(c) whether the dispute regarding operations of the Indian Banks in the United States has since been resolved; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that its team consisting of a Deputy Governor, an Executive Director, a Chief General Manager and a General Manager of RBI, visited USA and met the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System on 22nd October, 2001, to discuss certain cross border supervisory concerns, particularly relating to the USA operations of State Bank of India (SBI). SBI has reported that its team consisting of the Chairman, Deputy Managing Director and Group Executive (International Banking) and Chief General Manager (Foreign Offices) visited USA and had meeting with Federal Regulators in USA in this regard.

(c) and (d) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the Regulatory Authorities in USA had conducted inspection of its New York cluster branches as on 31st March, 2001. The regulators had pointed out certain deficiencies in the systems & procedures and tools for monitoring mechanism, "Know Your Customer and Enhanced Due Diligence" procedures, especially in the areas of remittances, funds transfer and inter-office accounts. Based thereon, as per a recent order the US regulators have asked it to appoint an independent firm to review its US operations and also to appoint a new internal audit firm to conduct an internal audit of its US

offices. SBI has reported that it shall have to conform to certain enhanced due diligence procedures as per the order. SBI has assured the regulators in USA that the desired improvements in systems and technology and procedures at its New York branch will be carried out as per the stipulation given by the regulators.

SCP for SCs

2930. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Central Ministries/Departments have formulated and implemented the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes;

(b) if not, the details of Ministries which have not done so far; and

(c) the time by which those Ministries/departments are likely to be included in the Special Component Plan for SCs?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Under the strategy for preparation of Special Component Plan (SCP) evolved by the Planning Commission, the Central Ministries/Departments are required to formulate and implement Special Component Plan (SCP) for welfare of the Scheduled Castes. 12 Central Ministries/Departments (list enclosed as statement have reported implementation of SCP. The matter is being pursued with other Central Ministries/Departments by the Planning Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. A detailed discussion on the subject was held with all concerned Ministries/Departments during July-October, 2001 by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerments, where all Ministries/Departments were requested to prepare and implement Special Component Plan as per the guidelines. As this relates to other central Ministries/Departments, it may not be possible to indicate any time frame.

Statement

List of Central Ministries Implementing Special Component Plan

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
2. Ministry of Industry, Department of Small Scale industries & Agro and Rural Industries

3. Ministry of Labour
4. Ministry of Coal (Community) Development and Welfare programme of 7 Public Sector Undertakings
5. Ministry of Commerce (Rubber Board, Spices Board and Tobacco Board)
6. Ministry of Textiles (Handloom & Handicraft)
7. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (National Programme as improved Chulha)
8. Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Women & Child Development
9. Ministry of Science & Technology (i) Department of Bio-technology (ii) Department of Science & Technology.
10. Ministry of Steel
11. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
12. Ministry of Rural Development

SC/ST and OBCs Selected on Merit

2931. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the para 11 of Explanatory Notes of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2.7.1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, the total 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; and

(c) the instances, if candidates belonging to SCs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities alongwith the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Failure of States to Distribute Subsidised Foodgrains

2932. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of the States have failed to distribute foodgrains, provided to them by the Union Government at highly subsidised prices, to the people living below the poverty line involving a subsidy of Rs. 12,500 crore;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government when full utilisation of huge subsidy of Rs. 12,500 crore has not been made; and

(c) the estimated subsidy on this account for the current financial year keeping in view the above scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Against a total allocation of 59.23 lakh MTs of rice and 51.80 lakh MTs of wheat to the States for distribution to Below Poverty Line population under Targeted Public Distribution System from April, 2001 to October, 2001, the actual off-take had been only 30.51 lakh MTs of rice and 18.64 lakh MTs of wheat, which is 51% of the allocation for rice and 36% for wheat.

Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments. Whereas the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated godowns of FCI, the responsibility of distribution of foodgrains to targeted beneficiaries in a transparent and accountable manner rests with the State Governments. The subsidy is released on the basis of off-take of foodgrains by State Governments.

The Budget Estimate (BE) for 2001-2002 for food subsidy is Rs. 12,787 crore in addition to Rs. 883 crore earmarked for decentralized procurement scheme for States. Out of this, Rs. 10,555.27 crore has already been released to FCI and States. Based on the off-take projection upto March, 2002, a further demand of Rs. 6600 crore has been projected at the Revised Estimates (RE) stage.

Global Recession

2933. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director General designate of the World Trade Organisation has predicted global recession next year;

(b) if so, the pre-emptive steps are being taken by Government to revive the dwindling economy;

(c) whether the Government identified items of unproductive, wasteful and luxurious expenditure which would be banned or curbed with immediate effect;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government is not aware of any such statement/prediction by the Director General designate of the World Trade Organisation. However, the broad strategy for promoting economic growth has been enunciated in the Budget Speech for 2001-02. Various tax reform measures undertaken in the Budget are, inter-alia, designed to promote greater investment and consumption demand for promoting economic growth. The Budget 2001-02 and subsequent measures have also provided emphasis on faster implementation of central Plan outlays and completion of projects for key infrastructure sectors and promotion of capital investment in the private sector as well. In its mid-term review of monetary and credit policy announced in October, 2001, the Reserve Bank of India has taken certain measures aimed at ensuring adequate liquidity to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand. These include further reduction of Bank Rate from 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent, reduction in and rationalisation of Cash Reserve Ratio for banks and reduction in the maximum interest rate chargeable on export credit by one percentage point for a period of six months from September 26, 2001. These measures are designed to stimulate demand in the backdrop of the Budget strategy and are expected to have a favourable impact on growth.

(c) to (e) It is the Government's constant endeavour to contain unproductive, wasteful and luxurious expenditure. Amongst the austerity measures taken in this direction include a ban on creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in the office expenses, restrictions on the purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses etc.

*[Translation]***Irregularities in Share Market**

2934. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) does not have the powers to penalise those committing irregularities in the share market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to give more powers to the SEBI;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act is being reviewed by Government. This review is based on inputs from SEBI, market intermediaries and other informed circles. Government proposes to amend the SEBI Act, which would, inter-alia, enhance SEBI's effectiveness in regulating/developing the securities market and protecting the interests of investors.

*[English]***Permission to Export Onion**

2935. SHRI BASANGOURA R. PATIL (YATNAL):
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to permit State agencies to export onion from Karnataka; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has considered favourably, keeping in view the interest of onion growers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The export of Bangalore Rose onion

which is free from quantitative restrictions for export was being canalised through the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Processing and Export Corporation Ltd., (KAPPEC) Bangalore. The Karnataka State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., (KSCMF) Bangalore and the Spices Trading Corporation Ltd., (STCL), Bangalore were appointed as the canalising agencies for the export of other varieties of onion. The Government of Karnataka had requested appointment of KSCMF as additional canalising agency for Bangalore Rose onion and the North Karnataka Onion Growers Cooperative Society Ltd. Hubli as additional canalising agency for other varieties of onion. The above recommendations were considered and these two agencies have been included as additional canalising agencies for export of Bangalore Rose onion and other varieties of onion respectively.

[Translation]

Opium Growers

2936. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The state-wise number of opium growers especially in Adivasi region of the Country;

(b) the state-wise details of production during the last year; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the cases of looting and killing of opium growers by illegal traders and the security measures taken to prevent killings of these opium growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Licenses for cultivation of opium are granted to cultivators in the notified tracts in three states viz., Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. In the last crop year 2001 in Madhya Pradesh a total of 56417 licenses were issued of which 287 were in Adivasi region. In Rajasthan out of 50245 licenses, 4809 pertain to Adivasi region. In Uttar Pradesh 26747 licenses were issued and no license pertains to Adivasi region.

(b) The details of opium production in the last crop year 2001 are as follows:

State	Opium produced at 70% Consistency
Madhya Pradesh	272529 kgs.
Rajasthan	493562 kgs.
Uttar Pradesh	167831 kgs.

(c) At the time of collection of opium the respective Superintendents of Police of the District are requested to increase night patrolling in opium growing villages. Some of the opium cultivators of dacoit prone areas are allowed to store their opium in the nearest Police Station in safe lock custody. State Police officers are provided assistance as and when required by them. Further, weighing of opium in dacoit prone areas is undertaken on priority basis.

Profit Earning PSUs

2937. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of public undertakings which are not earning profit;

(b) the number of public undertakings out of them which have been constantly incurring losses for the last three years alongwith the details of year-wise losses incurred by them;

(c) the extent of Government investment in the loss incurring undertakings;

(d) whether the losses in these undertakings can be attributed to the faulty management system, wasteful expenditure and negligence and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether some of the loss making Public Sector Undertakings have closed during last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) There were 106 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) which incurred losses during 1999-2000, out of which 83 CPSUs had incurred continuous losses for the last three years. The names and losses incurred by these CPSUs for the last three years is given in Statement-7B of Vol.-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 1999-2000 which was laid in the Lok Sabha on 27.2.2001 and is a published document.

(c) As per Public Enterprises Survey, 1999-2000, the Government investment in 106 loss incurring undertakings as on 31.3.2000, the period till which the information is available was Rs. 38617.93 crores.

(d) The reasons for losses are enterprise specific and in general include inherited sickness in case of taken over units from the private sector, obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilisation, excess manpower, financial resource crunch, high input costs, heavy interest burden, weak marketing strategies etc.

(e) and (f) As per available information, establishments of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML), Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO), Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd. (MNPML), Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineers Ltd. (BPMEL), Weighbird (India) Ltd. (WIL), Rehabilitation Industries Corpn. (RIC) and National Bicycle Corp. of India Ltd. (NBCIL) have been closed. Four units of HMT and seven loss making Refractory Units (LRUs)/Fabrication Yard of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. (BSCL) have also been closed.

[English]

SCs/STs and OBCs Selected on Merits

2938. SHRI EZHILMALAI DALIT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt(Res) dated 2.7.1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, indicate total number of persons belonging to SCs/STs, and OBCs who have been selected recruited/promoted on merit to different categories of service and not counted against the "reserved quota of vacancies/posts" for their communities during the last five years in all (1) Public Sector Undertakings (2) Statutory Organisations/Corporations (3) Autonomous Organisations, Attached and Subordinate offices under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises and also in the Ministry; and

(c) indicate instances if candidates belonging to SCs and OBCs who have been selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As for this Ministry, only recruitment made after the issue of the above order is filling up of two posts of peon. Out of two posts, one was for unreserved category and one was reserved for ST. There has been no instance of adjusting any reserved candidate coming on merit against reserved point.

As far as PSUs, statutory organisation/corporations, autonomous organisations, attached and subordinate offices under the Ministry of HI & PE are concerned, appointment of below board level posts come under the purview of the respective organisation and such information is not centrally maintained.

SCs/STs and OBCs in PSUs

2939. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:
DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group-A) Services stood only at 10.68% and in Class II (Group-B) Services only at 13.20% as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them as on 1.1.96 under Central Public Sector Enterprises and in Class-I (Group-A) Services stood only at 13.59% and in Class-II (Group-B) Services only at 14.41% as against 22.5% quota prescribed for them as on 1.1.98 under Central Government respectively;

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

(c) the number of persons belonging to General, SC, ST and 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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Representation of SCs and STs in Class-I (Group A) services was 10.68% and Class-II (Group B) Services was 13.20% respectively in Central Public Sector Undertakings as on 1.1.96. Under Central Government, representation of SCs and STs as on 1.1.98 in Group A services was 14.24% and Group B services 15.37%.

(b) and (c) Information relating to Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises in respect of posts in Group 'A' and 'B' excluding those filled by deputation and from organized services which are not controlled by this Ministry is as under:

Gr.	No. of posts	No. of persons belonging to SC/ST and OBC with %age			
		Gen.	SC	ST	OBC
A	10	6	2 (20%)	2 (20%)	—
B	4 (1 vacant)	3	—	—	—

Information relating to PSEs/Statutory Organisations etc. is not centrally maintained as appointments to below Board level posts come under the purview of respective organizations.

[*Translation*]

Inclusion of Dhobi Caste in SC List

2940. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL, JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra have sent any proposal to the Union Government to include the Parit (Dhobi) caste in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the decisions taken by the Union Government on the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) A proposal for inclusion of "Parit (Dhobi)" Community in the list of Scheduled Castes of Maharashtra was

processed as per approved modalities and sent to Government of Maharashtra for comments. Government of Maharashtra has not recommended the proposal as the community does not fulfill the criteria for notifying a community as Scheduled Caste. As such, no further action is deemed necessary on this proposal.

[*English*]

Target and Production of Jute

2941. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jute producing states including Bihar that are registered with the Jute Corporation of India;

(b) the estimated Jute production by the Jute producing States including Bihar during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any Minimum Support Price for procurement of Jute from the Jute growers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether, the Government have fixed higher target of Jute production for the current year in comparison to previous year;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to promote Jute production?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The estimated jute (including mesta) production by the jute producing states including Bihar is as follows:

(Production in Lakh Bales)

(1 Bale = 180 Kg)

State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 (Estimated)	2001-02 (Projected)
1	2	3	4	5
Assam	10.00	8.00	10.00	10.00
Meghalaya	0.30	0.20	0.30	0.50

1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	56.00	53.00	64.40	72.00
Bihar	8.00	8.00	9.50	11.00
Orissa	3.00	2.63	2.10	2.50
A.P	4.00	4.66	5.60	6.50
Tripura	0.32	0.21	0.20	0.30
Others	1.25	1.30	1.90	2.20
Total	82.87	78.00	94.00	105.00

The jute producing states are not required to be registered with the Jute Corporation of India (JCI).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed for different varieties and grades of raw jute at the upcountry markets in different jute and mesta growing states for 2001-02 season may be seen at statement-I and II respectively.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The details of the target of production and achievements made in the current year and last year are as follows:

(Fig. in lakh bales)
(1 Bale = 180 Kg)

	Jute Year 2001-02 Jute (including Mesta)	Jute Year 2000-01 Jute (including Mesta)
1	2	2
Target	110.00	100.00

1	2	2
Achievements (Projected/ Estimated)	105.00	94.00

(g) In order to promote the jute production, Government declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute/mesta every year. In addition, Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in packing commodities) Act, 1987, provides for compulsory packaging of certain commodities in jute packaging material, which helps jute growers in Marketing their produce. A centrally sponsored Special Jute Development Programme was in operation from 1992-93. This scheme, since October 2000, has been subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture providing flexibility to State Governments to take up need-based programmes.

Statement I

Minimum Support Prices fixed for different varieties and grades of Raw Jute at the Up-country Markets in different Jute and MESTA growing States for the 2001-2002 Season

TOSSA/White

Rs./Quintal

Sl.No.	States	Districts	Variety	Grades							
				TD-1 W-1	TD-2 W-2	TD-3 W-3	TD-4 W-4	TD-5 W-5	TD-6 W-6	TD-7 W-7	TD-8 W-8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Assam & Meghalaya	All Districts	Tossa	1110.00	1040.00	970.00	870.00	810.00	750.00	690.00	630.00
			White	1060.00	990.00	920.00	820.00	760.00	700.00	640.00	580.00
2.	Tripura	All Districts	Tossa	1081.00	1011.00	941.00	841.00	781.00	721.00	661.00	601.00
			White	1031.00	961.00	891.00	791.00	731.00	671.00	611.00	551.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Bihar	(i) Purnea Kishanganj	Tossa	1141.00	1071.00	1001.00	901.00	841.00	781.00	721.00	661.00
		Katihar Araria Distts	White	1091.00	1021.00	951.00	851.00	791.00	731.00	671.00	611.00
		(ii) Saharsa, Champanan Other Distts.	Tossa	1125.00	1055.00	985.00	885.00	825.00	765.00	705.00	645.00
			White	1075.00	1005.00	935.00	835.00	775.0	715.00	655.00	595.00
4.	Uttar Pradesh	All Districts	Tossa	1088.00	1018.00	948.00	848.00	788.00	728.00	668.00	608.00
			White	1038.00	968.00	898.00	798.00	738.00	678.00	618.00	558.00
5.	Onssa	All Districts	Tossa	1147.00	1077.00	1007.00	907.00	847.00	787.00	727.00	667.00
			White	1097.00	1027.00	957.00	857.00	797.00	737.00	677.00	617.00
6.	West Bengal	(1) Coochbehar	Tossa	1135.00	1065.00	995.00	895.00	835.00	775.00	715.00	655.00
		Jalpaiguri & Darjeeling Distts.	White	1085.00	1015.00	945.00	845.00	785.00	725.00	665.00	605.00
		(ii) North & South Dinajpur Malda	Tossa	1148.00	1078.00	1008.00	908.00	848.00	788.00	728.00	668.00
			White	1098.00	1028.00	958.00	858.00	798.00	738.00	678.00	618.00
		(iii) Murshidabad Bankura & Birbhum	Tossa	1160.00	1090.00	1020.00	920.00	860.00	800.00	740.00	680.00
			White	1110.00	1040.00	970.00	870.00	810.00	750.00	690.00	630.00
		(iv) Nadia, Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapur & S.N. 24-Parganas	Tossa	1173.00	1103.00	1033.00	933.00	873.00	813.00	753.00	693.00
			White	1123.00	1053.00	983.00	883.00	823.00	763.00	703.00	643.00

Statement II

Minimum Support prices fixed for Different Varieties and Grades of Raw Jute at the UP-country markets in Different Jute and Mesta Growing States for the 2001-2002 Season

MESTA/BIMLI				Rs./Quintal					
S.No.	States	Districts	Variety	Grades					
				M-1	M-2	M-3	M-4	M-5	M-6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Assam & Meghalaya	All Districts	Mesta	860	820	780	720	680	640
2.	Tripura	All Districts	Mesta	831	791	751	691	651	611

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Bihar	(i) Purnea, Kishanganj Katihar & Araria Distts.	Mesta	891	851	811	751	711	671
		(ii) Saharsa, Champaran Other Distts.	Mesta	875	835	795	735	695	655
4.	Uttar Pradesh	All Districts	Mesta	842	802	762	702	662	622
5.	Madhya Pradesh	All Districts	Mesta	842	802	762	702	662	622
6.	Orissa	All Districts	Mesta	897	857	817	757	717	677
7.	West Bengal	(i) Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri & Darjeeling Distts.	Mesta	885	845	805	745	705	665
		(ii) North & South Dinajpur, Malda Distts.	Mesta	898	858	818	758	718	678
		(iii) Murshidabad, Bankura Bankura & Birbhum	Mesta	910	870	830	770	730	690
		(iv) Nadia, Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapur and S&N 24-Parganas	Mesta	923	883	843	783	743	703
				O.TOP	S.MID	MID	BOT	B.BOT	X.BOT
8	All Districts		Bimli	872	832	792	752	712	662

Rotting of Foodgrains in Godowns

2942. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:
DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether stink of rotting wheat is emanating from the FCI godowns in certain places like Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity and value of rotten foodgrains;

(c) the action taken to ensure that rotten foodgrains are not supplied for public distribution;

(d) whether any action has been taken against the officials found responsible for the loss;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Wheat stocks in storage in Cover and Plinth (CAP) complex of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) at Zangalapally, Anantapur (AP) were affected due to unprecedented heavy rain. The affected wheat stocks were salvaged and a quantity of 32.2 MTs has been segregated as damaged. Besides, wheat stocks in storage in CAP complexes in East and West Godavari, Krishna, Nalgonda, Karimnagar, Nellore, Warangal and Mahaboobnagar districts were also affected and 414 MTs of wheat valued at Rupees 30.55 lakh has been segregated as damaged.

(c) Only sound stocks, fit for human consumption, are issued for distribution under PDS. The stocks are also jointly inspected by the FCI and State Government officials before lifting from the FCI depot for issue under PDS.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against 24 officials including suspension of two Assistant Managers and two Technical Assistants for their negligence.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance to Handicrafts Sector

2943. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for development and upliftment of handicrafts to each State during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) the details of the amount utilised so far by each State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the States which have not fully utilised the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The details of financial assistance provided by the Government for development and upliftment of handicrafts to each State during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise is as per statement enclosed.

The details of Funds utilised has been shown against each state.

(c) The concerned organisations have been asked to settle the accounts at the earliest. Further proposals for financial assistance shall not be considered till the accounts are settled for the earlier grants released to them. The defaulting organisation have also been asked to refund the entire amount alongwith penal interest.

Statement

Handicrafts Sector
Funds released/utilised during 1998-99
Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.	State	Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing	Marketing Dev. Support	Survey Study
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh		15.56	3.00	2.44	7.72	48.09	24.84	4.58
2.	A&N Island								
3.	Arunachal Pradesh								
4.	Assam		24.09	22.02		10.69	12.26	22.50	5.70
5.	Bihar		4.80	0.41	1.54	2.66			
6.	Delhi	14.00	26.21	39.11	138.2	12.40	15.20	20.00	25.82
7.	Goa		1.54	0.73	0.70			10.25	
8.	Gujarat		18.34	4.05	14.27	1.93	33.16	30.00	
9.	Haryana		1.15			1.84	43.15	7.50	
10.	Himachal Pradesh		29.47	4.88	0.77			25.00	
11.	Jammu & Kashmir		12.68	2.18		4.65	4.00	43.94	
12.	Karnataka		6.21	4.83	0.79	0.49	5.00	18.75	4.00
13.	Kerala		3.21	1.83		1.06	2.00	8.00	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14.	Madhya Pradesh		6.00	5.90	4.90	13.84	25.84	17.48	3.68
15.	Maharashtra		8.07		5.18	3.64	33.96	5.00	6.00
16.	Manipur		1.15	3.30		13.99	24.95	27.73	
17.	Meghalaya						1.00	8.60	
18.	Mizoram		4.30	3.53			2.00	9.31	
19.	Nagaland		8.00	2.93	0.80		1.00	25.00	
20.	Orissa		30.29	5.11	2.40	19.01	40.54	33.50	7.00
21.	Punjab		0.85	2.03	2.50	2.00	3.50		
22.	Pondicherry		3.53	0.16					
23.	Rajasthan		4.76	2.00	2.00	1.72	6.08	5.00	1.00
24.	Sikkim		2.40	3.18		7.60	2.46		3.40
25.	Tamil Nadu		15.40	4.25	2.24	1.83	9.25	25.00	3.47
26.	Tripura		9.13	0.80	2.00		4.00	26.00	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	15.00	39.31	6.16	11.90	80.28	68.31	46.24	8.89
28.	West Bengal		17.91	3	1.12	4.24	6.63	21.09	2.28
	Total	29.00	294.36	127.43	191.3	192.09	390.88	464.23	77.82

Note: The above figures are for developmental schemes only released to NGO's/Corporations.

Handicrafts Ector
Funds released/utilised during 1998-99
Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.	State	C.D.C.	Workshd Housing	Insur- ance.	Revival of Languishing	UNDP	Total of all Schemes	Amount Utilised
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.03	1.75	-	-	0.68	111.69	107.66
2.	A&N Island						0.00	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh						0.00	0.00

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
4.	Assam	3.89	12.07	0.06		1.75	115.03	115.03
5.	Bihar		2.13		0.63	0.70	12.87	12.00
6.	Delhi				4.70	2.51	298.19	298.19
7.	Goa	3.00					16.22	16.22
8.	Gujarat	2.00					103.75	103.75
9.	Haryana	3.19				0.35	57.18	57.18
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.77					65.89	65.89
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.94	4.50				75.89	75.89
12.	Karnataka	3.00					43.07	43.07
13.	Kerala	0.54		0.08		5.82	24.54	24.54
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7.46				7.02	92.12	92.12
15.	Maharashtra				0.30	1.08	63.23	63.23
16.	Manipur	6.50	1.75				79.37	79.37
17.	Meghalaya						11.64	11.64
18.	Mizoram	5.56		0.06			24.76	24.76
19.	Nagaland	4.56	18.25				60.54	56.94
20.	Orissa	3.68	17.71	0.36	0.30	3.80	163.70	157.32
21.	Punjab	5.56					16.44	16.44
22.	Pondicherry						3.69	3.69
23.	Rajasthan	9.01	4.25	9.00			44.82	43.68
24.	Sikkim				1.78		20.82	20.82
25.	Tamil Nadu	9.43	5.65		0.30	0.87	77.69	77.69
26.	Tripura					0.13	42.06	42.06
27.	Uttar Pradesh	10.98	20.00			38.60	345.67	334.29
28.	West Bengal	2.91	0.88			3.50	63.56	58.56
Total		94.01	88.94	9.56	8.01	66.81	2034.43	2002.03

Note: The above figures are for developmental schemes only released to NGO's/Corporations.

*Handicrafts Sector**Funds released/utilised during 1998-99**Name of the Plan Schemes*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing Dev. Support
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh		9.70			18.62	53.41
2.	A&N Island						5.75
3.	Arunachal Pradesh					0.06	6.64
4.	Assam		13.70	6.87	14.91	4.59	38.24
5.	Bihar		6.57		0.50	4.40	53.20
6.	Delhi	47.00	22.29	28.09	138.99	15.30	57.09
7.	Goa					1.30	6.00
8.	Gujarat		16.05	1.71	4.50	28.91	10.38
9.	Haryana		4.47			7.34	60.03
10.	Himachal Pradesh		14.26			0.04	8.59
11.	Jammu & Kashmir		10.56	1.97	1.90	5.49	56.22
12.	Karnataka		1.09		3.36	2.71	23.31
13.	Kerala		3.24			8.13	9.74
14.	Madhya Pradesh		11.73	10.98	7.58	16.87	32.18
15.	Maharashtra		7.36		10.00	6.79	42.79
16.	Manipur			1.58	0.50	16.79	21.85
17.	Meghalaya						9.58
18.	Mizoram						1.30
19.	Nagaland		8.40	0.93	0.50	5.01	8.09
20.	Orissa		22.95		4.68	32.09	20.99
21.	Punjab				0.34	3.54	18.34
22.	Pondicherry		4.69			4.07	8.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Rajasthan		8.75	8.95		2.66	17.56
24.	Sikkim					16.16	5.59
25.	Tamil Nadu		15.08		1.20	7.54	25.07
26.	Tripura		5.16	2.55	1.57	2.64	10.80
27.	Uttar Pradesh	75.00	21.63		4.18	131.48	73.10
28.	West Bengal		14.80	0.80	6.41	4.65	49.87
Total		122.00	222.48	64.43	201.12	347.18	735.28
%age		5.38	9.81	2.84	8.87	15.31	32.43

Handicrafts Sector
Funds released/utilised during 1998-99
Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Marketing	Survey study	C.D.C.	Welfare	UNDP	Total of all Schemes	Amount Utilised
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	5.49	-	2.03	-	89.25	89.25
2.	A&N Island	-	-	-	-	-	5.75	5.75
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	6.70	6.70
4.	Assam	10.97		8.81	18.61		116.7	99.00
5.	Bihar			1.88			66.55	66.55
6.	Delhi		22.62		1.90	66.90	400.18	400.18
7.	Goa	7.50					14.80	14.80
8.	Gujarat	10.50		1.98			74.03	74.03
9.	Haryana	5.00			2.25		79.09	72.34
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.50		1.69			27.08	27.08
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.45		1.88			98.47	98.47
12.	Karnataka	6.73	3.55	0.31	24.35	43.00	108.41	88.41
13.	Kerala	2.53		0.05	2.11	25.98	51.78	51.78

1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10.50	0.24	6.92			97.00	97.00
15.	Maharashtra	0.85				23.37	91.16	91.16
16.	Manipur	9.73		4.12	3.78		58.35	52.85
17.	Meghalaya						9.58	9.58
18.	Mizoram	10.01					11.31	11.31
19.	Nagaland	12.50			5.25		40.68	37.29
20.	Orissa	10.32	1.60	3.61	24.20		120.44	108.51
21.	Punjab			2.99			25.21	25.21
22.	Pondicherry						17.33	17.33
23.	Rajasthan		8.92			10.76	57.6	57.6
24.	Sikkim		1.75	0.66			24.16	24.16
25.	Tamil Nadu	10.38	1.44	1.03	0.65		63.39	45.89
26.	Tripura	7.00					29.72	29.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	20.60	2.06	2.48	15.23	45.02	390.78	380.78
28.	West Bengal	10.86	1.11		3.10		91.60	91.6
Total		168.93	48.78	38.41	103.46	215.03	2267.10	2174.33
%age		7.45	2.15	1.69	4.56	9.48		

Handicrafts Sector
Funds released/utilised during 2000-2001
Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	13.65	6.89	—	7.92	32.26
2.	A&N Island	—	—	—	—	2.02	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	1.45	—	—	6.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Assam	-	16.45	3.12	29.40	5.53	11.14
5.	Bihar	-	1.12	0.21	-	13.40	-
6.	Delhi	651.66	29.33	72.75	125.19	12.89	47.12
7.	Goa	-	-	-	-	0.85	-
8.	Gujarat	-	15.17	-	2.40	13.25	43.54
9.	Haryana	-	5.47	-	-	1.71	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	21.08	3.41	-	10.68	-
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.00	7.87	0.58	0.50	14.19	-
12.	Karnataka	-	6.34	-	7.08	3.39	16.23
13.	Kerala	-	4.75	0.14	-	3.51	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2.52	19.52	6.41	3.40	10.79	19.24
15.	Maharashtra	-	7.58	-	3.88	7.80	33.14
16.	Manipur	-	3.20	-	15.00	10.61	14.41
17.	Meghalaya	6.75	-	2.41	5.00	3.33	4.44
18.	Mizoram	-	5.71	1.99	-	-	-
19.	Nagaland	-	4.05	0.58	25.00	5.02	9.91
20.	Orissa	-	5.26	1.38	0.50	26.46	-
21.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	10.38	-
22.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	0.45	-
23.	Rajasthan	-	7.00	-	2.40	6.34	-
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-	15.00	0.45	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.37	8.53	1.54	-	4.30	22.75
26.	Tripura	-	11.37	-	5.50	8.07	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	48.80	22.93	5.25	0.74	67.25	45.05
28.	West Bengal	-	2.06	6.58	9.16	7.86	14.63
29.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	15.25	-
30.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	6.73	-
Total		723.10	219.89	113.24	250.15	286.43	313.86

Handicrafts Sector
Funds released/utilised during 2000-2001
Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Marketing Dev. Support	Survey Study	Welfare	UNDP	CDC/CF	Total of all Scheme	Amount Utilised
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	0.06	30.13	-	-	100.91	100.91
2.	A&N Island	-	-	-	-	-	2.02	2.02
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	17.00	-	-	24.45	24.45
4.	Assam	21.25	22.94	12.27	-	7.85	129.95	126.95
5.	Bihar	-	-	1.00	-	-	15.73	15.73
6.	Delhi	-	26.73	1.22	315.85	-	1282.74	1282.74
7.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	0.85	0.85
8.	Gujarat	-	8.00	-	4.00	11.25	97.61	86.36
9.	Haryana	2.50	2.12	-	-	-	11.80	11.80
10.	Himachal Pradesh	12.73	-	-	-	-	47.90	42.67
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	3.75	29.89	29.89
12.	Karnataka	7.20	-	9.63	24.00	-	73.87	71.67
13.	Kerala	5.02	-	1.08	51.15	-	65.65	65.65
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27.25	-	-	-	1.31	90.44	90.44
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	15.00	-	67.40	67.40
16.	Manipur	-	-	29.33	-	1.07	73.62	73.62
17.	Meghalaya	6.25	-	0.04	16.70	-	44.92	44.92
18.	Mizoram	7.95	-	0.03	-	3.94	19.62	19.62
19.	Nagaland	13.70	-	27.63	-	13.22	99.11	92.05
20.	Orissa	-	-	31.73	-	2.76	68.09	68.09
21.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	1.16	11.54	11.54
22.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	0.45	0.45
23.	Rajasthan	-	-	1.50	16.38	-	33.62	33.62

1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	15.45	15.45
25.	Tamil Nadu	6.33	-	4.40	-	-	48.22	48.22
26.	Tripura	5.72	-	1.35	-	9.02	41.03	41.03
27.	Uttar Pradesh	29.22	12.00	24.50	25.75	46.42	327.91	327.91
28.	West Bengal	2.73	0.17	7.20	-	14.45	64.84	64.84
29.	Uttaranchal	-	-	3.60	-	-	18.85	18.85
30.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	6.73	6.73
Total		147.85	72.02	203.64	468.83	116.20	2915.21	2886.47

Note: The above figures are for developmental schemes only released to NGO's/Corporations.

