

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

**Third Session**  
**(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. VI contains Nos. 1 to 10)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Monday, December 7, 1998/Agrahayana 16,  
1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Port Operation Facilities

\*101. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee to streamline the port operation facilities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the cargo handling facilities at various ports particularly at the Calcutta and Haldia ports would also be considered by the Committee or the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Augmenting/upgradation of cargo handling facilities at major ports is a continuous process which is achieved through Public Investment as well as by attracting Private Investment.

(d) and (e) An outlay of Rs. 545 crores has been provided for Calcutta and Haldia Ports during the 9th Five Year Plan. The major schemes include: construction of an oil jetty, a jetty for handling chemicals and construction of three multi-purpose berths at Haldia.

MR. SPEAKER : This Question relates to ports. I will give a chance to those hon. Members who represent port cities, like Dr. T. Subbarmai Reddy and others.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, I am from Cochin.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give chance to those Members who represent the port cities.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, we are very much concerned about the silt being deposited in the Bay of Bengal approaching Haldia and Calcutta and also about the silt being deposited on the river Ganga near Calcutta port. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is planning to introduce a whole new system of dredging for more lasting effect so that both Calcutta and Haldia ports could be upgraded in all operational purposes and facilities like warehousing, trucking, excise clearance, transporting for stuffing and stuffing into containers, customs procedure, transport to railheads or ICD, movement from ICD to the port handling, transportation from ports to the yards, customs documentation in the port, liaison with shipping agents, transporting the containers to the shipping site, loading containers on the board, namely a full-fledged, up-to-date modernisation of the port facilities would be available.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : The Government is taking all the necessary steps to see that silt is removed by dredging. We are giving Rs. 90 crore annually for such dredging operation. Dredging is going on between Calcutta and Haldia Ports. Apart from this, we have an approved 9th Plan outlay of Rs. 295 crore for river-related schemes. The scheme is already there and we expect that PIB will accept it and the Planning Commission will approve it very soon. Based on that we are going to implement it.

Besides this, to develop the Calcutta Port, we have allocated Rs. 7.15 crore for the renovation of the vendoring system and Rs. 18 crore has been allocated for replacement of survey vessel with two sea-going launchers. We also have Rs. 8 crore as our approved Annual Plan outlay. These are major steps that we have taken with regard to Calcutta Port.

With regard to Haldia Port, we have taken up construction of third oil jetty. We have sanctioned Rs. 43 crore for that and the contract was awarded in April 1998. We have also sanctioned the construction of multi-purpose berth on 29.9.1998 at the cost of Rs. 43 crore and we hope that the tender will be invited on 9.1.99. We anticipate to complete the work by March 2000. We also have a project for the construction of chemical handling jetty. The proposal came to us in September 1998. The report is expected in the month of March. These are the steps which we have taken. Our Annual Plan outlay for the Haldia port is nearly Rs. 200 crore. We have already spent Rs. 21 crore in 1997-98. In the Annual Plan of 1998-99, we have allocated Rs. 22 crore for making improvement in the Port. We are also considering privatising the Haldia Port. The Ministry has approved in principle the construction of two multipurpose berths at Haldia, Berths No. 12 and 4(a) respectively.

DR. ASIM BALA : I had specifically asked as to how much amount has been sanctioned for dredging operation at Calcutta and Haldia Ports.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : We are giving Rs. 90 crore per year for dredging.

DR. ASIM BALA : Is it for Calcutta Port alone or for the whole of West Bengal?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : No, on the whole we are giving Rs. 90 crore for it.

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered it.

DR. ASIM BALA : In West Bengal, near Calcutta, Rs. 925 crore have been allocated for Kulpi Project. This is a joint venture project. This proposal is pending for the last 4 years. This project is likely to be expanded by the Government. I would like to know from the Minister as to when this new Kulpi port project is going to come.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : The State Government of West Bengal has made a proposal to develop an all weather multipurpose port near Kulpi at an estimated cost of Rs. 1000 crore. This comes under the Calcutta Port. We are considering the proposal. We wanted to see how the construction of this port will affect the existing Calcutta port. We would like to consider it if the existing Calcutta Port is not affected in any way. The discussion is going on and we will consider it, based on its effect on the Calcutta Port.

DR. ASIM BALA : It is a joint venture project.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : I know that it is a joint venture project. We will have to see whether it will affect the existing Calcutta Port or not. We are already facing the labour problem in Calcutta. If Kulpi Port comes, what effect it will have on the existing Calcutta Port. If the State Government is ready to take up everything, we have no objection. We can consider it.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Since the Minister is giving a very detailed reply, I would like to ask a very specific question. The general question is about modernisation of cargo handling in the Indian Ports. Cochin is one of the major ports of the country. There is a proposal for setting up a container terminal in Vallar Padam, as an extension of the existing Cochin Port. This proposal is six or seven years' old. Many Ministers have come and gone. Shri Karunakaran, the former Chief Minister of Kerala who finalised this project six years back is sitting here. Containerisation of the port is going at snail's pace in India. This was a proposal of the Ministry itself and all the facilities were to be extended by Kerala Government. Will the Government give an assurance to the House that the work on setting up a container port at Vallar Padam

in Cochin will be taken up urgently? If containerisation is delayed, the turn around time of ships in the Indian ports is delayed. This is a very urgent matter. I would like to have a clear cut answer from the hon. Minister.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, the container traffic is growing in our country and I accept that we are lagging behind. But now, we are taking all the steps to see that container traffic can be handled properly so that we can raise more income. In that connection, we are taking all the steps to short-list the tenders. We are going to take up that and we are trying to implement that project.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : It is your project, please give us an answer.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : We are taking it up. We are short listing and based on that we are going to implement that.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, the main question is regarding the improvement of the operational facilities in ports. I come from Mangalore which is an all-weather major port. I consider while improving the operational facilities in the ports, the development of the hinterland also would play a major role. Unless, the hinterland is very well connected with the ports, the operational facilities cannot improve. It is an admitted fact today that the handling capacity in all the ports in our country is much below the world standards. We are nowhere comparable with the handling capacity available elsewhere in the world.

Sir, the Minister is not giving a concrete reply so far as setting up of a Committee to make a study is concerned. He is also not forthcoming with definite answers.

MR. SPEAKER : You have to put a concrete supplementary, then he can give a definite answer.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, he can definitely make an assessment out of my suggestion.

Sir, he is not forthcoming with a definite suggestion about attracting investment. Now, we do not have funds. That is also an admitted fact. Are there any steps suggested by the Ministry to attract investments, at least from the private sector to improve the operational facilities in the major ports?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, the Ministry is also of the view, as is the hon. Member, that we are somewhat behind in comparison to international port handling facilities. For that, during the Ninth Plan, we have taken major steps to improve and modernise the existing ports. We have evolved a lot of schemes for that and have allocated an outlay of nearly Rs. 16,000 crore for the Ninth Plan Outlay.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, he is asking whether you are involving any private people or not.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, I am coming to that. We are spending nearly Rs. 7,215 crore for Port and berths through budget allocation, and we are expecting the remaining Rs. 8,000 crore from the private sector. We are taking all the steps for that. We are also thinking of having certain joint venture projects. I am going to bring a new Bill in this regard before the House.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a question from the hon. Minister. He has said in his reply that an outlay of Rs. 545 crore has been provided for the Calcutta and Haldia Ports during Ninth Five Year Plan. The Calcutta Port covers a very big area where worse conditions are prevailing. I want to know whether the port operation facilities include proposals for beautification and development of Calcutta Port Trust area, particularly, from Central to North direction and if so, will it be a joint venture project?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, as regards beautification of ports is concerned, we are considering a project for this. As far as Calcutta port is concerned, there are some encroachments. We are trying to vacate them and are trying to improve that port. We are taking all these steps.

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Sir, all round industrial development of port operations have become crucial for the infrastructure development. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has ever asked the Central Government to take over Kakinada Port for better operations. If so, why the Central Government did not proceed to take over the Kakinada Port for developing infrastructural facilities instead of privatizing it? It is because the Anchor Port workers would be affected badly if it is privatised. I would like to know whether the Committee which was set up to streamline the port operational facilities would also study the operation of Kakinada Port.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, we are dealing with the major ports. The Kakinada Port comes under minor ports. If the State Government comes forward to give any proposal in regard to joint venture we are ready to consider it. That way, we are ready to take up the minor ports also with the major ports.

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Have they already asked for it?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : There is no proposal from them.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : As per the projection made by the Planning Commission by 2002, the capacity utilisation of our ports shall be of the order of 424

million metric tonnes. But as things stand, there will be a shortfall of 94 metric tonnes. What is the action plan with the Government in this regard?

Secondly, we have got 11 major ports. Out of these, how many ports are in general, are in conformity with the international standards, and the Chennai Port in particular?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, as far as the matter regarding improving the ports according to the demand in the coming years is concerned, it is correct that we require an estimated capacity of about 424 million tonnes in the current year. For that we have taken a capacity yield from the Eighth Plan of 31 million tonnes. We are working it out.

We are also taking up a scheme in the Ninth Plan to create more facilities to raise a capacity of 124 million tonnes. So, we are having this scheme in the Ninth Plan. We are also expecting the development of minor ports and increase in productivity of the major ports to the tune of 50 million tonnes.

As far as Chennai Port is concerned, we are already trying to privatise certain berths to see that the handling of the cargoes can be increased. Ennore is also a part of the present Chennai Port. We are thinking to make Ennore a separate corporate entity. Like that, we are trying to increase the capacity to meet the demand.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, he has not answered how many ports are of international standard.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : All our major ports are of the international standard. We are trying to improve them.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the hon. Minister has been kind enough to answer Shri Chacko's question. Cochin is a major port and NLG is going to be a the state-of-the-art raw material for the production of electricity. It is the opinion of the experts that the Cochin Port is the apt and ideal port for importing NLG. The Cochin Port has submitted certain plan and mechanism to import NLG and has allotted a specific berth for that.

Sir, the hon. Minister has not answered specifically about the Vallar Padam transhipment container terminal. A transhipment container port of international standard is necessary. The Cochin Port has submitted a plan for setting such a port at Vallar Padam. I want to know what happened to the Vallar Padam project and what is your proposal with regard to import of NLG at Cochin.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : Sir, as regards the development of Vallar Padam Port, we have already called many tenders. Many parties have approached



us. We are shortlisting them. We are going to implement that scheme and we are not denying that.

As far as exports are concerned, the Cochin Port is doing very well.

MR. SPEAKER : You have already answered that.

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : There is a problem on the import side. We are making all efforts to see that we can develop imports more by connecting Bangalore and other sectors so that we can transmit all the goods to that side. We are making all efforts in this regard.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have got big sea coasts of nearly 6,100 kilometres. We have only 11 major ports. Has the Government of India conducted any survey to find out the feasibility of other ports, if so, what are those areas?

The second part of the question is that though our ports are called international ports yet they are not of International standards. If you see Singapore and Hong Kong which have very thin population, they have got ports of international standards. I would like to know whether the Government of India is having any policy like the EXIM policy for the improvement of ports. Has the Government of India announced any such policy so far?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : As far as the question of conducting a survey for the development of other ports in the area is concerned, we are making all efforts.

Regarding improving the existing ports, we are already having many schemes. We have allocated Rs. 16,000 crore for the development of ports. We are making all efforts in this regard, so that they can be compared with other international ports.

SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Sir, the hon. Minister has replied that they have made an allotment of Rs. 549 crore in the Ninth Five Plan for the development of Calcutta and Haldia ports. The capacity utilisation in all the 11 major ports has been over-stretched for the last ten years. I would like to know from the hon. Minister specially as to what is the plan outlay for all other ten major ports. What capacity is he going to add to the existing capacity of the major ports by providing that much, as is available today?

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : We are having a Master Plan for the Ninth Five Year Plan to develop all the 11 major ports. If the hon. Member wants the details of each port, I am ready to furnish the details for each port. We have allocated Rs. 7,215 crore for the port side from the Budget resources and also Rs. 785 crore for other training programme. The total comes to Rs. 8,000 crore that we have allotted from the Government's side. If the hon. Member wants the

details of each port as to how much we have allotted, I can supply him the details.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send these to the hon. Member.

### UNDP Report on HRD

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\*102. SHRI MOHAN SINGH :  
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the recent report of UNDP on Human Development, India ranks lowest among the nations of the world in the Human Development Index;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategy being contemplated by the Government to bring the country at the world level in the Human Development Index?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) :

(a) and (b) No, Sir. According to the Human Development Report, 1998 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India stands at 139th rank in terms of Human Development Index Out of 174 countries in the world. However, there has been improvement over the years in all the three indicators of Human Development Index, viz., Longevity, Educational Attainment and Standard of Living. This needs to be accelerated.

(c) As per the Approach paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2000), the objectives of the plan, *inter-alia*, include accelerating the growth rate of the economy, providing basic minimum services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter and connectivity to all in a time bound manner.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact that question is not concerned with the Minister concerned only because so far as the question of human resource development is concerned, the per-capita income, the national economic growth in the country and the share of the common man in that economic growth, all these points are important to which the hon. Minister can not clarify alone.

The hon. Minister may or may not feel ashamed but I feel ashamed that the country which is number three from the point of security, the second number from the point of population and a wonderful country from the point of the entire resources stands at 139th

rank out of 174 countries in the world in terms of human resource development index. It is matter of shame. Few things have been enumerated by the hon. Minister as to what is to be done during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The draft of the Ninth Five Year Plan has been revised twice or thrice. If we take three years to put forth the schemes related to development of the country before the society and the Parliament and the hon. Minister gives the reply that we are marching ahead to some extent in terms of human resource development, while the quality of life is constantly decreasing in our country. I would like to ask one question from the hon Minister regarding education since he has said that their aim of making education compulsory has been dropped. Primary education which should be provided by the govt. is being continued. The higher education has been made costly. Any students from the ordinary families finds it difficult today to go for higher education as it has become a costly affair. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken to make the costly higher education cheaper in our country?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, really this question is very serious and important but it seems that wherever the word 'human' is written, that question comes to the Human Resource Development Ministry. I do not have any objection to it but my submission to the hon. Member, who has asked this question is that at first I would like to submit that we have not made education expensive. We have not raised the education fee.

Secondly, as far as the question of making primary education compulsory, the government is fully committed to that and for that we are making efforts. We have constituted a task force of seven hon. Chief Ministers, which would give its views in this regard and would march ahead to implement the scheme. We have made substantial increase in the budget estimates to the year 1997-98. For minorities, the amount which was 33 crore rupees, has been increased to 88 crore rupees by making a hike around 67 around. Efforts have been made to provide free education to women and budget provision for it has also been made. Free education to the girls belonging to the Scheduled Castes should be provided in the hostels and for that the government is contemplating to launch Kasturba Gandhi Scheme. Likewise primary education should be made compulsory for all and for it, the govt. is committed. It is a constitutional obligation and there should not be any doubt about it but attention should be paid towards the fact that education is a major factor for the development of human resource and human development is a very big component of it.

These are three components in it. One is education, the second is longevity as to how long one lives and the third is, the manner in which the

G.D.P. increases. These are the three major factors which have been taken into consideration. Therefore, education is a major factor of it. We had made a provision to spend eight thousand crore rupees for school education during the 8th Five Year Plan. Our Department has demanded to make a provision of Rupees 78 thousand crore and whatever has been told to me so far is that the Planning Commission is planning to allocate 25 thousand crore rupees on this account. Likewise we are trying to increase this amount of 8 thousand crore rupees by three times, so that the education can be made available to all. Serious efforts are being made in this direction. Therefore there is no scope for any doubts.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked the Hon'ble Minister that while spending 77 thousand crore rupees to improve the quality of education with that amount he would open similar kind of Primary schools as are being run today and which compel the rich people to go for primary education spending Rs. 10 thousand. Similar is the position of higher education. You can become a Doctor by giving 20 lakh rupees, you can pass civil service examinations or management examinations by giving 20 lakh rupees and you can acquire those degrees.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Singh, please conclude. There are eight more Members to ask supplementaries.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, my question is that what action is being taken by his department to improve the quality of education by providing financial aid, so that people may not be compelled to join private sector schools for acquiring primary as well as higher education.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I have clearly told that for spread of education and to improve the quality of education the nation has to take a decision to make efforts to enhance the percentage of Gross Domestic Product from 6 percent to 8-9 percent. You cannot improve its quality without investing into this sector. There are more than 9 lakh primary schools in the country at present and approximately 1 to 1.25 lakh more primary schools are required. Likewise more teachers are required to be appointed, buildings are needed to be constructed, other basic facilities are required to be provided in these schools. A provision of atleast Rupees 40 to 80 thousand crore is required to be made for spread of the primary and elementary education. If we get this much amount then this task can be undertaken. The entire House has to consider this issue as to how this amount is to be arranged. Apart from it there are many programmes of the

government to improve the quality of the educational institutions. If you permit me I may read it for you, otherwise I can send it in writing.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, Please allot one day for discussion on this topic that why a big country like India is ranked 139th in the world in this regard?...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I agree to this.

*[English]*

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has started his answer with a 'No'. He might be satisfied with the status of India — 35th from the bottom — but we are not. Under the indicator, standard of living, a number of items were included. This aspect was thoroughly discussed in the World Social Summit in 1995 held in Copenhagen and they set some standards to be achieved by various member-countries. We had also participated in that Summit.

Another Social Summit is going to be held in the year 2000. How far have we been able to achieve the standards prescribed in the World Social Summit in 1995?

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, a notice would be required for it because this question is related to the human development reports.

*[English]*

SHRI P. UPENDRA : It is inter-related. It is connected with that.

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : This question is directly related to that. Notice is required for that. I will answer it.

*[English]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The hon. Minister has mentioned in his reply that the educational attainment need to be accelerated. But what we find is that there has been mushrooming of the private colleges in various States. They do not conform to any educational standard; they do not have libraries, laboratories, classrooms etc. My question is this. Do the Government have any plan to stop the mushrooming of these private colleges in the States which do not conform to any educational standard?

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Not a single private school could be opened or recognised without

the permission of the State Government. UGC has laid criterion. Unless that criterion is fulfilled no school could be opened or recognised. This question depends on the policy of the State Government as to what sort of schools it wants to open.

*[English]*

MR. ASIM BALA : Did the Central Government send any guidelines to them?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : That is there.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : The hon. Minister has given the assurance that free education would be given to the girls and also as per the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan, there is a proposal for universalisation of primary education. But, is it true that the Government is proposing to have a discriminatory, gender-biased education for the girls? Because a section of the press was reporting that under the special curriculum for the girls, they wanted to include cooking and house-keeping also. If the Government is having such a proposal, then it is definitely a gender-biased, and a discriminatory approach. I want a clarification as to whether the Government is having such a proposal for the education of girls.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : There is no such proposal for the education of girls.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : I want a specific answer.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I have said that there is no such proposal. It is a very specific answer.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, India ranked 139th in the matter of human development amongst 174 countries. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister as to how much amount has been earmarked in the current budget to improve this ranking and what steps are being taken in future to improve this ranking?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : There are three parts of Human Resources one education two longevity and third G.D.P. GDP is the only such factor which is subject to change every year i.e. it may increase or decrease. The act of longevity and education cannot be seen in one year, this would be seen in the long run atleast after five to ten years. Therefore, our education related programme would show its result not before five to seven years. The first thing we have done is that we have requested for more funds to be provided for education in the Ninth Five Year Plan. As per our estimates, amount of Rs. 78 thousand crore should be earmarked for this purpose in the current Five Year Plan which we feel should be invested in this sector. But as per the

information being received from the Planning Commission only a sum of Rs. 25 thousand crore is likely to be sanctioned for this purpose. What proportion of money would you like to contribute towards education in the economy of the country, do you consider the amount spent on education as an investment or an expenditure. The previous Government had considered education as a low priority event. We consider it a high priority event as investment should be made in this sector on priority basis. Human Resources could not be developed without education, health services and nutrition. We have enhanced the food subsidy in Nutrition upto 9000 crore rupees, which is a record itself. We want that the people should get food. Mid-day meal scheme is being run. That scheme is being improved, so that the children can be fed properly. Our first aim is to accomplish this task as per the facilities of nutrition, education and health.

#### Expenditure on R & D

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\*103. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India occupies 7th place in the world in terms of the number of competent engineers and scientists in the field of research and whereas in terms of competitiveness it stands at 45th place in the world;

(b) if not, the assessment of the government in this regard;

(c) whether only 0.9 percent of Gross National Product is being spent on research in the country; and

(d) if not, the percentage of GNP spent on research activities in 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 and the amount allocated for research activities for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) According to the UNESCO Statistical Yearbook 1997, India has been ranked at the 7th position in terms of scientists and engineers engaged in research and development.

The "Global Competitiveness Report 1998" published by World Economic Forum has ranked India 50th in 1998 in terms of competitiveness.

(c) and (d) The published available official statistics with the Government giving data on the

percentage of GNP spent on research activities is available upto the year 1994-95 only. According to this statistics, the expenditure on Research and Development in India as percentage of Gross National Product has been around 0.8% during the past few years. In absolute terms India's Research and Development expenditure increased over the years from Rs. 3974.17 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 6821.02 crores in 1994-95. This statistics does not take into account the expenditure that might have been incurred by other entities including businesses and companies which have not applied for recognition of their in-house Research and Development Units by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

During the current financial year outlay for Central Scientific Department/Agencies in the Science & Technology sector is of the order of Rs. 3940 crores.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Speaker as the Hon'ble Minister has already admitted that if a competition of qualified engineers is to be held, our country is ranked at seventh place but if we see the research papers 70 percent research papers are written by the foreign engineers I would like to know from the Minister as to what is the reason behind it.

Secondly, I would like to know from the Hon'ble member this thing too that only 0.9 percent of G.D.P is being spent on Research and Development, what percentage of G.D.P is being spent on agriculture sector?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Our Department for Scientific research do not possess the data regarding the agriculture sector give us a notice for that we would get the data from the Department of Agriculture. ICAR is not under our department, a separate notice is required for that. Your statement is true and I have already said that the quality of our research papers is not at all of international standard. We have analysed the reasons responsible for it.

The number of talented people expected to enter the Science sector during last few years has also not been encouraging and less number of such people have joined this sector. The condition of laboratories during the last few years has also not been upto the standard. Only a meagre amount of funds have been provided or invested by the Universities in the field of higher education. Therefore the laboratories and Scientists have not been provided the requisite facilities, and that is why they could not perform the entrusted tasks, we have made some changes keeping this in view and we are trying to provide maximum facilities to the Science sector and we have formulated heavy programmes to attract talented students towards this sector.

The second aspect is that technological competitiveness has so many factors. When we are ranked at seventh position, it involves so many questions as to what sort of openness is there. How the government is functioning, what is the situation of finance, what is the position of infrastructure, management, labour, institutions and technology. All these questions are involved. But you will see that India is leading in certain areas but they are lagging behind in certain others. In this way our overall ranking goes down. As far as the question of joining this field by the people and the engineers are considered India comes on the top. But when the question of investment in field of technology and the infrastructure comes, we are far behind. Taking all these factors into consideration we are ranked at 50th place. It is not that we are lagging behind everywhere. Earlier our economy was a kind of a closed economy but now it is opened and gradually it will open more than what would be its impact, let it be seen. Likewise there would be less investment on infrastructure.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister that what is the cause of reduction in the technology export, which was 2.5 percent in the year 1947 but now it has been reduced to 0.4 or 0.5 percent?

Secondly, whether the government propose to reduce the technology import cess of 5 percent imposed earlier by the government under the pressure of multi national companies whether the amount collected through the import cess, has been spent on Research and Development only. I want to know the figures of the amount collected through such cess and the amount spent out of it on Research and Development?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We do not have any proposal under which we may reduce the technology import cess. It means that the entire amount would be spent for the development of technology.

[English]

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Mr. Speaker Sir, the govt. is spending thousands of crores of rupees on Science, research and development. I would like to know how the government is going to use Science to eradicate poverty from India.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We had a meeting of all the Directors of all laboratories of CSIR and it was discussed with them that the goal of the research should be to solve the questions relating to the life of common man.

I am happy to tell you that the leather laboratory in Chennai has conducted research work in leather.

It has invented a new technology as to how to make soft and good quality leather out of skin drawn from dead animals and sell it at cheaper rates as a result of which 80,000 women who were going to be rendered jobless, have been provided jobs. Today, we are one of those countries in the world who are leading in the matter of leather technology and which is directly related to poor. Secondly, there are leaves of 'Supari' (beetalnut) and banana which go waste in large quantum in our country. We have invested such a technology as can make good plates from them, which would be biodegradable and there would be no difficulty in throwing them. The leaves of these trees are found in abundance in our country. When such items would be manufactured, it would certainly be used. Now-a-days, we are supplying these plates at competitive rates. In the same way, we have tried to utilise science and technology in such works so that seeds could be developed. Such experiments have been conducted in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and you would be happy to know that the quality of seeds of groundnut and urad (Pulse) has been improved. Efforts have been made to raise the shelf life of fruits. Science and Technology Council has been set up in every state, which would work in this field. Prime Minister has given clear instructions about it that science should be used to solve the problems of the common man. Government are making efforts in this direction and constantly monitoring it.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, we are proud of our scientists. We have many of our scientists, especially the technologists and the computer scientists, working abroad. I had seen them when I went to New York with the Indian delegation to the United Nations. The number one software man is an Indian. He is not doing very well in the United States of America. Why do you not bring these people to our country? To implement its decision and for fulfilment of its goal and in the interest of the country, does the Government have any proposal to bring the scientists back from abroad?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The scientist of different disciplines have gone abroad. There are some scientists who have gone there for some projects and they have come back when project is completed. These projects continue for two-three years and sometime for five years. Some scientists have gone there to undertake research work and obtain degrees.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not related to my question.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I am apprising you about the schemes related to each of these scientists. There are such who have gone there to find job in other institutions. This point relates to the situation in the country as to how many job opportunities we create here. The more number of job-opportunities we will create here the less number of people will go to other country. We have made efforts to create more jobs in C.S.I.R. laboratories and Government agencies...(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : My question is : Does the Government have any intentions to bring these people back from abroad?

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any proposal?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I am telling you about the same proposal. We have such proposals and we process the proposals according to the institutions, they are received.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, I have gone through the answer carefully. I am sorry to say that it does not present an encouraging scenario. Only 0.8 per cent of the GNP is being spent for R&D. In 1994-95, you have spent Rs. 6,821 crore in R&D whereas for the current year, the total outlay is only Rs. 3,940 crore. This is a disappointing scenario. In developed countries and even in developing countries, the percentage of GNP spent on R&D is much more than 0.8 per cent.

I am told, in Japan, it is more than six per cent.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It is not more than three per cent.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : But I know one thing that this is much less than what is adequate and required.

Another point is that a lot of private companies are there and most of this money is being spent, by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Kurien, please put your supplementary.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, this is a very important question. It affects the future R&D. That is my complaint. I will ask for Half-an-hour discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : After putting the supplementary.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Yes, Sir.

Sir, the private companies are not spending anything on R&D even though their turnover goes to thousands and thousands crores of rupees. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any stipulation that the Indian companies, including public sector undertakings, should spend a certain percentage of their turnover for R&D; and whether there is any stipulation that the Government companies and private companies also should spend a certain percentage of their turnover. If not, will the hon. Minister consider formulating such a stipulation and enforcing it?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mahodaya, first, let me clear the misunderstanding that Japan is spending five per cent of its GNP on R&D. They are only spending 2.9 per cent.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Anyhow, more than us.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Yes. China is spending only 0.5 per cent, less than us. There are all sorts of countries, but I nevertheless, agree that India should spend more money in its R&D. I am a great supporter of this view and I have been impressing upon both the laboratories, and the Government to give more money for investing research. More money should be given to the universities for Research.

It may be seen that in 1994-95, the GNP at the current prices was Rs. 8,39,504 crore and the expenditure on R&D was Rs. 6,821 crore. This is an improvement, from 1991-92, which was just Rs. 4,000 crore and it has gone up to this level. It should go even more than that. I do agree with you that more money should be invested in that and we will try to procure more money from the Ministry of Finance for Research and Development.

I also agree that there should be more encouragement to both the public sector units and to the private sector corporate units to come and invest in R&D. I am happy that there are very encouraging trends where they are participating with joint Research and Development Programme with our laboratories and universities. Particularly, in the field of Space. We have found that a large number of companies are joining hands both in terms of production and in terms of R&D. In terms of Biotechnology also, they are coming and you will be happy to note that some of them are now even paying dividends to the Government.

So, there is an encouragement and this encouragement will take a little more time because for a large number of years, this culture was missing and it takes a little time to establish a good research centre in a corporate sector. Even the Ayurvedic drug manufacturers have also established their Research Wings now. After the TRIPS, there is now an awareness in the private sector as well as in the

public sector to go for more R&D. It will take some time, but I fully agree and I appreciate his concern for increase in investment in R&D. That is a welcome step.

**SHRI E. AHAMED :** Sir, while giving reply to the supplementary put by Kumari Mamata Banerjee, the hon. Minister has said that those scientists who go to the Western countries or other foreign countries for scientific research and other things would be returning to India.

I would like to contradict it. Except those persons who are taken from the Government, all others, once they go would not be returning because the facilities provided to them by the respective Governments there are much more than what we are providing. The hon. Minister has said that there are proposals to bring them back and to provide them with the scientific facilities here. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would agree that there is a brain-drain so far as our scientists and technocrats are concerned, and whether the Government has any prospective plan for bringing them back here and also to provide sufficient research facilities to our scientists.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You are putting the same supplementary.

**DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :** As I have already answered, in the Ninth Plan we have asked for more money for Research and Development and for facilities. As soon as that is cleared, we would create more facilities. Even our most important laboratories are now expanding and many of the scientists are coming back because they have understood that the facilities are available. Some of our laboratories are of international standards.

Sir, you should be happy to note that there are many countries which are ready to send their

scientists to work in collaboration with us in our laboratories. So, we are trying to expand the facilities, to create more facilities and the sure that we have an increase in the outlay of Science and Technology sector, creation of new scientific organisations and setting up of more centres of excellence, advanced studies and academic institutions, scientific training for entrepreneurial development, creation of supernumerary posts, etc. These are some of the methods which we have taken. As I have said : 'we have plans and we are executing them'.

[Translation]

#### Allocation to Scientific Research Bodies

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\*104. **SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :**  
**SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :**

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names and locations of the Scientific Research Institutes, associations and bodies functioning under the Ministry;

(b) the annual budget allocation made for each of them during 1996, 1997 and 1998, State-wise;

(c) whether many of these institutes/associations and bodies have not made full utilization of the allocated budget;

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

(e) the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) :** (a) to (e) Two statements (Statement-I and Statement-II) are laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement-I

Sl.No.	Name of institute/location	(Rs. in Lakhs)		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5

#### Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

##### Andhra Pradesh

1.	Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Uppal Road, Hyderabad-500 007	1127	1136	1311
2.	Indian Instt. of Chemicals Technolgy Uppal Road, Hyderabad-500 007 (A.P.)	1850	2043	2267
3.	National Geophysical Research Instt. Uppal Road, Hyderabad-500007 (A.P.)	1216	1409	1692

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Assam</b>				
4.	Regional Research Laboratory P.O. Jorhat-785006 (Assam)	871	858	889
<b>Bihar</b>				
5.	Central Fuel Research Institute P.O. FRI, Dhanbad-828 108 (Bihar)	1334	1521	1606
6.	Central Mining Research Instt. Bawra Road, Dhanbad-826 001 (Bihar)	944	1007	1117
7.	National Metallurgical Laboratory Jamshedpur 831007 (Bihar)	1279	1650	1940
<b>Chandigarh</b>				
8.	Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Sector-30 C.C., Chandigarh 160020	1039	1049	1310
9.	Institute of Microbial Technology Sector 39-A, Chandigarh-160 036	559	641	619
<b>Goa</b>				
10.	National Instt. of Oceanography Dona Paula, Goa-403 004	1141	1427	1609
<b>Gujarat</b>				
11.	Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Instt. Bhavnagar-364 002(Gujarat)	671	688	788
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
12.	Instt. of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, P.B.No.6, Palampur 176 061 (H.P.)	347	367	397
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
13.	Regional Research Laboratory Canal Road, Jammu-Tawi-180 001	867	935	1066
<b>Karnataka</b>				
14.	Central Food Technological Research Instt., Mysore-570 013 (Karnataka)	1309	1461	1605
15.	National Aerospace Laboratories P.B.No. 1779, Kodihalli, Bangalore-560 017 (Karnataka)	2981	3270	3563
<b>Kerala</b>				
16.	Regional Research Laboratory Industrial Estate P.O. Thiruvananthapuram 695 019 (Kerala)	532	551	636



1	2	3	4	5
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				
17.	Regional Research Laboratory Hoshangabad Road, Near Habibgang Naka, Bhopal 462 026 (M.P.)	492	476	452
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
18.	National Chemical Laboratory Pune-411008(Maharashtra)	2024	2266	2442
19.	National Environmental Engg. Research Instt., Nehru Marg, Nagpur-440 020(Maharashtra)	1064	1170	1338
<b>New Delhi</b>				
20.	Central Road Research Instt. P.O. CRRI, New Delhi-110 020	592	748	931
21.	Centre for Biochemical Tecnology University Campus, Mall Road New Delhi-110 007.	358	383	452
22.	Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre 14, Satsang Vihar Marg, New Delhi-110 067	578	602	679
23.	National Instt. of Science Communication, Hillside Road, New Delhi-110 012	535	547	626
24.	National Instt. of Science Technology & Development Studies Dr. K.S. Krishnan Marg, New Delhi-110 012	296	338	412
25.	National Physical Laboratory Dr. K.S. Krishnan Marg, New Delhi-110 012	1963	2012	2225
<b>Orissa</b>				
26.	Regional Research Laboratory Bhubaneswar 751 013 (Orissa)	683	809	895
<b>Rajasthan</b>				
27.	Central Electronic Engg. Research Instt. Pilani-333 031 (Rajasthan)	966	973	1145
<b>Tamilnadu</b>				
28.	Central Electro Chemical Research Instt., Karaikudi, Tamilnadu-630 006	1141	1223	1282
29.	Central Leather Research Instt. Adyar, Chennai-600 020 (TN)	1431	1691	1432
30.	Madras Complex TTTI Taramani, Chennai-600113 (TN)	117	123	112
31.	Structural Engg. Research Centre P.B.No.8287, Taramani, Chennai 600113 (TN)	489	581	769

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
32.	Central Building Research Intt. Roorkee-247 667 (U.P.)	825	1003	1210
33.	Central Drug Research Intt. Chattar Manzil Palace, P.B. No.173, Lucknow-226001	1423	1457	1761
34.	Central Instt. of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, P.O. CIMAP, Lucknow-226 015.	765	919	997
35.	Industrial Toxicology Research Centre Mahatma Gandhi Marg, P.B.No.80 Lucknow 226 001 (U.P.)	657	740	841
36.	Indian Instt. of Petroleum P.O. IIP, Mohkampur, Dehradun 248 005 (U.P.)	1095	1240	1365
37.	National Botanical Research Instt. Rana Pratap Marg, P.B.No.436, Lucknow-226 001 (U.P.)	934	914	1014
38.	Structural Engg. Research Centre Sector 19, Kamla Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad 201 002 (U.P.)	229	282	387
<b>West Bengal</b>				
39.	Central Glass & Ceramic Research Instt., 196 Raja SC Mullick Road, Calcutta-700 032. (W.B.)	1106	1095	1289
40.	Central Mechanical Engg. Research Instt., MG Avenue, Durgapur-713209(WB)	1298	1588	1796
41.	Indian Instt. of Chemical Biology 4, Raja SC Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Calcutta 700 032	807	1018	1142
<b>Department of Biotechnology</b>				
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
1.	Centre for NDA Finger Printing and Diagnostics, Hyderabad	204	391	400
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
2.	National Centre for Cell Science, Pune.	597	548	751
<b>New Delhi</b>				
3.	National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi	985	920	1159
4.	National Centre for Plant Genome Research, New Delhi.	-	-	131

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Department of Science and Technology</b>				
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
1.	International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Meteorology & New Materials, ARC International RCI Road, R.R. District Hyderabad-500 005.	816	750	450
<b>Karnataka</b>				
2.	Indian Academy of sciences C.V. Raman Avenue, Bangalore-560080.	116.15	135	126
3.	Indian Institute of Astrophysics Sharjapur Road, Bangalore-560034.	1220	1382	1396
4.	Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research Jakkur Campus, Jakkur P.O., Bangalore - 560 064.	495	517	570
5.	Raman Research Institute C.V. Raman Avenue, Sadashivnagar, Bangalore-560080.	635	769	887
<b>Kerala</b>				
6.	Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology Thiruvananthapuram - 695011	1525	1805	1844
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
7.	Indian Institute of Geomagnetism Dr. Nanbhoy Mosse Marg, Colaba, Mumbai-400005.	435	584	674
8.	Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune-411008.	365	381	408
9.	Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science, Law College Road, Pune-411004.	250	281	293
<b>New Delhi</b>				
10.	Indian National Academy of Engg. No.117, Visiting Faculty Nalanda House. IIT Campus Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110 016.	11	13	10
11.	Indian National Science Academy Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002.	523	619	538
12.	Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council, Technology Bhawan New Delhi - 110 016.	435	496.38	498

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Vigyan Prasar, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi - 110 016.	75	75	75
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
14.	Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany 53, University Road, Lucknow-226007.	316	390	418
15.	National Academy of Science 5, Lajpatrai Road, New Katra, Allahabad-211002.	40	44	43
16.	Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology 33, General Mahadeo Singh Road, Dehradun-248001.	343	380	407
<b>West Bengal</b>				
17.	Bose Institute Centenary Building P-1/12 C.I.T. Scheme VII - M, Calcutta-700009.	585	640	630
18.	Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science Jadavpur, Calcutta-700032.	690	719	790
19.	Indian Science Congress Association 14, Dr. Biresh Guha Street, Calcutta-700017.	60.50	75.51	66
20.	S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences Block JD, Sector - III Salt Lake, Calcutta-700 091	220	242	274

**Statement-II***Statement of non-utilisation of funds in respect of eleven institutes*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Scientific Research Institute	Location (city name statewise)	Extent of Non-utilisation of funds			Reasons for non- utilisation of funds
			1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Department of Science and Technology****Andhra Pradesh**

1.	International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (IARC)	Hyderabad	190.62	346.48	Fully utilised	Delay in procurement of equipments.
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Karnataka</b>						
2.	Raman Research Institute (RRI)	Bangalore	46.63	81.14	Fully utilised	Delay in procurement of equipments.
<b>Maharashtra</b>						
3.	Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science (MACS)	Pune	20	1.38	Fully utilised	Delay in procurement of equipment.
<b>New Delhi</b>						
4.	Indian National Science Academy (INSA)	New Delhi	Fully utilised	182	Fully utilised	Delay in execution of Works.
5.	Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)	New Delhi	447.82	384.10	Fully utilised	Delay in execution of projects.
6.	Vigyan Prasar (VP)	New Delhi	Fully utilised	1.00	Fully utilised	Delay in creation of posts.
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>						
7.	Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany (BSIP)	Lucknow	77.65	153.97	Fully utilised	Delay in procurement of equipments.
8.	Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG)	Dehradun	39.72	18.15	Fully utilised	Delay in procurement of equipments/ material.
<b>West Bengal</b>						
9.	S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS)	Calcutta	122.33	100.00	Fully utilised	Delay in construction of building.
<b>Department of Biotechnology</b>						
<b>Maharashtra</b>						
1.	National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS)	Pune	Fully utilised	436	Fully utilised	Delay in opening of LC for procurement of imported equipments.
<b>New Delhi</b>						
2.	National Centre for Plant Genome Research (NCPGR)	New Delhi	-	-	111	Since the Centre was registered in Nov., 1997 only Rs. 20 lakhs was released and utilised.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi) : Sir, I have gone through the replies and it has been

seen that the non-utilisation of funds has been only given in respect of 11 Research Institutes. But the reply given here is for nearly about all Research Institutes in various States.

There, it has been seen that a lot of money is lying unspent in these Research Institutes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when this money will be spent, and whatever research material is being produced in these institutes, whether it is being patented or not.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, this money which remains unutilised is not because of the inefficiency, it is because of procurement from abroad. Sometimes, it takes very long to get an equipment of desired quality and a desired objective. Then there is a delay in the acquisition of land.

So, there is generally a delay for these reasons. This money is not lapsed and it goes for the next year because it is a committed money. In many cases, the orders have been placed and they take a long time to manufacture the desired equipment.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Sir, I would like to know whether in future this delay be lessened so that the the research work can be taken up at the earliest, and it can be passed on to the people of the country. I would also like to know that besides whatever research material is being produced, whether it will be patented or not.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As far as patenting is concerned, the material which is to be patented or which deserves to be patented is certainly being processed. There is now, a number of applications for being patented. They are coming from the laboratories.

As far as the delay is concerned, if the delay is with the State Government for acquisition of land, we are helpless. When the delay is due to manufacturer because he cannot manufacture the design in the scheduled time, it is also beyond our hands. However, we will try and continue to try so that these delays are reduced.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : There are a lot of complaints from among the research workers who are engaged in the main work in different laboratories. Their main complaint is that there is no infrastructure development in these laboratories. In spite of the repeated requests, the Government of India did not show an encouraging attitude towards these requests. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there has been any action taken by any firm with regard to infrastructure development in these laboratories. If no action is taken in this regard, these people may go abroad.

12.00 hrs.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : If the hon. Member can give me a list from where the complaints are coming for the non development of infrastructure. I will certainly look into it...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I will give one instance. The Regional Research Laboratory at the Industrial Estate, Trivandrum have sent a proposal. You have not taken that into consideration...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to ask through you that the funds out of those allotted and sanctioned during the year 1996-97, are lying unutilised. One institution among them is located in Pune in Maharashtra...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Unless your supplementary is brief, you will not get the answer.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VITHAL TUPE : National Centre for Cell Science has not utilised the funds due to delay in opening of L.C. Did you inquire why there was delay in the opening of L.C. and what action you had taken in this regard?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Information would be sent to you in this regard and you would be apprised of the reasons for the delay. Generally it occurs due to delay in receiving the material from some place or due to banking problem or sometimes delay in opening of L.C. sometimes it is delayed due to lack of funds required. But it does not mean misutilisation of funds. The whole amount remains next year and is utilised for making the payment of equipment as soon as they are received. Inefficiency may be the one of the reasons which would be looked into.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Question How is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

### Involvement of Locals in Forest Management

\*105. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate basic changes in the Forest Management by involving local people and tribals dependent of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have issued guidelines during 1990 to all the States and Union Territories to workout modalities for involvement of local communities, voluntary agencies and women for the management of degraded forests areas on usufruct sharing basis. 21 States have been passed resolutions on Joint Forest Management (JFM) for the management of forests with people's participation. Approximately 7 million ha. of degraded forests has been brought under the purview of JFM involving around 35,000 village level bodies. Joint Forest Management is central and integral part of all plantation projects under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has constituted a standing committee on Joint Forest Management to advise it on the matters pertaining to the operationalisation of Joint Forest Management. It also attends to representations received in this regard.

#### Pollution in Underground Water

\*106. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

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

(a) whether underground water is getting polluted alongwith air in big cities including Delhi;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have taken any concrete steps in this regard so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board has been carrying out monitoring of ground water quality and ambient air quality in different cities and towns in the country including Delhi. The monitoring results have indicated ground water contamination in certain pockets of cities/towns in the country including Delhi. While the ambient air quality in most of the cities is within the prescribed parameters, in Delhi and Calcutta the concentration

of certain pollutants exceed the prescribed limits for short durations in areas having high traffic density.

(d) and (e) Steps taken to check environmental pollution include the following:

1. The Central Government has constituted a Central Ground Water Authority to regulate and control ground water in the country.
2. Government have formulated the following policy initiatives for protecting and improving the environment : The National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement for Environment and Development, 1992, Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and National Forest Policy 1988.
3. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provide the legal framework for enforcing pollution control measures.
4. A comprehensive enforcement structure comprising of central and state government agencies is in place, including the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards/Committees.
5. Ambient air and water quality standard, and emission and effluent discharge standards into air and water respectively, have been notified and are being monitored regularly.
6. Environmental clearance is mandatory for 29 categories of developmental projects, including public hearing and environmental impact assessment process.
7. Seventeen categories of highly polluting industries are being rigorously monitored for compliance of the stipulated standards.
8. Common Effluent Treatment Plants are being set up for industrial units.
9. Twenty four Critically polluting areas have been identified for pollution abatement and improving the environment. Action Plans in respect of twenty two critically polluting areas have been finalised and are under various stages of implementation.
10. Ganga Action Plan and National River Conservation Plan are under implementation to improve the river water quality. These plans envisage interception and diversion of municipal sewage from being discharged into twenty two rivers covering one hundred and fifty six towns in fourteen states. Sewage is to be treated

and utilised for irrigation. Industrial Pollution of the rivers is controlled under the environmental laws enforced by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards.

11. Waste Minimisation Circles are being established for control of pollution at source for certain highly polluting industries, such as electroplating units, textile dyes and printing units, tanneries and agro-based paper units.
12. Environmental Audit has been made compulsory for certain categories of industrial units.
13. For controlling vehicular pollution, emission norms at the manufacturing stage were introduced for the first time in 1990. These were made more tighter in 1996. More stringent emission norms will come into effect from 1.4.2000. Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
14. Low lead petrol had been introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai w.e.f. June 1994. Subsequently, unleaded petrol was introduced in these four cities with effect from 1.4.1995. Effective from 1.9.1998, only unleaded petrol is being supplied in Delhi.
15. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has been set up for the National Capital Region for protecting and improving the quality of environment and preventing, controlling and abating environmental pollution. Similarly, an authority has been set up for controlling industrial pollution in the state of Tamil Nadu.
16. The Ministry has initiated environmental epidemiological studies in seven critically polluted areas located in Gujarat, Orissa, Mumbai, Kerala, U.P., Punjab and Delhi.
17. Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.

#### Girls' Education

\*107. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided to make education free for girls upto graduation;

(b) if so, the details regarding the issue of instructions to the States and the Universities in this regard;

(c) whether this will not affect other priority areas in Education; and

(d) if so, the schemes proposed to be chalked out to deal with it?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) National Agenda for Governance (NAG) envisages to make plans for free education for girls upto college level including professional courses. The modalities of such plans are being worked out.

(c) This will not affect other priority areas.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Development of National Highways

\*108. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to develop the National highways on priority basis;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry have sent any proposal to the Ministry of Finance to enhance the amount of Central Road Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Finance Ministry have not augmented the CRF till date;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The matter regarding augmentation of the Central Road Fund has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance and is under consideration.

#### Smuggling of Medicinal Herbs

\*109. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the Medicinal Herbs whose export is banned in the country;



(b) whether these Medicinal Herbs worth crores of rupees are being illegally exported in the guise of their local names;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty of smuggling; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to save these herbs from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The list of medicinal plants whose export is banned is given in the attached statement-I. However, the export of the formulations prepared from these species are allowed for export without any restrictions. Cultivated plants of these species are also allowed for export.

(b) and (c) No Sir. Only a few cases of attempted smuggling of medicinal herbs in small quantities have been detected by the officials of this Ministry.

(d) Action has been taken against the offenders under the provisions of Customs Act.

(e) Steps taken to save these herbs are as follows :

1. Collection of wild plant species covered under Schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.
2. Export of 29 species of plant or plant portion and their derivatives obtained from the wild have been prohibited.
3. Export of plants other than above 29 species requires a legal Procurement Certificate (LPC) from Regional Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation, Ministry of Environment & Forests or Chief Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests of the State concerned from where these plants have been procured.
4. The cultivated variety of plant/plant portions of the 29 banned species can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable.
5. International trade in India with respect to species covered under Appendix I of CITES is prohibited and for 17 species, covered under Appendix II of CITES, is regulated under the provisions of the CITES.
6. Frequent checks are carried out by the wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild plants reaches them.

### Statement

The export of under mentioned 29 Plants, Plant portions and their derivatives and extracts as such obtained from the wild except the formulations\* made therefrom, is prohibited :-

1. *Beddomea cycad* (*Cycas beddomei*).
2. Blue vanda (*Vanda coerulea*)
3. *Saussurea costus*
4. Ladies slipper orchid (*Paphiopedilium* species)
5. Pitcher plant (*Nepenthes khasiana*)
6. Red vanda (*Renanthera imschootiana*)
7. *Rauwolfia serpentina* (*Sarpangandha*)
8. *Ceropegia* species
9. *Frera indica* (*Shindal Mankundi*)
10. *Podophyllum hexandrum* (*emodi*) (*Indian Podophyllum*)
11. *Cya theaceae* species (*Tree Ferns*).
12. *Cyca dacea* species (*Cycads*)
13. *Dioscorea deltoidea* (*Elephant's foot*)
14. *Euphorbia* species (*Euphobias*)
15. *Orchidaceae* species (*Orchids*)
16. *Pterocarpus santalinus* (*Redsanders*)
17. *Taxus Wallichiana* (*Common Yew or Birmi leaves*)
18. *Aquilaria malaccensis* (*Agarwood*)
19. *Aconitum* species
20. *Coptis teeta*
21. *Coscinium fenestrum* (*Calumba wood*)
22. *Dactylorhiza hatagirea*
23. *Gentiana Kurro* (*Kuru, Kutki*)
24. *Gnetum* species
25. *Kampheria Galenga*
26. *Nardostachys grandiflora*
27. *Panax pseudoginseng*
28. *Picrorhiza kurrooa*
29. *Swertia chirata* (*Charayatah*)

\* The term "formulation" used here shall include products which may contain portions/extracts of plants on the prohibited list but only in unrecognizable and physically inseparable form.

[Translation]

### Right to Clean Environment

\*110. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to incorporate the right to clean environment in the fundamental rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Foreign Investment in School Education

\*111. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :  
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow foreign investment in the field of school education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have obtained the views of experts in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The Government has not taken any policy decision in this respect. A limited number of specific proposals received earlier in this respect have been considered on a case-to-case basis. Between 1983 to 1998, eight proposals were received by the Government. Out of these, conditional approval was accorded in three cases. Before taking any general policy decision in this respect, Government would obtain the views of all concerned, including the State Governments and educational experts.

[Translation]

### Clearance under CRZ

\*112. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :  
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) the number of proposals pending for clearance under the Coastal Regulation Zone as well as Forest Conservation Act, State-wise;

(b) the number of proposals accorded clearance out of them till October 31, 1998;

(c) the norms prescribed by the Government for granting clearance;

(d) whether the Government have taken any decision to relax the Coastal Zone Regulations;

(e) if so, whether the Government have sought views from the State Governments regarding the implementation of the Coastal Zone Regulations; and

(f) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, dated 19th February, 1991 (as amended from time to time), regulates a number of activities to ensure sustainable development in the coastal areas. While setting up of new industries and expansion of existing industries except those directly related to waterfront or directly needing foreshore facilities are prohibited, operational construction for ports, harbours and jetties, laying of pipelines for oil, gas and sea water for cooling purpose and construction of beach resorts in certain designated areas etc., are activities permissible with prior approval from the competent authority. While approving the permissible activities, their impact on environment is taken into consideration

For diversion of forest land for any non-forestry purpose, prior approval of the Government of India is required. Approval is accorded to the proposal after detailed scrutiny as per guidelines framed under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 including ascertaining that the requirement of forest area is site specific and bare minimum.

(d) to (f) A committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Fr. C.J. Saldanha to examine the issues relating to Coastal Regulation Zone Notification. It has been decided to invite public objections on some of the recommendations made by the Saldanha Committee before taking a final decision in the matter.

**Statement**

Thirty-eight proposals under the Coastal Regulation Zone and Forty-one proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act were pending for clearance as on 31.10.98. The State-wise breakup is as under:

State/Union Territory	Number of Pending Projects	
	Under Coastal Regulation Zone	Under Forest Conservation Act
1. A & N Islands	3	-
2. Andhra Pradesh	4	3
3. Bihar	-	2
4. Daman & Diu	1	-
5. Goa	5	-
6. Gujarat	3	2
7. Himachal Pradesh	-	3
8. Karnataka	6	3
9. Kerala	2	-
10. Madhya Pradesh	-	11
11. Maharashtra	8	4
12. Meghalaya	-	1
13. Orissa	1	4
14. Rajasthan	-	4
15. Sikkim	-	1
16. Tamil Nadu	4	-
17. Uttar Pradesh	-	3
18. West Bengal	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41</b>

Out of these, three proposals have been accorded clearance under the CRZ during the month of November, 1998.

**Suspension of Power Supply by NTPC to States**

\*113. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation suspended power supply to some SEBs/States in the month of October this year due to non payment of tariff bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total outstanding dues against each SEB/State as on October 31, 1998, State-wise;

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to recover the same;

(e) the reasons for suspending power supply to a few States whereas a large number of SEBs/States have outstanding dues;

(f) whether an advance notice for the suspension of power supply was given to SEBs/States; and

(g) if so, the facts and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) resorted to regulation of power supply to West Bengal from Farakka Super Thermal Power Station from the midnight of 10th and 11th October, 1998 which continued till 31.10.1998.

(c) The outstanding dues of NTPC as on 31.10.1998 stood at Rs. 8883.70 crores. The details of the amount due State-wise as on 31.10.1998 are attached as statement.

(d) Many of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) have not opened Letter of Credit (LC) of adequate amount for payment of monthly bills to NTPC and therefore have been defaulting in payment of NTPC which has resulted in accumulation of arrears. The steps being taken by the Government *inter-alia* include :-

(i) Periodical reviews of the position by Ministry of Power and taking up the matter regarding payment at the highest level of the SEBs and State Governments; and

(ii) Decision of the Government of India approving direct appropriation of the recovery of the outstanding dues as on 31.12.1996 amounting to Rs. 3751.45 crores. As per this decision, the deduction in one year for any state shall not exceed 15% of its Central Plan Assistance in that year.

(e) to (g) The outstanding dues of Bihar, West Bengal, Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir as on 30.9.1998 were the highest in terms of months of average billing as indicated below :-

	State/Organisation		Months of average billing
	1	2	
1.	Bihar	-	15.1
2.	West Bengal	-	12.9

	1	2
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.3
4.	Orissa	11.4
5.	Delhi	10.2
6.	D.V.C.	9.1
7.	U.P.	8.9

The criteria followed by NTPC to regulate power supply to defaulting States were as follows :-

- (i) outstanding dues were among the highest in terms of months of billing; and
- (ii) current payments were below the level of current billing as reflected in the Letter of Credit opened by them.

Since J&K had the full coverage of current billing through Letter of Credit, no notice was issued to that State. Notices were issued to Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, U.P., Delhi and DVC. Letters were issued to the Chief Secretaries of West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar in this regard. Union Minister of Power had also written to Chief Ministers of Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa for liquidating outstanding dues to NTPC. Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) and Directors of NTPC held meetings with Chief Ministers of Orissa and Bihar on 24.8.1998 and 7.9.1998 respectively to discuss the problem of non payment of outstanding dues by the Eastern Region States. A meeting was also held with the Minister of Energy, Science & Technology, Government of West Bengal on 1.9.1998. NTPC issued notices to the Government of Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and DVC on 24.8.1998 for progressive closure of its Eastern Power Stations viz., Farakka, Kahalgaon and Talcher Super Thermal Power Station with effect from 1.9.1998.

A meeting was held between Union Minister of Power and Chief Minister of U.P. on 15.5.1998 when it was, *inter-alia*, agreed that the Letter of Credit will be raised to Rs. 125 crores for NTPC stations. CMD, NTPC met Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh on 5.8.1998 when the following actions were agreed :-

- (i) Enhancement of LC to Rs. 125 crores.
- (ii) Exploring transfer to Tanda TPS (440 MW) to NTPC against outstanding dues of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board.