Merger of Banks/Fis

2944. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial institution like IDBI has decided to merge with a public sector/private sector bank;

(b) if so, whether any proposal by Financial Institution has submitted to RBI in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether IDBI has finalised its new partners;

(e) if not, by when new partners will be decided;

(f) whether employees of IDBI would be accommodated in it; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (g) The salient operational and regulatory issues to be addressed by Financial Institutions for conversion into Universal Bank was circulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 28th April, 2001. RBI intend to process applications to be received from financial institutions in the light of the consideration outlined in RBI Circular. ICICI Bank has since submitted a proposal to RBI on 25th October, 2001 for merger of ICICI with it. IDBI has

informed RBI that the details of transformation into a Universal Bank are being evaluated and they will approach RBI once the analysis is complete.

[English]

Rating of India by Credit Rating Agencies

2945. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Credit Agency Standard and Poors and Moodys downgraded India's rating;

(b) if so, the level to which India has been downgraded and the reasons for it; and

(c) the steps the Government is taking to prevent further downgradation by International Credit Rating Agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Standard & Poor's (S&P) on August 7, 2001, affirmed its BB long-term and B short-term foreign currency sovereign credit rating and 'A-3' short term local currency sovereign credit on India. The rating agency revised India's long-term local currency rating to BBB (minus)

from 'BBB'. The outlook on both long-term ratings was revised from stable to negative. S&P vide their press release dated November 20, 2001, has affirmed the above ratings. The outlook remains negative.

Moody's Investors Service on August 8, 2001, revised the outlook for India's Credit Rating to stable from positive for the Ba2 foreign currency country ceiling. The outlook has also been revised to negative from positive for the Ba2 ratings assigned to domestic currency debt.

The above revisions are, inter-alia, based on S&P's and Moody's perceptions about public finances and the declaration in GDP growth.

(c) Government has initiated several measures to improve the fiscal situation of the Centre and States.

[Translation]

Tea Trade with China

2946. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed agreement with China in regard to trade in tea;

(b) if so, the extent to which the agreement is likely to benefit India in the economic and commercial fields;

(c) the extent of success achieved from the aforesaid agreement;

(d) whether such agreement has also been signed with other countries also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Government/Tea Board has entered into agreements with Sri Lanka and Russia respectively with regard to trade in tea. Under the Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement Sri Lanka has been allowed to export to India upto 15 Mn. Kgs of tea per annum at a concessional customs duty of 7.5%. The agreement has become operational since April 2000.

Tea Board has entered into an agreement with the Russian Tea and Coffee Association and the Russian Organisation of Tea Producers (ROSCAI) in December, 1998 for annual off-take of 100 Mn. kgs of tea from India during the period from January, 99 to December, 2005.

[English]

Finance for State Projects

2947. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI:
SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have asked the Union Government at the National Development Council meet that the loans taken by the State Governments from institutions such as LIC etc. to finance the plan should carry a lower rate of interest;

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

(c) the other financial demands in brief made by State Governments at the meet; and

(d) the response of the Union Government on each point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Carpenter of HP in SC List

2948. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that carpenter has been given the status of Scheduled Caste in India under Article 341 of the Constitution but an anomaly has been created in the case of people belonging to carpenter community residing in new areas of Himachal Pradesh which were included in the State after reorganization of State in 1966 as they are not given the status of Scheduled Caste; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) As per provision under Article 341 of the Constitution, the list of Scheduled Caste has been notified for each State/Union Territory. "Carpenter" has not been notified as Scheduled Caste.

A proposal for inclusion of "Tarkhan" community, whose main profession is stated to be wood/iron work, in the list of Scheduled Caste for Himachal Pradesh, which was recommended by the State Government has been processed as per approved modalities. The State Government has been requested for sending additional information.

[English]

Debt-GDP Ratio

2949. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average fall in the debt-GDP ratio during the last three years has slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The debt-GDP ratio as measured by the total outstanding liabilities as per cent of GDP (at current market prices) of the Central Government during 1999-2000, 2000-01 (RE) and 2001-02 (BE) are placed at 52.2 per cent, 53.4 per cent and 53.7 percent respectively. The Government is conscious of the need for better fiscal management. With a view to achieve fiscal consolidation, the Budget for 2001-02 emphasises expenditure management through the process of bringing about structural changes in the composition of Central Government expenditure, economy in non-plan revenue expenditure while improving the quality of expenditure. To this end the Budget contains a number of initiatives which among others include restricting fresh recruitment to one per cent of total civilian staff strength, revision in user charges for services provided by the government and its agencies keeping in view the increased cost of these services etc. Further, with a view to reduce interest burden, most administered interest rates were reduced by 1.5 per cent as of March 1, 2001. Besides, the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Bill, 2000 was introduced in Parliament in December 2000. This Bill includes provisions relating to ceilings on debt, deficit and borrowing.

Income Tax Payees

2950. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons paying income tax in the country and the number of them in salaried class;

(b) whether the Government have given the income tax department poor infrastructure and inadequate facilities as compared to advanced countries in the world consequent to which the income-tax payees are less in the country than in other countries; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the hi-tech facilities for proper investigation, on-line computerisation with various banks, hotels, departmental stores, jewellers shops to procure instant information regarding the spread of unaccounted wealth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As on 31.3.2001, there were 2,47,37,341 total number of assesseees in the country, out of which 2,06,62,926 assessee had filed return in the 'Individual' status. However, data in respect of specifically salaried class are not maintained.

(b) The infrastructure facilities provided to the income tax department by the Government are commensurate with the available resources in the country. Technological upgradation with a view to augment number of income tax payees is one of the priority areas.

(c) The Government has taken steps to improve the hi-tech facilities for online computerisation of the income tax department. For this purpose, an all-India network (TAXNET) linking all the computers in the Income Tax offices is 60 cities to the regional computer centres and the National Computer Centre is already in place. A central information branch, (CIB) System has been created for use in the department as an effective tool for widening of tax base and detection of unaccounted wealth

Production of Cement

2951. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI VAIKO:
DR. C. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the installed capacity of each plant of the Cement Corporation of India;

(b) the production of cement produced alongwith production cost by each plant of CCI during each of the last three years; and

(c) whether it is comparable to the private sector undertakings like ACC, L&T, Gujarat Ambuja etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The installed capacity of each plant of the Cement Corporation of India and their production during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed. The production cost of Cement plants is not centrally maintained.

Statement

Unitwise Capacity and Production of Each Plant of Cement Corporation of India Limited during the Last Three Years

Unit	Installed Capacity (MT/Annum)	1998-99 (in MT)	1999-2000 (in MT)	2000-2001 (in MT)
Bokajan	198000	127020	118320	134335
Rajban	198000	159150	162155	106231
Tandur	1000000	489200	364100	36460
Adilabad	400000	106999	9287	1806
Nayagaon	400000	9920	1855	0
Kurkunta	198000	44150	0	0
Delhi Grinding Unit/Nayagaon Expansion	500000	10740	0	0
Sub-total	2894000	947179	655717	278832
Mandhar	380000	30	—	—
Akaltara	400000	—	—	—
Charkhi-Dadri	174000	15	—	—
Total	3848000	947224	655717	278832

Hawala Trade

2952. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the unabated flourishing of hawala operations spreading to the commercial centres and illegal banking system in various

parts of the country including the city and their involvement in funding the terrorists organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to identify the operators involved in the flourishing hawala trade; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The Enforcement Directorate of the Ministry of

Finance is aware of sporadic instances of money transactions through hawala. Constant vigil is maintained on suspected hawala operators, and action is taken as per law on receipt of specific information against gangsters, exporters and expatriates indulging in such activities.

Union Aid for Food Damages to Kerala

2953. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any memorandum from the Government of Kerala regarding Central aid towards food damages this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Union team had visited the State of Kerala regarding food damages this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Fall in the Assets of UTI

2954. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assets under management of UTI has fallen further by Rs. 1691 crores during the month of July, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to save the interest of small investors in this reputed Government financial institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to Unit Trust of India (UTI), the market value of assets under management by UTI has declined from Rs. 58,220.66 crore as on 30.6.2001 to Rs. 55,450.67 crore as on 31.7.2001, a decline of Rs. 2769.99 crore during July, 2001.

(b) According to UTI, the decline in the market value of assets under management can be attributed partly to the net outflow on account of repurchase/redemptions of

units in July, 2001 and partly to fall in share prices. The BSE Sensex fell from 3456.78 points on 29.6.2001 to 3329.28 points on 31.7.2001.

(c) The government has taken following steps to protect the interest of small investors in US-64 scheme of UTI:

After discussion with Government, UTI decided on 15th July, 2001 to provide limited repurchase facility to investors of US-64 scheme from 1st August, 2001. Under this facility, all unit holders holding units as on 30th June, 2001 may offer for repurchase upto 3000 units per unit holder at any time during the period from 1st August, 2001 to 31st May, 2003 at the price of Rs. 10 per unit effective from 1st August, 2001 which will increase by 10 paise per month.

Regional Rural Bank

2955. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Committee constituted to know the working of the Regional Rural Banks in the country has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee to strengthen the RRBs alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether RRBs have failed in extending the banking facilities to the desired extent to the Rural Credit System;

(d) if so, the reasons for this failure;

(e) whether any Memorandum has been submitted by the RRBs personnel to the Government for improving the working of the RRBs;

(f) if so, the response of the Government in this regard; and

(g) the other measures taken/being taken by the Government to improve the working of these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A Working Group was constituted by Government of India on 12th July, 2001 under the Chairmanship of Shri M.V.S. Chalapathi Rao, Managing Director of National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) with specific terms of reference

which, inter-alia include review of the progress in dispensation of rural credit especially through Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) since their inception. The Working Group has requested for extension of time for submission of its report upto end of February, 2002.

(c) and (d) The RRBs have a client base of 478.86 lakh deposit accounts and 117.54 lakh outstanding loan accounts as on 31st March, 2001. The Working Group referred to above is examining the RRBs' role in adequately extending banking facilities in the rural areas.

(e) to (g) The RRB Employees Associations have been submitting various Memoranda making several demands which, inter-alia, include creation of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI). After considering a number of alternative models including creation of NRBI, it was decided to revamp RRBs on a "Stand alone" basis by way of infusion of additional capital for cleansing of balance sheets of selected RRBs. An amount of Rs. 1094.21 crore has been released by Government of India towards recapitalisation of RRBs so far. In addition several policy changes have been initiated by Government of India to facilitate strengthening and revitalization of RRBs. These changes include:

- (i) Introduction of Development Action Plan and Memoranda of Understanding (DAPs/MOU) on an annual basis for bringing improvement in the performance of the RRBs in a planned way and introduction of prudential norms covering income recognition, assets classification and provisioning norms;
- (ii) Diversification of business portfolios and activities;
- (iii) Increased avenues for investment of surplus Non-SLR funds;
- (iv) rationalization of branch network including relocation and merger of loss making branches;
- (v) deregulation of interest rate structure;
- (vi) providing greater role to the sponsor banks in management of the affairs of RRBs.

Economic Slowdown

2956. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of economic slowdown in the country, the Government have constituted an advisory team to suggest reforms in the financial sector;

(b) if so, the composition of the members of the advisory team;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any plans to overcome the economic slowdown in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Finance Minister has constituted an Informal Advisory Group on Financial Sector Reforms with a view to seeking suggestions for Financial Sector Reforms in the Short and Medium Term. The composition of the Group is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The broad strategy for promoting economic growth has been enunciated in the Budget Speech for 2001-02. Various tax reforms measures undertaken in the Budget were, inter-alia, designed to promote greater investment and consumption demand for promoting economic growth. The Budget 2001-02 and subsequent measures have also provided emphasis on faster implementation of Central Plan Outlays and completion of projects for key infrastructure sectors and promotion of capital investment in the private sector as well. In its mid-term review of monetary and credit policy, the Reserve Bank of India has taken certain measures aimed at ensuring adequate liquidity to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand. These included further reduction in Bank Rate from 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent, reduction in and rationalisation of Cash Reserve Ratio for banks, and reduction in the maximum interest rate chargeable on export credit by 1.0 percentage point for a period of six months from September 26, 2001. These measures are designed to stimulate demand in the backdrop of the Budget strategy and are expected to have a favourable impact on growth.

Statement

*List of Members of the Informal Advisory Group on
Financial Sector Reforms*

1. Mr. M.S. Verma, Chairman, TRAI
2. Mr. Deepak Parekh, Chairman, HDFC

3. Mr. K.V. Kamath, Managing Director, ICICI
4. Mr. Ravi Narain, Managing Director, National Stock Exchange
5. Mr. Ravi Mohan, Managing Director, CRISIL
6. Mr. C. Bhave, Managing Director, NSDL
7. Dr. Omkar Goswami, Chief Economist, CII
8. Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Adviser to FM.

Patent of Basmati and other items

2957. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that close on the heels of basmati being patented by Rice Tec. Inc. of USA, Kerala (bitter gourd), Jammun (black berry) and Brinjal have been patented by another American company—Cromak Research Inc.; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on the patents of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) A patent number 5900240 titled "Herbal compositions and their use as hypoglycemic agents" was granted by United States Patent and Trademark Office on 4 May, 1999 to M/s Cromak Research Inc. USA.

(b) Patents are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries according to their respective patent laws and have territorial effect, that is, they are effective only in the country of grant.

As and when information is received about patents being obtained on certain items which are not considered patentable and which affect Indian interests, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of such patents can be challenged under the patent laws of the country concerned. A patent is normally challenged by the person(s) whose interests are affected/jeopardised.

Earlier, a patent granted in the United States of America on the use of turmeric for wound healing was challenged and the said patent was cancelled. Certain claims, which had the potential of affecting India's commercial interests, of the patent on basmati rice granted in USA were also challenged. These were subsequently cancelled.

In order to protect bio-resources, the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, contains provisions for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in the invention while applying for patents in India. Provisions have also been incorporated to include the non-disclosure or wrongful disclosure of the same as grounds for opposition and for revocation of the patent, if granted. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 8, 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

In order to protect traditional knowledge from being patented, provisions have been incorporated in the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, to include anticipation of invention by available local knowledge, including oral knowledge, as one of the grounds for opposition as also for revocation of patent. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

Apart from this, Government has also undertaken the development of a digital database of traditional knowledge in the field of mechanical plants to prevent patenting of products based on such knowledge.

[*Translation*]

Cotton Prices

2958. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton crisis has deepened further with the prices hitting the lowest level in 15 years on the New York Cotton Exchange at the weekend of September, 2001;

(b) if so, whether this situation has worsened the market situation of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the cotton crisis both in India as well as in international market; and

(e) to what extent these cotton crisis have affected India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The decline in international cotton prices, has had an

effect on the prices of domestic cotton also. During the current cotton season 2001-02, market prices of some of the varieties of cotton have touched the Minimum Support Prices (MSP). Consequently the Cotton Corporation of India has undertaken the support price operations in some areas of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. However, the domestic prices of cotton are still higher than the international prices.

(d) to (e) The Government announces the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for different variety of kapas (seed cotton) every year to protect the interest of the cotton growers. Government have launched Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) to improve the productivity and quality of cotton and reduce the cost of cultivation thereby ensuring good quality of indigenous cotton to the industry and remunerative returns to the cotton growers.

[English]

Uniform Interest rate for Loans

2959. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present prevalent rate of interest for bank loans in the country prescribed by RBI;

(b) whether the Government propose to ensure that same rate of interest is charged by all banks and financial institutions in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the deposits in different banks during each of the last three years are falling down during the post downward revision period and the steps taken by the Government to reduce the intermediary cost of the loans as per the recommendation of the Narasingham-II Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has deregulated the lending rate structure of the commercial banks. Banks have been given the freedom to determine their lending rates including their Prime Landing Rate (PLR) after duly taking into consideration their cost of funds, transaction costs, etc. However, interest rates on loans upto Rs. 2 lakh should not exceed the banks' PLR.

Overall lending rate structure has come down substantially in the last two years. The PLR of public sector banks, which were ranging between 12.0-14.0 per cent in March 1999 and 12.0-13.5 per cent in March 2000, softened to 10.0-13.0 per cent in March 2001 and further to 10.0-12.5 per cent by November 2001. In

addition, the banks are permitted to lend to their prime customers including exporters at sub-PLR rates effective April 19, 2001.

(d) Aggregate deposits of scheduled commercial banks for the last three years and also for the current year up to November 16, 2001 are given below:

Year ending	Aggregate deposits (Rs. crore)
March 26, 1999	7,14,025
March 24, 2000	8,13,344
March 23, 2001	9,62,618
Current Year up to November 16, 2001	10,56,897

In view of certain structural characteristics of our financial system, the scope for reducing the intermediation cost of banks and other financial intermediaries is limited. Some of the measures taken are:

- * Banks have been given the freedom to offer "variable" interest rates on longer-term deposits.
- * The average cost of funds is high due to the non-interest operating expenses in the form of relatively high overhang of non-performing assets (NPAs). A number of steps were taken to reduce the NPA of banks, such as, one time settlement of NPA.

Tax Holiday

2960. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued a notification extending excise duty holiday to all new industrial units in the earthquake affected that are in Kutch district of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the number of industries who have so far shown their interest to set up industries in the Kutch district of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) So far, two units have shown interest to set up industries in the Kutch district of Gujarat.

Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped Persons

2961. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995;

(b) the date of its enforcement;

(c) the disabled persons benefited till date, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the achievements made in special programme for rehabilitation of the physically handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, which came into force from 7.2.1996, inter alia, provides for both preventive and promotional aspects of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities like education, employment and vocational training, job reservation, research and manpower development, development of barrier-free environment, unemployment allowance, and establishment of homes for persons with severe disability etc. The appropriate governments have the responsibility of providing the policy frame work, institutional mechanism and suitable schemes for the effective implementation of the provisions of the Act. The Act also provides for grievance redressal mechanism in relation to deprivation of rights of persons with disabilities and non-implementation of related laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, guidelines, etc.

For ensuring implementation of provisions of the Act, appropriate governments including States/Union Territories/ Central Ministries/Departments have taken various steps in that regard. There are various on-going schemes/ programmes of this Ministry for the welfare of the persons with disabilities. There are six National Institutes/Apex level Institutions set up in each major area of disability which work towards manpower development through long term and short term training programmes, provide rehabilitation services, research and development etc. The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), a public sector Undertaking under the aegis of this Ministry manufactures and promotes availability, supply and distribution of quality aids and appliances for persons with disabilities. The National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation (NHFDC), set up in 1997, provides financial assistance to persons with disabilities

on soft terms of self-employment and income generating activities. Schemes are also under implementation for providing support to non-government organizations working for various programmes for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

The Government have also taken various initiatives specifically for wider coverage and holistic rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. Over one hundred districts have been identified for setting up district Centers for persons with disabilities with the objective of providing comprehensive rehabilitation services. Schemes are also under implementation for setting up Composite Regional Centers for providing composite rehabilitation services and Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRCs) for persons with spinal injuries and other orthopaedic disabilities. Besides, the National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) scheme has been approved in the State sector for creating infrastructure at State/District/Block and Gram Panchayat level for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services. A scheme has also been approved for setting up of four Auxiliary Production Centres of Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) to expand the production capacity and for easy availability of quality aids and appliances. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has been set up by an Act of 1999 for welfare of the target groups.

Since many of the benefits for the disabled persons under these programmes reach them through voluntary organizations, privately managed institutions, state run programmes and even indirectly, exact figures regarding the persons benefited are not available.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Sandalwood

2962. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal trading of sandalwood is growing rapidly in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposed to take any concrete step to prevent it; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to prevent the smuggling of sandalwood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above. However, all the field formations under the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to prevent smuggling of contraband goods including sandalwood outside the country.

[English]

Revival of Instrumentation Limited

2963. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the revival package of Instrumentation Limited, Kota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has decided to give orders to Instrumentation Limited to make it healthy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for revival of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Instrumentation Limited, Kota was referred to Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1993. BIFR sanctioned its revival package in March, 1999, envisaging Corporate and Financial restructuring of the company. Under the scheme, Government has extended the following assistance to the company:

- (i) Fresh cash infusion of Rs. 36 crore,
- (ii) Rs. 30 Crore from National Renewal Funds for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)
- (iii) Government guarantee of Rs. 25 Crore, in favour of consortium of banks

(c) and (d) Government has decided that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited would provide orders to the extent of 10% of their requirement of MAX-XL Telephone lines each year for a period of three years alongwith an advance to the tune of 50% of the order value.

(e) In addition to the above, Government has decided to furnish additional Counter Guarantee for raising Rs. 28 Crore from the market to bridge the additional working

capital deficit upto March, 2001 and another Rs. 35 crore for giving VRS to 500 employees for rationalisation of manpower to achieve cost reduction in its operations.

Lifting of Ban on Textiles by Pakistan

2964. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has lifted the ban on textiles imports from India during the last year; and

(b) if so, actual export of textiles to Pakistan during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) There has been no change as far as textile items are concerned since July 1, 2000. (Pakistan's Financial Year starts from July 1).

(b) During the year 2000-01, textile exports to Pakistan amounted to US\$ 0.8 million as against the exports of US\$1.3 million during the year 1999-2000.

[Translation]

Closed Sugar Mills

2965. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some sugar mills under the ministry of textiles are lying closed in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has formulated any action plan in order to revive the said sugar mills or to sell these mills to the private sectors;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Ganesh Sugar Mill, a unit of Swadeshi Mining & Mfg. Co., which is a subsidiary of NTC (UP) Ltd. is under orders of liquidation. -

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Revival of Super Bazar

2966. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Directors of the Super Bazar have in a report inter-alia sought a working capital loan of Rs. 40 crore from the Union Government to revive its working;

(b) whether the management have also urged the Government to pay salaries to Super Bazar employees for 18 months on loan basis;

(c) whether the Government have examined the revival plan of the Super Bazar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the assets of Super Bazar and the estimated number of its staff/officers likely to be affected on its closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Super Bazar has its own Board of Directors to decide about the matters relating to business and administration. A sum of Rs. 11.00 crores during the year 2000-2001 and Rs. 10.50 crores in current financial year, has been released by the Government as a loan to Super Bazar to bridging its financial requirement.

(c) and (d) The Government of India had examined the various options including the revival of Super Bazar. The Board of Directors of Super Bazar had also examined the possibility of its revival and concluded that the revival/return to the profitability will not be possible without the substantial financial support.

(e) As on 31.3.2001, the Super Bazar had a total 2016 employees. The assets of Super Bazar are shown below:

		Rs. in lakhs, As on 31.3.2001 (unaudited)
Current Assets:		
(a)	Sundry debtors	783
	Inventories (at cost)	425
(b)	Cash & Bank balance	79
(c)	Other Sundry debtors	83

[English]

Plantation Companies

2967. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of plantation companies against whom criminal prosecution were initiated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) alongwith the reasons therefor during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that companies operating collective investment schemes, including plantation projects, without obtaining a certificate of registration in terms of the SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999, were directed to refund the amounts raised from investors within a period of one month from the date of the directions, failing which SEBI would launch criminal prosecution under the SEBI Act apart from other measures.

As a majority of the companies failed to refund the investors, SEBI decided to launch criminal prosecution, initially against those companies which raised more than Rs. 1 crore from investors. The list of companies against which criminal complaints have been filed in various courts is provided in the statement enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Company
1	2
1.	Arrow Biotech International Ltd.
2.	Green Gold Forestry Ltd.
3.	Maharashtra Agritech Ltd.
4.	Shrishrimal Plantations Ltd.

1	2
5.	Wealth Agro Plantations Ltd.
6.	Pan India Forest & Land Development Ltd.
7.	Eternal Agro Ltd.
8.	World View Teak Rich Ltd.
9.	Rainbow Perennial Krishi Ltd.
10.	Southern Horticulture & Rubber Plantation Ltd.
11.	Ace Agro Products Ltd.
12.	Green Gold Agro Development Ltd.
13.	Green Gold Horticulture Ltd.
14.	Green Agro Products Ltd.
15.	Mahakaushal Plantation Ltd.
16.	Phenomenal Plantations Ltd.
17.	Symphony Farm & Forest Ltd.
18.	Adventure Orchards Ltd.
19.	Araraya Plantations & Farm Developers Ltd.
20.	Agroteck India Ltd.
21.	Agrogold Plantations & Resorts Ltd.
22.	Crystal Biotech Industries Ltd.
23.	Vasundhara Mann Products Ltd.
24.	Young Farmers Forests India Ltd.
25.	Grow Green Forest (India) Ltd.
26.	Surabhi Forests India Ltd.
27.	Endowment Plantations India Ltd.
28.	Okara Agro Industries Ltd.
29.	Advantage Agro India Ltd.
30.	Okara Leasing & Investment Ltd.
31.	Timberworld Resorts & Plantations Ltd.
32.	Swarnabhumi Forest (India) Ltd.
33.	Moolchand Exports Ltd.
34.	Maxworth Orchards Ltd.
35.	Mehna Plantation Pvt. Ltd.
36.	Perfect Greenland Agro Developers India Ltd.

1	2
37.	Perutek Services Ltd.
38.	Rapti Agro Industries Ltd.
39.	Rosal Forest (India) Ltd.
40.	Sarvotam Forests Ltd.
41.	Seth Dhanraj Agro (India) Ltd.
42.	Seth Dhandraj Agro (India) Ltd.
43.	Sunbeam Forest Ltd.
44.	UP Forest Plantations Ltd.
45.	Vasundhara Plantations India Ltd.
46.	Veerbharat Forests (India) Ltd.

Backlog of Reserved Vacancies

2968. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'backlog 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, indicate "backlog 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 Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per instructions issued by Govt. vide Deptt. of Personnel & Training OM No. 36012/5/97-Estt. Vol. II dated 20.7.2000 in pursuant to incorporation of Article 16(4B) of the Constitution, the ceiling of 50% on filling of reserved vacancies in a year would apply only to current vacancies and the backlog vacancies reserved for SC/ST would be treated as a

separate and distinct group and would not be subject to any ceiling. However, provisions of O.M. dated 20.7.2000 do not apply to the vacancies reserved for OBCs.

(b) to (d) Cadre Control in respect of all Group "A" posts under the two Departments of this Ministry viz. Department of Heavy Industry and Department of Public Enterprises, is with the Department of Personnel and Training. In respect of all Group "B" and "C" posts, cadre control is with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, except in respect of 57 group A, B, C and D posts of various categories for which cadre control is vested with the Department of Public Enterprises. Department of Heavy Industry controls the cadre of its Group "D" employees only. There was no backlog as well as no fresh vacancy has arisen during the last four years in the reserved category in these posts for which Cadre Control vests with Department of Heavy Industry and Department of Public Enterprises.

Tax Holiday to Industries in Daman and Diu

2969. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had declared Union Territory of Daman and Diu as industrially backward area and was given tax holiday for the local industries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any study to evaluate the socio-economic impact of the said decision as a result of the industrialisation in Daman;

(c) if so, the number of employment opportunities generated as a result of this tax holiday;

(d) the number of local residence, skilled and unskilled given jobs as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the due representation of the locals in the employment opportunities available in the local industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The scheme of tax holiday under section 80 IB of the Income-tax Act, 1961 is applicable with respect to location of an industry in a backward area irrespective of the employment pattern and is intended to promote

industrialisation. While there is no provision to ensure representation of the locals in the employment opportunities, it is however a natural consequence of industrialisation that local persons get improved employment opportunities. This is not only in the undertakings that are attracted by the tax incentives, but also in a host of ancillary and service opportunities that open up as a result of industrialisation.