Since the above actions were not taken by U.P. despite several discussions, NTPC issued notice to UPSES on 13.10.1998 for regulation of power supply with effect from 15.11.1998. In respect of Delhi, Delhi

Vidhyut Board has not been making full payment of current dues despite assurance given in the review meeting taken by th Prime Minister on 9.5.1997. During discussions with CMD, NTPC on 25.9.1998, Chairman, Delhi Vidhyut Board assured that as a result of the recent traiff revision, it would be possible to enhance payment level with effect from October, 1998. NTPC issued notice to Delhi Vidhyut Board on 13.10.1998 for the need to resolve the issue to avoid power regulation.

GRIDCO enhanced LC to Rs. 32 crores as committed and offered bonds worth Rs. 200 crores. Government of Bihar paid Rs. 50 crores to NTPC on 13.10.1998 and also assured that they would work out an Action Plan for payment of the balance amount of Rs. 300 crores. Bihar State Electricity Board has also paid a further amount of Rs. 20 crores on 2.11.1998. In case of U.P., the State Government enhanced LC from 84 crores to Rs. 105 crores and later to Rs. 120 crores against average billing of Rs. 131 crores. The State Government promised to enhance it further to Rs. 131 crores during November, 1998 and to Rs. 140 crores in December, 1998. Government of U.P. have also agreed 'in principle' to consider transfer of Maneri Bhali Hydro Project to NTPC against their outstanding dues.

In case of Delhi, DVB have established LC of Rs. 90 crores which is equivalent to 82% of current level of average monthly billing. Chairman, DVB has assured that current payment shall be made by DVB. In October, 1998 itself, DVB has paid additionally Rs. 13 crores over and above LC amount.

Government of West Bengal assured looking into the matter of liquidating the outstanding dues but no action was taken by West Bengal in this regard.

Further notice was issued to West Bengal/DVC on 10.10.1998 for regulating supply of power w.e.f. midnight of 11.10.1998. Later WBSEB agreed to make a down payment of Rs. 15 crores and enhance the LC from Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 20 crores against monthly billing of Rs. 42 crores. The liquidation plan for arrears of WBSEB envisages payment @ Rs. 5 crores per month through Letter of Credit against the total outstanding dues of Rs. 729.11 crores. DVC agreed to enhance the LC from Rs. 11 crores to Rs. 15 crores only against monthly billing of Rs. 22 crores. DVC also agreed to pay NTPC amounts due to be received by them through Central Appropriation in respect of Bihar and West Bengal. As a gesture of good will, NTPC resumed power supply to West Bengal w.e.f. 1.11.1998.

**Statement**

[English]

NTPC outstanding dues as on 31st October, 1998

(Rupees in crores)

STPS/SEB	Outstanding As on Date	Surcharge Billed	Total Outstand- ing
Bihar SEB	892.10	491.17	1383.27
West Bengal SEB	550.89	178.22	729.11
Jammu & Kashmir	220.30	279.06	479.36
GRIDCO	444.04	68.74	512.78
Delhi Vidyut Board	1195.60	544.33	1739.93
Uttar Pradesh SEB	1164.82	620.79	1785.61
Damodar Valley Corporation	222.58	145.93	368.51
Assam SEB	29.33	1.08	30.41
Andhra Pradesh SEB	166.57	70.68	237.25
Himachal Pradesh SEB	5.08	9.10	14.18
Madhya Pradesh SEB	235.91	210.83	446.74
Gujarat EB	172.43	96.76	269.19
Karnataka EB	53.53	33.56	87.09
Maharashtra SEB	165.99	89.53	255.52
Pondicherry	8.33	0.85	9.18
Kerala SEB	28.55	22.49	51.04
Goa (WR)	8.68	1.59	10.27
Goa (SR)	3.51	0.54	4.05
Tamil Nadu EB	30.93	64.75	95.68
Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam	21.12	228.19	249.31
Punjab SEB	17.92	7.67	25.59
Rajasthan SEB	17.50	56.15	73.85
Daman & Diu	0.92	0.95	1.87
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.22	0.00	0.22
Union Territory of Chandigarh	-0.43	0.00	-0.43

**Abbreviations :**

STPS	: Super Thermal Power Station
SEBs	: State Electricity Boards
EB	: Electricity Board
GRIDCO	: Grid Corporation of Orissa Limited
WR	: Western Region
SR	: Southern Region

**Hunting in J & K**

\*114. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Where Govt. gives licence to Kill" appearing in the 'Tribune', dated August 4, 1998;

(b) whether hunting of the endangered species is legally allowed in different States like Jammu and Kashmir as a royal sport and licences are issued for 'small games', 'big games' and 'special games';

(c) if so, the facts of the matter;

(d) whether the banned Shahtoos trade is also allowed in J&K under licence;

(e) if so, whether Government have laid down any national policy to protect the endangered species and for prevention of cruelty to animals; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Hunting of animals included in Scheduled II, III & IV under Jammu & Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1978 is allowed in Jammu & Kashmir under licences issued by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) and (f) Trade of wild animals is regulated through the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, which extends to all the States/UTs except J & K. Prevention of cruelty to animals is regulated through the provisions of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 which extends to all the States/UTs except J & K.

**Status of IPP Power Stations**

\*115. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the IPP stations sanctioned by the previous Government;

(b) whether any of these stations have since started production as on date; and

(c) the total expected quantum of power generation likely to be achieved by these power stations by the year 2000?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is empowered to give concurrence to power projects both in the public and private sector in the country, till March, 1998, 40 schemes for setting up power generation projects in the private sector aggregating 19593 MW and involving an estimated investment of Rs. 80106.974 crores were techno-economically cleared by CEA. Of these, 3 projects having an installed capacity of 939 MW have been fully commissioned. Another 9 projects having an installed capacity of 3415 MW have been partly commissioned/are under various stages of construction and it is estimated that by the year 2000, 2125 MW will also be added to the 939 MW already installed.

### UNDP's Report on Ecological Devastation

\*116. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is heading for ecological devastation as reported in UNDP's recent Human Development Report released in September, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The Human Development Report published by UNDP in 1998 examines the perspective of human development in the light of the consumption pattern at the global level. It suggests that despite a dramatic surge in consumption globally, the consumption pattern in many countries is socially as well as environmentally not sustainable. This is true for most developing countries, including India, when seen in the context of rising population, poverty and depletion of natural resources. The focus of the Report is not on environment damage alone but takes into account various parameters of human development like health, literacy, poverty, consumption pattern and gender issues covering various regions and countries.

The Report says that India is paying "an enormous price" for economic development which was brought in its wake "ecological devastation" and numerous health problems. While discussing the cost of such environmental degradation, it estimates such cost at US \$ 10 billion for India, that is around 4.5% of the GDP in 1992. References have also been made to the problems of Ganga river, safe drinking water, sanitation, inequalities in levels of consumption, air pollution and degradation of eco-

systems. India's efforts towards alternatives to pesticide use, afforestation, access to information, health, life expectancy and improved child care and adult literacy have been commended.

For a substantial segment of the human population living in poverty, increased consumption is a vital necessity and a basic right in order to ensure freedom from poverty. Although some aspects of such increased consumption do undermine prospects of sustainable human development for all, environmental damage can be reversed or minimised by following a sustainable development paradigm.

(c) Government have taken a number of remedial steps for integration of environmental considerations with development. Various policies and programmes have been adopted along with enactment of necessary legislative and regulatory measures. Some of the important measures in this direction are:

1. Government have formulated the following policy initiatives for protecting and improving the environment : The National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement of Environment and Development, 1992, Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and National Forest Policy, 1988.
2. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1998 provide the legal backing for enforcing pollution control and conservation measures.
3. A comprehensive enforcement structure comprising of central and state government agencies is in place, including the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards/Committees.
4. Ambient air and water quality standards, and emission and effluent discharge standards into air and water respectively, have been notified and are being monitored regularly.
5. Environmental clearance is mandatory for 29 categories of developmental projects, including public hearing and environmental impact assessment process.
6. Seventeen categories of highly polluting industries are being rigorously monitored for compliance of the stipulated standards.
7. A number of Common Effluent Treatment Plants are being set up for industrial units.

8. Twenty four critically polluting areas have been identified for pollution abatement and improving the environment. Action Plans in respect of twenty two critically polluting areas have been finalised and are under various stages of implementation.
9. Ganga Action Plan and National River Conservation Plan are under implementation to improve the river water quality. These plans envisage interception and diversion of municipal sewage from being discharged into twenty two rivers covering one hundred and fifty six towns in fourteen states. Sewage is to be treated and utilised for irrigation. Industrial pollution of the rivers is controlled under the environmental law enforced by Central and State Pollution Control Boards.
10. Waste Minimisation Circles are being established for control of pollution at source for certain highly polluting industries, such as electroplating units, textile dyes and printing units, tanneries and agro-based paper units.
11. Environmental Audit has been made compulsory for certain categories of industrial units.
12. For controlling vehicular pollution, emission norms at the manufacturing stage were introduced for the first time in 1990 and made tighter in 1996. More stringent emission norms will come into effect from 1.4.2000. Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
13. Low lead petrol had been introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai w.e.f. June 1994. Subsequently, unleaded petrol was introduced in these four cities with effect from 1.4.1995. Effective from 1.9.1998, only unleaded petrol is being supplied in Delhi.
14. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has been set up for the National Capital Region for protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing, controlling and abating environmental pollution. Similarly, an authority has been set up for controlling industrial pollution in the state of Tamil Nadu.
15. The Ministry has initiated environmental epidemiological studies in seven critically polluted areas located in Gujarat, Orissa, Mumbai, Kerala, U.P., Punjab and Delhi.
16. Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.
17. A National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board has been established for promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities.
18. The strictest controls have been placed on diversion of forest land to other uses. Compensatory afforestation is a prior requirement when use of forest land is permitted for development purposes.
19. Necessary regulations covering all aspects of management of hazardous chemicals from manufacturing upto the final disposal have been brought out.
20. The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified which govern the generation, collection, treatment, storage, disposal and import of hazardous wastes.

#### Mega Power Projects in Private Sector

\*117. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified New Mega Power Projects to be set up in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where they are likely to be established;

(c) the conditions laid down for setting up such projects; and

(d) the total outlay and the expected capacity of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects. According to the revised policy, certain projects sites, both in the Public as well as Private sector have been identified for setting up such mega projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one state.

In the private sector, in addition to Hirma (6 x 660 MW) project in Orissa, the following new projects are also proposed to be taken up : Cuddalore (1000 MW)

based on a blend of domestic and imported coal; Krishnapattanam (1500 MW) based on a blend of domestic and imported coal; Pipavav (2000 MW) based on imported coal and Narmada (1000 MW which could be expanded to 2000 MW), based on LNG. Two or three more projects based on LNG, may be developed on the Western coast later. These Fuel options can be revised based on feasibility and cost.

So far as private sector mega projects are concerned, the policy stipulates that the principles of competitive bidding would be adhered to as far as possible, while obtaining tariff offers. As the bidding process has not so far commenced, it is not possible presently to indicate details of the total financial outlay.

#### Development/Upgradation of N.Hs. in Country

\*118. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently taken major policy initiatives/decisions for the speedy development/upgradation of National Highways in the country including opening of National Highways for foreign investment on attractive terms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the foreign investors to the proposals;

(d) the details of the specific National Highways proposed for foreign direct investment, State-wise; and

(e) the details of the latest review of the progress of works entrusted to private investors, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has recently taken major policy decisions for development of National Highway network as under :

(i) The budget allocation for development and maintenance of National Highways has been increased from Rs. 1737.04 crores in the year 1997-98 to Rs. 2174.3 crores in the current financial year.

(ii) Widening of approximately 7000 kms of the existing national highways connecting Saurashtra of Silcher and from Kashmir to Kanyakumari as east-west and north-south corridors has been decided. Private sector participation in this project will be encouraged.

(iii) Detailed guidelines for private sector participation in the road sector have been issued.

(c) and (d) The initial response of the foreign investors in encouraging. Specific feasibility studies are being undertaken for the purpose.

(e) A statement giving details is attached.

#### Statement

S.No.	Project Name	N.H. No.	State	Cost Rs. crores	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	*Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3&4	Maharashtra	103	Completed
2.	*Chalthan Road Over Bridge	8	Gujarat	10	Completed
3.	*Udaipur Bypass	8	Rajasthan	24	Completed
4.	Construction of six bridges	5	Andhra Pradesh	50	In progress
5.	Coimbatore Bypass	47	Tamil Nadu	90	In progress
6.	Durg Bypass	6	Madhya Pradesh	68	Agreement signed. Financial closure awaited.
7.	Narmada bridge	8	Gujarat	113	In progress
8.	Nardhana ROB	3	Maharashtra	34	In progress
9.	Patalganga Bridge	17	Maharashtra	33	In progress
10.	Hubli - Dharwar Bypass	4	Karnataka	68	In progress



1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Nellor Bypass	5	Andhra Pradesh	73	Agreement signed. Financial closure awaited.
12.	Koratalaiyar Bridge	5	Tamil Nadu	30.00	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
13.	Khambatki Ghat tunnel & road	4	Maharashtra	37.80	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
14.	Nasirabad ROB	6	Maharashtra	10.45	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
15.	Wainganga Bridge	6	Maharashtra	32.60	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
16.	Mahi Bridge	8	Gujarat	42.00	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
Total				818.85	

\*Since completed and opened to traffic.

#### Financial Autonomy to Judiciary

\*119. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Chief Justice's demand of financial autonomy for judiciary justified" appearing in the 'Times of India', dated October 26, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give financial autonomy to High Courts and the Supreme Court in the matter of justice administration system so that the courts can streamline the system through employing more competent judicial officers and computerising the justice network and other functions; and

(c) if not, the other steps by the Government proposed to be taken to provide financial autonomy to judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the Resolution of the Chief Justices' Conference in September, 1992, Chief Ministers of all the States were requested by the then Chief Justice of India to initiate steps to delegate more financial powers to the Chief Justices of the

High Courts including powers of appropriation and re-appropriation. Subsequently, the Registry of the Supreme Court wrote to the State Governments, the Registrars of High Courts and the Accountant Generals in December, 1997 in this regard.

[Translation]

#### Demand and Supply of Power

\*120. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made any assessment in regard to the demand of power in the country by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of power likely to be generated in the country during the Ninth Five year Plan;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to take effective steps to develop present sources and create additional power generation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the 15th Electric Power Survey Report the energy requirement and peak load (at power station bus bars) in public utilities for the country by the end of Eighth Plan (1996-97) were estimated at 405823 Million Units and 68373 MW respectively.

(c) Ninth Plan has not yet been finalised.

(d) and (e) To develop present sources and create additional power generation a programme of Renovation and Modernisation of existing plants has been started. According to R&M Phase-II Programme started in 1990-91. 44 Thermal Plants having 198 Units with a total installed capacity of 20869.43 MW were taken up. Similarly, 55 Hydro schemes with a total installed capacity of 9653 MW have been identified for renovation, modernisation and uprating.

#### Training to Women under NORAD

1151. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether women are imparted training in new skills under the Employment-cum-Income-Generation-cum-Production Units (NORAD); and

(b) if so, the annual number of women get benefited from this programme during the last three years and till date particularly in Ghaziabad and Bulandshahar districts of U.P.?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of women benefited under the programme during last three years are as under :

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Total	13000	52840	36095	5260 (upto 1.12.98)
Ghaziabad District	25	480	360	NIL
Bulandshahar District	NIL	NIL	60	NIL

[English]

#### Demand and Supply of Power

1152. SHRI D.B. ROY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gap between demand and supply

of power in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar continues to exist;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to bridge these gaps; and

(d) the extent to which these steps have improved the power situation in these two States, particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The actual power supply position during April-October, 1997 and April-October, 1998 in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is as per details given below :-

(Energy MU net)

	April-October, 97		April-October, 98	
	U.P.	Bihar	U.P.	Bihar
Requirement	23807	5455	24395	5050
Availability	20933	4207	22276	4585
Shortage	2874	1248	2119	465
Percentage Shorgate	12.1	22.9	8.7	9.2

The energy shortage in U.P. during the period April-October, 1998 has reduced to 8.7% as compared to 12.1% in corresponding period last year. In so far Bihar is concerned the shortages are also attributable to inadequate transmission and distribution system within the State and financial limitations in drawing power from Central Sector Power stations.

(c) In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply the following measures have been taken:

- Capacity addition.
- Modernisation of generation in existing power plants by Renovation and Modernisation - Reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses.
- Coordinated operation of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas turbine power stations.
- Promotion of inter-state/inter-regional power transfers.
- Demand side management.
- Conservation of energy.

(d) The energy shortage and peak deficits in U.P. have reduced to 8.7% and 19.8% respectively during the period April-October, 1998 as compared to 12.1% and 22.9% during corresponding period

last year. Eastern Region is surplus in power of which Bihar is a constituent and hence the State has to augment its transmission and distribution system to absorb more power. The financial condition of Bihar State Electricity Board has to improve to enable drawal of full share from Central Sector stations, and improve the power supply to customers in the State.

#### **National Accreditation Board Testing and Calibration Laboratories**

1153. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :  
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories has been registered as a society;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which this move is likely to help the Indian exporters; and

(d) the response of the foreign countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision for setting up NABL as a society under the Societies' Act, 1860, was taken by the Government during 1995 as a part of the decision in setting up Quality Council of India (QCI). QCI is expected to set up two other accreditation boards viz., National Accreditation Board for Products and Quality System Certification, and National Accreditation Board for Quality Management Personnel & Training Organisations. NABL is expected to operate as a separate society under the Department of Science & Technology now and at an appropriate stage, it is to be merged with QCI. Setting up of NABL and QCI were aimed towards satisfying the needs of Global Approach to Conformity Assessment for Product Acceptance across the frontiers of the countries. World Trade Organisation has recognised non-acceptance of test results and test certificates as Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).

(c) and (d) International acceptance of NABL has become essential to create conditions by which test result and test certificates from accredited laboratories in India are accepted by the overseas laboratories, so that there is no need for re-testing and holding up the ship for unloading at the port for a long time. As a society, NABL will have the flexibility to facilitate setting up infrastructural facilities, so that

NABL can enter into Multi-lateral Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with regional accreditation bodies. NABL is now a full member of Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) and a Mutli-lateral Recognition Agreement between APLAC and NABL is on the anvil.

#### **Vocational Education**

1154. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken to promote vocational education in the country;

(b) if so, the stages in school or colleges at which the courses have been introduced;

(c) the courses recommended by Central Government to different State Governments and Universities;

(d) whether the Government propose to revise some vocational courses introduced at the secondary level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pre-Vocational Education at the Lower Secondary stage, vocational courses at the plus two stage and at the under graduate level in colleges.

(c) At school level the State Governments start the courses as per their requirements. The Universities/Colleges introduce courses in identified subjects as per the guidelines of the University Grants Commission.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A Working Group was constituted to assess the current implementation position and suggest suitable modifications. Recommendations of the Working Group have been circulated to States/UTs for their comments.

#### **Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System**

1155. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electronics Limited has designed and developed Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the system per unit; and

(d) the details of future plans for large scale production and installation of these Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting Systems in big cities/towns all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Electronics Limited (CEL), Sahibabad, U.P., a Govt. of India Enterprise has designed and developed a Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System under a project, jointly funded by Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology under Programme Aimed at Technological Self Reliance (PATSER) and Delhi Traffic Police. The experimental trials of the system were successfully conducted in New Delhi at Aurobindo Marg, New Mehrauli Road, Adchini Traffic junction. The System was tested using 2.1 KWp Soar panels. The salient features of the system are operational readiness at all times irrespective of the availability of grid power, hence improved reliability for busy intersection traffic lights; in the event of grid supply failure, automatic change over the solar powered system; use of low power and high efficiency halogen lamps resulting in substantial power saving, and ecofriendliness by virtue of the system utilizing solar energy.

(c) and (d) Based on the knowledge and expertise developed through this experimental project, CEL have replicated the system with better technical featurts at Bhikaji Cama Place traffic junction in New Delhi against a commercial order received from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA). The estimated cost of the system is about Rs. 14.00 lakhs. With an increased awareness about the use of eco-friendly Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting Systems, CEL is exploring further possibilities for development of more such systems in the country.

#### WB Loan for HRD

1156. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have accepted a World Bank loan of Rs. 630 crore for Human Resource Development;

(b) if so, the period of repayment of the loan and interest thereon;

(c) the percentage of loan to be spent on the persons visiting aborad under the loan programme;

(d) the likely number of Scientists of different disciplines who will visit abroad under the programme;

(e) the details of training to be provided abroad;

(f) whether the loan includes supply of equipments and components; and

(g) if so, the percentage thereof in terms of money in the total loan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Misuse of Catchment Area Treatment Scheme

1157. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vigilance Department of Sikkim Police is investigating alleged misuse and corruption charges pertaining to the Catchment Area Treatment Scheme (CAT) of Rangit River in South and West Districts of Sikkim;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry provided funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) for the development of the same Catchment Area from 1995-96;

(c) whether monitoring and evaluation of the Schemes has been done by his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Proposal for Sea and River Transport

1158. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether to overcome the pressure on transport Union Government propose to encourage sea or river transport;

(b) if so, whether there are number of sea and water routes between various States in the country;

(c) if so, whether due to development of various ports in the country the sea route will be cheap and better transport for moving goods from one State to other;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose any such move to develop sea and river routes in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has a long coastline of 5560 km. Various inland waterway routes exist between various States in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Government is taking necessary measures to develop coastal shipping in India. High-level Committees have been set up to make an assessment of quantity of coal, steel and fertilizers to be carried by Coastal shipping. The report of the Expert Group constituted to prepare a separate draft Coastal Shipping Act is expected to be available by February, 1999.

Three National Waterways, namely, National Waterway No. 1, the Ganga from Allahabad to Haldia (1620 kms.), National Waterway No.2, the Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya (891 kms.) and National Waterway No.3, the West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kollam alongwith Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals (205 kms.) are being developed for shipping and navigation by the Central Government.

#### **Educational Requirements of PIOs Children**

1159. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of Persons of Indian Origins (PIOs) from 19 countries was organised in the second week of November, 1998, in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the points discussed about the education scenario of PIOs children; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to implement the decisions taken at the convention?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) A conference on Global Indian Entrepreneurs was organised jointly by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Investment Centre (IIC). The educational requirements of the children of PIOs and NRIs came under discussion; and the Government is formulating a scheme for giving suitable educational facilities to PIOs and NRIs.

[Translation]

#### **Faculties Run by MGGV**

1160. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the faculties being run by the Mahatma Gandhi Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to close several faculties in this Vishwavidyalaya; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Transmission Lines from Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad**

1161. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has decided to develop a separate transmission line from Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether a large amount is required for the purpose;

(c) whether the power generated by the National Thermal Power Corporation, Simhadri Super Thermal Power Project would be distributed to Visakhapatnam;

(d) if so, whether the State Electricity Board is expected to get 60% to 70% of the project cost as a loan from the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan;

(e) if so, whether 400 KW double circuit transmission line is proposed to be laid down from Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad; and

(f) if so, the total cost likely to be involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Transmission system associated with Visakhapatnam (2x525 MW) and Simhadri (2x500 MW) Thermal Power Stations in Andhra Pradesh has been tied up for external assistance from OECF,

Japan. In the financial package proposed by APSEB and the sanction issued by Planning Commission, OCCF funding would be of the order of 85% and the balance 15% would be funded by APSEB from their own resources. The exact fund for the second tranche to be provided by OCCF is yet to be tied up.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The total cost of the project is Rs. 982.64 Crores including IDC of Rs. 167.46 Crores and servicing charges of Rs. 0.97 Crores at 1996-97 price level.

#### Withdrawal of Benefit from SC/ST Candidates in CSIR

1162. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Scientists and Technical Staff of SC/ST categories were given additional ten marks for the Assessment Promotion in Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) since 1994;

(b) if so, whether the same has been withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the date of its withdrawal and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per the revised assessment scheme of CSIR, effective from 1.4.92, relaxation of 10% of the prescribed threshold for normal assessment was admissible to scientific and technical staff of SC/ST categories. This was as per terms of Government of India instructions for considering SC/St candidates with relaxed standards. For the assessments falling due from the assessment year 1996-97 onwards the provision was modified and 10 marks in place of 10% of the prescribed threshold in each case for normal assessment in respect of SC/ST employees was made.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In keeping with Government of India instructions as notified *vide* Department of Personnel and Training order dated 22.7.1997 to withdraw the lower qualifying marks and guidelines for consideration of SC/ST candidates without reference to merit and prescribed bench marks, the matter was placed before the Governing Body of CSIR and it was approved to withdraw the said provision from the assessment year 1997 onwards i.e. with effect from 1.4.1997.

#### Girls' Education

1163. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps are being taken by the Government to promote Girls' education in the country;

(b) if so, the proposed fund provision made for the purpose during the Ninth Plan Period; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent in this regard during the current financial year, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ninth-Five Year Plan has not been finalised.

(c) There is inbuilt gender based intervention in several schemes like District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), Adult Education, Lok Jumbish Project, Shiksha Karmi Project ect. However, a budget provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made for Free Education for Girls.

[Translation]

#### Assistance to Hydro Power Projects

1164. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give financial assistance to the Central Hydro Power Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount estimated to be spent on the said projects; and

(d) the capacity of each such project and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Policy in Hydro Power Development approved by the Government in August, 1998 envisages that all on-going Central Sector Hydel Project will be provided with full budgetary support till their completion. Government of India would also provide budgetary support for the new projects to be taken up by the Central Public Sector Hydel Undertakings. The details of the

on-going projects are indicated below :

S.No.	Name of the Project	Executing Agency	Latest estimated Cost (Rs. in crs.)	Latest Commissioning Schedule	Expenditure incurred upto Oct'98 (Rs in crs.)
1.	Nathpa Jhakri HE Project (6x250=1500 MW), Himachal Pradesh	NJPC	7666.31	2001-02	3272.68
2.	Tehri HEP St. I (4x250=1000 MW) Uttar Pradesh	THDC	4962.43	2001-02	1753.94
3.	*Ranganadi HEP St.I (3x135=405 MW) Arunachal Pradesh	NEEPCO	1265.02	2000-01	727.48
4.	Dulhasti HEP (3x130=390 MW) Jammu & Kashmir	NHPC	3559.77	March, 2001	2057.62
5.	Dhauliganga (280 MW) Uttar Pradesh	NHPC	1881.49	2004-05	84.93
6.	*Doyang HEP (3x25=75 MW) Nagaland	NEEPCO	671.22	1999-2000	460.34
7.	Rangit HEP (3x20=60 MW) Sikkim	NHPC	361.89	1999-2000	310.53
8.	Tuirial HEP (2X30=60 MW) Mizoram	NEEPCO	368.72	2006-07	3.20

\* Ranganadi and Doyang HE Projects are being executed with funds provided by North Eastern Council, Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Policy also envisages advance action for taking up the following projects by the various Hydel Public Sector Undertakings as detailed below :

S.No.	Project	Capacity	Executing Agency
1	2	3	4
1.	Chamera St.II (Himachal Pradesh)	300 MW	NHPC
2.	Parbati St.II (Himachal Pradesh)	800 MW	NHPC
3.	Kol Dam (Himachal Pradesh)	800 MW	NHPC
4.	Teesta St.V (Sikkim)	510 MW	NHPC
5.	Loktak Downstream (Manipur)	90 MW	NHPC

1	2	3	4
6.	Tuivai (Mizoram)	210 MW	NEEPCO
7.	Lower Kopili (Assam)	150 MW	NEEPCO
8.	Kameng (Arunachal Pradesh)	600 MW	NEEPCO
9.	Ranganadi St.II (Arunachal Pradesh)	160 MW	NEEPCO
10.	Koteshwar Dam & HEP (Uttar Pradesh)	400 MW	THDC
11.	Tehri Pump Storage Project (1000 MW) (Uttar Pradesh)	1000 MW	THDC
12.	Rampur HE Project (Himachal Pradesh)	535 MW	NJPC.

It is estimated that for taking up advance action for capacity addition in the 10th Plan, a budgetary support to the extent of Rs. 2000 crores would be required during the 9th Plan Period itself.

#### Development of a Kit by ITRC

1165. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow has developed free flowing moving analyst kit for conducting bacterial and chemical tests to ensure purity of water;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme to develop these kits on large scale and making them available to rural and remote areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Industrial Toxicology Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow, a constituent unit of CSIR has developed a vehicle mounted mobile water testing laboratory capable of conducting bacterial and chemical tests to ensure purity of water.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The analysis of bacterial and chemical contamination in water requires detailed tests to be done through diverse equipments, it is not technically feasible to integrate and incorporate these tests in a single portable unit.

[English]

#### Irregularities in Bakreshwar Power Plant

1166. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any instructions to inquire into the irregularities committed in tendering Rs. 318 crore Bakreshwar Power Plant in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Development of Forests in Bihar

1167. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bihar Government has submitted any project for development of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have cleared this project; and

(d) the steps being taken and proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) The State Government of Bihar has submitted schemes for development of forests for financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Following scheme-wise outlay has been fixed for the IX Plan period of Bihar :

(i) Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufruct Sharing Basis. Outlay—Rs. 1.57 crores.

(ii) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme Outlay—Rs. 3.19 crores.

(iii) Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Scheme. Outlay—Rs. 6.84 crores.

(iv) Non Timber Forest Produce Scheme. Outlay—Rs. 2.30 crores.

[English]

#### Amendment to Stamp Act

1168. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Stamp Act to make the Power of Attorney a legal instrument for sale/purchase of immovable properties in order to check evasion of stamp duty leviable thereon; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in the matter and the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The matter relating to compulsory registration of



Power of Attorney was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers/State Finance Ministers held in New Delhi on 14.9.98. There was a consensus for compulsory registration of General Power of Attorney, which may be in the nature of a contract to sell immovable property, and for consequential amendments in the Registration Act, the Stamp Act and the Transfer of Property Act. No decision has been taken in the matter as yet.

#### Development of Sanctuaries in Gujarat

1169. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any schemes for the development and maintenance of sanctuaries, natural parks and forest reserves;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme approved; and

(c) the details of those schemes not given clearance so far indicating their cost and the centres contribution therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to release Rs. 58.35 lakhs during the current year 1998-99 under the Scheme of "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries".

(c) The proposals were received for Rs. 85 lakhs of which Rs. 58.35 lakhs have been approved. The remaining amount was not approved as the proposals were not according to the guidelines issued by Government of India.

#### Literacy Campaign

1170. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has pointed out that the initial momentum of the literacy campaign has lost in recent times;

(b) if so, whether he has asked the National Literacy Mission to review its success and failures during the last ten years;

(c) whether he has also asked NLM to formulate a programme to achieve the goal of making 100 million adults literate by the end of 1999;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether he has urged for the relaunching of the campaign after a thorough brainstorming at all the levels; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Warning against Earthquake

1171. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the severe earthquake tremors were felt on the night of September 13, 1998 in Tehsil headquarters Pandhana in Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether keeping in view the recent progress in forecasting seismic pattern, any warning was issued to the residents about the impending danger; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Sir, a mild tremor of magnitude 2.6 on Richer scale was felt in the early hours of 14th September, 1998 at 02 Hrs 12 Min (IST) at Pandhana Tehsil of Khandwa Distt: M.P. The area has been experiencing mild earthquake activity since 11th September, 1998. An earthquake of magnitude 3.2, the highest so far in this sequence occurred on 20th October, 1998. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has set up local field observatories to monitor the earthquake activity.

(c) and (d) At present there is no scientific method of predicting earthquakes in space and time and of issuing fore-warnings. However, because of the persistent earthquake activity, the local authorities are on alert and have taken precautionary steps.

[English]

### Funds of CSIR

1172. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director of each Laboratory/Institute of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has administrative control over Lab Reserve Fund (LRF);

(b) if so, the source of External Cash Flow (ECF) and Lab Reserve Fund (LRF) of each Laboratory/Institute of CSIR including the Headquarters or CSIR for the period 1992-93 to 1997-98, year-wise; and

(c) the amount of money accounted against each source of ECF and LRF of each Laboratory/Institute of CSIR including the Headquarters of CSIR for the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Amendment to Company Act

1173. SHRI MADAN PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Companies Act, 1956; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Companies Bill, 1997 had been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 14.8.1997 and is pending consideration before the Department related Standing Committee on Home Affairs. The important salient features of the Bill are :

- (i) Companies classified into Public Listed, Public unlisted & Private Companies.
- (ii) Setting up of an Investors Education & Protection Fund.
- (iii) Companies be permitted to Buy Back its own shares subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) Companies be allowed to issue hybrids, derivatives, options as well as shares and

quasi-equity instruments with deferential voting rights.

- (v) Transparency in Annual Account to be enhanced by enforcement of Accounting standards.
- (vi) Shareholders, Debenture holders and fixed Deposit receipt holders be allowed Nomination facilities.
- (vii) Proxy holders permitted to speak and vote at General Body Meetings of the company. Postal Ballot in notified areas.
- (viii) Responsibility of Directors be specified.
- (ix) Appointment of Audit Committee be mandatory for Public companies in certain cases to ensure better Corporate governance.
- (x) Measure for Expeditious winding up introduced.
- (xi) Company Law Tribunal to be established as a specialised court for resolving company related cases.
- (xii) Companies be permitted to make Inter-corporate Investments & Loans without Government's approval subject to certain guidelines.

A few of the important amendments have already been made in the Companies Act, 1956. The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998, has been promulgated on 31.10.98. It has *inter alia* introduced the following amendments in the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (i) Companies have been allowed to buy back their own securities.
- (ii) Companies have been enabled to issue 'Sweat Equity'- i.e. shares issued at a discount or for consideration other than cash - for providing know-how or making available rights in the nature of intellectual property rights or value additions.
- (iii) Facility for nomination has been provided for the benefit of shares/debenture/deposit holders.
- (iv) An Investor Education and Protection Fund is established.
- (v) National Advisory Committee on Accounting Standards for companies to be established.
- (vi) Companies need not obtain prior approval of the Central Government for their inter-

corporate investment/lending proposals subject to compliance of guidelines.

### Visas to Hockey Officials

1174. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in addition to Hockey team cleared by the Government for Commonwealth games, a few hockey officials from different parts of the country had sought visas on the recommendation of Indian Hockey Federation to witness Commonwealth games at Kualalampur recently; and

(b) if so, the names of such persons permitted by Indian Hockey Federation and purpose of their visit alongwith details of their expenditure incurred by IHF/Individuals?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the attached statement.

#### Statement

Name	Purpose of Visit
1. Shri K.P.S. Gill President, IHF & Vice President, AHF Meeting	To attend the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) Council
2. Shri K. Jothikumar Secretary, IHF	Attended the Games in his capacity as a judge appointed by AHF
3. Col. G.A. Siddique Jt. Secretary, IHF, Hon. Secretary, Services Sports Control Board	Nominated by IHF to attend AHF Council Meeting as a delegate
4. Shri Krishna Mech Chief PRO, IHF	IHF Observer
5. Shri R.A. Subramanian Ex. Manager, IHF	IHF Observer
6. Shri Suresh K. Sharma	S.P. in-charge of Shri Gill's Security & Co-ordination
7. Shri V. Ramachander Rao Vice President Hyderabad Hockey Association	IHF Observer
8. Shri Surinder Pal	IHF Observer

2. Tickets for Shri K.P.S. Gill and Shri K. Jothikumar were provided by Indian Olympic Association. Shri Siddique got his ticket on his own. Indian Hockey Federation provided tickets for Shri Krishna Mech, Shri R.A. Subramanian, Shri Suresh K. Sharma, Shri V. Ramachander Rao and Shri Surinder Pal.

The total cost incurred by IHF on tickets was approximately Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only). Besides US \$ 4,000/- (US \$ four thousand only) were issued to the above for their stay and other expenses by IHF.

### Widening of Cuttack Paradeep NH-5

1175. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for the expansion and widening of the road from Cuttack to Paradeep connecting National Highway No.5;

(b) if so, the project prepared therefor and the estimated cost thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take up the said widening project during 1998-99 financial year; and

(d) if so, the fund allocated for the propose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Consultants are being short listed to conduct feasibility study, and to prepare detailed project report with cost estimate. Costing for the project can be done after preparation of detailed project report by the consultant. No funds can be earmarked at this stage.

### Mega Power Projects Policy

1176. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
DR. RAVI MALLU :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced the Mega Power Projects Policy which stipulates that cities with population of more than one million will receive power from Power Trading Corporation (PTC) only if their distribution is privatised;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Power Trading Corporation is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Mega Power

Projects Policy of Government of India stipulates that the beneficiary States would have to privatise distribution in the cities having a population of more than one million.

(c) Efforts are being made to set up the Power Trading Corporation at the earliest.

#### Wreckage of Ships in Coastal Waters

1177. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Coastal waters are graveyards for old vessels" appearing in the 'Asian Age' dated September 7, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check this growing trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item under question refers to the absence of effective maritime legislation to check entry of un-seaworthy ships leading to their alleged deliberate sinking by the owners to claim insurance money.

(c) It cannot be said that the coastal waters and ports in India have become graveyards for old ships.

(d) While action to fix responsibility on owners of sunken vessels in the port limits is taken under the Major Port Trusts Act which expressly provides that the responsibility of removal of the wreck rests on the owners of the ship, responsibility of removal of wreck occurring outside port limits but in India's territorial waters, has not been expressly imposed on the ship owners under the existing provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Action has already been initiated to amend the relevant provisions of the Act.

#### Standard of Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1178. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the standard of education in Kendriya Vidyalayas has deteriorated;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the education standard of Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The pass percentage of Class X and XII of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been consistently higher than the average pass percentage of Central Board of Secondary Education as will be clear from the given table :

Year	Class-X		Class-XII	
	KVS	CBSE	KVS	CBSE
1996	77%	62.24%	78.70%	72%
1997	79.11%	68.30%	83.31%	78.50%
1998	76.8%	63.2%	79.9%	72.6%

However, compared to 1997 result of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, a declining trend has been noted in 1998. The Central Board of Secondary Education results have also shown similar trend.

(c) The Sangathan has planned to improve standard of education through various measures like intensive monitoring of academic activities, filling vacancies by appointment of teachers on contractual basis, systematic in-service training of teachers and Principals and completion of syllabus in December followed by remedial teaching for weak students and revision for others.

[Translation]

#### Mid-Day Meal Scheme

1179. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL :

SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has been entrusted with the work of supplying wheat and rice for Mid-Day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the quantum of wheat and rice supplied under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the FCI has stopped the supply of wheat and rice under the above scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) During July to September 1998, the supply of foodgrains by FCI had been temporarily suspended in States/UTs due to problems relating to reconciliation of lifting figures and non-release of funds to FCI. Supply of foodgrains has been resumed from October, 1998 on payment of FCI's dues.

**Statement**

(in MTs)

S.No.	State/UTs	1995-96 Qty. Lifted	1996-97 Qty. Lifted	1997-98 Qty. Lifted
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52347.00	129164.00	188652.00
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	1098.00	-	489.00
3.	Assam	29648.00	17653.00	27801.00
4.	Bihar	28193.00	53926.00	76443.00
5.	Goa	66.20	101.00	1470.00
6.	Gujarat	22001.00	26929.00	24356.00
7.	Haryana	10334.00	33296.00	38622.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3151.00	8684.00	17098.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3232.00	5986.00	-
10.	Karnataka	50485.00	70766.00	135767.00
11.	Kerala	5127.00	7567.00	53795.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	78996.00	141549.00	161140.00
13.	Maharashtra	50903.00	100730.00	215278.00
14.	Manipur	1367.00	1430.00	5650.00
15.	Meghalaya	4396.00	4363.00	6218.00
16.	Mizoram	1917.00	2664.00	2900.00
17.	Nagaland	1460.00	3212.00	2608.00
18.	Orissa	25767.00	32886.00	77049.00
19.	Punjab	5502.00	6908.00	15416.00
20.	Rajasthan	54965.00	60130.00	92585.00
21.	Sikkim	1651.00	1145.00	1077.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	18737.00	26373.00	108225.00
23.	Tripura	8085.00	11082.00	11728.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	48390.00	285768.00	367483.00
25.	West Bengal	25193.00	70992.00	164028.00
26.	A & N Islands	106.00	66.00	-

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Chandigarh	69.00	357.00	145.00
28.	D & N Haveli	399.00	292.00	484.00
29.	Daman & Diu	142.00	211.00	265.00
30.	Delhi	2150.00	7540.00	12055.00
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	139.00	719.00	-
India		536016.00	1112489.00	1808827.00

[English]

### Impact of Sanctions on Technologies

1180. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether following the sanctions crucial technologies in various fields are being denied to India; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to fill the technological gap created by the sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Even earlier many technologies and equipment were denied to India under various garbs like non-export of dual use technologies etc. Our institutions are geared to overcome the constraints through indigenous development and also by way of procurement from alternate sources.

### Loans from International Agencies to NHAI

1181. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of loans and finances made available by international financial agencies of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) whether National Highways Authority of India is making use of such funds;

(c) whether modern and people-friendly designs for road development have not been adopted by NHAI; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to ensure that NHAI uses latest design for road development in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA

PRADHAN): (a) So far, no loan has been made available by international financial agencies to National Highways Authority of India. However, National Highways Authority of India is the executing agency for the following loans made available by international financial agencies to Government of India.

Name of International Financial Agency	Amount of loan
World Bank	US \$ 10 Million
Asian Development Bank	US \$ 245 Million
Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund	Yen 32070 Million

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Modern and people friendly design for development of National Highways are being adopted for all National Highways by National Highways Authority of India.

[Translation]

### Counter Guarantee to Fast Track Power Projects

1182. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of fast track power projects involving foreign collaboration given counter guarantee during the current year;

(b) the amount of counter guarantee given in each of such projects;

(c) whether the Government have prescribed any time limit to give counter guarantee to the said projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) During the current year, the Government have issued counter-guarantee in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s Hinduja National Power Company Limited (HNPC) in Andhra Pradesh, Bhadravati Thermal Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Company (CIPCO) in Maharashtra and 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu. The amount of foreign debt for which counter guarantee has been given in respect of these 3 projects is as under :-

Visakhapatnam Thermal - Power Project	US \$ 818 million.
Bhadravati Thermal Power Project	UK £ 332 million + French Franc 1480 million
Neyveli Thermal Power Project	US \$ 52.42 Million + DM 237.12 million

Normally the counter guarantee will remain in force for a period of 12 years from the date on which the power station is declared commercially operational.

#### Adult Education Scheme

1183. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Adult Education Scheme is being implemented in Bihar;

(b) if so, the amount spent in Bihar under the scheme during the last five years;

(c) the number of persons benefited in the State under the scheme, year-wise;

(d) whether the amount earmarked for the scheme is being misused in Bihar; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount released to Bihar under various schemes of Adult Education Programme during the last five years is as follows :-

	(Rs. in Lakhs)
1993-94	1109.93
1994-95	1628.87

1995-96	1977.84
1996-97	1062.52
1997-98	446.98

(c) The targets and achievements under National Literacy Mission are not fixed on annual basis. The National Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to 100 million non-literates in the age group of 15-35 years. 52.31 lakh persons have since been made literate in Bihar under various schemes of National Literacy Mission.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Counter Guarantee to Private Power Projects

1184. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded counter guarantee to some of the private sector power projects during the last 3-4 months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and justification of according counter guarantee to these power projects;

(c) whether the Government have flouted proper norms in according counter guarantee to said power projects; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government of India (GoI) enunciated a private power policy in 1991 aimed at encouraging the flow of private capital to the power sector. This was due, among other reasons, to insufficient resource generation and dwindling budgetary support in the face of very large investment requirements in the power sector. To instill confidence in the private power developers, GoI considered issuing counter guarantees to private power projects that were identified as developing rapidly. In May, 1998, Government of India revised the procedure for issue of counter guarantee to private power projects. Under this procedure, it has been decided that counter guarantee will be given only for the event of termination and will be limited to the outstanding foreign debt only.

During the month of August, 1998 the Government have issued counter-guarantee in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s Hinduja National Power Company Ltd. (HNPC) in Andhra Pradesh, Bhadravati Thermal

Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Company (CIPCO) in Maharashtra and 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### National Highways for Vidharbha Region

1185. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of National Highways already in existence and planned for the Vidharbha region of Maharashtra;

(b) whether any proposal is pending to develop National Highway connecting all the districts of Vidharbha region;

(c) whether any foreign investment has been made in the offing for construction of National Highways in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) An aggregate length of 870 Km. is already in existence in the Vidharbha Region of the Maharashtra State as per details given below :

Sl.No.	N.H.No.	length in km.
1.	6	509
2.	7	252
3.	16	50
4.	69	59

Further, there is no new National Highway planned for the Vidharbha region at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Forests in J&K

1186. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total area covered by the forests in J&K;

(b) the total area deforested during last three years;

(c) the reasons for deforesting on such a large scale and steps taken by the Government for preventing it;

(d) whether a large number of flash floods are occurring every year in J&K due to deforestation; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The forest cover in the State of Jammu & Kashmir is 20,440 sq.km as per State of Forest Report, 1997.

(b) and (c) The latest State of Forest Report, 1997 gives the change of forest cover pertaining to the period October-November, 1992 to Nov, 1995. During this period, there has been an increase of forest cover by 7 sq.km. in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(d) and (e) As per the State of Forest Report 1997, there has been no change in the forest cover as well as in the density of the forest in the state of Jammu & Kashmir and in view of this the question does not arise.

#### Courses in High Technology

1187. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of vocational courses already integrated with mainstream educational courses in various central and other universities and colleges in General and particularly in University of Delhi;

(b) whether the Government plan to introduce more courses in High Technology in Universities and colleges and establish more institutions providing such courses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be introduced; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.



### Private Sector Participation in Transmission

1188. SHRI S.S. OWAISI :  
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :  
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation has identified some transmission sections which will be open for private sector entry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Power Grid Corporation hold discussions with various private companies for joint ventures;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the transmission sections so identified are likely to be handed over to private sector;

(f) whether all the parameters have been finalised in this regard to give effect to this proposal; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and time by which this is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following two transmission line segments have been identified by POWERGRID for consideration of private sector participation :

1. 400 KV D/C line between Madurai & Edamon - 250 kms. (Tamil Nadu/Kerala).
2. 400 KV S/C line between Meramundali & Jeypore - 450 kms. (Orissa).

(c) Not yet, Sir.

(d) Not Applicable.

(e) to (g) Preliminary surveys of the two transmission line segments is in progress.

[Translation]

### Power Purchase Agreement In Power Sector

1189. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite according approval to the power projects in Uttar Pradesh involving an investment of Rs. 9000 crores and signing of power purchase agreement between electricity boards and private sector companies, no action could be taken in this matter;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to intervene in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) As on date Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic clearance to 2 proposals on the Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent, etc. route (costing more than Rs. 100 crores) for setting up power projects in the private sector in Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 4046.70 crores. These sanctioned projects have failed to come up on account of the private promoters not being able to achieve financial closure and begin construction activities. The IPPs are in dialogue with the State Government for finalisation of escrow agreement that would be acceptable to the IFIs. The Government of India has been monitoring the progress of these projects from time to time and providing necessary assistance wherever appropriate.

[English]

### Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

1190. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of loan disbursed from the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh to women in the country till date since its inception;

(b) the break-up of loans disbursed, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Government have assessed the disbursement of loan on the living conditions of the women of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As on 23.11.98 an amount of Rs. 4145.928 lakh has been disbursed to women through non-governmental organisations by Rashtriya Mahila Kosh since its inception.

(b) The break-up of loans disbursed state-wise and year-wise is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Seven studies had been commissioned by Rashtriya Mahila Kosh to evaluate the impact of loans on women borrowers and these studies were consolidated into a composite report. While suggesting measures for improvement the composite report has appreciated, in overall terms, the positive impact of loans on the socio-economic quality of women's lives; this includes borrower's

sizeable contributions to the family incomes, use of additional family income for additional food for the household, purchase of household items, children's

education and in some cases, even purchase of land. In some cases, there was a change in behaviour of husbands and children.

### Statement

#### Yearwise- Statewise disbursement of RMK loan

Sl. No.	State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	(Rs. in lakhs)
							1998-99 (as on 23.11.98)
1.	A.P.	015.558	117.110	208.470	350.270	635.130	288.700
2.	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	000.500
3.	Bihar	012.956	004.044	010.000	003.500	020.000	001.000
4.	Gujarat	-	-	007.500	006.500	040.500	010.000
5.	H.P.	-	-	001.000	000.500	020.000	013.500
6.	Haryana	-	-	000.860	-	-	-
7.	J&K	-	-	-	010.000	-	-
8.	Karnataka	-	022.036	001.500	024.214	025.000	024.000
9.	Kerala	021.000	063.470	042.000	072.650	122.000	013.500
10.	M.P.	009.000	012.590	005.910	-	003.500	-
11.	Maharashtra	047.000	061.007	037.843	068.917	047.000	099.083
12.	Manipur	-	010.000	030.000	025.000	026.000	000.500
13.	N.Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	001.000
14.	Orissa	-	005.400	001.000	005.015	018.000	008.000
15.	Rajasthan	-	-	040.550	056.885	060.000	-
16.	Tamil Nadu	026.398	095.127	138.955	221.700	278.380	124.750
17.	U.P.	003.910	019.060	010.340	024.475	041.380	033.500
18.	W.B.	005.000	019.692	027.908	047.000	058.500	044.000
Total		140.822	429.526	563.836	916.761	1395.390	662.033

#### Transfer of Case to CBI

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

1191. SHRI S.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have transferred investigation into corruption case in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to CBI;

(b) if so, the details of the allegations levelled; and

(c) the progress made by the CBI in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

#### Power Projects on Inter-State Rivers

1192. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the National Hydro Electric Power Corporation to set up power projects on inter-state rivers; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by National Hydro Electric Power Corporation in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government

of Tamil Nadu has requested that 2 (two) projects in Tamil Nadu at Rasimanal (600 MW) and Hogenakkal (250 MW) having inter-state aspects with Karnataka may be taken up by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) for execution.

(b) A team of officials of NHPC has visited the site at Hogenakkal, District Dhamapuri, (Tamil Nadu). Discussions with officers of Government of Tamil Nadu for executing the project in Central Sector were held on 12th November 1998. The views of the Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Govt. of Karnataka have been sought on two alternative proposals formulated by NHPC. The first proposal envisages 3 dams at Mekadatu (550 MW), Rasimanal (200 MW) and Hogenakkal (120 MW) and the second proposal envisages two dams at Mekadatu (550 MW) in Karnataka and Rasimahal (200 MW) in Tamil Nadu. Both the proposals would be producing approximately 2450 million units of energy with a water flow of 205 TMC. NHPC would finance, construct and operate the projects. These projects will be purely power projects with no irrigation element at all.

#### Loss Incurred by UPSEB

1193. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss being incurred by the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board at present;

(b) the total outstanding arrears of Union Government on this Board;

(c) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme for Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board to bail out such loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) As per the audited accounts available upto the year 1996-97. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board is not incurring any loss cumulatively taking into account the subsidy as provided in the accounts.

(b) As on 30th September, 1998, UPSEB is to repay an amount of Rs. 3483.51 crores to the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power. As per information available the Union Government has no outstanding by the Boards.

(c) and (d) The establishment of the Regulatory Commission, as provided in the Act passed by the Parliament, would lead to rationalisation of tariff and also provide for transparency in the provision of subsidies, wherever required. The State Government

of Uttar Pradesh can exercise the option of providing subsidies, over and above, those recommended by the Regulatory Commission, on condition that the State Government compensate the SEB by providing adequate budgetary support. When tariff is rationalised and budgetary support is provided, UPSEB will improve its financial position.

[Translation]

#### Power Projects in Karnataka

1194. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of power projects sent by Karnataka Government to the Union Government for approval; and

(b) the details of the projects cleared so far and the projects lying pending with the Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) As on 31.10.98 complete DPRs in respect of 11 projects in Karnataka have been received in CEA. Out of these 4 have already been accorded techno-economic clearance by CEA and the remaining 7 projects are under examination. The details of projects cleared/under examination are given below : -

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date of TEC
<b>A. CEA Cleared/Appraised</b>				
1.	Sarapadi HEP (H)	3 x 30	7/89	4-12-90
2.	Raichur St. III (T)	2 x 210	7/95	19-12-95
3.	Toranagallu TPS (T) (Revised)	2 x 120 (2 x 130)	3/95	20-03-96
4.	Mangalore TPS (T)	4 x 250	1/95	22-04-96
<b>B. DPR under Examination in CEA</b>				
5.	Manjangud CCPP (T)	110		31-12-97
6.	Tatihalla (H)	410 Gwh	8/98	
7.	Kaniminke (Bangalore) (T)	107.8		31-12-97
8.	Manjya CCPP (T)	164.4		31-12-97
9.	Hassan CCPP (T)	189		31-12-97
10.	Talgi (Bijapur) TPP (T)	1 x 350		30-03-98
11.	Nagarjuna TPP (T)	2 x 500		27-07-98

[English]

### Public Participation in KVs/NVs

1195. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :  
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
 SHRI D.S. AHIRE :  
 SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI :  
 SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :  
 SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY :  
 SHRI RAMPAL UPADHAYAY :  
 SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether all these Vidyalayas have been provided the necessary infrastructure;

(c) if not, the time by which the same is likely to be provided;

(d) whether people's participation in the management of these schools is under the consideration of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There are 873 Kendriya Vidyalaya and 396 Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in the country. The list of these Vidyalayas State-wise, location-wise is attached as statement.

(b) and (c) Provision of necessary infrastructure depends upon availability of adequate funds and land free of cost by sponsoring authority/State Government. Out of 873 Kendriya Vidyalayas 337 are without permanent buildings and construction work is in progress in 66 Vidyalayas. The required infrastructure will be provided in all these Vidyalayas as and when the funds are made available.

In respect of Navodaya Vidyalayas necessary infrastructure has been provided in 105 Vidyalayas where construction of permanent compus of Vidyalayas has been completed.

(d) to (f) People's participation in the Management of Kendriya Vidyalayas already exists in the form of Vidyalaya Management Committees and Parent Teachers Association of the Vidyalaya level and Board of Governors of the Kendriya

Vidyalaya Sangathan at the Headquarters level. Similarly, the participation of public representative in the management of Navodaya Vidyalayas is provided at the level of Vidyalaya Advisory Committee and Vidyalaya Management Committee.

### Statement

State-wise list of Kendriya Vidyalayas as on 01-12-1998.