Procurement of Natural Rubber

2970. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural rubber surplus in the market;

(b) whether the Government have decided to procure the natural rubber from the market through Rubber Board or other agencies;

(c) if so, the names of agencies who propose to procure the natural rubber;

(d) whether prices of natural rubber are falling continuously; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) As per Rubber Board's estimates, a quantity of 41,000 MT of Natural Rubber is surplus in the market as on 1st September, 2001.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The price of Natural Rubber started declining in 1997 and in order to stabilise the same and ensure reasonable price to the growers for their produce, the Government of India had made a market intervention during 1997-2001 through STC and procured around 53687 MT of Natural Rubber at the prevailing market price. For enhancing the consumption of indigenous rubber Govt. has also banned the import of Natural Rubber against advance Licences. To enable the rubber growers to get a reasonable price for their produce, Govt. has now fixed and notified on 12.9.2001 the minimum price of the two most commonly used classes of rubber: namely Ribbed Smoked Sheet-4 (RSS-4) and Ribbed Smoked

Sheet-5 (RSS-5) on an import parity price to curb surge in imports in Quantitative Restrictions free regime. Government is also providing financial incentives to the exporters of Natural Rubber.

Vacancies Reserved for SCs/STs

2971. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION 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, indicate '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 SCs, STs and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on the 29th August, 1997 in his Ministry when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Credit Information Bureau

2972. DR. C KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Credit Information Bureau by the RBI/Union Government;

(b) if so, by when it is expected to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternative mechanism available to reduce the NPA of Public Sector Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) State Bank of India (SBI) and Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd., have in collaboration with Dun

& Bradstreet Information Services (India) Pvt. Ltd. and Trans Union International Inc., set up the Credit Information Bureau (India) Ltd. The CIB is in the process of setting up its systems and procedures including customisation of software to enable it to commence its operations.

(c) Does not arise.

Rate of Interest on Loan Sanctioned by NABARD

2973. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NABARD has been increasing the rate of interest on the amount of loan sanctioned to the farmers;

(b) if so, the rate of interest charged by the NABARD on the amount of loan sanctioned to the farmers during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether many State Governments have represented the Union Government to reduce the rate of interest on the amount of loan sanctioned to the farmers;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to reduce the rate of interest on the loan sanctioned to farmers; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex agency providing refinance facilities to banks on their lending to agriculture and allied activities. It does not provide loans to farmers directly. The decision to fix the rate of interest at farmers'/beneficiaries' level is left to the discretion of the financing banks as per the scheme of deregulation of interest rates introduced by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in 1994. NABARD has reported that there is no proposal to increase the rate of interest on refinance in respect of term loan for agriculture, allied and non-farm sector activities. On the contrary, NABARD has reduced the interest rate with effect from 1 November, 2001 by 0.5% on refinance for loaning under rural housing, minor irrigation, wasteland development and others by all agencies. Further, loans upto Rs. 25,000 extended by cooperative banks qualify for lower rate of interest at 7% p.a. on NABARD refinance. Moreover, the

rates of interest for refinance on loans above Rs. 2 lakhs have also been reduced from 10.5% to 10% for all agencies.

(c) and (d) NABARD has reported that earlier in the year 1999, in pursuant to the revision of rates of interest effected at that time, Chief Minister's of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh had written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, requesting for directing the RBI/NABARD to withdraw the revision. NABARD had requested RBI to effect suitable reduction in the rates of interest on GLC limits to enable it to pass on the benefit to its constituents. RBI had expressed its inability to accede to these requests for reduction on GLC limits. However, as stated above, the rates of interest have now been reduced with effect from 1 November, 2001.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government in view of what is stated above.

Garment/Textiles Exports

2974. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed and recently revised the duty drawback rates for textiles exports particularly of garment exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) its impact on exports of textiles/garments since the revision of rates, month-wise and quantum-wise;

(d) the response of textiles/garment industry in this regard;

(e) whether textiles/garment exports were hit by the terrorists Aviation attacks in New York and Washington on September 11, 2001; and

(f) if so, to what extent, indicating month-wise data alongwith the measures taken to boost the exports?"

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The Government have revised All Industry duty drawback rates/ value caps for textile items vide Notification No. 29/2001-Customs (NT) dtd 1st June, 01, Notification No. 30/2001-Customs (NT) dtd. 22nd June, 01, Circular No. 52/2001-

Cus. dated 4th October, 01 and Notification No. 60/2001-Customs (NT) dated 26th November, 1 during the year 2001-02 for textiles items including garments.

(b) All Industry duty drawback rates of textile items especially garment items, cotton/manmade/woolen fabrics, handloom and handicraft items were reduced vide Notification dated June 1, 2001. However, the rates in case of garment sector and Madras Handkerchiefs were revised upward and certain more items of apparel were covered for admissibility of drawback rates vide changes made effective from 22.6.2001. The circular of October 4 has revised upward the drawback rates for woolen textile, cotton handlooms, industrial yarn of man-made fibre, cotton floor coverings, etc. The All Industry duty drawback rates in respect of certain textile items of Silk, Cotton grey fabric, man-made fabric, woollen floor coverings and carpets, etc. have been raised w.e.f. 26.11.2001.

(c) to (f) The exports of textiles/garments have been showing a declining trend from the beginning of the year. During the January-August 2001, textile exports amounted to US\$ 7980 million as against the exports of US\$ 7665.5 million during the same period of 2000, recording a negative growth of 3.9%. The declining trend is attributed to various factors including reduction in drawback rates but mainly it is because of slow down in the economies of some of the major importing countries such as US. The textile industry was agitated at the initial revision carried out by Notification dated June 1, 2001

In order to mitigate the adverse effects of the prevailing conditions, Government have taken a number of measures, which include:

- (1) Large additional quantities have been opened for most of the categories under the FCFS/RGE systems of the Quota Policies with a view to providing quotas to the garment and textile exporters on a continuous basis.
- (2) In order to reduce transaction costs and time of the exporters, EMD/BG amounts have reduced for certain categories and the date for utilising quotas have been extended. Further, the L/C condition under the FCFS system has also been waived for all such categories which have quantities left over for the rest of the year.
- (3) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalised.

Besides, a "Textile Package" was announced in the Budget 2001-02 to strengthen domestic textile industry for meeting the growing global competition. Some of the important provisions of the "Textile Package" are:

- (i) Excise duty structure on textile items has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition.
- (ii) Custom duty has been reduced from 15% to 5% on 159 specified textiles and garment machineries. In addition, 12 important items of machineries including shuttleless looms have also been exempted from countervailing duty. A programme has been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- (iii) Assistance under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) providing for a reimbursement of 5% out of interest is available to textile industry for modernisation and upgradation. In addition, rate of depreciation allowance for machinery under TUFS has been raised to 50%.
- (iv) A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the Budget 2001-02 for establishment of Apparel Parks for export of garments. Besides a provision of Rs. 15 crores has been made for the Scheme for improvement of critical infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.

Policy Holders of LIC

[Translation]

2975. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of policy holders of Life insurance Corporation of India in each State;

(b) whether several settlement claims of the policy holders are delayed for long time;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of such claims pending State-wise; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken by the LIC for early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) A statement showing State-wise number of policyholders of Life Insurance Corporation of India as on 31.3.2000 is given in statement I.

(b) and (c) LIC has reported that they make all efforts to settle the maturity claims on or before due date. Intimation is sent to be policyholders asking them to submit a valid discharge form and policy documents and policyholders are subsequently reminded if the requisite information is not received before due date. Claims fulfilling all required documents are settled promptly. Other claims are settled at a later stage for want of certain documents viz. policy document, valid discharge form, indemnity bond, latest address, death certificate and other relevant records from Hospital, employer and police authorities etc. A statement showing state-wise number of outstanding claims as on 30.9.2001 is given in Statement II.

(d) In order to settle the claims promptly, LIC has initiated many steps including involvement of field personnel to contact the claimants for getting latest address and other relevant documents. In addition, a scheme has been devised to settle the death claims in favour of class I legal heirs without insisting upon succession certificate where the deceased does not make nomination or assignment.

Statement I

State	No. of Policyholders as on 31.3.2000 (in lakhs)
1	2
Haryana	11.14
Himachal Pradesh	4.41
J&K	4.15
Punjab	12.88
Chandigarh (UT)	5.30
Rajasthan	34.50
Delhi (UT)	25.49
Uttar Pradesh	75.77
Madhya Pradesh	35.78
Andhra Pradesh	69.71
Karnataka	56.25
Kerala & Lakshadweep	36.88
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	68.45
Maharashtra	104.24

1	2
Goa	3.23
Gujarat and Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu	57.17
West Bengal and Sikkim & Andaman Nicobar	76.81
Orissa	19.47
Bihar	38.58
North East region (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)	21.50

Statement II

State	outstanding maturity claims as on 30.9.2001	outstanding death claims as on 30.9.2001
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	2978	4857
Arunachal Pradesh	33	11
Assam	3291	2890
Bihar	11805	5915
Chandigarh	742	327
Chhattisgarh	377	218
Delhi	9545	1687
Goa	186	127
Gujarat	3378	2887
Haryana	1806	1140
Himachal Pradesh	359	315
J&K	1952	350
Karnataka	2357	4401
Kerala	2816	1129
Madhya Pradesh	1361	1728
Maharashtra	20226	7164
Manipur	12	177
Meghalaya	76	93

1	2	3
Mizoram	206	1
Nagaland	114	69
Orissa	4669	1972
Punjab	1888	991
Rajasthan	5229	3106
Sikkim	314	54
Tamil Nadu	5228	5967
Tripura	54	171
Uttar Pradesh	12777	6093
Uttaranchal	821	884
Vananchal	4206	905
West Bengal	11049	5353

*[English]***Import Duty on Palm Oil**

2976. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the import duty for palm oil as on 31st October, 1999;

(b) the import duty for palm oil as on 31st October, 2001;

(c) whether any State Government has asked to reduce import duty on palm oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reason to reduce import duty on palm oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) On 31st October, 1999 palm oil of edible grade, if imported in loose or bulk form (other than RBD palm oil, RBD palm kernel oil and palm stear in), attracted a total import duty of about 21%. However, such oil if imported for manufacture of vanaspati carried the duty of 16.5%

(b) As on 31st October 2001, the import duty on crude palm oil of edible grade was 65%. On refined palm oil of edible grade the total incidence of import duty was 92.45.

(c) No sir.

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

(e) After consideration of all aspects the basic customs duty on crude palm oil was reduced from 75% to 65% with effect from 30.10.2001.

[Translation]

Excess Production of Paddy

2977 SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the excess production of paddy in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of production as compared to the last year,

(c) whether excess production has caused the problem of storage,

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have initiated steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The estimates of paddy are not compiled. However, generally rice production is taken to be 2/3rd of paddy production. The estimated production (advance) of rice for 2001-02 is 76.42 million tonnes as compared to advance estimates of 86.30 millions tonnes for 2000-01.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The availability of space with the FCI depends upon the trend of procurement and offtake/sale of foodgrains in the procuring/consuming States. The FCI also creates additional storage capacity by construction of its own godowns and plinths, besides hiring storage capacity available with the agencies. The field officers of FCI have also been delegated full powers for hiring additional storage capacity as and when considered necessary. Keeping in view the requirement for storage of rice, FCI has given 7 years guarantee for creation of additional storage capacity of about 77.79 lakh MTs by the State Warehousing Corporations, State Governments and Central Warehousing Corporation in Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. In addition, FCI has also advertised for creation of conventional godowns on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis through Private Sector participation at 78 locations involving 5.88 lakh MTs of storage capacity in 14 States.

The States which have adopted the decentralized scheme of procurement, make their own arrangements for storage of foodgrains. Besides, this stocks are also held by the State Agencies in their godowns.

Filing of Income Tax Returns

2978. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to encourage the public to pay the income-tax as well as to file the income-tax return;

(b) if so, whether a simplified version of the income tax-return proforma is being prepared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether nationalised banks other than State Bank of India are being authorised to collect income tax; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Revised income tax return forms for the current year have already been notified.

(c) The new forms notified are easy to fill in the provide standardised and structured formats for computation of head wise income. They have been designed keeping in view the ongoing computerisation in the Income-tax Department.

(d) Yes, Madam. There are Nationalised Banks other than State Bank of India, who have been authorised to collect income tax and other direct taxes.

(e) These Nationalised Banks are as under:

- (1) Andhra Bank
- (2) Allahabad Bank
- (3) Indian Overseas Bank
- (4) State Bank of Patiala
- (5) State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur
- (6) State Bank of Indore
- (7) Indian Bank
- (8) Corporation Bank
- (9) United Bank of India
- (10) UCO Bank

- (11) Vijaya Bank
- (12) Punjab National Bank
- (13) Bank of Maharashtra
- (14) Canara Bank
- (15) State Bank of Tavancore
- (16) State Bank of Hyderabad
- (17) State Bank of Mysore
- (18) State Bank of Saurashtra
- (19) Punjab and Sindh Bank
- (20) Dena Bank
- (21) Oriental Bank of Commerce
- (22) Bank of India
- (23) Central Bank of India
- (24) Bank of Baroda
- (25) Syndicate Bank
- (26) Union Bank of India

Presently, there are more than 10,000 branches of banks which are receiving deposits of direct tax payments all over the country.

[English]

Reducing the Shares of PSU

2979. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to bring about some improvement in the heavy industries;

(b) if so, the details of the industries selected for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to reduce its shares invested in the heavy industries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to improve the performance of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) through adoption of appropriate means like revival through Board

for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), financial restructuring wherever appropriate; joint venture formation to have continuous access to technology, finance & marketing; manpower rationalization. With regard to PSUs under the Department of Heavy Industry, revival plans have been sanctioned by BIFR in case of 12 PSUs involving cash infusion of Rs. 637 crore and financial restructuring of Rs. 2063 crore and the same under implementation. In addition, Government has on its own approved financial restructuring of 7 other sick/loss making company involving fresh infusion of funds to the extent of Rs. 531 Crore and financial restructuring of Rs. 1443 crore.

(c) and (d) The Policy of the Government with regard to disinvestment in Central PSUs is to bring down Government equity in all non-strategic PSUs to 26% or lower, if necessary.

NAPs of UTI and IDBI

2980. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the non-performing assets of UTI and IDBI as per latest estimates; and

(b) the details of steps taken/proposed for restructuring UTI and IDBI to bring them back to normal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to UTI and IDBI respectively, the non-performing assets of UTI are Rs. 1784.98 crore (provisional) as on 30.9.2001 and the non-performing assets of IDBI are Rs. 8370.57 crore as on 31.3.2001.

(b) The Corporate Positioning Committee constituted by UTI under the chairmanship of Shri Y.H. Malegam in July, 2000 has submitted its report to the UTI in October, 2001. The Committee has recommended, inter-alia, that the structure of UTI should be in line with SEBI (Mutual Fund) Regulations. Accordingly, there would be (i) a sponsor, (ii) a Trustee Company, and (iii) an Asset Management Company (AMC).

The Board of Trustees of the UTI have in its meeting held on 30th October, 2001 decided to make the report public to elicit the views of all stake holders. Appropriate action would be considered once the response of UTI Board of Trustees on the Corporate Positioning Committee is received by the Government.

IDBI has intimated that measures taken/proposed for restructuring include the move towards universal banking. IDBI would take steps to transform itself into a universal

bank in order to develop a sustainable business model, reduce the cost of funds and diversify its business portfolio.

Interest on Borrowers

2981. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of the total revenue of the State, half of that is paid as interest to borrowers;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve its fiscal management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The interest payment by Central Government as a percentage of its total revenue receipts during the last five years is as follows:

Year	Interest Payment as percentage of Revenue Receipts
1997-98	49.02%
1998-99	52.10%
1999-2000	49.72%
2000-2001 (R.E.)	48.83%
2001-2002 (B.E.)	48.46%

(c) Government has taken several expenditure management measures viz. zero-based budgeting, review of subsidies and their rationalization, review of staffing norms and down-sizing of the Government, reduction in administered interest rates, etc. and is making all efforts to increase tax collections with a view to containing the revenue and fiscal deficit. Moreover, Government has introduced a Bill titled "Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Bill" in Lok Sabha on 21st December, 2000. The Bill provides, inter alia, for a legal and institutional framework to eliminate revenue deficit, bring down the fiscal deficit and contain the growth of public debt in proportion to GDP within a time-frame.

Eleventh Finance Commission Report

2982. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eleventh Finance Commission has reduced the share of North East States in the total transfer of resources from the Centre;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The Finance Commission lays down the criteria for determining the share of transfers between the States, from time to time, keeping in view their assessment of States requirement, and the need for horizontal equity. The Eleventh Finance Commission for its award period 2000-05 has recommended a total estimated transfer of Rs. 34753.35 crores to North East States as against Rs. 22289.03 crores recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission for 1995-2000. This represents an increase of 55.9% in the Eleventh Finance Commission period over the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission.

The Government of India has since accepted the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission relating to devolution of Central taxes and duties and quantum of grants-in-aid to States.

[Translation]

Welfare Centres for Disabled

2983. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of welfare centres functioning at present for disabled in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the facilities provided by these centres?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (b) There are 17 Government organizations and 87 Non-Governmental Organizations assisted by Central Government functioning for the welfare of persons with disabilities in the State of Uttar Pradesh. These organisations provide low cost and quality aids and appliances under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) and deliver services in the areas of education, vocational training, treatment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

[English]

Export Promotion Package for Marine Products

2984. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND-INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special export promotion package for exporters has been announced after August, 2001;

(b) whether the above package consists of measures to promote export of marine products, spices and rubber;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the export of marine products are badly affected resulting in loss of huge amount of foreign exchange due to the war in Afghanistan; and

(e) if so, the measures taken to increase the export of marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A number of measures have

been taken to boost exports, which include reduction in export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special interest rate package to manufacturer exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crore or above for a period of one year from October, 2001, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports made to Latin American countries for a period of one year, upward revision of drawback rates, removal of value caps under the DEPB Scheme and extension of the export obligation period by six months.

(d) An accurate assessment of the impact of war in Afghanistan on our marine exports can be made only on receipt of export data for October and November, 2001. However, the September 11, 2001 incidents in USA has affected our marine product exports as is evident from the export data given below:

Parameter	September, 2001	September, 2000	%change
Quantity (in tonnes)	28548	33003	-13.5
Value (in Rs. crores)	397.12	585.92	-32.2
Value (in US \$ million)	82.73	128.92	-35.8

Source: Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)

(e) MPEDA has been organising seminars in various centres in India to enlighten the exporters about the scope to increase exports of marine products even during the current crisis period. Besides, market intelligence is collected through their trade promotion office in New York and disseminated to the trade from time to time.

Indian Delegation to WTO Ministerial Meeting

2985. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether the official Indian delegation to the 4th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) held in Doha, Qatar, during 9th to 13th November, 2001 included non-official delegates also;

(b) if so, the criteria for including non-officials into the official delegation; and

(c) the names and organisations represented by those non-officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The decisions adopted at the WTO Conference have a bearing on the trade & industry of a member country. In order to ensure that our concerns

are appropriately presented and appreciated by other Members, the Government decided to include up to two representatives each from the Apex Industry Associations namely Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) in the official Indian Delegation to Fourth Ministerial Conference of the WTO. The representatives of the Industry were also included in the Official Indian Delegation to the Third Ministerial Conference of the WTO held at Seattle in 1999. The entire cost in respect of the Industry representatives for attending the Conference was, however to be borne by them. The representatives of the Industry were decided in consultation with them. The following representatives from the Indian Industry finally attended the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the WTO held at Doha as a part of the Official Indian Delegation:

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

1. Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, FICCI
2. Shri A.S. Kasiwal, FICCI

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Shri R. Seshasayee, Chairman, CII, International Trade Committee

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)

1. Shri Jayant Bhuyan, Secretary General, ASSOCHAM
2. Shri Arvind Jolly, ASSOCHAM (Indian Merchants Association)

Asset Reconstruction Companies

2986. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the modalities of the Asset Reconstruction Companies;

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

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The matter is under examination of the Government. The Government is studying the legal and other issues involved in setting up such companies.

Foreign Training to Officers

2987. SHRI MOHAN S. DELKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government selects/sponsors/nominates/deputes Officers for training to the reputed Foreign Institutions for improving their academic, managerial, technical and administrative capabilities in various field and disciplines where in some cases cost of such training are borne by the sponsoring countries/agencies under bi-lateral/international agreements;

(b) if so, the number of persons from his ministry who underwent such short/long-term training courses during last three years;

(c) the number of SCs, STs and OBCs among them and their percentage;

(d) whether special provisions made for ensuring adequate representation to SCs, STs and OBCs for availing such opportunities; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given below :

Year	Number of persons
1999	02
2000	06
2001	nil

(c) The details are given below:

Year	SCs	STs	OBCs
1999	nil	nil	nil
2000	01(16.67%)	nil	nil
2001	nil	nil	nil

(d) and (e) While making nominations of officers for training programme abroad, it is endeavoured to give adequate representation to SC/ST officers subject to availability of applications/nominations from such categories, and fulfillment of prescribed eligibility criteria by such applicants.

Development of Textiles Sector in North-Eastern Region

2988. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have contemplated to take any effective and positive policy decision to develop the textile sector in the north-eastern region aiming at encouraging the indigenous tribal people and financially helping them out in producing export quality textile fabrics and products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Handlooms, Sericulture and Handicrafts in the textiles sector are the three most important potential areas of development in North-Eastern Region. A budgetary support of Rs. 42 crores has been earmarked in the current year's budget of the Ministry for implementation

of various plan schemes/programmes for these sectors in the region. The important policy decisions taken include:—

- (i) Raising of the Central Share of Centrally Sponsored from the existing level of 75% to 90%.
 - (ii) A cluster approach with active involvement of the beneficiaries in implementation of two major schemes, viz. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana and Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastship Vikas Yojana;
 - (iii) An Integrated Farming System for eri and muga in addition to promotion of multivoltine-based crossbreed mulberry silk;
 - (iv) Restructuring of the North-Eastern Handlooms and Handicrafts Development Corporation (NEHDC) to play a greater role in development of handlooms, handicrafts and sericulture as well as provision of market support to textiles and textiles based activities; and
 - (v) Upgradation of the Guwahati branch of National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) to a Regional Office for yarn supply to weavers through state channelising agencies/depots.
- (c) Does not arise.

Corporatisation of Stock Exchanges

2989. SHRI BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has taken any decision to corporatisation of stock exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the pricing norms for open offers for Public Sector Undertakings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) With a view to improving institutional mechanisms and trading practices in the stock markets, Government proposes to demutualise all stock exchanges, by which ownership, management and trading membership would be segregated from each other. This would help towards:

- further professionalisation of the management of the exchanges and elimination of conflict of interests;

- improving adherence to the best practices of Corporate Governance;
- enhancing the ability of stock exchanges to raise funds from the market to modernise the exchanges and provide better investor service.

Government and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) have initiated action in this regard.

(c) and (d) SEBI has intimated that the Department of Disinvestment has requested SEBI to modify the existing pricing norms for open offers for public sector undertakings, which is under examination of SEBI.

Central Revenue Collection from Ahmedabad

2990. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

that the contribution of Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai cities as compared to Ahmedabad in Central Revenues during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): Sir, city-wise figures are not maintained. However, year-wise total collection of direct and indirect taxes for the region/Zones which cover these cities and neighbouring areas are given below:

	(Rs. in crores)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Hyderabad Region/Zone	4070.52	4850.03	5526.92
Bangalore Region/Zone	7599.93	9418.40	10950.80
Chennai Region/Zone	10640.40	13262.38	15320.64
Ahmedabad Region/Zone	3946.38	4811.78	5118.54

Development of Standard Sign Language for Deaf People

2991. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
DR JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop a standard sign language for deaf people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to standardise the linguistic skill of deaf people?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) There is a diversity of opinion on the need to develop a standard sign language for deaf persons. However, the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIIH) has taken up research proposals in this regard. Other institutions have also developed material in this field.

Monetary Policy of RBI

2992. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced its "softest ever" monetary policy; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the highlights/changes in this monetary policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) In view of the satisfactory fundamentals of the economy as reflected in moderate inflation rate, high foreign exchange reserves, large foodgrain stocks and good prospects of agricultural growth, the stance of monetary policy, as stated in the Mid-Term Review of Monetary and Credit Policy for the year 2001-02 released on October, 22, 2001, continues to be (i) Provision of adequate liquidity to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand while continuing a vigil on movements in the price level; and (ii) Within the overall framework of imparting greater flexibility to the interest rate regime in the medium-term, to continue the present stable interest rate environment with a preference for softening to the extent the evolving situation warrants. The highlights/changes in the Mid-Term Review are:

- Reduction in the Bank Rate by 0.50 percentage point from 7.0 per cent to 6.5 per cent, the lowest Bank Rate since May 1973.
- Reduction in Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by 200 basis points from 7.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent.
- The combined impact of reduction CRR along with withdrawal of all exemptions (except inter-bank liabilities) will augment lendable resources of the banking system by about Rs. 8,000 crore.

- Interest on eligible cash balances maintained with the RBI will be at the Bank Rate (*i.e.*, 6.5 per cent) with effect from fortnight beginning November 3, 2001.

Short-Term Loans to Farmers

2993. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that short-term loan which was beneficial for small farmers has been discontinued by banks;

(b) if so, the reasons for discontinuing the short-term loan to farmers;

(c) whether the Government propose to restart the scheme of short term loan on easy terms in addition to regular cane development loan scheme to help farmers to produce more cane of improved variety to curb the sickness of sugar industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that short term loan disbursement to small farmers has not been discontinued by banks. Instead, with a view to strengthen the flow of credit to small and marginal farmers, certain relaxations in regard to margin money requirements, security norms, etc. have been extended to such borrowers under the priority sector. These relaxations include non-insistence by banks on margin money for crop loans/term loans granted upto Rs. 10,000/-, non-insistence upon collateral security/third party guarantee for crop loans upto Rs. 10,000/-, discretion of banks in matters relating to margin/security on loans above Rs. 10,000/-, insistence upon payment of interest only at the time of repayment of loan/installments fixed, non-compounding of interest on current dues in respect of long duration crop loans and instalments not falling due in respect of term loans, not exceeding the principal amount the total interest debited to the account of small and marginal farmers, etc.

[Translation]

Industries in the Country

2994. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industries in SSI and non-SSI section set up in each State since 1991 till date;

(b) the number of industries closed down during the said period in each State; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for setting up more industries in their States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) A statement showing the number of SSI units and non-SSI units is at Statement I.

(b) On the basis of the information furnished by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour, a statement showing the statewise details of closed units is at statement II.

(c) Under the liberalized industrial policy, setting up of industries depends upon the commercial judgement of the entrepreneur which, in turn, depends upon initiatives taken by State Governments by way of providing basic infrastructure facilities and other incentives. The Central Government supplements the effort of State Governments through schemes such as Growth Centre Scheme, Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre Scheme and other incentives.

Statement I

*Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2994
for Reply on 7.12.2001*

[Part (a)]

*Statewise Details of Registered SSI Units
and non-SSI units*

Name of the State	SSI Units granted Permanent Registration upto December, 2000	Number of non-SSI units (Between August 1991 to October 2001)
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar	1235	0
Andhra Pradesh	129939	402
Arunachal Pradesh	640	2
Assam	24638	29
Bihar	125955	17
Chhattisgarh	.	42
Chandigarh	3062	5

1	2	3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1185	51
Daman & Diu	1727	59
Delhi	25409	52
Goa	6038	72
Gujarat	182233	962
Haryana	54895	368
Himachal Pradesh	16969	31
Jammu & Kashmir	30817	9
Jharkhand	.	33
Karnataka	166154	197
Kerala	216184	90
Lakshadweep	77	0
Madhya Pradesh	282207	284
Maharashtra	148101	924
Manipur	5728	0
Meghalaya	2802	4
Mizoram	4508	0
Nagaland	1276	0
Orissa	20056	27
Pondicherry	5033	33
Punjab	153941	286
Rajasthan	86071	298
Sikkim	334	0
Tripura	2103	0
Tamil Nadu	338836	587
Uttar Pradesh	394284	485
Uttaranchal	.	25
West Bengal	152308	239
Location in More than One State	—	17
Total	2584745	5630

*Figures of the three new states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal are included in the figures of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh respectively.

Statement II

*Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2994 for Reply on
7.12.2001 [Part (b).]*

*Statewise Break up of Units Closed down since 1991
to September 2001 (Provisional)*

Name of the State	No. of Units
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar	1
Andhra Pradesh	30
Arunachal Pradesh	0
Assam	3
Bihar	22
Chhattisgarh	0
Chandigarh	55
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4
Daman & Diu	2
Delhi	6
Goa	32
Gujarat	322
Haryana	51
Himachal Pradesh	19
Jammu & Kashmir	0
Jharkhand	0
Karnataka	25
Kerala	35
Lakshadweep	0
Madhya Pradesh	25
Maharashtra	237
Manipur	0
Meghalaya	1
Mizoram	0
Nagaland	0
Orissa	61
Pondicherry	166

1	2
Punjab	68
Rajasthan	63
Sikkim	0
Tripura	383
Tamil Nadu	114
Uttar Pradesh	465
Uttaranchal	0
West Bengal	41
Total	2231

[English]

Vacant Posts for Physically Handicapped Persons

2995. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

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

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

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

(d) by when these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds for Development of Panchayat

2996. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by the Union Government under the recommendation of the Tenth Finance Commission to Karnataka State for the development of panchayats;

(b) the year-wise details thereof; and

(c) the date by which the remaining installment would be released to that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Entire amount of Rs. 221.77 crore allocated to Karnataka under the recommendation of the Tenth Finance Commission (TFC) for development of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) have been released by the Union Government.

(b) Year-wise details of releases are as under:

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Grants allocated by TFC for PRIs	Grants released
1996-97	55.44	55.44
1997-98	55.44	13.86
1998-99	55.44	41.58
1999-2000	55.45	110.89
Total	221.77	22.177

(c) Does not arise.

Revival of Process House at Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal

2997. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to start the Process House at Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal through NTC;

(b) if so, whether this can ultimately lead to revival of Azam Jahi Mills in a phased manner;

(c) whether the Government have not yet taken any decision in this regard;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the Process House at Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No sir, no such proposal was received. However, a request was received from the State Government for revival of Process House of Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal.

(b) to (e) The Operating Agency (IFCI), after assessing the viability, has recommended for closure of the mill. BIFR has circulated the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme for objections and suggestions of all agencies including the State Government. The final decision regarding revival or closure of the unit is to be taken by BIFR.

[*Translation*]

Cement Plants in the country

2998. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cement plants which were functioning in each State during the last three years;

(b) the number of cement plants out of them closed down in each State during the said period;

(c) the number of cement plants actually functioning in each State at present; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for revival of closed cement plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) The information is enclosed in the statement.

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units. These, *inter-alia*, include guidelines of Reserve Bank of India to Banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units and setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of cement plants functioning during the last three years in each State	Number of cement plants out of them closed during the said period	Number of cement plants actually functioning in each State at present
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	1	1	—
2.	Punjab	2	—	2

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Rajasthan	14	—	14
4.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—	3
5.	Delhi	1	1	—
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	—	1
7.	Assam	1	—	1
8.	Meghalaya	1	—	1
9.	Bihar	1	—	1
10.	Jharkhand	5	2	3
11.	Orissa	3	—	3
12.	West Bengal	3	—	3
13.	Chhattisgarh	9	2	7
14.	Andhra Pradesh	21	2	19
15.	Tamil Nadu	12	—	12
16.	Karnataka	8	2	6
17.	Kerala	1	—	1
18.	Gujarat	10	1	9
19.	Maharashtra	7	—	7
20.	Uttar Pradesh	6	3	3
21.	Madhya Pradesh	10	1	9
Total		120	15	105

[English]

Equipments Exempted from Custom/Excise Duty

2999. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of certificates the industries/users of pollution control equipment get reduction of rates on custom duty and excise duty;

(b) if so, the names of the equipments exempted;

(c) the names of the companies benefited during 1999, 2000, 2001 till date; and

(d) the amount of benefits each of these companies received during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) At present, there is no concession in customs or excise duty applicable to pollution control equipment.

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

Procurement Policy of Paddy and Wheat

3000. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the actual procurement policy of the Government in the present season especially for paddy and wheat;

(b) whether exclusive Government procurement can be ensured throughout the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Under the present policy, Government procures all the foodgrains conforming to Fair Average Quality (FAQ) specifications through the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government agencies under price support operations. However, the farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Government at support prices or in the open market, as is advantageous to them.

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

Non Banking Financial Companies

3001. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has asked the Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) to reduce the rate of interest on deposits by 1.5%;

(b) if so, the specific reasons for this directive of RBI;

(c) whether this will affect deposit mobilisation of NBFCs; and

(d) if so, the manner in which RBI will help such NBFCs to maintain their viability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The maximum rate of interest on deposits payable by the Non-Banking Financial Companies (other than Residuary Non-Banking Companies) and the Nidhi and Chit Fund Companies has been reduced from 14% per annum to 12.15% per annum by the Reserve Bank of India on 31st October, 2001, effective from 1st November, 2001. The new rate has been made applicable only to fresh deposits and renewal of existing deposits on and from 1st November, 2001.

(b) The rate of interest payable by NBFCs on their deposits has been reduced to align with the interest rates generally prevalent on deposits in the financial system.

(c) and (d) The reduction in interest rates would reduce the cost of raising funds and improve the spread of deposits. Reduced cost of borrowings would help NBFCs to remain competitive in their lending rates, thus maintaining volume of their business and retaining their margins and profitability.

Refund of Duty Drawbacks

3002. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to make "merchant exporters" also eligible for refunds of higher rates of duty drawbacks on exports;

(b) if so, the export items which would gain from this new policy; and

(c) the extent to which the Government would be able to reverse the downward trend of exports from India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback are formulated by averaging the data furnished by the Export Promotion Councils in respect of the duties suffered on the inputs used in the manufacture of the export products. No differentiation is made for any class of exporters regarding admissibility of these rates. The question of the Government deciding to make merchant exporters eligible for higher duty drawback rates does not arise.

Import of Capital Goods

3003 SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of capital goods has come down by 15.1 per cent during the first six months of the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details of the imports made and the reasons for decline in import; and

(c) the likely impact on the growth rate of trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir. In fact, import of capital goods during April-August 2001 has gone up by 15.3% as compared to the corresponding period of previous year.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

FDI in Retail Trading

3004. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are reconsidering its previous stand of not allowing FDI in retail trading.

(b) if so, whether such decision has been taken on the basis of Mc Kinzee Report;

(c) if so, whether the report has been considered seriously;

(d) if so, the details of observations made in the report;

(e) whether there is no WTO binding on India to open FDI in retail sector;

(f) whether the Government have received representations, objections from Members of Parliament and different associations in this regard;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d), (f) and (g) The review of sectors and sectoral caps in regard to Foreign Direct Investment is an ongoing process and is undertaken in consultation with and based on the inputs received from the concerned ministries and departments. Representations and observations are being received from various quarters including from Members of Parliament and different associations regarding allowing FDI in retail trading. As per extant policy FDI in retail trade is not permitted.

The McKinsey Report entitled "India — The Growth Imperative" examines several sectors of India's economy and suggests policy changes which would help accelerate growth. The study suggest that GDP growth of 10% a year is within India's reach.

(e) So far as the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is concerned India has not undertaken any commitment under distribution services.

[Translation]

Statutory Minimum Price of Sugarcane

3005. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the statutory minimum price of sugarcane;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) Government has fixed the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane for 2001-2002 sugar season at Rs. 62.05 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of Rs. 0.73 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above that level.

[English]

Construction of Godowns

3006. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI B.V.N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are planning reforms in the marketing structure to promote development of market yards, godowns, packing and grading centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of godowns proposed to be constructed and the estimated cost involved; and

(d) the reasons for undertaking such programme by the Union Government, particularly when the deliberations on decentralisation of procurement of foodgrains, food management and diversification are already in progress with the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) An Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of Agricultural Marketing, appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture, has recommended to examine the existing legal framework governing the institution of Regulated Markets and removal of such restrictive provision which inhibit growth of a cooperative market structure in the country. An Inter-Ministerial Task Force has been constituted in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to examine the recommendations.

The Government has also announced a National Policy on handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains to reduce storage and transit losses and to

modernize the system of handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains in India. The policy envisages that the private sector will be encouraged to build conventional godowns in which they will store and maintain foodgrains procured by Government agencies, for which they will be entitled to storage charges.

(c) For the construction of conventional storage godowns, 78 locations involving 5.88 lakh tonnes in 14 States have been identified. Eleven (11) sites have been identified and approved for creation of integrated bulk handling facilities for wheat.

(d) The decision for introducing decentralized procurement was taken to overcome problem of centralized procurement with regard to levy of taxes, storage, huge expenditure on the cost of transportation and also losses on account of transit, storage, etc. To overcome these problems, it was considered necessary to decentralize the procurement process by dispersing the procurement centres to different parts of the country thereby encouraging local procurement to the maximum extent. States have also, over the years, developed infrastructure in the form of regulated market yards, apex Marketing Cooperative Societies and Civil Supplies Corporations, to enable them to enter the area of procurement in pockets where marketable surplus is available, store the foodgrains and move them to the consumption centres. The scheme of decentralized procurement is presently operational in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. It is not being imposed on any State Government.

Reservation Quota for OBC's

3007. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, has obtained the Union Government's approval for reservations of posts and job opportunities earmarking a definite percentage of opportunities for the most backwards out of the quota for the other backward castes;

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

(c) whether the Government have received such proposals from some other State Governments also; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) No Sir. The State Government are empowered to earmark any quota of reservation in favour of different

categories of Backward Classes within the over all limit of 50% prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Indira Sawhney and Others Vs. Union of India and Others*.

[*Translation*]

Goods Imported in the name of Quake Victims sold in market

3008. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket of welfare-institutions and importers in Gujarat had been busted who were selling the goods in the market after importing them in the name of earthquake victims; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One racket has been detected by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence wherein the investigations conducted so far reveal that old and used garments imported duty free under Notification No. 7/2001-Cus. dated 27.1.2001 as relief material for earthquake victims through Kandla Port in the name of four charitable trusts, viz., (i) M/s. Shri Nopaji Lakhamaji Charitable Trust, Mumbai; (ii) M/s. Shivam Development Trust Bhuj; (iii) M/s. Shree Deendayal Gramin Vikas Trust, Kutch; and (iv) Ayurvedic Sewa Shram, Rajkot, were diverted for sale to the markets in Delhi/Mumbai. The total value of the goods is estimated to be Rs. 1.8 crores (approx.) and the estimated customs duty evasion is Rs. 70 lakhs (approx.). The goods valued at Rs. 49.25 lakhs (approx.), which were imported in the name of two of the charitable institutions, viz., M/s. Sri Nopaji Lakhamaji Charitable Trust, Mumbai & M/s. Shivam Development Trust, Bhuj, Gujarat, and were diverted to Delhi markets, have been seized by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in October, 2001. Further necessary action as per law is being taken in the matter.

[*English*]

Economic Growth

3009. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's economic advisory council has warned that the spending has to be controlled within prudent limits;

(b) if so, whether they have criticised the Government for over-spending to the limits of budget provisions;

(c) if so, to what extent the warnings of economists have affected the Government strategy that has been formulated to bring economy back on a high growth path; and

(d) the steps the Government propose now to take to improve the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) An overwhelming opinion expressed in the meeting of the Economic Advisory Council chaired by the Prime Minister on September 10, 2001 did not favour resort to pump priming. The views and suggestions from various organisations including the Economic Advisory Council provide inputs in formulating policies keeping in view the Government's broad policy objectives and overall macro-economic situation. With a view to promoting growth, the broad strategy has been enunciated in the Budget Speech for 2001-02. The budget for 2001-2002 has provided enhanced central plan outlays for key infrastructure sectors and increased emphasis has been placed on accelerating capital investment expenditure. Besides, Reserve Bank of India on the basis of a review of macro-economic and monetary developments took certain monetary measures in October 2001 to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand consistent with price stability. These measures included further reduction in the bank rate from 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent, rationalization and reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio for the banking system and reduction in the maximum interest rate chargeable on export credit by 1.0 percentage point for a period of six months with effect from September 26, 2001. These specific measures to stimulate demand in the backdrop of budget strategy are expected to have a favourable impact on growth.

High Level Committee for Public and Private Investment

3010. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as part of the Prime Minister's initiative to pump prime the economy, the Government has set up a high-level Committee to suggest measures for expediting the process of public and private investment;

(b) if so, the composition of the committee;

(c) the main functions of this committee;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the committee will suggest measures to simplify procedures for clearing major public investment projects; and

(e) if so, whether the formation of this committee has helped in implementing the projects.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) A Committee comprising of Secretaries of Ministries/ Departments of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Environment and Forests, Power, Expenditure, Telecom, Labour, Disinvestment, Industrial Policy & Promotion, Adviser to Finance Minister, Statistics & Programme Implementation, and Additional Secretary, PMO and Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat has been set up to suggest measures for expediting the process of public and private investment. Secretary, Petroleum and Natural Gas is Convener of the Committee.

(c) and (d) The Committee will examine the extant procedures for investment approvals and implementation of projects and suggest measures to simplify and expedite the process for both public and private investments.

(e) Recommendations and suggestions made by various Committees are considered by the government while formulating appropriate policies.

Jobs to Hearing Impaired Persons

3011. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some percentage of quota has been fixed for the hearing impaired in the Ministries/Departments to Government of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of jobs made available to the hearing impaired persons during the last three years, Ministry/ Department-wise;

(d) whether any proposal is pending with the Government to provide exclusive job reservation quota for the hearing impaired; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a)

and (b) 1% vacancies in the identified posts in the Government Departments are reserved for persons suffering from hearing impairment.

- (c) Information is not centrally maintained.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Katihar Jute Mill

3012. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the jute mill in Katihar district of Bihar is lying closed for last several years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to revive this closed jute mill;
- (d) if so, the details of the revival plan; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Katihar Jute Mills Ltd. (KJML) located in Katihar district of Bihar is a Government of Bihar undertaking and is lying closed since December 1987. Another jute mill of National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited (NJMC), namely, RBHM in Katihar district, which is a Government of India undertaking, is not closed.

(b) The Katihar Jute Mill was taken over by the Bihar State Finance Corporation (BSFC) in December 1984. Due to unsatisfactory performance, the operation of the Katihar Jute Mill was suspended in December 1987.

(c) to (e) Katihar Jute Mill is a State Government undertaking, any scheme of revival has to be undertaken by the State Government.

Non-Procurement of Foodgrains at MSP

3013. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI RATI LAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Uttar Pradesh traders reap floor price", appearing in Times of India dated November 16, 2001;

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

(c) whether due to non procurement by FCI/State procuring agencies the farmers of U.P. are selling their wheat and paddy to traders on cash at cheap rates;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to introduce minimum support price regime in U.P. to help poor farmers and to take steps for an early payment to farmers by FCI;

(e) whether the same situation also prevails in some other States; and

(f) if so, the details of those States and corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, there is no report of distress sale of wheat. Uttar Pradesh, there is no report of distress sale of wheat. Uttar Pradesh is a surplus State in foodgrains and movement of foodgrains to other States is a normal activity, as the entire country is treated as a single food zone. There was record procurement of 24.46 lakh tonnes of wheat in Uttar Pradesh during the period April to June, 2001.

The Government of Punjab has pointed out that no wheat brought from Uttar Pradesh has been procured by State Procurement Agencies in Punjab during or after the Rabi Marketing Season 2001-2002.

(c) The State of Uttar Pradesh has adopted decentralized scheme of procurement for wheat and paddy/rice. Under the price support scheme, farmers are free to sell their produce to the State Agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them. The stocks of wheat and rice conforming to the FAQ specifications are purchased by the State agencies. As on 3.12.2001, Government of UP have opened 1570 purchase centres for paddy and procured a quantity of 1,65,726 MTs as compared to 1,26,629 MTs procured during the corresponding period last year. For the period from 1st April 2001 to 30th June 2001 Government of Uttar Pradesh opened 4390 purchase centres for wheat and procured a record quantity of 24.46 lakh tonnes. As reported by Government of Uttar Pradesh, no report of distress sale of wheat and paddy has been received.

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

(e) and (f) As and when any report of distress sale is received, the same is referred to FCI/concerned State Government for taking immediate corrective action.

Whole Sale Price Index

3014. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Whole Sale Price Index and Consumer Price Index have constantly decreased during the last few months;

(b) if so, the extent of decrease registered during each of the last six months till October 2001;

(c) whether while calculating the Whole Sale Price Index, the Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers) and Consumer Price (Agricultural Workers) similar articles are not taken into account uniformly; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to make changes in the method of calculating of Wholesale Price Index and Consumer Price Index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and the three Consumer Price Indices—for Industrial workers (CPIIW), Agricultural labourers (CPIAL) and urban non manual employees (CPIUNME) registered a modest increase over the last six months as indicated in Table below. However, CPIAL and CPIUNME declined marginally in September 2001 over August 2001.

Wholesale & Consumer Price Index

	WPI*	CPIIW	CPIAL	CPIUNME
2001				
April	160.0	448	301	379
May	160.3	451	303	382
June	160.8	457	306	386
July	161.2	463	309	391
August	161.7	466	312	393
September	161.9	465	311	392
October	162.5	468	na	na

* average of weeks.

na—not available.

(c) The WPI and the CPI differ in their scope and coverage. While WPI computed on base 1993-94 monitors wholesale prices of 435 commodities distributed between primary, manufactured and fuel product groups, the CPI measures change in the level of retail prices of selected goods on which consumers of a defined group spend their income. WPI and the CPI differ substantially in the coverage of their commodity baskets. For example, the weight of primary commodities that include various food items is only 22.03 percent in the WPI, while in case of CPI (W) food items alone constitute 57% of the total weight in the index. Hence CPI is far more sensitive to changes in prices of essential commodities including food items than the WPI.

(d) With a view to reflecting adequately the changes that have taken place in the economy since 1981-82, a new WPI series on base 1993-94 was introduced with effect from April 1, 2000. This series has attempted to do away with the methodological lacunae existing in the older series. Since the current WPI series has been introduced fairly recently, there is no proposal for modifying the methodology at this stage.

The CPIAL has also been revised in 1995 while efforts are on for revising the Consumer Price Indices for Industrial Workers and Urban non manual employees.

*[English]***Performance of LIC**

3015. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overall performance of LIC in the last few years has deteriorated;

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

(c) the overall performance of private insurance companies so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the performance and financial health of LIC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The overall performance of Life Insurance Coproation of India (LIC) has been good during last few years. Details regarding growth in new business (first premium income) of LIC from 1998 to 2001 is given at the statement enclosed.

(c) Since insurance sector has only recently been opened up to private companies, it is too early to assess their overall performance.

(d) As mentioned at (a) & (b) above, the overall performance of LIC has been good during the last few years. Government has further delegated functional autonomy to LIC and has also inducted experts from various fields on the Board of the Corporation.

Statement

Details of performance of LIC in respect of individual assurance, Pension Plans and Bima Nivesh during the years from 1997-2001

Year	Performance	Total Premium Income	% Growth
	First Premium Income (in crores)	Growth Rate (%)	(In Crores)
2000-2001	6262.39	64.98	34877.32
1999-2000	3795.85	35.48	27461.72
1998-1999	2801.73	30.45	22805.80
1997-1998	2099.45	15.63	19252.07

Note: Figure for 1997-1998 for First Premium Income is Individual Assurance only.

Review of ongoing Schemes of Handicrafts

3016. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed recently the ongoing programmes and schemes formulated for promotion and development of handicrafts in the selected areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and provided for upgradation of skills of traditional artisans and craftsmen during

1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till date, State-wise;

(d) the details of new schemes taken up/proposed for upgradation of skills of artisans and craftsmen through institutional support; and

(e) the other steps taken for promotion of traditional handicrafts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the existing schemes of the Government

for promotion and development of handicrafts are reviewed for the country as a whole frequently at the level of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) and at the level of Secretary (Textiles). Schemes are also reviewed at the All India Handicrafts Board Meeting under the Chairmanship of Minister of Textiles. As a result of these reviews schemes are modified to ensure effective implementation and for providing greater benefits to the artisans. Moreover, in the wake of post WTO era, more new components have been added to make the schemes more effective and broad based.

(c) No state-wise funds are allocated. However, the funds allocated for upgradation of skills of traditional artisans and craftsmen in the country during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 has been to the tune of Rs. 3273.10 lakhs, Rs. 3025.10 lakhs and Rs. 2921.50 lakhs respectively.

(d) With a view to ensure sustainable development of the handicrafts sector, the Government has recently launched a new comprehensive scheme named 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana' which seeks to develop selected artisans clusters into professionally managed self-reliant community enterprises working on the principle of effective member participation and mutual cooperation, the scheme shall take care of the needs of upgradation of skills of artisans and craftspersons.

(e) The steps taken include: training for skill upgradation; marketing development support; revival of languishing crafts; design and technology upgradation, setting up of Craft Development Centers and Common Facility Centers and Exhibition and Publicity.

Surplus Fund with Co-Operative Banks

3017. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that various Co-operative Banks in the country are having large deposits with them;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the Co-operative Banks in the country to utilize the surplus funds lying with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the deposits of the SCBs and DCCBs stood at Rs. 32703.62 crores and Rs. 57573.54 crores respectively, as on 31 March, 2001. The State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The deposits of these banks are utilized by them along with their capital funds for lending. The banks are expected to take decisions with regard to the deployment of their funds and make efforts to reduce the cost of their funds by aligning the interest rates offered on deposits to the market by keeping them only marginally higher than those offered by commercial/private banks. Besides the loan portfolio, the cooperative banks have also been permitted to invest their short-term and long-term surplus funds in various avenues like call money, short term deposits, fixed deposits with commercial banks, public sector undertaking bonds upto 10% of their deposits, etc. with Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s permission. These banks have also been permitted to invest upto 5% of their net non-SLR surplus funds as per the discretion of the management of the respective banks in various permissible avenues, subject to the concurrence of RBI. The issue of finding more avenues for profitable deployment of surplus resources has been engaging the attention of RBI/NABARD. NABARD had constituted an in-house study group on funds management by co-operative banks, which had suggested among others that each co-operative bank should evolve its own investment policy covering the funds position, type of investments preferred, balancing liquidity and safety in such investments, involvement of brokers, exposure limits, etc. The study group has also emphasized upon the need for introduction of proper systems to ensure that there is no mismatch in maturity of assets and liabilities through preparation of proper funds flow statements.

Statement

State-wise details of Deposits of State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks, as on 31st March, 2001

No.	State/Union Territory	(Rs. lakhs)	
		State Cooperative Banks	District Central Cooperative Banks
1	2	3	4
1.	A & N Islands	11947	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	161905	270213
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	9415	—
4.	Assam	38674	1749
5.	Bihar	57089	74021
6.	Chandigarh	6494	—
7.	Goa	44134	—

1	2	3	4
8.	Gujarat	274153	601842
9.	Haryana	67584	146153
10.	Himachal Pradesh	117418	115208
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	18902	53558
12.	Karnataka	145181	310779
13.	Kerala	185015	477184
14.	Madhya Pradesh	170158	261756
15.	Maharashtra	913600	1599467
16.	Manipur	1264	—
17.	Meghalaya	29101	—
18.	Mizoram	6565	—
19.	Nagaland	9057	—
20.	NCT of Delhi	33969	—
21.	Orissa	73127	118178
22.	Pondicherry	10760	—
23.	Punjab	87841	294719
24.	Rajasthan	84756	152573
25.	Sikkim	394	—
26.	Tamil Nadu	274458	628487
27.	Tripura	12931	—
28.	Uttar Pradesh	253491	449878
29.	West Bengal	170981	201589
Total		3270362	5757354

I.T. Dues from Film Personalities/TV Personalities

3018. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:
DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of film personalities/TV personalities who have not paid their income-tax dues and the value of dues to be recovered from each individual defaulters;

(b) whether the Government have launched any special drive to collect these IT dues from the above persons; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Details of the film personalities who have not paid their income-tax dues and the value of dues to be recovered from each individual defaulters as on 30.6.2001 are given in the statement enclosed to the reply.

(b) and (c) No special drive to collect IT dues from film personalities/TV personalities has been launched. However, the recovery of taxes is a continuous process which involves various statutory procedures. These include attachment and sale of moveable and immovable properties; charging of interest for late payment; levy of penalty; etc. Periodical review and monitoring of cases involving arrears are made by the higher authorities from time to time for issuing necessary instructions for expediting recovery of taxes.

Statement

Statement indicating details of film personalities having outstanding demand of Rs. 10 lakhs and above as on 30.6.2001

Sl.No.	Name	Demand as on 30.6.2001 (In lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Kailashnath Malhotra	10.00
2.	T.N. Venkatesh	10.27
3.	S.T. Selvam	10.43
4.	A. Ramki	10.56
5.	Hotel Transit P. Ltd.	10.68
6.	Vinayaga Distributors	10.70
7.	Mahamaya Co. Pvt. Ltd.	10.97
8.	Tulsi Ramsay	11.05
9.	Nagoor Babu	11.08
10.	Megha Property Pvt. Ltd.	11.11
11.	Dev Verma Alias (Smt.) Moon Moon Sen (Smt.)	11.11
12.	Kunika Sadanand	11.16

1	2	3	1	2	3
13.	V. Verghese Gulkarga	11.24	43.	Murali Vittal W.T.	19.13
14.	Kartick Chandra Samanta	11.66	44.	P. Mohan Vittal	19.28
15.	P.M. Production	11.88	45.	P. Loganathan Vittal W.T.	19.28
16.	G.V. Films Ltd.	12.00	46.	Ashok Ghai	19.34
17.	S. Prabhudeva	12.26	47.	Misrilal Pictures (P) Ltd.	19.73
18.	Amit Kumar Ganguly	12.51	48.	Veeru Devgun	19.47
19.	Screen Finance (P) Ltd.	12.60	49.	A.M. Ratnam	20.42
20.	Chitra Samuha	12.62	50.	Mukesh Duggal	20.92
21.	Janata Cinema Properties & Finance Ltd.	12.76	51.	Arjun	20.93
22.	N.C. Cine Services	12.97	52.	Murlikanthan	21.32
23.	Zafo Films P. Ltd.	12.98	53.	A. Kothandaramaiah	21.36
24.	Lata Mangeshkar	13.25	54.	Akbar Ali Khan	21.76
25.	A.S. Ibrahim Rowther	13.28	55.	Bhagwan S.C.	22.15
26.	Bappi Lahiri	13.25	56.	B.R.T.V.	22.15
27.	R. Raj Babu	13.84	57.	K. Balaji	22.77
28.	Farooq Ahmed A. Farooqui	13.88	58.	Brinks Arya India P. Ltd.	23.94
29.	Dhake Dyes & Chemicals P. Ltd.	13.99	59.	Naresh Chandra Verma W.T.	24.27
30.	Sujatha Productions P. Ltd.	14.00	60.	P.P. Kanniah W.T.	24.92
31.	B.N. Suresh Reddy	14.80	61.	Karishma Kapoor	25.15
32.	P. Soundrya (Ms.)	14.93	62.	A. Vijaya Kanth	25.42
33.	P. Guru Vittal WT	15.53	63.	Eastern India Motion Pictures Association	25.80
34.	Eagle Films	15.68	64.	Krishan Kumar	26.00
35.	K. Goundamani	16.29	65.	Mat Production International	26.26
36.	V. Adinarayana Reddy	16.86	66.	Dharmanand J. Joshi	26.62
37.	Sapna Arts	17.01	67.	K. Balasubramanian	26.80
38.	Jhony Bakshi	17.39	68.	Shri Afzal Khan	27.13
39.	Shri Jyoti Prakash Gupta	17.62	69.	G. Hanumantha Rao	27.80
40.	R.B. Chowdhury	17.76	70.	Alyam Cinema P. Ltd.	28.24
41.	Fascination Network	18.61	71.	Intally Talkies (P.) Ltd.	28.32
42.	K.J. Yesudoss Audio & Visuals Corporation Ltd.	18.77	72.	In House Production P. Ltd.	29.12

1	2	3	1	2	3
73.	Gautam Berry	29.91	10.4	Gulshan Kumar	69.00
74.	Shri Yash Raj Chopra	30.00	105.	R. Sarath Kumar	74.24
75.	Savitri & Co.	30.23	106.	Bradma India Ltd.	74.45
76.	Kishore Kuman Ganguli	31.68	107.	V.C. Ganesan	77.54
77.	Kumar Sanu Bhatacharjee	31.83	108.	M.C. Bokadia	81.13
78.	R. Vijay Achandran	33.29	109.	Subhash Ghai	86.83
79.	Jenny Pinto Production	37.00	110.	Yash Raj Films	95.04
80.	Satram Rohra	40.09	111.	Shanthy Theatres P. Ltd.	96.13
81.	G. Subramaniam @ Maniratham	42.23	112.	M.V. Shrinivasa Prasad	98.90
82.	G. Venkateswaran	42.63	113.	Nandkumar Tolani	106.32
83.	Rajesh Khanna	42.69	114.	O.P. Ralhan	138.82
84.	Gulab M. Gulbani	43.07	115.	Pyramid Films International	155.49
85.	D.S. Mittie & Sons	44.72	116.	Shri Sushil Gupta	155.73
86.	G. Gopal Rao	46.06	117.	Yash Johar	160.61
87.	Albright & Wilson Chemical Ltd.	46.22	118.	Maharashtra Film Stage & Cultural Dev. Corp.	166.96
88.	S. Kamal Hassan	48.99	119.	Mukta Arts P. Ltd.	175.57
89.	A. Sreedevi (Smt.)	49.97	120.	Shri S. Manivannan	185.52
90.	Rajan R. Sippy	51.14	121.	Jaya Bachchan (Smt.)	199.52
91.	Gaurav Gupta	53.22	122.	Murli Mohan M.	212.00
92.	Francis Joseph	53.59	123.	Adlabas Films P. Ltd.	216.19
93.	M.G. Pictures (Madras) Ltd.	54.29	124.	Sippy Films	246.37
94.	P.D. Abraham Alias	55.57	125.	Basant Kumar Patil	258.03
95.	Gopal Reddy	55.78	126.	Sharukh Khan	275.26
96.	Motion Pictures Distributors	57.64	127.	P. Ramgopal Verma	300.79
97.	Tips Film P. Ltd.	57.92	128.	Ramnord Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.	321.74
98.	KLN Finance Ltd.	58.02	129.	Jayaprada (M.S.)	331.20
99.	P. Sundararajan	58.09	130.	Sujatha Films P. Ltd.	624.92
100.	B.S. Ranga	58.68	131.	Amitabh Bachchan	1067.16
101.	Ajay Singh Deol	59.63	132.	Amitabh Bachchan Corporation Ltd.	1776.93
102.	CMS Computers (P) Ltd.	62.79			
103.	Asian Food Products Ltd.	66.70			

Allocation of Imported Edible Oil to States

3019. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of imported edible oils allocated during the current year State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any State has made additional demand because of inadequate quantity supplied to them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; State-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken to fulfill their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) Due to easy availability of edible oils at comfortable prices in the open market, Government of India has decided for the time being not to import edible oils for its distribution through PDS. Therefore, no quantity of edible oils has been allocated to States/UTs during the current year. However, those of the States which have placed their demands have been advised to contact STC to import edible oils on mutually agreed terms without any element of subsidy.

Reservation of Vacancies for SC/ST

3020. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE 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, indicate '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 Finance when special recruitment drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) As per the instructions of DOP&T dated 20.7.2000, 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 SCs/STs of earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and would not be subject to any ceiling. However, backlog and/or carried forward reservation will automatically lapse in a cadre as soon as combined representation of a reserved category in direct recruitment as well as promotion is either equal to or more than the prescribed number of reserved posts in the relevant post-based rosters. These instructions do not apply to the vacancies reserved for OBCs. The provision contained in para 5 of the DOP&T's O.M. dated 2.7.1997, is regarding initial operation of post-based roster and identifying excess/shortfall in respective categories in the cadre and not about backlog/carried forward vacancies. No centralised data as to carried forward vacancies and vacancies/posts accruing to reserved class in case of various offices under the Ministry of Finance is maintained.

[Translation]

Items Selected for Export

3021. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified fourteen maximum export items for the time being in order to boost the foreign trade;

(b) if so, the names of such items;

(c) the annual average export of those items in terms of value, separately, at present;

(d) the assessment made by the Government in regard to boosting the export of these items; and

(e) the scheme formulated to boost the export of these items on the basis of the said assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (e) As the Global Trade Environment constantly changes, items of exports which have potential are identified from time to time, based on reviews, and efforts are taken to realize the potential in various sectors. Accordingly, schemes are formulated and implemented to boost exports in these identified sectors.