### Andhra Pradesh

1. Adilabad (CCI)
2. Anantpur (SK University)
3. Bheemunipatnam (INS Kalinga)
4. Gachibowli
5. Gooty, Anantpur
6. Guntakal
7. Guntur
8. Hyderabad, Begumpet (AFS)
9. Hyderabad, CRPF
10. Hyderabad, Dundigal No. I (AFA)
11. Hyderabad, Dundigal No. II (AFA)
12. Hyderabad, Golconda No. I
13. Hyderabad, Golconda No. II
14. Hyderabad, Kanchanbagh (DRDO)
15. Hyderabad, SVP (NPA)
16. Hyderabad, Uppal No. I (SOI)
17. Hyderabad, Uppal No. II (SOI)
18. Kurnool
19. Machhlipatnam
20. Medak (OF)
21. Nuclear Fuel Complex Ghatkesar
22. Rajahmundry (ONGC)
23. Ramagundam No. I (FCI)
24. Ramagundam No. II (NTPC)
25. Secunderabad, Bolarum
26. Secunderabad, Bowenpally
27. Secunderabad, Hakimpet (AFS)
28. Secunderabad, Picket
29. Secunderabad, Trimulghery

30. Srikakulam
31. Suryalanka (AFS)
32. Tandur (CCI)
33. Tirupati No.I
34. Tirupati No.II
35. Vijayawada No. I
36. Vijayawada No. II
37. Vishakhapatnam, Steel Project
38. Vishakhapatnam, Malkapuram
39. Vishakhapatnam, Nad
40. Vishakhapatnam, Nausenabagh No. I
41. Vishakhapatnam, Nausenabagh No. II
42. Vishakhapatnam, Srivijayanagar No. I
43. Vishakhapatnam, Srivijayanagar No. II
44. Vishakhapatnam, Waltair
45. Yerraguntla (ICL)

#### Arunachal Pradesh

46. Along (11 Assam Rifles)
47. Itanagar No. 1
48. Itanagar No. 2
49. Kimin (9 Assam Rifles)
50. Nirjuli (Neri S & T)
51. Passighat
52. Rupa
53. Tengavalley
54. Tezu

#### Assam

55. Baragolai (CIL)
56. Bokajan (CCI)
57. Bongaigaon (BRPL)
58. Cachar Panchgram (HPC)
59. Chabua (AFS)
60. Dholchera (BSF)
61. Digaru (AFS)
62. Dinjan No. I
63. Dinjan No. II (AFS)
64. Diphu

65. Doom Dooma (ARC)
66. Duliajan (Oil)
67. Gauhati (IOC)
68. Gauhati, amerigog (CRPF)
69. Gauhati, Borjhar
70. Gauhati, Khanapara
71. Gauhati, Maligaon
72. Gauhati, Narangi
73. Haflong (SSB)
74. Jogiroad (HPC)
75. Jorhat No. I (AFS)
76. Jorhat No. II (ONGC)
77. Karimganj
78. Khatkhati (CRPF)
79. Kokrajhar (Hathimatha)
80. Kumbhigram (AFS)
81. Lakwa
82. Lekhapani
83. Lokra
84. Lumding
85. Masimpur
86. Missamari No. I
87. Missamari No. II
88. Mohanbari (AFS)
89. Namrup (HFC)
90. New Bongaigaon
91. Nowgong
92. Nowgong, Misa Cantt
93. Panbari (BSF)
94. Sibsagar No. I (ONGC)
95. Sibsagar No. II Nazira (ONGC)
96. Silchar
97. Sonairoad (ONGC)
98. Tezpur No. I
99. Tezpur No. II (AFS)
100. Tezpur No. III (AFS)
101. Tinsukia
102. Umrangso (NEEPCO)

**Bihar**

103. Aiwam
104. Amjhore (PPCL)
105. Barauni No. I (HFC)
106. Barauni No. II (IOC)
107. Barkakana
108. Bhurkunda
109. Bihata (AFS)
110. Bokaro No. I
111. Bokaro No. II
112. Bokaro No. III (RLY)
113. Bokaro Thermal (DVC)
114. Chakradharpur
115. Chandrapura (CTPS)
116. Dakra (CCL)
117. Danapur Cantt.
118. Darbhanga (AFS)
119. Dhanbad, Bhuli Township
120. Dhanbad, Govindpur Area (BCCL)
121. Dhanbad, Koyala Nagar (BCCL)
122. Dhanbad, Maithon Dam (DVC)
123. Dhanbad, Old DVS Bldg.
124. Dugda Coas Washery
125. Garhara
126. Gaya No. I
127. Gaya No. II
128. Gidi 'A' (CCL)
129. Gomoh
130. Hazaribagh (BSF)
131. Jamalpur
132. Jawahar Nagar
133. Kahalgaon (NTPC)
134. Karo Special Project (CCL)
135. Katihar
136. Dedla Nagar (CCL)
137. Khagaria
138. Khagol

139. Kishanganj (BSF)
140. Lakhisarai
141. Meghahatuburu (IOP)
142. Mokamghat (CRPF)
143. Muzaffarpur
144. Patna No. I
145. Patna No. II
146. Patratu
147. Pusa-Rau
148. Ramgarh Cantt.
149. Ranchi, (CCL)
150. Ranchi, (CRPF)
151. Ranchi, (HEC) No. I
152. Ranchi, Deepatoli
153. Ranchi, Hinoo
154. Ranchi, Namkum
155. Saharsa
156. Samastipur
157. Singharshi
158. Sonpur
159. Surda-Ghatsila (HCL)
160. Tatanagar

**Goa**

161. Bambolim Camp
162. Mandovi (INS)
163. Ponda
164. Vasco-Da-Gama No. I
165. Vasco-Da-Gama No. II

**Gujarat**

166. Ahmedabad Cantt.
167. Ahmedabad No. I (M R Campus)
168. Ahmedabad (SAC)
169. Ankleshwar (ONGC)
170. Baroda No. I (Harni Road)
171. Baroda No. II (EME Campus)
172. Baroda No. III Makarpura (AFS)
173. Baroda No. IV (ONGC)

174. Bhavnagar Para  
 175. Bhuj No. I (AFS)  
 176. Bhuj No. II (Cantt.)  
 177. Cambey (ONGC)  
 178. Chandkheda (ONGC)  
 179. Dantiwada (BSF)  
 180. Dharangandhra  
 181. Gandhidham (IFFCO)  
 182. Gandhidham, Rly Colony  
 183. Gandhinagar Cantt  
 184. Gandhinagar No. I (Sec-30)  
 185. Gandhinagar (CRPF)  
 186. Himmat Nagar  
 187. Jamnagar No. I (AFS)  
 188. Jamnagar No. II (INF-Lines)  
 189. Jamnagar No. III (AF-II)  
 190. Jhanor (NTPC)  
 191. Junagarh  
 192. Mehsana (ONGC)  
 193. Naliya (AFS)  
 194. Okha  
 195. Porbander  
 196. Rajkot  
 197. Sabarmati  
 198. Samana (AFS)  
 199. Surat No. I (Ichchnath)  
 200. Surat No. II, Hazira (KRIBHCO)  
 201. Surat No. III, KGPP (NTPC)  
 202. Surat No. IV, Hazira (ONGC)  
 203. V V Nagar (Near U.S. Qtrs.)  
 204. Valsura (INS)  
 205. Viramgaon  
 206. Wadsar (AFS)

**Haryana**

207. Ambala Cantt. No. I  
 208. Ambala Cantt. No. II  
 209. Ambala Cantt. No. III

210. Ambala Cantt. No. IV  
 211. Ambala, Ramgarh (ITBP)  
 212. Chandimandir No. I  
 213. Chandimandir No. II  
 214. Faridabad No. I  
 215. Faridabad No. II  
 216. Gurgaon (AFS)  
 217. Gurgaon Mohammadpur Ahir  
 218. Hissar Cantt.  
 219. Jhajjar  
 220. Karnal  
 221. Manesar (NSG)  
 222. Nahara  
 223. Paluwas  
 224. Palwal  
 225. Panipat (NFL)  
 226. Pinjore (HMT)  
 227. Pinjore (CRPF)  
 228. Raghunathpura (Narnaul)  
 229. Rewari  
 230. Rohtak  
 231. Sirsa No. I (AFS)  
 232. Sirsa No. II

**Himachal Pradesh**

233. Alhilal  
 234. Bakloh  
 235. Bhanala  
 236. Chamera, HEP (NHPC)  
 237. Dalhousie Cantt.  
 238. Dharamsala Cantt.  
 239. Hamirpur  
 240. Jutogh  
 241. Kasauli (AFS)  
 242. Mandi  
 243. Nadaun  
 244. Naleti  
 245. Palampur

246. Rajban (CCI)  
 247. Sarhan (ITBP)  
 248. Shimla  
 249. Subathu  
 250. Yol Cantt.
- Jammu & Kashmir**
251. Akhnoor No. I  
 252. Akhnoor No. II  
 253. Awantipura  
 254. Bandipur (BSF)  
 255. Bantalab (CRPF)  
 256. Baramula  
 257. Basoli  
 258. Dhamana  
 259. Jammu No. I (Gandhinagar)  
 260. Jammu No. II (Cantt.)  
 261. Jindrah  
 262. Jyotipuram (SHEP)  
 263. Kaluchak  
 264. Kistwar, Dulhasti Project  
 265. Kupwara  
 266. Leh  
 267. Miram Sahib  
 268. Nagrota  
 269. Rajouri (BSF)  
 270. Samba  
 271. Srinagar No. I (Batwara)  
 272. Srinagar No. II (AFS)  
 273. Srinagar No. III  
 274. Udampur No. I  
 275. Udampur No. II (Dhar Road)  
 276. Uri
- Karnataka**
277. Bangalore (ASC)  
 278. Bangalore (DRDO)  
 279. Bangalore (HEBBAL)  
 280. Bangalore (IISC)
281. Bangalore (NAL)  
 282. Bangalore, Jalahalli No. I  
 283. Bangalore, Jalahalli No. II  
 284. Bangalore, Malleshwaram  
 285. Bangalore, MEG & Centre  
 286. Bangalore, MG Rly.  
 287. Bangalore, Yelahanka (AFS)  
 288. Bangalore, Yelahanka (W&AP)  
 289. Bangalore, Yelahanka (CRPF)  
 290. Belgaum Cantt.  
 291. Bellary  
 292. BEML Nagar Kolar  
 293. Bidar (AFS)  
 294. Bijapur  
 295. Dharwad  
 296. Donimalai (NMDC)  
 297. Gulbarga  
 298. Hassan  
 299. Hospet  
 300. Hubli No. I (Rajnagar)  
 301. Hubli No. II (Vinoba Nagar)  
 302. Kalpetta  
 303. Kudremukh (IOP)  
 304. Mangalore No. I (Panambur)  
 305. Mangalore No. II (Rly. Colony)  
 306. Mysore  
 307. Raichur  
 308. Samba (AFS)  
 309. Tumkur
- Kerala**
310. Adoor  
 311. Alwaye (NAD)  
 312. Calicut (Kozhikode) No. I  
 313. Calicut (Kozhikode) No. II  
 314. Cannanore No. I  
 315. Cannanore No. II (Keltron Nagar)  
 316. Cochin No. I (Naval Base)



317. Cochin No. II (Naval Base)  
 318. Cochin No. III (Port Trust)  
 319. Cochin No. IV (INS Dronacharya)  
 320. Ernakulam  
 321. Kasargod No. I (CPCRI)  
 322. Kasargod No. II  
 323. Kottayam (Rubber Board)  
 324. Mallapuram  
 325. Mavelloor, Newsprint Nagar (HPC)  
 326. Ottapalam (Pallapuram)  
 327. Palghat No. I (Hemambika Nagar)  
 328. Palghat No. II (Kanjikode)  
 329. Payyanur  
 330. Trichur (Puranattukara)  
 331. Trivendram, Pallipuram (CRPF)  
 332. Trivendram, Panagode  
 333. Trivendrum, (AFS)  
 334. Trivendrum, Pottam

**Madhya Pradesh**

335. Akaltara (CCI)  
 336. Ambikapur  
 337. Amla (AFS)  
 338. Bachelii (BIOP)  
 339. Baikunthpur (SECL)  
 340. Bairagarh  
 341. Balagahat  
 342. Barwaha  
 343. Bhilai  
 344. Bhind  
 345. Bhopal No. I  
 346. Bhopal No. II  
 347. Bilaspur  
 348. Bina  
 349. Chandametta, Barkuhi (WCL)  
 350. Chhattarpur  
 351. Chhindwara  
 352. Chirimiri (SECL)

353. Damoh  
 354. Dewas  
 355. Dhana  
 356. Dhanpuri (SECL)  
 357. Dhar  
 358. Dungargarh  
 359. Durg  
 360. Guna  
 361. Gwalior No. I  
 362. Gwalior No. II (AFS)  
 363. Gwalior No. III (Morar Cantt.)  
 364. Gwalior No. IV Maharajpur (AFS)  
 365. Gwalior No. V (AG)  
 366. Hosangabad  
 367. Indore No. I  
 368. Indore No. II (BSF)  
 369. Itarasi No. I  
 370. Itarasi No. II  
 371. Itarasi No. III  
 372. Jabalpur (AOC)  
 373. Jabalpur (COD)  
 374. Jabalpur (STC)  
 375. Jabalpur (TFRI)  
 376. Jabalpur (VF)  
 377. Jabalpur, GCF No. I  
 378. Jabalpur, GCP No. II  
 379. Jabalpur, Khamaria No. I (OF)  
 380. Jabalpur, Khamaria No. II (OF)  
 381. Jagdalpur  
 382. Jamuna Colliery (SECL)  
 383. Jayant Colliery  
 384. Jhabua (GAIL)  
 385. Jhagrakhand (SECL)  
 386. Karera (ITBP) -  
 387. Katni No. I (OF)  
 388. Katni No. III (RLY)  
 389. Khandwa

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 390. Khargone                   | 426. Ahmednagar No. II (MIRC)     |
| 391. Kirandul (BIOP)            | 427. Ahmednagar No. III (VRDE)    |
| 392. Korba No. I (BALCO)        | 428. Ambarnath No. I (OF)         |
| 393. Korba No. II (NTPC)        | 429. Aurangabad Cantt             |
| 394. Korba No. III (SECL)       | 430. Bhandara (OF)                |
| 395. Korba No. IV (NTPC) (BCPP) | 431. Bhusawal No. I (OF)          |
| 396. Mahasumand                 | 432. Bhusawal No. II (RLY)        |
| 397. Malanjkhand                | 433. Bombay, Bhandup              |
| 398. Manendragarh               | 434. Bombay, Colaba No. I         |
| 399. Mhow                       | 435. Bombay, Colaba No. II        |
| 400. Murena                     | 436. Bombay, Colaba No. III       |
| 401. Narsingpur                 | 437. Bombay, IIT Powai            |
| 402. Nayagaon (CCI)             | 438. Bombay, INS Hamla            |
| 403. Neemuch (CRPF)             | 439. Bombay, Koliwada             |
| 404. Nepanagar                  | 440. Bombay, Mankhurd             |
| 405. Nowrozabad (SECL)          | 441. Chanda (OF)                  |
| 406. Pachmarhi                  | 442. Chanderpur (WCL)             |
| 407. Raigarh                    | 443. Dehu Road No. I              |
| 408. Raipur                     | 444. Dehu Road No. II             |
| 409. Rajgarh                    | 445. Devlali No. I                |
| 410. Ratlam                     | 446. Devlali No. II (AFS)         |
| 411. Rewa                       | 447. Jalgaon (NMU)                |
| 412. Sagar No. I (Cantt)        | 448. Kamptee                      |
| 413. Sagar No. II               | 449. Karanja (NAD)                |
| 414. Sarni (WCL)                | 450. Lonavala                     |
| 415. Satna                      | 451. Manmad                       |
| 416. Sehore                     | 452. Mukhed Distt. Nanded (CRPF)  |
| 417. Seoni                      | 453. Nagpur (CRPF)                |
| 418. Seoni, Malwa               | 454. Nagpur (VSN)                 |
| 419. Shahadol                   | 455. Nagpur, Ajani                |
| 420. Shivpuri (ITBP)            | 456. Nagpur, Ambajhari            |
| 421. Sidhi                      | 457. Nasik Road Camp No. I        |
| 422. Singrauli                  | 458. Nasik Road Camp No. II (ISP) |
| 423. Ujjain                     | 459. New Majari (WCL)             |
| 424. Vijayapur (GAIL)           | 460. Ojhar (AFS)                  |
| <b>Maharashtra</b>              | 461. Panvel (ONGC)                |
| 425. Ahmednagar No. I           | 462. Pulgaon Camp                 |

463. Pune No. I (AFS)  
 464. Pune No. II (AFS)  
 465. Pune No. III (9BRD)  
 466. Pune (SC)  
 467. Pune, Army Area  
 468. Pune, BEG & Centre Khadki  
 469. Pune, CME  
 470. Pune, Ganeshkhind  
 471. Pune, IAT Girinagar  
 472. Pune, Khadakvasla (NDA)  
 473. Pune, Range Hills Estate  
 474. Rajapur  
 475. Sholapur  
 476. Thane (AFS)  
 477. Varangaon (OF)

**Manipur**

478. Churchandpur (BSF)  
 479. Imphal No. I (Lamphelpat)  
 480. Imphal No. II (CRPF)  
 481. Imphal No. III (Leimakhong)  
 482. Loktak (HEP)

**Meghalaya**

483. Barapani (Nepa)  
 484. Shillong (Happy Valley)  
 485. Shillong (Laitkor Peak) (AFS)  
 486. Shillong (NEHU)  
 487. Shillong (Upper)  
 488. Tura  
 489. Umroi Cantt

**Mizoram**

490. Aizawl

**Nagaland**

491. Dimapur (CRPF)  
 492. Doyang (HEP)  
 493. Kohima, Larie Hill (CRPF)  
 494. Rangapahar Cantt.

495. Satakha (BSF)  
 496. Tuli  
 497. Zakhma

**Orissa**

498. Angul  
 499. Balasore  
 500. Bargarh  
 501. Baripada  
 502. Berhampur  
 503. Bhawanipatna, Distt. Kalahandi  
 504. Bhubaneswar No. I (Unit-IX)  
 505. Bhubaneswar No. II (CRPF)  
 506. Bolangir No. I (OF)  
 507. Bolangir No. II  
 508. Bondamunda  
 509. Brajrajnagar (SECL)  
 510. Charbatia (ARC)  
 511. Chilka (INS)  
 512. Cuttack  
 513. Dhenkanal Town  
 514. Gopalpur Cantt  
 515. Jharsugudu  
 516. Khurda Road  
 517. Koraput -  
 518. Mancheswar  
 519. Paradip Port -  
 520. Puri  
 521. Rourkela  
 522. Sambalpur  
 523. Sunabeda  
 524. Sundergarh  
 525. Talchar No. I (SECL)  
 526. Talchar No. II (FCI)  
 527. Talchar No. III (NTPC)

**Punjab**

528. Abohar  
 529. Adampur No. I

530. Adampur No. II  
 531. Amritsar Cantt No. I  
 532. Amritsar Cantt No. II  
 533. Amritsar Cantt No. III  
 534. Baddowal Cantt  
 535. Barnala (AFS)  
 536. Bhatinda No. I (Thimayya Marg)  
 537. Bhatinda No. II (NFL)  
 538. Bhatinda No. III (AFS)  
 539. Bhatinda No. IV  
 540. Bhatinda No. V (Chaudhary Marg)  
 541. Dappar  
 542. Faridkot  
 543. Ferozepur Cantt No. I  
 544. Ferozepur Cantt No. II  
 545. Gurdaspur (Tibri Cantt)  
 546. Halwara No. I (AFS)  
 547. Halwara No. II (AFS)  
 548. Hussianpur (RCF)  
 549. Jalalabad (BSF)  
 550. Jallandhar Suranassi  
 551. Jallundhar Cantt No. I  
 552. Jallundhar Cantt No. II  
 553. Jallundhar Cantt No. III  
 554. Jallundhar Cantt No. IV (AFS)  
 555. Kapurthala Cantt  
 556. Nabha Cantt  
 557. Nangal Bhur  
 558. Pathankot No. I (AFS)  
 559. Pathankot No. II (ARMY)  
 560. Pathankot No. III (Chakki)  
 561. Pathankot No. IV (Mamoon Cantt)  
 562. Patiala No. I  
 563. Patiala No. II (DCW)  
 564. Patiala No. III  
 565. Shikarpur (BSF)  
 566. Zirakpur

**Rajasthan**

567. Ajmer No. I (CRPF)  
 568. Ajmer No. II (CRPF)  
 569. Alwar  
 570. Anta (AGPP)  
 571. Anupgarh (BSF)  
 572. Avikanagar (SWRI)  
 573. Bahar  
 574. Banswara  
 575. Baran  
 576. Beawar, Ajmer  
 577. Bharatpur  
 578. Bhilwara  
 579. Bikaner No. I (Sagar Road)  
 580. Bikaner No. II (Jaisalmer Road)  
 581. Bikaner No. III Nal (AFS)  
 582. Churu  
 583. Dabla (BSF)  
 584. Deoli (CISF)  
 585. Itarana  
 586. Jaipur No. I (Bajaj Nagar)  
 587. Jaipur No. II (Cantt)  
 588. Jaipur No. III (MREC)  
 589. Jaipur No. IV (Khatipura)  
 590. Jaipur No. V (Mansarovar)  
 591. Jaisalmer (AFS)  
 592. Jalipa Cantt  
 593. Jhalwar  
 594. Jhunjhunu  
 595. Jobner  
 596. Jodhpur No. I (AFS)  
 597. Jodhpur No. II (ARMY)  
 598. Jodhpur No. II (AFS)  
 599. Jodhpur No. II (ARMY)  
 600. Jodhpur (BSF)  
 601. Khetrinagar No. I  
 602. Khetrinagar No. II

- 603. Kota No. I
- 604. Kota No. II
- 605. Lalgarh
- 606. Lalgarh Jattan
- 607. Mount Abu (CRPF)
- 608. Nasirabad
- 609. Phulera
- 610. Pratap Nagar (SEC.III)
- 611. Rajpura Dariba Mines
- 612. Sawai Madhopur
- 613. Sikar
- 614. Sriganganagar Cantt
- 615. Suratgarh No. I (AFS)
- 616. Suratgarh No. II (Cantt)
- 617. Suratgarh(AFS)
- 618. Udaipur No. I (Pratap Nagar)
- 619. Udaipur No. II
- 620. Uttarlai
- 621. Zawar Mines

**Sikkim**

- 622. Gangtok

**Tamil Nadu**

- 623. Arkkonam No. II (CISF)
- 624. Arkonam
- 625. Aruvankadu
- 626. Coimbatore
- 627. Kalpakkam No. I
- 628. Kalpakkam No. II
- 629. Karaikudi (CPCRI)
- 630. Madras (CLRI)
- 631. Madras, Anna Nagar
- 632. Madras, Ashok Nagar (KK Nagar)
- 633. Madras, Avadi (CRPF)
- 634. Madras, Avadi (AFS)
- 635. Madras, Avadi (HVF)
- 636. Madras, Avadi (OCF)
- 637. Madras, DGI Complex

- 638. Madras, Gill Nagar
- 639. Madras, IIT
- 640. Madras, Island Grounds
- 641. Madras, Minambakkam
- 642. Madras, Tambaram No. I
- 643. Madras, Tambaram No. II
- 644. Madurai
- 645. Mandapam Camp
- 646. Ootacamund (HPF)
- 647. Sulur
- 648. Tiruchirapalli No. I
- 649. Tiruchirapalli No. II
- 650. Vijainarayanam, Skylark
- 651. Willington

**Tripura**

- 652. Agartala No. I (Kunjban)
- 653. Agartala No. II (ONGC)
- 654. Bagafa (BSF)
- 655. Kailashahar
- 656. Panisagar (BSF)

**Uttar Pradesh**

- 657. Agra Cantt No. II
- 658. Agra Cantt No. III
- 659. Agra No. I (AFS)
- 660. Aligarh
- 661. Allahabad, Bamrauli
- 662. Allahabad, Chheoki
- 663. Allahabad, Manauri
- 664. Allahabad, Naini
- 665. Allahabad, New Cantt
- 666. Allahabad, Old Cantt
- 667. Allahabad, Phulpur (IFFCO)
- 668. Almora
- 669. Amhat, Sultanpur
- 670. Azamgarh
- 671. Babina Cantt
- 672. Babugarh Cantt

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 673. Balliya                      | 710. Hazaratpur (OEF)          |
| 674. Banbasa No. I (Cantt)        | 711. Hindon No. I              |
| 675. Banbasa No. II (NHPC)        | 712. Hindon No. II             |
| 676. Barabanui                    | 713. Jagdishpur (BHEL)         |
| 677. Bareilly (AFS)               | 714. Jhansi Cantt No. I        |
| 678. Bareilly (ASC)               | 715. Jhansi Cantt No. II       |
| 679. Bareilly (JRC)               | 716. Jhansi Cantt No. III      |
| 680. Bareilly, Aonla (IFFCO)      | 717. Jhansi Cantt No. IV (Rly) |
| 681. Bareilly, Izzat Nagar        | 718. Joshimath                 |
| 682. Bareilly, Izzat Nagar (IVRI) | 719. Kanpur Cantt              |
| 683. Bastapur                     | 720. Kanpur (IIT)              |
| 684. Basti                        | 721. Kanpur, Armapur No. I     |
| 685. Bulandshahar                 | 722. Kanpur, Armapur No. II    |
| 686. Chopan                       | 723. Kanpur, Chakeri No. I     |
| 687. Dadri (AFS)                  | 724. Kanpur, Chakeri No. II    |
| 688. Dadri (NTPC)                 | 725. Kanpur, Chakeri No. III   |
| 689. Dehradun, HBK No. I          | 726. Kanpur, OEF NO. I         |
| 690. Dehradun Cantt               | 727. Kanpur, OEF NO. II        |
| 691. Dehradun (FRI)               | 728. Kashipur                  |
| 692. Dehradun(IIP)                | 729. Khadia Project (NCL)      |
| 693. Dehradun (IMA)               | 730. Lansdowne                 |
| 694. Dehradun (ITBP)              | 731. Lucknow, (AMC)            |
| 695. Dehradun (OEF)               | 732. Lucknow, (IIM Campus)     |
| 696. Dehradun (ONGC)              | 733. Lucknow, (RDSO)           |
| 697. Dehradun, Birpur             | 734. Lucknow, (SGPGI)          |
| 698. Dehradun, Clement Town       | 735. Lucknow, Aliganj          |
| 699. Dehradun, HBK No. II         | 736. Lucknow, Bakshi Ka Talab  |
| 700. Dehradun, Raipur             | 737. Lucknow, Cantt            |
| 701. Dibyapur (NTPC)              | 738. Lucknow, Gomtinagar       |
| 702. Faizabad Cantt               | 739. Mankapur (ITI)            |
| 703. Feteahgarh                   | 740. Mathura, (MRP)            |
| 704. Ghazipur                     | 741. Mathura, Baad             |
| 705. Gonda                        | 742. Mathura, Cantt            |
| 706. Gorakhpur                    | 743. Mau                       |
| 707. Haldwani Cantt               | 744. Meerut, Cantt (DL)        |
| 708. Hardwar No. I (BHEL)         | 745. Meerut, Cantt (PL)        |
| 709. Hardwar No. II (BHEL)        | 746. Meerut, Cantt (SL)        |

747. Meerut, Chandinagar (AFS)  
 748. Memaura (AFS)  
 749. Moradabad  
 750. Mughalsarai  
 751. Mukteshwar (IVRI)  
 752. Muradnagar  
 753. Mussoorie (ITBP)  
 754. New Tehri Town  
 755. Noida  
 756. Pithoragarh  
 757. Rae Bareli No. I  
 758. Rae Bareli No. II (ITI)  
 759. Raiwala  
 760. Rampur (CRPF)  
 761. Ranikhet  
 762. Rihand Nagar (NTPC)  
 763. Rishikesh (IDPL)  
 764. Roorkee  
 765. Sarsawa (AFS)  
 766. Shahjahanpur No. I (Cantt)  
 767. Shahjahanpur No. II (OCF)  
 768. Shaktinagar (NTPC)  
 769. Sitapur  
 770. Srinagar (SSB)  
 771. Talbehat  
 772. Unnao  
 773. Uttarkashi  
 774. Varanasi Cantt  
 775. Varanasi (BHU)  
 776. Varanasi (DLW)  
 777. Vishesh K.V. (Gaziabad)
- West Bengal**
778. Adra  
 779. Alipurduar Jn.  
 780. Andal  
 781. Asansol  
 782. Bagdogra
783. Bamangachi  
 784. Barrackpore (AFS)  
 785. Barrackpore (ARMY)  
 786. Bengdubi No. I  
 787. Bengdubi No. II  
 788. Berhampur  
 789. Binnaguri No. I  
 790. Binnaguri No. II  
 791. Burdwan  
 792. Calcutta, Alipore (C.H.)  
 793. Calcutta, Baligunge  
 794. Calcutta, Cossipore  
 795. Calcutta, Dum-Dum (OF)  
 796. Calcutta, Fort William  
 797. Calcutta, Garden Reach  
 798. Calcutta, IIM Joka  
 799. Calcutta, Salt Lake No. I  
 800. Calcutta, Salt Lake No. II  
 801. Calcutta, Santragachi  
 802. Chittaranjan (CLW)  
 803. Cooch Behar  
 804. Durgapur (CMERI)  
 805. Durgapur (CRPF)  
 806. Farakka (NTPC)  
 807. Govindpur (BSF)  
 808. Haldia (IOC)  
 809. Hasimara  
 810. Ishapore No. I  
 811. Ishapore No. II  
 812. Kalaikunda No. I  
 813. Kalaikunda No. II  
 814. Kalimpong (Durbin)  
 815. Kanchapara No. I  
 816. Kanchapara No. II  
 817. Kankinara  
 818. Khaprail  
 819. Kharagpur No. I (IIT)

820. Kharagpur No. II (RLY)  
 821. Krishnanagar Colliery  
 822. Lebong  
 823. Malda (NHPC)  
 824. Panagarh  
 825. Salboni  
 826. Salua (AFS)  
 827. Sevok Road

**A & N**

828. Car Nicobar Islands (AFS)  
 829. Port Blair No. I  
 830. Port Blair No. II

**Chandigarh**

831. Chandigarh No. II (3BRD)  
 832. Chandigarh (OCF)  
 833. Chandigarh, High Grounds  
 834. Chandigarh, Sector-31  
 835. Chandigarh, Sector-47  
 836. Mullanpur Garibdas

**Delhi**

837. AGCR Colony  
 838. Andrews Ganj  
 839. Arjungarh (AFS)  
 840. Badarpur (NTPC)  
 841. Bawana (AFS)  
 842. Chhawala Camp (BSF)  
 843. Delhi Cantt No. I  
 844. Delhi Cantt No. II  
 845. Delhi Cantt No. III  
 846. Delhi Cantt No. IV  
 847. Gole Market  
 848. INA Colony  
 849. Janakpuri  
 850. Jharodakalan (CRPF)  
 851. Lawrence Road  
 852. Masjid Moth

853. New Friends Centre  
 854. New Mehrauli Road  
 855. Paschim Vihar  
 856. Pitampura  
 857. Pragati Vihar  
 858. Pushp Vihar Saket  
 859. Rajokari (AFS)  
 860. Rangpuri (IAAI)  
 861. RK Puram, SEC-II  
 862. RK Puram, SEC-IV  
 863. RK Puram, SEC-VIII  
 864. Rohini, Sector-VIII  
 865. Rohini, Sec-III  
 866. S P Marg  
 867. Sainik Vihar  
 868. Shalimar Bagh  
 869. Tagore Garden  
 870. Tughlakabad (AFS)  
 871. Vikasपुरi

**Pondicherry**

872. Pondicherry No. I (Jimper Campus)  
 873. Pondicherry No. II (Kalapet)

**KVS (HQ)**

874. Kathmandu  
 875. Moscow

*List of Districts Where JNVs have been  
 Sanctioned (As On OCT./98)*

Sl.No.	Name of State & Districts
1	2

**Andaman & Nicobar**

1. Car Nicobar
2. South Andaman

**Andhra Pradesh**

3. Adilabad
4. Ananthapur



1	2
5.	Chittoor
6.	Cuddapah
7.	East Godavari
8.	Guntur
9.	Karimanagar
10.	Khammam
11.	Krishna
12.	Kurnool
13.	Mahboobnagar
14.	Medak
15.	Nalgonda
16.	Nellore
17.	Nizamabad
18.	Prakasam
19.	Ranga Reddy
20.	Srikakulam
21.	Visakhapatnam
22.	Vizianagaram
23.	Warangal
24.	West Godavari
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	
25.	Changlang
26.	Dibang Valley
27.	East Kameng
28.	Lohit
29.	Lower Subansiri
30.	Tawang
31.	Tirap
32.	Upper Subansiri
<b>Assam</b>	
33.	Barpeta
34.	Chachar
35.	Darrang
36.	Dibrugarh
37.	Goalpara

1	2
38.	Golaghat
39.	Hailkandi
40.	Jorhat
41.	Kamrup
42.	Karbi-Anglong
43.	Karimnagar
44.	Kokrajhar
45.	Lokhimpur
46.	Morigaon
47.	Nalbari
48.	Sibsagar
49.	Sonitpur
50.	Tinsukia
<b>Bihar</b>	
51.	Araria
52.	Aurangabad
53.	Banka
54.	Begusarai
55.	Bhabhua
56.	Bhagalpur
57.	Bhojpur
58.	Bokaro
59.	Buksar
60.	Chapara
61.	Darbhanga
62.	Deoghar
63.	Dumka
64.	E. Champaran
65.	Garwa
66.	Gaya
67.	Giridih
68.	Godda
69.	Gopalganj
70.	Gumla
71.	Hazaribagh

1	2
72.	Jamui
73.	Jhanabad
74.	Katihar
75.	Khagaria
76.	Kishanganj
77.	Lohardaga
78.	Madhepura
79.	Madhubani
80.	Munger
81.	Muzaffarpur
82.	Nalanda
83.	Nawada
84.	Palamu
85.	Patna
86.	Purnea
87.	Ranchi
88.	Saharsa
89.	Sahebganj
90.	Samastipur
91.	Saran
92.	Seikhpura
93.	Sitamarhi
94.	Siwan
95.	Supaul
96.	Vaishali
97.	W. Champaran
98.	W. Singhbhum
<b>Chandigarh</b>	
99.	Chandigarh
<b>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli</b>	
100.	Sili
<b>Daman &amp; Diu</b>	
101.	Daman
102.	Diu

1	2
<b>Delhi</b>	
103.	Delhi
104.	Jaffar Kalan
<b>Goa</b>	
105.	Canacona
106.	Valpoi
<b>Gujarat</b>	
107.	Amreli
108.	Bharuch
109.	Jamnagar
110.	Junagarh
111.	Kheda
112.	Kutch
113.	Mehsana
114.	Panchamahals
115.	Rajkot
116.	Sabarkantha
117.	Surat
118.	Surendranagar
<b>Haryana</b>	
119.	Bhiwani
120.	Faridabad
121.	Gurgaon
122.	Hissar
123.	Jind
124.	Kaithal
125.	Karnal
126.	Kurushetra
127.	Mohindergarh
128.	Panchkula
129.	Rewari
130.	Rohtak
131.	Sirsa
132.	Sonipat

1	2
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	
133.	Bilaspur
134.	Chamba
135.	Hamirpur
136.	Kangra
137.	Kinnaur
138.	Mandi
139.	Shimla
140.	Sirmour
141.	Solan
142.	Una
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	
143.	Anantnag
144.	Badgam
145.	Baramulla
146.	Doda
147.	Jammu
148.	Kargil
149.	Kathua
150.	Kupwara
151.	Leh
152.	Poonch
153.	Pulwama
154.	Rajouri
155.	Srinagar
156.	Udhampur
<b>Karnataka</b>	
157.	Banglore (R)
158.	Banglore (U)
159.	Belgaum
160.	Bellary
161.	Bidar
162.	Bijapur
163.	Chickmangalore
164.	Chitradurga

1	2
165.	Dharwad
166.	Gulbarga
167.	Hassan
168.	Kodagu
169.	Kolar
170.	Mandya
171.	Mysore
172.	N. Canara
173.	Raichur
174.	Shimoga
175.	S. Canara
176.	Tumkur
<b>Kerala</b>	
177.	Alleppey
178.	Calicut
179.	Cannanore
180.	Ernakulam
181.	
182.	Kasargod
183.	Kollam
184.	Kottayam
185.	Malappuram
186.	P. Thitta
187.	Palghat
188.	Trichur
<b>Lakshdweep</b>	
189.	Minocoy
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	
190.	Balghat
191.	Bastar
192.	Betul
193.	Bhind
194.	Bhopal
195.	Bilaspur
196.	Chhatarpur

1	2
197.	Chhindwara
198.	Damoh
199.	Datia
200.	Devas
201.	Dhar
202.	Durg
203.	Guna
204.	Gwalior
205.	Hoshangabad
206.	Indore
207.	Jabalpur
208.	Jhabua
209.	Khandawa
210.	Khargaon
211.	Mandla
212.	Mandsaur
213.	Morena
214.	Narsinghpur
215.	Panna
216.	Raigarh
217.	Raipur
218.	Raisen
219.	Rajgarh
220.	Rajnandgaon
221.	Ratlam
222.	Rewa
223.	Sagar
224.	Sarguja
225.	Satna
226.	Sehore
227.	Seoni
228.	Shahdol
229.	Shajapur
230.	Shivpuri
231.	Sidhi

1	2
232.	Tikamgarh
233.	Ujjain
234.	Vidisha
<b>Maharashtra</b>	
235.	Ahmadnagar
236.	Akola
237.	Amravati
238.	Aurangabad
239.	Beed
240.	Bhandara
241.	Buldhana
242.	Chandrapur
243.	Dhule
244.	Gadchiroli
245.	Jalgaon
246.	Jalna
247.	Kolhapur
248.	Latur
249.	Nagpur
250.	Nanded
251.	Nasik
252.	Osmanabad
253.	Parbhani
254.	Raigad
255.	Ratnagiri
256.	Sangli
257.	Satara
258.	Sindhudurg
259.	Solapur
260.	Thane
261.	Wardha
262.	Yavatmal
<b>Manipur</b>	
263.	Bishnupur
264.	Chandel

1	2
265.	Churachandpur
266.	Imphal
267.	Senapati
268.	Tamenglong
269.	Thoubal
270.	Ukhrul
<b>Meghalaya</b>	
271.	E. Garo Hills
272.	E. Khasi Hills
273.	Jaintia Hills
274.	S. Garo Hills
275.	W. Garo Hills
276.	W Khasi Hills
<b>Mizoram</b>	
277.	Aizwal
278.	Chhimituipui
279.	Lunglei
<b>Nagaland</b>	
280.	Kohima
281.	Phek
282.	Tuensang
283.	Wokha
<b>Orissa</b>	
284.	Aungul
285.	Balasore
286.	Bolangir
287.	Cuttack
288.	Dhenkanal
289.	Ganjam
290.	Kalahandi
291.	Kendrapara
292.	Keonjhar
293.	Koraput
294.	Mayurbhanj

1	2
295.	Nuapade
296.	Phulbani
297.	Sambalpur
298.	Sundergarh
299.	Puri
<b>Pondicherry</b>	
300.	Karaikal
301.	Mahe
302.	Pondicherry
303.	Yanam
<b>Punjab</b>	
304.	Amritsar
305.	Bathinda
306.	Faridkot
307.	Fatehgarh
308.	Ferozepur
309.	Gurdaspur
310.	Hoshiarpur
311.	Jalandhar
312.	Kapurthala
313.	Patiala
314.	Ropar
315.	Sangrur
<b>Rajasthan</b>	
316.	Ajmer
317.	Alwar
318.	Banswara
319.	Baran
320.	Barmer
321.	Bharatpur
322.	Bhilwara
323.	Bikaner
324.	Bundi
325.	Chittorgarh

1	2
326.	Churu
327.	Dausa
328.	Dhaulpur
329.	Dungarpur
330.	Ganganagar
331.	Jaipur
332.	Jaisalmer
333.	Jalore
334.	Jhalawar
335.	Jhunjhunu
336.	Jodhpur
337.	Kota
338.	Nagore
339.	Pali
340.	Rajsamand
341.	Sikar
342.	Sirohi
343.	S. Madopur
344.	Tonk
<b>Sikkim</b>	
345.	N. Sikkim
346.	S. Sikkim
347.	W. Sikkim
<b>Tripura</b>	
348.	N. Tripura
349.	S. Tripura
350.	W. Tripura
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
351.	Agra
352.	Aligarh
353.	Allahabad
354.	Almōra
355.	Azamgarh
356.	Badaun

1	2
357.	Bahraich
358.	Ballia
359.	Barabanki
360.	Bareilly
361.	Basti
362.	Bhadohi
363.	Bijnore
364.	Bulandshar
365.	Chamoli
366.	Deoria
367.	Etah
368.	Etawah
369.	Faizabad
370.	Farrukhabad
371.	Firozabad
372.	Ghaziabad
373.	Ghazipur
374.	Gonda
375.	Gorakhpur
376.	Hamirpur
377.	Hardoi
378.	Haridwar
379.	Jaunpur
380.	Jhansi
381.	Kanpur
382.	Lalitpur
383.	Mainpuri
384.	Mathura
385.	Mau
386.	Meerut
387.	Mirzapur
388.	Muzaffarnagar
389.	Nainital
390.	Pithoragarh
391.	Raibareilly

1	2
392.	Siddharth Nagar
393.	Sitapur
394.	Sultanpur
395.	Tehrigarhwal
396.	Unnao
397.	Uttarkashi

#### **Pension Benefit**

1196. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELA :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the service conditions to teachers working in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas are at par;

(b) if not, the broad differences; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to extend pension schemes to all categories of teachers working under his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The service conditions of Navodaya Vidyalaya Teachers in terms of emoluments and other benefits are at par with the teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas except that Navodaya Vidyalaya teachers do not have the facility of Pension and Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity. The responsibilities of teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas also vary from that of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers as Navodaya Vidyalayas are residential schools.

(c) The teachers of Kendra Vidyalaya Sangathan and the Central Tibetan Schools Administration are already covered by the Pension scheme. The Government has not accepted the proposal for introduction of Pension Scheme for the employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti on account of this scheme being costlier than Contributory Provident Fund and its wider implications on other autonomous bodies.

#### **Deduction of Outstanding dues of Central Sector Undertakings**

1197. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any objection from

Government of Rajasthan regarding the deduction of the disputed outstanding dues of Central Sector Undertakings from the Central Plan Assistance;

(b) whether the Government continue to effect recovery from the plan assistance on this account; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to stop such recoveries henceforth?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) Government of India had decided to recover the outstanding dues including surcharge, of the Central Sector Undertakings against SEBs as on 31st December, 1996, out of the Central Plan Assistance payable to the States upto a maximum of 15% per year irrespective of the number of years that it may take to recover the outstanding dues, keeping in view the heavy outstandings. Government of Rajasthan, however, has represented against the deduction of surcharge out of the Central Plan Assistance levied by the Central Sector Power Undertakings on account of delay in payment by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board. This levied as per the Government of India's tariff Notifications.

#### **New Technology by ICFRE**

1198. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Forest Research & Education has developed new technology and is preparing to market this at home and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for marketing of this technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of technologies is attached in the given statement.

(c) For marketing of technologies developed by ICFRE, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), a Govt. of India enterprise which specialises in transfer of technology from R&D institutions to industries. The expertise of NRDC will be used to popularise and commercialise the technologies developed by ICFRE. In the first phase, seven technologies have been given to NRDC for commercialisation.

**Statement***Details of Technologies Developed by ICFRE Ready for Transfer to user Agencies*

1. Sawing and conversion technique of Eucalyptus and Poplar.
2. Utilisation of Poplar for doors and windows.
3. Utilisation of juvenile wood for Poplars/ Eucalyptus for furniture and joinery.
4. Preservative treatment of secondary species (especially Eucalyptus timber).
5. Seasoning of Timber-Setting up of solar and energy efficient desiccant based kilns.
6. Plasticisation of wood and bending techniques.
7. Colouring and Ammonia Fumigation of Wood.
8. Poplars and Paulownia spp for pencil making.
9. Macropropagation of Bamboos.
10. JIGAT substitute for Agarbatti making.
11. Natural Dyes from forest biomass.
12. Preparation of flocculants for backwater treatment in paper making .
13. Process for detoxification of Jatropha curcas seed oil.
14. Preparation of Adhesive from Biopolymers.
15. Preparation and use of Cassia tora gum.
16. Process for the preparation of Katha from Uncaria Gambier.
17. Process for the preparation of Compost from the plant biomass.
18. Sap displacement technique.
19. Utilisation of alternative timber for Catamarans.
20. Jhingan Gum- A partial substitute for 'jigat' in agarbatti manufacture.
21. Portable distillation unit for oil distillation in the field.
22. Integrated pest management strategies involving different methods.
23. Biofertiliser application for growth enhancement of different tree species in nursery and field.
24. Casuarina in Agroforestry.

25. Cost effective infrastructure development for mass multiplication of desired planting stock through vegetative means.
26. Seed Technology.
27. Agroforestry models.
28. Low cost draught type drier for non-wood forest-produce.
29. Cultivation of medicinal plants.
30. Non-wood forest produce.
31. Tissue culture of Bamboos.
32. Seed testing technologies.
33. Improved tools for nursery practices.
34. Vermiculture.
35. Silvicultural and chemical control of Bamboo Blight disease in Bambusa nutans.
36. Rain water harvesting and conservation technology.
37. Techniques for afforestation on stress sites.
38. Rehabilitation and ecorestoration of mined lands and overburden spoils.
39. Leaf skeletonizer resistant clones of Teak.
40. Clonal multiplication of Eucalyptus.

*[Translation]***Ban on Admission in KVs**

1199. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

SHRI M. RAJAI AH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed no quota/compassionate admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reintroduce it in a revised manner; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The quota of admissions under Special Dispensation Admissions Scheme in Kendriya



Vidyalayas introduced in July '98 has been struck down by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi as violative of Article 14 of the Constitution.

The guidelines for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas inter-alia provide that the admission of the children of transferable Central Government employees including defence personnel who die in harness, and of Members of Parliament (including their dependent grand children), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan employees and employees of Special Protection Group/National Security Guard would be over and above the prescribed existing class size.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Conservation of Forests in Manipur

1200. KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of money sanctioned by the Union Government to the State of Manipur during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) the amount utilised by the State Government for the preservation and conservation of Forests;

(c) whether forest areas in the State are getting depleted due to the failure of the forest department in the State to safeguard the forest wealth;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure that the forests are properly protected in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) In the period 1997-98, 1998-99 a sum of Rs. 422.21 lakhs has been released to the Government of Manipur from the afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. As per the progress reports received from the State Government so far, the utilisation is Rs. 371.43 lakhs.

(c) and (d) The State of Forest Report (SFR) is published every two years by the Forest Survey of India. SFR 1997 shows a decrease in forest cover in 140 sq.km. as compared to the 1995 assessment. A major causal factor is shifting cultivation.

(e) An Integrated Forest Protection Scheme is under consideration.

#### Irregularities in Utilisation of Funds

1201. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge amount is being sanctioned for running voluntary educational institutions, adult educational institutions, night class for old persons, cultural and social centres etc. throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether in many of the said cases only boards exist and impart of education and culture is totally missing;

(c) is so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any mechanism to monitor such schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Schemes generally have inbuilt mechanisms for appraisal of proposals received from voluntary agencies prior to sanction and also for subsequent monitoring. Besides, there is provision for inspection by Central and State Agencies. Any voluntary organisation receiving financial assistance from the Government is required to submit utilisation certificates and also audited statements which are scrutinised before any further releases are considered.

#### Shifting of UGC Southern Regional Office

1202. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift UGC Southern Regional Office presently located at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission do not have plans to shift the South Regional Office at Hyderabad if the State Government of Andhra Pradesh agrees to provide the physical facilities, as agreed by it earlier.

### White Paper on Pollution in Delhi

1203. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in 1997 Government had released a White Paper on Pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such a paper was also placed before the Cabinet then; and
- (d) if so, the specific action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The White Paper on pollution in Delhi covers air, industrial and vehicular pollution, noise pollution, solid waste management and water pollution.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government has constituted the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority for the National Capital Region. One of the terms of reference for the Authority is to monitor the progress of the action plan drawn up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests on pollution in Delhi.

[Translation]

### Capacity of Ports

1204. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) the capacity of ports likely to be increased in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) the details of projects formulated keeping in view this requirement;
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the proposed projects or schemes;
- (d) the sources through which such amount is likely to be mobilised; and
- (e) the details of response of private sector in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) An additional capacity of 159 million tonnes, comprising of the schemes of 37 million tonnes continuing from the 8th Plan and new schemes contributing to 122 million tonnes of capacity, is proposed to be created in the major ports during the 9th Plan. The details of the major 9th Plan projects are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Public sector outlay of Rs. 7215 crores has been approved for development of major ports during 9th Five Year Plan. In addition to this, an investment of around Rs. 8000 crores is proposed to be mobilised through Private Sector, for the same purpose.

(e) Nine Private Sector/Captive User projects for development of port facilities in various major ports at an investment of Rs. 3070 crores have since been approved by the Government.

### Statement

#### Major Capacity Yielding Projects to be taken up at Various Major Ports During 9th Plan

Sl. No.	Name of the Port	Name of the Project
1	2	3
1.	Haldia	Construction of Third Oil Jetty.
2.	Chennai	Construction of a new port at Ennore near Chennai for handling thermal coal.
3.	Paradip	Mechanised Coal handling facilities.
4.		Oil Berth including reception facilities.
5.	Visakhapatnam	Four multi purpose berths in the inner harbour.
6.	Tuticorin	Container handling facilities.
7.		Capital Dredging.
8.	Cochin	LPG/LNG terminal at Puthuvypeen.
9.	New Mangalore	Port facilities for POL handling for refinery expansion.
10.		Multi user oil jetty.
11.		Captive oil berth.
12.	Mormugao	Off Shore stock yard berth.
13.		Realignment of coal berth/ construction of berth No. 5A and 6A.
14.	J L Nehru	Marine Chemical Terminal.
15.		A New Container Terminal.
16.		Liquid Cargo Berth.
17.	Mumbai	Replacement of submarine pipeline and modernisation of jetties.

1	2	3
18.		Second Liquid Chemical Berth.
19.	Kandla	Additional General Cargo Berths No. 9, 10, 11 and 12
20.		Additional facilities for handling crude oil at Vadinar.
21.		Setting up of port related facilities by Essar Refinery at Vadinar.

[English]

#### Visits of Officers Abroad

1205. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) the names and number of officers and staff of the Ministry who visited abroad during the last three years;

(b) the purpose of their visits and the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the Ministry had granted due permission to them for the visits; and

(d) if not, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Thermal Power Station Set Up By NTPC

1206. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Thermal Power Stations set up by the National Thermal Power Corporation in the country, State-wise;

(b) the norms for setting up such Power Stations in a region;

(c) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation have any plan to set up Thermal Power Plant in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the consumption of power in the country and power likely to be produced by different projects including that of NTPC; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to overcome the short fall of power?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is setting up/is operating 12 coal based power plants and 5 combined cycle gas based power plants in the country. The details are given in attached statement-I. In addition, NTPC is implementing 3 coal based power plants and 2 gas/naphtha based combined cycle power projects as indicated below :-

Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station, Stage-II, (Madhya Pradesh)	1000
Unchahar Thermal Power Station Stage-II, (Uttar Pradesh)	420
Simhadri Thermal Power Station (Andhra Pradesh)	1000
Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project (Kerala)	350 <sup>⊙</sup>
Faridabad Gas Power Project (Haryana)	400
	3170

⊙ 1st GT test synchronised on 2.11.1998.

(b) The setting up of a power plant in a particular region is determined keeping in view demand and supply position of power in the region, availability of key inputs like land, water, fuel as well as environmental and other techno-economic considerations.

(c) NTPC envisages setting up a 1000 MW coal based coastal thermal power plant near Cheyyur in Tamil Nadu. Action has been intimated by NTPC for site specific studies, investigations and obtaining various statutory clearances and linkages.

(d) The total installed capacity in the country as on 31-3-1998 is 89090 MW comprising 64006 MW thermal, 21891 MW hydro, 2225 MW nuclear and 968 MW wind.

(e) The steps being taken/to be taken by the Government to overcome the shortfall are : -

(i) Addition in new capacity.

(ii) Adoption of energy conservation measures.

(iii) Renovation and modernization of old thermal and hydro power stations for improved electricity generation.

- (iv) Mobilization of resources through private sector participation.
- (v) Promotion of inter-state and inter-regional exchanges.
- (vi) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Plant	State	Capacity (MW)
<b>Coal Based Thermal Power Plants</b>			
1.	Singrauli STPS	Uttar Pradesh	2000
2.	Rihand STPS	Uttar Pradesh	1000
3.	National Capital TPS	Uttar Pradesh	840
4.	Unchahar TPS②②	Uttar Pradesh	420
5.	Korba STPS	Madhya Pradesh	2100
6.	Vindhyachal STPS	Madhya Pradesh	1260
7.	Ramagundam STPS	Andhra Pradesh	2100
8.	Farakka STPS	West Bengal	1600
9.	Kahalgaoon STPS	Bihar	840
10.	Talcher Kaniha STPS	Orissa	1000
11.	Talcher TPS②②②	Orissa.	460
<b>Gas Based Power Plants</b>			
12.	Auralya GPP	Uttar Pradesh	652
13.	Dadri GPP	Uttar Pradesh	817
14.	Anta GPP	Rajasthan	413
15.	Kawas GPP	Gujarat	645
16.	Jhanor-Gandhar GPP	Gujarat	648
Total capacity of Power Plants set up by NTPC			16795

②② Taken over by NTPC from UPRVUN in February, 1992

②②② Taken over by NTPC from Orissa State Electricity Board in June, 1995

Note : In addition, NTPC is also managing Badarpur Thermal Power Station (705 MW) in Delhi on behalf of Government of India and BALCO's Captive Power Plant (270 MW) in Madhya Pradesh on behalf of BALCO.

[Translation]

**Setting Up of a Planetarium in Bihar**

1207. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a planetarium in Bihar;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the locations identified for the purpose; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Government of India to set up a planetarium in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Collection of Road Revenue**

1208. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of road related revenue collected by the Government during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) the details of funds allocated to the road sector during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) whether the road revenues collected during the period were not allocated to the road sector and were diverted to other sectors; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and proposals of the Government to mobilise the resources for the road sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Central Government is, constitutionally, responsible for development and maintenance of only National Highways and all other roads come under the jurisdiction of State Government. Toll, known as Permanent Bridge Fee, is collected on the bridges on the National Highways and the entire amount is ploughed back for the development of National Highways. During Eighth Plan period an amount of Rs. 21317 lakhs was collected and the same was allocated to the States for development of National Highways.

**Construction of School Buildings**

1209. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of primary school buildings

constructed under operation Black Board Scheme since its operation in different States/UTs;

(b) the total amount spent thereunder till date;

(c) whether many buildings have not been constructed or left incomplete; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The State Governments have completed construction of 219775 school buildings under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana including Operation Blackboard scheme. A sum of Rs. 89176.97 lakhs have spent on construction of these school buildings up to March, 1997.

(c) and (d) As per information available, against a target of 2.63 lakhs school buildings to be constructed under Operation Blackboard, 1.77 lakh buildings have been completed under Operation Blackboard. Efforts to provide buildings to all primary schools is being made from funds of Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment and under Externally Assisted Education Projects.

#### Expenditure on Adult Education Scheme

1210. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred for Adult Education Scheme in Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar;

(b) the number of persons benefited by it in the said States during the last three years;

(c) whether in any State the funds for scheme are being misutilised; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The details of funds released under Adult Education Programme to Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar during the last 5 years are as follows :-

Year	States		
	Orissa	West Bengal	Bihar
93-94	614.12	719.86	1109.93
94-95	606.36	1583.69	1628.87
95-96	801.36	308.40	1977.84
96-97	310.13	728.11	1062.52
97-98	196.62	502.82	446.98

(b) The targets and achievements under National Literacy Mission are not fixed on annual basis. The National Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to 100 million non-literates in the age group 15-35 year. 24.40 lakh, 89.72 lakh and 52.31 lakh persons have since been made literate in Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar under various schemes of National Literacy Mission.

(c) Such instances, if any are enquired into immediately by the State Government concerned.

(d) Question does not arise.