Several measures to boost exports have been taken in order to provide competitive edge to Indian goods in the global market. The measures include reduction in transaction costs through decentralization, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions, setting up of Special Economic Zones. Besides these, the measures announced in the new Exim Policy 2001-2002 *inter alia* include promotion of agricultural exports, market access initiative, setting up business cum trade facilitation center, etc. Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters, extension of normal repatriation period, and upward revision of duty drawback rates on a number of product groups. Export performance is constantly being monitored and suitable measures are being taken.

As per the available data from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, the export performance of major sectors for the period April-August, 2001-02 is given below:

(In US \$ Million)

Major Sector	April-Aug 2000-01	April-Aug. 2001-02
Plantation	281.55	268.01
Agri & Allied Products	1440.44	1501.01
Manne Products	509.88	468.42
Ores & Minerals	505.23	452.42
Leather & Mfrs.	799.02	835.69
Gems & Jewellery	2946.84	2686.14
Chemicals & Related products	2460.08	2530.81
Engineering Goods	2314.71	2197.49
Electronic Goods	341.98	503.83
Textiles	4654.92	3920.88
Handicrafts	323.67	236.54
Carpets	272.11	203.20
Petroleum Products	355.93	769.26

[English]

Storage Capacity in Andhra Pradesh

3022. SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA:
DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to take necessary measures to increase storage capacity in Andhra Pradesh for adequate storage of rice procured in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have acquired additional 15 lakh tonnes of storage capacity in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore and the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) As requested by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Food Corporation of India (FCI) was allowed to create a total of 15 lakh MTs of additional storage capacity (covered) in Andhra Pradesh through the Andhra Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation (APSWC) on 7 years' guarantee basis. The construction of the 15 lakh MT additional capacity is in various stages of completion is likely to be completed by February, 2002. In addition, State Government of Andhra Pradesh asked for further guarantee from FCI for another 15 lakh MT under the same scheme and it has been decided that FCI may give 7 years' guarantee to the State Government/ APSWC for construction of additional 5 lakh MT of covered storage capacity in addition to the 15 lakh MT earlier guaranteed by FCI. Further, 1.61 lakh MT capacity would also be constructed by the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) under the same scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh, out of which 1.47 lakh MT is expected to be completed by 2002.

Industries Registered with BIFR

3023. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI ABMAREESHA:
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise names of private sector companies which were declared sick and registered with the Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction (BIFR) during the last three years;

(b) the details of companies which suffered losses to the tune Rs. 200 crore and more annually out of the above;

(c) the steps taken by the management of these companies for revival of such companies referred above;

(d) whether the management of these companies submitted/forwarded any report to the BIFR in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons advanced by the managements of these companies;

(g) whether the Government propose to wind up these companies which have been declared sick and are beyond revival; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

"Recommendations of Y.V. Reddy Committee on Small Savings"

3024. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Y.V. Reddy Committee have been made certain recommendations with regard to small savings;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government are further planning to slash interest rates of small savings;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of small investors and State Government who generate funds through these sources for their development works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main recommendations of the Committee are as under:

(i) The present system of direct management of long term funds by the public sector and fixing administered rates of interest with tax concessions not being sustainable in the medium term, should be transformed into a system of fully funded long term savings schemes managed independently and professionally, aimed at promoting growth and meeting genuine investment demands in the economy;

(ii) In the transition period, as an interim measure, interest rates on small savings schemes be benchmarked mainly to the rates of average secondary market yields on Government securities.

(iii) Transfer of the entire net collections to the States from 1.4.2002 instead of 80% to States and 20% to the Centre as at present. The Central and State Governments should jointly repay the outstanding small savings liabilities as of March, 2002, apportioned in accordance to their respective shares.

(iv) Withdrawal of all tax concessions on short and medium term financial savings (maturity not more than 6 years). With regard to long term savings, tax concessions at the time of accrual may be provided @ 20% on investment upto Rs. 60,000.

(c) The Committee has suggested "a wider debate on various issues involving all stakeholders and wider consultations (particularly with the States) in respect of the Committee's recommendations regarding small savings." The Report of the Committee has accordingly been made available on the official website of the Ministry of Finance for access by State Governments, members

of public and all other interested persons for their comments/views, if any, on the recommendations of the Committee to the Ministry of Finance.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to revise the rates of interest on various small savings schemes at present. The Committee's Report will provide an input into Government's approach on this issue.

(f) Steps are taken by the Government from time to time for continued and enhanced mobilisation of resources through small savings schemes. 80% of this net collection is transferred to State Governments and the benefit of reduced interest rates on small savings schemes is passed on to the State Governments from time to time. The interests of the small investors are also safeguarded by offering implicit guarantee, attractive returns, tax benefits, liquidity and accessibility in regard to the small savings schemes.

Trade Concessions to Pakistan by European Union

3025. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:
SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to protect the textile exporters from the preferential trade concessions to Pakistan by the European Union;

(b) whether the Government have taken note of the superior lobbying and deal-making abilities of other countries that enable them to secure favourable deals for significant domestic sectors; and

(c) if so, the details about the steps taken by the Government to secure favourable deals for the domestic textiles sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) EU has entered into a bilateral textile deal with Pakistan and has agreed to enhance its quota levels by 15% in return for Pakistan's commitment to reduce its duties in textile clothing by 5% and bind the new rates at 5%, 15% and 25% levels.

India has taken note of the developments and discussed the issue with EU Trade Commissioner during Indo-EU Joint Commission meeting.

[*Translation*]

Fraud Detected at IGI Airport

3026. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 970 given on July 27, 2001 regarding fraud detected at IGI Airport and state:

(a) whether the investigations in this case has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty persons;

(d) whether any Government official has also been found involved in this racket; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Main accused of the case, Sh. Pawan Kumar has been detained under COFEPOSA Act. Another suspect, Sh. Tejwant Singh has been arrested by DRI and is in judicial custody.

(d) and (e) One Superintendent and one Preventive Officer suspected to be involved in the case have been placed under suspension and suitable disciplinary action in consultation with Directorate of Vigilance, is in progress.

Arrest of Chief Excise Commissioner

3027. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Flecks of suspicion" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated November 9, 2001;

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

(c) whether the Chief Excise Commissioner, Delhi picked up by CBI for allegedly taking Rs. 10 lakhs bribe from CMD of Flex Industries based in UP in which two retired bureaucrats have stakes;

(d) if so, whether the Government have ordered comprehensive investigation into the role of these two retired bureaucrats; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard with the further action likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) CBI has registered a case viz., RC 74(A)/2001-DLI against the then Chief Commissioner, Central Excise, Delhi, and others and has arrested four persons in this connection including the then Chief Commissioner, Central Excise, Delhi.

Export/Import by MMTC

3028. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the metals, minerals and other items exported/imported by Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation (MMTC) during each of the last three years alongwith value thereof; and

(b) the revenue earned/spent thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Sir, the item-wise details of exports and imports of MMTC for the last three years, alongwith the trading profit are given as under:—

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Exports	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002 Apr-Sept 2001 (Prov.)	
	Turnover	Trading Profit	Turnover	Trading Profit	Turnover	Trading Profit
Minerals and Ores	1039	62	1368	98	701	33
Metals	7	0	11	0	30	—
Gems & Jewellery	8	1	19	1	2	—
Agro	4	-1	174	7	142	6
Others	96	0	31	0	10	1
Imports						
Metals	296	9	262	4	41	1
Gems & Jewellery	2556	10	2942	7	2759	5
Fertilizers	272	3	19	0	29	—
Agro	254	5	173	4	121	2
Hydro-carbon	138	11	233	15	62	2
Others	11	1	13	0	3	—
Domestic	17	0	57	3	13	1
Total	4698	101	5302	139	3913	51

[Translation]

Book Bank Scheme

3029. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the book bank scheme for SC and ST students has been a failure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to make this scheme a success?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Assistance as admissible under the scheme is being sanctioned to the State Governments/UTs. Total amount sanctioned under the scheme has gone up from Rs. 120.40 lacs in 1998-99 to Rs. 243.32 lacs in 1999-2000 and to Rs. 248.89 lacs in 2000-2001.

[*English*]

Carpet/textiles Exports

3030. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the carpet industry has been adversely affected after the attack on world trade tower;

(b) if so, the total export orders of carpet which have been cancelled by different countries, country-wise;

(c) the losses suffered due to cancellation of orders;

(d) whether after the Afgans war, America is offering its market to Pakistan and Indian Textiles and textile related industries have been badly hit; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard to save the interest of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export orders cancelled can not be quantified in the absence of actual details. Such data is not maintained.

(c) In the absence of actual data, authentic figures can't be given. However, it is estimated that losses may be over Rs. 300 crores.

(d) No special concessions have been granted by US to Pakistan so far.

A declining trend has been noticed in the textile exports since the beginning of year 2001, which is mainly due to general slowdown in the economies of some of our major trading partners like US. This trend got accentuated due to September 11 attacks and Afghanistan war.

(e) Government have been taking steps from time to time to increase the cost competitiveness of our products in the international market and to save the interest of the industry. Some of the important initiatives are listed below.

[*Translation*]

Insurance Package for Airlines

3031. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of global substantial hike in rates of insurance some public sector insurance companies propose to announce a package soon for helping airlines;

(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 FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Adoption of Eco-Friendly Technology in Textile Industry

3032. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have assessed the amount to be spent on adoption of eco-friendly technology in textile industry including handloom and powerloom;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the share of foreign exchange therein; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for adoption of such technology for the rest period of Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The textile industry, which is mostly in private sector, is in the process of adopting eco-friendly technology. Ministry of Textiles has however, not assessed the amount to be spent on adoption of eco-friendly technology by the entire textile industry.

The Textiles Committee, a statutory body set up under Textile Committee Act, 1963, has set up/modernised/strengthened eight laboratories, with eco-testing facilities, during the period 1996-97 to 1998-99.

In addition, Government of India releases grants-in-aid to the Textile Research Associations for various research projects which also include adoption of eco-friendly technology in the field of textiles.

World Bank Report on Fiscal Deficit

3033. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank report released in October, 2001 warned that the mounting fiscal deficit and monetary expansion in India could lead to higher inflation level;

(b) if so, the steps taken for recovery from the "Financial Strains" pointed out, and

(c) the action taken to implement TRIPS in phased manner as recommended by the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) "Global Economic Prospects and the Developing countries 2002" published by the World Bank has noted that fiscal position in India has been highly expansionary. Also it mentions that monetary stance in India at present is expansionary, indicating, perhaps, higher inflation in the near future. The Government is conscious of the need for better fiscal management to contain non-plan revenue expenditure and increase revenue receipts. with a view to achieve fiscal consolidation, the Budget for 2001-02 emphasises expenditure management through the process of bringing about structural changes in the composition of Central Government expenditure, economy in non-plan revenue expenditure while improving the quality of expenditure. To this end the Budget contains a number of initiatives which among others include restricting fresh recruitment to one per cent of total civilian staff strength, revision in user charges for services provided by the Government and its agencies keeping in view the increased cost of these services etc. With a view to reduce interest burden, most administered interest rates were reduced by 1.5 per cent as of March 1, 2001. Besides the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Bill, 2000 was introduced in Parliament in December 2000. This Bill includes provisions relating to ceilings on debt, deficit and borrowing. Besides, Reserve Bank of India on the basis of a review of macro-economic and monetary developments took certain monetary measures in October 2001 to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand consistent with price stability.

(c) The World Bank publication on "Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries" emphasizes the need to rebalance the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement to accommodate the problems of low-income countries and advocates phased implementation of TRIPS. TRIPS deals with agreements in respect of Copyrights, Trade Marks, Geographical Indications, Industrial designs, Lay out designs of integrated circuits and Protection of undisclosed information (Trade secrets). As per our obligations under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement, the patents (Amendments) Act, 1999 was passed in March 1999 to provide for exclusive marketing rights. In respect of plant varieties a Bill tabled by the Ministry of Agriculture to put in place *sui generis* system has been passed by the Lok Sabha. A legislation giving protection to lay-out designs, called the Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Lay-out-Design Act, 2000 has been passed by Parliament. As regards Copyright and related rights India is a signatory to the Berne Convention. The Copyright Act, 1957 as amended in 1994 takes care of our own concerns and meets with the requirements of the TRIPS Agreement except in the case of terms of protection of performers rights. A Bill to increase this term to 50 years was passed by Parliament in December, 1999. Trade Marks Bill was passed by Parliament in December, 1999 which, *inter alia*, provides for protection to service marks. The Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 was passed by Parliament in December 1999. The Designs Act, 2000 was passed by Parliament in May, 2000.

Dumping of Edible Oil

3034. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the edible oils are being imported from Malaysia and Indonesia;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the price at which imported;

(c) whether the edible oil is being dumped by foreign countries in India which is of poor quality; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to check the quality of each lot of oil being dumped by foreign companies/countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per EXIM Policy import of edible oils except coconut oil is under Open General Licence (OGL). As such, the import of edible oils would depend upon the commercial judgement of the importers. Tariff value of edible oils imported from these countries are as under:—

Oil	Tariff value (US \$ per MT)
Crude Palm Oil	286
RBD Palm Oil	295
RBD Palmolein	307
Crude Palmolein	298

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Only those products are released into India which conform to the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder.

SCs/STs Below Poverty Line

3035. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of people living below poverty line has reduced from 35 to 26 percent;

(b) whether the 26 percent of people, who are below the poverty line belongs only to SCs and STs communities;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) if not the percentage of SCs and STs still living below the poverty line; and

(e) the measures being taken to bring them at par with the people of other communities?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) As per Planning Commission, the percentage of people living below the poverty line in the country has gone down from 35.97% in 1993-94 to 26.1% in 1999-2000.

(b) No, Sir. 26.1% of the persons estimated to be living below poverty line is for the entire population of the country, including SCs/STs.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The latest estimate of percentages of SC and ST population living below the poverty line are available for the year 1993-94. According to this, 48.11% of SC population and 51.94% of ST population in rural areas and 49.48% of SC population and 41.14% of ST population in urban areas were living below the poverty line in 1993-94.

(e) Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been a matter of priority for the Government. The Government has been taking several steps for improving the status of SCs/STs, which include the following:—

- (i) In order to give a greater thrust to development of Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes, the State Governments and Central Ministries have been asked to implement special plans, namely, Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for the STs, and Special Component Plan (SCP) for SCs. Under this strategy, certain percentage of the plan fund of the States/Central Ministries is proportion to the population of STs and SCs are being earmarked for spending exclusively on welfare of STs and SCs.
- (ii) Special Central Assistance is being provided as an additive to the TSP and SCP of the States.
- (iii) Grant under Article 275 of the Constitution is being provided for promoting welfare of Scheduled Tribes.
- (iv) The National SC Finance Development Corporation and National Tribal Finance and Development Corporation are providing alone at concessional rate of interest to the SCs and STs respectively.
- (v) Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 49% share capital is being released to State level Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Development Corporations (SCDCs) against 51% share capital released by the respective State Governments. The SCDCs are providing loan at concessional rate of interest and margin money to SC/ST families for undertaking various economic activities.

Kisan Credit Cards

3036. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the bank-wise and State-wise number of Kisan Credit Card holders in the country as on date;

(b) the State-wise amount of credit provided to these Kisan Credit Card holders till date;

(c) whether the Government propose to associate personal and crop insurance with Kisan Credit Card Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that banks are avoiding to provide credit cards to the farmers in rural areas and only influential farmers have been able to these cards so far; and

(f) if so, the precautioning measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The details of the agency-wise number of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) holders in the country, as reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, since inception upto 30th September, 2001 are given below:—

No.	Agency	No. of Cards Issued since inception
1.	Commercial Banks	5147890
2.	Co-operative Banks	12563813
3.	Regional Rural Banks	1220288
	Total	18931991

The State-wise details of the number of Kisan Credit Card holders and the amount of credit provided to them, since inception upto 30th September, 2001 are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Kisan Credit Card holders are already eligible for coverage under Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS) as well as crop insurance under the Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana (RKBY). The Personal Accident Insurance Scheme covers the risk of KCC holders against accidental death or permanent/partial disability upto a maximum amount of Rs. 50,000/-. The Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana (RKBY) provides crop insurance to farmers for notified crops. The scheme is compulsory for farmers availing crop loans from banks. The sum insured extends upto the value of threshold yield of the crop, with option to cover upto 150% of average yield of the crop on payment of additional premium. In case of loanee farmers, the minimum sum insured is the amount of loan availed.

(e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD have reported that studies conducted by them have not revealed any preferential treatment to influential farmers.

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

Statement

State-wise progress in implementation of the Kisan Credit Cards Scheme by Agencies since inception upto 30th September, 2001

(Rs. lakhs)			
Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Cards issued	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	1271	79.55
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4402494	573368.49
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	351	60.49
4.	Assam	5871	1212.49
5.	Bihar	408253	55845.72
6.	Chandigarh	0	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	12054	2045.23
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1.00
9.	Daman & Diu	0	0.00
10.	Goa	1934	4774.82
11.	Gujarat	802792	241778.76
12.	Haryana	707669	295496.73
13.	Himachal Pradesh	42770	9317.25
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	13919	1267.91
15.	Jharkhand	74577	2550.62
16.	Karnataka	1248235	380172.10
17.	Kerala	628207	108317.18
18.	Lakshadweep	64	16.85
19.	Madhya Pradesh	611148	206315.96
20.	Maharashtra	2000919	536083.77
21.	Manipur	420	32.36
22.	Meghalaya	2107	172.83
23.	Mizoram	703	35.30

1	2	3	4
24.	Nagaland	10	0.50
25.	NCT of Delhi	1526	586.87
26.	Orissa	1085231	197983.73
27.	Pondicherry	9885	2771.97
28.	Punjab	958647	391282.33
29.	Rajasthan	1652900	597167.25
30.	Sikkim	361	42.05
31.	Tamil Nadu	1272143	245790.72
32.	Tripura	2072	256.16
33.	Uttar Pradesh	2714386	461016.85
34.	Uttaranchal	49243	12336.46
35.	West Bengal	219828	36080.86
Total		18931991	4364269.58

Private Banks of Kerala

3037. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had received representations from the Officers and Employees Associations of the Kerala based Lord Krishna Bank Ltd., regarding serious violations of banking rules and regulations by the management of the bank;

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

(c) whether the Government had examined the Annual/Quarterly Inspection report of the Reserve Bank of India on Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. in view of the serious allegations made against the management;

(d) if so, the details of the RBI report;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for ordering a fresh detailed enquiry by the RBI regarding the workings of the prestigious private Banks/FIs of Kerala like Lord Krishna Bank, Nedungadi Bank and Syrian Bank which are on the verge of collapse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government have received a representation from the Lord Krishna Bank Employees' Union forwarding a copy of a resolution purported to have been unanimously adopted by it urging upon the competent authorities to initiate appropriate investigation into certain activities relating to the Bank.

(c) to (f) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. was inspected by it with reference to its position as on 31st March, 2001 and the findings of the inspection are under detailed scrutiny. Based thereon, the Bank will be advised by RBI to take corrective measures wherever necessary.

Cyberspace Defrauded BOI

3038. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Cyberspace implicated in defrauding BOI" as papering in the 'Hindustan Times' dated August 14, 2001;

(b) if so, whether an Individual company in connivance with bank officials and other private parties have defrauded the BOI to the tune of crores of rupees;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such bank frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) M/s. Cyberspace Ltd. in connivance with M/s. Inmac Computers Pvt. Ltd. defrauded the Bank of India. The Bank has lodged a complaint with CBI. The CBI has filed charge-sheet on 26.11.2001 against the companies and directors involved. No official of Bank of India has been chargesheeted by CBI.

(c) M/s. Cyberspace Ltd. was sanctioned a lease Finance of Rs. 2.80 crore for acquiring computers, servers and other accessories by the Bank of India, Lease Finance branch, Mumbai on February 27, 2001. On the request of the Lessee Company, the equipment lease finance of Rs. 2.80 crore was disbursed by the branch to the suppliers of the equipment, M/s. Inmac Computers Pvt. Ltd. on March 14, 2001 against their invoices dated March 5, 2001 in the name of 'Bank of India A/c. Cyberspace Ltd.' and Bank had obtained necessary

stamped receipt. Post-disbursement visit/inspection carried out by the bank on March 20, 2001 revealed that the equipment leased had not been installed at the premises of lessee company. On written enquiry with the suppliers, it came to light that M/s. Cyberspace Ltd. had cancelled the order earlier placed with the suppliers and supplier refunded the amount to M/s. Kamal Infosys Ltd. (a sister concern of M/s. Cyberspace Ltd. identified by them). Bank of India has lodged complaint with CBI against the promoters of the Company and suppliers of goods.

(d) Banks have been advised to follow the laid down procedures and precautionary measures to guard against frauds. RBI has also issued a caution advice against M/s. Cyberspace Ltd. and its directors as well as M/s. Inmac. Computers Pvt. Ltd. to all commercial banks.

Backward Classes Living Below Poverty Line

3039. DR. V SAROJA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have authentic data of persons belonging to the Other Backward Classes living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any efforts have been taken so far to collect the data.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No authentic data of persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) living below the poverty line is available with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) The matter regarding collection of population data on OBCs was taken up with the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) and the Ministry of Home Affairs. They have expressed their inability to undertake the survey.

SCs/STs & OBC in PSUs

3040. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT 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 January, 1, 1996 under Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the total number of 'posts' in Class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) and equivalents thereof under all Public Sector Undertakings/Enterprises, Statutory Organizations/corporations, Autonomous Organizations, Attached and Subordinate Offices under his Ministry; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to General, SC, ST and 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 2nd July 1997?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

MSP for Bajra and Coarse Grains

3041. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not announcement Minimum Support Price (MSP) for bajra and coarse grains in Rajasthan;

(b) whether this would benefit the middlemen in procurement of bajra and coarse grains in Rajasthan and adversely effect the poor farmers; and

(c) if so, remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to protect the interest of the farming community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The Union Government has already fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Bajra and coarse grains for the Kharif Marketing season 2001-02 @ Rs. 485/- per quintal.

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

Export of Sub-Standard Tea to Libya

3042. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has lost its tea export market in Libya due to alleged supply of sub-standard tea which not fit for human consumption;

(b) if so, whether an enquiry has been conducted in this matter;

(c) if so, the action in the matter against the erring persons; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that such things do not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Libya is not a stable market for Indian tea. Export of tea to Libya during the last five years were as follows:—

Year	Quantity in m.kgs.
1996	0.05
1997	1.65
1998	6.98
1999	Nil
2000	3.63

Indian Embassy, Tripoli in the month of August 2000 informed about supply of un-satisfactory quality of tea to Libyan National Supply Corporation (NASCO) by an Indian Exporter.

Tea Board initially obtained views of the Indian exporter on the allegation of supply of sub-standard tea and subsequently issued show cause notice to the exporter for suspension/cancellation of tea Exporter Licence granted under Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order 1957. The Indian exporter has been advised by the Tea Board to sort out the problem directly with NASCO. Follow up action on this is also being closely monitored by the Department of Commerce, Tea Board and our embassy at Tripoli. To avoid recurrence of such disputes, the Government and Tea Board have introduced a Voluntary Scheme for the firms of importing countries desiring to have quality checks through agencies appointed by the Tea Board.

[*Translation*]

Leasing of Land to Super Bazar

3043. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Super Bazar was given 169.25 acre land in Delhi on lease and the management of Super Bazar used that land for growing vegetables;

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

(c) the present position about the said land alongwith its estimated market value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[*English*]

Income Tax Raids on Film Personalities

3044. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1055 given on July 27, 2001 regarding income tax raids on film personalities and to state:

(a) whether the investigations against film stars/film personalities for alleged involvement of FERA/FEMA has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Investigations are time consuming and some enquiries have to be conducted abroad also and the quantum of work involved in these investigations is substantial.

Industrial Production

3045. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
 SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
 SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:
 DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
 SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
 DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
 SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
 SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
 SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
 SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
 SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
 DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
 SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial production growth has slumped in the first six months of current year in comparison to the same period of previous year;

(b) if so, the comparative figures thereof;

(c) the reasons for this sharp decline in the industrial production growth; and

(d) the extent to which this growth is less than the target fixed, if any;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any plans to improve its industrial growth situation in the remaining period of current financial year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The industrial production growth rate as measured by Index of Industrial Production registered a growth rate of 2.3% during April-September 2001-02 as against 5.7% registered during 2000-01.

(c) The main reasons for decline in industrial production are as under:

- Comparatively lower agricultural production in the past two years resulting in lower aggregate demand and reduced consumption.
- Economic slowdown in U.S. and many other countries have adversely affected exports. The share of exports to U.S. constitutes 19.19% of the total exports of India. As significant share of

industrial produce is exported from India, a slowdown in exports impacts industrial production.

- Persistence of Infrastructure bottlenecks and failure to attract private sector investment in infrastructure projects.
- Decline in stock market capitalization.
- High real interest rates.
- Subdued business sentiments.

(d) The cumulative growth achieved so far during the first six months of the current fiscal year (April-September 2001-02) is 2.3% as against an annual target of 8.2% for industrial growth set by the Planning Commission for the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(e) and (f) The Government has taken several policy initiatives to boost industrial production in the country. These measures have been targeted to improve competitiveness of Indian industry in general and to boost aggregate demand, improve infrastructure base, upgrade technology, improve sentiments in the stock market, and encourage FDI flows in particular.

Some of the initiatives taken recently are briefly mentioned below:

- Public spending out of the current budgetary allocations has been stepped up. Government has already identified several 'last mile projects' under various ministries for speedy completion.
- To boost liquidity, Reserve Bank of India has cut Bank Rate by half-percentage point; from 7.0 per cent to 6.50 per cent to touch it's lowest since May 1973. The CRR has also been reduced by 2.0 percentage points from 7.50 per cent to 5.50 per cent. RBI also removed most of the exemptions available on CRR.
- RBI has already reduced interest rate on export credit to 2.5% below PLR from 1.5% below PLR earlier. Since about 35% of the total manufacturing is exported this strategy is expected to boost exports.
- The Parliament has passed the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001, which now awaits President's assent. The Bill allows buy back of shares by companies, enhances liquidity in stock markets, besides improving market sentiments.
- Investment limits for Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) have been increased to the level of FDI ceilings in all the sectors.

- Proposals have also been made for suitable legislative changes to improve the operating environment for industry.
- To remove infrastructure bottlenecks several incentives have been announced for improvement in power, roads, telecommunications and ports. The Golden Quadrilateral project and Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana have been launched.

Investment by Financial Institutions

3046. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector financial institutions engaged in encouraging small savings make investments of the deposited capital into various sectors;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines have been issued for the capital investment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the institutions that have contravened these guidelines during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

SCs/STs & OBCs on Selection Committees

3047. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether SC/ST MPs' Convention during December, 1999 while expressing serious concern and drawing attention of the Government towards the dismal picture of non-representation of SCs and STs and the higher rungs of the administration/bureaucratic set up, has sought inclusion of one SC/ST member on all the 'Selection Committees/Boards' which undertake searching, short-listing, recommending, empanelling, selecting and recruiting process of persons for the posts at the level of 'Board of Directors', Managing Directors/Chairmen of Public Sector Enterprises, Statutory/Autonomous Organizations, Corporations and other senior posts/positions at the level of Joint Secretary to Central Government and above;

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry to consider the above demand for the welfare of SCs/STs, OBCs and other weaker sections of the society; and

(c) the structural/constitutional changes brought about in the existing instruction/systems regarding composition of the said Selection Boards/Committees for facilitating inclusion of SC/ST persons?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) In the SC/ST MPs Convention held during December, 1999 the Members of Parliament had inter alia recommended, "there should be SC and ST members in the Recruitment Boards/Selection Committees".

(b) and (c) The recommendation was sent to the Department of Personnel and Training, who informed that as per DOPT's OM dated July 11, 1995, wherever a Selection Committee/Board exists or has to be constituted for making recruitment to 10 or more vacancies in Group 'C' or Group 'D' posts/services, it shall be mandatory to have one member belonging to SC/ST/OBC and one member belonging to Minority Community in such Committees/Boards. Instructions have also been issued by the Government to all the Ministries/Departments that they should endeavour to nominate to the maximum extent possible, a Scheduled Caste/Tribe Officer on the Selection Boards, Department Promotion Committees constituted for various posts/services under them.

[*Translation*]

Export Price of Wheat

3048. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the Free on Board (FoB) export price of wheat fixed by the Government;

(b) the amount of cartage and handling charge involved per metric tonne of wheat for export;

(c) whether the Union Government have received representations from various State Governments to make available wheat at export price to pay bread manufacturers in their States so as to make it available for the common man at cheaper rates;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b)

Wheat is being offered ex FCI por godowns @Rs. 4250/- per MT upto 31.12.2001 to exports. After adding transportation, handling and other charges, the FOB prices vary from consignment to consignment.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from the Maharashtra Government for issue of wheat @ Rs. 4150/- per MT for producing bakery items at cheaper rates. Since the bakers are free to purchase wheat under the Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)] of FCI, at rates in force from time to time, which at present is Rs. 6950/- per MT for the Western Zone, these requests have not been accepted. A discount of Rs. 40/- per quintal is also available for the wheat crop 2001-02 of Punjab, Haryana and UP (some districts). The rates for issue of wheat under OMSS(D) of FCI are already very low, entailing subsidy, and there is hardly any scope for further reduction.

[English]

Visit of CII Delegation to Pakistan

3049. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a High Powered CII Delegation had visited Pakistan to explore new economic and business opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the visit of CII delegation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) An Eighteen-Member delegation of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) had visited Pakistan during August 31-Sept. 5, 2001 to meet officials of Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Pakistan and to initiate the process of confidence building measures through information sharing. The delegation attended inauguration ceremony of the 3rd SAARC Trade Fair at Karachi and met members of Karachi Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Sind Industrial Trading Estate and Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The delegation discussed with the Pakistani business community the mutually beneficial trade promotion measures.