#### Obsolete Equipment at Major Ports

1211. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 90% of the equipment at the major ports have become obsolete;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of specific allocations (port-wise) and plans for replacing of obsolete equipment by the modern gadgets; and

(d) the details of steps taken specifically for the purpose of expediting the process of replacement of obsolete and worn out equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The port-wise details of allocations for replacement of equipment during 1998-99 are as under :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Port	Allocations (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Calcutta/Haldia	8.09
2.	Mumbai	93.95
3.	J L Nehru	-
4.	Chennai	7.05
5.	Cochin	3.08
6.	Vizag	17.64
7.	Kandla	20.75
8.	Mormugao	5.00

1	2	3
9.	Paradip	2.50
10.	New Mangalore	155
11.	Tuticorin	-
Total		159.61

**Statement-I**

The details of the programmes being implemented by the Government to create environmental awareness amongst the general public are provided below :

**(I) National Environment Awareness Campaign :**

This campaign is being implemented every year since 1986 with the help and active participation of non governmental organisations, professionals, research and academic institutions, government departments, etc. Under this campaign diverse activities like street theatre, seminars, posters/essay/debate competitions, Padyatra, rallies, public meetings, etc., are conducted all over the country to create awareness about environmental problems amongst the general public.

**(II) Eco-clubs :**

Though this programme is focussed on school children, the ultimate objective is to create environmental awareness amongst common citizens through the school children. Under this programme, Eco-clubs are set up in different schools across the country for organising various awareness activities and to impart first hand knowledge to school children about the current environment issues.

**(III) Paryavaran Vahini :**

The objective of this programme is to encourage people's participation in various programmes of environmental awareness and management. One Paryavaran Vahini is constituted in every district which is selected on the basis of high incidence of pollution, density of forests and tribal population, etc. Each Paryavaran Vahini comprises 20 members who are selected from the common citizens of that district. The members are responsible for organising awareness programme and also to report acts of environmental degradation to the district authorities.

**(iv) Use of electronic media :**

The Ministry has, over the years, produced around 80 films on diverse environmental topics through outside agencies. These films are telecast on doordarshan and also screened by NGOs in programmes organised by them for creating awareness amongst any citizens on various environmental topics.

(v) The Ministry is also financially supporting two institutions, namely, Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad and CPR Environment Education Centre, Chennai. One of the major

(d) The Major Port Trusts have been delegated powers upto Rs. 100 crores for replacement of obsolete and worn out equipment. The ports are also permitted to induct new equipment through leasing/BOT basis.

[Translation]

**National Environment Awareness Campaign**

1212. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to bring awareness about the problem of environment among the common citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount given by the Government to each State under National Environment Awareness Campaign during the last three years; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government in the implementation of this campaign?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the programmes being implemented by the Government to create environmental awareness amongst the general public are given in the enclosed *statement-I*.

(c) The money released for programme under National Environment Awareness Campaign in each State during the last three years is indicated in the enclosed *statement-II*.

(d) Though it is difficult to quantify the success achieved by the Government in the implementation of this campaign, the increase in number of participating organisations from 115 in 1986 to about 3600 in 1997 is a clear indication of the success achieved.

objectives of these institutions is to develop resource material, organise training programmes, etc., with the ultimate objective of creating environment awareness.

### Statement-II

*The amounts given by the Government to each State under the National Environment Awareness Campaign during the last 3 years*

S. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory/ National Capital Territory	Amount given (in rupees)		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10,29,000	13,44,113	14,68,704
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10,000	50,000	93,000
3.	Assam	3,68,800	6,67,500	8,03,400
4.	Bihar	16,49,000	14,20,200	94,62,250
5.	Goa	22,500	36,000	42,000
6.	Gujarat	4,32,600	5,82,867	6,68,686
7.	Haryana	2,34,000	2,59,000	2,77,000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2,04,000	50,000	93,000
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7,86,000	13,53,000	12,64,000
10.	Karnataka	2,89,000	7,19,000	7,27,000
11.	Kerala	8,41,250	12,04,854	10,36,000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4,37,600	8,61,000	14,76,250
13.	Maharashtra	4,47,000	4,93,500	6,83,000
14.	Manipur	8,75,250	4,68,500	5,47,000
15.	Meghalaya	20,000	22,500	15,000
16.	Mizoram	-	10,000	NIL
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	14,17,000	14,05,000	17,12,000
19.	Punjab	3,83,950	4,23,200	4,62,500
20.	Rajasthan	5,32,990	36,000	11,37,750
21.	Sikkim	-	42,500	1,36,000
22.	Tamil Nadu	14,21,00	14,87,050	15,48,150
23.	Tripura	-	68,500	1,03,000
24.	Uttar Pradesh	23,53,500	31,06,000	27,70,439
25.	West Bengal	11,22,500	9,25,000	14,36,250
26.	Chandigarh	2,03,000	3,49,000	3,54,000
27.	Pondicherry	7,000	10,000	50,000
28.	Delhi	5,12,500	6,20,000	6,67,000

### Thermal and Hydro Power Projects

1213. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of thermal and hydro power projects proposed to be set up during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the country, State-wise;

(b) the places selected therefor alongwith the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the number of such projects approved for Ninth Five year Plan in Bihar, location-wise and the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMAN JALAM) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Four projects have been sanctioned/approved by the Government for the Ninth Plan in the state of Bihar. List of Projects alongwith their location and time by which these projects are likely to be implemented is as follows :-

S. No.	Name of Project	Type	Total IC (MW)	Location (Distt.)	Commissioning Schedule
1.	Chandil HE	Hydro	8.0	Singbhum	1999-2000
2.	Eastern Gandak	Hydro	15.0	W. Champaran	Already Commissioned
3.	North Koel	Hydro	24.0	Palamu	2000-2001
4.	Tenughat Extn. 3-5	Hydro	630.0	Bokaro	N/A

### Statement

S. No.	Name of Project/State	Type	Capacity (MW)	Cost in Rs. Crs.
1	2		3	4
1.	Panipat/Haryana	T	210	320.00
2.	Dadupur/Haryana	H	6	32.25
3.	W.Y.C. II/Haryana	H	16	81.00
4.	Baspa-2/H.P	H	300	949.23
5.	Ghanvi/H.P	H	22.5	94.60
6.	UHL III/H.P	H	100	713.00
7.	Dhamvari Sunda/H.P	H	70	384.93
8.	Gurunanak Bhatn/Pun	T	420	1189.00
9.	Thein Dam M.P.P/Pun	H	600	2518.44
10.	Rajghat/U.P	H	22.5	61.89

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
11. Sobla/U.P	H	6	15.98	49. Sar.Saro/M.P	H	370	
12. Tanda/Raj.	T	440	496.88	50. Korba East/M.P	T	1000	US\$ 863.95M+
13. Kata Pathar/U.P	H	19	76.00				1623.04Crs.
14. Suratgarh/Raj	T	500	2282.49	51. Maheshwar/M.P	H	80	US\$230.24M+
15. Jakhm/Raj	H	5	24.94				812.09 Crs.
16. Upper Sind II/J&K	H	70	302.00	52. Chandrapur/Maha.	T	500	1180.00
17. Upper Sind III/J&K	H	35	42.27	53. Dudganga/Maha	H	24	49.11
18. Sewa -III/J&K	H	6	50.00	54. Koyna St.IV/Maha	H	1000	1140.86
19. Chenani-II/J&K	H	6	53.48	55. Sard.Saro./Maha	H		
20. Pahaigaon/J&K	H	3	16.80	56. Sard.Saro./Maha	H	175	
21. Nathpa Jhakri/H.P	H	1500	7179.64	57. Warna/Maha	H	16	28.40
22. Dulhasti/J&K	H	390	3559.77	58. Dabhol CCGT-I/Maha	G	740	9051.27
23. Rapp Ext. U-3&4/Raj.	N	440	711.57	59. Bhadravati/Maha	T	1072	5187.00
24. Tehri-ST.I/U.P	H	1000	4317.70	60. Dabhol CCGT-II/Maha	G	1275	Cost inc. in CCGT.I
25. Unchahar-I/U.P	T	420	1601.57	61. Ghatghar PSS/Maha	H	250	620.78
26. FBD'CCGTA-NTPC/Har.	G	260	912.78	62. Vindychal II/M.P	T	1000	2858.05
27. FBD'CCGTB-NTPC/Har.	G	140		63. Kawas CCGT-II/Guj.	G	393 :	2425.00
28. Auriya CCGT II/U.P	G	257	1950.00	64. Kawas CCST-II/Guj.	G	257 :	
29. Auriya CCGT II/U.P	G	393		65. Kothagudem-IV/A.P	T	250	1424.00
30. Anta CCGT II/Raj.	G	393	1950.00	66. Singur HE//A.P	H	15	40.58
31. Anta CCGT/Raj.	G	257		67. Srisallam LBPH/A.P	H	900	2324.55
32. Kadana-II/Guj.	H	60	120.51	68. Vizag/A.P	T	1040	51400.00
33. Kutch Lig./Guj.	T	75	414.35	69. Godavari CCGT/A.P	G		: 748.43
34. Sar. Sard./Guj.	H	64		70. Godavari CCST/A.P	G	114	
35. Sar. Sard./Guj.	H	40		71. Jegurupadu CCST/A.P	G	77	827.00
36. Gandhinagar U-5/Guj.	H	210	658.80	72. Bhadra RBC/Kar.	H	6	21.29
37. Hazira CC-ST/Guj.	G	185	933.00	73. Kallinadi-II/Kar.	H	150	: 541.58
38. Mangrol Lig./Guj.	T	250		74. Kallinadi-II/Kar.	H	120	
39. S'Mati J/Guj.	T	120	420.00	75. Sharavati TR/Kar	H	240	403.57
40. Wanakbori U-7/Guj.	T	210	698.00	76. Mangalore/Kar	T	1000	US\$ 751.574M+ 1580.89 Crs.
41. Pyguthan CC-GT/Guj.	G	414	2298.14	77. Raichur U-5&6	T	420	1545.00
42. Pyguthan CC-ST/Guj.	G	241		78. Torangallu/Kar	T	260	US\$ 106.87 M+ 725.16 Crs.
43. Bansagar IV/M.P	H	20	80.00	79. Brindavan/Kar	H	12	51.24
44. Bansagar TON/M.P	H	60	807.70	80. Sarapadi/Kar	H	90	198.00
45. Bansagar TON/M.P	H	30		81. Brahamapuram/Ker	G	100	348.00
46. Birsinghpur Ext./M.P	T	420	980.00	82. Kakkad//Ker.	H	50	150.86
47. Rajghat/M.P	H	22.5	61.89				
48. Sar.Saro/M.P	H						



1	2	3	4
83.	Kozikode/Ker	G 120	357.00
84.	Lower Periyar/Ker	H 120	273.00
85.	Poringalkuthu-4/Ker	H 16	36.89
86.	Kutiyadi Ext./Ker	H 50	107.97
87.	Malankara/Ker	H 7	43.36
88.	Peppare HE/Ker	H 3	5.80
89.	Basin/TN	G 30	429.40
90.	Kundah-5/TN	H 30	98.12
91.	Lower Bhawn/TN	H 8	31.93
92.	Satnur Dam/TN	H 7.5	28.65
93.	North Mad-2/TN	T 1050	US\$ 585.96 M+ 2402.24 Crs.
94.	PP Nallur CCGT/TN	G 220	US\$ 206.549M+
95.	PP Nallur CCST/TN	G 110	429.80 Crs.
96.	NLC II EXT. U.O/TN	T 250	US\$ 261.59 M+ 501.10 Crs.
97.	Basin Bridge DG/TN	G 200	US\$ 125.82 M+ 328.90 Crs.
98.	Karaikal CCGT/Pond.	G 15	130.00
99.	Karaikal CCST/Pond.	G 7.5	
100.	Simhadri/A.P	T 1000	3661.51
101.	Kaiga/Kar	N 440	355.80
102.	Kymklm CCGT/Ker.	G 220	1076.30
103.	Kymklm CCST/Ker.	G 130	
104.	Neyveli/TN	T 420	1590.58
105.	HYD CCGT/A.P	G 393	2275.00
106.	HYD CCST/A.P	G 257	
107.	Chandil/Bih.	H 8	32.49
108.	Eastern Gandak/Bih.	H 15	66.00
109.	North Koel/Bih.	H 24	47.34
110.	Tonughat Ex. 3-5/Bih.	T 630	1800.00
111.	Potteru/Ori.	H 6	18.83
112.	Upper Indravari/Ori.	H 600	875.42
113.	Ib-Valley 3\$4/Ori.	T 420	US\$ 362.67M+ 851.22 Crs.
114.	Balimela St. II	H 120	277.57
115.	Bargarh/Ori.	H 9	34.80
116.	Rathongchu/Sikk.	H 10	87.31
117.	Rolep/Sikk.	H 9	35.31

1	2	3	4
118.	Mejla/WB	T 210	1369.55
119.	Maithon/WB	T 500	3297.65
120.	Teesta Can. Fall/WB	H 45	526.59
121.	Teesta Can. Fall/WB	H 22.5	
122.	Bakreshwar 1-3/WB	T 630	US\$ 23.4 M+ J. Yen 20544.27M
123.	Balagarh/WB	T 500	US\$ 227.96 M+ 1517.02 Crs.
124.	Budge-Budge/WB	T 500	2300.00
125.	Rangit/Sikk	H 60	287.31
126.	Talchar II/Ori.	T 500	8117.10
127.	Lakwa WH U-I/Ass.	G 22.5	75.00
128.	Lakwa WH U-II/Ass.	G 25	
129.	Dhansiri/Ass.	H 20	56.00
130.	Karbi-L. BORP/Ass.	H 100	266.21
131.	Nuranang/Arun. Pr.	H 6	33.00
132.	Umalm UMT HE-V/Megh.	H 18	140.00
133.	Likimro/Naga	H 24	156.00
134.	Serlui-B/Mizo	H 9	100.00
135.	Rokhia Ph-II U-2/Tripura	H 8	85.47
136.	Ranganadi/Arun. Pr.	H 405	1024.10
137.	Kalthiguri B/Ass.	G 90	1393.92
138.	Doyang/Naga	H 75	557.87
139.	Agartala G.P.P/Tripura	G 84	299.53
140.	Kopill Ext./Ass.	H 25	100.00

T - Thermal

H - Hydro

G - Gas

### Engineering Colleges

1214. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present number of recognised Engineering Colleges including co-ed. in each State and Union Territory and the location thereof; and

(b) the name of States where new Engineering Colleges were opened during the last three years/

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The details are given in the statement-I.

(b) The names of States/Union Territories where now engineering colleges were approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) during the three years are given in statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Number of Degree Level Engineering Colleges Including co-education Approved by AICTE upto 1998-99*

State/Union Territory	No. of Degree Level Engineering Colleges
Andhra Pradesh	87
Andaman & Nicobar	-
Arunachal Pradesh	1
Assam	3
Bihar	12
Chandigarh	3
Goa	2
Gujarat	20
Haryana	27
Himachal Pradesh	2
Jammu & Kashmir	8
Karnataka	69
Kerala	19
Madhya Pradesh	30
Maharashtra	118
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	-
Mizoram	-
Nagaland	-
Delhi	6
Orissa	20
Pondicherry	2
Punjab	18
Rajasthan	11
Sikkim	1
Tamil Nadu	425
Tripura	-
Uttar Pradesh	51
West Bengal	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>655</b>

**Statement-II**

*Names of States where New Engineering Colleges were Approved by AICTE During The Last Three Years*

State/Union Territory
Andhra Pradesh
Goa
Gujarat
Haryana
Himachal Pradesh
Jammu & Kashmir
Karnataka
Kerala
Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra
Manipur
Delhi
Orissa
Pondicherry
Punjab
Rajasthan
Sikkim
Tamil Nadu
Uttar Pradesh
West Bengal

[English]

**New Norms for Private Sector Power Promoters**

1215. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have notified a number of new return norms for the private power sector promoters and the foreign investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the modalities for setting up the power projects by the private sector and foreign companies have been worked out;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of power projects proposed to be set up in the country during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government has not revised the rate of return on equity norms for the private power generating projects as laid down in the tariff notification dated 30-2-1992. However, the Government has notified the norms for thermal power generating stations awarded through competitive bidding in 1997, which does not stipulate any rate of return.

(c) and (d) The policy announced in 1991 to encourage greater private participation in the Indian power sector is reviewed from time to time in order to streamline the process of development of the private sector power projects. The policy, inter-alia, allows for a debt equity ratio up to 4:1, 100% foreign equity participation and stipulates for award of projects through the process of competitive bidding to the extent feasible. The modalities for determining the tariff are governed by the tariff notification dated 30-3-1992, as amended from time to time. Powers have been delegated to the State Governments from time to time for Techno-economic Clearance (TEC) to certain categories of power projects.

As per further powers delegated to the States recently, the States can, inter alia, clear thermal power generating station prepared by a generating company selected through a process of competitive bidding and envisaging a capital expenditure of upto Rs. 500 crores, subject to the condition that such thermal projects should conform to the factors notified in the tariff notification as amended in May, 1997.

After tying all the necessary clearances/inputs, it is the responsibility of the project promoters to arrange the finance for the project both through equity as well as debt.

(e) 28 Thermal schemes and 25 Hydro schemes are proposed to be set up in the country during 1998-99.

#### Meeting with Heads of SEBs

1216. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had held any meeting with the heads of the State Electricity Boards of Northern India during last three years;

(b) if so, the names of participants and the details of the suggestions made therein and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the heads of the State Electricity boards have complied with the directions issued by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Review of power supply is a continuing process and meetings in this regard are held from time to time at various levels. During the past three years, three meetings (one by Minister of State for Power on 9-8-1996 and two by Secretary (Power) on 22-12-1996 and 29-5-1998) were held mainly for improvement in power supply, maintenance of grid parameters like voltage and frequency and to consider measures for preventing grid disturbances. The meeting held by the Minister of Power was attended by Chief Minister of NCT of Delhi and Minister of Power of Rajasthan besides heads of State Electricity Boards and officers from concerned Central and State power utilities/ Departments. Meetings by Secretary (Power) were also attended by representatives of State Electricity Boards, State Energy Departments and representatives of concerned central utilities/ departments.

Meeting by Minister of Power on 9-8-1996 was held for a general review of the power supply position. Important suggestions made in this meeting were for (1) installing shunt capacitors on priority (2) restoring under-frequency relays in the system (3) solving problems of coal supply and quality. Following this meeting State Governments were requested to install shunt capacitors on priority. To accelerate shunt capacitor installation, Power Grid Corporation of India was also directed to procure and install 600 MVAR shunt capacitors on immediate basis. A Conference of Chief Ministers was also held on 16 Oct. and 3rd Dec., 1996 and a Common Minimum Action Plan for Power was drawn. Problems of coal shortage and quality were also taken up with the Ministry of Coal.

Meeting by Secretary (Power) on 22-12-1996 was held to discuss measures for preventing the grid disturbances in the Northern Region. Pursuant to the suggestions/decisions taken in this meeting, remedial steps have been taken by NTPC, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. to strengthen the grid as per recommendations made in the report of the committee constituted by the Ministry of Power in this regard. States were issued hourly schedules of generation and load-shedding on daily basis and asked to follow grid discipline and accord priority to maintenance operations. To avoid frequent disconnection of supply in a particular area through under frequency relays, Northern Region Electricity Board (NREB) decided to procure five sets of controllers and other equipments centrally for each of the constituent states of northern region to implement rotational load-shedding. NREB also started monitoring of MVAR generation by constituents of Northern Region. Generating stations have been requested to resort to free governor mode of operation. Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd. has

commissioned 13 V-SAT terminals for communication system between NRLDC control room and nodal point of Northern Grid System. Delhi Vidyut Board has been included in the Unified Load Despatch Scheme.

Meeting on 29-5-1998 by Secretary (Power) was taken with a view to review steps for ensuring better power supply in Northern region during the summer months. The position of installation of shunt capacitors by various constituents was reviewed and all constituents were advised to expedite shunt capacitors. Instructions were given for undertaking necessary maintenance works. Revival of the generating units was also discussed and a time-bound programme for revival was drawn. All the State Electricity Boards were advised to maintain grid discipline.

#### Infrastructure in courts

1217. RAO INDERJIT SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an urgent need for increasing the number of judges and improving the infrastructure in High Courts and subordinate courts;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of adequate infrastructure facilities in High Courts and subordinate courts, the disposal of cases remain stuck; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate infrastructure facilities in courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) Judge strength of High Courts is reviewed once in three years and the next review is due in 1998.

The disposal of cases depends upon several complex factors. The Malimath Committee, which studied the problem of arrears in courts, observed that the inadequacy of infrastructure is one of the reasons for arrears in courts.

A centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructural facilities for the Judiciary was introduced during 1993-94 by the Government. It includes construction of court buildings and residential accommodation for Judges/Judicial Officers covering High Courts/Subordinate Courts. Since its introduction in 1993-94, a sum of Rs. 232.43 crores up to 1997-98 has been released to various States/UTs for the development of infrastructures. Out of budget provision of Rs. 52.00 crores, during the current financial year, a sum of

Rs. 20.05 crores has been released to various States/UTs.

#### Threat to Swamp Deer

1218. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sanctuary" to mafia may cost wildlife 'deer' appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 30, 1998.

(b) whether the mafia so have no fear of the Government machinery possibly because of the backing of some influential politicians and Government officials, including some wildlife and forest officials, allegedly abetting either directly or indirectly, the illegal business for handsome profit;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to save the swamp deer and other animals in the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such incidents have been reported to the Govt. of India.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Action taken by the Government to save the swamp deer and other animals in the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary include :

Preventive steps to stop illegal cutting of Typhus grass from Hastinapur Sanctuary area. In this process 27 cases were detected and 47 offenders were arrested out of whom 33 persons have been punished by the Department and 18 persons are undergoing Court trial. An amount of 36,900/- has been recovered as compensation since April, 1997.

[Translation]

#### Increase in Length of National Highways in Ninth Five Year Plan

1219. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any provision has been made by the Government to increase the length of National Highways during the Ninth Five Year Plan:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the amount disbursed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1997-98, a length of 4219 kms. has been added to the National Highway network. It has also been decided that another 67 routes having a length of approximately 11000 kms. will be added to the National Highway network in different States during the 9th Plan period.

(c) The allocations are made State-wise on the basis of total national highway length in each State and specific national highway-wise allocation is not made.

#### Enrolment in KV

1220. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of students enrolled out of turn in Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1997-98; and

(b) the details thereof, Vidyalaya-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) No out of turn admission has been made in Kendriya Vidyalayas during academic session 1997-98 as there was no scheme for such admissions in 1997-98.

#### Ozone Depleting Substances

1221. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to take concrete steps for the use of O.D.S. less technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) India is a party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. A Country Programme for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances was prepared in 1993. The Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol has approved projects for

conversion to non-O.D.S. technology for industries under the Foam, Refrigeration, Aerosol, Halon and Solvent Sector. As per the schedule prescribed in the Montreal Protocol the use of O.D.S. technology is to be phased out by the year 2010.

#### Sports in Rural Areas of Madhya Pradesh

1222. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the action being taken by the Government to encourage various games and sports in rural areas;

(b) the steps taken for the construction of sports complexes in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether a demand has been made to construct a sports stadium in the district headquarters of Dhamtari in Madhya Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) For encouraging various games and sports in rural areas, Government of India is implementing the schemes of (i) Rural Sports Programme; and (ii) Grant to Rural Schools for Purchase of Sports Equipment and Development of Playground. Besides, assistance is also provided for creation of sports infrastructure at all levels including rural areas. "Sports" being a State subject, State Governments also encourage various games in rural areas.

(b) It is for the State Government to initiate proposals in this regard for claiming admissible Central assistance as per the provisions of the relevant scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### SC/ST In Power Finance Corporation

1223. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of staff of the Power Finance Corporation of India and the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes employees among them;

(b) whether there is any backlog of reserved vacancies for SCs/STs;

(c) if so, the details thereof, post-wise;

(d) whether the Power Finance Corporation propose to fill up these posts through special recruitment drive; and

(e) if so, the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Out of the total strength of 267 employees of the Power Finance Corporation, the total number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes consist of 48 and 13 employees respectively.

(b) to (e) As a result of special drives conducted by Power Finance Corporation, in the past the combined strength of the SC and ST employees is 61 against the reservation required of 59 posts. However, there is backlog of four posts in the case of Scheduled Tribes, three in the category of executives and one in the category of workman.

#### Loss of Test Papers

1224. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times incidents of loss of test papers were reported by the Delhi University during the last three years;

(b) whether the action was taken in each case against the persons found guilty; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Hydel and Coal Based Power Projects

1225. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated power generation capacity of each power project in Orissa;

(b) the new hydel and coal based power projects under execution in the State;

(c) whether any agreement on tariff was signed between National Thermal Power Corporation and State Electricity Boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The estimated power generation capacity of each power project in Orissa

is as follows :

	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)
<b>A Hydro</b>		
1.	Machkund	34.42
2.	Rangoli	250.00
3.	Upper Kolab	320.00
4.	Balimela	360.00
5.	Hirakund	37.50
6.	Burla	198.00
7.	Chiplima	72.00
Total Hydro		1271.92
<b>B Thermal</b>		
8.	Ib Valley	420.00
9.	Talchar STPS	1000.00
10.	Talchar OLD	470.00
Total Thermal		1890.00
Grand Total (A) + (B)		3161.92

(b) At present, the following schemes have been sanctioned in Orissa :

Name of the Station		Installed Capacity (MW)
Balimela St-2	Hydro	120
Bargarh	Hydro	9
Potteru	Hydro	6
Upper Indravati	Hydro	600

(c) and (d) NTPC enters into power purchase agreements with the State Electricity Boards for purchase of power. The Tariff is however decided by the Government of India. Tariff for sale of power from Talcher STPS Unit-I (500 MW) of NTPC in Orissa w.e.f. 1-1-1997 was notified by the Ministry of Power on 13-5-1998.

#### Setting up of Bench of Madras High Court

1226. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received

representation for setting up a bench of Madras High Court at Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Madras High Court in its Full Court meeting on August 31, 1995 resolved, in principle, to establish a Circuit Bench of the High Court at Madurai on fulfilment of certain conditions relating to infrastructure etc. Since the State Government has, in the first instance, to fulfil these conditions, it is not practicable to indicate any time frame for establishment of the Bench.

#### Vocational Education

1227. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes to impart vocational education have failed to achieve the desired impact;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education did not yield the desired results mainly because of low priority accorded to the implementation of the Scheme by States. Many States started the vocational courses without sufficient preparation, like absence of district vocational surveys, appointment of teachers, lack of managerial set-up and information systems. The Vocational courses introduced at the under graduate level will have to be evaluated in course of time.

(c) A Working Group was constituted to assess the current implementation position and suggest suitable modifications in the implementation of the scheme at the secondary level. Recommendations of the Working Group have been circulated to States/UTs for their comments. Pilot schemes with organisations such as the National Institute of Fashion Technology and also being implemented to overcome drawbacks in the scheme.

#### Malnutrition in Children in Assam

1228. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Children in relief camps in Kokrajhar district of Assam are suffering from Malnutrition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide well nourished food to the children in such camps?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to poor nutritional status.

(c) Steps have been taken for providing sufficient supplementary nutrition by Government of Assam and NGOs. Medical team is visiting the relief camps regularly.

#### CSIR

1229. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objects behind setting up of CSIR;

(b) the extent to which those aims and objects have been achieved;

(c) whether the performance of CSIR till date has been up to the mark; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was formed in 1942 as an autonomous society with a wide charter of functions. These included promotion, guidance and co-ordination of scientific and industrial research, collection and dissemination of information on research and industry, founding of laboratories to further scientific and industrial research and exploitation of the research results for development of industry. CSIR was also charged with other tasks such as rendering assistance to other institutions, conducting research, awarding fellowships and publishing scientific journals.

(b) and (c) Over the years CSIR has performed its assigned role in consonance with national needs and priorities. CSIR today is a well knit, co-ordinated,

action oriented network of 40 research laboratories spread throughout the country with the mission of providing scientific and industrial R&D that maximises the economic, environmental and societal benefits for the people of India. CSIR carries out R&D of value not only to industry but also to other sectors of economy such as agriculture, aerospace, health, power utilities, mining, defence etc. It carries out R&D in areas of national priority with a long term impact, size or complexity that are vital to the national security, and the future well being and economic growth of the country. The CSIR's scientific and technological annual average output comprises publications of nearly 2000 research/technical/learned papers, development of 100 new technologies and signing of 200 agreements for new industrial production in diverse areas.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Excavation Work by Allahabad University

1230. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Archaeological Department of Allahabad University has made any excavation in Pandapurva (Amilkoni) village in Rewa district;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recovered articles have any historical value;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the plan drawn for the development of the said site?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Department of Ancient History Culture and Archaeology, University of Allahabad, Allahabad (U.P.) are conducting on-going excavations beginning in 1997-98 at Amilkoni village in Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh. The excavation has brought to light two-fold cultural sequence consisting of period I, yielding material from the middle to late phase of the Northern Black Polished Ware culture, and period II of the Kushana period with a transitional phase between the two—all phases together dating from the 4th/3rd century B.C. to 2nd/3rd century A.D. Items like potteries and miscellaneous objects of copper, iron, bone, semi-precious stones, terracottas, coins and profuse iron slags of historical value have been collected from the excavation.

#### Development of Sanctuaries and National Parks in Gujarat

1231. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has sent any schemes relating to the development of sanctuaries, national parks and forest wealth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether sanction has not been accorded to some of these schemes;

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

(e) the time by which final decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposals for Rs. 85 lakhs have been received from the State Gujarat.

(c) and (d) Proposals worth Rs. 26.65 lakhs have not been accorded approval as they are not as per the guidelines issued by the Government of India.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Bio-Technology Projects

1232. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any special scheme/programme based on bio-technology for the benefit of SC/ST population in some States like Meghalaya;

(b) if so, whether any new projects have been identified under this scheme for the State of Meghalaya;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Meghalaya offers abundant scope for cultivation of Aromatic & Medicinal plants because of its agro-climate conditions with perennial rainfall; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the steps proposed to be taken for harnessing them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology has formulated a scheme - "Biotechnology based



programmes for SC/ST population", under which projects are funded all over the country.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A project entitled "Production of seeds and nursery, rearing of major carps and catfish (*Clarias batrachus*)" is being implemented by St. Anthony's College, Shillong since July, 98. The objectives of the project are to facilitate the production of fish seed of both the carps and the catfish, induced breeding and also the rearing of fry and fingerlings of these fishes along the modern scientific lines, training students of the college and also local farmers in the field through extension programme. This would not only help the students to start their own enterprise but also help to improve the financial status of fish farmers of this region.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology is interacting with the Govt. of Meghalaya for sponsoring research activities on medicinal and aromatic plants.

#### Bench of High Court at Trivandrum

1233. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has sent a proposal for setting up of a bench of High Court at Trivandrum; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No complete proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court, for establishing a bench of the High Court at Thiruvananthapuram. As such, it is not possible for the Central Government to take any action in the matter.

[Translation]

#### Linking of NH-34 Via Jamtada-Dumka-Pakudiar

1234. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the distance of North-East India would be shortened if G.T. Road and National Highway No. 34 are linked via-Jamtada-Dumka-Pakudiar;

(b) if so, whether any action plan is under consideration in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Mid-Day Meal Scheme

1235. SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY :

DR. RAVI MALLU :

SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :

SHRI RAM CHANDRA MALLICK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States in which Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been introduced;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed its implementation;

(c) if so, the performance of different States in this regard;

(d) the allocation made to various States for the implementation of the scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) the funds allocated for the scheme in 1998-99 State-wise;

(f) whether the Government have issued any fresh instructions to implement the scheme;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether irregularities have been committed in the running of this scheme;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been introduced in all States and UTs.

(b) and (c) As the programme has been extended to all blocks and urban areas in the country only in the year 1997-98, it has not been possible to conduct any formal review or evaluation of the scheme so far. As such it is not possible to comment on the performance of different States in this regard.

(d) Statement of allocation of foodgrains during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is enclosed.

(e) An amount of Rs. 1092.15 crores has been provided for the scheme in the budget of this Department in 1998-99. This is for payment of cost

of foodgrains to FCI and transportation charges to DRDAs, etc.

(f) and (g) The State Governments have been asked to regularly send quarterly end-user certificates and monthly lifting figures to the Department. District Collectors have been asked to send monthly utilisation certificates to FCI.

(h) to (j) As per available information, only the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra have reported irregularities. Gujarat has reported that it has taken action against the erring persons and Maharashtra has stated that reports on the irregularities have been received from the concerned District Collectors and police complaints lodged against the guilty contractors.

**Statement**

(in MTS)

S.No.	State/UTs	1996-97 Allocated	1997-98 Allocated	1998-99 Allocated
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	147415.00	217229.00	228543.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2908.00	2908.00	4530.90
3.	Assam	62815.00	70042.00	70041.70
4.	Bihar	183767.00	241412.00	280596.90
5.	Goa	105.00	2973.00	2513.50
6.	Gujarat	42088.00	107481.00	88117.40
7.	Haryana	35172.00	51634.00	53305.10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9117.00	19742.00	20826.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14889.00	18611.00	18610.90
10.	Karnataka	111053.00	164604.00	169758.90
11.	Kerala	7550.00	62797.00	48022.90
12.	Madhya Pradesh	178317.00	221545.00	220459.80
13.	Maharashtra	128932.00	251552.00	288718.30
14.	Manipur	4129.00	6499.00	7637.60
15.	Meghalaya	6557.00	8691.00	9614.90
16.	Mizoram	2902.00	2899.00	2918.50
17.	Nagaland	2920.00	2920.00	2920.10
18.	Orissa	53297.00	96105.00	80087.10
19.	Punjab	16359.00	52992.00	52991.90
20.	Rajasthan	109096.00	123594.00	166045.90
21.	Sikkim	1864.00	1864.00	2549.60
22.	Tamil Nadu	27915.00	163848.00	118735.50
23.	Tripura	11371.00	14012.00	14575.70
24.	Uttar Pradesh	297289.00	393891.00	457857.00
25.	West Bengal	109134.00	235206.00	263596.70

1	2	3	4	5
26.	A & N Islands	165.00	1211.00	1106.00
27.	Chandigarh	1943.00	585.00	10000.00
28.	D & N Haveli	734.00	594.00	662.90
29.	Daman & Diu	245.00	430.00	446.00
30.	Delhi	14400.00	28150.00	18100.80
31.	Lakshdweep	264.00	264.00	-
32.	Pondicherry	940.00	1351.00	1319.40
India		1585652.00	2567636.00	2705211.60

### Counter-Guarantee to Fast Track Project

1236. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have likely signed a counter-guarantee to the third fast track power project, after the ENRON and the GVK project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of fast track power projects still pending for issuance of such counter guarantees by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) During the month of August, 1998 the Government have issued counter-guarantee in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s Hinduja National Power Company Limited (HNPCL) in Andhra Pradesh, Bhadravati Thermal Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Company (CIPCO) in Maharashtra and 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu.

(c) Counter guarantee has not been issued for the 1000 MW Mangalore power project of M/s Mangalore Power Company. The Government of India has decided that further steps for issue of counter guarantee for this project would be taken once the decision of the Supreme Court on the SLP filed by Government of Karnataka against the judgment of High Court of Karnataka in the Public Interest Writ Petition No. 10696/97 is available. Apart from this, the issue of counter guarantee to Ib Valley power project of M/s AES Transpower in Orissa, for which counter guarantee was issued earlier, may have to

be considered afresh as the project parameters have undergone changes.

[Translation]

### Gas Based Power Projects

1237. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gas based power projects/stations in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the power generation capacity of each project/station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The number of gas turbine power projects/stations in the country, as on 31-3-1998, State-wise is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to enhance the capacity of the following existing stations :-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	State
1.	Peguthan CCGT	Gujarat
2.	Kawas CCGT	Gujarat
3.	Gandhar CCGT	Gujarat
4.	Agartala GT	Tripura
5.	Kathalguri CCGT	Assam
6.	Anta CCGT	Rajasthan
7.	Auraiya CCGT	Uttar Pradesh

**Statement**

State-wise details of gas turbine power projects/stations in the country

Name of the State	Number of Power Stations
Jammu & Kashmir	1*
Rajasthan	2
Delhi	1
Uttar Pradesh	2
Gujarat	8
Maharashtra	2
Andhra Pradesh	3
Tamil Nadu	2
West Bengal	3*
Bihar	1*
Assam	7
Tripura	3

\* Liquid Fuel

[English]

**"TB In Sariska Tiger Reserve"**

1238. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "TB like disease threatens big cats" appearing in The 'Hindustan Times' dated September 4, 1998;

(b) if so, the fact of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to check the spread of this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news-item has reported death of seven tigers and five leopards due to different reasons in Sariska Tiger Reserve since 1994, of which most of the dead big cats reportedly had the symptoms of a disease similar to tuberculosis.

(c) and (d) Official informations received from Rajasthan Government confirms death of three tigers

in Sariska caused by tuberculosis/hepatitis during the last three years. The carnivores are considered to the comparatively resistant to tuberculosis, but some cases are reported from various parks of tigers getting infected with bovine tuberculosis. Intensive veterinary care of the domestic livestock and screening out of tuberculosis infected animals from the sanctuary is one of the most important components of action plan to check the spread of the disease. Detection of disease and treatment in the wild lead to large number of mortalities.

**Reorganisation of Disaster Management Machinery**

1239. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :  
SHRI S.S. OWAIISI :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an advance weather forecasting warning was issued to the people of affected areas in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country about the recent devastating sea storm, rain and cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to reorganise the disaster management machinery and advance forecasting on natural calamities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There have been two cyclones in the Bay of Bengal recently. The first cyclone formed on 14th November in the Bay, moved in a northwesterly direction and intensified into a very severe cyclonic storm (Hurricane Intensity) and crossed Andhra Pradesh coast close to Visakhapatnam in the evening of 15th November. Adequate and timely cyclone alerts and warnings were issued by India Meteorological Department to the State Government and electronic media. Also adequate precautions were taken to put Government machinery on maximum alert about the devastating impact of cyclone and create public awareness by electronic media. Hourly bulletins were issued by IMD to All India Radio for broadcasting by interrupting their current programmes and to Doordarshan for scrolling.

The other cyclone was formed over Bay of Bengal on 20th November, 1998. It moved in a northerly direction, intensified into a very severe cyclonic storm (Hurricane intensity) on 21st November. It further moved in a north northeasterly direction and crossed

West Bengal coast east of Sagar Islands around the noon of 22nd November. Adequate and timely warnings were issued by India Meteorological Department to the State Government and electronic media.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Under the existing scheme, the State Government are required to undertake rescue and relief operations in the wake of natural calamities. For this purpose, relief codes and disaster management plans are also prepared by respective State Governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments.

The Government had prepared a Contingency Action Plan and circulated to all the State Governments with request to prepare such disaster management plans and update them from time to time based on the experience gained in facing the natural calamities. Government of ANDHRA PRADESH has a disaster management plan for cyclone.

#### **Mangrove Forests in Kerala**

1240. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large areas of mangrove forests are being destroyed in the State of Kerala on account of construction activities both under in Government and private sector;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Forests in Kerala has been a silent spectator to this wanton destruction of these mangrove forests; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government will take immediate steps to prevent the further denudation of these forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) According to the information received from Kerala Forest Department large scale destruction of mangrove forests has not been noticed under the areas in Government Sector. However, small scale destruction of mangrove forests is noticed in the Private Sector.

(b) Government of Kerala has recently launched a World Bank aided Kerala Forestry Project to carry out studies on the mangroves and wetlands in the State so as to evolve strategies for the protection and conservation of these ecosystems with public participation.

(c) Union Government is extending financial assistance to Government of Kerala for implementation of Management Action Plan for Vembanad mangrove area.

#### **Counter Guarantee to Fast Track Power Project**

1241. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether sixth fast track power project of Visakhapatnam has been accorded counter guarantee by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the counter guarantee covers foreign debts of \$ 818 million in the \$ 1.2 billion project; and

(c) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the production is propose to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The project is scheduled for commissioning 44 months after the date of financial closure by the promoters.

#### **Damage to National Highways due to Flood and Cyclone**

1242. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the total loss incurred as a result of damage of National Highways by heavy rain, flood and cyclone in Assam during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : Total loss (direct and indirect) cannot be quantified in monetary terms. However, total direct loss during the last three years was estimated to be Rs. 5.7 crore.

[Translation]

#### **Imparting of Moral Education**

1243. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scholars are of the view that moral education should be imparted to children since their childhood;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps proposed to be taken by the Govt. in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to impart education to children based on Indian Culture;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) whether any Department has been set up in this regard and if not, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes Sir, a large number of scholars are of the view that moral education should be imparted to children from their childhood.

(b) to (d) Moral education is already part of the school curriculum. At primary stage it is integrated in different subject areas, specifically environmental studies and Language. The components are based on Indian Culture.

(e) There is no proposal before the Government to have a separate Department for the purpose.

[English]

#### Promotion of Bio-Technology Units

1244. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up special Cell in Andhra Pradesh with the cooperation of USA for the promotion of bio-technology units in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its present status?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal with Department of Biotechnology to set up special cell in Andhra Pradesh for the promotion of bio-technology units in the state.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

#### Coastal Atlas

1245. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare a Coastal Atlas of Maritime States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present to prepare Coastal Atlas of Maritime States by the Government. High Resolution Topographical maps for some portions of the East Coast are under preparation by the Survey of India.

#### Kulpi Port Project

1246. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of the Kulpi port project in West Bengal;

(b) whether the said project is in doldrums; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Bengal Ports Limited, a company jointly promoted by West Bengal industrial Development Corporation and an industrialist Group has made a proposal to develop port facilities at Kulpi under the jurisdiction of Calcutta Port Trust. The proposal is under consideration of the Calcutta Port Trust.

#### R.C.C. Terminal At Patna

1247. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
(Jhanjharpur) :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the likely time by which the R.C.C. Terminal at Patna in Bihar would be ready for operation; and

(b) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) According to the approved scheme, the R.C.C. terminal at Patna is to be constructed by March, 2000.

(b) The scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.45 crores was approved by the Government in March, 1998. The work has been assigned to CPWD as Deposit work. CPWD has invited tenders for jetty and approach to jetty. The tender received is under evaluation by CPWD.

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Sports Schools**

1248. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme to set up sports schools in the country?
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have identified any locations for the setting up of such schools;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the criteria adopted for the selection of the locations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) A scheme for setting up of sports schools is presently under formulation. Details regarding the locations etc. of such schools will be decided after approval of the Scheme.

**Setting up of Power Project in Bangladesh**

1249. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :  
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has any proposal to set up any power project in Bangladesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has submitted a proposal to the Bangladesh Power Development Board for setting up a joint venture Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Project with an ultimate capacity of 1000 MW. Response from Bangladesh Govt. is awaited.

[*English*]

**Misappropriation of Funds by ICDS**

1250. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released by the Government for implementation of Integrated Child Development Schemes in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a large scale misappropriation had taken place in the purchases carried out under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such misappropriation;

(d) whether the Government intend to order an enquiry to find out the truth; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Amount released during last three years are as under:

(Rupees in lakhs)		
1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
2565.63	3238.83	3373.72

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Modern Forest Fire Controlling System**

1251. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to continue the centrally sponsored scheme 'Modern forest fire control system' in the Ninth Plan also;

(b) if so, the amount allocated under the said scheme to each State during the current year; and

(c) the details of achievements made under this scheme during Eighth Five Year Plan, State wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme is being implemented in eleven States of the country. Tentatively, the amount allocated under the said scheme during the current

year to various States is as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)	
State	Tentatively amount allocated
1	2
Bihar	28.354
Maharashtra	8.79
Himachal Pradesh	46.92
Orissa	46.92

1	2
Karnataka	39.00
Uttar Pradesh	37.92
Kerala	32.22
Madhya Pradesh	22.81

For other States proposals are under process.

(c) During the Eighth Five Year Plan, amount allocated to various States under this scheme is as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)						
Name of the State	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
Andhra Pradesh	6.00	2.42	10.00	-	-	14.156
Bihar	6.07	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	5.00	8.00	3.40	-	15.73	23.73
Himachal Pradesh	8.00	19.725	12.00	-	-	19.75
Karnataka	8.00	13.10	10.36	-	6.46	23.415
Kerala	5.00	8.00	33.56	6.855	10.055	21.22
Madhya Pradesh	8.21	48.44	34.30	-	43.40	11.58
Maharashtra	8.00	13.10	-	-	-	-
Orissa	7.00	4.00	6.724	-	31.896	-
Tamil Nadu	5.00	8.00	4.72	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	8.00	-	-	-	18.01	37.11

The grant is utilized by the State Government for creation of firelines, construction of fire watch towers, purchase of wireless sets & fire fighting equipments etc.

[English]

#### Power Projects In Goa

1252. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :  
SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ongoing power projects in Goa and the estimated power generation capacity thereof;

(b) the allocation made and target fixed for completion of the said projects; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Salgaokar Power Project is the ongoing thermal power project at Sanccale in Goa, having an estimated power generation capacity of 48 MW. The project is being executed by Reliance Salgaokar Power Co. Ltd.

(b) As there is no ongoing power generation project in public sector in Goa no allocation have been made in the Annual Plan.

The target fixed for completion of the above Combined Cycle Project is 18 months from Zero Date (13th June 1998). The target date therefore for completion of the project is 12th Dec., 1999.

(c) Environmental clearance for this project is awaited from Ministry of Environment and Forests.



[Translation]

**Sub-Standard Educational Institutions/  
Business Schools**

1253. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether sub-standard educational institutions and business schools are running in the country in the name of providing vocational education;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken or propose to take any stern action against such vocational institutions and business schools; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a), to (c) Keeping in view the deterioration of standards and quality of some of the unaffiliated management education institutions conducting post-graduate diploma courses, as reported by the expert committees, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has decided in 1996, not to approve Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Management (PGDM) till a suitable mechanism of admission, evaluation, examinations' monitoring is evolved and implemented by the Council. In the meanwhile, the Council has already started monitoring Business Schools every year and has already stopped admissions in certain institutions and withdrawn approval to some substandard institutions, after serving show-cause notice to them.

[English]

**Standing Independent Group on Power**

1254. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently accepted the recommendations of the standing independent group on power headed by former Chief Justice of India Mr. P.N. Bhagwati in regard to creation of 20 000 MW capacity through mega projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided to set up a Power Trading Corporation jointly by National Thermal Power Corporation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects. According to the revised policy, certain project sites, both in the Public as well as private sector have been identified for setting up such mega projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. The Standing Independent Group constituted by the Government would initially be the apex body to oversee the implementation of the mega private power projects. The principles of competitive bidding would be adhered to as far as possible, while obtaining tariff offers for private sector projects. These projects are being given certain concessions and are being linked to reforms. It is expected that these projects would result in low tariffs and would also help in catalysing reforms and accelerating the establishment of systems that would transfer power across states and regions.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, a Power Trading Company (PTC) would be established with majority equity participation by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), along with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and other financial institutions. Concerned State Governments/State Electricity Boards (SEBs) would also be co-opted, if found feasible. The PTC would purchase power from the identified private projects and sell it to the identified State Electricity Boards. This would help in project development as the project developer would have to deal with only one agency.

[Translation]

**National Highways**

1255. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :  
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :  
SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the length in kilometre of national highways constructed in the country during Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the total financial amount provided for this purpose and the actual demand made by the State Governments in this regard during the said period; and

(c) the length in kilometre of national highways being constructed currently and proposed for the Ninth Plan period with the details regarding the rest of the works under consideration for the approval, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (c) A statement giving details is attached as statement-I.

(b) A statement giving details is attached as statement-II.

**Statement-I**

S.No.	Scheme	Unit	8th Plan	9th Plan
			Achieve-ment during Eighth Five Year Plan	Proposed Achievements during Ninth Five Year Plan*
1	Expressways	Km	Nil	500
2	Widening to 2-lanes	km	901	4000
3	Widening to 4 - lanes	km	245	7000
4	Strengthening	km	3542	10,000
5	By passes	No	9	34
6	Reconstruction of bridges	No	301	470

\* As projected by Working Group on roads constituted for Ninth Five Year Plan.

**Statement-II**

S.No.	Name of State/UTs	Funds Provided for (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18479.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	310.00
3.	Assam	7022.00
4.	Bihar	8375.00
5.	Chandigarh	124.00
6.	Delhi	2200.00
7.	Goa	2975.00
8.	Gujarat	23431.00
9.	Haryana	26565.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6500.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	285.00
12.	Karnataka	12510.36
13.	Kerala	16669.00

1	2	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7939.50
15.	Maharashtra	12974.00
16.	Manipur	1735.00
17.	Meghalaya	2857.00
18.	Mizoram	0.00
19.	Nagaland	195.00
20.	Orissa	14704.00
21.	Pondicherry	244.64
22.	Punjab	19960.00
23.	Rajasthan	20165.00
24.	Sikkim	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	9958.50
26.	Tripura	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	30179.00
28.	West Bengal	17135.00
29.	Joggigappa Bridge	11950.00
30.	Ministry	4641.00
31.	BRDE	24900.00
32.	NHAI	9179.00
Total		314162.50

[English]

**Streamlining of Fee Structure**

1256. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether disparity exists in the tuition fee structure for B.E. courses for payment basis seats in different States;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to streamline the fee structure?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) As per regulations framed by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the tuition fee structure for payment seats of B.E. Courses has to be laid down by State Level Fee Committees keeping in view the various elements contributing to the actual cost of education. As such, the rates of

tuition fee vary from one State to another State. The details of fee structure currently prevailing are given in attached statement.

#### Statement

*Fee Ceiling Fixed by States per Annum for Degree Courses in Engineering & Technology*

(In Rupees)

S.No.	State	Payment Seats
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26,250
2.	Bihar	27,000
3.	Gujarat	20,000
4.	Kerala	46,828
		35,000 for Govt. self-financing colleges
5.	Maharashtra	32,000
6.	Orissa	29,000
7.	Punjab	44,960 + Rs. 3,700 one time payment
8.	Tamil Nadu	32,500
9.	Madhya Pradesh	37,500 + Additional fee of Rs. 7,500
10.	Karnataka	25,000
11.	Uttar Pradesh	76,000
12.	West Bengal	27,000

#### Foreign Equity In Shipping Companies

1257. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been considering the question of allowing 100% foreign equity in the shipping companies;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter;

(c) the proposals, if any received from foreign investors in this regard; and

(d) the present condition of the shipping industry indicating the number of ships, their tonnage capacity and the facilities available both in public and private sectors for shipping?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) As per the existing policy of

the Government, foreign equity investment upto 74% is allowed under the automatic approval scheme in shipping sector. However, permission for investment of foreign equity upto 100% is considered on case to case basis.

(d) As on 30.11.1998 shipping industry have 480 vessels aggregating to 6.77 Million Gross Registered Tonne (GRT). Indian shipping industry operates various types of services such as liner, bulk carrier, tanker, passenger etc. The share of the Public Sector Undertaking in over all tonnage is about 46%.

#### Strike by Crew at Chennai Port

1258. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in September, 1998 ships were stranded at Chennai Port due to strike by the crew;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of damage of perishable cargo like vegetables on account of strike; and

(d) the action taken to end such flash strikes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The mooring crew of the Marine Department of Chennai Port Trust resorted to sudden strike from the third shift (2200 Hrs.) of 30.8.98 demanding introduction of two long shifts posting of 12 hours each instead of 3 shifts of 8 hours and also to increase the manning strength prescribed for each vessel. The management could not agree to the unreasonable demand as it will have repercussion in other areas for the port and also in other Ports in the country.

(c) On account of strike, there was no damage of perishable cargo like vegetables at Chennai Port.

(d) The management always tries to ensure smooth and cordial relations with the Workers through process of negotiations. Two Labour Trustees are appointed by Government to be a part of Management. Provision of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 apply for Port Labour, however, flash strikes by labour unions can not be ruled out.

#### Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

1259. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently

reviewed performance of Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in the light of emerging trends in the review the Government are considering administrative restructuring/reorientation of the Institute; and

(d) if so, the details of the action plan in this regard for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Science and Technology University in Orissa

1260. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Science & Technology University in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal submitted by the State Government to the Centre in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have considered the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Mukherjee Committee

1261. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
(Jahanabad) :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

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

(a) whether a committee headed by Shri A.K. Mukherjee was constituted for giving suggestions for converting one-third of the total land of the country into the forest land;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof and the date on which the Government had received the Report; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in regard to implementation of the report so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri A.K. Mukherjee, IGF (Retired) was constituted by this Ministry to review the "Afforestation policies and rehabilitation of waste lands".

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The report was received by Government on 31.1.1998. The Committee has recommended that the future afforestation and JFM strategy in India should be guided by the following principles :-

- (i) To reach the goal of 33 per cent of the total land area under forest or cover, it is necessary to bring about 100 million ha. of land area under forest/tree cover. This will mean that around 70 million ha. of recorded forest land and an additional 30 million ha. of public and private wastelands have to be set aside for forestry purposes.
- (ii) The activities will amount to assisted natural regeneration in 15.5 million ha. in depleted forests, regeneration, afforestation and silvipasture in 15.5 million ha. of degraded forest land and bringing the additional 30 million ha. of public and private wastelands under afforestation through agro-forestry, farm forestry, silvipasture and the like.
- (iii) The implications are that annual afforestation and assisted natural regeneration silvipasture will amount to 3 million ha. if the goal of reaching the national target of 33 per cent is to be achieved within the next 20 years. The current annual rate is only 1.2 million ha. The task, therefore, is enormous and would require strengthening the capacity of the government machinery and innovative approaches and technology.
- (iv) Forests are our national assets and renewable resource if managed appropriately. Their management, utilisation and conservation should be guided by policies and strategies that capitalise on its ecological value and renewable character to achieve their long-term protection and sustainable development.

(v) Survival of forests is inter-linked with the forest-dwelling communities as well as the forest-dependent villagers in and around the forests. A future afforestation and forest rehabilitation strategy through JFM must recognise and duly support the identity, culture and the rights of such communities enabling them to have a stake in the development, conservation and sustainable utilisation of forest resources.

(vi) In any future strategy of development of the degraded forest lands and other wastelands as sustainable and environmentally sound sources of renewable energy, fodder, wood and timber must be recognised. The contribution to the maintenance of ecological processes to offset pressure on good natural high forests and to provide rural employment and development with adequate involvement of local inhabitants should be encouraged and enhanced.

(vii) The approach of afforestation and rehabilitation of degraded forest lands, public and private wastelands should be multisectoral and operations in such other sectors as agriculture, animal husbandry, rural development, tribal development and infrastructure should be obliged to consider implications of their actions on the strategy.

(viii) A future strategy of afforestation and rehabilitation of degraded forest lands must take into consideration the role of all acknowledged stakeholders and ensure their participation and encourage their involvement.

(ix) Efforts should be made to maximise assistance from international agencies for forestry specially under Agenda 21 & GEF in the context of conventions on Biodiversity, Climate change, combating desertification, etc.

(x) Control of forest fire for betterment of forests.

(xi) Regulation of grazing in forest area to prevent degradation.

(xii) Proper assessment and identification of wastelands in the entire country.

(d) After consideration, the Ministry has decided to initiate action on the following issues :-

(i) Strengthening Joint Forest Management regime and making it more effective.

(ii) Preparation of appropriate Action Plan on Forestry.

(iii) Involving villages situated on the periphery of forest areas in the development of degraded forest lands as well as areas adjoining the forest land.

(iv) Facilitating NABARD for providing soft loans to farmers, cooperatives, State Forest Corporations, etc., for rehabilitation of the waste lands in the country.

[English]

#### Lok Adalats for DVB

1262. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lok Adalats for the Delhi Vidyut Board have been set up on the direction of Delhi High Court;

(b) if so, whether such Lok Adalats are proposed to be set up for other public utility services like MTNL, MCD, DDA, NDMC etc., which would save a lot of litigational expenses and also speedy resolving of the disputes;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to issue directions to all such public utility services to set up Lok Adalats so as to reduce pressure on the courts and tribunals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Delhi Vidyut Board in due compliance of the directions of the Delhi High Court has initiated action in coordination with the Delhi Legal Services Authority for setting up permanent and continuous Lok Adalats in DVB.

(b) The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has issued notices to DDA, NDMC, MCD, MTNL and GIC in order to elicit their views with regard to the setting up of permanent Lok Adalats for resolution of the cases in which they are parties.

(c) and (d) The 1st Annual Meet of the State Legal Authorities held on 12th September, 1998 in New Delhi under the aegis of the NALSA, has adopted a resolution recommending that the Central Government should impress upon all the Departments of the Central Government/State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings to refer as many cases

as possible to Lok Adalats for conciliatory settlement and to also examine the feasibility of establishing separate Lok Adalats. Efforts are also afoot to establish permanent and continuous Lok Adalats in the Government Departments, Statutory Bodies and Public Sector Undertaking.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Illegal Trade of Wildlife Products

1263. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps at the national level to prevent illegal trade of wildlife and their products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have set up any Committee in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to implement its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The steps taken at the national level to prevent illegal trade of wildlife and their products is given in the attached statement.

(c) A special Inter-departmental Coordination and Enforcement Committee for strengthening measures for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife has been set up in the Ministry under the Chairmanship of Secretary (E & F) and representatives from Ministry of Home Affairs, CBI & CBE&C as members.

(d) The Committee held its first meeting in October, 1998 and has given following recommendations :

(i) Inter-ministerial co-ordination to control the poaching and illegal trade in wildlife products.

(ii) Setting up of state level coordination Committee comprising Police, Forest Department and other enforcement agencies and a district Coordination Committee.

(iii) Taking necessary assistance from Police, CBI & Para military forces to curb illegal wildlife trade and apprehending; the kingpins and master-minds involved in illegal trafficking of wildlife products;

(iv) Frequent interaction with all enforcement agencies.

(v) Training to wildlife officials on the latest investigation techniques; and crime investigations.

(e) The State Governments have been instructed to set up the co-ordination Committees and other concerning agencies have also been advised to take action as per recommendations of the Committee.

### Statement

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

(ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.

(iv) International trade in endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

(v) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(vi) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programme on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995 & 1996.

(vii) Staff in National Parks and Sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the National Parks and Sanctuaries.

(viii) Analogous to the Centre, the states have also been asked to set up co-ordination

committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control of illegal trade.

[English]

#### World Bank Assistance for Major Ports

1264. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned \$7,33,000 assistance to the Tariff Authority for major ports for undertaking the studies to guide the fixing of port tariffs in the country;

(b) if so, whether the authority was planning to commission a number of studies to guide the International exports to achieve a more rational ports tariff policy;

(c) whether the Government have set up any Committee to suggest amendments to the port laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project will include, among other things, commissioning of one expert study on port pricing to boost exports.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

A Committee was constituted with the following terms of reference :

- (i) To identify the provisions in the statute which are no longer required due to changes in the maritime/port activities over the years;
- (ii) To identify the provisions which are in tune with the present needs of the ports to operate in a commercial climate and in harmony with the liberalisation of the economy; and
- (iii) To examine whether the existing statutes can be unified/simplified into a single statute.

The Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry on 20.11.1998.

[Translation]

#### Female Literacy in Bihar

1265. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage of female literacy in Bihar is lowest;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons for it; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Additional Allocation for Elementary Education

1266. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received requests from various State Governments seeking additional financial assistance for spread of elementary education;

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

(c) the quantum of additional assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government, State-wise;

(d) the decision taken/proposed to be taken towards meeting this demand; and

(e) the time by which this demand is likely to be met by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No such proposals have been received in the Ministry from State Governments in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Development and Maintenance of National Highways in J & K

1267. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of vehicles in country, particularly in J&K and total increase during last three years;

(b) the total increase in the National Highways during this period in the country and particularly in J&K; and

(c) total amount spent on development and maintenance of National Highways in J&K during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The details of number of registered vehicles in the country and in the State of J&K as per available data are as under :-

	In the country	In the State of J&K
	(In thousand No.)	
No. of registered vehicles as on 31.3.95	30295	178
Increase during 1995-96	3263	17
No. of registered vehicles as on 31-3-96	33558	195

(b) The total increase in the National Highways during the last three years (1995-98) is as under :-

In the country	In the State of J&K
4459 kms.	NIL

(c) The total amount spent on development and maintenance of National Highways in J&K during the last three years (1995-98) are as under :-

Development works	Rs. 44.75 crores
Maintenance works	Rs. 20.31 crores

#### National Zoo Policy

1268. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the comprehensive details of the National Zoo Policy recently approved by the Union Government;

(b) the details of the measures planned to be organised by the Central Zoo Authority to strengthen the educational aspects of zoos; and

(c) the guidelines to be followed by the zoos to organise their collections of endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The comprehensive details of the National Zoo Policy recently approved by the Union Government are as under :-

(i) All zoos shall be managed with the objective of supporting the national efforts

on wildlife conservation mainly through ex-situ breeding of endangered species and motivating the visitors for living in harmony with nature.

(ii) No new zoo shall be established unless it is essential for strengthening the national conservation efforts and technical support for the operation of the proposed zoo on scientific line is available.

(iii) No zoo shall acquire any wild animals unless it is essential for maintaining the generic viability of the zoo population.

(iv) The zoos shall provide all animals in their collection, proper housing, upkeep and nutrition based on the natural history of the animal.

(v) The zoos shall ensure availability of highest standards of health care to all the animals in their collection. In this regard, cooperation of universities, colleges and veterinary institutions shall also be taken.

(vi) The zoos shall manage their animal collections according to a scientifically drawn management plan. Appropriate population control measures shall be taken in respect of prolifically breeding species.

(vii) Breeding programme of endangered species for reintroduction purposes in the wild would be taken only with specific approval of the Central/State Government and the Central Zoo Authority.

(viii) The zoo shall not enter into any transaction of animal and animal products with commercial organisations.

(ix) A formal education programme should be pursued by the zoos for strengthening the education message.

(x) No zoo shall allow within its campus any recreation/entertainment infrastructure which is inconsistent with the objectives of the zoo management or which compromises with the security/health requirement of the zoo animals.

(b) The Central Government has set up "Central Zoo Authority" for monitoring and overseeing the management of zoos in the country. The Authority provides technical inputs and financial assistance for upgrading the housing, upkeep and health care for zoo animals. Training programmes for zoo personnel are organised within the country and abroad. Education component of the zoo is also strengthened through better signage and other publicity material.



(c) It is mandatory for a zoo to get recognition of the Authority to start its operation as a zoo. The recognition is given by the Authority keeping due regard to the compliance of the prescribed standards for housing, upkeep, health care and planned breeding of zoo animals under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992.

[Translation]

#### Operation Blackboard Scheme

1269. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds made available during the year 1998-99 under the Operation Black Board Scheme, State-wise;

(b) whether the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Bihar have utilised these funds as per the criteria laid down by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the said funds have been diverted to other activities and not utilised for educational purposes by the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken against the State Governments for not following the laid down norms?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) State-wise details of funds released during 1998-99 under Operation Blackboard Scheme are given below :-

S.No.	State/UT.	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Gujarat	873.28
2.	Goa	9.00
3.	Karnataka	2301.28
4.	Maharashtra	2299.00
5.	Mizoram	41.44
6.	Delhi	23.02
7.	Pondicherry	0.80
Total		5637.82

The State Governments are required to utilise the above funds by 31st March, 1999. No proposals have been received from the Governments of Uttar

Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Bihar for sanction of funds during 1998-99 so far.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Lok Adalats

1270. SHRI S.S. OWAI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the total number of Lok Adalats proposed to be held during the current year in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : As per information provided by the concerned State Legal Services Authorities, 878 Lok Adalats and 400 Lok Adalats are proposed to be held in the State of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh respectively according to the scheduled programme.

[Translation]

#### "Blanket Ban on Felling Trees in H.P."

1271. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to blanket ban on felling of green trees in the State from the environment point of view each year, the Himachal Pradesh Government has been suffering a loss to the tune of Rs. 70 crores approximately, which constitutes a major portion of the plan outlay of the State; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to make up the said loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Upgradation of Kannada University

1272. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the Kannada University to the status of an International University with funds either from the Centre or UNESCO; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Women Welfare Oriented Schemes in Uttar Pradesh**

1273. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of women welfare oriented schemes implemented in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of women benefited from these schemes particularly in Khurja Parliamentary constituency during the said period, scheme-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the number of schemes out of them implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

**Disputes Regarding Power Projects**

1274. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the matter regarding the claims of Rajasthan in the power projects of Punjab has been referred to the Supreme Court in view of the agreement dated May 10, 1984 between Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab in this regard;

(b) if not, the time by which the matter is proposed to be referred to the Supreme Court;

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to ensure share of Rajasthan in the Hydel Power Projects taken up by Punjab on Ravi and Beas waters;

(d) whether the Government have initiated any discussions with the States on this issue;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate a national policy in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (f) An agreement was drawn up on 10-5-1984 amongst Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Central Government for making a reference to the Supreme Court on the question of entitlement of Haryana and Rajasthan to a share in the power generated in the Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam Project, Upper Bari Doab Canal (UBDC) Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi Hydel Scheme and, in the case of there being such an entitlement, to determine the share of each State. Thereafter, it was decided to defer making a reference to Supreme Court until all avenues of settlement are exhausted. The subject was discussed in meetings held by the Ministry of Water Resources. However, no consensus could be reached.

The subject was also discussed in the meeting of Northern Zonal Council held at Srinagar on 20th October, 1997, when it was decided that a separate conference of the Chief Ministers and concerned Ministers of the States of the Northern Zone could be convened at which Union Ministers and senior officers from the Ministries of Water Resources and Power could also be present. This conference could undertake indepth study of all the relevant issues and factors relating to sharing of water and power and evolve consensus on mutually agreeable parameters.

Accordingly, an official level meeting was convened by the Ministry of Power at Chandigarh on 16-9-1998 which was attended among others, by the representatives of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan as well as Himachal Pradesh. However, because of the rigid and divergent stand taken by the concerned State Governments, no consensus was possible. A separate conference of Chief Ministers of states in the Northern region is now contemplated, where an attempt would be made to resolve the issues in consultation with the concerned State Governments.

According to the Policy on Hydro Power Development approved by Government in August 1998, Government of India recognises the need for evolving an approach to ensure that the available hydro-electric potential is fully utilised without prejudice to the rights of the riparian States as determined by the Awards of the Tribunals/Agreements arrived at among the party States for a given river basin with regard to water sharing.

**Photo Identity Cards**

1275. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
DR. RAVI MALLU :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission have

decided not to make the use of Photo Identity Cards mandatory for voters in the recent assembly elections;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present position of issue of Photo Identity Cards in States;

(d) whether all citizens in the country have been provided with the Photo Identity Cards; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which all the citizens in the country are likely to get Photo Identity Cards?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) As a large number of electors have not yet been issued defect-free Photo Identity Cards, the use of Photo Identity Cards was not made mandatory by the Election Commission in the recent Assembly elections.

(c) The requisite information is given in the *Statement* which is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) No decision has yet been taken to provide Photo Identity Cards to all citizens in the country.

### **Statement**

#### *Status Report on Progress of Electors Photo I-Cards*

*As on 31.10.98*

State/UT	Total Electors	No. of Electors with Defectfree Identity Card	Percentage of 3 to 2
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	49140231	32544932	66.23
2. Arunachal Pradesh	565278	363143	64.24
3. Assam*	12575854	67479	0.54
4. Bihar\$	58438317	21681836	37.10
5. Goa	878707	525575	59.81
6. Gujarat	28771198	23177051	80.56
7. Haryana	10957242	9513347	86.82
8. Himachal Pradesh	3582024	2640398	73.7
9. Karnataka £	33052802	24046881	72.75
10. Kerala	21152899	11164440	52.78
11. Madhya Pradesh\$	43919010	27282131	62.12
12. Maharashtra	56173068	43556045	77.53
13. Manipur	1330299	1033733	77.70
14. Meghalaya £	1157450	644140	55.65
15. Mizoram@	441844	0	0
16. Nagaland &	925831	560207	63.00
17. Orissa	23373512	17976113	76.91
18. Punjab	15310889	10681780	69.77
19. Rajasthan £	29738496	18743095	63.03
20. Sikkim	236321	200077	84.66
21. Tamil Nadu	45577323	19755955	45.00
22. Tripura	1725809	1203291	69.72
23. Uttar Pradesh	101943066	53016879	52.01

	1	2	3	4
24. West Bengal £		46832298	34389847	73.43
25. Andaman & Nicobar Islands £		231928	177810	76.67
26. Chandigarh		533222	375406	70.4
27. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		95832	62950	65.69
28. Daman & Diu #		71931	45645	63.00
29. NCT of Delhi		8313868	5705390	68.62
30. Lakshadweep		36738	31032	84.47
31. Pondicherry		665486	555675	83.50
32. J & K		Not notified under Sec. 61A of the R.P. Act, 1951		
All India		597748773	361722284	60.51

Note : \$ 15.4.98      \* 15.5.98      # 15.8.98  
 & 30.8.98      £ 30.9.98

@ In Mizoram the work has not yet commenced.

[Translation]

#### Condition of Highways

1276. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Highways in pitiable condition, says study" appearing in the 'Business Standard' dated November 9, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In spite of the budgetary constraints, efforts are made to keep all the national highways in the country in traffic worthy conditions within the available resources.

[English]

#### Vijjeswaram Stage-II Project in A.P.

1277. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vijjeswaram Stage-II Project in Andhra Pradesh is pending on account of sanction

and supply of Naphtha to the Power Project has been adversely affected; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to get the Naphtha sanctioned to overcome and the power shortage in the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Vijjeswaram Stage-II power project (172 MW) of Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Ltd. (APGPCL) has already been given naphtha allocation. Further, APGPCL have informed in October, 1998 that the project has already been commissioned.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Purchase of Equipments

1278. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of equipments purchased by the Central Mining Research Institute and Central Fuel Research Institute during the last three years;

(b) the cost thereof and the details of each equipment separately;

(c) whether these institutions already have such equipments;

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing them again; and

(e) whether any action has been taken against those responsible for making these unnecessary purchases?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Central Mining Research Institute (CMRI) established in 1956 with two regional units purchased 48 number of equipment and the Central Fuel Research Institute (CFRI) established in 1946 with two regional units purchased 18 number of equipment over the three year period beginning April 1995 to March 1998.

(b) The statement of details of equipment and cost are given in enclosure as statement I & II.

(c) Both the institutions are over 40 years old and generally their equipment is antiquated. Thus most of the equipment purchased was to replace the obsolete equipment and some of it was to acquire newer/modern equipment.

(d) Only in seven cases the equipment purchased were similar to the existing equipment, this was due to placing them in different regional units.

(e) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*Details of Equipments*

Name of Equipment	Cost (Rs. Lakh)
1	2
<b>Central Mining Research Institute</b>	
1. Electro dynamometer	2.43
2. Environmental Chamber	7.07
3. Sound Level Meter	1.25
4. VOD Probe	6.10
5. Ambient Suspended Materials Monitor	2.67
6. Digital Temperature Logger	1.81
7. Automatic Data Acquisition System	22.51
8. Vacuum Quoting Unit	1.28
9. Hydraulic Pump	6.79
10. Environmental Test Chamber	4.60
11. Viscometer	6.49
12. Apple Machintosh with Accessories	5.97
13. High Temperature Critical Oxygen Index Attachment	4.00
14. Micro Scan Ex-100	4.05

1	2
15. Good Brand Testometric	5.98
16. Shoe Testing Machine	1.54
17. Portable Gas Sampler	1.40
18. IMR-2000 Gas Analyser Computer based	8.05
19. Infrared Thermometer	3.68
20. Sound Level Meter	0.98
21. Ambient Weather Monitoring Station	3.73
22. Brooke Field Viscometer	2.21
23. Pilot Test Chamber	2.36
24. Ultrasonic Concrete Tester	1.08
25. Electromech Vibrator	4.67
26. Safety Testing Set-up (TM-12)	10.75
27. Water Quality Analyser	4.72
28. Artificial Lung Machine	14.72
29. BOD Analyser	4.94
30. Dust Sampler	4.30
31. On-line Gas Analyser Computerised	8.80
32. Oxygen & Carbondioxide Monitor	1.45
33. Humidity and Temperature Indicator, CO Dectector, Oxygen Meter	1.62
34. Assman Type Ventilated Psychrometer	1.70
35. Micro-Manometer	4.64
36. Motorised Reverse Bed Testing Machine	2.29
37. Torsionn Testing Machine	2.05
38. Mciroprocessor based Portable Gas Analyser - Computerised	8.98
39. Triaxal Comp. Testing and Plate Load Tester - Computerised	11.60
40. Flexible Scope	10.00
41. Acoustic Emission Equipment	6.57
42. Blast Mate-III	5.35
43. Ricken Combustible Gas Detector	2.33
44. WASR High Pressure Pump	7.70
45. Multi Mixer	2.80

1	2
46. Wet Seiving Apparatus	1.63
47. UTT Autograph	31.00
48. S-350 System	40.00

**Statement-II****Details of Equipments**

Name of Equipment	Cost (Rs. Lakh)
<b>Central Fuel Research Institute</b>	
1. Thermal Gravimetric analyser (TGA-601)	11.50
2. Microwave Oven	6.73
3. Milli-Ro-Plus & Milli-Q-Plus	3.60
4. Lanbrse Alpha Counting System	6.77
5. Micro pressure controlled system	6.00
6. Diffused Reflectance	9.75
7. Carbon Hydrogen Nitrogen CHN-1000	19.62
8. Thermal Gravimetric Analyser (TGA-60001)	12.09
9. Ceramic Plate Extractor	3.69
10. Molecular Distillation apparatus	8.48
11. Mono Static Sodar	6.30
12. Refregator Centrifuge	4.45
13. X-ray refraction system	59.58
14. TG-DTA sample Scanner	29.52
15. Particle Size Analyser	18.88
16. UV-VIS Spectrometer	6.02
17. Continuous Reactor	10.97
18. Impact Double RM Crusher, Deshaling screen, Sieve Band, Wet vibrating screen, Pinging Screen and Dry vibrating screen	25.22

[English]

**Reservation for SC/ST/OBCs**

1279. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of posts reserved for SC/ST/OBCs lying vacant in the Ministry/Department and Undertakings under his Ministry as on October 31, 1998;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the date from which these posts are lying vacant; and

(d) the time by which the said posts will be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

**Plan Outlay for Major Ports**

1280. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total plan outlay for the major ports during the year 1998-99 (port-wise);

(b) the total outlay utilised by these major ports during the current fiscal year, port-wise;

(c) whether the ports have fallen considerably behind in the utilisation of the Plan allocations during the half-year of the current fiscal year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken to expedite the work on the projects and to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to avoid cost overruns due to delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The Port-wise break up of the Annual Plan outlay for 1998-99 and the outlay utilised during current financial year upto October 1998 is given in the attached statement.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Enhanced powers have been delegated to Major Port Trusts to expedite approvals to projects. The Monitoring of port projects is done frequently at Port level. This Ministry and the Ministry of Programme Implementation also carry out periodic reviews of project implementation. Projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above are monitored by the Prime Minister's office.

**Statement**

Port-wise break up of Annual Plan 1998-99 outlay for Major Ports and the Utilisation of Outlays during Current Financial Year upto October 1998

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the Port	Annual Plan 1998-99	Actual Expenditure upto Oct. 1998
1.	Calcutta/Haldia	30.00	21.19
2.	Mumbai	110.00	7.90
3.	J L Nehru	70.50	5.74
4.	Chennai	170.00	129.16
5.	Cochin	10.00	4.42
6.	Vizag	50.00	16.68
7.	Kandla	65.50	18.62
8.	Mormugao	15.00	14.56
9.	Paradip	120.00	107.79
10.	New Mangalore	30.00	8.12
11.	Tuticorin	55.00	5.38
Total		726.00	339.56

[Translation]

**Achievements of Operation Blackboard Scheme**

1281. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the achievements of the operation Blackboard scheme, State-wise;

(b) the total amount spent under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the States in which the targets fixed for the above scheme have been achieved;

(d) whether there are certain schools having no buildings, buildings in a bad shape, less rooms as compared to the requirement and having inadequate teachers in different parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the manner in which the Government propose to grapple with the problems?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A Statement-I giving State-wise details of achievements under operation Blackboard Scheme from 1987-88 to 1997-98 is attached.

(b) Statement-II giving State-wise details of funds released/utilised from 1987-88 to 1997-98 under the scheme is attached.

(c) Funds for teaching learning equipment and sanction of teachers posts for single teacher primary schools have been provided as per targets to States/UTs.

(d) As per VIth All India Educational Survey, 1993 there are 21858 primary schools in open space, 2090 schools in Tents and 17250 schools in Thatched huts out of a total of 570455 primary schools.

(e) Primary school buildings are constructed from the funds released by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment and under Externally Assisted Education Projects. Efforts to provide buildings to all primary schools are constantly being made through efforts of Central and State Governments.

**Statement-I**

Statement Giving Details of Physical Achievements under Operation Blackboard Scheme from 1987-88 to 1997-98

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Pry. schools for which funds have been released to States/UTs for teaching learning equipment	No. of Upper pry. schools for which funds have been released to States/UTs for teaching learning equipment	Posts of Addl. teachers sanctioned for single teacher primary schools	Posts of Addl. teachers sanctioned for upper primary schools	Posts of 3rd teachers sanctioned for pry. schools with enrolment more than 100	Addl. room constructed by States/UTs as per OB norms
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43706	5380	18032	5047	20349	22135
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	952	278	526		225	154

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	25970	6730	8903	4040	1723	4079
4.	Bihar	51355	3558	13303	-	-	18462
5.	Goa	966	78	167	-	2	235
6.	Gujarat	12393	16279	2374	-	-	3601
7.	Haryana	7445	54	382	-	199	900
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6934	2532	1951	347	838	1884
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7768	2668	4380	2668	1200	3488
10.	Karnataka	22281	17718	14350	17718	2769	16675
11.	Kerala	6674	2834	-	-	-	235
12.	Madhya Pradesh	64722	6000	22163	-	-	13208
13.	Maharashtra	36800	16864	15604	10969	4200	14368
14.	Manipur	2550	398	338	-	-	303
15.	Meghalaya	3141	733	1969	733	200	2503
16.	Mizoram	1015	150	119	-	171	152
17.	Nagaland	1190	369	42	-	-	3
18.	Orissa	34176	996	14112	-	5258	5430
19.	Punjab	12925	1687	1457	1353	-	1941
20.	Rajasthan	27023	2903	25352	1903	1692	9225
21.	Sikkim	509	-	45	-	-	33
22.	Tamil Nadu	29255	1560	2724	-	4613	10888
23.	Tripura	1927	435	145	40	210	605
24.	Uttar Pradesh	70438	5310	8891	-	11800	33283
25.	West Bengal	48450	295	1679	-	-	12918
26.	A & N Islands	182	44	7	-	2	10
27.	Chandigarh	23	-	-	-	-	1
28.	D & N Haveli	120	37	80	-	-	54
29.	Daman & Diu	32	43	-	-	-	2
30.	Delhi	1688	437	-	196	-	10
31.	Lakshadweep	19	4	-	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	771	92	51	48	-	72
<b>Total</b>		<b>522902</b>	<b>96449</b>	<b>149146</b>	<b>45089</b>	<b>55951</b>	<b>176807</b>



**Statement-II**

*Unutilised funds lying with State Governments/UTs from out of funds sanctioned under Operation  
Blackboard Scheme from 1987-88 to 1997-98*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	Released	Utilised	Unutilised	Percentage of Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20757.42	16910.20	3847.22	81.47%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	692.07	630.82	61.25	91.15%
3.	Assam	12394.36	9701.37	2692.99	78.27%
4.	Bihar	21300.54	16153.21	5147.33	75.84%
5.	Goa	265.51	265.51	0.00	100%
6.	Gujarat	8809.70	4040.53	4769.17	45.86%
7.	Haryana	856.64	831.74	24.90	97.09%
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4935.73	4338.80	596.93	87.91%
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6237.89	5244.78	993.11	84.08%
10.	Karnataka	18462.83	14375.49	4087.34	77.86%
11.	Kerala	1691.89	1381.05	310.84	81.63%
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10893.55	6026.73	4866.82	55.32%
13.	Maharashtra	10354.06	30347.85	6.21	99.97%
14.	Manipur	457.00	276.80	180.20	60.57%
15.	Meghalaya	2610.32	2610.32	0.00	100%
16.	Mizoram	249.53	210.01	39.52	84.16%
17.	Nagaland	295.11	114.01	181.10	38.63%
18.	Orissa	19792.04	18787.32	1004.72	94.92%
19.	Punjab	3069.59	2935.99	133.60	95.65%
20.	Rajasthan	20687.00	19384.94	1302.06	93.71%
21.	Sikkim	75.56	75.56	0.00	100%
22.	Tamil Nadu	4881.55	4230.27	651.28	86.66%
23.	Tripura	573.98	389.08	184.90	67.79%
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12333.55	10209.55	2124.00	82.78%
25.	West Bengal	4318.94	3554.47	764.47	82.30%
26.	A & N Islands	30.09	12.09	18.00	40.18%
27.	Chandigarh	1.17	1.17	0.00	100%
28.	D & N Haveli	36.46	17.96	18.50	49.25%

1	2	3	4	5	6
29.	Daman & Diu	21.44	1.19	20.25	5.55%
30.	Delhi	404.81	231.97	172.84	57.30%
31.	Lakshadweep	2.48	0.48	2.00	19.35%
32.	Pondicherry	94.14	81.64	12.50	86.72%
Total		207586.95	173372.90	34214.05	84%

**Note:** The unutilised funds are from out of funds sanctioned for Teaching Learning Equipments to State Governments mainly for upper primary schools during the last three years.

[*English*]

### Construction Works in Goa

1282. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction works are being undertaken under the Central Road Fund in Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have released its share amount as part of the expenditure to be incurred on these works;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the said amount is likely to be released by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is one on-going work namely Construction of Verna-Rassain Road (Part-I) (Length 3 Km.) for an estimated cost of Rs. 97.40 lakhs with CRF share of Rs. 70.62 lakhs in the State of Goa.

(c) to (e) Funds are being released as per requirement of the project within the amounts accrued for the state under CRF.

### Navigation facilities in major rivers

1283. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to expand navigation facilities during Ninth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During Ninth Five Year Plan, the focus would be mainly on the provision/upgradation of IWT infrastructural facilities *i.e.* navigational channel, IWT terminals with loading/unloading facilities and navigational aids on three existing National Waterways, namely, the river Ganga from Allahabad to Haldia, the river Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya and the West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kollam alongwith Champakara and Udyogmandal canals. Development works on a few new waterways have also been proposed for commencement during this plan subject to availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

### Diversion of Funds

1284. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments have diverted the funds meant for literacy campaign to other schemes and as a result thereof literacy campaign has not taken off; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

### Private participation in Power Generation

1285. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have outlined a time bound action plan for generation of power; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The draft Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) drawn up by the Planning Commission outlines a programme for generation of power. This includes :-

- (i) Restructuring of power sector to encourage private sector participation.
- (ii) Early completion of the on-going projects.
- (iii) Maximisation of benefits from the existing plants by improving the Plant Load Factor (PLF).
- (iv) Reducing the transmission and distribution losses.
- (v) Rationalisation of electricity tariff.
- (vi) Establishment of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) at Centre and State Electricity Regulatory Commission at State level.
- (vii) Demand Management and energy conservation measures by different end-users.

#### **Fear of Earthquakes in North-East**

1286. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of experts have feared that the North-Eastern states may face the danger of high intensity earthquakes in the near future.

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard with particular reference to educating the people about do's and don'ts in case of earthquakes; and

(c) the number of times North-Eastern states had earthquakes in recent past and intensities thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Sir, presently there is no scientific technique available anywhere in the world to predict the occurrence of an earthquake with reasonable degree of accuracy with regard to time, space and magnitude. However, according to seismic zoning map of India published by the Bureau of Indian Standards, North-Eastern states fall in zone V which is most vulnerable to earthquakes.

(b) The Bureau of Indian Standards has prepared a number of publications dealing with guidelines for

construction of earthquake resistant structures in different seismic zones. The Department of Science and Technology has supported public awareness activities in the region including publication of posters to educate people about do's and don'ts during occurrence of earthquakes. The Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment has also brought out publications/guidelines for promoting earthquake resistant, housing and building construction. In addition, Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment has recently brought out the vulnerability Atlas of India which provides statewide vulnerability maps, risk levels of the existing housing types in each district of the country and guidelines for strengthening of existing buildings to withstand the forces of earthquakes.

(c) Five earthquakes of magnitude 5.0 and above have occurred in North-Eastern India and its adjoining areas during this year till date.

#### **Establishment of Universities**

1287. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa had sent a recommendation to the Government of India for opening a new University in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to open a Rural University in Koraput;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the criteria adopted in this regard;

(e) the number of rural universities functioning in the country and the number out of them in Tribal Areas; and

(f) the number of proposals pending with his ministry for opening new rural universities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) A proposal for establishment of a Tribal University in Koraput region of South Orissa was received by the Government of India. The proposal was considered but it was not found feasible to open the proposed university.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Universities are not classified as rural or urban. However, the following two universities have

special thrust on rural population :

(i) Mahatma Gandhi Gramoday Vishwavidyala, Chittrakoot (M.P.).

(ii) Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu (Deemed to be University). 13 Universities are located in predominantly tribal areas.

(f) None.

### Primary Schools

1288. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of primary schools and teachers needed to cope with the rise in population in the country;

(b) the target fixed in this regard during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the achievements made thereunder; and

(c) the target fixed for the Ninth Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education 1986 and its Programme of Action as modified in 1992 provided that State Governments will ensure that all habitation with a population of 300 (200 in the case of tribal, hilly and desert areas) will be provided a primary school. Targets are not fixed on the basis of rise in population.

[Translation]

### Condition of National Highway-7 between Mangavan and Hanumana

1289. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road between Mangavan and Hanumana on National Highway No. 7 is totally damaged and is no more motorable;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the proposal formulated for its reconstruction; and

(d) the details of funds allocated for the repair of the said segment of the road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Fund for repair and maintenance are allocated for the entire National Highway Net-work in the state and not segment wise.

[English]

### Hydro Electric Project in Kerala

1290. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Hydro Electric Project in Kerala is pending with the Government for sanction; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total hydro power generation likely to be generated from the said project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Adirapally Hydro-electric Project (2 x 80 MW) and Puyankutty Stage-I Hydro-electric Project (2 x 120 MW) have been accorded techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). However, these projects are awaiting investment approval and forest clearance respectively. In addition, the following projects have been returned by CEA to the State Government/Project authorities for re-submission after attending to the observations.

S. No.	Name of the Project	Likely Annual Energy Generation (Gwh)
1.	Kerala Bhavani (3 x 50 MW)	420
2.	Mananthwady MPP (4 x 60 MW)	817
3.	Pambar (2 x 15 MW)	168
4.	Kuttiyadi Augmentation (2 x 50 MW)	213
5.	Pandiar Punnappuzha (2 x 35 MW)	262
6.	Barapole (2x3 + 2x1.5 MW)	26
7.	Pullivasal Rehabilitation (3 x 20 MW)	279
8.	Karapara - Kuriarkutty MPP (2 x 12 + 3x20 MW)	240

### Religious Courts

1291. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL :  
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that

parallel religious courts are functioning in some minority dominated areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the functioning of such courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### UN Aid for Primary Education

1292. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UN agencies have lately granted aid worth \$ 20 million to India to help, strengthen and promote its primary education effort especially the enrolment of girl students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which this aid is likely to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Government of India and five UN Agencies viz. UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNIFPA and ILO have signed an agreement on 7 August, 1998 for programme support of US \$ 20 million to on-going efforts of the Government towards Universalisation of Elementary Education. The objectives of the programme include promotion of primary education for girls and other marginalised population groups.

(c) The programme envisages development of community-based school management strategies and improving performance of teachers in the use of interactive, child-centred and gender sensitive methods of teaching.

#### Inland Water Transit and Trade between India and Bangladesh

1293. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade between India and Bangladesh is still in force;

(b) if so, whether the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation has been operating cargo

services between Calcutta and Assam via Bangladesh;

(c) the present status of the proposal to explore an alternative to the International Steamer Route in Sunderbans used by cargo vessels plying between Calcutta and Assam/Bangladesh;

(d) whether studies/surveys have been ordered in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited are operating cargo services between Calcutta and Bangladesh as well as Calcutta and Assam via Bangladesh.

(c) to (e) The alternate route was suggested by the Govt. of West Bengal. The reconnaissance survey of the alternate route was conducted during December, 1997 and this route was found to be 42 km. longer. The prime operator, CIWTC has also insisted for retaining the original route as the same was in operation for more than 125 years. The case was brought to the notice of the State Govt. during October, 1998. Accordingly, a revised proposal for retaining the original International Steamer Route for declaration as National Waterway is being submitted to State Govt. Simultaneously tenders have been invited by Inland Waterways Authority of India for carrying out detailed hydrographic survey of main and alternate routes. The finalisation of tenders is in process.

#### Pollution in Mahanadi

1294. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has made any study to find out the water quality of the river Mahanadi which is considered highly polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by both the Union Government and State Government to purify the water of Mahanadi and its main tributary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to a survey done by the Central Pollution Control Board, river Mahanadi is polluted. The present water quality of the river is of Category 'D' (fit for propagation of wild

life & fisheries) as against that of the desired Category 'C' (drinking water source with conventional treatment followed by disinfection).

(c) A pollution abatement scheme for river Mahanadi and its tributary at Cutack has been approved by Government at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.59 crore.

[Translation]

#### More Funds to Universities

1295. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated to different Universities during the last three years and till date are meagre in view of the increasing number of students in these Universities and their affiliated colleges;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide more funds to these universities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Central Universities are established by acts of Parliament and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by the Central Government through UGC. State Universities are set up by the Acts of State Legislatures and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by the respective State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to the eligible State Universities and Colleges, as per the prescribed norms, and that too, only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/agencies concerned to provide reasonable level of Plan and Non-Plan grants to the Universities/Colleges established by them. The grants provided by the Government to UGC for disbursement to the eligible universities and colleges have been steadily increasing over the years. The Government provided an amount of Rs. 921.24 crores as against a sum of Rs. 576.00 crores released in the 7th Plan.

[English]

#### Science Exhibition

1296. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry had organised an exhibition viz. "India's Scientific Vision - Agrasar" in Delhi recently;

(b) If so, the approximate number of persons/students who visited the exhibition;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on it; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to organise such exhibitions in other parts of the country including the proposed locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About five lakhs

(c) About Rs. 68 Lakhs.

(d) The particular exhibition "Agrasar" was specifically developed in connection with the celebrations of 50 years of country's independence. Part of this exhibition would be made use of in other parts of the country, especially in exhibitions organised by the department of Science & Technology in the coming months. The first such occasion will be during the Indian Science Congress Session at Chennai in early January, 1999.

#### Cochin Ship Building Yard

1297. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cochin Ship Building Yard is earning profits for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of ship built at this shipyard during the said period;

(d) whether this Yard has secured any order for building new ships recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last three years Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) have earned the following net profits :

Year	Rs. in crores
1995-96	18.46
1996-97	12.56
1997-98	31.72

(c) During the last three years Cochin Shipyard Limited have constructed and delivered 5 Patrol Boats to the Fisheries Deptt., Government of Kerala and one 92,000 Dead Weight Tonnes (DWT) Double Hull Crude Oil Tanker for Shipping Corporation of India is under construction. The vessel is targetted to be delivered during the current financial year.

(d) and (e) The Yard has not secured any orders for a large ship. However, they have secured orders for building 4 Tugs (3 for Kandla Port Trust and 1 for New Mangalore Port Trust).

#### Loan of APSEB

1298. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to defer the repayment by five years and an easy payment schedule on State Electricity Board loans;

(b) if so, the total dues APSEB has to pay to the Government;

(c) if so, whether the Government have agreed to consider the request of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the dues payable by APSEB to the Central Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power are as under :-

REC	Rs. 889.00 crores as on 30-11-1998
NTPC	Rs. 237.25 crores as on 31-10-1998
Power Grid	Rs. 92.55 crores as on 30-11-1998
PFC	Rs. 914.21 crores as on 31-10-1998
Total	Rs. 2136.01 crores

(c) and (d) The Government of India has already given concessions to Andhra Pradesh by way of additional power allocations including 100% allocation from 1000 MW Simhadri project of NTPC and transfer of 150 MW of power from the Eastern Region Power Stations of NTPC. These concessions were agreed to in view of the assurance given by the State Government that full payments for current supplies would be made. In addition to this the Government of India have already committed large sums of money through PFC and in the form of projects through NTPC and Power Grid. Any delay in repayment of loans by Government of Andhra

Pradesh would have in adverse impact on the ability of the PSUs to repay loans taken by them from multilateral lending institutions like World Bank, ADB and OECF as well as violate the covenants laid down by them. Hence Government of India have suggested the Government of Andhra Pradesh to structure the reform process in such a way that it can be funded from available sources.

#### Criminal Justice Commission

1299. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Criminal Justice Commission to overcome the difficulties of innocent people implicated by the investigating agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(c) The existing provisions in law provide methodology to deal with a person acting contrary to law.

[Translation]

#### Proposal from Election Commission

1300. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission had sent a proposal for fair and non-party Government at the Centre and States at the time of election;

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

(c) whether the said proposal if implemented, would strengthen the democratic system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### Abolition of Import Duty

1301. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have considered the proposal to abolish import duty on the equipment for Mega power projects in the country;

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

(c) the extent to which this decision will help in creating additional generation capacity of power; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government has recently recast its policy on the development of mega power projects both in the Public as well as Private Sector, which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. One of the policy decisions taken is that the import of capital equipment for these projects would be free of customs duty. This would bring down the tariff for sale of power by such mega projects and provide much needed relief to State Electricity Boards.

(c) It is visualised that through the revised mega power policy, a capacity of 15000 to 20000 MW would be added.

(d) As indicated above, the decision to exempt the mega projects from customs duty for import of capital equipment has already been taken.

### Privatisation of National Highways in Goa

1302. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain works/facilities relating to National Highways in Goa are being privatised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Goa has proposed the construction of second Zuari bridge on NH-17 on Build, Operate and Transfer (B.O.T.) basis. The proposal is to construct a two lane prestressed

concrete bridge of about 895m length and approach roads of about 980m length for both sides.

(c) The proposal, recently received from Goa Government, is at an initial stage of scrutiny. As such, it is too early to indicate the time frame for completion of the process.

### Amendment to Representation of Peoples Act

1303. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission has advised the Government to amend the Representation of the Peoples Act to curb excess expenditure by the candidates during elections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pursuant to a decision taken in the meeting of political Parties held on 22nd May, 1998, the proposals made in this regard have been referred to a High Powered Committee headed by Shri Indrajit Gupta, Member of Parliament.

### Power Production in Private Sector

1304. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand and availability of power during 1996-97 and 1997-98 in the country and till-date, State-wise;

(b) whether there was a shortfall of more than 20 per cent in demand during the same period which is likely to go up in the coming years;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for power production in the private sector to overcome this shortage;

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The State-wise power supply position (energy) during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and April-Oct., 1998 are given in the statement I & II.

(b) The shortfall in energy and peak demand in the country as a whole has been less than 20% during 1996-97, 1997-98 and April-October, 1998.



The energy and peak shortages in the country during the period April-October, 1998 were 5.2% and 13.2% respectively. However, some of the States have experienced energy/peak shortages of more than 20% during the above period.

encourage greater participation in the Private Sector in the Indian Power Sector. The policy has been reviewed from time to time with a view to streamlining the process of development of the Private Sector power projects.

(c) and (d) A Policy was announced in 1991, to

(e) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise/Region-wise comparison of Actual Power Supply Position for 1996-97 & 1997-98*

Region/State	1997-98				1996-97			
	Require- ment	Availability	Shortage	%	Require- ment	Availability	Shortage	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Northern Region</b>								
Chandigarh	941	941	0	0.0	887	885	2	0.2
Delhi	14952	14676	276	1.8	14060	13694	366	2.6
Haryana	13196	12981	215	1.6	13895	13078	817	5.9
H.P.	2897	2895	2	0.1	2325	2303	22	0.9
J&K	5346	5201	145	2.7	4833	3941	872	18.0
Punjab	22100	21928	172	0.8	21770	21414	356	1.6
Rajasthan	20655	20288	367	1.8	20080	18595	1485	7.4
U.P.	41157	36105	5058	12.3	41365	35600	5765	13.9
Total (NR)	121244	115015	6229	5.1	119215	109530	9685	8.1
<b>Western Region</b>								
Gujarat	40622	38489	2133	5.3	38225	35111	3114	8.1
M.P.	32101	29936	2165	6.7	33045	29096	3949	12.0
Maharashtra	61935	60149	1786	2.9	60181	56824	3357	5.6
Goa	1369	1369	0	0.0	1273	1273	0	0.0
Total (WR)	136027	129943	6084	4.5	132724	122304	10420	7.9
<b>Southern Region</b>								
A.P.	41599	35606	5993	14.4	40240	31359	8881	22.1
Karnataka	26577	21192	5385	20.3	24940	18172	6768	27.1
Kerala	11611	9404	2207	19.0	11415	8820	2595	22.7
Tamil Nadu	37870	32550	5320	14.0	36080	31118	4962	13.8
Total (SR)	117657	98752	18905	16.1	112675	89469	23206	20.6
<b>Eastern Region</b>								
Bihar	9350	7493	1857	19.9	9625	6981	2644	27.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D.V.C.	8370	8156	214	2.6	8315	8064	251	3.0
Orissa	10967	10776	200	1.8	10605	10282	323	3.0
West Bengal	15885	15775	110	0.7	15475	15026	449	2.9
Total (ER)	44581	42200	2381	5.3	44020	40353	3667	8.3

**North-Eastern Region**

Arunachal Pradesh	144.3	115.3	29	20.1	162.9	83.9	79	48.5
Assam	2987.3	2727.5	259.8	8.7	3004.8	2697.5	307.3	10.2
Manipur	511.6	404.7	106.9	20.9	416.9	372.4	44.5	10.7
Meghalaya	413.0	425.8	-12.8	-3.1	412.3	412.3	0	0.0
Mizoram	214.9	153.2	61.7	28.7	189.0	152.8	36.2	19.2
Nagaland	213.9	159.5	54.4	25.4	187.3	157.2	30.1	16.1
Tripura	511.3	439	72.3	14.1	482.8	367.9	114.9	23.0
Total (NER)	4996.3	4425	571.3	11.4	4856	4244	612	12.6
All India	424505	390335	34170	8.1	413490	365900	47590	11.5

**Statement-II***Actual Power Supply Position*

(All figures in MU net)

Region/State/ System	April, 98—October, 98			
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	%
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Northern Region</b>				
Chandigarh	633	630	3	0.5
Delhi	10160	9935	225	2.2
Haryana	8495	8275	220	2.6
H.P.	1689	1687	2	0.1
J & K	3034	2988	46	1.5
Punjab	16364	15876	488	3.0
Rajasthan	12430	12145	285	2.3
U.P.	24395	22276	2119	8.7
N.R.	77200	73812	3388	4.4
<b>Western Region</b>				
Gujarat	25249	24065	1184	4.7
M.P.	18378	17945	433	2.4
Maharashtra	36834	35913	921	2.5

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	868	842	26	3.0
WR	81329	78765	2564	3.2
<b>Southern Region</b>				
A.P.	23349	21221	2128	9.1
Karnataka	14330	12180	2150	15.0
Kerala	7043	6336	707	10.0
Tamilnadu	22057	19295	2762	12.5
SR	66779	59032	7747	11.6
<b>Eastern Region</b>				
Bihar	5050	4585	465	9.2
D.V.C.	4660	4867	-207	-4.4
Orissa	6070	6271	-201	-3.3
West Bengal	9653	9957	-304	-3.1
ER	25433	25680	-247	-1.0
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	76.0	65.6	10.4	13.7
Assam	1747.7	1679.4	66.3	3.9
Manipur	289.0	287.0	2.0	0.7
Meghalaya	236.0	254.1	-18.1	-7.7
Mizoram	122.9	112.5	10.4	8.5
Nagaland	117.7	110.1	7.6	6.5
Tripura	322.7	317.3	5.4	1.7
NER	2912.0	2826.0	86.0	3.0
All India	253653	240115	13538	5.3

#### Sanctuaries affected by Floods

1305. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV ;  
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

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

(a) the number of sanctuaries affected by recent floods and natural calamities this year and during the last two years;

(b) the details of the loss of wildlife, both rare and endangered species, sanctuary-wise;

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned funds for the rescue operations;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent out of the allocated amount, State-wise; and

(e) the preventive steps taken by the Government to avoid any further damage in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Energising of Pumpsets in Rural Areas

1306. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented

a programme of energisation of irrigation pumpsets in the rural areas during Eighth Plan period in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the targets and achievements made in regard to energising pumpsets and financial assistance provided for the purpose, year-wise;

(c) whether inspite of encouraging results under the scheme, the provision of funds and targets under the scheme during the said period remained almost static; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and provision of funds likely to be made available to Maharashtra for pump energisation during 1998-99 and Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The targets and achievements in energising pumpsets in the Eighth Plan period in Maharashtra under REC schemes and the financial assistance provided are as under :-

Year	Pumpsets Energised			Financial Assistance for RE including Pumpset Energisation	
	Target	Achievement		Allocation	Disbursement
		Under REC	Total Incl. REC*		
1992-93	35000	46284	57815	3300	3301
1993-94	44000	54261	65088	4650	5647
1994-95	43000	87954	95382	6254	9299
1995-96	47000	92395	104527	6330	9730
1996-97	53500	62655	64414	6700	8599
Total	222500	343549	387226	27234	35576

\*Source-CEA

(c) The yearwise financial assistance provided for the purpose indicates an increasing trend. The targets are also constrained by the available unexploited ground water potential.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 103.00 crore has been earmarked for Maharashtra State for the year 1998-99 under REC Programmes for energisation of 61,000 pumpsets and other rural electrification works. However, the 9th Plan Programme for Maharashtra State and other States is yet to be finalised by Planning Commission.

[Translation]

**Assistance to Nalanda Mahavihar and Sobha Sansthan**

1307. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the central assistance provided to Nalanda Mahavihar and Sobha Sansthan with the details of grants given last year and the manner in which these were spent, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding the utilisation of grants; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Government of India took over the Nava Nalanda Mahavihar from the Government of Bihar in 1994. The grants given to the Institute during these years is as under :

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
1994-95	14.47	-	14.47
1995-96	50.00	25.50	75.50
1996-97	50.00	25.50	75.50
1997-98	122.00	35.00	157.00

The Institute has spent the grant on its ongoing academic activities and other day to day expenditure on maintenance, payment of salaries etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Development/Modernisation of National Highways**

1308. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI ABHAY SINH S. BHONSLE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken by the Government to develop National Highways and to modernise the highway system;

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

(c) the names of the main projects completed during the year 1997-98, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the projects to be completed in the year 1998-99 alongwith the latest position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Working Group was constituted to work out the requirement of National Highways for the 9th Plan which had finalised a plan and assessed the requirement of funds at Rs. 23,000 crores.

(c) Projects costing more than Rs. 100 crores completed in the year 1997-98 are as follows :-

S.No.	State	Name of the Project
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4 laning of Arakapalli-Vishakapatnam Sectio of NH-5.
2.	Assam	Jogighoppa Bridge across river Brahmaputra
3.	Haryana border	4 laning of Ballabgarh-U.P./Haryana section of NH-2
4.	Rajasthan	4 laning of Kotputli-Achral Section of NH-8
5.	Uttar Pradesh	4 laning of U.P./Haryana border to Mathura of NH-2.

(d) Projects costing more than Rs. 100 crores likely to be completed in the year 1998-99 are :

1.	Karnataka	4 laning of Bangalore-Hosur Section of NH-7
2.	Kerala	4 laning of Alwaye-Sherthalai Section of NH-47

[English]

**Import of Small Ships and Floating Crafts**

1309. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to continue with quantitative restrictions on the import of small ships and floating crafts for at least four years to protect the domestic ship building industry;

(b) whether the Government will have to completely deregulate the import of vessels by March 31, 2001 as per the World Trade Organisation norms;

(c) whether this decision will improve the order book position of domestic shipyards and give them adequate time to improve their facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Committee was constituted to consider the question of continuing restrictions on import of small ships and floating crafts, etc. The Committee had recommended the continuation of such restrictions till 2001.

(b) Information is being collected.

(c) and (d) The decision to continue the restrictions on import of small ships and floating crafts will improve the order book position. The Committee as stated above had observed that the Indian Shipyards who are capable of building small ships and floating crafts at competitive rates desired that Quantitative restriction on imports be continued till the year 2001 by which time they will be able to compete with foreign shipyards competitively.

**Vacancies of Judges In High Courts/ Supreme Court**

1310. SHRI RAJO SINGH :

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :

RAO INDERJIT SINGH :

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR :

PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of vacancies of Judges in

various High Courts, court-wise and in Supreme Court of India;

(b) whether the Government propose to fill up these vacancies in view of the recent judgement of the Supreme Court on the appointment of Judges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether an elaborate procedure for appointment of judges has been evolved and laid down;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which vacancies of judges are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (f) As on 1.12.1998, against the sanctioned strength of 587 Judges/Additional Judges of High Courts, 433 Judges/Additional Judges were in position, leaving 154 vacancies of Judges/Additional Judges to be filled up. As on 1.12.1998, against the sanctioned strength of 26 Judges, 18 Judges were in position in the Supreme Court of India, leaving 8 vacancies of Judges to be filled up. The details of vacancies are attached as statement.

The procedure for appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts involves consultations among several constitutional authorities.

Proposal for appointment of Judges in Supreme Court is initiated by Chief Justice of India whereas proposal for appointment of a Judge in a High Court has to be initiated by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

#### Statement

S.No.	High Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 1.12.1998
1	2	3
1.	High Court	
1.	Allahabad	27
2.	Andhra Pradesh	13
3.	Bombay	13
4.	Calcutta	17
5.	Delhi	6
6.	Gauhati	3
7.	Gujarat	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3

1	2	3
10.	Karnataka	6
11.	Kerala	6
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8
13.	Madras	7
14.	Orissa	3
15.	Patna	8
16.	Punjab & Haryana	15
17.	Rajasthan	10
18.	Sikkim	2
Total		154
II. Supreme Court		8

#### Forest Wasteland for Captive Plantation

1311. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government offered forest wastelands to the industry for the purpose of captive plantation and afforestation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether environmental groups are opposing the proposal of the Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Literacy Schemes

1312. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of schemes going on at present to achieve the constitutional obligation of compulsory and free primary education;

(b) the details of grants provided during the last five years under various schemes, state-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) whether any review has been undertaken of these schemes in regard to bringing down the illiteracy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) In pursuance of Article 45 of the Directive Principles, the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 as modified in 1992, states that free and compulsory elementary education of satisfactory quality shall be provided to all children up to the age of 14 years before we enter the 21st century.

The Central Government is augmenting the efforts of the State Governments towards achieving Universalisation of Primary Education through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard, Teacher Education, Non-Formal Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education and District Primary Education Programme.

(b) This information upto 1996-97 is available in the Annual Reports of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, of the respective years. These have been laid in both the House of Parliament.

(c) and (d) A review of the schemes is undertaken at the end of the Five Year Plans. Based on such reviews the scheme are modified/revised or expanded with a view to achieve the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education.

#### Review of Thermal Power Plants

1313. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the working of the thermal power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the installed capacity and actual power generated by them during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have identified the difficulties faced by thermal power plants which are not generating the targeted power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to remove the bottlenecks?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of plant-wise installed capacity and the actual peak generation from the Coal based thermal power stations 1995-96, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto October, 1998) is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The reasons for some of the thermal power plants not generating the targetted power are, backing down of generation due to power regulation or low demand, forced outages of the units, partial unavailability, transmission & distribution and financial constraints.

Amongst the measures being undertaken increasing for power generation are, higher utilisation of installed capacity; reducing auxiliary power consumption, additional generation from the existing power stations through renovation and modernisation and life extension; construction of missing transmission lines and systems improvement.