World Bank Loan to Orissa

3050. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between the State Government of Orissa and the Union Government for providing World Bank loan to that State:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of World Bank loan received by the Government of Orissa for various purposes and projects during the last three years;

(d) the amount of loan likely to be obtained from World Bank during 2001-2002; and

(e) the details of the terms and conditions on which the World Bank loan is being sanctioned to Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) World Bank loans to State Governments are passed on as Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects. No specific agreement is signed for each loan by State Government with union Government.

(c) Year-wise break-up of the World Bank assistance provided in respect of State Projects under implementation in Orissa State during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Rs. in crores
1998-99	444.40
1999-2000	363.74
2000-2001	375.25

(d) The amount of loan likely to be disbursed to Orissa against the World Bank loans during 2001-2002 is about Rs. 475 Crs.

(e) World Bank loan proceeds are passed to State of Orissa as 70% loan and 30% grant. The loans are for 20 years period (with five year moratorium), and carry interest rate of 12% presently.

One Time Settlement of Loans

3051. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to extend the one Time Settlement Scheme (OTS) till 31 March, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount so far recovered by each bank through this scheme; and

(d) the steps taken by banks to make the debtors aware about this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The amount recovered by the public sector banks through this scheme as on 30th September, 2001, furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), bank-wise, is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The public sector banks have given adequate publicity to the scheme through the media and the eligible borrowers were also approached by the banks requesting them to avail of the opportunity under the scheme when it was in operation.

Statement

Recovery of NPAs by Public Sector Banks Under RBI's Revised Guidelines as on September 30, 2001

Name of the Bank	(Rs. in crores) Recoveries made (Amount)
1	2
State Bank of India	633
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	41
State Bank of Hyderabad	44
State Bank of Indore	18
State Bank of Mysore	25
State Bank of Patiala	51
State Bank of Saurashtra	16
State Bank of Travancore	14
Allahabad Bank	68
Andhra Bank	72
Bank of Baroda	236
Bank of India	210
Bank of Maharashtra	51
Canara Bank	45
Central Bank of India	191
Corporation Bank	10
Dena Bank	21

1	2
Indian Bank	235
Indian Overseas Bank	56
Oriental Bank of Commerce	82
Punjab National Bank	170
Punjab & Sind Bank	55
Syndicate Bank	46
UCO Bank	49
Union Bank of India	102
United Bank of India	59
Vijaya Bank	29

[*Translation*]

Expansion of Alkaloid Factory in Neemuch

3052. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for expansion of Alkaloid factory in Neemuch, MP in order to increase the production capacity of Alkaloid; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Setting up of New Export Promotion Council

3053. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Apparel and Handloom Exports Association have demanded the setting up of a new Export Promotion Council to acquire overseas marketing expertise in view of the imminent end of the quota system in 2005;

(b) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council has mainly been concentrating on quota administration neglecting thereby the export promotion functions; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and steps taken or proposed to be taken to make the council broad based?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Besides the administration of export entitlement in respect of ready-made garment items, which are subject to restraint in USA, European Union and Canada, the Apparel Export Promotion Council has been undertaking export promotion events like participation in overseas exhibitions/fairs, organising buyer-seller meets (BSMs) abroad, sponsoring trade delegations with a view to consolidating existing markets and exploring new markets.

There is presently no proposal to set up any new Export Promotion Council in the clothing sector.

[Translation]

Performance of NABARD in H.P.

3054. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development NABARD in various States especially Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of the lapses detected in the implementation of projects; and

(d) the details of the projects approved during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The activities of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) are reviewed by Government on an on-going basis. An in-depth review of its operations is conducted by NABARD's Board of Directors which comprises, amongst others, senior representatives from the Finance, Agriculture and Rural Development ministries and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The activities of NABARD are also reviewed by the Central Board of Directors of RBI every year. An annual review of NABARD's activities is also tabled in Parliament alongwith the annual report. In the case of NABARD's credit-related functions, functions under investment credit and production credit are analysed in relation to quantified targets. The details of the State-wise refinance assistance provided and the loans given to State Governments, including the State of Himachal Pradesh, for the last three years are given in the statement I.

(c) NABARD has reported that no deficiency/problems have been observed in Himachal Pradesh in the implementation of State projects under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).

(d) The state-wise details of the RIDF projects cleared during the last three years are given in statement II.

Statement I

State-wise details of refinance assistance provided by NABARD during the years 1998-99 to 2000-2001

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Sanctioned	Drawn	Sanctioned	Drawn	Sanctioned	Drawn
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	A&N Islands	209	265	287	276	329	324
2.	Andhra Pradesh	247962	230546	231538	215112	253741	235768
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	460	460	1064	1117	3502	3502
4.	Assam	14098	14113	14546	14568	12976	13049
5.	Bihar	28493	26065	28225	26767	27151	26436

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Chandigarh	3	3	10	10	6555	6555
7.	D&N Haveli	3	3	24	24	67	67
8.	Goa	1402	1402	1910	1910	2005	2005
9.	Gujarat	75917	49835	80033	63084	106273	79129
10.	Haryana	112584	99949	118369	118290	149328	140728
11.	Himachal Pradesh	10978	10797	13602	13571	20035	19863
12.	J&Kashmir	3449	3478	8889	8749	10739	10822
13.	Karnataka	121106	117734	125594	123913	144063	135441
14.	Kerala	55242	42887	64751	52052	71960	51870
15.	Lakshadweep	20	20	21	21	9	9
16.	Madhya Pradesh	110093	83265	120958	96519	124863	110715
17.	Maharashtra	78933	61279	109681	86838	139197	125885
18.	Manipur	325	939	203	817	187	187
19.	Meghalaya	1313	1168	2133	2074	2615	2655
20.	Mizoram	351	351	1386	1386	1814	1814
21.	Nagaland	319	319	1032	1032	1342	1294
22.	NCT of Delhi	105	105	100	100	669	669
23.	Orissa	56721	53877	85492	77624	80754	79831
24.	Pondicherry	247	247	844	809	912	878
25.	Punjab	94387	92184	101244	98650	106839	99737
26.	Rajasthan	90958	80426	98413	91321	113963	106933
27.	Sikkim	167	167	1500	1400	977	1077
28.	Tamil Nadu	129394	104969	145149	120659	160830	135526
29.	Tripura	2013	2299	2710	2946	3561	3567
30.	Uttar Pradesh	163374	142126	180482	164877	191879	184373
31.	West Bengal	45349	39519	55282	48065	67554	65432
Total		1446035	1260797	1595472	1434581	1816689	1646141

Statement II

State-wise details of the projects cleared by NABARD under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund during the years 1998-99 to 2000-2001

Sl.No.	State	RIDF-IV	RIDF-V	RIDF-V
1.	Andhra Pradesh	386	1174	2294
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		7	13
3.	Assam	39	100090	7
4.	Bihar	3	145	58
5.	Goa	22		60
6.	Gujarat	154	9798	7727
7.	Haryana	44	6	72
8.	Himachal Pradesh	67	733	1303
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	88	132	176
10.	Karnataka	536	371	587
11.	Kerala	162	237	256
12.	Madhya Pradesh	227	153	160
13.	Maharashtra	912	1549	1159
14.	Manipur			157
15.	Meghalaya	16	61	52
16.	Mizoram		36	70
17.	Nagaland	1	54	73
18.	Orissa	41	93	16122
19.	Punjab	161	104	181
20.	Rajasthan	47	513	5640
21.	Sikkim	112	27	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	470	651	749
23.	Tripura	24	89	9
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2656	1216	1728
25.	West Bengal	106	958	374
	Total	6274	118197	39032

*[English]***Net Receipts of Government**

3055. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio of net receipt of Government relating to gross receipts has fallen from 54.41 in 1990-91 to 38.17 in 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The net revenue receipts of the Central Government as a percentage of gross receipts was 62.09% in the year 1990-91 and 63.44% in the year 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Defaulter Brokers

3056. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of brokers declared defaulters during each of the last three years alongwith reasons, exchange-wise;

(b) the charges against them and action was taken against them;

(c) the number of Overseas Corporate Bodies blacklisted in the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the reasons thereof and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

ADB Loan to Gujarat

3057. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat had not received financial aid worth Rs. 3500 crore since the sanctions were made on January 23, 1996 by the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the reasons for not getting the financial aid; and

(c) the efforts being made by the State and Union Governments in this direction so far and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No sanction was made by Asian Development Bank on January 23, 1996 for Government of Gujarat. However, loan assistance of US\$ 250 million for the Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management Program Loan was approved by Asian Development Bank on 18.12.1996. The first tranche of US \$ 100 million was disbursed by ADB on 20.12.1996. The incentive tranche of US \$ 50 million and second tranche of US \$ 100 million was disbursed by ADB in July, 1999 and December, 2000 respectively. Based on these disbursements Government of India had released, from time to times additional central assistance to Government of Gujarat.

Tax on Imported Goods

3058. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of introducing any tax on imported goods to save distress sale of the local products and steps taken to deal with dumping of imported goods;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified such items; and

(c) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) All imports in the country are subject to levy of customs duties. The imports are subject to basic custom duty, additional duty of customs which is equivalent to excise duty payable on domestically produced similar goods and special additional duty. In addition, duties in form of anti-dumping duty and safeguard duty can also be imposed on specific commodities based on investigations and findings of the Designated Authority.

Imports are being closely monitored and the Government is determined to ensure through appropriate use of tariff and other mechanisms that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic producers. Towards that end, import duties on a number of items, where increases in imports were noticed, have already been increased, for example, duty on rice has

been increased from 0% to upto 80%, on maize from 0% to 50%, on apples from 35% to 50%, on wheat raised to 50%, on coconut, copra, tea and coffee has been raised from 35% to 70%. The import duty on various refined edible oils excepting soyabean oil has been raised upto 85%. Similarly, the import duty on crude palmolein oil has been raised to 65% and on other crude edible oils excepting soyabean oil duty has been raised upto 75%.

E.M.A.S. for Export of Jute Products

3059. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided to restructure the External Market Assistance Scheme (EMAS) for export of diversified jute products;

(b) whether a study on the operation of the EMAS was undertaken;

(c) if so, the outcome of the study and the date from which the new policy came in into force; and

(d) the measures taken to assist jute growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was decided by the Jute Manufacturers Development Council (JMDC) to restructure the External Market Assistance (EMA) scheme for export of diversified jute products. For this purpose, a study was undertaken to evaluate the contribution of EMA scheme in export of jute goods.

(c) The study recommended the continuation of the EMA scheme with thrust on enhanced exports. The scheme was modified with effect from 1st April 2000. The scheme is reviewed every year by JMDC and necessary modifications done.

(d) In order to assist jute growers, Government declares Minimum Support Price of raw jute/mesta every year. In addition, Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in packing commodities) Act, 1987, provides for compulsory packaging of certain commodities in jute packaging material, which helps jute growers in marketing their produce. A centrally sponsored Special Jute Development Programme was in operation from 1992-93. This scheme has been subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture since October 2000 providing flexibility to State Governments to take up need-based programmes.

Report of Committee on Electronic Commerce and Taxation

3060. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Electronic Commerce and Taxation has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee;

(c) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Committee;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The High Powered Committee on Electronic Commerce and Taxation has submitted its report to the Government on 6th August, 2001. The main recommendations of the Committee are contained in the statement enclosed. The Government will examine the recommendations of the Committee after taking into consideration the opinion/comments called for from the public.

Statement

Recommendations/Observations of the High Powered Committee on E-Commerce and Taxation

1. The Committee desires the consideration of neutrality of taxation of e-commerce vis-a-vis traditional commerce, ensuring integrity of the direct tax bases and working for international consensus keeping the national interest in view.

2. The effect of e-commerce on the concept of permanent establishment (PE) and characterisation of income in respect of payments in cross border transactions have been examined by the Committee. The Committee is of the view that the concept of PE needs to be abandoned. Under the existing principles of international taxation the server of a non-resident enterprise, hosting its Website, would constitute a PE if the server is at the disposal of the enterprise, and remains at a fixed place for a period of time and performs the core business functions of the enterprise. However, this does not lead to certainty of taxation in view of the

possibility of use of minor servers. It also results in shifting of equilibrium in revenue sharing in favour of countries of residence as against countries of source, because very little income would be attributable to such a stand-alone server.

3. The issues regarding characterisation of income through cross border payments have been examined with reference to the 28 categories of transactions considered by the Tax Advisory Group (TAG) of organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The Committee's views differ from those of the OECD in regard to a number of these categories. The Committee has recommended that a view should be taken in regard to each of these 28 categories to ensure uniformity of approach by different Assessing Officers. It has also recommended regular monitoring of new emerging categories of transactions as a continuous process.

4. With regard to enforcement the Committee is of the view that the extent of e-commerce, particularly online e-commerce is nominal at present and is not likely to be significant in near future. However, the enforcement challenges will arise once the problems in delivery and payment mechanism are sorted out. A number of recommendations have been made to prepare the Income-tax administration to meet these challenges.

5. Finally, the Committee has pointed out areas in which taxpayer services can be improved through the use of Internet.

The Report is now available on the web site of the Ministry of Finance: <http://www.finmin.nic.in> for comments/opinion from the public.

Merger of ICICI and ICICI Bank

3061. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge ICICI Ltd. and ICICI Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objective of the merger; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be merged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The salient operational and regulatory issues to be addressed by Financial Institutions for conversion into a Universal Bank was circulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 28th April, 2001. RBI intends to process applications received from financial institutions in the light of the consideration outlined in RBI Circular. ICICI Bank

has since submitted a proposal to RBI on 25th October, 2001 for merger of ICICI with it. The main objective of the merger is to remain competitive in the market. RBI would consider the merger proposal on merit for taking a final decision.

Production of Cloth in Organised Mill Sector

3062. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the weaving capacity in the organised mill sector has stagnated for a number of years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which it has reduced during the last three years;

(d) the projected production of cloth for current financial year in the organised mill sector; and

(e) the extent to which it has been achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The weaving capacity in the organised mill sector has stagnated around 1.23 lakh looms for the last three years. Some of the reasons for such stagnation could be lack of production efforts on technology driven lines, comparatively higher cost of production of fabrics in the mill sector when compared to the decentralised powerloom sector, non-availability of working capital etc.

(d) to (e) The production of cloth in the mill sector for the current year is projected at 1710 million square meter. The production till September, 2001 has been 744 million square meter.

Schemes for the Welfare of Destitute Children

3063. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are implementing any schemes for the welfare of destitute children in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim State;

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

(c) the financial assistance provided to each of these States during each of the last three years for implementing the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "A programme for Juvenile Justice" as also two Central Sector Schemes, namely, [1] An Integrated Programme for Street Children and [2] Scheme of Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] for Children to promote in-country adoption. These schemes are being implemented in the

entire country, including North-Eastern States and Sikkim.

(c) Under these schemes, no State-wise allocations are made but grants-in-aid are sanctioned and released to State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and Non-Governmental organizations after examination of their proposals under the relevant schemes. A statement on funds released to each State during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Grant released during the years		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
<i>A Programme for Juvenile Justice</i>				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
2.	Assam	15.83	0	0
3.	Manipur	0	0	5.35
4.	Meghalaya	2.93	4.62	5.62
5.	Mizoram	6.70	9.71	4.26
6.	Nagaland	3.45	0	6.67
7.	Sikkim	5.15	1.70	1.70
8.	Tripura	0	1.00	0
<i>An Integrated Programme for Street Children</i>				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
2.	Assam	5.58	5.71	15.87
3.	Manipur	3.53	8.06	11.6
4.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
5.	Mizoram	0	1.79	1.06
6.	Nagaland	0	0	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0	0
8.	Tripura	0	0.50	0
<i>Scheme of Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] for Children to Promote in-Country Adoption</i>				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.75	6.00	5.83
2.	Assam	0	0	0
3.	Manipur	1.00	4.56	10.63
4.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
5.	Mizoram	0	0.49	4.97
6.	Nagaland	0	0	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0	0
8.	Tripura	3.76	5.99	5.83

Geographical Indication Registration*[English]*

3064. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the associations which were identified by the Government to get a geographical indications registration for their products;

(b) whether the Government have consulted the State Governments and the NGOs working with artisans to identify other items which should be registered with Government of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR RAMAN): (a) to (c) Any association of persons or producers or any organisation or authority established by or under any law for the time being in force representing the interest of the producers of the concerned goods, who are desirous of registering a geographical indication in relation to such goods may apply for registration under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. It is for such associations or organisations or authority and the administrative departments concerned, if any, to develop appropriate strategies for securing such registration wherever found advantageous.

*[Translation]***Sale of Land of Closed NTC Mills**

3065. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has sold its closed mills and it has also sold out the vacant and unused land of its some of the mills;

(b) if so, the names of the sold out mills alongwith names of the buyers and also the names of those mills whose vacant and unused land has been sold alongwith names of buyers; and

(c) the details of the funds mobilised by the Government from this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Spinal Injury Centre

3066. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up an Indian Spinal Injury Centre at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the broad services rendered by this center during the last one year and the future plans of this centre;

(c) whether the Government propose to set-up such apex "Spinal Injury Centres" in all the State Capitals of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) India Spinal Injury Centre at New Delhi, run by an NGO, has been set up with assistance provided under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Government of India and the Government of Italy in 1991, to promote comprehensive management of the spinal injured and rehabilitation of locomotor disabled. Assistance in the form of equipment and technical expertise has been made available under Indo-Italian cooperation. government of India has provided support for capital expenditure besides continuing support for sponsoring thirty free beds for poor and indigent patients. The services provided by ISIC include medical & surgical interventions as well as physical, psychosocial, and vocational rehabilitation services with plans for strengthening such services in future. ISIC is also expected to provide the required technical support for setting up the Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRCs) for Persons with Spinal Injuries and other Orthopaedic Disabilities being established under a centrally sponsored scheme at different places. Presently four RRCs are being set up at Barielly (UP) Jabalpur (MP), Cuttack (Orissa) and Mohali (Punjab).

Lifting of Ban by Pakistan on Import on Textile Machinery

3067. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Commerce Minister in his last visit to New Delhi in August, 2001 had stated that ban on import of textile machinery would be lifted soon;

(b) whether the ban has since been lifted by Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the extent to which the exports are likely to go up as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Pakistan's Minister of Commerce and Industries had visited India on August 23-25, 2001 to participate in SAARC Ministerial Meeting. After his visit reports had appeared in Pakistan's print media that the Minister had indicated that Pakistan might soon lift the ban on import of textile machinery from India. No official notification has, however, been issued by Pakistan to include textile machinery in the list of items allowed to be imported from India.

Cooperative Banks

3068 SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of co-operative sector banks are on the verge of closure or have been closed down in the country after the share market scam;

(b) if so, the details of such co-operative banks, State-wise;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has audited the accounts of all co-operative banks in the country;

(d) if so, the co-operative banks whose accounts were found incomplete or who had sanctioned loans/advances without adhering to the norms/guidelines, State-wise;

(e) the action taken against such banks; and

(f) the steps taken to revive the co-operative sector banks which are facing closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it is not correct to say that a number of urban co-operative banks in the country are on the verge of closure or have been closed down after the share scam. However, in all, licences of 8 urban cooperative banks were cancelled/rejected after the share scam. The details of these banks are given below:

No.	Name of the Bank
1.	The Friends' Co-op. Bank Ltd., Mumbai (Maharashtra)
2.	Western Co-op. Bank Ltd., Mumbai (Maharashtra)
3.	The Bellary Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd., Bellary (Karnataka)
4.	The Sitara Co-op. Bank Ltd., Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
5.	Krushi Co-op. Bank Ltd., Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
6.	Classic Co-op. Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
7.	Vikas Co-op. Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
8.	City Co-op. Bank Ltd., Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that the audit of cooperative banks is carried by the statutory auditors appointed by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, as per the provisions of the Cooperative Societies Act of each State. However, RBI conducts inspection of urban Cooperative Banks under Section 35 of the Banking Regulation Act 1949 (As Applicable to Cooperative Societies) as per the prescribed periodicity. There have been common violations of RBI norms/guidelines noticed during the course of inspections. These include default in the maintenance of CRR and SLR, non-adherence to prudential norms regarding income recognition, assets classification and provisioning, sanctioning of unsecured advances to banks directors, non-achievement of targets for advances fixed for priority sectors/weaker sections, keeping deposits with other co-operative banks without Registrar's permission, opening of branches/extension counters without RBI's permission, etc.

(e) Whenever any deficiencies/irregularities are noticed during the course of inspection by RBI, the same are brought to the notice of the banks concerned for rectification and compliance report is obtained from them. Penal action is taken for non-compliance with statutory requirements such as maintenance of CRR/SLR, submission of statutory returns, etc. Further, shortcomings noticed in the managerial functions of these banks are simultaneously brought to the notice of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies of the State concerned for remedial action. In extreme cases, the Registrar is requisitioned to supercede the Board of Directors and appoint an administrator to secure proper management as per the provisions of Cooperative Societies Act. He is also advised to conduct enquiry and take appropriate action.

(f) Banks classified as 'weak' are advised to chalk out an action plan for successful turnaround in a time bound manner. The plan covers mobilization of resources, deployment of funds, effective recovery and economy in expenditure. RBI monitors the progress achieved in the revival of these banks.

Impact of Terrorist Attack in USA on Indian Stock Market

3069. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sensex and Stock Markets indices suffered a huge tumble and crashed to an eight year low following the terrorists attack on New York's World Trade Centre (WTC) and the Pentagon recently,

(b) if so, the average percentage of loss and the estimated total loss suffered by investors thereby; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Sensex closed at 3150 on September 11, 2001. In the days following the terrorist attack on the WTC, New York, the Sensex fell and closed at a low of 2600 on September, 21, 2001. This was an eight year low. On September 7, 1993, the Sensex had closed at 2533.

(b) The Sensex fell by about 17% in 10 trading days between September 11, 2001 and September 25, 2001. Subsequently, the Sensex has recovered and closed at 3275 on 3rd December, 2001. Rise and fall in share prices is a market phenomenon and the resultant loss or gain is notional and is inherent to all stock markets.

(c) In the aftermath of event in the US and after consultations between SEBI and the two exchanges, BSE and NSE, the following was decided:

1. The market will remain open
2. The market wide index based circuit breaker shall be kept at the level of 10% of the fall in BSE Sensex and S&P CNX Nifty of the pre announced index levels and further relaxation shall not be permitted.

3. The 53 individual securities in the derivative segment on which currently exchanges apply a price filter at the level of 20% for the purpose of order verification, would now be reduced to the level of 10% and orders beyond this level will not be accepted/approved by the trading system of the exchanges

4. The price bands on other scripts shall remain unchanged.

5. All the above decisions will apply till further orders.

As can be seen from the movement of the BSE Sensex, the stock market has since stabilized, the Sensex closed at 3275 on December 3, 2001, higher than the level on September 11, 2001.

[*Translation*]

Export Performance

3070. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether export from the country has increased during the Nineties;

(b) if so, the export in terms of Rupees/Dollars as made from the country during the initial period of this decade;

(c) the export in terms of Rupees/Dollars as made towards the end of the decade;

(d) the percentage of the value of Indian export vis-a-vis the value of global-trade towards the end of the decade; and

(e) the percentage of increase as achieved in this regard during the current decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the provisional data available from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, India's exports have increased to US \$ 44.56 billion during 2000-01 from US \$ 18.14 billion during 1990-91. India's export, in dollar terms, registered a growth of 21% during 2000-01 over the last year. Exports in rupee terms increased to Rs. 203571 crores during 2000-01 from Rs. 32553 crores during 1990-91.

(d) and (e) As per the latest WTO Report, the share of India's merchandise exports is 0.67% of World's exports during the year 2000. The share of India in world merchandise exports was 0.5% in 1990 and increased to 0.67% in 2000.

Heavy Rush in State Bank of India

3071. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only State Bank of India is authorised for collecting money in Government Head;

(b) whether complaints have been received regarding heavy rush and other difficulties being faced by the people depositing money in Government Head;

(c) whether banks other than State Bank of India are proposed to be authorised to accept such money;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps being taken to remove the grievances of people in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a), (c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at various centres are collecting money on Government account. In addition, State Bank of India and all other public sector banks are also authorized to collect money in Government Head.

(b) No such complaints have been received in the recent past. However, as and when such complaints are received prompt action is taken by RBI/banks for their redressal.

(e) In order to provide enlarged banking facility to the assesseees, as far as possible, nearer to their residence for depositing the taxes, additional branches of public sector banks are permitted to collect Government revenue. The adequacy of the network of bank branches for collecting taxes and the need to enlarge the same is reviewed on an ongoing basis by Government and RBI and necessary remedial steps are taken.

Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar Memorial in Delhi

3072. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to construct Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar Memorial in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been initiated in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (d) A proposal for setting up of a National Memorial in honour of Dr. Baba Saheb B.R. Ambedkar at 26 Alipur Road, Delhi, where Baba Saheb stayed the last part of his life is under consideration of the Central Government. Government of NCT of Delhi has been requested for acquiring the said land and property for setting up of the Memorial and Rs. 7.12 crore has been placed with the Land Acquisition Collector for the purpose. The land acquisition proceeding has however, been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in two Writ Petitions filed by the owners of the property. Action is being taken for vacating the stay and acquiring the property so that the Memorial can be set up. As the matter is presently sub-judice in the Delhi High Court, it is not possible to give any time limit for completing the work.

Atrocities on SCs/STs

3073. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether atrocities on the SCs/STs are on the rise in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during each of the last three years, State-wise and the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) As per the report sent by the State/UTs, total number of cases reportedly registered under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 have gone down from 28441 cases during the calendar year 19997 to 27561 cases during 1998. The number of State/UT wise cases registered under the said Act during 1996, 1997 and 1998 are enclosed.

The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities), Act, 1989 have been enacted for eradicating practice of untouchability in any form and preventing atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by persons other than Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. Central Assistance is being provided to States/UTs on 50:50 and 100% basis respectively for implementation of these Acts, provision of legal aid, appointment of officers for initiating or exercising

supervision over prosecution, setting up Special Cells, Special Courts, conducting periodic surveys, identification of atrocity prone areas and providing relief and rehabilitation to victims/dependents of atrocity victims.

Implementation of provisions of these acts is being reviewed from time to time and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are being pursued for taking appropriate action in this regard.

Statement

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1996	1997	1998
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	547	698	540
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	1	2	Nil
4.	Bihar	NA	NA	1407
5.	Goa	1	1	2
6.	Gujarat	2030	2122	2138
7.	Haryana	16	32	32
8.	Himachal Pradesh	19	17	15
9.	Karnataka	1253	1192	1279
10.	Kerala	558	756	716
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5066	4292	4138
12.	Maharashtra	1919	1114	1069
13.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	2
14.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Orissa	1138	1180	1332
18.	Punjab	3	5	17
19.	Rajasthan	1127	6994	6858
20.	Sikkim	1	1	Nil
21.	Tamil Nadu	721	757	897
22.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.	Uttar Pradesh	11570	9236	7095
24.	West Bengal	26	25	15

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	2	Nil
26.	Chandigarh	1	Nil	Nil
27.	Daman & Diu	5	1	Nil
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	1
29.	Delhi	1	13	7
30.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	1
Total		26,002	28,441	27,561

Note: 1. NA - Not available.

2. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 does not extend in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

OCB Accounts of Banks

3074. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether private sector have no system to monitor 5% ceiling on investment by individual Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCB) and the RBI has restrained some private sector banks such as GTB from opening new OCB accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Enforcement Directorate is also investigating the matter;

(d) if so, details of their findings in the matter so far, and

(e) the details of OCBs transactions being scored by RBI and the result of their findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a), (b), and (e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the 5 per cent ceiling for the individual NRI/OCB/PIOs is monitored by the banks themselves and it is mandatory for them to adhere to this requirement. RBI has further reported that it had conducted inspection to examine the transactions entered into by certain OCBs under the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS). In this connection it had also conducted inspection of Global Trust Bank's two branches at Mumbai, which revealed system deficiencies and possible instance of violation of Exchange Control Regulations. RBI had forwarded its inspection report to the Enforcement Directorate. Global Trust Bank

had been advised by RBI that pending the setting up of an adequate system for implementation/monitoring of the PIS by NRIs/OCBs to the full satisfaction of their Board, they should not open any new accounts for OCBs under the PIS. RBI has also reported that as regards the existing OCB clients, their transactions should be undertaken after approval by an officer specially designated for the purpose by the Bank, who would be responsible for ensuring that the transactions are in full conformity with the rules/regulations under FEMA.

(c) and (d) Enforcement of Directorate have reported that RBI have intimated to them the irregularities in respect of OCB transactions in Indian Stock Market detected by them during their inspection of two branches of Global Trust Bank at Mumbai and that the investigations are in progress.

SC/ST Welfare Programmes

3075. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Committee of the Governors headed by Shri P.C. Alexander on the progress of SCs/STs welfare programme has been submitted to the Government;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the Committee on various welfare schemes; and

(c) the follow up action taken by the Government on their recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Gist of recommendations made by the Committee is enclosed in the statement.

(c) Relevant extracts of the report has been sent to the State Governments/UT Administrations and the concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for appropriate action. The Planning Commission has also been requested for taking necessary action.

Statement

Gist of Recommendations made by the Committee of Governors

1. *General Recommendations*

- (i) In all programmes and schemes for the welfare for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, greater thrust should be accorded to benefit the poorest of the poor among these categories to bring them above the poverty line.
- (ii) The schemes under different sectors which have direct relevance to the development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be taken up on priority.
- (iii) While devising schemes for the welfare for the Scheduled Castes, focus should be on family oriented schemes and in case of schemes for the Scheduled Tribes the focus should be on community oriented schemes.
- (iv) A massive awareness programmes should be taken up by the Government with the involvement of NGOs to make the beneficiaries aware of the schemes formulated for their welfare.
- (v) The officers and functionaries involved in the implementation of the programmes should be sensitized to the special problems of these categories through periodical orientation programmes.
- (vi) In view of the large amount of funds being allocated and spent for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Officers with adequate seniority, experience and aptitude in the States should be posted as Secretaries of the Social Welfare/Tribal Welfare Departments.

2. **Land Distribution**

A scheme for providing land to the SC/ST landless and marginal farmers in the rural areas should be framed, which would not only help in the economic empowerment of these categories but would also give them a status in the social hierarchy at the village level. The scheme may be introduced from the First Year of the next Five Year Plan and be implemented over a period of the three successive Five Year Plans covering a large number of beneficiaries. The following sources can be tapped for making land available for these categories.

(a) **Distribution of Surplus Land and Bhoodan Land**

Top priority should be given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes families in the allotment of ceiling surplus land and Bhoodan Land. The States should prepare an action plan and undertake a special drive for distribution of surplus and Bhoodan lands free from all encumbrances to the eligible SC/ST families in a time bound programme.

(b) **Degraded Wastelands**

A systematic effort should be made to tap this available resource and allot land on priority to the eligible SC/ST families in the rural areas. These lands can then be made productive by providing an irrigation package and agriculture inputs.

(c) **Distribution of degraded forest lands**

The villages and tribal communities living inside and on the periphery of forests should be given inalienable rights for taking up forest related activities on these lands as per the Working Plan approved by the Forest Department.

(d) **Purchase of Land**

Government should step in to purchase land for allotting it to the eligible SC/ST families. In the land purchase scheme the major share will have to be borne by the Central Government over and above the allocations made by it under the Special Central Assistance.

The Scheme can be implemented through the State Financial Corporations for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and a project based approach should be adopted.

An adequate package of inputs like irrigation through open wells or bore wells with provision for electricity/diesel for pump sets should also be built into the package for better results especially in case of dry lands.

(e) Other land related recommendations

A National Policy for project affected persons who are displaced on account of irrigation and other projects should be framed to ensure that immediate compensatory land can be made available to them.

The States should strictly enforce the Acts for Prevention of Alienation of lands belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that these categories can be given repossession of their alienated lands.

A centrally funded time bound programme for the survey and settlement of lands in tribal areas in the North East should be taken up on priority.

There should be a uniform policy of exploitation of minor forest produce (MFD) and non-timber forest produce (NTFP).

3. Education

- (i) The Education Budget of the State should be used for ensuring compulsory primary education to all the children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes along with the children of the general population as this is the policy laid down in the Constitution of India under Article 45 which says that the State shall endeavour to provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14.
- (ii) The SCP/TSP funds should be used exclusively for schemes which directly benefit the children from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes categories.
- (iii) The rates of scholarships should be scaled up considerably.
- (i) The education department should identify intelligent and talented children from poor Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe families and give them scholarships to the highest level.
- (ii) A large number of Hostels and Ashram Shalas with adequate teachers and staff should be opened for them and the entire expenditure on their education, boarding and lodging should be borne by the Government.
- (iii) Higher incentives should be given to girl students or their parents for ensuring attendance.
- (vii) The introduction of a scheme on the lines of the Education Guarantee Scheme of Madhya

Pradesh in all the States which will ensure some education where there is no education.

- (viii) A Revolving Fund for Scholarships at the District/ State level should be set up.
- (ix) The continuance of special coaching schemes for SC/ST candidates.
- (x) Technical institutes should be set up to impart training to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe youth to equip them for middle level technical jobs in industry and services.
- (xi) The reservation percentage for seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students are strictly adhered to in professional and technical institutions.

4. Housing

- (i) The special focus should be given to allot houses on priority in a time bound programme to all the remaining houseless SC/ST families.
- (ii) More priority in the allocation of funds under this Yojana should be given to the houseless SC/ST families.
- (iii) The State Governments should also make allocations from the Special Component Plan for providing houses in addition to the houses under the Indira Awas Yojana.
- (iv) The scheme of allotting housing sites should be further strengthened.

5. Public Health

Introduction of a scheme on the lines of the Jan Swasthya Rakshak scheme of Madhya Pradesh which is designed on the lines of the bare foot doctor scheme.

6. Entrepreneurship Development Programme

The educated youth from the SC/ST families should be trained with adequate skills and knowledge in modern methods of business and services and provided the motivation for taking up new enterprises.

7. Other Programmes

- (i) Setting up Self Help Groups especially amongst the women to empower them and to encourage them.

- (ii) Introducing a Grain Bank Scheme for the Tribal areas.
- (iii) Those engaged in traditional trades should be encouraged to take up modern trades
- (iv) Introduction of schemes for unemployed SC/ST youth.

8. Recommendations on Special Component Plan/ Tribal Sub Plan

- (i) The Social Welfare Department and the Tribal Welfare Department in the States should be designated as Nodal Departments.
- (ii) Social Welfare Departments and the Tribal Welfare Departments at the National and State level should be made accountable for implementation and should be strengthened.
- (iii) The Social Welfare Department and the Tribal Welfare Department at the State level should be entrusted with the responsibility to take all policy decisions.
- (iv) The SCP/TSP component of all Ministries/ Departments should be pooled and given to the Social Welfare Department/Tribal Welfare Department for further utilization.
- (v) No Central Ministry of State Government should be allowed to make lesser allocation and release of funds than what is essential on the basis of the required percentage.
- (vi) Approval to schemes and projects should be done at the State level. The Central Ministries should give general guidelines and list out the eligible schemes. Block Grants and the United Funds ideas should be given serious consideration in which fund should be allotted to the States by the Central Ministries based on population percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the respective States with full autonomy to the State Governments to take up schemes for the welfare of these categories.

9. Recommendations on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955

Investigation of offences should be conducted by the officer in charge of Police Station, charge sheet should be presented in the Court within 4 months, Special Courts in each district but one Special Court can be set up for 3 to 4 districts keeping in view the instances of atrocities in these districts and the pendency of cases and neglect

of duty under Section 4 of the Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 should be withdrawn. Necessary amendment should be made in SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1995.

10. Recommendations on Caste Certificates

Bogus people must be prevented by effective means to protect the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

11. Recommendations for States in the North East

The Centrally Sponsored Schemes in respect of the North Eastern should be 100% funded by the Central Government. There is a need to create awareness amongst the large number of genuine NGOs and to encourage them to take up welfare projects for the SCs and STs. A review of the Forest Conservation Act 1980 so that the tribals who are staying in forest and on the periphery for generations can carry out forest related activities. Introduction of Special Centrally funded Programmes to ensure total conductivity of villages in the North East. A complete survey and settlement of land in the tribal areas should be completed within a fixed time frame. The Intellectual Property Rights regime should be strictly introduced and implemented in these areas. The need for proper study of the traditional system of Local Government in the Tribal States/areas of the North East and to include them into the Constitutional-legal framework.

[Translation]

Textile Production in M.P.

3076. SHRI PRAHALD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present capacity of textile production through handlooms in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the condition of weavers has deteriorated in the present phase of economic recession;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any policy for their upliftment;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have formulated any programme to improve the quality of handlooms to be used especially in tribal and backward areas and arrange for the marketing thereof; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As per the latest available records with the Government of India, the State of Madhya Pradesh has 10859 handloom units with 14425 handlooms and 12,882 weavers. Since the handloom sector is in the decentralised sector, the fabric production figures are worked out for the country as a whole based on the hank yarn delivered in the market. State-wise figures are not possible to be worked out and therefore those are not available.

(b) and (c) There has been no report with the Government of India about any deteriorated condition of handlooms weavers.

(d) to (g) Government of India has been implementing a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the overall development handloom industry and the welfare of handloom weavers throughout the country including the tribal areas which include.

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana.
2. Mill Gate Price Scheme.
3. Setting up of Marketing Complexes.
4. Scheme for Publicity and Exhibition.
5. Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme.
6. Work-shed-cum-Housing Scheme.
7. Health Package Scheme.
8. Group Insurance Scheme.
9. Thrift Fund Scheme.
10. Setting up of Enforcement Machinery.
11. National Centre for Textile Design.

[English]

World Bank Loan

3077. SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has recently cleared \$ 913.8 million loan to Government of India for implementation of new programmes at national, State and local levels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with projects that are proposed to be taken up with World Bank loan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has approved on June 21, 2001, loans and credits totalling US\$ 913.8 million. These include:

- (i) Karnataka Watershed Development Project (US\$ 100.4 million)

(ii) Karnataka Economic Restructuring Project (US\$ 150 million)

(iii) The Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project (US\$ 589 million)-Central sector (Uttar Pradesh and Bihar)

(iv) Second Rajasthan District Primary Education Project (US\$ 74.4 million)

SC/STs and OBCs in Public Sector Undertakings

3078. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI: Will the Minister of-TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class I (Group A) Services stood only at 10.68 percent and in Class II (Group B) Services only 13.20 percent as against 22.5 percent quota prescribed for them as on January 1, 1996 under Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(a) if so, indicate total number 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 Organisations/Corporations (3) Autonomous Organisations. Attached and Subordinate Offices under Ministry of Textiles; and

(b) the number of persons belonging to General, SC ST, 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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Restructuring of FCI

3079. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had issued broad guidelines on April 20, 2000 to Food Corporation of India on organisational restructuring;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether on the basis of these guidelines FCI management had also signed Memorandum of settlement with FCIESU on April 29, 2000; and

(d) the extent to which the Memorandum of settlement has been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The broad guidelines issued on 20th April, 2000 on organisational restructuring are given in the statement I.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The status of implementation is given in the statement II.

Statement I

To tackle the problem of acute stagnation among the employees of the Corporation, the Government of India has issued broad guidelines on 20.4.2000 to Food Corporation of India on organizational restructuring with specific reference to manpower management, cadre management and career progression. The salient features of the guidelines are as under:

- (i) Rationalization of depots and manning of depots by Assistant Managers (depot) and above.
- (ii) Revision of norms through independent outside agency.
- (iii) Creation of Litigation Cells and Computer Cells.
- (iv) Revamping of Quality Control Machinery
- (v) Watch & Ward staff deployment.
- (vi) Upgrading the existing posts.
- (vii) Induction of 100 management trainees every year.
- (viii) Shifting of sanctions of surplus staff to the needy places within Zone and outside Zone.
- (ix) Maintaining the existing manpower.
- (x) Winding up of port operations and tackling the problems of port workers.
- (xi) Tackling labour problems.

Statement II

The FCI Management had been contemplating a need for organisational restructuring with reference to the staffing set up in FCI. On the other hand, the Unions had been raising demand for removal of acute stagnation of the employees on the same post for long time and the disparity in career prospects among the employees belonging to different grades/cadres/zones. To mitigate the hardship and to ensure that the stagnating employees are given a career progression, a scheme or organisational restructure/cadre restructure was formulated and discussed with the management and the unions, an

understanding was reached in full and final settlement of the demands in the said matter of stagnation and a Memorandum of Settlement was signed with the FCI Executive staff Union on 29-4-2000.

The status of implementation of Memorandum of Settlement is as under:—

Staff Norms, Cadre Review and Manpower Requirement

A staff norms committee has been set up to suggest norms for manpower requirement in FCI.

Career Progression

The promotion process has been completed except in some few cases. Selection grades for the Cat. II, III and IV employees have been sanctioned.

Inclusion of SC/ST Christians and Muslims in SC List

3080. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the demand made by Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribe Christians and Muslims to enlist them in the Schedule to Indian Constitution so that they get rights of Scheduled Castes/STs; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Request for provision of benefits which accrue to the Scheduled Castes, to persons professing Christian or Islam religions, is under process as per the approved modalities. Since this requires consultation with several agencies, no time frame can be assigned in this regard.

As regards Scheduled Tribe, professing of religion is not the criteria for accrual of benefits and all communities listed as Scheduled Tribe are entitled to get admissible benefits.

[Translation]

Allotment of Permanent Account Number

3081. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to provide Permanent Account Number to all the income tax payees in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of applications received from income tax payees for Permanent Account Number;

(c) the time by which the computerised Permanent Account Number (PAN) is likely to be provided;

(d) the number of applications on which action has been taken so far; and

(e) the target fixed for providing the permanent Account Number to income tax payees in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total number of 2,19,32,359 applications to provide Permanent Account Number (PAN) have been received till 31.10.2001.

(c) Instructions have been issued to allot PAN within 10 days of receipt of all non-deficient applications.

(d) As on 31.10.2001, PAN has been allotted in 2,01,56,196 applications.

(e) No targets have been fixed for providing PAN.

Hindi Advisory Committee

3082. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the constitution of the Hindi Advisory Committee alongwith the details of qualifications of its regular and nominated members under his Ministry;

(b) the date of the previous meeting of the Committee alongwith the date of its next meeting;

(c) the reasons for not holding/convening the meetings of the Committee in time, ignoring of the decisions taken in the meeting; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for making improvements in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The Hindi Salahkar samiti of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution was reconstituted, as per guidelines, issued by the Deptt. of Official Languages with their concurrence. Four non-official members have been nominated by the Ministry as per the guidelines issued by the Deptt. of Official Languages. The non-official members who are nominated on the samiti, are scholars of Hindi and interested in promoting the Official Language. These members are either professors, scholars, writers of Hindi Language or scholar attached to Hindi Institutions. In addition to this, all the officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and above of the Ministry and heads of all attached and subordinate offices, as well as, PSU under the administrative control of the ministry located in Delhi are official members of the Samiti.

(b) to (d) The last meeting of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti of the Ministry was held on 14th March, 2001. A meeting of the Samiti was schedule to be held on 24-10-2001, but could not be held due to unavoidable circumstances. It is proposed to convene the next meeting of the Samiti at the earliest. Follow-up action is taken seriously on the decisions taken in the meeting of the samiti and the decisions taken are implemented.

[English]

**Representation of SCs and STs
and OBCs in Services**

3083. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs and STs in Class 1 (Group A) Services stood only at 13.59 percent and in Class II (Group B) Services only at 14.41 percent as against 22.5 percent quota prescribed for them as on January 1, 1998 under Central Government;

(b) if so, indicate total number of posts in Class I (Group A) Category and Class II (Group B) Category and equivalents thereof under the Ministry of Textiles; and

(c) the persons belonging to General, SC, ST, and OBC categories working against them including their respective percentages 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 IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As on 1.1.1998 the representation under Central Government of SCs and STs in Class I (Gp 'A') Services stood at 14.24% and in Group 'B' Services stood at 15.37%.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected & will be laid on the Table of the House.

Curtail in Government Expenditure

3084. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken steps to minimise wasteful expenditure in Government Departments and have already identified that there are certain sectors in which wasteful expenditure is maximum in various Government Departments;

(b) if so, the details of such sectors of his Ministry/ Departments under him, which have been identified for the purpose and quantum of wasteful expenditure identified therein during each of the last three years; and

(c) the corrective steps taken so far by his Ministry of curtail/stop such wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The sectors identified by Ministry of Finance are non-plan, non-development expenditure like creation of posts, reduction in the number of posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, purchase of vehicles, restriction on foreign travel and entertainment/hospitality. This Ministry is following instructions received from Ministry of Finance in this regard from time to time.

Measures to Promote Silk Exports

3085. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI A.K. MOORTHY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase the production of silk in the country;

(b) if so, the assistance extended by the Union Government to the States in that regard during last three years, State-wise, year-wise; and

(c) the various steps taken by the Government to promote the causes of silk growers of the country for the growth, marketing and export of silk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, there is vast scope to increase the production of silk in country.

The assistance extended by the Union Government to the States during last three years, State-wise, year-wise is at statement.

The steps and programmes started to improve production of silk in the country include mainly the following:—

- (i) 36 Catalytic Development Schemes are being implemented during IX Plan. These schemes cover programmes from food plant cultivation to marketing of products in mulberry tasar, eri and muga.
- (ii) Project for Promotion of Popularizing the Practical Bivoltine Sericulture Technology (PPPBST) with assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
- (iii) A sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silk-tasar, muga and eri under UNDP-FHAP Programme.
- (iv) Seri-2000—this is a part of technical and scientific cooperation between Govt. of India and Switzerland.
- (v) Through its research and development programmes and transfer of technology to the States, the Central Silk Board is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for augmenting production and productivity of silk in the country. CSB is assisting potential State for production of bivoltine raw silk.

To promote marketing of silk cocoons, the Central Silk Board has established raw material banks. CSB is also implementing schemes to support marketing/purchase of cocoons and yarns. CSB is also organizing buyers awareness programmes. Steps have also been taken to improve weaving capabilities of the weavers by up-gradation of technologies.

The Government is taking several steps to increase the export of silk products:—

- (i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, Publicity in foreign

trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.

- (ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the Exim Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.
- (iii) For Technological up-gradation of the industry, loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under

the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.

- (iv) Government have initiated a production programme of high quality bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk and increase its productivity & cost competitiveness.
- (v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.

Statement

Statement showing State-wise and year-wise expenditure for the period from 1998-99 to 2000-2001

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	1998-99			1999-2000				2000-2001			
		Normal Exp	CDP Exp.	total	Normal Exp.	CDP Exp.	UNDP (Ext. Asst.)	Total	Normal Exp.	CDP Exp.	UNDP (Ext. Asst.)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	372.34	91.22	463.56	431.02	88.66	4.24	523.92	422.93	170.23	28.69	621.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.53	14.74	28.27	13.64	2.14		15.78	12.21	11.25		23.46
3.	Assam	414.73	90.58	505.31	453.44	104.68	45.21	603.33	498.06	206.95	150.45	855.46
4.	Bihar	644.32	7.49	651.81	685.37	3.42	19.73	708.52	81.49	20.49	54.51	156.49
5.	Gujarat	20.48	2.67	23.15	23.18	0.12		23.30	22.96	0.00		22.96
6.	Haryana	0.00	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00		0.00				0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	31.11	1.05	32.16	36.15	0.00		36.15	36.14	27.44		63.58
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	338.59	67.36	405.95	376.82	31.55		408.37	386.53	37.94		424.47
9.	Karnataka	2529.95	119.27	2649.22	2661.15	142.71		2803.86	2728.76	291.37		3020.13
10.	Kerala	56.97	8.18	65.15	63.49	8.83		72.32	68.63	25.83		94.46
11.	Madhya Pradesh	245.80	77.03	322.83	276.52	58.23		334.75	45.34	29.22		74.56
12.	Maharashtra	124.17	32.08	156.25	136.97	90.36		227.33	136.75	72.34		209.09
13.	Manipur	124.82	0.17	124.99	133.83	1.20		135.03	135.48	1.49		136.97
14.	Meghalaya	94.34	3.62	97.96	91.65	6.83		98.48	92.56	12.84	31.67	137.07
15.	Mizoram	12.31	75.02	87.33	12.41	29.74		42.15	10.26	12.90		23.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16.	Nagaland	15.36	25.39	40.75	15.84	12.59	4.42	32.85	15.22	10.32	12.43	37.97
17.	New Delhi	83.27	0.00	83.27	85.13	0.00		85.13	81.78	0.00		81.78
18.	Orissa	231.26	75.54	306.80	249.93	49.96	19.45	319.34	266.21	7.57	67.10	340.88
19.	Punajb	14.65	0.58	15.23	17.11	0.00		17.11	17.68	1.26		18.94
20.	Rajasthan	25.99	3.24	29.23	28.24	0.00		28.24	29.33	0.00		29.33
21.	Sikkim	8.27	2.72	10.99	11.66	0.06		11.72	11.21	5.65		16.86
22.	Tamil Nadu	358.51	137.92	496.43	414.09	145.86		559.95	469.87	85.13		555.00
23.	Tripura	11.39	35.54	46.93	11.95	10.71		22.66	10.61	31.22		41.83
24.	Uttar Pradesh	294.43	24.68	319.11	333.91	13.96		347.87	136.79	53.59		190.38
25.	West Bengal	820.75	64.74	885.49	918.88	15.98	6.95	941.81	922.61	54.23	58.08	1034.92
26.	Chhattisgarh		0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	246.45	0.00	17.07	263.52
27.	Uttaranchal		0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	206.55	0.00		206.55
28.	Jharkhand			0.00				0.00	666.33	0.00		666.33
Total		6887.34	961.58	7848.92	7482.38	817.59	100.00	8399.97	7758.74	1169.26	420.00	9348.00

Customs Duty Concession by Dabhol Power Company

3086. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dabhol Power Company had imported material and equipment for building liquefied natural gas;

(b) if so, whether DPC has availed custom duty concession for such equipment;

(c) if so, whether custom duty concessions are given to only power plant;

(d) if so, the reasons for custom duty concession to DPC; and

(e) the action taken against the DPC for misdeclaration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a), (b),

(d) and (e) For import of various machinery/equipments/materials for setting up of LNG facility at Dabhol, M/s. Dabhol Power Company (DPC) had claimed concessional customs duty at the rate applicable for the power project. They had also excluded a substantial portion of service charges paid by them to overseas contractors from the customs value of imported goods. The goods were allowed to be cleared provisionally after extending the concessional power project rate of duty on the basis of recommendation of the Energy Department, Government of Maharashtra.

Detailed examination of the contentions of M/s. DPC were carried out and a Show Cause Notice was issued to them on 31.07.2001, demanding a duty of Rs. 283.39 crores. The case has since been adjudicated. In his order, dated 12.11.2001, the Commissioner had held that the subject imported goods would not be entitled to concessional duty as available to a power project. Consequently, he has demanded, *inter alia*, additional duty for an amount of Rs. 245.59 crores and has also imposed penalty of Rs. 45 crores on M/s. DPC for deliberate misdeclaration of value of goods.

(c) Customs duty concessions are available to a number of goods as specified in the Customs Tariff. Materials and equipment for initial setting up of a power plant and also for substantial expansion of an existing power plant are entitled to a concessional rate of duty under the Project Import Scheme.

Closure of Bank Branches by Andhra Bank

3087. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Bank has sought permission from RBI to close down a number of branches of the bank in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of branches for which permission has been sought during 2001-2002;

(c) the reaction of RBI to this request of Andhra Bank; and

(d) the steps taken by RBI to ensure that the banking sector in rural areas should not decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the years 2000 and 2001, Andhra Bank had sought their permission to convert the following rural branches into satellite offices in Andhra Pradesh.

Name of Branch	Name of District	Name of State
1. Darbharevu	West Godavari	Andhra Pradesh
2. Kambaiadinne	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh
3. Seethampuram	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh
4. Guravajipet	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh
5. Y. Cherlopalli	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh
6. Appirajupally	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh

(c) As the branches at Serial Nos. 1 to 5 are not loss making branches as per information submitted by the bank, the bank's request for their conversion into satellite offices was not acceded to by RBI. The branch at Serial. No. 6 was a loss-making branch. It was, therefore, allowed to be converted to a satellite office with base office at Gudur branch. The bank's proposal had been approved by its Board and it had also the approval of the District Consultative Committee. The satellite office is working for 3 days a week and is catering to the banking needs of the place.

(d) As per instructions issued to banks, closure of rural branches requires prior permission of RBI. Further, while closure of the loss making branches at rural centers having a single commercial bank branch is not permitted, at centers served by two commercial bank branches (excluding that of RRBs), the decision for closure of one of the branches may be taken by the banks by mutual consultation without involving State Government and District Consultative Committee, after giving due notice to the constituents of the branches which are proposed to be closed. Banks are advised to submit their proposals for closure of rural branch (other than single bank branch) to the concerned regional office of RBI, under whose jurisdiction the center falls, duly approved by their Board of Directors.

Liquidity in Financial Market

3088. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has any proposals to maintain liquidity by injecting cash through reserve repurchase agreements;

(b) if so, the number of such agreements that have been finalised in this manner;

(c) whether such actions of RBI will be sufficient to enhance liquidity in the financial market;

(d) the additional steps does RBI propose to create buoyancy in the economy; and

(e) the reasons for not acting in time to create liquidity and buoyancy in the economy by RBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), which consists of repurchase and reverse repurchase operations, from June

5, 2000. LAF seeks to adjust systemic liquidity on a day-to-day basis in a flexible manner. Since LAF is operated on a daily basis except on holidays and Saturdays, no separate agreement is necessary with participants for operation of LAF. There were 34 occasions involving an average injection of Rs. 2,346 crore for 1 day to 3 days during the current fiscal year upto November 30, 2001.

(c) to (e) Under normal circumstances, the overall stance of monetary policy for 2001-02 continues to be the provision of adequate liquidity to meet credit growth and support revival of investment demand while keeping a vigil on inflation. RBI has indicated continuance of stable interest rate environment with a preference for softening to the extent the evolving situation warrants. The cut-off yields of 364-day Treasury Bills have come down from 8.80 per cent in April 2001 to 6.68 per cent in November 2001. Similarly, the primary yield of 15-year Government of India dated security has also softened substantially from 11.10 per cent in May 2001 to 8.62 per cent in November 2001. The liquidity situation in the economy has improved significantly during 2001-02.

Expenditure on Employees of PSBs

3089. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expenditure on the employees in public sector banks has considerably fallen down in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the cost ratio compares with the private banks; and

(d) the further steps are proposed to be taken to reduce the expenditure on employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the wage bill of public sector banks did not fall during the year 2000-01.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The ratio of staff expenditure (wage bill) to total expenses was 21.10% for the public sector banks, in comparison to 8.33% for private sector banks, in 2000-01.

(d) 26 public sector banks (out of 27) had implemented VRS scheme for their staff during the year 2000-2001. The banks expect a reduction in their wage

bill in the subsequent years on account of the reduction in staff due to VRS.

Amendment to Consumer Protection Act, 1986

3090. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2001 to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 26th April, 2001. The proposed amendments are mainly aimed at facilitating quicker disposal of consumer complaints; enhancing the capability of redressal agencies, strengthening them with more powers, streamlining the procedures and widening the scope of the Act to make it more functional and effective.

'Smuggling of Narcotics'

3091. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have noted that increasing number of Afghan refugees travelling to and fro from India have been found dealing in narcotics;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that came to light during each of the last three years; and

(c) the action plan prepared by the Government to restrict/regulate outward movement of Afghan refugees and scrap their narcotic links especially to check the increasing attempts of narcotics smuggling due to Afghan War?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Seizure of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in India, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, do not indicate that increasing number of Afghan refugees travelling to and fro from India have been found dealing in narcotics.

(b) Number of Afghan nationals arrested in connection with drug related cases, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, as on 30.11.2001, during the last three years are 1999-Four, 2000-Six and 2001-Nil.

(c) Government of India has already taken a number of significant steps to prevent and put effective check on drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, liberal reward scheme for informers, fencing of Indo-Pak border provided with flood lighting, vesting of powers in BSF and Cost Guards under the Customs Act, quarterly coordination meetings by NCB, holding of quarterly cross-border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a part of the border meetings of BSF and Pak Rangers.

Modernisation of Intellectual Property Administration

3092. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a massive project to modernise intellectual property administration in India involving patents, designs, trademarks and geographical indications is under implementation;

(b) if so, whether there is a need to deliberate on demystifying intellectual property through public outreach programmes and establishing sustainable institutions and modernising intellectual property systems using IT;

(c) whether any final decision in this regard has been taken; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the modernization of intellectual property administration has been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The modernization initiatives are inclusive of components relating to utilization of information technology both for automation of operations and development of awareness and outreach programmes. In this direction, several awareness programmes have already been organised, a website of the office launched, booklets/

pamphlets on patents, designs and trademarks prepared and released. In order to sustain these initiatives, appropriate budget provisions have also been made.

(d) Modernized Patent Offices at Delhi and Chennai have already been made operational and the work is in progress in Kolkata and Mumbai. A modernised Design Office is expected to be made operational shortly. Strengthening of infrastructure of the Trademarks Registry is also presently under implementation. A fully modernized Geographical Indications Registry has already been set up at Chennai.

Benami Transactions

3093. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a committee to identify and persons who are involved in benami transactions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to curb benami transactions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter of implementation of the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Act, 1988 is under active consideration of the Government.

Sick Companies Financed by Financial Institutions

3094. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of sick companies funded by the financial institutions declined by 127 during the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, whether as per data on sick companies in the portfolio of the Industrial Development Bank of India, as many as 67 firms were wound up/liquidated;

(c) whether out of the 614 companies with a whopping fund of Rs. 4836.80 crore only two could be revived by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(d) if so, the main reasons for dismal record; and

(e) the steps the Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) set up under provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, (SICA), 1985 has not been able to address effectively the problem of industrial sickness. It has also failed to find timely solutions for restructuring of the corporate sector. Considering the many deficiencies that were noticed in the operation of SICA and BIFR, a Bill, namely Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Repeal Bill, 2001 to repeal SICA was introduced in Lok Sabha on 30-8-2001. Simultaneously another Bill, namely, Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has also been introduced *inter-alia* providing for setting up of a National Company Law Tribunal with the powers currently exercised by (a) Company Law Board (CLB) (b) High Courts regarding winding up of Companies and amalgamation schemes; and (c) BIFR/AAIFR under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

Special Central Assistance

3095. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Central Assistance has been allotted to the States for implementing Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the allocation made to implement the above programme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the specific welfare measures undertaken in the State of Orissa for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes during each of the last three years; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the details of Special Central Assistance to Special component plan released to States/UTs during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is enclosed as statement I.

(c) and (d) As per information received from Government of Orissa they are implementing Income Generating Schemes, Minor Irrigation Projects, Training programmes for skill upgradation, construction of kiosks/shops for taking small Business etc. for welfare of SCs. The amount spent and number of beneficiaries assisted during last three years is enclosed as statement II.