#### Statement

##### Performance of Coal based Thermal Power Stations

(Gen. in MU)

State/System	Coal based TPS	Installed Capacity(MW) as on 31.3.98	95-96 Gen. PLF(%)	96-97 Gen. PLF(%)	97-98 Gen. PLF(%)	98-99 Apr.-Oct.	
						Target Gen. PLF(%)	Actual Gen. PLF(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Delhi							
NTPC	Badarpur	720	4039 65.2	4088 66.2	4473 72.4	2331 64.4	2783 76.3
DVB	I.P. Stn.	284.1	1117 45.8	808 33.2	1163 47.8	758 53	470 33
	Rajghat	150	753 63.5	703 59.4	537 45.4	375 54.1	336 48.5

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>2. Haryana HSEB</b>								
		Faridabad	180	799 55.1	644 44.6	641 44.3	438 51.4	465 54.9
		Panipat	650	2268 39.7	2762 48.3	2892 50.8	1481 44.4	<u>1428</u> 42.8
<b>3. Rajasthan RSEB</b>								
		Kota	850	5216 73.7	5638 75.7	6114 82.1	3356 76.9	<u>2910</u> 66.7
<b>4. Punjab PSEB</b>								
		Bhatinda	850	2066 53.5	2610 67.7	2505 65	2447 69.6	1566 62.3
		Ropar	1260	6182 55.7	7160 64.9	7771 70.4	4712 72.8	<u>4188</u> 64.4
<b>5. Uttar Pradesh UPSEB</b>								
		Obra 1-13	1550	4677 36.9	3625 28.7	3969 31.4	2545 34.4	<u>2163</u> 29.2
		Panki	284	564 23.4	839 34.9	852 35.5	490 34.8	<u>464</u> 33
		Harduaganj	90	0	0	0	0	0
		H Ganh - B&C	450	604 17.9	614 18.2	674 20	561 28.4	<u>399</u> 20.2
		Paricha	220	492 25.5	538 27.9	619 32.1	428 37.9	455 40.3
		Anpara	1630	10450 73	11743 82.2	11245 78.8	6544 78.3	<u>6204</u> 74.1
		Tanda	440	1016 35.9	1079 37.3	903 31.2	614 28	669 28.6
	NTPC	Singrauli	2000	14985 85.3	15384 87.8	14759 84.2	8382 81.6	9026 87.9
		Rihand	1000	7622 96.9	6672 76.2	6749 87.3	4286 83.5	<u>3364</u> 65.5
		NCR Dadri	840	4439 64.9	6076 82.6	6415 87.2	3242 75.1	3781 87.2
		NTPC Unchahar	420	3108 64.2	2949 80.1	2947 80.1	1519 70.4	1568 72.7
<b>6. Gujarat GEB</b>								
		Dhuravan	534	2927 62.4	3002 64.2	2792 59.7	1880 61.3	1210 44.1
		Ukai	850	4390 58.8	4390 58.8	4315 38	2780 63.7	2919 66.9
		Gandhi Ngr.	860	4942 85.2	4192 72.5	3915 67.7	3375 75.5	<u>2479</u> 68.6



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Wanakbori	1260	6943 62.7	7218 65.4	8260 74.8	5196 74.7	<u>4376</u> 67.6
	Sikka	240	1312 62.2	1643 73.4	1432 68.1	760 61.7	<u>632</u> 43.2
	Kutch Liq.	215	595 48.4	614 50.1	718 43.3	835 49	<u>589</u> 53.3
AEDO(PVT)	AEDO(O)		200 22	121 -	356 72.9	136 60.2	166 69
	Sabarmati	450	2194 75.7	2330 80.6	2050 70.9	1410 83.2	1433 84.5
Maharashtra							
MSEB	Nasik	910	5045 63.1	5069 63.6	5139 64.5	3240 69.3	<u>2997</u> 64.1
	Koradi	1100	6277 66.2	6350 67.1	5716 60.4	3775 68.1	<u>3512</u> 63.3
	Paras	62.5	202 39.6	217 42.7	197 38.8	195 65.5	150 50.4
	Bhusawal	482.5	2599 61.9	2486 59.4	3111 74.3	1580 64.4	<u>1515</u> 61.7
	Parli	690	3287 54.2	3806 63	3909 84.7	2405 67.9	2492 70.3
	Chandrapur	2340	11270 69.7	11821 73.3	11713 71.2	8695 71.7	7192 60.2
	K'kheda	420	2549 69.1	3299 89.7	3077 83.6	1750 81.1	<u>1628</u> 75.5
TECO(PVT)	Trombay	1150	7353 72.8	6933 68.8	6427 73.8	3330 56.4	3878 65.7
BSES (PVT)	Dahanu	500	1222 61.1	3203 73.1	3608 82.4	2051 79.9	<u>1896</u> 73.8
8. Madhya Pradesh							
MPEB	Satpura	1142.5	6037 60.2	6531 65.3	7341 73.3	3466 59.1	4009 68.3
	Korba 2-3	440	2132 60.7	2379 67.9	2495 71.2	1062 51.7	<u>986</u> 48.0
	Amarkantak	300	1253 49.2	678 26.7	782 30.8	836 56.1	<u>646</u> 43.4
	Korba West	840	4640 62.9	4922 66.9	5044 68.6	2825 65.5	<u>2800</u> 64.9
	Sanjay Gandhi	420	1992 54	2367 64.3	2244 61	1434 66.5	<u>1389</u> 64.4
NTPC	Korba STPS	2100	15397 83.5	15772 85.7	15697 85.3	8393 77.8	8844 82

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Vind. STPS	1260	9272 83.8	9292 84.2	8752 79.3	4719 72.9	5287 81.7
9.	Andhra Pradesh						
APSEB	K'Budem Ard	930	3412 58	3521 60	5174 66.5	3632 60.6	<u>3177</u> 52.8
	Vijayawada	1260	9861 89.4	10278 93.1	10365 93.9	5484 84.7	<u>5398</u> 83.4
	R'Bundem B	62.5	374 68.1	379 69.2	401 73.2	250 77.9	<u>248</u> 77.3
	Nellore	30	129 49	110 41.9	117 44.5	70 45.4	78 50.6
	Royalseema	420	1327 70.5	2457 66.8	2979 81.0	1780 82.5	1913 88.7
NTPC	R Gundem STPS	2100	14757 80	15668 85.2	16366 89	8624 80	8624 80
10.	Karnataka						
KPC	Raichur	840	4718 67.7	5165 70.2	5532 75.2	3346 77.6	<u>3265</u> 75.7
11.	Tamilnadu						
TEB	Ennore	450	2106 53.3	1900 48.2	1900 48.9	1257 54.4	<u>1030</u> 44.6
	Tuticorin	1050	7802 84.6	7304 79.4	7304 75.2	4315 80	<u>4082</u> 75.7
	Methur	840	5944 80.6	5867 79.7	5867 73.8	3407 79	2820 65.4
	N.Madras	630	1359 62.1	3487 67.4	3487 61.9	2595 80.2	<u>2317</u> 71.6
NLB	Neyveli-I	600	3191 61.1	3181 60.9	3181 65.7	1807 58.6	2217 71.9
	Neyveli-II	1470	9073 70.3	9569 74.3	9569 75.4	5849 77.5	<u>5800</u> 76.8
12.	Bihar						
BSEB	Patratu	840	1262 18.7	1122 16.6	1122 18.8	770 19.5	945 23.9
	Barauni	320	416 15.3	408 15	408 14.4	241 19.5	314 23.9
	Muzaffarpur	220	310 16	215 11.2	215 8.6	197 17.4	<u>160</u> 14.2
TVNL	Tenughat	420	10 -	686 -	1482 51.8	740 32.4	950 44
NTPC	K'Gaon	840	2406 59.7	3325 51	3325 46.6	1436 33.3	<u>2296</u> 53.2

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13. Orissa								
OPGC	Ib Valley	420	1223 67.0	2018 69.4	2018 66.2	1580 73.2	1736 80.3	
	Bandel	510	1724 37	2237 48.2	2237 45.3	1185 43.5	<u>1220</u> 44.8	
	Santalalih	480	1340 31.0	1223 29.1	1223 33.9	739 30	829 33.6	
14. WBPDCI	Kolaghat	1260	6238 57.7	6217 56.3	6217 52.7	3384 52.3	3920 60.6	
DPL	DPL	395	908 26.5	1009 29.5	1009 25.2	542 27.1	<u>350</u> 17.5	
DESC(PVT.)	Mulaiore	120	326 -	320 -	320 -	172 -	180 -	
	N. Cossipore	130	728 63.8	779 68.4	779 65.3	344 51.5	297 59.5	
	Southern	135	1028 86.7	805 68.1	805 79.6	633 91.3	<u>510</u> 73.6	
	Titagarg	240	1748 82.9	1733 82.4	1733 81.5	1049 85.1	1099 89.2	
	Budge Budge	250	0 -	0 -	0 -	940 69.9	<u>634</u>	
NTPC	Farakka	1600	6519 59.3	6366 49	6366 42.9	2890 35.2	2997 36.5	
15. DVC	Chandrapur	750	1786 27.1	2314 35.2	2314 30.6	1129 29.3	1140 29.6	
	Durgapur	350	1820 59.2	1416 46.1	1416 54.3	800 44.5	<u>788</u> 43.8	
	Bokaro	877.5	2801 38.9	2225 31.5	2225 38.6	1131 27.4	1466 35.5	
	Meila	630	0 -	336 -	336 -	330 38.4	680 54.1	
16. Assam								
ASEB	Bongaigaon	240	508 24.1	421 20	421 8.9	153 12.4	23 1.9	

Note : The underlined figures indicates generation less than the target figures.

**Losses due to Forest Fires**

1314. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of losses suffered by the nation due to forest fires;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Modern Forest Fire Control Scheme adopted by the Government during the year 1992 remains ineffective;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the latest schemes the Government propose to adopt to keep the forests free from fires?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Forest fire inventories have been conducted by Forest Survey of India in the forest area in various parts of the country from time to time.

(b) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The Modern Forest Fire Control Scheme adopted by the Government has proved to be very effective and incidents of forest fire have reduced substantially in those areas where the scheme has been implemented.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) In addition to above scheme, an Integrated Forest Protection scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Planning Commission for approval.

### Statement

#### Extent of Fire Incidence in Forest Areas of the Country (Based on the inventory conducted by FSI since its inception)

State/District	Forest Area	Sample Plots	Extent of Fire Incidence						Total
			Very Heavy	Heavy	Frequent	Occasional	No Fire	Unrec	
Andhra Pradesh	14826.71	2037	60.58	5.75	521.99	3335.27	10016.34	886.78	14826.71
Assam	15427.88	2482	70.91	0	590.25	4551.13	10176.68	38.91	15427.88
Bihar	1517.01	296	57.718	0	452.6223	3330.7426	1505.927	0	5347.01
Himachal Pradesh	10269.4	4878	163.7	0	671.45	3811.38	5054.92	567.98	10269.43
Jammu & Kashmir	3331.75	428	7.5	0	60.98	1089.58	2088.05	85.64	3331.75
Haryana & Punjab	1180.72	145	0	0	41.54	332.48	806.7	0	1180.72
Karnataka	13223.3	1780	59.71	30.33	470.64	3342.94	9309.79	9.89	13223.3
Manipur	15154	1880	0	151.54	454.62	5758.52	8789.32	0	15154
Madhya Pradesh	19625.91	1947	136.53	23.07	1838.83	10644.29	6983.19	0	19625.91
Maharashtra	8165.54	1355	0	0	186.83	4222.57	3756.94	0	8166.34
Meghalaya	9905.66	1659	26.75	0	269.12	3347.25	5230.91	1031.6	9905.63
Nagaland	14954.91	1128	0	0	1084.231	12038.703	1831.976	0	14954.91
Orissa	20143.38	2972	204.42	78.5	923.19	11345.345	7258.182	333.52	20143.16
Rajasthan	20178.79	2446	71.39	0	99.03	4348.12	14763.26	896.99	20178.79
Sikkim	1707.77	401	47.12	0	18.14	544.84	1097.67	0	1707.77
Tripura	6445.36	555	34.59	0	361.75	5293.65	755.37	0	6445.36
Uttar Pradesh	23164.09	2825	871.43	0	2092.51	11124.1	9076.05	0	23164.09
West Bengal	5764.81	1471	4.77397	0	656.4338	5356.5246	3444.318	302.76	5764.81
Dadra & Nagar	186.49	62	0	0	0	180.8953	5.5947	0	186.49
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>209003.48</b>	<b>30747</b>	<b>1817.122</b>	<b>289.19</b>	<b>10794.1571</b>	<b>89998.3305</b>	<b>101951.188</b>	<b>4154.07</b>	<b>209004.1</b>
<b>Percentage</b>			<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>5.16</b>	<b>43.06</b>	<b>48.78</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### Utilisation of Loan

1315. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any loan has been sanctioned by foreign countries/World Bank for promoting education in India;

(b) if so, the details of loan taken from foreign countries/World Bank during the last three years upto October 31, 1998, country-wise; and

(c) the details of amount of loan utilised, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) During the last three years (1996-97 to October, 1998) agreements have been signed between the Government of India and the World Bank for availing soft loan amounting to US \$ 577.6 million (about Rs. 2,010 crores) for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP). An agreement was also signed for supplemental funding amounting to US\$ 59.4 million (about Rs. 220 crores) for the State Sector Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Project for which a soft loan of US\$ 165 million (about Rs. 577 crores) was already tied up in 1993. The DPEP project period is 5-7 years and the actual disbursement by the World Bank is based on the expenditure incurred against the project as per the agreed pattern. The details of State-wise position of expenditure incurred and the amount disbursed by the World Bank is given in the Statement enclosed.

### Statement

Statement indicating expenditure incurred by the various States under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)/Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Project and reimbursement made by the World Bank during the last 3 years (1996-97 to October, 1998)

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of the States	Expenditure	Reimbursement by World Bank
1	2	3	4
<b>I. DPEP</b>			
1.	Assam	42.30	36.82
2.	Haryana	50.63	45.02

	1	2	3	4
3. Karnataka			122.16	106.67
4. Kerala			49.28	45.18
5. Maharashtra			78.24	68.67
6. Tamil Nadu			62.89	55.00
7. Himachal Pradesh			23.32	20.42
8. Orissa			21.63	18.95
9. Madhya Pradesh			55.22	48.91
10. Uttar Pradesh			36.75	32.84
11. Bihar			17.12	13.75
12. National Component			18.60	18.47
Total (DPEP)			578.14	510.70
<b>II. UP Basic Education Project</b>			408.84	349.16

[Translation]

### Minimum Needs Programme

1316. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation provides loan at concessional rates under the Minimum Needs Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for non completion of the electrification of villages in the remote areas of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Loans under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) are provided by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) at rates fixed by Government from time to time. The rate of interest for MNP category loans given by REC to SEBs/Power Departments, is 12.5% per annum and the period of repayment of loan is 30 years, including moratorium period of 5 years.

(c) BSEB is facing serious financial problems and is heavily defaulting in payment of dues. This adversely affects release of further funds to them by REC. In addition, the inadequate sub-transmission system, missing links on account of rampant theft of line materials/equipment and natural calamities have been the other major reasons for the slow progress in Bihar.

*[English]***Preservation of Eco-System of Char Dham**

1317. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to preserve the eco-system of holiest of holy four places (Char Dham) Yamnotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified the factors responsible for degradation of Eco-system in those places in Himalayas;

(c) if so, the details of these factors; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to regulate the degradation, flow of tourists and other factors responsible for growing ecological havocs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) For conserving the eco-system of 'Char Dham', the Government of Uttar Pradesh have formulated a new Tourism Policy based on eco-tourism. The factors responsible for degradation of ecosystem of those places include over use of resources, poor disposal of refuse and change in life style of local people. The action taken by the state government includes regulating tourists flow in these areas, minimising heavy cement construction work, preparation of Master Plan for the development of 'Char Dhams Yatra', distribution of tourists literature for awareness of ecological issues, undertaking developmental works based on carrying capacity and providing funds to Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam.

**Arrears Outstanding against Industries and Offices of SEBs**

1318. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the arrears of the electricity boards against industries and offices of the Union Government; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken by the Union and State Government for recovery of these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) A statement indicating the details of the receivables by the State Electricity Boards as on 31st March, 1997 (cumulative) is enclosed.

(b) The State Electricity Boards are under the administrative control of the respective State Governments. As such, it is the responsibility of the

State Governments/SEBs to work out any plan/strategy for recovery of their receivables.

**Statement**

*Details of the receivables by SEBs as on 31.3.1997*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of SEBs	Amount
1.	APSEB (A)	999.90
2.	ASEB (U)	403.54
3.	BSEB (P)	1209.44
4.	GEB (A)	1065.25
5.	HSEB (A)	514.38
6.	HPSEB (A)	59.47
7.	KEB (U)	1090.13
8.	KSEB (U)	301.75
9.	MPEB (U)	1778.54
10.	MSEB (A)	2534.50
11.	MESEB (A)	79.87
12.	OSEB (P)	301.04
13.	PSEB (A)	418.92
14.	RSEB (A)	794.51
15.	TNEB (A)	746.32
16.	UPSEB (A)	3956.04
17.	WBSEB (A)	828.44
<b>Total</b>		<b>17082.04</b>

A - Audited

U - Unaudited

P - Provisional

**Grants by UGC to Delhi University**

1319. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the grants provided to the Delhi University by the UGC during the last three years have been audited by the CAG;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) As per information received from the Delhi University the audit of the grants provided by the UGC during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 has since been completed. The process of compilation of accounts for the year 1997-98 by Delhi University has been started. The delay is due to mainly non submission of accounts by maintained Institutions.

[Translation]

#### National Highway - 27

1320. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway No. 27 between Chalk Ghat and Garh is full of pot-holes;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to repair the said National Highway; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) National Highways are kept in traffic-worthy condition within the available funds.

(c) Fund for repair and maintenance are allocated for the entire National highway Net-Work in the state and not segment-wise.

[English]

#### Development of Ashan Memorial Trivandrum

1321. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Government for the development of Ashan Memorial, Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government of Kerala and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### Minimum Qualification to Contest Elections

1322. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commissioner have stressed the need for a minimum standard of education for eligibility to contest elections to the State Legislatures and the Parliament;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any opinion polls in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the light of the Election Commissioner's statement?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (d) The Election Commission of India in its counter affidavit filed before the Delhi High Court in Civil Writ No. 1559 of 1997 — Baljeet Singh versus Election Commission of India and others, had expressed the view that a time had come when some minimum educational qualification might be prescribed for Members of Parliament and State Legislatures. It has, however, not made any proposal in this regard to the Government. No such proposal is, at present, under consideration of the Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Conference of State Forestry Officials

1323. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the recommendations made at a Conference of State Forestry Officials organised at SCOPE Complex, New Delhi in September 1997 with particular emphasis on North Eastern States;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to lay on the table of the House the summary of recommendations made by the Conference and action taken report if any; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI. BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Recommendations are sent to the State Governments for taking necessary action. The Ministry has constituted a Committee to suggest a

Forest Policy for the North Eastern Region within the framework of National Forest Policy, 1988.

(b) and (c) The Conference of the Forest Secretaries, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States/UTs are regularly convened for discussion on various important issues relating to forestry. Such routine proceedings are not laid on the table of the House.

#### Integrated Child Development Schemes

1324. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide all the facilities under the Integrated Child Development at a 'Single Window' to the needy families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are working out a strategy to tackle malnutrition and under nourishment affecting mostly the masses, particularly the poor children and women; and

(e) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) It is already in existence, Sir.

(b) Under the ICDS Scheme a package of services consisting of (i) Supplementary nutrition; (ii) immunization; (iii) health Check-up; (iv) Referral Services; (v) Non-formal pre-school education; and (vi) Nutrition & Health Education is provided to the beneficiaries at the Anganwadi Centres.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It is already in the Scheme, Sir.

(e) As at (b) above.

#### Tellichery Mahe by Pass

1325. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :  
SHRI A.C. JOS:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for Tellichery Mahe Bypass has been pending before the Government for long;

(b) if so, the period of its pendency;

(c) the reasons for delay;

(d) the total amount sought by Kerala for this by pass;

(e) whether any allocation for this by pass has been made during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (f) The Bypass consists of Two phases. No proposal for phase-I is pending. In respect of phase-II land acquisition estimate amounting to Rs. 468 Lakh has been received in November, 1998 for which a token provision of Rs. One Lakh exists for current year.

[Translation]

#### Cost of Power Production

1326. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average cost of power production at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the average cost of power production was estimated at 250 paise per unit after the adoption policy of liberalization and globalization in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the estimated cost of power production at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether the present cost of power production in the country is more as compared to world level; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) 101.50 p/kwh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Based on approved capital cost, tentative financial package, exchange rates and GOI norms at the time of TEC of the projects by CEA recently, the levelised tariff @ 12% discount rate and 68.49% PLF varies from 198.0 Paise/Kwh to 361.0 Paise/Kwh for thermal projects including D.G. Sets Power Projects and 131.0 Paise/Kwh to 351.0 Paise/Kwh for Hydro Projects cleared by CEA so far.

(e) and (f) The cost of power production in the country is dependant upon many factors such as



technology, funding pattern, interest rate, hydro-thermal mix, price and source of fuel, completed cost, the geographical area, load density, taxes and duties etc. These factors render comparability of the cost of power production of different countries difficult.

### Thefts of Antiques

1327. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the theft of antiques are rising at an alarming rate in the country;

(b) if so, the number of thefts of antiques came to the notice of the Government during the last three years, year-wise and the number of antiques involved;

(c) the total number of stolen antiques recovered; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Government are aware of a few cases of theft of antiquities.

(b) Number of thefts and the antiques involved, brought to the notice of the Government, during the last three years as per available information are :-

Year	No. of thefts	Antiques involved
1995	4	7
1996	6	10
1997	3	8
1998	5	45

(c) 36 numbers of stolen antiques recovered.

(d) Measures have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India in concert with the enforcing agencies like the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Customs and the State Governments to check the theft of antiquities by intensifying checking at customs exit points, as well as by strict enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. Armed Guards have also been deployed at the selected centrally protected monuments and museums under the Archaeological Survey of India.

### Dholavir as National Monument

1328. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a proposal to declare Dholavir in Gujarat and certain other monuments/ places/temples in Maharashtra as of the national importance;

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

(c) whether the proposal to declare these places as the national monuments has been cleared; and

(d) if so, the amount released by the Government for maintenance of these places so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Notification has been issued to invite objections to protect the Harappan site at Dholavira in Gujarat and proposals to protect ancient Water System called Thatte Nahar at Aurangabad and Trishunda Ganapati Temple at Pune in Maharashtra are being processed. It would not be possible to indicate a time frame for the completion of this process.

(d) For maintenance of the site at Dholavira in Gujarat Rs. 8.50 lakh has been released between 1994 to 1998. Maintenance of sites in Maharashtra would be taken up after their protection formalities are over, subject to over-all availability of resources.

[English]

### Khajuraho Temples

1329. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Khajuraho temples are in a crumbling state and require immediate attention;

(b) if so, the effective steps being taken by the Government to save these temples from crumbling;

(c) the details of other archaeological sites in Madhya Pradesh which need immediate attention for maintenance and preservation; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) No Sir, the centrally protected temples at Khajuraho are in a good state of preservation.

(c) and (d) The maintenance, conservation and preservation of the centrally protected monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India, including those in Madhya Pradesh, is a continuous process. Conservation works are taken up subject to availability of resources.

#### Transmission Project in A.P.

1330. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board is working on Rs. 76 crore transmission project which would reduce power break down and eliminate fluctuations in the twin cities;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has been urged to help the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Government have agreed to the request of the State Government;

(d) whether the project will be taken up in three stages; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) The Transmission/sub-transmission work below Rs. 100 crores are not required to be techno-economically cleared by CEA or monitored by it. Government of Andhra Pradesh has not requested for any financial assistance for this project.

#### Resources for Bio-diversity Conservation

1331. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed/evaluated the performance of various completed/ongoing World bank aided projects in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure judicious use of available financial resources for Bio Diversity Conservation beyond 2000; and

(d) the details of action plan worked out for the current year and Ninth Plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The performance of the various on-going/completed projects is reviewed closely through review meetings by the Government, visits of Supervision Missions from the World Bank and continuous interaction with the project authorities to ensure judicious use of available financial resources. This is a continuous process and projects are evaluated from time to time. The details of on-going/completed World Bank projects are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) For conservation of biodiversity, the Ministry implements Plan schemes on Biosphere Reserves, Biodiversity Conservation, Mangroves and Coral Reefs, assistance for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected areas and assistance to Botanic Gardens. The Schemes will continue beyond 2000. Financial assistance for the above schemes is provided to different agencies taking into account the proposals which are received. The details of allocation for the year 1998-99 and the Ninth Plan are as below :

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	(Rupees in Lakhs)	
		1998-99	Ninth Plan
1.	Biosphere Reserve	262	1850
2.	Mangroves and Coral Reefs	156	700
3.	Biodiversity Conservation	26	200
4.	Assistance to Botanic Gardens	52	550
5.	Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries.	1200	11000
6.	Eco Development Around Protected Areas	800	20500

#### Statement

##### Ongoing/Completed World Bank Projects in the last three years

S.No.	Name of the Project	Project period	Project Cost (Rs. in crores)	Outlay for 1998-99 (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Maharashtra Forestry Project	1992-93 to 1999-2000	431.51	60.00

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project.	1994-95 to 1999-2000	353.92	88.00
3.	Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project	1995-96 to 1998-99	245.94	60.00
4.	Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project	1997-98 to 2000-2001	272.00	45.00
5.	Kerala Forestry Project	1998-99 to 2001-2002	183.00	15.00
6.	West Bengal Forestry Project	1992-93 to 1997	119.00	Project completed in December, 1997
7.	India Eco-development Project:	1996-97 to 2001-2002	294.93	
	West Bengal			1.58
	Karnataka			4.32
	Madhya Pradesh			1.37
	Bihar			0.90
	Gujarat			1.11
	Rajasthan			1.58
8.	Forest Research, Education & Extension Project (Biodiversity component)	1994-95 to 1999	2.28	1.23

[Translation]

**Family Planning National  
Acceptability Test**

1332. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission conducts Family Planning National Acceptability Test (NAT) for lecturers and junior research fellows;

(b) if so, the methodology fixed for the declaration of successful candidates;

(c) whether reservation is given to SC, ST and OBC candidates in the selection process; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Diverting of Forest Land to  
Non-Forest Purposes**

1333. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI ABHAY SINGH S. BHONSLE :

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

(a) the details of the proposals received from different States/Union Territories for diverting the forest land to the non-forest purposes under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1980 during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of the proposals disposed of;

(c) the details of the projects lying pending with the Union Government alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which decision is likely to be taken on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) For diversion of forest land to

non-forest purpose, prior approval of the Central Government is required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The State-wise and year-wise information of proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the last three years and proposals disposed of and pending out of them is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Use of Electronic Voting Machines

1334. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission has decided to use electronic voting machines during the recent Assembly elections in some of the States;

(b) if so, the sources from which these electronic machines were purchased by the Commission;

(c) whether all those machines are in working condition;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the extent to which the Government propose to use those Electronic Voting Machines in the future elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Electronic Voting Machines were used in 16 assembly constituencies during the assembly elections held in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and National Capital Territory of Delhi on the 25th November, 1998.

(b) The machines were procured from M/s. Electronic Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad and M/s. Bharat Electronics Ltd., Bangalore.

(c) and (d) The electronic voting machines were checked and found to be in order by technical representatives of concerned firms before they were used in aforesaid elections.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Election Commission has not yet taken decision regarding extent of use of electronic voting machines in future elections.

#### Investment by Financial Institutions in Power Sector

1335. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some financial institutions are keen to make investment in the power sector;

(b) whether they propose to set up joint sector projects;

(c) if so, the names of financial institutions keen to make investment in the private/public sector power projects; and

(d) the details of the projects identified in the public/private sector for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) The Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Banks are the main lenders for financing the private power projects in the country. Even though the financial institutions by themselves are not setting up joint sector power projects, some of them are participating in the form of fund based/non-fund based assistance for setting up power projects in the private sector. The identification by the IFIs of the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) who would be receiving financial assistance depends *inter-alia* on the letters receiving the requisite security packages like Letter of Credit, Escrow facility and State Guarantee from the concerned State Governments for timely payment of IPPs dues by the State Electricity Boards for energy consumed by them.

#### Assistance to Assam under NLM

1336. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total financial assistance provided to Assam under the National Literacy Mission during the last three years till date;

(b) the number of people made literate in the State during the said period;

(c) whether the Government propose to review this scheme during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The total financial assistance provided to the State of Assam under all schemes of National Literacy

Mission, and the number of persons made literate during the last three years till date is as follows :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Persons made literate
1995-96	361.09	29,000
1996-97	194.29	1,88,000
1997-98	86.97	92,000
1998-99 (till date)	59.00	N.R.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Damage to National Highways/ Bridges by Cyclone

1337. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss incurred as a result of damage done to National highways-bridges by cyclone in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the total fund spent by the Government on the repair of roads-bridges during the said period;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra Government have made any requests to the Government to provide special fund to repair damaged national highways/bridges;

(d) if so, the details thereof and funds provided by the Government so far;

(e) the further steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to provide more funds to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and

(f) the number of proposals pending with Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The total loss in terms of amount required to repair the National Highways and bridges in Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years was estimated to be about Rs. 59.00 crores. Money spent on Maintenance & Repairs of National Highways/bridges for the last 3 years was to the tune of Rs. 104.70 crores which includes the amount spent on flood/cyclone repair work.

As regards Maharashtra State, no damages have been reported during the last 3 years due to cyclone. However, on account of routine Maintenance & Repairs, an amount of Rs. 110.14 crores has been spent.

(c) and (d) Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for a grant of Rs. 50.00 crores for repairs to flood/cyclone damages to National Highways/Bridges during 1998-99 and Rs. 5.00 crores has been allotted by the Government. Maharashtra Government has requested for a grant of Rs. 24.13 crores to repair damages due to floods and Rs. 2.5 crores has been allotted.

(e) The Ministry of Finance has been requested to provide more funds to meet the additional requirements.

(f) Nil.

#### Pay Package to University Teachers

1338. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the package agreed upon between the College/University Teachers Unions and the Union Government;

(b) whether the teachers are satisfied with the package;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to resolve this issue amicably; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The details of the package agreed upon between the College/University teachers Unions and the Union Government are as under :-

(i) The revised pay scales of teachers should be effective from 1.1.96, and not from 27.7.98 as notified earlier.

(ii) The pay of Lecturers (Selection Grade)/ Readers who were selected strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations framed by the UGC and who were in position as Lecturers (Selection Grade)/

Readers as on 1.1.96, will be fixed in a manner that they get their pay fixed at the minimum of Rs. 14940/- in the revised scale of Rs. 12000-420-18300 as and when they complete five years in the grade.

- (iii) The Government will formulate a scheme for giving professional development incentives in the form of cash allowances or assistance in kind or both to those Lecturers who register for M.Phil/Ph.D. and whose pursuit of research is considered satisfactory by their guides.
- (iv) The UGC will prepare a specific scheme in consultation with the Government to reward and recognise meritorious teachers who may not be M.Phil or Ph.D. but who have made outstanding contributions in teaching and research.

On the basis of the above, the teachers called-off their strike on 5th September, 1998 and the Government has since issued a revised Notification for implementation of the above package.

[Translation]

#### Rural Electrification in Bihar

1339. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of new power projects approved by the Government for generation and rural electrification in Bihar;

(b) the details of rural electrification carried out in the State during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the targets fixed for rural electrification during 1998-99;

(d) whether Government propose to privatise the rural electrification system; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to overcome power crisis?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Distribution and Rural Electrification Schemes are formulated and executed by State Governments/State Electricity Boards according to the priorities fixed by them. As regards generation schemes, during December, 1997

Jojobera TPS (240 MW) scheme was technically cleared by CEA under the private sector in the State of Bihar. Number of RE projects sanctioned by R.E.C. during the last three years is as under :-

S.No.	Year	No. of projects	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	1995-96	-	-
2.	1996-97	39	4083
3.	1997-98	2	883

List of projects sanctioned is attached as Statement.

(b) Bihar State Electricity Board has reported the following achievements under Rural Electrification works during the last three years :-

S.No.	Year	No. of villages electrified	No. of pumpsets energised
1.	1995-96	43	2616
2.	1996-97	27	1974
3.	1997-98	05	932

(c) Targets for Rural Electrification Programme during 1998-99 have not been finalised by the Planning Commission. The targets fixed by REC for Bihar are as under :-

Programme	Target (Nos.)		Kutir Jyoti Connec- tions (Nos.)	Amount (Rs. lakhs)
	Village electf.	Pumpset energ.		
Normal	100	1800	-	1000
MNP	400	200	-	1950
SI	-	-	-	500
Kutir Jyoti	-	-	50000	400
Total	500	2000	50000	3850

(d) and (e) The distribution systems are under operation and Control of State Governments/SEBs and the decision to privatise rests with them.

**Statement****List of projects sanctioned during last three years in Bihar**

S.No. Description of the project	
1	2
1995-96	Nil
1996-97	
1.	Belsand, Tariyani, Parsauni, Sheohar, Piprahi and Runisaidpur (6 Blocks) of Sitamarhi District.
2.	Kathikund Block of Dumka District.
3.	Sikta, Mainatur, Markatiaganj, Chanpatia and Lauria (5 Blocks) of West Champaran District.
4.	Maraul, Sakraand Bandara of Muzaffarpur District.
5.	Kanti and Kurnanu Block of Muzaffarpur District.
6.	Suraiya and Paru Block of Muzaffarpur District.
7.	Lalganj and Sahebganj Block of Muzaffarpur District.
8.	Cazuraj and Sahebganj Block of Muzaffarpur District.
9.	Konch, Paraiya and Guraru Block of Gaya District.
10.	Sakara, Maraul and Banora Blocks of Muzaffarpur District.
11.	Digwara and 7 Blocks of Saran.
12.	Katihar and 4 Blocks of Katihar and N-Bhagalpur District.
13.	Mahnar, Sancal Bujung and Jandana of Vaishali District.
14.	Jalalpur and Revliganj of Saran District.
15.	Manjni of Saran District.
16.	Ekma of Saran District.
17.	Raghunathpur and 9 Blocks of Siwan District.
18.	Bhagwanpur Halt, Basantpur, Goriakhoti, Maharajganj and Daronda of Siwan District.
19.	Manihari, Ahmadabad Blocks of Katihar District.
20.	Potka/E of Singbhum District.
21.	Balrampur of Katihar District.

1	2
22.	Kodwa of Katihar District.
23.	Azamnagar Block of Katihar District.
24.	Karsoi of Katihar District.
25.	Bararia, Siwan, Pachrukhi, Gorla Khoti Block of Siwan District.
26.	Khaira and Jamui/Jamui District.
27.	Ramgarh/Hazaribagh District.
28.	Lalganj and Sahebganj Block of Muzaffarpur District.
29.	Kajuraj and Sahebganj Block of Muzaffarpur District.
30.	Gaya of Gaya District.
31.	Aurangabad of Aurangabad District.
32.	Rohtas of Rohtas District.
33.	Ramgarh of Bhabua District.
34.	Rahul of Nalanda District.
35.	Rajgir of Nalanda District.
36.	Sahebganj, Baruraj and Paroo of Muzaffarpur District.
37.	Kanati, Kurhani and Saraiya of Muzaffarpur District.
38.	Goraul Block of Vaishali Block of Vaishali District.
39.	Lalganj and Vaishali Block of Vaishali District.
1997-98	
40.	SI scheme of 132/33 KV sub-station at Vikramganj in Rohtas District
41.	SI scheme of 132/33 KV Sub-Station at Masauri in Patna District.

*[English]***National Committee for Speedy Clearance of Proposals**

1340. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a National Committee for speedy clearance of proposals;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals, composition and related details on the Committee alongwith the

objectives and main functions assigned to the Committee.

(c) the present status of the proposal.

(d) the details of proposals for industrial and mining activities pending for environmental clearance as on September 30, 1998 with State-wise break-up; and

(e) the fresh measures taken for expeditious clearance of the proposals and details of revised guidelines issued in this regard, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Most cases of delay in processing the application for environmental clearance occur because all the information is not provided by the project authorities while submitting the application. This necessitates several interactions with the project authorities before a decision can be taken. Now, the Ministry has revised the questionnaire to be annexed with the application to ensure that all requisite information is available when a case is taken up for consideration. Further, the expert Committees have also been requested to expedite their recommendations by completing the review in a maximum of two sittings.

#### **Statement**

S.No.	Name of the Projects
1	2

#### **A. List of pending Industrial Projects as on 30th Sept. 1998.**

##### **Andhra Pradesh**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | 3,00,000 TPA Integrated Complex at Jambalpadu Tadipatri Distt. Anantapur by M/s SJK Steel Ltd.               |
| 2. | Bulk Drug unit at Visakhapatnam, Distt. By M/s Krebs Biochemicals Ltd.                                       |
| 3. | 0.8 MTPA Cement Plant with 215 MW captive power plant at Ramapuram Nalgonda by M/s Priyadarshini Cement Ltd. |

1	2
---	---

##### **Assam**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 4. | Hydrotreater Project of M/s IOC at Guwahati Refinery   |
| 5. | Exploration, drilling in Off-shore block CB-OS/I Gulf of Khambat, Bharuch Distt. By M/s Hardy Exploration & Production (India) |
| 6. | Vadinar-Kandla Product Pipeline by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.   |
| 7. | Hazira Fertilizer Project Phase-II of M/s KRIBHCO.   |

##### **Karnataka**

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 8.  | Bulk Drug Unit at Mangalore by M/s Plama Laboratories Ltd.                                |
| 9.  | Mangalore-Bangalore Product Pipeline Projects by M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. |
| 10. | Distilleries Unit at Bidar by M/s Venketeswara Distilleries.                              |

##### **Kerala**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 11. | Drilling operation at Deep Water Location in Kerala-Konkan Basin West Coast Offshore Region. |
|-----|--|

##### **Maharashtra**

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 12. | Foundry unit at Pune by M/s DGP Hinoday Industries Ltd. |
| 13. | Gasket Sheeting at Pune by M/s Uni Klinger Ltd.         |

##### **Punjab**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 14. | Punjab Refinery of M/s HPCL At Phulokheri Bhatinda |
|-----|--|

##### **Rajasthan**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 15. | Cement Plant near Shambhupura Distt. Chittorgarh of M/s Orient Cement.     |
| 16. | 40 KL Alcohol Manufacturing Unit at Alwar by M/s Vintage Distilleries Ltd. |



1	2
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	
17.	Bulk Drug Unit at Suriyur Village by M/s Sangam Organics & Chemicals Ltd.
18.	Foundry Unit at Coimbatore by M/s Lakshnam Industries Products (P) Ltd.
19.	500 TMCI casting at Arasur, Coimbatore by M/s Jeetstex Engineering Ltd.
20.	Expansion of Factory at Hosur by M/s Exide Industries Ltd.
21.	Foundry unit at Coimbatore by M/s ZWG Casting Pvt. Ltd.
22.	Expansion of Steel Plant near Mettur of M/s Southern Iron Steel Co.
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
23.	Gorakhpur Fertilizer Project of M/s KRIBHCO
<b>West Bengal</b>	
24.	Grass Roots Fertilizer (Urea) complex at Haldia by M/s Paharpur Fertilisers & Chemicals Ltd.
<b>Others</b>	
25.	Crude Oil Pipeline Project of M/s HPCL.
<b>B. List of Pending Mining Projects as on 30.09.98</b>	
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	
1.	Limestone opencast mine of M/s Deccan Cements Ltd., Bhavanipuram
2.	Bhimili Beach Garnet Sand Project by M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.
3.	Limestone Mining Project by M/s Visaka Industries Ltd.
<b>Gujarat</b>	
4.	Lignite Mine at Akri-Mota Distt. Kutch of M/s GMDC

1	2
5.	Lignite Mine at Mata-No-Madh. Kutch Distt. of M/s GMDC
6.	Lignite Mining project Umarsar, Distt. Kutch of M/s GMDC
7.	Bauxite Mining project Distt. Jamnagar of M/s Orient Abrasive Ltd.
<b>Karnataka</b>	
8.	Ajjnahalli Gold Mine of, M/s Hutti Gold Mine Ltd.
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	
9.	Kapildhara U/G Coal Mine of M/s SECL
10.	Opencast Coal mine, Distt. Raigarh of M/s Jindal Strips Ltd.
<b>Maharashtra</b>	
11.	Lohara (EAST) Coal mine of M/s ACC Ltd.
12.	Lohara (WEST) Coal mine of M/s Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.
13.	Nirguda OC Coal Mine, Yeotmal of M/s WCL
14.	Pauni Opencast Coal mine of M/s WCL
<b>Rajasthan</b>	
15.	Captive Limestone mine, Distt. Chittorgarh of M/s Orient Cements Ltd.
16.	Barytes, China clay & Quartz mine in Distt. Karauli of M/s Shiv Kumar Diwedi.
17.	Quartz & Feldspar mine Distt. Bhilwada of M/s B.N. Mining Co.
18.	Rampura-Agucha mine expansion by M/s Hindustan Zinc Ltd.
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	
19.	Heavy minerals Kudiraimozhi mine, Distt. Chidamber Nager of M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.

### Tiger Population in Orissa

1341. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Orissa's tiger numbers show steep fall" appearing in the *Indian Express*, New Delhi edition of August 12, 1998;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of tiger population in Orissa forests as per periodical census since 1980 onwards and the corresponding figures in other tiger reserves and forest in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to preserve, protect and promote the tiger population in different reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The details of estimated tiger population in Orissa since 1980 as reported by State Government is as under :

Year	1984	1989	1993	1997
Tiger population	202	243	226	194

The figures of tiger populations as per the past successive estimations carried out in the country and Tiger Reserves are given separately in Statement I & II.

(c) The various measures taken by the Government to conserve the tiger population are enlisted in Statement-III.

### Statement-I

#### Population of Tigers in the country

Name of the State	Tigers				
	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Tamil Nadu	033	065	097	095	097
2. Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276
3. Kerala	060	134	089	045	057
4. West Bengal	073	296	352	353	335
5. Orissa	142	173	202	243	226
6. Karnataka	102	176	202	257	305
7. Bihar	085	110	138	157	137
8. Assam	147	300	376	376	325
9. Rajasthan	074	079	096	099	064
10. Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912
11. Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465
12. Andhra Pradesh	035	148	164	235	197
13. Meghalaya	032	035	125	034	053
14. Manipur	001	010	006	0.31	-
15. Tripura	007	006	005	-	-
16. Mizoram	-	065	033	018	028
17. Nagaland	080	102	104	104	083
18. Arunachal Pradesh	069	139	219	135	180
19. Sikkim	-	-	002	004	002

	1	2	3	4	5	6
20. Gujarat		008	007	009	009	005
21. Goa Daman & Diu		-	-	-	002	003
22. Haryana		-	-	001	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>1827</b>	<b>3015</b>	<b>4005</b>	<b>4334</b>	<b>3750</b>

**Statement-II***Population of Tigers in the Tiger Reserve Areas*

S.No.	Name of Reserve	1979	1984	1989	1993	1995
1.	Bandipur (Karnataka)	39	53	50	66	74
2.	Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	84	90	91	123	128
3.	Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	71	109	97	100	97
4.	Manas (Assam)	69	123	92	81	94
5.	Melghat (Maharashtra)	63	80	77	72	71
6.	Palamau (Bihar)	37	62	55	44	47
7.	Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)	25	38	44	36	38
8.	Similipal (Orissa)	65	71	93	95	97
9.	Sunderbans (West Bengal)	205	264	269	251	242
10.	Periyar (Kerala)	34	44	45	30	39
11.	Sariska (Rajasthan)	19	26	19	24	25
12.	Buxa (West Bengal)	-	15	33	29	31
13.	Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	-	38	28	18	15
14.	Nagarjunsagar (A.P.)	-	65	94	44	34
15.	Namdhapa (Arunachal Pradesh)	-	43	47	47	52
16.	Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	-	-	90	94	98
17.	Kalakad (Tamil Nadu)	-	-	22	17	16
18.	Valmiki (Bihar)	-	-	81	49	NA Census Not Done
19.	Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	-	-	-	39	27
20.	Tadoba (Maharashtra)	-	-	-	34	36
21.	Bandhavgarh (M.P.)	-	-	-	41	46
22.	Panna (M.P.)	-	-	-	25	22
23.	Dampaha (Mizoram)	-	-	-	07	04
<b>Total</b>		<b>711</b>	<b>1121</b>	<b>1327</b>	<b>1366</b>	<b>1333</b>

**Statement-III****Steps taken by the Government of India to Protect Tiger**

1. The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
2. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
3. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibbetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
4. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
5. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
6. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in the efforts towards wildlife conservation.
7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
8. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the ecodevelopment of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
9. Steps are being initiated to set up site specific "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas.

**Consultancy Firms**

1342. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :  
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign consultancy firms operating in India during 1997-98;

(b) the total amount of earning made by them during the last years;

(c) whether the foreign consultancy firms off load part of their jobs to the Indian consultancy firms; and

(d) if so, the impact of this development on Indian consultancy agencies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DUJAL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Reconstitution of ICSSR**

1343. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIᅀNDIA :  
SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have lately reconstituted the Indian Council of Social Science Research; and

(b) if so, the composition of the reconstituted council and the criteria adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been partly reconstituted.

(b) According to Rule 3 of Memorandum of Association and Rules of Indian Council of Social Science Research, eighteen Social Scientists are nominated by the Government of India as members of the Council. The term of members is three years. As the terms of twelve such members had ended, Government nominated twelve social scientists on September 22, 1998.

**Mumbai Port Trust Regulations**

1344. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ship breakers are flouting Mumbai Port Trust regulations and a large number of old ships are stationed at Mumbai Port as appearing in the *Economic Times*, dated Oct. 5, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to keep the Mumbai ship-breaking yard cleared from the scrapped materials etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Mumbai Port Trust Pollution Control Cell regularly inspects the ships under breaking including the yards from seaward side. Materials such as fibre glass, insulating material and oil sludge, if any, are collected and deposited safely. The Port Trust keeps constant watch on the situation.

[Translation]

#### Facilities at the Regional Offices of IGNOU

1345. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether for examination results of the graduate and postgraduate degree courses and other related matters, students of far-flung areas have to make several trips to the regional and central offices of the Indira Gandhi National Open University located in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether examination results of the students are withheld on account of the failure of the regional offices in making timely remittance of their course fee etc. to the central offices of the University; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of all facilities at the regional office itself?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, the results of all terminal examinations are communicated individually to all the students at their registered addresses by post.

(b) and (c) The results of some of the students are with-held on account of all or any of the following reasons :

- (i) Reported case of use of unfair means at the examination;
- (ii) Wrong indication of enrolment number in the examination form and/or examination answer script by the candidate;
- (iii) Candidate appearing in terminal examination after expiry of his period of registration;

(iv) Wrong option by the candidate for appearing in the examination;

(v) Non-payment of course registration fee at Regional Centre;

(vi) Appearing in an examination without completion of prescribed period of study.

The University has now decided to let the course fee be remitted in one or two instalments. As a result of this, a major portion of the fee collected at Regional Centres for the session January 1999 is already with Headquarters. In open system of learning this University provides facilities to all the students to take their examination at any activated examination centre irrespective of their region just by giving his/her choice in the examination form. Regional Centres are associated with conduct of examinations at the centres in their region. In case of any difficulty in taking the examination at a particular examination centre in a region, the Regional Directors solve their problems ensuring that the candidate does not miss the examination on any account.

[English]

#### Primary Education

1346. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has pointed out that primary education is the most neglected area in the country;

(b) if so, whether he has recently suggested that there is a need to suitably honour and incorporate the teacher's views while planning the education strategies of the country; and

(c) if so, the concrete measure the Government propose to take to improve the primary education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Inaugurating the Conference of Education Ministers of States on October 22, 1998, the Prime Minister has stressed the critical importance of universalisation of primary education for social development. He also said that the teachers' views must be given importance in education planning and that parents and community should be made more responsive about the schools.

(c) Decentralised planning and management of elementary education is a goal set by the National Policy on Education, 1986. The policy visualises direct community involvement in the form the Village

Education Committees (VECs) for management of elementary education. Teachers are also represented on VECs and work with the community in managing the affairs of the school.

### Strike in Cochin Shipyard

1347. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers/employees of Cochin Shipyard have struck work recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total amount of loss caused due to the strike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the workers employed by the Contractors had struck work from 6th August to 2nd September, 1998 and from 19th October to 18th November, 1998 to press their demand for Wage Revision and increased amount of Bonus/Ex-gratia to be paid by the Contractors. The Yard has suffered a loss of about Rs. 5.60 crores on account of loss of production due to increased cycle time taken for Shipbuilding and Rs. 32 crores on amount of reduction in turnover of Shiprepair and loss of contract. In addition the Yard has estimated there may be loss of Rs. 1.30 crores by way of interest due to delay in stage payments at launching and delivery stages.

### Indian Rhino

1348. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the population of Indian Rhino in 1991 and 1997 in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether this highly protected animal is being killed by the poachers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The population of Indian Rhino during 1991 & 1997 State-wise is as follows :

	1991 (Census)	1997 (Estimate)
Assam	1519	1530
W. Bengal	39 (1989)	55
Uttar Pradesh	9 (1989)	13

(b) and (c) The number of Rhinos killed by poachers during last three years is as follows :

1995	-	35
1996	-	40
1997	-	29

(d) Rhino is placed in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and therefore is being provided highest protection under law.

(i) Hunting of Rhino is banned under Wildlife (Protection) Act.

(ii) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary, whenever information of illegal trade in wildlife including Rhino horn is received.

(iii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in Rhino and its parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.

### Chocking of Matheran Hills by Plastic

1349. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item Captioned "Matheran Hills get Chocked by Plastic" appearing in the *Indian Express* dated September 23, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Government have been considering measures for barring the use of plastic bags and packages by replacing them with conventional paper, jute or cotton packaging; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A news item captioned: "Matheran Hills get chocked by Plastic" has appeared in the *Indian Express* dated September 23, 1998. According to the information furnished by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, a Committee to look into the issues concerning plastic waste has been appointed by Maharashtra Government and the report of this Committee has been submitted in October, 1998. The report has recommended ban on manufacturing of plastic bags of less than specified thickness.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has issued a Gazette Notification dated November 20, 1998 entitled "Recycled Plastics Usage Rules, 1998", for regulating the use of plastics, inviting objections from public within a period of sixty days. These Rules propose to prohibit the use of carry bags or containers made of recycled plastic for storing, carrying and packing the foodstuffs. Subject to the above provisions, any person may use carry bags or containers made of re-cycled plastic if they are as per the specifications mentioned in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the Rules made thereunder and if the reprocessing or recycling of plastics are not undertaken strictly in accordance with the Indian Standards, IS 14534: 1998 entitled: "Guidelines for Recycling of Plastics" published by the Bureau of Indian Standards such carry bags and containers have also to be nonpigmented and their minimum thickness shall not be less than 25 microns. The Draft Rules also specify the minimum thickness of carry bags made of virgin plastics which shall not be less than 20 microns.

#### World Bank/ADB Funds to PFC

1350. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation is under-utilising the external funds provided by the World Bank and Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details of the funds provided and utilised during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to utilise the remaining fund during 1998-99;

(d) whether any direction has been issued by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is a financial institution providing loans to the power sector, in particular to State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and State Generating Corporations (SGCs). External credits from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, through the Government of India, are also onlent in the same manner. PFC is not an executing agency and has to depend upon the SEBs/SGCs for utilisation of the credits. The Budget Estimates (BE)/Revised Estimates (RE) and the actual utilisation of external

credits through Budget for the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Utilisation
1995-96	300	300	300
1996-97	550	550	480
1997-98	550	400	342

During 1996-97 and 1997-98, there was under utilisation of Budget allocations in rupee terms on account of delays in procurement and subsequent submission of bills, proof of payments to suppliers/contractors by beneficiary SEBs to PFC for disbursement. The progress of these schemes is being regularly monitored and reviewed.

#### Utilisation of Funds

1351. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme to spread literacy among the women of backward communities has proved to be a non-starter despite the budgetary allocation made during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) A scheme known as "Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme" for improving the literacy among women of backward classes is being formulated by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The Scheme will be launched and the necessary funds will be released as soon as the same is approved by Government of India.

#### Balika Samridhi Yojana

1352. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Balika Samridhi Yojana has run into rough weather;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether payment of Rs. 500/- to every female child in poverty-stricken families after August 15 is still continuing;

(d) if so, whether the Government would implement the second and third phases of the scheme;

(e) whether any directions has been issued by the Government to the States to implement the scheme thoroughly; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The payment of Rs. 500/- to eligible beneficiaries under the scheme is not to be implemented in phases, and has been launched for simultaneous implementation in the whole country, and is still continuing.

(e) and (f) Directions have been issued from time to time regarding identification of district level implementing agencies, guidelines for implementation, utilisation of funds etc. to ensure proper implementation.

#### Private participation in Inland Waterways

1353. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow private sector participation in the development of the inland waterways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been formulated in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Private Sector participation is possible for infrastructural development and vessel operation. A comprehensive policy is under consideration.

#### Grievances of Scientists

1354. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great deal of discontentment amongst the scientists due to anomalies in their pay structure/promotional avenues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to redress grievances of the scientists; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The promotion of Scientists are governed by the Flexible Complementing Scheme (FCS) applicable to Scientific and technical posts and personnel in Scientific Departments/Institutions. The Fifth Pay Commission had also considered this Scheme and recommended that the professionals posted to Secretariats of Ministries and Departments will be excluded from the Scheme and will be subject to normal Career Progression Scheme. The Government did not accept this recommendation and allowed the benefit of FCS to the Scientists working in the Scientific Departments.

While deciding to continue with benefit of FCS to Scientists working in the Scientific Departments, Government has brought about uniformity of designations, pay scales etc. in these Departments and has also rationalised the assesemnt procedure for promotions enabling meritorious scientists accelerated promotions and reducing the minimum residency period of young entrants. Some concerns have been expressed about some of these elements which would get addressed as the Scheme is implemented.

#### ADB Loan for Road and Port Projects

1355. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank funded soft loans worth \$375 millions currently under negotiation for many road and port projects have been affected due to Japanese decision to impose sanction;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has affected the agreements reached by the National Highway Authority of India and ADB;



(c) if so, the Projects under negotiations with ADB in respect of the road sector;

(d) whether in view of the latest decision, the ADB has also refused to sign the agreements in this regard; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the roads and ports projects have been affected on this count?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) In the Road sector only one loan amounting to US\$ 180 million for rehabilitation and upgradation of Surat-Manor section of NH-8 in the State of Gujarat is under negotiation with Asian Development Bank by National Highway Authority of India. In the Port sector two loans totalling US\$ 113 million have been signed in September, 1998 for development of ports. The loan negotiations with ADB in the Road and Port sectors have not been affected due to Japanese decision to impose sanction.

#### Indo-US Forum on S & T

1356. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Indo-US forum on Science and Technology has been set up;

(b) if so, whether the forum is proposed to be provided funds out of the residual PL-480 still lying unused;

(c) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total funds to be allotted from PL-480 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Providing Capital Subsidy

1357. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has agreed to provide, capital subsidy to Public Sector Road Transport Undertakings to tide over the financial problems of State Road Transport Undertakings;

(b) whether the 43rd Annual Conference of Public Sector Road Transport Undertakings was held recently in New Delhi;

(c) if so, the suggestions made in the conference; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the road transport system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) The Conference was held in New Delhi on 27.3.1998.

(c) Major suggestions/observations made in the Conference are as follows :-

- (i) Upgradation of Technology and updation of bus engineering should not be delayed.
- (ii) The incidence of tax appeared to be harassing the financial health of the State Transport Undertaking (STUs).
- (iii) The provision of Capital Contribution to State Road Transport Corporations by Central Government on certain conditions of performance by State Road Transport Corporations be restored. Also, fare correction measures should be taken by respective State Governments.
- (iv) Investments in infrastructure related projects should be identified.
- (v) Education and enforcement of Road Safety should be pursued by STUs.
- (vi) Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTUS) may provide necessary support to STUs in declaring Passenger Charter.
- (vii) ASRTUS may suggest necessary and comprehensive amendments to various Acts required by STUs for their efficient functioning.

(d) Road Transport Services are owned, controlled and regulated by the concerned States/ Union Territories. Hence, all States/Union Territories are required to take appropriate steps to improve road transport system in their domain. The Ministry of Surface Transport, however, brings out a quarterly Performance Report of all Public Sector Road transport Undertakings and the findings are sent to all concerned for taking corrective measures.

#### Cases against Additional Session Judges

1358. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1573 dated August 1, 1997 and state:

(a) whether the required information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Registry of the Delhi High Court has reported that there are 9 cases pending in Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi in which Additional Sessions Judges are one of the parties. The cases are dealt with in accordance with Law. The fact that a superior Judge is a party in a case before a junior Judge does not have any relevance as decision of the case is made as per law.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Working Group to Monitor Pollution

1359. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a working group to monitor the pollution control in the country;

(b) if so, the details and composition of the said group; and

(c) the time by which the Group is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) No specific working group to monitor pollution control in the country has been formulated by the Government. However, the powers have been conferred on State Pollution Control Boards under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to execute programmes for prevention and control of pollution and monitor the effluents and emissions from various sources within their purview as per the prescribed standards.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1360. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has decided to set up more power projects in the State;

(b) if so, the total power likely to be generated from these projects;

(c) the names of power projects to be undertaken in Andhra Pradesh during 1998-99;

(d) whether the Chief Minister of the State has suggested aggressive reforms in the functioning of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board;

(e) if so, whether any concrete measures have been undertaken in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Six Thermal and three hydro projects have been cleared/sanctioned for setting up in the State of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 4825 MW (3850 MW Thermal and 975 MW Hydro) is likely to be generated from these projects after their completion.

(c) Simhadri (2x500 MW) and Kondapalli CCGT (350 MW) have been taken up for execution during 1998-99. Singur HEP, Srisailam HEP and A.P. Power House at Balimela are already under execution.

(d) to (f) The Andhra Pradesh Legislature has passed the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Reform Bill which has received Presidential assent. The Bill has become an Act. According to this Act the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board would be unbundled and its functions would be discharged by Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corporation and independent generating companies. Distribution is also proposed to be corporatised and privatised. Andhra Pradesh Electricity Reforms Commission is also to be set up under this Act. The State Government has initiated discussions with the World Bank for getting loan for restructuring of their power sector.