Statement I

Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes released to the States/UTs during last three years.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Released	1999-2000 Released	2000-2001 Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3388.78	4134.94	3720.00
2.	Assam	596.66	695.31	1810.69
3.	Bihar	3620.07	3471.49	0.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	500.00
5.	Gujarat	371.40	682.27	1521.88
6.	Goa	2.72	5.49	8.00
7.	Haryana	741.77	840.36	930.63

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	259.56	298.18	440.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	132.80	183.44	218.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	500.00
11.	Karnataka	1820.07	2097.36	2643.64
12.	Kerala	724.54	813.24	1251.07
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2237.08	3303.27	1720.00
14.	Maharashtra	1673.92	2067.30	2722.00
15.	Manipur	10.62	12.54	38.96
16.	Orissa	2281.57	1907.72	1884.00
17.	Punjab	1119.74	1280.29	1784.00
18.	Rajasthan	2575.48	2792.68	3738.96
19.	Sikkim	4.03	22.37	23.87
20.	Tamil Nadu	3236.93	4036.92	3558.00
21.	Tripura	108.72	159.14	476.48
22.	Uttar Pradesh	7518.15	9728.65	9398.00
23.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0	500.00
24.	West Bengal	3378.39	4962.00	5450.63
25.	Chandigarh	22.00	25.00	25.00
26.	Delhi	201.71	149.91	149.91
27.	Pondicherry	73.29	30.13	25.18
Total		36100.00	43700.00	45038.90

Statement II

(Amount in Rs. lacs)

S. No.	Name of programme	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Amount utilized	No. of beneficiaries	Amount utilized	No. of beneficiaries	Amount utilized	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Subsidy under Bankable Income Generating Scheme	1401.04	27577	1329.35	26256	1030.58	17522
2	Minor Irrigation	431.66	7217	303.70	2898	836.51	6923

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Skill Development Training	16.84	439	17.93	320	22.09	400
4.	Share Capital Contribution	3.02	8117	0.31	1019	1.62	4142
5.	Leather Programme	8.30	102	—	—	—	—
6.	Subsidy under High Cost Scheme	1.14	19	15.18	253	9.42	157
7.	Education Building Programme	—	—	20.00	—	—	—
8.	Shop room/Kiosk	—	—	—	—	1.65	11
9.	Development of SC (Women)	—	—	—	—	1.56	26
10.	Fisheries Programme	—	—	—	—	19.03	673
Total		1862.00	43471	1686.47	30746	1922.46	29854

12.02 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4570/2001]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4571/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Sir, On behalf of Shri Arun Jaitley, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Chartered Accountants (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 1-CA (7)/59/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001 under section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4572/2001]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 686(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 2001 making certain amendments in the schedule XV to the Companies

Act, 1956 under sub-section (3) of section 641 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4573/2001]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1965:—

(i) The Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Second Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 689(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2001.

(ii) The Companies (Passing of the Resolution by Postal Ballot) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 773(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4574/2001]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4575/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4576/2001]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Thirty-Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India for the period from July, 1995 to June, 1998.

(2) A copy of the Explanatory Note (Hindi and English versions) to the report mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4577/2001]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Safai Karamacharis Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Safai Karamacharis Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4578/2001]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4579/2001]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Rehabilitation Council of India, for the year 1999-2000.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed to Library *See* No. LT 4580/2001]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, together with audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4581/2001]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 5, Shri O. Rajagopal.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Nitish Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table papers mentioned against item No. 5.

MR. SPEAKER: Your name is not Shri O. Rajagopal!

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, Shri Digvijay Singh is the Minister of State of Railways for which Shri Nitish Kumar is the Cabinet Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: That is right. But Shri Nitish Kumar has written a letter requesting permission to let Shri O. Rajagopal to lay the papers on his behalf.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Nitish Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Railways Opening for Public Carriage of Passengers (Amendment) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published Notification No., G.S.R 762(E) in Gazette of India dated the

8th October, 2001 under section 199 of the Indian Railways Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4582/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 2000-2001

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4583/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Railway Welfare Organization, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Welfare Organization, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001;

[Placed to Library See No. LT 4584/2001]

- (4) A copy of the Report of the High Level Committee on Security on Railways (Hindi and English versions)

[Placed in Library See No. LT 4585/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBAHI KATHIRIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4586/2001]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 4587/2001]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Sir, on behalf of Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4588/2001]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4589/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4590/2001]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Manmade Textiles Research Association, Surat, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Manmade Textiles Research Association, Surat, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4591/2001]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4592/2001]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4593/2001]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4594/2001]

- (8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4595/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4596/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) S.O. 2778 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Bhartiya Adim Jati Sevak Sangh, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (ii) S.O. 2779 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1995-1996 to 1996-1997, subject to certain conditions.
- (iii) S.O. 2780 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) S.O. 2781 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Council for Social Development, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (v) S.O. 2782 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (vi) S.O. 2783 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Sri Aurobindo Society, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (vii) S.O. 2784 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-1997 to 1998-1999, subject to certain conditions.

- (viii) S.O. 2785 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Agri-Horticultural Society of India, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) S.O. 2786 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Institute of Company Secretaries of India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (x) S.O. 2787 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Seafares Welfare Fund Society, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-1994 to 1995-1996, subject to certain conditions.
- (xi) S.O. 2788 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Tamil Nadu Ex-services Personnel Benevolent Fund, Chennai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xii) S.O. 2789 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Chief Ministers Earthquake Relief Fund, Maharashtra, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xiii) S.O. 2790 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Amalgamated Tamil Nadu Shares of Post War Services Reconstruction Fund and Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen, Chennai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xiv) S.O. 2791 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xv) S.O. 2792 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Jnana Probodhini Samshodham Sansthan, Pune" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xvi) S.O. 2793 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Maharashtra Energy Development Agency, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xvii) S.O. 2794 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Maharashtra Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Nagpur" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xviii) S.O. 2796 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwaria Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mount Abu" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xix) S.O. 2797 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Krishna Gopal Ayurvedic Dharmarth Aushodhalya Trust, Ajmer" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97 to 1997-1998, subject to certain conditions.
- (xx) S.O. 2798 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "India Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxi) S.O. 2799 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Krishna Gopal Ayurvedic Dharmarth Aushodhalya Trust, Ajmer" under section 10(23C)

- of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxii) S.O. 2800 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Auroville Foundation, Auroville, Tamil Nadu" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-1998 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiii) S.O. 2801 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Swadeshi Jagran Foundation, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiv) S.O. 2802 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "T.T. Ranganathan Clinical Research Foundation, Chennai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxv) S.O. 2803 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Bhagmi Samaj, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-1997 to 1998-1999, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvi) S.O. 2804 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Tribune Trust, Chandigarh" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvii) S.O. 2805 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Asian Institute of Transport Development, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2002-2003 to 2004-2005, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxviii) S.O. 2806 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "J.R.D. Tata Trust, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxix) S.O. 2807 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxx) S.O. 2808 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Missionaries of Charity, Kolkata" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2002-2003 to 2004-2005, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxi) S.O. 2809 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "S.O.S. Children's Village of India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxii) S.O. 2810 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Rastrotthana Parishat, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 2811 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Homi Bhabha Fellowship Council, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 2812 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Oil Coordination Committee, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxv) S.O. 2813 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Centre for Social Research, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

- (xxxvi) S.O. 2814 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Kerala Motor Transport Worker's Welfare Fund Board, Kollam" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-1992 to 1993-1994, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 2815 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "His Holiness The Dalai Lama's Charitable Trust, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 2816 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Kerala Motor Transport Worker's Welfare Fund Board, Kollam" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-1995 to 1996-1997, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxix) S.O. 2817 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Yusuf Meharally Centre, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xli) S.O. 2818 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Welfare Fund for Sports Persons, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-1994 to 1995-1996, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlii) S.O. 2819 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian Gypsy Works Fellowship Trust, Harur" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xliii) S.O. 2820 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Sri Brahmatantra Swatantra, Parakalaswamy Mutt, Mysore" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-1995 to 1996-1997, subject to certain conditions.
- (xliv) S.O. 2821 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Vivekananda Kendra Pratisthan, Chennai" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlv) S.O. 2822 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Ramana Maharshi Centre for Learning, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2002-2003 to 2004-2005, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlvi) S.O. 2823 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "EAN-India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlvii) S.O. 2824 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Children's Fund, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-1997 to 1998-1999, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlviii) S.O. 2825 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlix) S.O. 2826 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "State Innovation in Family Planning Services Project Agencies, Lucknow" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-1998 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (l) S.O. 2827 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Gandhinagar" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-1997 to 1998-1999, subject to certain conditions.

- (i) S.O. 2828 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Technology Development Board, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-1998 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (ii) S.O. 2829 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (iii) S.O. 2830 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indo-German Social Service Society, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-1995 to 1996-1997, subject to certain conditions.
- (liii) S.O. 2831 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Gandhi Samarak Sanghralaya Samiti Rajghat, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (liv) S.O. 2832 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian Association of Women's Studies, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-1997 to 1998-1999, subject to certain conditions.
- (lv) S.O. 2833 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indo-German Social Service Society, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-1998 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (lvi) S.O. 2834 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Srirangam Srimadh Andavan Periashrmam, Trichy" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-1996 to 1997-1998, subject to certain conditions.
- (lvii) S.O. 2836 published in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Joint Plant Committee, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (lviii) The Income Tax (9th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 630(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lix) The Income Tax (8th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 631(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lx) The Income Tax (10th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 632(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxi) The Income Tax (11th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 633(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxii) The Income Tax (12th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 634(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxiii) The Income Tax (15th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 751(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxiv) The Income Tax (16th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 716(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxv) The Income Tax (18th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 768(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxvi) The Income Tax (20th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 793(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (lxvii) The Income Tax (19th Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 794(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (I xviii) The Income Tax (21st Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 808(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (I xix) The Income Tax (22nd Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 940(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (I xx) The Income Tax (23rd Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 1022(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2001, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 45/97/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—
- (i) S.O. 832(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum laying down tariff value for Crude Palmolein, for the purposes of determining its value for assessment of Customs duties leviable on *advalorem* basis on its import.
- (ii) The Customs Valuation (Determination of price of Imported Goods) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 652(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th September, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) S.O. 1011(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus. Dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (iv) S.O. 830(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of import.
- (v) S.O. 831(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of export.
- (vi) S.O. 941(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2001 together with an

explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of import.

- (vii) S.O. 942(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of export.
- (viii) S.O. 958(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of import.
- (ix) S.O. 959(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of export.
- (x) S.O. 967(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of import.
- (xi) S.O. 1060(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of import.
- (xii) S.O. 1061(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of export.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 772(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in Notification Nos. 138/91-Cus., and 140/91-Cus. dated the 22nd October 1991.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 831(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 2001 together with an

explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in six Notifications mentioned therein.

- (xv) G.S.R. 780(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 148/94-Cus. dated the 13th July, 1994.
- (xvi) G.S.R. 795(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/2001-Cus. dated the 1st March, 2001.
- (xvii) G.S.R. 810(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/2001-Cus. dated the 1st March, 2001.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 847(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/2001-Cus. dated the 1st March, 2001.
- (xix) G.S.R. 850(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/2001-Cus. dated the 1st March, 2001.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 4598/2001]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:—
- (i) G.S.R. 770(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 3/2001-CE. dated the 1st March, 2001.
- (ii) G.S.R. 771(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 1/95-CE dated 4th January, 1995.
- (iii) G.S.R. 830(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in two Notifications mentioned therein.
- (iv) G.S.R. 845(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 32/2001-CE. dated the 28th June, 2001.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 4599/2001]
- (4) A copy of the Service Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 846 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2001, under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 4600/2001]
- (5) A copy of the Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 751 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st October, 2001 under sub-section (3) of Section 26 of the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 4601/2001]
- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:—
- (i) G.S.R. 753(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final antidumping duty on white Portland cement, originating in or exported from the UAE and Iran and imported into India at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
- (ii) G.S.R. 754(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 64/2001-Cus., dated the 14th June, 2001.
- (iii) G.S.R. 815 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final antidumping duty on Potassium Permanganate, originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China, Hongkong and Taiwan at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
- (iv) G.S.R. 820(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2001 together with

an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final antidumping duty on Sodium Hydrosulphite, originating in or exported from People's Republic of China at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.

- (v) G.S.R. 821 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final antidumping duty on Zinc Oxide, originating in or exported from People's Republic of China at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
- (vi) G.S.R. 848 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 19/2001-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2001.
- (vii) G.S.R. 851 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the, 16th November, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe provisional assessment of anti-dumping duty on thermal sensitive paper, when exported by M/s. Papierfabrik August Koehler Ag, Germany and imported into India pending new shipper review by the designated authority.
- (viii) G.S.R. 796 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 19/2001-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4602/2001]

- (7) A copy of the Reserve Bank of India General (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 6 in Gazette of India date the 10th February, 2001 under sub-section (4) of section 58 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4603/2001]

- (8) A copy of the General Insurance (Employees' Pension (Second Amendment) Scheme, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1086 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2001 under sub-section (5) of section 17A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalization) Act, 1972.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4604/2001]

- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 139 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) S.O. 409 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the floor areas in respect of immovable property used for residential or commercial purposes in all the urban areas in the country as defined as the 1991 census.
- (ii) S.O. 410 (E) published in gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying all the urban areas in the country as defined by the 1991 census of India for the purposes of proviso to sub-section (1) of section 139 of the Income-Tax act, 1961.
- (iii) S.O. 484 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum fixing with effect from the 1st April, 2001, 9.5% as the rate referred in the notification.
- (iv) S.O. 507 (E) published Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the classes of persons mentioned therein to whom the provisions of the 1st proviso of the Act shall not apply.
- (v) S.O. 508 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the places mentioned therein as the places of pilgrimage and travel to such places shall not be regarded as travel to any foreign country.
- (vi) S.O. 509 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the neighbouring countries mentioned therein not to be included in the expression "travel to any foreign country".
- (vii) S.O. 511 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the classes of persons mentioned therein to whom the provisions of the 1st proviso of the Act shall apply.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4605/2001]

- (10) A copy of the Expenditure tax (1st Amendment) Rule, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 713 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2001, under sub-section (4) of section 31 of the Expenditure-tax Act, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4606/2001]

- (11) A copy of the Wealth - tax (1st Amendment) Rule, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 714(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2001 under sub-section (4) of section 46 of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4607/2001]

- (12) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1021 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying that the sub-clause (iii) of clause (2) of section 17 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 shall apply to the shares, debentures or warrants allotted under any employees' Stock Option Plan or Scheme framed in accordance with the guidelines mentioned therein, issued under section (2) of section 17 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4608/2001]

- (13) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 36 of the Recovery of Debts Due to banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993:

- (i) The Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 606 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.
- (ii) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Kolkata (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 607 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.
- (iii) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Ahmedabad (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 608 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.
- (iv) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 609 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (v) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jaipur (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 610 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (vi) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Chennai (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 611 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (vii) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Guwahati (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 612 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (viii) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Patna (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 613 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (ix) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 614 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (x) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Mumbai (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 615 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

- (xi) The Debts Recovery Tribunal, Delhi (Group 'C' and 'D' Posts) (Non-Gazetted) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 616 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4609/2001]

- (14) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 510 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the Cost

Inflation Index for financial year commencing on the 1st April, 2001 and ending on the 31st March, 2002, issued under section 48 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4610/2001]

(15) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of Section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4611/2001]

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Cental Bank of India for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4612/2001]

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4613/2001]

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4614/2001]

(v) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4615/2001]

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Accounts and auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4616/2001]

(16) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Patiala and State Bank of Saurashtra for the years 2000-2001, alongwith the Audited Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (3) of Section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4617/2001]

(17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4618/2001]

(18) Statistical Statement (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4619/2001]

(19) A copy of the Consolidated Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Public Sector Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4620/2001]

(20) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 2001, together with Auditor's Report thereon:—

(i) Sravsthi Gramin Bank, Bahraich.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4621/2001]

(ii) Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Cooch Behar

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4622/2001]

(iii) Chhatarsal Gramin Bank, Orai.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4623/2001]

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| <p>(iv) Thar Anchalik Grain Bank, Jodhpur.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4624/2001]</p> <p>(v) Jaipur Nagaur Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jaipur.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4625/2001]</p> <p>(vi) Sarayu Gramin Bank, Lakhimpur Kheri.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4626/2001]</p> <p>(vii) Ellaquai Dehati Bank, Srinagar.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4627/2001]</p> <p>(viii) Vidhyavashini Gramin Bank, Mirzapur.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4628/2001]</p> <p>(ix) Adhiyaman Grama Bank, Dharampuri.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4629/2001]</p> <p>(21) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Trand and Progress of Housing in India (National Housing Bank) for the year ended the June, 1999 under section 42 of the National Housing Act, 1987.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4630/2001]</p> | <p>(ii) Annual Report of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General Thereon.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4632/2001]</p> <p>(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board, Cochin, for the year 2000-2001.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board, Cochin, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.</p> <p>(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Species Board, Cochin, for the year 2000-2001.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4633/2001]</p> <p>(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council for Leather Exports, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Council for Leather Exports, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.
[Placed in Library, <i>See</i> No. LT 4634/2001]</p> |
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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 819(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 2000, specifying zero per cent *ad valorem* as the rate of cess on export of all scheduled spices in any form, by the Export Oriented Units and Units in the Export Processing Zones and Special Economic Zones issued under section 3 of the Spices Cess Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 4631/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (i) G.S.R. 626 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2001 notifying the minimum sugarcane prices payable by sugar factories for 1999-2000 sugar season.

- (ii) G.S.R. 627 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2001 notifying the minimum sugarcane prices payable by sugar factories for 2000-2001 sugar season.

- (iii) S.O. 1146 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2001 rescinding the Notification No. G.S.R. 913 dated 10th June, 1966.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4635/2001]

- (2) A copy of the Standards of Weights and Measures (General) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 842 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 2001 under sub-section (4) of section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4636/2001]

12.03 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th December, 2001, passed, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution of India, without any amendment, the Constitution (Ninety-second Amendment) Bill, 2001, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th November, 2001."

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

Fifty-eighth and Fifty-ninth Reports

[English]

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Industry:—

- (1) 58th Report on problems faced by Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited in the North Eastern Region; and

- (2) 59th Report on the Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the 47th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) pertaining to the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.

12.05 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, with your permission I would like to inform the House that the following Government Business will be taken up in Lok Sabha during the week starting from Monday, 10 December, 2001

1. Discussion on any item of Government Business left over from today List of Business.
2. Discussion on the statutory resolution seeking disapproval of the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001 and consideration and passing of Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2001.
3. General discussion of Manipur Budget for 2001-2002.
4. Discussion and voting on Demands for Grants (Manipur) for 2001-2002.
5. Discussion and passing of following Bills:—
 - i. Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999.
 - ii. Jute Manufactures Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2001.
6. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2001 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
7. Discussion on statutory resolutions seeking disapproval of following ordinances and consideration and passing of Bill replacing these ordinances after these had been passed by the Rajya Sabha:—
 - i. The Institute of Technology (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001.
 - ii. The passports (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001.

8. Considering and passing the following Bills after these have been passed by the Rajya Sabha:—

- i. The Coast Guards (Amendment) Bill, 2001.
- ii. The code of civil procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2001.
- iii. All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

9. Resolution seeking approval of the House to the rejection of the Award of Board of Arbitration on revision of rates of overtime allowance in C.A. reference No. 6 of 1981.

10. The Resolution seeking approval to the rejection of Award of Board of Arbitration for grant of special pay to private secretaries (Merged grades "A" and "B" of Central Secretariat Stenographers Service) in C.A. reference number 2 of 1991.

11. Resolution seeking approval to the rejection of the Award of Board of Arbitration on upward revision of payscale of stenographer Grade "D" in C.A. reference number 11 of 1992.

[*English*]

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN (Tiruchendur): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

- (i) Need to enact a legislation providing for housing, insurance, old age pension, sickness benefit for the welfare of fishermen.
- (ii) Need to strengthen the All-India Council for Technical Education and to fill up the vacant posts forthwith and also to appoint more staff for the efficient functioning of the Council and also to do away with frequent transfer of core staff in order to maintain continuity and efficiency.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): (a) The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

- (i) Need to arrange green bogies in trains to facilitate farmers to bring their perishable vegetables, fruits and other horticulture produces to Delhi and major cities so that they get reasonable price, and consumer get fresh produces.
- (ii) Problems of farmers of Cashew, Tea, Coffee, Pepper, Cocoa, Coconut, Arecanut, Fruits, Vegetables and the need to provide common storage facilities.

12.07 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

- (i) Need to release Rs. 48 crore for the formation of new broad gauge railway line from Sriperumbudur to Avadi, Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) Need to release Rs. 252 crore for the construction of Integrated Sanitary Complex for women in Tamil Nadu.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

1. Need for expeditious completion of Inter-State Multipurpose Bansagar Dam.
2. Need for construction of third platform at Satna railway station of Jabalpur division.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, the following items may be included in next week's agenda:—

1. Need for enacting suitable law by the Central Government by introducing relevant Bill for making provision of reservation in private sector for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes since the number of vacancies in Public Sector is declining day by day.
2. Need for updating maps of tourist centres and inclusion of tourist centres of the states including newly formed states as Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal whereby more foreign exchange could be earned and more job opportunities could be created.

[*English*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

- (i) The Eighty-fifth Constitutional (Amendment) Bill, that is, reservation of 33 per cent of seats for women in Parliament and other law-making bodies;
- (ii) Evaluation of the Year of Women Empowerment and the status of Indian Women.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, the following items related to my Parliamentary constituency Gorakhpur (U.P.) may be included in the next week's agenda:—

Gorakhpur is an important city of U.P. The meditation site (Tapobhumi) of great Acharya of Yoga Guru Gorakhnath, birth and nirvana (salvation) place of Lord Budha and nirvana (salvation) place of Lord Mahavira and Sant Kabir are located in Gorakhpur division. Every year lakhs of tourists visit Gorakhpur and adjoining areas. Air service between New Delhi—Gorakhpur-Kolkatta was in operation till 1991-92 but due to unavoidable reasons this service continues to be suspended. In view of large number of foreign and domestic tourists visiting Gorakhpur, it should be developed as a tourist spot and air service be resumed between New Delhi-Gorakhpur-Kolkatta.

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

- (i) Need for implementing provision relating to prohibition enshrined in the constitution under Directive principles of State Policy throughout the country and to take stringent action against manufactures of spurious liquor.
- (ii) Need to provide an A.C. First Class coach in Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail (in Delhi).

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:—

1. Need to protect Indian agriculture in view of fast changing global scenario and to set up a free and autonomous channel of Prasar Bharati to facilitate direct dialogue between Government and farmers.
2. Need to set up an ideal Cross Railway Network for the all round development of rail network in the country and to shorten the distance of unduly long distance rail routes.

12.13 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

All India Council for Technical Education

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA

VERMA): Sir, on behalf of Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi, I beg to move the following:—

"That in pursuance of Section 3(4)(j) and 4(1) of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the All India Council for Technical Education for a period of 3 years, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 3(4)(j) and 4(1) of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the All India Council for Technical Education for a period of 3 years, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on a serious matter, we gave a notice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would give you the floor, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. But let me take up an item. I have notices given by other hon. Members.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, in 'Zero Hour', normally the matter of urgent importance is given the priority. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakashi): Sir, ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has given the notice. I would give you the floor after Shri Dasmunsi, Shri Vaiko.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: What priority has he got?...(*Interruptions*) Nobody is superior to anybody. ...(*Interruptions*) Every Member should be treated equally. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would give you the floor next, Shri Vaiko.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After him, I would give you the floor.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I do not know as to whether they are challenging you. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I told you that I would give you the floor after Shri Dasmunsi.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO: All Members are equal to the Chair. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After him, I would give you the floor.

SHRI VAIKO: I crave your indulgence on this particular point. ...(*Interruptions*) There is a procedure. ...(*Interruptions*) I have given notice at 9 a.m. today in the Parliament Notice Office. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Vaiko, I told you that I would give you the floor after Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whosoever has given notice first should be called first...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): I am submitting the same thing that whosoever has given notice first should be called first...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there can be no more important issue than what I am going to raise...(*Interruptions*) This Government want to incite riots...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VAIKO: All the Members are equal, whether they belong to a big party or a small party. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you resume your seat?

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAHIB SINGH (Outer Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whosoever has given notice first, should be called first...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: One who has given notice first, shall speak first...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, you call my name first. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you challenging my ruling, Shri Vaiko? I have given the floor to Shri Dasmunshi.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please call the Members serially.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister please control your Members. I have given the floor to him.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Whosoever has given notice first, should be called first.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we give notices on important issues, hence whosoever has given notice first should be called first...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given the floor first to the main Opposition.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, I have given the notice at 9 o' clock. ...*(Interruptions)* this is not justice. ...*(Interruptions)* I have given the first notice at 9 a.m. ...*(Interruptions)* This cannot go on everyday. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I told you that after him,⁶⁷ I would give you the floor.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my issue is very important...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)* one Union Minister is hatching a conspiracy with VHP...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI (Bijnor): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he has not given notice, still you are allowing him to speak first.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you continue like this, 'Zero Hour' is going to be over right now. I cannot help it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no other issue can be more important than this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, norms are to be followed. ...*(Interruptions)* Some procedure should be adopted. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO: No point of order, please. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, you are giving ruling also, Shri Vaiko!

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, you have a discretion but a procedure should be followed. ...*(Interruptions)* Every matter is a serious matter to every Member...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Nothing is more important than the Constitution of India that has been violated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you want 'Zero Hour', you cooperate with me. If you do not want it, I will adjourn the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want to know from the hon. Members whether you want 'Zero Hour' to continue up to one o'clock or not.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you called him first. When he started speaking you asked him to sit down and called another hon. M.P. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: If he has given notice earlier, he should be called first...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In my judgment, I have given the floor to him. If you are not interested in that, I will have to adjourn the House and go.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If they do not allow the Opposition to speak and challenge the ruling, we will not allow any business in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at Two o'clock.

12.22 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at two minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, in the morning, the ruling of the Chair has been defied by the Members of the Ruling Party in the 'Zero Hour'...(Interruptions) We condemn this and we cannot allow this to continue in the House...(Interruptions) Sir, they have shown disrespect to the Chair...(Interruptions) We cannot approve this conduct of the Members of the Ruling Party...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats. One Bill has to be introduced. Shri Kashiram Rana.

...(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs.

JUTE MANUFACTURERS CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983."

The motion was adopted.

**

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I introduce the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (Darbhanga): Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the morning, the business of the House could not be transacted. Let us continue with the business now, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): No Sir. The ruling of the Chair has been defied. ...(Interruptions) It is an attack on the entire Opposition by not allowing the Opposition Members to speak. ...(Interruptions) We cannot allow this to happen in the House. ...(Interruptions) Sir, the ruling of the Chair has been questioned...(Interruptions) They should make an apology to the Chair...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us transact the business of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is on a point of order. Please quote the Rule.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Rule 352 (iii) and I quote: "352. A Member while speaking shall not—

(iii) use offensive expressions about the conduct or proceedings of Parliament or any State Legislature";

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us hear his point of order. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Sir, is this the conduct of an elected Member of Parliament?...(Interruptions) They have no respect for the rules of the House and they are not allowing me to go by the rules...(Interruptions) Sir, they have used offensive language in the House. ...(Interruptions)

14.07 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Madam, it is an assault on the dignity of the House and they have defied the ruling of the Chair...(Interruptions) We cannot

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 7.12.2001.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

cooperate in this manner, until and unless they make an apology to the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)* They are not allowing me to raise my point of order...*(Interruptions)* Is this the way to behave in the House?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Madam, we condemn this attitude of the Members of the Ruling Party...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot hear what you are saying. Please speak one by one.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot hear anything. What are you shouting about?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What are you shouting for? Let Shri Dasmunsi speak first.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are doing the same thing. You are blaming that they had defied the Chair in the morning and you are doing it now. Please speak one by one. I cannot hear anyone if you all speak together.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Ferozabad): All the five Ministers who had a meeting with Ashok Singhal should come and give clarification in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was not here. Let me listen to what he wants to say. You cannot defy the Chair if somebody else has defied it in the morning. Let one person speak, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: When the hon'ble Ministers donot come and clarify the position in the House, how can the House function. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government want to spread riots.

[English]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): They have challenged the ruling of the Chair. They have challenged the dignity of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am asking all of you to please speak one by one. Please allow him to speak. I cannot listen to what you are speaking about.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Madam, they have no right to act like this. They have played with the dignity of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You allow them to speak one by one.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Wait for a minute. Please sit down.

[English]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: It is a question of the dignity of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: This House can be regulated only by the Presiding Officers. All are duty bound to listen to his ruling, direction...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish, you would allow me to do that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am asking them to sit down. Why are you making a noise? Please donot disturb and tell me what is the problem.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Neither this side nor that side is competent to regulate the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give me one minute. I will hear you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: No one is competent to regulate the House excepting the Chair. It is the Chair whose observation, whose direction or the ruling is to be respected. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam, today, during the 'Zero Hour', on a matter as to who is to raise the issue, a decisive ruling was given by the hon. Deputy Speaker. And after the ruling was given...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): That is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Madam, you can check it from the proceedings. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the way the interruptions are going on. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam, on a very vital issue, when we gave a notice, the Chair gave a rulling, and the Chair made a request to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to restrain the Treasury Bench Members to accommodate a Member of the Opposition, that is me, to speak first and then the other Members. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs did not at all respond to the direction or the request of the Chair and the whole ruling was not only questioned but it was scuttled in a manner that the direction became irrelevant.

Therefore, Madam, we consider it as an attempt of the Treasury Bench in Connivance with their Members to question the ruling of the Chair to destroy the essence of the Code of Conduct and Declaration made in the Central Hall the other day. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him raise his point of order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is a grave misconduct of the House. Therefore, till the Government come and express an unqualified apology to the Chair for not responding to the ruling, we cannot co-operate with the Treasury Bench in any manner. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me hear his point of order.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Rewa): See, they are not allowing us to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not allowing them to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you want the Chair to do?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We cannot co-operate with the Treasury Bench till the Government come and express an unqualified apology to the Chair...*(Interruptions)* Nothing can be taken up. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me hear his point of order.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House cannot go on like this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, I am on a point of order under Rule 352...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is this the Code of Conduct that you have adopted? Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Madam, not allowing the House to run is unforgivable and unpardonable...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow him to raise his point of order.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: When Munsiji was speaking they did not allow him to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are doing the same thing now.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are doing the same thing to the Chair now. What are you doing to the Chair Now? You are defying the Chair now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can I reply

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious matter....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall ask the Speaker to look into the matter and take a decision.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Government should express an unqualified apology. We demand an unqualified apology.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. They are defying the Chair. How can the House run?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Am I not in the Chair?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are defying the Chair now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are doing the same thing. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Government should express an unconditional apology. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is very bad. You are doing exactly what you had objected to.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are doing the same thing.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are defying the Chair also.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Government should express apology and thereafter, the business will be conducted....(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): This is not correct and fair. He is talking one-sided. Please allow us to speak. We listened to him carefully. He should listen to us. He should obey the Chair. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We cannot cooperate....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 10th December, 2001 at 11 a.m.

14.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 10, 2001/Agrahayana 19, 1923 (Saka)

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