#### Investment from Private Sector and Budgetary Support

1361. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether with only 35.38 percent of the total required investment coming from the private sector and budgetary support, the Union Government are yet to figure out any concrete route to raise the rest of the resources for road sector development;

(b) whether the investment of the private sector will be able to cover only 20% of the total requirement for roads and highways; and

(c) if so, the other steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes Sir. But the percentage quoted cannot be confirmed.

(b) Experience in other countries indicate that not more than 25% of investment can be raised from private investment.

(c) The Central Government has taken measures like a cess of Rs. 1 per litre of petrol and levying toll on 4 lane sections to raise the resources for the development of the road sector.

#### **Establishment of National Express Highway Authority**

1362. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :  
SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN :  
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce a bill to establish the National Express Authority of India to develop the express concept in the country;

(b) if so, the Government have identified the existing roads in various parts of the country which could be developed as express Highways; and

(c) if so, the details of the places with their length identified under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The proposals are at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given.

#### **Nomination of Directors on Shaw Wallace Company Board**

1363. DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :  
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calcutta High Court directed the Company Law Board to nominate Government Directors on the Shaw Wallace Company Board;

(b) if so, the names of the Directors and functions allotted to the Board;

(c) whether the Employees Federation has drawn the attention of the Government to serious cases of corruption in the company; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The petition filed by All India Shaw Wallace Employees Federation and others containing allegations of mismanagement against the management of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd. and the application filed by the Department of Company Affairs under section 408 were decided by the Company Law Board on 27-7-98 directing that the total number of directors on the Board of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd should be 9. Out of that two directors have been appointed by the Central Government and two directors are Company Law Board nominees. Thus, in all, 4 independent directors have been appointed on the Board of Shaw Wallace & Company Ltd. as per orders of the Company Law Board.

#### **Classification of University Funds**

1364. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Heads all over the country are sore with the Union Government classifying the funds allotted for higher education as 'non-merit' subsidy;

(b) if so, whether this will result in not allowing any increase in grants to higher education sector;

(c) whether representations have been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (f) During 1996-97, Ministry of Finance had prepared a 'Discussion paper on Subsidies'. In this paper, the Higher Education was classified in the 'Non-Merit subsidy' category. The paper was circulated amongst the Members of Parliament for discussion only. No decision was taken by the Government on the issues discussed in the paper.

### Deportation of Scientists

1365. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Scientists deported from the USA after the nuclear tests;

(b) whether the Government have set up a special cell to look after the interests of these scientists;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some of the deported scientists who come back to India have spurned the rehabilitation package formulated by the Union Government;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the efforts being made to impress upon such reluctant scientists to take the assistance being offered by the Union Government; and

(g) the strategy proposed to be chalked out to restore the Indo-US scientific relations as these existed prior to the nuclear tests?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) According to the information available with Government, 8 Indian scientists have been repatriated from the USA after the nuclear test so far.

(b) and (c) The Government have set up a Cell for Repatriated Scientists (CRS). The cell is under the charge of the Secretary, DST. The relevant Indian missions abroad have been advised about the setting up of the cell and have been further requested to disseminate information regarding the cell in general and to the affected scientists in particular. On receipt of a reference from Indian mission or from the affected scientists the cell is to take action as follows :

- (i) If the scientists concerned has a lien on an institution/department of the Government, contacts would be established with that Department to facilitate his return;
- (ii) If the scientist does not have a lien with any Department/Institution, his case would be referred to DG-CSIR for considering his case of being accorded necessary facilities under the Scientists Pool scheme.
- (iii) If any case falls outside the above two actions, the matter would be pursued with the institutions within the country for possible placement as feasible and such institutions would be expected to take necessary action in facilitating the absorption of such candidates;

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

(g) The Government has taken up this matter with the US Government. Both Governments are engaged in talks on sorting our differences and restoration of relations to normal level.

### Shelving of Major Power Projects

1366. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the committee of Secretaries has recommended shelving of three major power projects worth Rs. 500 crores;

(b) if so, the main power projects suggested for shelving and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Union Government have accepted the suggestions of the committee; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Empowered Committee recommended shelving of the following three major power projects on the ground that the inordinate delay in their implementation has resulted in cost overrun of the projects :-

1. Farakka Stage-III
2. Koel karo HEP
3. Koel Karo Transmission Line.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Necessary clearances in respect of Koel Karo HEP and Koel Karo Transmission line are being expedited.

### Welfare Schemes for Women, Children and Youth

1367. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of welfare schemes relating to women, children and youth implemented during Eighth Plan period by the Government;

(b) the details of targets—physical and financial—set and achieved during the said Plan period under these schemes, scheme-wise, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated under the schemes during the current year and targets set, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether performance of these schemes has been evaluated for suitable modification/mid-course correction; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken for effective implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There were 11 schemes relating to women, 9 to children and one to youth implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97). The names of the schemes have been given in Statements-I, II and III respectively.

(b) A Statement-IV of physical and financial targets and achievement under the various schemes of the Department of Women and Child Development, year-wise during Eighth Five Year Plan is placed. As most of the schemes of the Department are implemented by Voluntary Organisation, State-wise targets were not set.

(c) A Statement-V giving details of funds allocated under the various schemes during the current year i.e. 1998-99 and targets set scheme-wise by the Department is placed herewith. As most of the schemes of the Department of Women and Child Development are implemented through voluntary organisations hence State-wise targets are not set.

(d) Yes, Sir. The performance of all the schemes implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development are monitored on a regular basis and special evaluations have been done of the following schemes;

- (i) ICDS
- (ii) Scheme for Working Women Hostels
- (iii) Short Stay Homes
- (iv) Mahila Samridhhi Yojana
- (v) Indira Mahila Yojana
- (vi) Employment-cum-Income Generation cum Production Unit (NORAD)
- (vii) Specific projects under STEP.
- (viii) ICDS Training Programme

(e) On the basis of the above evaluations the following steps have been taken by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, for effective implementation of the schemes :

- the scheme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) was expanded;

- recommendation made in evaluation report of scheme of Working Women Hostels have been sent to State Governments;

confirmed need to revise norms for SSHs for which proposal is being submitted for approval of the Cabinet.

- instructions had been issued to non-governmental organisations running Short Stay Homes for improvement of functioning.
- the scheme of Mahila Samridhhi Yojana has been revamped and is presently under consideration of Government;
- it is proposed to expand the scheme of Indira Mahila Yojana merging it with Mahila Samridhhi Yojana;
- the machinery has been geared up to effectively monitor the scheme of NORAD;
- various corrective measures are being taken by the Department of Women and Child Development to implement the scheme of STEP more effectively;
- the Integrated Child Development Services training programme has been reformulated and new training programme called 'UDISHA' is awaiting Cabinet clearance.

#### *Statement-I*

*No. of Welfare scheme implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, during Eighth Five Year Plan for Women*

1. Hostels for Working Women
2. Setting up of Employment-cum-Production centres for Women (NORAD)
3. Support to Training-cum-Employment Programme (STEP)
4. Short Stay Homes (SSH)
5. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)
6. Mahila Samridhhi Yojana (MSY)
7. Condensed Courses of Education and Vocational Training (CC & VT)
8. Socio-Economic Programme (SEP)
9. Awareness Generation Projects (AGP)
10. Education work for Prevention of Atrocities against Women
11. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisation through Central Social Welfare Board.

**Statement-II**

*No. of Welfare schemes implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India during Eighth Five Year Plan for Children*

1. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme (also covers Women)
2. Creche/Day Care Centres for Children of Working/Ailing Mothers
3. Balsevika Training Programme
4. Early Childhood Education (ECE)
5. Balwadi Nutrition Programme (BNP)
6. Scheme of grant in aid to Voluntary Organisation in the field of Women & Child Development (also covers women)

7. Organisational Assistance to the Voluntary Organisations (also Covers women)
8. Grant-in-aid for Research and Publications (also covers women)
9. National Creche Fund

**Statement-III**

*No. of Welfare scheme implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, during Eighth Five Year Plan for Youth (only for girls)*

1. Adolescent Girls Scheme for girls in the age group of 11—18 years.  
(Adolescent girls scheme is part of major scheme of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme)

## Statement-IV

## Physical Target and Achievement during VIII-Five Year Plan

S. No.	Name of the Scheme/Project	Unit	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>1. Women &amp; Child Development</b>												
<b>A. Central Schemes</b>												
<b>A. Welfare and Development of Children</b>												
1.	Creches/Day Care centres for Children of Working/Ailing Mother	No. of Creches No. of Benf. (in lakhs)	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12389 3.10	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12470 3.12	12473 3.12
2.	National Creche Fund	No. of Creches No. of Beneficiary	- -	- -	- -	- -	400 13300	450 15000	450 15000	509 16967	450 15000	450 15000
3.	Balsavika Training Programme	No. of Courses No. of Trained	25 1250	25 1272	25 1250	25 1195	25 1250	25 1339	25 1250	25 1215	25 1250	25 1244
4.	Training of ICDS functionaries	No. of CDPO's No. of Sup. No. of AWW's (,000)	275 800 35	335 1014 29	300 1000 35	417 768 37	180 850 35	319 903 32	300 1000 35	274 689 35	300 1000 35	392 590 39
5.	Early Childhood Education	No. of Centres No. of Ben. (,000000)	4365 1.50	4258 1.49	4365 1.50	4224 1.48	4365 1.50	4250 1.50	4365 1.50	4010 1.50	4365 1.50	4090 1.50
6.	Balwadi Nutrition Programme	No. of Centres No. of Ben. (,000000)	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25	5641 2.25
<b>B. Welfare and Development of Women</b>												
7.	Hostels for Working Women	No. of Hostels No. of Ben.	40 2000	30 2182	40 2000	30 2069	50 2500	53 459.	60 3000	37 3565	60 3000	28 3122
8.	Setting up of Employment-cum-income generation training Cum-Production Centres for Women (NORAD)	No. of Projects No. of Ben.	50 4000	53 7162	50 4000	56 6000	50 4000	134 9635	60 5000	175 13000	250 20000	275 44000
9.	Support to training-cum-Employment Programme (STEP)	No. of Projects No. of Ben (,000)	5 10	5 11	6 10	7 59	6 10	13 69	10 16	7 36	10 16	12 77
10.	Short Stay Homes	No. of Homes (new) No. of Homes (old)	30 177	45 177	30 222	34 222	30 256	42 256	35 298	32 298	30 330	31 329
11.	Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation	Res. studu. (new) No. of workshop	- -	6 -	- -	4 10	- -	1 9	- -	3 15	20 10	19 12
12.	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh	No. of Ben. (,000 cum.)	-	-	N.F.	37	N.F.	25	N.F.	38	N.F.	97
13.	Mahila Samridhhi Yojana	No. of Accounts opened (in lakhs) cum.	-	-	N.F.	5	N.F.	8529	N.F.	169.06	N.F.	246.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14.	Condensed Courses of Education and Vocational Training	No. of Courses No. Ben. ('000)	1200 30	1380 35	1200 30	1393 35	1300 32	1215 30	1300 32	1237 31	1400 35	597 15
15.	Socio-Economic Programme	No. of Units No. Ben. ('000)	782 6	755 6	760 6	502 4	800 6	537 5	640 8	650 5	700 6	13 1
16.	Awareness Generation Projects	No. of Camps No. Ben. ('000)	- -	1057 26	- -	1264 32	- -	1850 46	2000 40	2176 54	2250 52	314 6
<b>C. Others Schemes</b>												
17.	General-Grant in Aid to Vol. Organisations	No. of Vol. Organ.	8	7	8	8	20	7	20	14	20	14
<b>Centrally Sponsored Schemes</b>												
18.	ICDS (including IMY)	No. of projects No. of Blocks (IMY)	300 -	369 -	300 -	312 -	200 -	225 -	100 200	1886 200	5614 200	5614 200
19.	World Bank Assisted ICDS Projects	No. of New Blocks (cum) No. of Old Blocks (cum.)	188 113	118 113	254 200	254 200	331 301	331 301	408 301	408 301	454 301	454 301
<b>Food and Nutrition Board</b>												
<b>A. Central Schemes</b>												
1.	Integrated Education in Nutrition	INECs & OTCs (no.)	84	85	102	109	102	104	102	101	102	104
2.	Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units	Dem. Prog. Trng. Courses Prs. of fruits & Veg. Anganwadi insp.	13680 792 310 -	14203 865 382 -	11352 792 310 9120	12759 857 428 7122	11352 792 310 6888	11653 827 310 6820	11360 790 310 6880	12264 838 368 6820	11360 790 310 6880	12829 918 - 7196

N.F. - Not Fixed

## Financial targets and achievement during VIII Five Year Plan

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/ Programme	VIII Plan Outlay	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		VIII-Plan Actual
			B.E.	Actual	B.E.	Actual	B.E.	Actual	B.E.	Actual			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>I. Women and Child Development</b>													
<b>A. Central Schemes</b>													
I Continuing Schemes													
<i>(a) Welfare and Development of Children</i>													
1.	Creches/Day Care Centres for Children of Working/Ailing Mother	33.30	7.50	1.36	7.50	1.66	7.50	6.50	7.50	6.38	7.50	4.02	19.92

(Rs. in Crores)



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2. National Crech Fund for Child Care Services						19.90	18.90	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-	19.92
3. Baisevika Training Progm.	2.45	0.45	0.35	0.45	0.35	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.45	0.43	0.45	0.46	2.21
4. Training of ICDS functionaries	68.00	13.00	9.14	12.12	10.38	12.60	11.68	12.60	11.68	11.66	9.91	11.66	9.94	51.25
5. National Institute of Public Co-operation & Child Development	9.77	2.20	2.20	2.75	2.75	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	3.00	2.29	3.00	2.80	12.90
6. Early Childhood Education	2.30	0.50	0.35	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.49	0.50	0.55	2.39
7. Balwad Nutrition Programme	22.22	5.00	-	6.45	3.95	6.05	6.05	6.05	5.87	6.05	3.95	6.05	2.01	15.78
Total (a)	128.04	28.66	13.40	49.67	39.61	30.02	28.12	29.17	28.12	29.17	23.46	29.17	19.78	124.37
(b) <i>Welfare and Development of Women</i>														
1. Hostels for Working Women	35.00	6.00	6.30	7.00	7.15	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.50	7.75	7.38	37.08
2. Setting up of Employment Income Generating Training Women (NORAD)	20.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.09	4.00	4.09	4.00	4.99	5.00	6.20	18.00	18.80	37.08
3. Support to Training-cum-Employment Programme (STEP)	57.00	11.00	11.00	15.05	15.05	15.00	15.05	15.00	15.96	16.00	17.24	16.00	16.97	76.24
4. Short Stay Homes	5.00	1.00	1.01	3.00	2.04	2.74	2.04	2.74	2.14	2.75	2.74	2.75	2.61	10.54
5. Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities Against Women	2.25	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.42	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	1.72
6. Replication of WDP Project of Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	-	-	-
7. Integrated Project for Development of Women/Rural Women Development & Empowerment Project	0.01	0.01	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	0.94	0.94
8. Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation (Monitoring Unit)	0.60	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.18	0.10	0.18	0.10	0.08	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.25	0.75
9. National Resource Centre for Women	0.16	0.15	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	1.00	0.01	1.00	-	0.01
10. National Commission for Women	6.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.75	2.00	1.75	2.00	1.03	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.50	6.53
11. SAARC Decade of the Girl Child	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	-
12. National Credit Fund for Women (RMK)	1.00	1.00	31.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-	31.03
13. Strengthening of WW Bureau	0.75	0.10	-	0.15	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.15	-	0.15	-	-
14. Creation of Office of the Commissioner for Women's Rights	0.10	0.10	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	-
15. Women's Development Cor.	2.44	1.00	1.00	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	Transferred to States w.e.f. 1.4.92	10.00	10.00	10.00	-	6.14
16. Mahila Samridhi Yojana	-	-	-	-	10.50	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	58.48	178.98
17. Fourth World Conferences for Women.	-	-	-	-	0.04	0.10	0.10	0.26	1.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.07	0.87

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18. Condensed Courses of Education & Vocational Trng.	40.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.13	8.00	8.00	9.00	9.94	9.00	5.13	39.20
19. Socio-Economic Programme	25.00	5.75	5.75	4.50	5.75	4.50	4.59	5.50	5.50	6.00	6.49	6.00	5.83	28.16
20. Awareness Generation Projects	7.50	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.00	1.25	1.28	2.00	2.00	2.26	2.22	2.25	2.07	8.57
21. G.L.A. to Vol. Organisation to CSWB	20.00	7.50	6.56	3.00	4.17	6.00	4.17	6.00	6.81	7.01	13.96	7.01	5.87	37.37
Total (b)	222.35	47.96	77.22	52.82	64.47	103.61	104.97	120.46	130.30	143.45	125.25	143.45	125.25	502.21
(c) Other Schemes														
1. PREM & Innovative Action-cum Research Projects	1.11	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.31	0.25	0.18	0.25	0.18	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.35	1.35
2. Organisational Assistance to Vol. Organisations	0.66	0.15	0.21	0.15	0.25	0.20	0.28	0.20	0.28	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.22	1.21
3. G.I.A. to Vol. Organisations in the Field of Women & Child Development	0.45	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.14	0.2	0.09	0.20	0.09	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.73
4. Information & Mass Media	6.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.15	5.90
Total (c)	8.22	1.50	1.56	1.75	1.96	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.96	1.90	1.82	9.19
Total (Central Schemes)	359.1	78.11	92.18	104.24	106.03	135.53	134.89	151.52	155.72	174.52	146.95	146.95	146.95	635.77
II. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)														
1. Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS)	1285.74	271.74	329.60	408.55	410.62	434.00	434.99	500.00	556.38	515.94	526.28	2257.87		
2. Indira Mahila Yojana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.00	12.07	-	-	-	12.07
3. World Bank ICDS Projects	330.00	75.00	33.10	53.21	53.36	90.00	90.00	64.00	90.00	154.3	154.28	420.74		
4. Wheat Based Nutrition Program.	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00		
5. Training Centres for rehabilitation for Women in Distress	0.15	0.15	0.18	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-		
Total (CSS)	1640.9	371.89	387.88	461.76	463.98	524.00	524.99	576.00	658.45	670.24	680.68	2715.86		
II. Food and Nutrition Board														
Central Scheme (CS)														
1. Integrated Education in Nutrition	3.00	0.60	0.45	0.60	1.54	0.60	0.79	0.90	0.90	1.17	0.90	1.06	5.04	
2. Fortification of Milk with Vit. 'A'	0.15	0.02	0.01	0.02	-	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.06	
3. Research & Development	0.30	0.10	0.02	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.15	0.15	0.07	0.15	0.16	0.44	
4. Quality Control laboratories	0.30	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.13	
5. Mass Media Communication	0.50	0.10	0.03	0.25	0.17	0.25	0.12	0.30	0.33	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.65	
6. Fortification of Salt with Iron	2.00	0.50	0.21	0.47	0.02	0.17	0.61	0.10	0.10	neg.	-	-	0.24	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7. Community Food & Nutrition Extension Units			0.50	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.09	0.03	-	0.20
8. Community based Prod. of Nut. of food with UNICEF Assistance			-	-	0.16	0.25	0.26	0.25	-	0.25	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.60
9. Strengthening of Food and Nutrition Board			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.43	-	0.43	-	-
10. Implementation of National Nutrition Policy			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.21	-	-
Total (CS)			6.75	1.40	0.96	1.79	2.16	1.49	1.13	2.25	1.78	2.15	1.32	7.35
<b>Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)</b>														
1. Fortification of Salt with Iron			2.40	0.5	0.04	0.63	0.05	0.63	0.10	-	-	-	-	0.19
2. Production of Nutritious Food			0.75	0.35	-	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.07	0.22	0.09	0.15	0.14	0.60
3. Setting up of CFNEUS in collaboration with State Govts.			0.05	0.02	-	0.05	-	0.05	-	0.01	-	0.01	-	-
4. Setting up of Food Processing and Nutrition centres			0.05	0.05	0.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.04
Total (CSS)			3.25	0.92	0.08	0.98	0.35	0.98	0.17	0.23	0.09	0.16	0.14	0.83
Total (FNS)			10.00	2.32	1.04	2.77	2.51	2.47	1.30	2.48	1.87	2.31	1.46	8.18
Total (WCDC)			2010.00	452.32	481.10	568.77	572.52	662.00	561.18	730.00	816.04	847.07	828.97	3359.81

**Statement-V**

*Details of fund allocated, scheme-wise target during 1998-99 of the Welfare schemes for the Women, Children and Youth implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development Government of India*

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme/Project	Annual Target
1	2	3
<b>A. Central Schemes</b>		
<b>(a) Welfare and Development of Children</b>		
1.	Creches/Day Care Centres for Children of Working/Ailing Mother	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	7.50
	Non-Plan	15.55
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Creche Units	12470
	Benef. in lakhs	3.11
2.	National Creche Fund for Child Care Services	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	0.01
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	New Creches	450
	Anganwadi-cum-creches to be opened	150
3.	Balsevika Training Prog.	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	0.20
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Beneficiaries	625
4.	Training of ICDS Functionaries	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	40.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	(i) CDPO Training	
	a. Job Trng. Courses	300
	b. Ref. Training	200
	(ii) Supervisor Training	
	a. Job Trng. Courses	1000
	b. Ref. Training	1100
	(iii) AWW Training	41850

1	2	3
5.	National Institute of Public Co-operation & Child Development	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	2.60
	Non-Plan	3.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Regular Tng. Progm.	60
6.	Early Childhood Education	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	0.50
	Non-Plan	3.05
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of centres	4365
	No. of children (in lakhs)	1.50
7.	Balwadi Nutrition Programme	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	3.00
	Non-Plan	3.67
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Benef. (in lakhs)	1.66
<b>(b) Welfare and Development of Women</b>		
8.	Hostels for Working Women	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	7.75
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Additional Hostels	25
	No. of Women Benef.	2500
9.	Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Training-cum Production Units for Women (NORAD)	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	18.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Women Benef.	25000
10.	Support to Training-cum-Employment Programme (STEP)	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	16.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of Women Benef.	16000
11.	Short Stay Homes	
	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i>	
	Plan	10.00
	Non-Plan	2.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i>	
	No. of SSH (New)	30

1	2	3	1	2	3
12.	Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities against Women	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Organisation/Inst.	0.30	70	
13.	Balika Samridhhi Yojana	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No of Benef. (in lakhs)	60.00	12.00	
14.	Integrated Project for Development of Women	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of District	19.30	18.00	
15.	Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation (Monitoring Unit)	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.15		
16.	National Resource Centre for Women	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Being set up	2.00		
17.	National Commission for Women	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	2.50		
18.	Integrated Empowerment Project	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Shorted out of Project/ Signing of contract/ Scrutiny of Proposals	1.09		
19.	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Women to be assisted Tng. to NGO's Tng. to ICDS/WDC Staffs Capacity building of RMK Sup. under SHG Devl. Scheme	10.00	18000.00 40 60 25 180	
20.	Strengthening of WW Bureau	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan			0.04
21.	Creation of Office of the Commissioner for Women's Rights	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan			0.01
22.	Mahila Samridhhi Yojana	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Implimented after finalization of the scheme			40.00
23.	Condensed Courses of Education & Vocational Trg.	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Courses No. of Beneficiaries (in'000)		9.00	1178 29
24.	Socio-Economic Programme	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Units No. of Benf.		9.00	800 8000.00
25.	Awareness Generation Project	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Camps No. of Benf.		2.25	2750 35000
26.	G.I.A. to Vol. Organisation through CSWB	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan Non-Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Vol. Orgn. assisted		14.00 10.1	
<b>(c) Other Schemes</b>					
27.	PREM & Innovative Action-cum-Research Projects	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan <i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of New Studies No. of Seminar/workshops			0.50 25 25

1	2	3
28. Organisational Assistance to Vol. Organisations	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.20
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Organisations	80
29. G.I.A. to Vol. Organisations in the Field of Women & Child Development	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.20
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Organisation	15
30. Information & Mass Media	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	1.25
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Radio Prog. (Nayasavera) Video Films/Spots Dupl. of Films	52 18 20
<b>B. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)</b>		
31. Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) Scheme	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	603.14
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of CSPs (incl. WB-proj.) No. of Operational CSPs Other Performance Indicators: Ben of SNP in CSP (Children & Mother) (in lakhs) Ben of PSE in CSP (in lakhs)	5614 4200 302 155
32. Indira Mahila Yojana	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	10.00
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Blocks	200
33. World Bank Assisted ICDS projects	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	331.95
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of Projects (New) No. of Project (Old)	126 1154

1	2	3
<b>Exclusively Non-Plan Scheme Central Scheme (CS)</b>		
34. Universal Children's Day	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	0.01
	<i>Physical</i> Observance	
35. National Children Board	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	0.005
36. National Awards for Child Welfare including Rajiv Gandhi Manav Sewa Award	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	0.2000
37. Contribution to UNICEF	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	3.10
38. Contribution to UN Fund for Women	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	0.06
39. Indo-Foreign Exchange Programme	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	0.01
<b>New Scheme</b>		
<b>A. Central Schemes (CS)</b>		
40. Distance Education	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.63
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Project schedule to be followed	
<b>Food and Nutrition Bureau</b>		
<b>A. Central Scheme (CS)</b>		
41. Nutrition Education	<i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan Non-Plan Total	1.80 3.80
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> A. Nutrition Edn Prog.	
(a) No. of Nutrition Demonstration Programme		11.360
(b) No. of Trng. Courses on Fruit & Vegetable Preservation and Nutrition		790
(c) No of Anganwadis inspection for suppl. Feeding prog.		6880

1	2	3
	<b>B. Integrated Edu. for Nutrn.</b>	
	(a) No. of INE camps/ Orientn. Training Courses	102
	(b) Mass Media	
	(i) No. of episodes of Radio	30
	(ii) Video/Radio Spots	10
	(iii) NEP through TV	24
	(iv) Devl. & Prtg. of booklets	2
	(v) No. of exhlbn. conduct	
	(vi) Weeks/Days Celebrated	
	1. World Breast Feeding Week	-
	2. National Nutrition Week	-
	3. World Food Day	-
	4. Global Iodine Deficiency disorders Day	-
	<b>C. Strengthening of FNB</b>	
	I. Setting up of new units	19
	II. Upgradation of old units	14
42.	Fortification of Milk with Vit. 'A' <i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.05
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of New Dairies	5
43.	Research & Development <i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.10
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> No. of New Studies	2
	No. of Studies to be completed	2
44.	Implementation of National Nutrition Policy <i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.40
	<i>Physical (Progressive)</i> Revision & Approval of Scheme	
45.	Food and Nutrition Board and it's Regional Offices <i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Non-Plan	3.80
	<b>B. Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)</b>	
46.	Production of Nutritious Food through State Government <i>Financial (Cum.)</i> Plan	0.16

### Hydro Cess on Electricity Consumers

1368. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to impose hydro cess on electricity consumers all over the country;

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

(c) the areas where the amount is likely to be spent;

(d) whether the Government have finalised the share of the ratio of Centre-State in this cess;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether schemes have been finalised by the Government for those places where no hydro power plant are situated; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (g) In order to accelerate the pace of hydro power development, it is proposed to introduce a legislation for establishing a Power Development Fund through levy of Cess on the electricity generation. The proceeds of the cess will be shared between the States and the Central Governments. However, captive power plants, which do not supply power to the grid and small generating stations upto 25 MW will be exempted from the levy of Cess. The amount available in the Power Development Fund is proposed to be utilised for taking up survey and investigations, preparation of Detailed Project Reports and pre-construction activities of hydel projects for promoting new hydel projects (including small hydel power projects); and for improvements in the transmission/distribution network including the sub-transmission.

### Crocodile Sanctuary in Orissa

1369. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Crocodile sanctuary in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sanctuary is proposed to be set up during the current financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) Power to notify any area as a sanctuary vests with the State Government. Therefore, the question of Central Government getting any proposals in this regard does not arise.

#### Rural Electrification

1370. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total financial assistance provided for rural electrification to Goa during the last three years;

(b) the number of villages electrified during 1997-98 under the Rural Electrification Programme;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any time bound programme for electrification of all the villages in each State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The financial assistance for rural electrification given by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to Goa State during the last three years is as under :

Year	Rs. in Crores
1996-97	1.973
1997-98	3.860
1998-99 (Upto Oct. 98)	2.250
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.083</b>

(b) 3045 villages have been electrified during the year 1997-98 under REC Schemes.

(c) to (e) Rural Electrification is a continuing process and the remaining villages in different States will be electrified in the Ninth and subsequent Five Year Plans depending upon the power supply position and other inputs in the respective States.

#### New Scheme for Girls' Education

1371. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new scheme for spread of education amongst girls has been launched;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the target groups under the scheme;

(c) the allocation thereunder for the current year, State/Territory-wise; and

(d) the steps taken so far to implement the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) A new scheme for free education for girls is in the process of being framed. A Plan Allocation of Rs. 100 crores has been made for the scheme for the year 1998-99.

12.01 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per rule before any other matter is taken up the matter of privilege is taken up after question hour. I have given notice of privilege against Shri Madan Lal Khurana and it is clearly stated in May's Parliamentary Practice that.

[English]

The aspersion on the Chairman of a Committee and aspersion on a Committee are a contempt of the House...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : If it is so, I may be allowed to speak first...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : He had criticised the committee and criticised the leader's of the committee in my absence. Therefore, a strict action should be taken against him...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have stated the truth, and had not criticised.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you have given a notice. Let me examine it.

(Interruptions)



SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottiyam) : Sir, the Hose is kept in the dark about the reforms which the Government contemplates. The so-called Advisor to the Finance Minister goes to the Press saying that such and such reforms are contemplated in the insurance sector. Such Policy statements are never made outside the House, even by the Prime Minister while the House is in Session...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise it afterwards. Now, we shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

12.02 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### **Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi**

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New, Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
  - (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1620/98]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration New, Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
  - (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1621/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1622/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. 1623/98]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahila Samakhya Society, Gujarat for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mahila Samakhya Society, Gujarat for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1624/98]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the U.P. Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the U.P. Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1625/98]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Mahila Samakhya Society,

Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Mahila Samakhyia Society, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1626/98]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1627/98]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New, Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1628/98]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1629/98]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National

Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1630/98]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 1996-97.

(20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1631/98]

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Open School, New Delhi, for year 1995-96.

(22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1632/98]

- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with the Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1633/98]

- (25) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1634/98]

- (27) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1635/98]

- (29) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (30) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (29) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1636/98]

- (31) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli, for the year 1996-97.

- (32) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1637/98]

- (33) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the

year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 1996-97.

- (34) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (33) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1638/98]

- (35) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training, Calcutta, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Practical Training, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

- (36) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (35) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1639/98]

- (37) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Shimla Hills, Bhopal, for the year, 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Shimla Hills, Bhopal, for the year, 1996-97.

- (38) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (37) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1640/98]

- (39) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Kanpur, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Kanpur, for the year 1996-97.

- (40) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (39) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1641/98]
- (41) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra, for the year 1996-97.
- (42) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (41) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1642/98]
- (43) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 1996-97.
- (44) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (43) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1643/98]
- (45) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97.
- (46) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (45) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1644/98]
- (47) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for the year 1996-97.
- (48) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (47) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1645/98]
- (49) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts,  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (50) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (49) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1646/98]
- (51) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nagaland University, Kohima, for the year 1995-96.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nagaland University, Kohima, for the year 1995-96.
- (52) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (51) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1647/98]
- (53) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (54) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (53) above.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1648/98]

- (55) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam University, Silchar, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (56) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (55) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1649/98]
- (57) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (58) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (57) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1650/98]
- (59) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.  
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 1996-97.
- (60) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (59) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1651/98]
- (61) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 1996-97.  
(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.  
(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 1996-97.
- (62) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (61) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1652/98]
- (63) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Banaras Hindu University (Volume I and II) for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (64) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (63) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1653/98]
- (65) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts\* of the Auroville Foundation for the year 1996-97/  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1654/98]  
(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1996-97.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (66) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (65) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1655/98]
- (67) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1996-97.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1996-97.
- (68) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (67) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1656/98]
- (69) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.
- (70) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (69) above.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1657/98]

\* Annual Report and Audited Accounts were laid on the table of the House on 6.7.1998.

(71) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Indian Institute of Technology Act, 1961 :-

- (i) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, for the year 1996-97, together with the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1658/98]

(72) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1659/98]

(73) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 1996-97.

(74) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (73) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1660/98]

(75) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1996-97.

(76) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (75) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1661/98]

(77) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 1996-97.

(78) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (77) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1662/98]

(79) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

(80) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (79) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1663/98]

#### Notifications under Companies Act, 1956

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English version) under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) The Cost Accounting Records (Cycles) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 425(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.

- (ii) The Cost Accounting Records (Tyres and Tubes) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 426(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.

- (iii) The Cost Accounting Records (Caustic Soda) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 427(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (iv) The Cost Accounting Records (Room Air-Conditioners) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 428(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (v) The Cost Accounting Records (Refrigerators) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 429(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (vi) The Cost Accounting Records (Automobile Batteries) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 430(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (vii) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Lamp) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 431(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (viii) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Fan) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 432(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (ix) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Motors) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 433(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (x) The Cost Accounting Records (Tractors) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 434(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xi) The Cost Accounting Records (Aluminium) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 435(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xii) The Cost Accounting Records (Vanaspati) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 436(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Bulk Drugs) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 437(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Infant Milk Food) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 438(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xv) The Cost Accounting Records (Jute Goods) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 439(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xv-a) The Cost Accounting Records (Faper) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 440(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xvi) The Cost Accounting Records (Rayon) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 441(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xvii) The Cost Accounting Records (Dyes) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 442(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xviii) The Cost Accounting Records (Soda Ash) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 443(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xix) The Cost Accounting Records (Polyster) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 444(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xx) The Cost Accounting Records (Nylon) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 445(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxi) The Cost Accounting Records (Textiles) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 446(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxii) The Cost Accounting Records (Dry Cell Batteries) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 447(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.

- (xxiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Sulphuric Acid) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 448(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Steel Tubes and Pipes) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 449(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxv) The Cost Accounting Records (Engineering Industries) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 450(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxvi) The Cost Accounting Records (Electrical Cables and Conductors) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 451(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxvii) The Cost Accounting Records (Bearings) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 452(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxviii) The Cost Accounting Records (Milk Food) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 453(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxix) The Cost Accounting Records (Chemical Industries) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 454(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxx) The Cost Accounting Records (Formulations) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 455(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxi) The Cost Accounting Records (Mini Steel Plant) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 456(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxii) The Cost Accounting Records (Insecticides) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 457(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Fertilizers) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 458(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Soap and Detergents) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 459(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxv) The Cost Accounting Records (Cosmetics and Toiletries) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 460(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxvi) The Cost Accounting Records (Footwear) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 461(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxvii) The Cost Accounting Records (Shaving System) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 462(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxviii) The Cost Accounting Records (Industrial Gases) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 463(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xxxix) The Cost Accounting Records (Sugar) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 464(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xl) The Cost Accounting Records (Motor Vehicles) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 465(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xli) The Cost Accounting Records (Cement) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 466(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- (xlii) The Cost Accounting Records (Industrial Alcohol) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 467(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1998.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT 1664/98]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the



International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 1665/98]

- (3) A copy of the Goindwal Industrial and Investment Corporation of Punjab Limited and the Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 580(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1998, under sub-section (5) of section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1666/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Waterway Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterway Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1996-97.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1667/98]

**Annual Report and Review by the Government on the working of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi and statement showing reasons for the delay in laying these papers**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Kumari Uma Bharti, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1668/98]

**Annual Report and Review of the Government of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi and Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above showing papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi for the year 1996-97, under sub-section (1) of section 39 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1669/98]

**Statement showing action taken by the Government on assurance given by the Ministers during various sessions of Lok Sabha**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

A copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on assurances, promises and

undertakings given by the Ministers during various sessions of Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabha :-

#### EIGHTH LOK SABHA

- (1) Statement No. XXXIII Eighth Session, 1987  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1670/98]
- (2) Statement No. XXXV Eight-2 Session, 1987  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1671/98]
- (3) Statement No. XLI Ninth Session, 1987  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1672/98]
- (4) Statement No. XLIV Tenth Session, 1988  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1673/98]
- (5) Statement No. XLI Thirteenth Session, 1989  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1674/98]

#### NINTH LOK SABHA

- (6) Statement No. XLIV Second Session, 1990  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1675/98]
- (7) Statement No. XXXVII Third Session, 1990  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1676/98]
- (8) Statement No. XXXI Sixth Session, 1990  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1677/98]

#### TENTH LOK SABHA

- (9) Statement No. XL First Session, 1991  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1678/98]
- (10) Statement No. XXXIII Second Session, 1991  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1679/98]
- (11) Statement No. XXXVII Third Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1680/98]
- (12) Statement No. XXXIV Fourth Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1681/98]
- (13) Statement No. XXIV Fifth Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1682/98]
- (14) Statement No. XXXII Sixth Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1683/98]

- (15) Statement No. XXVII Seventh Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1684/98]
- (16) Statement No. XXVII Eighth Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1685/98]
- (17) Statement No. XXIV Ninth Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1686/98]
- (18) Statement No. XX Eleventh Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1687/98]
- (19) Statement No. XVIII Twelfth Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1688/98]
- (20) Statement No. XVI Thirteenth Session, 1995  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1689/98]
- (21) Statement No. XIII Fourteenth Session, 1995  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1690/98]
- (22) Statement No. XI Fifteenth Session, 1995  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1691/98]
- (23) Statement No. X Sixteenth Session, 1996  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1692/98]

#### ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

- (24) Statement No. VIII Second Session, 1996  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1693/98]
- (25) Statement No. VII Third Session, 1996  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1694/98]
- (26) Statement No. VI Fourth Session, 1997  
(Vol. I & II)  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1695/98]
- (27) Statement No. IV Fifth Session, 1997  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1696/98]
- (28) Statement No. IV Sixth Session, 1997  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1697/98]

#### TWELFTH LOK SABHA

- (29) Statement No. II First Session, 1998  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1698/98]

(30) Statement No. II Second Session, 1998  
(Vol. I & II)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1699/98]

**Annual Report and Review by the Government  
on the working of the Dredging Corporation of  
India Limited**

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND  
COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : Sir, on behalf  
of Shri Debendra Pradhan, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi  
and English versions) under sub-section (1)  
of section 619A of the Companies Act,  
1956 :-

- (i) Review by the Government of the  
working of the Dredging Corporation  
of India Limited, Visakhapatnam, for  
the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Dredging  
Corporation of India Limited,  
Visakhapatnam for the year 1997-98,  
alongwith Audited Accounts and  
comments of the Comptroller and  
Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1700/98]

12.05 hrs.

**CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION BILL\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF  
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND  
PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND  
INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R.  
JANARTHANAN) : I beg to move for leave to  
introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a  
Central Vigilance Commission to inquire or cause  
inquiries to be conducted into offences alleged to  
have been committed under the Prevention of  
Corruption Act, 1998 by certain categories of public  
servants of the Central Government, corporations  
established by or under any Central Act, Government  
companies, societies and local authorities owned or  
controlled by the Central Government and for matters  
connected therewith or incidental thereto.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary,  
Part-II Section-2, dated 7.12.98.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill  
to provide for the constitution of a Central  
Vigilance Commission to inquire or cause  
inquiries to be conducted into offences  
alleged to have been committed under the  
Prevention of Corruption Act, 1998 by  
certain categories of public servants of  
the Central Government, corporations  
established by or under any Central Act,  
Government companies, societies and  
local authorities owned or controlled by  
the Central Government and for matters  
connected therewith or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN : I  
introduce\*\* the Bill.

12.06 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE: CENTRAL VIGILANCE  
COMMISSION ORDINANCE, 1998  
AND  
CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION  
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1998**

[English]

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN : I beg  
to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi  
and English versions) showing reasons for immediate  
legislation by the Central Vigilance Commission  
Ordinance, 1998 and the Central Vigilance  
Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1701/98]

12.07 hrs.

**COFFEE (AMENDMENT) BILL,\*1998**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL  
KHURANA) : On behalf of Shri Ramakrishna Hedge,  
I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to  
amend the Coffee Act, 1942.

\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

\*\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary,  
Part-II Section-2, dated 7.12.98.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Proper notice should be given. There should be some propriety. Has the notice been given by the Minister?

MR. SPEAKER : He has given the notice. He is in the Rajya Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : He is in the Rajya Sabha. He has sent a letter...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I introduce\* the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to raise an issue. The leader of our party Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav has been put behind bars for the last one and a half month. The CBI is repeatedly raising objections on his bail at the instance of Government of India.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Today I am calling as per the list. Shri Mohan Singh's name is first in the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : The CBI is not furnishing any document in the Supreme Court with regard to bail application due to which the Supreme Court is facing problem to grant him bail. The CBI is doing this at the instance of Government of India. I clearly allege that Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav has been put behind bars without any clear case against him. The CBI is not furnishing any document in High Court and Supreme Court about a political person who is not having any case against him...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Singh, it relates to the State. We cannot discuss it. We cannot discuss it as the matter is pending before the court.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Sir, I want to say a thing. There cannot be greater political hypocrisy than this...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : How can you raise it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : A person who is a leader of our party, the leader of this House, the honourable member of this House, is being deprived of participating in the proceeding of the House at the instance of the Government of India without having charge against him...(Interruptions) It is a very important issue...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Singh, you are a senior Member. The matter is relating to the State and it is pending before the court. How can you raise it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : An hon'ble Member of this House has been put behind the bars for one and a half month without having any charge against him...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : This issue has been raised in this House many a time. The Durai Committee in its report had stated that the officers of CBI are guilty...(Interruptions) An appeal was to be made in the Supreme Court on the judgement of High Court...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except what Shri Sushil Kumar Singh says.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that Supreme Court has stated...(Interruptions)\*

\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

\* Not Recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have always been telling that it is a court matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) (Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that seven students of Bihar studying in Engineering College, Gulbarga in Karnataka were beaten up... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav is a national leader and an hon. Member of this House. He is neither traitor nor a criminal. The baseless allegations have been made against him. Through you, I am saying with a challenge to all MPs that none of the allegations made against Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav is correct because there is no signature on any document and no order was given to any body.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot discuss here matters pending in a court. You are a senior Member.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government says that the C.B.I. is taking action and trying to block his bail. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my request to you that you are custodian of the House, therefore, I request you...

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been some traditions in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me hear him. After that I will see.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the seven students including those belonging to Bihar were beaten up and they were hospitalised. They include two Kashmiries, one N.R.I. and four Biharies. These students lodged FIRs thrice but no action has been taken thereon so far. The students are locked in the hostel. They were again thrashed on their coming out. Through you I would like to

draw the attention of the House that action should be taken in this matter and the government should ensure their safe stay there.

12.13 hrs.

RE : UTILISATION OF M.P. LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AND RELEASE OF MP'S QUOTA IN RESPECT OF L.P.G. AND TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the funds released by the District Magistrate to the local M.P. out of the M.P. LADS I had submitted a scheme for my constituency five-six months back but, the D.M. is not releasing any funds for the scheme. Owing to which we are not able to get even the last budget. I would request you to increase this amount from one crore to two crore so as to enable the M.P.s to carry out more developmental works in their areas. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the D.M. has provided vehicle to the Rajya Sabha M.P. who belongs to BJP to make assessment of the developmental work carried out in the area but this facility is not being given to me. However, the Rajya Sabha M.P. belonging to the ruling party B.J.P. is being provided this facility. Sir, in the light of the facts stated above, I would request you to intervene in the matter and to ensure that the Government take action in this regard.

[English]

SHRI K.YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : We have to decide also about the interest earned on the allotted money.

MR. SPEAKER : Now the hon. Minister would like to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would thank hon'ble Governor for reviewing the cases of misuse of funds district-wise.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharaj Ganj) Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister had visited Bihar in this connection. This matter was raised in the House earlier too. After the assurance was given by the Prime Minister, the Minister convened a meeting in Bihar. He had called all the officers in that meeting and they were instructed accordingly. However they do not follow these instruction any more. They say that they do not follow Centre's instructions regarding funds from MPLADS... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : This is charge against Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : The funds being released on the recommendation of the M.P. are not being spent properly and the D.Ms are having arbitrarily everywhere. The vehicle is provided to the M.P. in Uttar Pradesh but no M.P. from any party is given vehicle in Bihar. Therefore, necessary instructions should be issued to the D.Ms in district to provide facilities including vehicle to M.Ps to enable them to make assessment and inspection of the development being carried out in the district.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind hon'ble Minister that he had assured to sanction two crores of rupees to the Members. We have even submitted the proposals in our areas and now the funds are not being made available to carry out those jobs and thus it is affecting the reputation of the Members. Therefore, I would request that amount of two crores be sanctioned and released, secondly the State Governments do not provide vehicle to M.Ps, therefore, a provision should be made to purchase a car out of the interest amount on the funds of MPLADS for inspections etc purposes.

[*English*]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has given us an assurance.

[*Translation*]

He assured us to provide two crores of rupees...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO (Khammam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two things in this. Now we are in December. Even the first instalment of Rs. 50 lakh is not yet received. It is reported by the nodal officer. I asked the nodal officer and he has said that he has not received even the first Rs. 50 lakh. They are showing it only in the budgetary provisions. No money has been released so far.

The second thing is that it should be raised to Rs. two crore. This is our earnest request.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the complaints about the implementation of the M.Ps' Local Area Fund have come from all parts of the country. I would suggest that like other committees, you may kindly constitute a committee to look after the M.Ps' Local Area Fund, after consulting all the leaders. It is already there in the other House...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order please.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ahmed, no running commentary please, when the hon. Member is speaking.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Sir, what I was driving home is that it was announced that the M.Ps' Local Area Fund is going to be raised from Rs. one crore to Rs. two crore. Already this Rs. one crore is not being implemented properly because a lot of non-cooperation comes from different implementing agencies. I suggest that let there be a committee constituted under your own supervision, in consultation with all the leaders, in order to monitor this Fund because in Rajya Sabha it is already constituted. I would submit for your consideration that such a committee be constituted so that this M.Ps' Local Area Fund can be implemented effectively.

[*Translation*]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA (Sirsa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is said that the funds of this scheme does not lapse but if an M.P. could not utilise the funds for some reasons, then those funds are not being released now. I would like to be informed in this regard whether these funds have lapsed or can we spend these funds this year.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Minister will speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja) : Sir, it was decided even during the tenure of the previous government and now our government have all along been reiterating that we would implement it, but when it would be implemented, a definite time should be stipulated for that. After the assurance given in the House we have given proposal for Rs. two crores in this regard. People from our constituency seek explanation in regard to Rs. two crore and we are unable to answer them. Since the Government is in favour of implementing it, this should be expedited.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, rupees one crore which are being given should also be taken back, the question of allocating two crore does not arise...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaubey, please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Sir, the interest accrued on rupees one crore being given is earned by the officers there, the money goes in the bank and interest is calculated but no work is done. No account of the interest is given. There is total corruption, this corruption should be done away with...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, three or four important issues have been raised during the discussion. The first important point which has been raised is that there should be a committee of this House to supervise the implementation of the Scheme. Sir, it is your domain. As it has been done in the Rajya Sabha, if you feel that such a Committee should be there in this House, Sir, we have no objection. We would welcome any such committee which you would decide to constitute.

MR. SPEAKER : Both, Shri Khurana and you are shifting everything to the Speaker.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, it is about the committee...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker Sir, if nothing is to be done then constitute a committee...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. This is an important subject.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The second point is about increasing the annual amount under the Scheme from rupees one crore to rupees two crore. Sir, you are aware that the meeting was held in your office, with all leaders. The Finance Minister and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs were also there. It was agreed there by all leaders. Similarly, it has been agreed to Rajya Sabha also. Now, the Cabinet is actively considering this issue of increasing the amount from rupees one crore to rupees two crore...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is giving proper reply. Let him complete.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is being considered by the Cabinet and I hope that the decision will be taken soon so far as this particular item is concerned...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is giving proper reply.

SHRI RAM NAIK : So far as the other aspect of interest accrued which is raised by some Members is concerned, in the meetings of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on that point, it has been decided that whatever interest is accrued, it can be used for the same purpose for which the guidelines indicate. That means, we can use the amount of interest accrued for that purpose. This is also the point on which the Cabinet has to take a decision.

Item number four is that some hon. Members have said that the next instalment of Rs. 50 lakh has not come.

Sir, I have examined each and every requirement of the hon. Members and it has been found that there has been some lack of coordination. I must explain that here so that other hon. Members could give the information.

As and when we have sent the sanctioned balance, for example, Rs. 50 lakh, and subsequently some plan projects have been sanctioned, and if there is an unsanctioned balance in the account of the hon. Member, say, Rs. 70 lakhs, then as soon as that balance goes below Rs. 50 lakh of the sanctioned amount, not the spent amount because actual expenditure takes some time, as soon as the sanctioned balance goes below Rs. 50 lakhs and the Collector intimates to us that this has been done, we send the second instalment. Many hon. Members who had given me such details, in those cases I saw to it that the amount was sent.

Now, I would like to make a suggestion to the hon. Members that if they could get the letter from the Collector and give a copy to me, then that would help in expediting the matter. We have also been writing about it but some Collectors do not respond to such letters, as has been pointed out about the State of Bihar. I had three meetings with the hon. Members from the State of Bihar in this regard. Some Collectors have not sent the information. I would like to appeal to the hon. Members that whosoever have not received the second instalment, if they could procure this certificate from the Collectors and give to us, then that would help us...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, what is 'under active consideration' for the last six months? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Minister has been saying this for the last eight months...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Please speak one by one.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Sir, please intervene and give directions, otherwise the Government will keep on thinking. The earlier Government also kept on thinking. The entire House agrees with you on this point. Please give direction...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Yerrannaidu please.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two issues here.

First is, six months ago we had taken a decision in your Chamber in this regard. But the hon. Minister is saying now that 'it is under active consideration'. What is the meaning of 'active consideration' for the last six months?

Sir, the second point is about the LPG and telephone connections. We do not know about the real and the latest position in this regard. We are unable to get any reply from the Ministry of Communication and the Ministry of Petroleum.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government about the latest position of the LPG and the telephone connections...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to it?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I would get the information about the gas connection and telephone connection from the concerned Ministries. It is because court cases have been filed and I would find out whether the court cases have finally been disposed of or not. I would have to find that out...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, this is not fair that the Members of 'Rajya Sabha are enjoying the facilities which are being denied to the Members of Lok Sabha because of which there is utter confusion in the people. This should be made clear...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. The concerned Minister, Shri Ramamurthy, is on his legs.

*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I have a point...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Mr. Minister, please wait for a minute. Ms. Banerjee want to make a point.

*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, it is most unfortunate that we being the representatives of the people, our sentiments are not being properly respected. I do not have any grudge against the Members of Rajya Sabha, they have been lucky. But why is this discrimination against the directly elected representatives of the people? There should be no such discrimination. I urge upon you to stop it. We do not want this discrimination to continue. You stop this practice in Rajya Sabha also. When public representatives in Lok Sabha are not getting these facilities, Members of Rajya Sabha also should not get these facilities. If you think that giving LPG and telephone coupons to Members is not proper, do not give it to any Member of Parliament. But do not discriminate against Lok Sabha Members by giving it to Rajya Sabha Members. If the Parliament itself discriminates like this, what would common people think? The people's representatives should be given due importance.

Regarding MPLAD Scheme, it has been pointed out in the C&AG Report say that money under MPLADS is lying unused. I am a Member of Parliament for the fourth term. Do you know that my schemes are pending for three terms? What is this? Why proper action is not taken in this regard? We give the schemes, they do not give the money and we sit here quietly. Sir, we leave it to you. You take a decision on this. Somebody should take interest in this public money. They are not utilising this money for water supply, for electricity, for school buildings, for road construction, etc. We are giving the schemes but they are not being implemented. They just talked about the second instalment. We have not received even the first instalment. Schemes are still pending.



[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

Do you not think that it is a very serious matter? Rajya Sabha gets all these facilities and Lok Sabha does not. Members of Lok Sabha are put in a position to fight a battle for their facilities.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, Kumari Mamataji is very right when she says that her MPLAD schemes are not being implemented properly. I have examined practically all the States. As I had gone to Bihar earlier to take stock of the situation, I have taken stock of the situation so far as West Bengal is concerned. I have seen that in Calcutta city, amounts are not being spent. In Calcutta, the Municipal Commissioner of Calcutta is the implementing authority. We have written to them that they should give us a report as to why the scheme is being delayed in implementation. I am expecting the report. I had a discussion with Shri Basu Deb Acharia also. I will be going personally to West Bengal and I will ensure that their work is not suffered.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Hon. Minister, please tell about Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the anxiety of the Members, particularly on the point that the facilities available to the other House have not been extended to this House. As far as the facility of issuance of LPG coupons is concerned, if your goodself orders today, we are in a position to issue them tomorrow because we have got them printed and kept them ready. I would like to submit that facilities are extended by your goodself to the Members of this House and you announced it on the floor of the House. If any court is to interfere like this on the wisdom of the Speaker, from my little experience I am unable to understand that kind of a thing. The Speaker also should not oblige this kind of blackmailing of the House. Since a decision has been taken on the floor of the House, you must come forward and say that these should be issued tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI (Rewa) : Sir, I have been giving notice for the last three days...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) Sir, we all appreciate that the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas has submitted before the House.

The hon. Speaker had issued his order but that has been stayed, with some intention or something, by one of the courts in a public interest litigation in respect of only Members of Lok Sabha. This is also applicable in the matter of telephones. All the hon. Members of the other House are getting this facility. But the Members of this House have been denied this facility. Sir, what is the justification for all this? Even if it is brought to the notice of the hon. court, the hon. court will also take an appropriate decision. But the Government has not moved the court. The Government has not submitted before the court...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : It is the discretion of the hon. Speaker. We need not move court for a counter litigation. The House is supreme...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please understand.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to put the records straight. Some words uttered by the hon. Minister, Shri Ramamurthy are not correct. He has used the words, 'blackmailing by the court'. It is not fair on his part or on the part of any hon. Member to use such words. So, these words may please be expunged from the proceedings of the House...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH (Shahabad) : Sir, the hon. Minister has just now informed the House that he is prepared to release the coupon quota but there is some interim order by the court. But Sir, everyday the courts are interfering in the proceedings of the House. Now, it is high time that you issue the 'contempt notice' to the judges who have interfered. I may inform the House that this has been done earlier in Uttar Pradesh, and ultimately the matter has been contested upto the Supreme Court. When the decision has been taken in the House, the High Courts cannot interfere like this everyday. The High Court has interfered challenging the issuance of the orders of the hon. Speaker...(Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal) : This is not correct. You cannot have confrontation...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Minister, Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Banka) : Sir, you should give the ruling and not the Minister. We all had unanimously put up this proposal before you, then you had allotted this quota to us. Now, if the court

has interfered in the matter now you have to decide. The Minister has nothing to do ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Another issue is regarding admission in the Central Schools ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, I would like to clarify two points. Firstly, it has been said that the stay is for the Lok Sabha and not for the Rajya Sabha. The reason behind this is that this order was passed for the Lok Sabha. The Members of Rajya Sabha were already getting the quota...(*Interruptions*) Listen to me first. Sir, 3rd and 4th, was the date in the Kerala High Court and, I had asked the Additional Attorney General to be present there and explain the position. Give me one day more and I will explain the whole position to you tomorrow as to what happened there, only after that I will be in a position to give a reply whatever you discuss...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the matter is over.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. I have called the name of Shri Krishna Kumar Chaudhary, now.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY (Gaya) : Sir, I have been giving notice for the last five days...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) (U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, I have nothing to say about the whole debate that has taken place.

But the remark made by Shri Madan Lal Khurana is very objectionable because he has said : 'You wait for a day so that the Additional Solicitor-General goes to some court' — I do not know what Court is there 'and, after taking a direction from that court,'...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I did not say so.

[*English*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Please hear me.

There are occasions and occasions where the court summons have been rejected by this House and even by the Assemblies. I do not know what your decision would be but the decision of yours should not be deferred on the plea that there is some clarification to be made by some court at the advice of the Additional Solicitor-General.

I have been saying this time and again for the last many years that the courts are going beyond their jurisdiction. I tell you that every time we have to respect the honour of the Judiciary but the Judiciary is indicating to the whole world that they have no respect for Parliament. This cannot continue. There should be responsive respect for each other. This is not happening.

I am sorry that Ministers are succumbing under pressure. I do not know that their weakness is. They are not asserting their own rights and they are not able to defend the dignity of this House. This is why I thought it necessary that I should take objection to it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sir, I did not say that instructions will be taken...(*Interruptions*) I said, I will come with the information tomorrow on whatever happened there. I will not take the instructions from there.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, how is it relevant what happens in the court? You take a decision this way or that way; it is your authority and it is your decision. I do not say that you should give the decision today. You give the decision after a month but this should not be the condition. The suggestion made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs was totally out of place and against the dignity of this House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Whether the proceedings of the House would be stayed if the Supreme Court or any other court says that after Chandra Shekharji has spoken the proceedings of the House should immediately be stopped. That is why, I would like to urge upon you to please declare that whether the Members of Lok Sabha would be getting this facility or not and don't bother what the Minister or the Court says. But the day-to-day proceedings of the House should not be interrupted under the pressure from the Supreme Court...(*Interruptions*). The Representatives of the people are supreme till the democracy is alive. Whatever powers are enjoyed by the Supreme Court are delegated powers, be it executive or the judiciary. But public representative is supreme in the democracy, honouring their sentiments. Mr. Speaker,

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

Sir, you should take a decision in the matter with courage. Whatever is held by the Supreme Court can be considered later on.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister concerned has very clearly stated that he is only seeking your direction. He says, 'You issue a direction, immediately the coupons will be distributed'. He will not wait for further directions from the court. We are only seeking your direction. You may please issue a direction. The House is seeking your direction; the Government is also seeking your direction...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

We have discussed this in the House during the last Session also. Many hon. Members want the issuance of LPG coupons and the quota for telephone connection restored. As far as my knowledge is concerned, the matter is pending before the court and they have challenged the discretionary power of the Minister. I ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to get the full details of what is pending before the Court in Kerala and we will take a decision tomorrow.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bofpur) : Sir, please allow us to make some submissions.

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to interfere. The Court has not served any notice on us. So, it does not concern the discretionary power. You give the direction, we will distribute the coupons...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Please understand that I have asked the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to get the information by tomorrow. We will decide it tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this quota system was first introduced, that was made available to the Members of both the Houses. But, Sir, in the last Lok Sabha, the hon. Speaker, that is, your predecessor had looked into the matter because some of us had expressed certain views on it; it is because the system of quota is being frowned upon in many areas and in many respects regarding housing and all that. Thereafter, a conscious decision was taken by your distinguished predecessor and he made an announcement in the House that it will no longer be available to the Members of Lok Sabha...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram) : That is not the question...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have not made any comment about you...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sathiamoorthy, please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : No. That is not the issue. The issue is whether the court can interfere with this or not...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Please take your seat. I have allowed Shri Somnath Chatterjee to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : After that, Sir, in the present House, many hon. Members had made representations to you; and in your kind judgement you had decided that it should be again made available. Whatever happened thereafter, we do not know; and if the hon. Minister says that there is no order on the Government or on the hon. Speaker, Staying the applicability of the decision, I do not see any reason why the Government is not issuing it again...*(Interruptions)* Kindly allow me.. We were hearing all of you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, we were asked by the hon. Speaker to stop it and so, we stopped it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Then, the hon. Speaker, in his wisdom, has done it. We do not know the order or any such thing. My only submission is this. Many of us feel very much aggrieved that in various spheres which are within the domain of the hon. Speaker, orders have been made by the judiciary. There is already some misunderstanding, if not a tension in this matter. Many of us are approving Public Interest Litigation when it suits us, but when it goes against us, we are opposing it. I have been in this profession for some time and I have the great honour of being here in this House also; and so, some lines must be drawn here. This was the matter, I remember, Shri Chandra Shekhar and other hon. Members had raised in the last Lok Sabha. I would implore the House to discuss this very serious matter in depth. But let us not commence it this way — I am sorry that a very responsible Member of the House and a Minister for that matter Shri Ramamurthy has used the word 'blackmailing'.

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY : I am sorry. It was a general comment. I am a responsible person and I am not shirking from that responsibility. I am a lawyer, but I am not practising.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Kindly wait for me to finish it. Sir, I understand that there are strong feelings.

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, in a general sense, I have commented that courts are blackmailing. That is all.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, Sir, on a vital matter where the future functioning of the parliamentary democracy is involved, the Parliament has certain rights and certain obligations. The Constitution of India is very clear — laws passed by Parliament can be set aside by the courts. That has happened many times. Therefore, if necessary those matters can be reviewed. But just saying that we are not governed by any High Court order or Supreme Court order, does not behove us. That is my respectful submission.

Sir, it is entirely for you to take a decision as to whether these facilities should be made available to all the Members of the House immediately or not. I do not know and I never had the occasions even to know what type of order it is. But we are supreme in our areas.

Judiciary has also certain rights under the Constitution. Let us not create conflict amongst us. Let us try to carry on in a manner which will help our country as a whole...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This matter is over.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY (Gaya) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you, towards long standing 'Koyal Irrigation Project'. Since 1990, Government have spent hundreds of crore of rupees during the last Five Year Plan on Koyal Irrigation Project', but it has not been made functional so far. This area of Middle Bihar is terrorist affected area and most part of this area reels under draught. It is a policy of the Union Government that 60% of the total budget allocation will be spent on Rural Development Schemes. But the North Koyal Irrigation Project has not been started so far. Keeping the welfare of people in mind, if this project is started then the people of this draught affected area will be benefited and lakhs of acres of land will be irrigated...*(Interruptions)*

\* Not Recorded.

12.52 hrs.

*[SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair]*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order Please.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I called Shri Chandramani Tripathi to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI (Rewa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of this House through you towards the condition of National Highway No. 27. This road passes from the middle of Rewa region. A bypass road is proposed to be constructed there. But this bypass is not being constructed because of hinderance created by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. Thakur Ranmat Singh College, Martand School and dozens of higher secondary schools are located at a distance of hundred yards from this road. This is causing accidents on this road almost everyday. I request you that a bypass should be constructed on this National Highway. Previously there was an arrangement to close the heavy traffic at the time of opening and closing of the college, but this arrangement has been discontinued due to which many a times two-three students are being killed. I request the Government through you to construct a bypass on this National Highway at the earliest.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit that the sugar mills, all over the country have started cane-crushing and State Governments are fixing the prices of canes. I request that the prices of sugar canes should be fixed at Rs. 100/- per quintal, keeping in view the price-rise. In U.P. cane prices of around 50 thousand cane growers are outstanding due to the sugar cane policy of the Government. The farmers are running from pillar to post with their sugar cane receipts because so far their bank accounts could not be opened. They are raising demands regularly. Many people are still ready to take their receipts despite of such bad time. These farmers have produced sugarcane from ten to five trucks. Today, the number of their families have gone over 50,000. The Government of Uttar Pradesh are not taking any effective step to pay the outstanding due of the farmers. Four sugar mills under Union Government i.e. Gauri Bazar, Padrauna, Kathkuiyan (all in U.P.) and Marhaura (Bihar) have been closed down...*(Interruptions)* Crores of rupees of farmers are outstanding against these four sugar mills.

[Shri Hari kewal Prasad]

Sir, I request the Government through you, that the prices of sugarcane should be fixed at Rs. 100/- per quintal and the outstanding amounts should be paid to cane growers...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I again demand that Govt. should make suitable arrangements for the payment of the Outstanding amounts of cane growers.

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to raise the following matter before this august House.

The Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Kanpur, a Government of India undertaking which is under the control of the Ministry of Industry is on the verge of collapse and the employees numbering about 1400 are not paid their salaries for quite some time. During the last two months, 12 of them have died and one has committed suicide.

This Corporation was started in 1969 with an aim to give continuity in employment to the employees of erstwhile sick units and also to ensure regular supply of footwear and boots to the Defence Ministry. At the time of inception of this Corporation, it was agreed that the Defence Ministry would give orders to the Corporation. Since the Defence Ministry is not giving orders as promised earlier, 70 per cent of its capacity is not being used. The families of the employees are suffering very much. Most of them are on the verge of death or starvation. So, I urge upon the Defence Ministry to examine this matter and take over this Corporation from the Ministry of Industry.

12.59 hrs.

RE : HUNGER STRIKE BY STUDENTS OF  
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (Madhubani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the junior doctors of Aligarh Muslim University. Dr. Sahabaj Ahmed, Dr. Babar Rahmani and Shri Tehsin Alam are on hunger strike for the last six days. Their demands are simple. Many hon. Members have raised this issue in this House earlier also. The Vice-Chancellor of the University had closed the University indefinitely three to four times during the last three years. The students were attacked. There is a conspiracy to ruin the University.

Therefore, my submission to the hon. Minister is that efforts should be made to save the lives of those students. No talks are going on with them. The Government should talk to them. They want to ruin the Aligarh Muslim University. The students are on fast for the last six days. Have you talked to them? You should send your people to hold talks with them...*(Interruptions)* This Government wants to ruin the Aligarh Muslim University...*(Interruptions)* My submission is that, at least hold talks with them. The boys are on hunger strike for six days.

Sir, injustice is going on in this country. The session of the Parliament is going on. The doctors are on hunger strike for the last six days and the Government has turned a deaf ear to this issue. The V.C. has created problems for the students in many ways. No meeting of the court had been held for the last three years. Four months ago, six hon. Members of this House were elected for the court but not even a single one out of them has received letter. The meeting of the court, the executive council and the academic council in Aligarh Muslim University has not been conducted for the last three years. The V.C. there has taken all the powers in his hand.

13.00 hrs.

He gives statement in the 'India Today' to get the students beaten up by the anti-social elements and would get them physically injured. The V.C. gives the statement himself against the University. The government are protecting him and wants to ruin the University. An agreement should be reached at with the doctors to get their hunger strike called off. We do not want anything else. You take action against the Vice-Chancellor. The government are not doing anything in this regard.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : It is an important demand. We are supporting it...*(Interruptions)* They are on strike for the last one month. Therefore the situation is miserable. We support his demand...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very serious matter. A few days back, this matter was raised. Since the hon. Minister is here, I would request him to respond. The University is closed for the third time in three years. The way affairs are going on, the matter is ought to raise serious concern in the mind of the Minister.

Some students met me yesterday. It appears that the way things are being conducted there, not a vestige of legality and parleys of democratic principle are there. One person, who is Registrar, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Controller and Director of Academic

Programme is the same person — who happens to be this favourite — is holding all these posts. There have been no meetings of any of the bodies, as mentioned by my hon. friend.

So far as the Students' Union is concerned, it has been dissolved. His own favourite has been nominated as the President of the Union. He is doing whatever he likes.

Secondly, you may have heard that every University's Act contains a provision giving some emergency powers to the Vice Chancellor in genuine cases of emergency which has also been interpreted, amongst other Courts, by the Supreme Court of India. I am told, the whole university is now being carried under Emergency Powers 93 of the Act. Every decision is supposed to be an emergency decision. In total, 477 orders have been passed under emergency powers which has to be used on the rarest of rare occasions. The whole thing has become a mockery.

Those students who are studying there, their future is uncertain. Some students are on hunger strike. I do not want to make it confrontational because serious allegations are there. Therefore, this is a matter in which the hon. Minister should intervene immediately and see that this great seat of learning functions properly and that the genuine grievances of the students, academic staff are looked into at the earliest without loss of any time. Therefore, I strongly support the matter which has been mentioned here.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : The hon. Minister is present here but no reply has come from him in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Why does the government not sack the Vice-Chancellor ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit in short. It is a very serious issue. The students are on hunger strike for the last six days. It is my humble submission that at first their hunger strike should be get broken. There is no bargaining in it. They should be assured. The law pertaining to the University was passed by this Parliament and the University would run accordingly. If any law is violated there then action should be taken as per the law. We do not demand more than this. Keeping in view the sensitivity of the issue we would like to appeal that they are your children and are on hunger strike for the last six days. If any damage is done to anyone which can have effect on their lives and health then you would feel the pain alongwith this House. Therefore, my submission is

that their hunger strike should come to an end by affecting them a glass of juice.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you had given the order...

*[English]*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take only one minute to appeal to the hon. Minister to take a sympathetic attitude...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is going to say something. You wait for that.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sympathetic attitude should be taken. This hunger strike should come to an end in an appropriate and dignified manner. The University should work according to the norms...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Banatwalla, he is now reacting to it.

*(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : This is not fair. There are other Members who do not get a chance to raise matters during 'Zero Hour'...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I met them today morning...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is now reacting to it. He wants to react. Do you not want him to react?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I want a positive reaction. Therefore, I am trying to say that let the reaction be a positive reaction...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Banka) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dr. Joshi is not only an Education Minister but he himself is a Professor. He is very well acquainted with the rules and regulations of the University. I have nothing to say in this regard. I would like to submit only that Aligarh Muslim University is one of the important institutions of the country. The status of this University has been continuously deteriorating for the last few years and today the condition is that the students of that University are on hunger strike. The reason of it is that various sorts of elements have entered the University. Therefore, I would like to submit that this hunger strike should come to an end at the earliest.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is reacting to it.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on this issue, first of all I personally called the students, then the teachers and then the Pro-Vice-Chancellor. Mr. Vice-Chancellor was not present on that day. I asked them to discuss the matter among themselves and come out with some agreed solution. But the Next day the students did not turn up. I am not aware as to what transpired amongst them. They met the Local Member of Parliament Mrs. Sheela Gautam. Before all this Mr. Arif told me that the Vice-Chancellor has been asked to submit the details in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the question of Aligarh Muslim University is concerned, our government has a clear policy in this regard that since it is a national level Institution it must get all the National level facilities. All sort of facilities would be given. If any irregularities have been committed we would take necessary action against such things. There is reservation in this regard but I would certainly like to say that this issue should not be politicised. We should try to find out a solution collectively to save this institution. Besides, there is a need to expand this Institution. Whatever happened there during the last three years, we are looking into it. We have talked with the district administration, and the government of Uttar Pradesh apart from it talks are being held with the academic world and we will find a very good solution. We want to make this university as an important premier university of India catering to the international standards.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : But this is a matter of hunger strike...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You see to it that hunger strike is withdrawn.

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : We want to say that you should first try to call off the hunger strike.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Dr. Joshi can make a request to the students. Please see to it that they withdraw the strike. You make a request to them. I am sure, they will listen to you.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I have already made a request four days ago. And I have no difficulty

in repeating that request many times. They are my students. I am anxious to save their lives and their future. But the question is that it should be done in an amicable atmosphere so that in future the University functions properly.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is all right. Let them withdraw the strike.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I am giving a suggestion. There would be no need to appeal. As the Hon. Minister has said that it should not be politicised, there would be no scope for that also. Hon'ble Education Minister Somnath Dadr and some other Hon'ble Member, whomsoever you name, may decide any time to go and meet the students and offer them a glass of juice so as to call off their hunger strike. Let us also take Mr. Banatwalla along with us. Then there would be no scope for any politicisation of this issue. This is my appeal to you an I am concerned about the health of the students...(Interruptions). If you permit them we may leave first...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I will inform you after deciding the time. I would inform you only then you leave so that I may have some information in this regard, because we don't want to take any step which may create difficulties for the University authorities in future and which is not a good thing. Please give me some time.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : We are not asking for anything else. We are not going into any specifics and since we are not going into specifics it would not create any difficulty.

[English]

I am only asking you to give an assurance that law will be upheld...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : May I request the hon. Minister to authorise Shri Arif Mohammed Khan to tell them that you are very sympathetic towards them and will look into the matter...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : You just go and tell them that

[English]

We are sympathetic and considering the matter very early.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : I want that some more member should accompany. It is not proper to go there alone...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Yerrannaidu.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister of Human Resource Development has already authorised you to be in touch with the students.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : There must be a final decision in this regard...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Arif and Mrs. Sheela, both of you should go...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Different types of reports are appearing in the Newspapers. This is our prestigious institution which has a good reputation in India and abroad.

[English]

It is a well known university internationally ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Efforts are being made to run that University on the right track.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You may direct some Members of Parliament to go there in a form of a Parliamentary delegation and assess the real situation. The government may take initiative in this regard.

[English]

We do not want the Government to interfere in Aligarh Muslim University. We are against it. But a small delegation of Parliament can go and check up as to what is happening there and report both to you and the House as the matter has been so much publicised in the media for the last one month. And the students are sitting on hunger strike for the last seven to eight days.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you please don't say anything in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter has already been brought to the notice of the Government and the Minister has also reacted to it immediately. He has already said that Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, Shrimati

Sheela Gautam and Shri Digvijay Singh may go and attend the students.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Include Shri Pilot in the delegation as well...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rajesh Pilot may also go there. You are not allowing me to speak, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Also include Dr. Shakeel Ahmad on behalf of Congress Party...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : None of the members of the delegation is going on behalf of any party. Even Shri Arif has said that it should be taken as such I suggested the name of Shri Arif because he has been a leader of students Union there and Shrimati Sheela Gautam is sitting M.P of that area. These two people are adequate for this purpose. So this matter should not have stretched any longer...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : I would like to make a request.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You go there on their behalf and persuade the students sympathetically to break their fast.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Please listen to my request. After that I will abide by whatever decision you take. I would like to request that it would be better if we include chief whip of your party and Shri Rajesh Pilot besides Hon'ble Sheela ji in the delegation to make the students believe, because we are not being authorised to give any assurance to them as on date. What we can do is only that we can say to them that their case will be considered sympathetically...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my visit alone can not make them believe. The people of all parties will go there.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I request that your visit will make the people believe.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : I humbly request that my job would become easier if many people are included in the delegation I will abide by your order.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : If you visit there alone, my job would also be easier. Your job is to make thing easier...(Interruptions)



[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This can not go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri K. Yerrannaidu to speak.

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Hon'ble Minister you said that you would tell the time after sometimes. You tell the time after sometime...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called Shri K. Yerrannaidu to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. SELVARASU (Nagapattinam) : Sir, we have already given notice for raising certain issues during Zero Hour. Already, we are waiting for it. But we not allowed to speak. Some other Members are speaking? What is this?...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called Shri K. Yerrannaidu to speak. Please take your seat.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, I am raising an issue regarding the farmers. In the very same House, during the last Session, our hon. Agriculture Minister gave an assurance that he would bring forward a legislation to amend the Pesticides and Seeds Act, 1968.

Sir, you are aware that so many farmers had committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and in other parts of India. The present Act is helpful to the traders and all the blackmarketeers. That is why, the hon. Agriculture Minister gave an assurance that he would bring forward this legislation in the Winter Session. There is a lot of pressure from the farming community and from our party Members also. That is why, I raised this issue in the Business Advisory Committee also. The hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister gave an assurance in this context. Now, the Rabi season is also coming. I hope the entire House is in favour of passing this legislation.

The Pesticides and Seeds Act was thoroughly evaluated and scrutinised by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Andhra Pradesh suggested so many amendments in order to make the provisions very stringent. Everybody has accepted them. So, what is the problem in bringing forward the necessary legislation? Shri Barnala is here. Shri Khurana is also coming. The hon. Agriculture Minister and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, both promised

this House in this regard. The Session will continue upto 23rd of this month. My humble submission is that the Government should bring forward the legislation during this Session itself to amend the Central Pesticides and Seeds Act, 1968 ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : You are the supporting party. So, you can tell the Government to do it...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Everybody is supporting it. You will also support it. We all belong to the farming community.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : We are not supporting the Government...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, the Union Government had announced to create three small states i.e. Chhatisgarh, Uttarakhanda and Vananchal...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI (Bhagalpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the fertilizers are still sold in the black market. What action is being taken in this regard. The black-marketing of the fertilizers is going on as there are not supplied or these are being heard by the unscrupulous elements ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : Hon. Chairman the Union Government had repeatedly announced to create three small states. The Ministers of Union Government had assured during the Assembly and Lok Sabha Elections that they would get this bill passed by December. But the intention of the government does not seem to be bonafide. Since BJP has been completely rooted out from Chhatisgarh that is why they are dilly-dallying in presenting the bill. There is resentment among the Chhatisgarh as the promises and assurances given by the Union Ministers have not fulfilled so far. Through you, I would like to request that the Union Government should fulfil the three promises made in their manifesto i.e. to create Chhatisgarh, Uttranchal and Vananchal states... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Legislative Assembly has rejected the bill relating to Vananchal. They do not have the courage to bring this bill and if they will do we will outwit them.

They have been defeated everywhere. Bihar can not be divided...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : Mr. Chairman, this is a sensitive issue. I am not talking about other places, I am talking about Chhatisgarh only. There may be some dispute about Uttarakhanda or Jharkhand. But there is no controversy about

\* Not Recorded.

Chhatisgarh. BJP and Congress agree to it. All the alliance partners of BJP and Congress agree to it. The Legislative Assembly of the state have passed a unanimous resolution twice. The local public also want it. You have also promised to do so, you have promised publically. Incidentally allow you have made a number of promises which you have not fulfilled. But, I want to urge upon the government through you that if you are not going to fulfill the commitment to carve out a separate state of Chhatisgarh the two crore tribal and downtrodden people of Chhatisgarh will curse you. Recently you have been victim of this curse that you have lost the elections to the Legislative Assembly. Thus I submit that if there is some difficulty in bringing the bills relating to Uttarakhand and Jharkhand, then these should not be brought. But there is no difficulty at all in carving out a separate state, Chhatisgarh, and therefore a bill should be brought during this session itself...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is on the same matter.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, No doubt Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhatisgarh states are to be carved out but he is shedding crocodile tears...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Jogi Ji, if you are going to become the Chief-Minister of Chhatisgarh, then I will give the statement and if you are not, then I will give another statement...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : If you would continue to give me the support which you have given during the recent Assembly Elections and which has always been given to me then I will certainly become the Chief-Minister...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister is reacting to this point.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I want to tell in this House clearly that it has been referred in our manifesto that separate state Uttaranchal, Uttarakhand and Chhatisgarh would be carved out. We have already initiated action in this regard, cabinet have passed this proposal and have sent it to the President and the concerned states only the opposition in the Legislative Assembly of Bihar has staged a walk-out and the proposal they have sent, is lying with us. We

are true to our commitment and the state of Chhatisgarh would definitely be carved out ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : But when?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : In the current-session itself...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Why don't you bring the bill in the current session itself. The entire House is ready?...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, cross talking please.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You bring the bill carving out the states for which people of the states concerned are ready, but the people of Bihar are not ready I want to bring it to the notice of the entire House that a rally is going to be organised tomorrow in Patna and every nook and corner of Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Why did get it passed and withdrawn this resolution from the same Legislative-Assembly...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : This question would be replied in the rally being organised tomorrow. Bihar cannot be divided. It is not possible...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No commentaries, please.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : What I said about Chhatisgarh we are committed to this we would bring the bill for this purpose during the current session itself...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ajit Jogi, please sit down.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the management of the State Bank of India has unilaterally shifted the captioned work from Calcutta to Mumbai in two phases on 7th September and 12th October, 1998, on the plea of physical integration of Domestic Treasury and Foreign Exchange Treasury at Mumbai. It is a serious problem and due to this shifting, about 40 per cent work of the foreign exchange business which was being conducted in Calcutta will be shifted and as a result, all the transactions of the public sector banks and other banks will be shifted from Calcutta to Mumbai.

[Shri Hannan Mollan]

In the Eastern Region, capital flow is increasing and people are interested to invest more and more. But if this shifting is executed, then those funds will not come there and developmental works will be hampered. The Chief Minister of West Bengal met the Prime Minister in this regard and requested him to stop this shifting and the Prime Minister has also assured him that it would not be shifted. But in spite of that, it has been shifted and now it is creating a major problem for the Eastern Region. So, I would request the Finance Minister, through you, to stop this shifting and send back the foreign exchange work to Calcutta so that developmental works of the Eastern Region are not hampered.

SHRI M. SELVARASU (Nagapattinam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly stop the advertisement for the forthcoming Civil Services Examination, 1999. I understand that this advertisement is to be published on 12th December, 1998. As per the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission, the Government has increased the retirement age from 58 to 60 years and they have given this benefit to all the Civil Services. But this benefit of increasing the age limit has not been given to the candidates who appeared in the Civil Services Examination last year. Due to this, the candidates could not get the age relaxation of two years and they are getting age relaxation of only one year. The deserving candidates want age relaxation for one more year. They want that age limit should be increased from 30 to 31 years for 'OC', from 33 to 34 years for 'OBC' and from 35 to 36 years for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. They also want that relaxation of one more attempt should be given for all the categories. This is a very important matter and I would request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly stop the advertisement which is going to be issued and give age relaxation to the Civil Service Examination candidates.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to the refusal of UGC grades to agricultural scientists, there is great frustration and dejection among 6,000 agricultural scientists of this country who are working in various Agricultural Universities and in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Then, in spite of the fact that the Union Government had approved the package of new grades for university Teachers and extended it to ICAR, revised pay scales have not been implemented by ICAR. All the Central Government employees and the non-teaching employees of ICAR are getting the UGC scales of pay. But the scientists are not getting the revised pay scales in various Agricultural Universities and ICAR. The worst sufferers are the teachers who are retiring in spite of the decision of the Government

to increase the retirement age. This is a vital issue and I would request the Government to implement the new UGC pay scales to the agricultural scientists of our country.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this House as well as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, a very important matter. I do not know why the hon. Prime Minister has not introduced the three Ministers who have been sworn in last Saturday. As a matter of fact, they should have been introduced to this House at the earliest opportunity. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting is not present here. That is why I am mentioning it.

The All India Radio Station at Kozhikode is a regional unit functioning for the last more than four decades. Ever since it has been established there, there was an arrangement for news broadcasting at the regional news unit in that Station. Sometime back, there was a move to shift that unit from Calicut to Trivandrum. There was a public agitation.

I had raised this matter here. Now, there is a move in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to shift the regional news unit from Calicut to Trivandrum. It is wrong. It is unjustifiable because now there is morning as well as midday news bulletins being broadcast on the Calicut All India Radio. Some officers in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are trying to shift it from Calicut to Trivandrum. There will be a big public agitation. I would like to inform the Government that if any such move is under their consideration, it should be dropped and given up. Otherwise, there will be a very big public agitation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, I will try to communicate the concern expressed by the hon. Member, to the Minister. The first point which he has raised is that the Ministers have not been introduced by the Prime Minister. Let me also inform the House, through you, that the Prime Minister would be here. All the new Ministers who have been appointed, would be introduced at 5 o'clock. At that time, all of you can be here.

The point, which has been raised, will be communicated to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : I would like to raise a very serious matter. Yesterday, the 6th December, was observed as 'Anti-polio Day' and mass polio vaccination was conducted throughout the country. Unfortunately, due to the security angle,

in Kerala and the North-East, it has been changed to another day, that is, on 13th December. But it is quite unfortunate to note that the All India Radio news bulletins in regional language, Malayalam, that is, in the morning at 7.25 and also at 12.50, it has been announced that the polio vaccination will be conducted on 6th December itself. But that happened was that thousands of common people and middle-class people had moved to the dispensaries and the places where it would be done. It has resulted in much hardship and inconvenience to the people of Kerala, especially due to these two news bulletins.

The DAVP spends on publicity. They have been giving advertisement by spending crores and crores of rupees for all these days. What was happened to that? Much hardship and inconvenience has been caused to the people of Kerala due to the news bulletins, which had been published yesterday. Some inquiry has to be conducted and proper action has to be taken in the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : The Minister is sitting there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot compel him to react here.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Shri Naik is sitting here. He should take a note of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has taken a note of it.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Some action should be taken against the officials who are responsible for it.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Crores and crores of rupees are spent on publicity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, the hon. Minister will take a note of it.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : It has been shifted three days back...*(Interruptions)* The decision had been taken three days back. Unfortunately, it has come out in the yesterday's newspapers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Premchandran, I cannot compel the hon. Minister to react. He is taking a note of it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have raised this matter in this House earlier also. The proposal to construct a dam over the river Ganges was given administrative sanction on 20 Jan. 1994 by the Cabinet Minister Shri

Vidyadharan Shukla; as the city of Kanpur, which has a population of 40 lakh is facing a problem of drinking water due to diverting the course of Ganga river away from the city of Kanpur. It was decided that the total cost of Rs. 233 crore would be equally borne by the central and state Government. Uttar Pradesh Government has spent about 60 crores of rupees on that but the Union Government have given only 6 crores rupees against its share. The state government has written several times in this regard but to no avail. I met Shri Jaswant Singh, the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission and Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment. The problem is that the Planning Commission has not made any provision for the Finance Ministry therefore, the Finance Minister is not able to give funds to the Ministry of Urban Affairs. I request the Prime Minister to intervene in this matter. This a good scheme lying close for last 10 months. The prices are also going up. Therefore, the funds should be released forth with.

*[English]*

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargod) : Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister towards the most serious traffic conditions in Kannur-Managalore sector especially in my constituency, Kasargod because of the commissioning of Konkan line. Because of this the goods trains and long distance trains are affected and the local passengers suffer a lot. On several occasions, I have complained and given representations to the Railway authorities in this regard but this was of no avail.

We can understand the trains coming some hours late, but the trains passing through that section come late by a day. As a result of this, the employees and the patients who take these trains are suffering a lot. The employees come to Kasargod district from Kannur and Tellichery side. The people of that area and various social organisations are agitating for this. Railway authorities are giving priority to goods trains and long distance trains and the interests of local people are neglected.

I would request the hon. Railway Minister to take immediate action with regard to the following :

- (i) The running of 523 Kannur-Mangalore passenger train, with 13 coaches, may be prompted;
- (ii) The running of 528 Mangalore-Kannur down train may be expedited and more coaches should be provided with it;
- (iii) Priority should be given to the local trains during morning and evening peak hours;
- (iv) During peak hours goods trains and long distance trains passing through that sector should be restricted;

[Shri T. Govindan]

- (v) Crossing facilities should be provided on important sections and on sections where that facility is not available; and
- (vi) The doubling of Mangalore-Shoranur work should be completed speedily.

Thank you Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 14.35 hrs.

13.36 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.40 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at forty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) **Need to provide adequate funds to State Government of Uttar Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by floods in Safipur and Unnao Tehsil, U.P.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH (Unnao) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as many as 500 families have been rendered homeless in Safipur and Unnao tehsils of my constituency due to heavy rains and floods. Their homes are still submerged under water.

I would request the Union Government to provide Central assistance to the state to rehabilitate these families and to take initiative to construct new houses for them.

- (II) **Need to provide more halts of trains running in East Delhi**

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, sir, the area of my constituency East Delhi is one third of total area of Delhi, with a population of 36 lakhs comprising of weaker sections and middle income group. In view of increasing population, a lot needs to be done to improve transport system in this area. Lakhs of people go to different parts of Delhi from here for jobs etc. There are only two railway

stations-Shadara and Anand Vihar which are inadequate.

Therefore, I urge upon the government to provide new railway stations/halts at Seelampur-Gandhinagar, Nandnagari and Mandawi Chandra nagar enabling lakhs of people to board trains at shorter distances, thus saving time also.

- (III) **Need to include Ranchi as hill area for marketing of L.P.G.**

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a large part of my parliamentary constituency, Ranchi is plateau area and most people use wood as fuel for cooking as a result of which forest cover of this area is declining. To save trees, the Ministry of Petroleum has been according priority to hill areas for allotment of distributionship of LPG so that the people living in hilly area could use L.P.G. so that people there need not resort to felling of trees in the area. Ranchi is not included as hill area for marketing of L.P.G. I met the hon'ble minister in this regard, he assured me that Ranchi would be provided L.P.G. dealership under hill area quota. But later in reply to my question in the House it has been stated that the Planning Commission has not recognised some of the areas of Ranchi as hill areas, therefore, we would not allot L.P.G. dealership in that area. Although it is hilly area yet the Planning Commission does not recognise it as hilly area.

Therefore, I request the Government to recognise Ranchi as hilly area for making allotment of L.P.G. dealership so as to avoid felling of trees in that area.

- (IV) **Need to enhance procurement price of cotton to at least Rs. 3,000/- per quintal in Maharashtra**

[*English*]

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL (Khed) : Again six cotton growers have committed suicide in the State of Maharashtra following widespread damage to their crops due to unseasonal rains and their failure to repay the loans which were taken from different financial institutions and money lenders. This situation also arose during previous year. But the Government has not taken any effective steps to stop recurrence of such incidence. A meagre amount of compensation is being paid to them. At a time when the farmers are facing acute hardship, the State Government has announced a meagre procurement price of Rs. 2,100 per quintal while the farmers are demanding of Rs. 2,500 per quintal. It is known that the Government has not revised the procurement rate since 1995. As a result of this, farmers are not getting reasonable prices for their produces.

Therefore, they are unable to repay the loans and forced to commit suicide.

Therefore, I request the Government to enhance the procurement rate of cotton to at least Rs. 3,000 per quintal. I also request the Union Government to provide Rs. 2 lakh to each of the affected family as a special assistance.

**(v) Need to set up an LNG Terminal in Andhra Pradesh**

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : The additional requirement of power for Andhra Pradesh in the Ninth Five Year Plan is estimated at 8000 MWs. This requirement is to be met by the short gestation naphtha based combined cycle power plants. The Government of India earlier allotted naphtha for 1700 MWs, but at present naphtha is being supplied for 1500 MWs. If sufficient fuel is allotted, the State Government can take up power projects for 1700 MWs based on feasible project reports available.

The expansion capacity of Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. and other gas based power projects, namely, Spectrum, GVK Industries, Jegurupadu and AP Gas Power Corporation, Vijjeshwaram would easily take the requirement to over 3000 MWs for fuel allocation. Naphtha is used as feedstock for chemical industries having highly volatile International pricing. As such there will be no stability in power pricing. LNG is the only tested power fuel available on the international scene and India is located on the LNG route from the Middle East which is the major source and Japan which is the major consumer.

Since all the short gestation and expansion projects are situated within a reasonable distance of Visakhapatnam and Kakinada Ports, it would be justifiable to locate an LNG terminal project either Kakinada or at Visakhapatnam. Organisations like HPCL, Ispath Limited and GVK Industries have expressed their desire to set up an LNG project on the Andhra Coast.

It is, therefore, requested to view Andhra Coast with favour for setting up of an LNG terminal.

**(vi) Need to ensure that regional Central Government Offices use Marathi language for correspondence with local people in Maharashtra.**

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE (Satara) : As per para 7(a) of the Presidential Order dated April 27, 1960, all regional offices of the Government of India should make correspondence with public in the regional languages and ask forms for use by

local people should be made available in the regional languages. In this connection, necessary instructions have been issued to all the regional Central Government offices *vide* O.Ms dated 25.3.1968, 18.6.1977, 26.2.1986 and 18.6.1997.

The Maharashtra Government has also informed all the regional offices of the Central Government and District Collectors to implement the above instructions. But the regional offices of the Central Government situated in Maharashtra are not complying with the instructions effectively. The Director of Language has stated that he cannot exercise control over the Chief Officer of the Central Government offices because most of the officers are above the rank of District Collector and only the Central Government can exercise control over them. People, MLAs/MLCs are demanding the implementation of regional language in the Central Government offices in Maharashtra.

Therefore, I request the Government to instruct the regional Central Government Offices in Maharashtra to use the Marathi language for correspondence with the local people.

**(vii) Need to initiate appropriate measures to implement the Avari Committee Report and increase the quantum of loan facilities to Kerala**

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (Ottapalam) : Sir, the commercial banks in Kerala are continuing their non-cooperation in the development projects of the State. The credit-deposit ratio in Kerala is lowest in the South India. In 1996-98, the total deposits in commercial banks in Kerala went up from Rs. 20,110 crore to Rs. 28,000 crore, nevertheless, the credit-deposit ratio decreased from 45.7 per cent to 43 per cent. This was lower than the average national credit ratio of 53 per cent. The total ignorant attitude of the commercial banks has affected the people's campaign. These banks deliberately evade this drastic economic change of the States.

The Avari Committee, in its report submitted to the Reserve Bank of India in 1994, had recommended that the credit-deposit ratio in Kerala should reach 52.8 per cent during 1996-98. These banks collect large scale deposits and divert this to other out of State projects.

I am expressing my strong criticism on this policy because the control of all banks is in the hands of the Central Government.

Therefore, I request the Government to initiate appropriate measures to implement the Avari Committee Report and increase the quantum of the loan facilities to Kerala.

**(viii) Need to ensure early completion of proposed Unchahar power project in Fatehpur District, Uttar Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a 132 kv power substation related to Unchahar Power Project proposed by the Union Government, is to be set up at Khaga assembly constituency in Fatehpur district of Uttar Pradesh. For this purpose, land has already been acquired and some work has also been undertaken on this project but the said project is not been completed due to which the works done so far on this project is of no use and the money spent on this project so far would become infructuous unless this substation is completed.

I demand the Government that the remaining work of the power substation at Khaga should be undertaken to complete it at the earliest in public interest and if any action is required by the Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard, necessary instructions should be issued immediately so that the local people facing the difficulties could get some relief.

**(ix) Need to re-start functioning of Ranipet Railway Station in Vellore District of Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakkonam) : Sir, Ranipet town in Vellore district in Tamil Nadu is an ancient and historical town. It is also an industrial place. Tanneries and factories are also situated in the said town. The population of the said town and surrounding villages is more than six lakhs. For the past 100 years, there had been in existence a railway station in Ranipet town. Villagers, businessmen, students and industrialists travelled only in the train running from Ranipet to Chennai. It is unfortunate that such an old railway station is not functioning now. Much hardship has been caused to the public.

Therefore, I request the hon. Railway Minister to make the Ranipet railway station functional for the convenience of six lakhs of people, and also direct the authorities to operate trains on this line by arranging connection from Walajah Road station to Chennai.

**(x) Need to evolve a plan for channellisation of water of small rivers in Haryana.**

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA (Sirsa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the one hand, the Government are putting its

efforts to create additional irrigation capacity for development of agriculture in the country, on the other, the agricultural land in the country is turning marshy and saline due to negligence in the field of water management. The problem of swamp and salinity of soil is assuming formidable proportions in the country. The rivulets flowing down from the mountains carry away fertility of soil substantially and also wash away the standing crops along. Water, considered to be the lifeblood is becoming a major cause of destruction. The river Ghaggar has become a curse for Haryana in general and my district Sirsa in particular affecting about 11,500 acres of land of the Gorakhpur village in Fatehabad and has pushed the farmers of this area to starvation.

Therefore, I earnestly request the Union Government to implement a scheme streamlining the water management for channelising the water flowing from these small rivulets at national level and also necessary steps should be taken to check the ill-effects of swamp and salinity on the agriculture land.

**(xi) Need for construction of by passes on National Highway in Aligarh Parliamentary Constituency, U.P.**

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM (Aligarh) : Chairman, Sir, the condition of the national highway constructed by Shershah Suri which stretches from Peshawar to Calcutta is in a very pitiable state. My Parliamentary constituency, Aligarh is only 130 kilometer away from Delhi on this national highway. It takes 6 hours to travel by bus due to the poor condition of the road. Due to the absence of a bypass on this road the traffic is so heavy that an ordinary citizen has to face so much inconvenience.

Therefore, I request that by-passes should be constructed on National Highway at Dadri, Khurja, Sikandrabad and Aligarh to facilitate the transportation of the public there so that the straitened condition of this road can be improved and the facility of transportation can be made easily obtainable.

14.55 hrs.

RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 1998

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up item number 13 Hon. Minister of Railways.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill has been brought for limited objectives. This Bill is regarding the pay scales of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Railway Claims Tribunal. Notification for the Railway Claims Tribunal was issued after the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission, but since this Bill does not have any provision for its implementation from retrospective effect so that the pay scales could be implemented on the basis of the Fifth Pay Commission's recommendations from the day of its notification. Now, the only problem is that the administrative tribunal has this kind of provision. The limited objective of this Bill is that the Government wants to take the powers for implementing the recommendations from retrospective effect and to give all the benefits to them from 1.1.96. This is the limited objective of this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further & amend the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri P.C. Chacko.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Mr. Chairman, I have to speak something about the Railway Claims Tribunal (Amendment) Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shri P.C. Chacko.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is probably a very non-controversial piece of legislation. I am happy that I am getting an opportunity to support my hon. friend Shri Nitish Kumar. He is much a nice friend of mine, but so far I did not get an opportunity to support him, and also Shri Ram Naik. It is because when good people are in a bad company, unfortunately, we are not able to support them. But at least when a Bill of this kind has come, I am happy to support them.

This Bill will enable the Railway Claim Tribunal to implement the pay revision with retrospective effect. Probably, this was left by oversight at the time of introducing the Bill in 1987 and the Bill did not contain a provision for the retrospective implementation of pay revisions coming into effect subsequently.

But, Sir, this is also an opportunity to look back and see whether the Railway Claims Tribunal is working as effectively as it should be even though the Minister was very brief, probably in the overall context in which he is working and the unfortunate accidents which are taking place in the Indian Railways every day. Probably due to that, he was mincing words and did not want to go into details. A very outspoken Minister otherwise was with a very few words today. I can understand the plight of the Minister and also the Minister of State, as the Indian Railways is going through a situation of crisis and a very bad phase of its life. The job of the Railway Claims Tribunal is going to increase manifold because the railway accidents are increasing. The Railways seem to be totally helpless, without any programmes or concrete measures to implement the safety measures which are required by the Indian Railways.

15.00 hrs.

The Claims Tribunal is dealing with a number of items, probably, a number of claims which are likely to come up, not only arising out of the railway accidents but also the cases arising out of the large size of the organisation. The varied claims that arise out of many counts cast a responsibility on the Railways and thus to take care of the constitutional and legal provisions, the Railway Claims Tribunal was created.

I am of the opinion that if the Railway Claims Tribunal, which has been instituted under an Act of Parliament, is not discharging its responsibilities to the satisfaction of the Railway administration, which it owes it to the people in general, then when such a piece of legislation is being discussed in the House, it gives us an opportunity to look back, analyse and see whether such Tribunals are working towards achieving their desired objectives.

Sir, the situation here is something like this. Even though there are provisions for Benches at various places; even though the jurisdiction could be divided; even though the work could be divided amongst the various Benches and even though there are provisions for taking early decisions, yet the cases for claims are piling up before the Railway Claims Tribunal. One of the provisions in the original Act itself says that the Claims Tribunal shall decide every application as expeditiously as possible and ordinarily every application shall be decided on perusal of documents and like that. This shows that this very Act and the setting up of this very institution is for taking expeditious decision on matters of claim.

But we have to analyse the present situation and the present functioning of the Claims Tribunal.



[Shri P.C. Chacko]

I am not attributing any motive; I am not blaming anybody who is constituting the present Tribunal or the persons who are heading this Tribunal. But the fact remains that this organisation or the set up of this Tribunal is not up to the expectation. It is because the large number of claims which are pending are pending for years together. It is expected from a Tribunal like the Railway Claims Tribunal that there would be a time bound settlement of claims. The Parliament passed the Resolution in the year 1987. It has been more than 12 years now. Even though this Amendment Bill has been brought with a different purpose, yet we should see as to how its functioning could be made more effective. We have to analyse as to what remedial measures could be thought of for making the functioning of this Tribunal more effective and efficient.

Sir, the Indian Railways truly represent the country, India. It is because it is a vast national organisation. There are various claims of the passengers which arise out of accidents and various situations. The Claims Tribunal have to be much more effective and much more time bound in taking decisions, otherwise this Tribunal itself would not be able to live up to the expectations of the Parliament.

Sir, there are various provisions in the Act, which *inter alia* includes the powers of the Chairman, powers of the Vice-Chairman, powers of the judicial Members and powers of the Technical Members. The Parliament, in a very well thought out piece of legislation, has given powers to them. There is no dearth of powers. It has got all the powers of a Civil Court and the decisions could also be executed without going to any appellate body. So, they are self-sufficient for taking decisions and executing the decisions. But the fact remains that even after five, six or seven years, many matters are still pending before the Tribunal. I do not know whether the hon. Minister has applied his mind to this vexed question or not. Even for those people who are approaching the Tribunal for their legitimate claims, for them also it is a foregone conclusion that it would at least take four to five years for their cases to be decided.

Sir, this is probably what is worrying the common man; this is what is worrying the users of the Indian Railways. It is necessary to give the Tribunal the facilities and the retrospective effect of recommendations of the Pay Commission, but at the same time the hon. Minister for Railways has a duty to see that this Tribunal is working more effectively and more efficiently. There are a number of instances.

Sir, I come from a place which is far off from the capital of India.

Railway Ministers in the past had been sympathetic towards the problems of the people of Kerala whether they are with regard to development of railways or of providing new lines and trains. However, it appears that since Kerala is a far off place, the consistent cries and pleas of the people of that State could not reach Delhi. It is difficult for the people sitting in Delhi to listen to us. It appears as through they are trying their best but still our grievances are not being heard. We are facing a similar problem with the Tribunals too.

Sir, the House has the right to know as to how many Benches are functioning and as to whether these Benches are sufficient to handle the cases coming before the Railway Claims Tribunal. While the House is discussing the issue of providing more facilities, removing the lacunae in the way of implementing decisions, on the performances and other things, we have a right to know whether sufficient attention is given to the problems arising in different parts of the country. I think that this mechanism should be increased manifold and that there should be a provision time-bound disposal of cases.

The subject of judicial reforms is a widely discussed subject in the country nowadays. This issue also is a part of that subject. 'Justice delayed is justice denied' is a famous dictum. But the fact remains that several cases are pending before the Railway Claims Tribunal due to various reasons. Cases are piling up without being disposed of for years. Such a situation has to be adequately remedied. This House has got a right to expect an assurance to this effect from the Minister when he came forward to ask for its approval.

Four years back, a tragic accident took place near Quilon and an Inquiry Commission was set up to go into the causes of the accident. The Commission officially came to a very strange conclusion that the accident took place because of a tornado. It was a very interesting conclusion which was ridiculed by experts. Even today, everyday when we look into the newspapers in the morning, we do so with a lot of anxiety. We wish that nothing should happen on that day. But rail accidents have become a common thing today. I am not blaming the Government or the Minister for this. The Government is giving facilities to the Tribunals and we are happy about it. The tribunals should do their job. But the situation is going to go out of control of the people who are to control the things. Where are precautionary steps which are expected to be there? There is no research going on in this field. There are a large number of unmanned level-crossings. Our rolling stock has become almost outdated. People's lives are at great risk. Travelling by rail has become a potential risk because the rolling stock is not serviced properly. I

am not saying that the routine work is not being done. But the fact is that danger is lurking in every corner at all times.

The Railways, which is the biggest transport system in the country, is facing a kind of a situation where people's lives are put in great danger. The kind of a situation has to be handled. The consequences of such situations are being handled by the Tribunals. So, the Tribunals should be strengthened. At the same time, it is not our intention to give more and more work to the Tribunals. Let there be as less work as possible for the Tribunals. That is what we want. To achieve that, efficiency of the railway system, safety precautions on the Railway system, etc., are very important preconditions. Otherwise, while we discuss a legislation like this, we may have to appoint Benches in all the Talukas in the country. Even if 500 Benches are set up, the claims which are lying with the Railways today cannot be settled. That kind of a situation is there. When things are going out of our hands, we have to apply our mind on this basic question. This House expects a satisfactory reply to this question from the Railway Minister.

The Railway Claims Tribunals are judicial in nature. Hence people from the judicial background are appointed on this. For the Technical Members on the Tribunal, the qualifications fixed are that a person must be in service for these years drawing the salary of the Joint Secretary. These become the qualifications for the post of Vice-Chairman. Then, the Vice-Chairman can act as the Chairman. This kind of a situation gives rise to a lot of manipulation.

So, experts are necessary. Experts are available in this country but their services are not being utilised. Any Act which is available to us, the implementation of it is very important. Here, the responsibility lies squarely on the Minister of Railways and the Ministry of Railways. I want to say that effective implementation of the Tribunal set up is not being done. That is one major defect.

About the facility, the Government should decide of a time-bound implementation or time-bound decision or disposal of the grievances before this set up. These are all very important items. When the Indian Railway lines are soaked with blood, when we are hearing of accidents everyday, when this railway travel has become very risky and seeing the situation which is prevailing in the country today, probably, we have to, apply our mind at least to act more swiftly. Just by merely bringing the legislation before the House and saying that it is a very innocent piece of legislation and so 'you pass it', will not be enough. All right, we have no objection in approving this Bill, supporting this Bill. But there are a lot of things to which the Government's attention and the hon. Minister's attention is to be drawn into.

These are the few suggestions which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Railway Minister and the Ministry of Railways. With these submissions, I would like to support this Bill.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I start to speak on this Bill, it was very interesting to find that Shri P.C. Chacko made a bit of caustic remark against the hon. Railway Minister and the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways that they are good people in the bad company...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I was supporting them.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Yes, Sir, they are good people in the bad company of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee and they are good people in the bad company of Shri L.K. Advani because they are very bad people. They are in the bad company of them and Shri P.C. Chacko is in very good company of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the 18 ex-Ministers who are now running to the courts everyday. He is in very good company of them. The onions have washed away all these sins of the past Congress Government...(Interruptions) Yes, onions have totally washed away...(Interruptions)

Now, I come to the subject. Sir, I rise to support this Railway Claims Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 1998. I will not go into the details because Shri P.C. Chacko has in every detail described the provisions of the Bill. I need not say that this Bill wants to provide powers to the Central Government to make rules retrospectively. I will not repeat it because the hon. Minister has also said so. From 1.1.1996 onwards, the Railways Claim Tribunal people, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman will be able to get the revised pay scales. Previously, 12 years back, the Railway Claims Tribunal came into existence with one retired judge who heads the institution. He becomes the Chairman. There are experts generally one from the Railway Finance Service and one from the Railway Traffic Service, who become Members of this Tribunal. This has been found in the line of the Income Tax Claims Tribunal.

Now, the Central Administrative Tribunal people have also got their salaries and allowances as per the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. But the Railway Claims Tribunal people have not yet got it, and only by virtue of this Amendment Bill, they will be able to get all these things.

I just want to say that this Railway Claims Tribunal has got two powers. The first is compensation. They given compensation for the loss of goods in transit, for the freight traffic, parcels and things like that. Later on, another responsibility was also given to them. That is the award of accident compensation.

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

It was observed that people were previously going to the CCS of the Railways and the court for compensation. If out of an accident, anybody died or sustained serious injuries, then, the relatives of the deceased or the victim himself in the case of injuries had to go to the court and the court was talking a pretty long time to settle the disputes. It was felt that the claims could be resolved expeditiously only through these Claims Tribunals. That was the intention.

There are 21 Tribunals all over India. In places like Calcutta and Delhi, there are more than one Claims Tribunal and in all other places like Bhubaneswar, there is only one Tribunal.

The maximum amount of compensation was previously Rs. 2 lakh; it has now been enhanced to Rs. 4 lakh.

I fully agree with Shri P.C. Chacko that the intention of settling the disputes expeditiously has not been fulfilled. I do not blame the Railway Claims Tribunals because the judicial system of our country itself does not provide for speedy trial of any case. Shri Chacko has mentioned about judicial reforms. I also agree with his contention that judicial reforms are required. I am not going to blame the Tribunals because it is not very easy for the Tribunals, under the present system, to conduct a speedy trial of any case. Anyway, it is an improvement on the Adhoc Railway Safety Commission, which was there previously and which also took a lot of time to settle the disputes.

I also fully agree with Shri Chacko and appeal to the hon. Minister of Railways to make settlement of disputes time-bound. Let him fix a date; say, every case should be settled within two or three months. If he can do this, he can improve upon his predecessors and give speedy justice to the people who have suffered because of accidents all over the country. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Railways that he should think about this and fix a time limit within which a case is to be settled.

My next suggestion, is if the cases are piling up day after day as mentioned by Shri Chacko, then, the number of Tribunals should be increased. If we can have two Tribunals in Delhi, if we are having two Tribunals in Calcutta, why can not have two Tribunals in other places also? We can have them. After all, we want to dispense speedy justice to our people. If we want to dispense speedy justice, then, we will have to take these measures like increasing the number of Tribunals. This is also my appeal to the hon. Minister of Railways.

I have another two more points. There are two aspects which the Railway Claims Tribunals deal

with. One involves the rail safety and the other involves the rail security. We are going to have a full-fledged discussion about rail safety. So, I am not going into the details of it. I will finish it very briefly within one minute. One major aspect that we have found in the last five or six years is that the investment proposal of the Railways on rail safety for track renewal. Much attention has been paid for the maintenance of the track and for taking up safety measures for the traffic. Actually, in India, in comparison to the increase in the load of the Railways and the increase in the number of passenger trains, I do not think that the number of accidents are very high. But why should there be any accident? Can we not just stop them? Even the loss of one life, the loss of the compartment or coach is a loss to the nation.

If we can stop it, we can stop it for good; and for that reason, I would appeal to the hon. Railway Minister not to divert money to other sectors which are not remunerative, just like gauge conversion. I would say that unthinkingly, that project was taken up. I will appeal to the hon. Railway Minister to see that was the projection of gauge conversion, What was the traffic it was intended to carry and what is the real traffic which it is actually carrying now. Has there been any increase in it really? I can tell you that there has not been any increase; not much appreciable increase is there in the load of traffic it carries. We may have to compare the money that we have spent with the return that we are getting.

So, I would appeal to him not to unnecessarily divert money to other unremunerative sectors, but I would say that money should only be invested in sectors like the railway safety, the auxiliary warning system, track circuiting, construction of fly overs, development of communication between guard and the driver, between driver and the nearest station master, between driver and the control, and between driver and another driver. It has to be developed. If we want to introduce safety factor, this has got to be introduced. We will also have to go in for mechanised maintenance of the track because this is one of the most important factors. Manually, we cannot maintain tracks. Unless we go in for mechanised track renewal, we are not going to solve the problem of railway accidents.

Finally, when we are talking about security, I am just asking why is the RPF so helpless, why should the Railways pay so much money towards compensation for goods which are lost, which are pilfered during the time of transit. The load of freight traffic which the Railways were carrying was 89 per cent during the time of Independence and after Independence; now, it has come down to 40 per cent. Now, the roadways are competing with the Railways in diverting the freight traffic.

You will see that after the construction of six-lane express highway from Gujarat to Assam and from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the freight traffic that the Railways are carrying will be further low. Unless the pilferage is stopped, unless the Railways develop a commercial attitude and unless the Railways develop its yard management, the freight traffic cannot be improved. When we send some goods through roadways, it may reach the destination within say, three days; but when we send them through the Railways, sometimes, it may take seven days, sometimes, it may take eight days, sometimes it may even take 15 days, and sometimes, it may even be totally lost. So, track maintenance is the most important factor in reducing the compensation which we are paying through the Railway Claims Tribunal.

Last but not least, I would appeal to the hon. Railway Minister to ensure that the RPF does not become a party to the pilferage of railway goods that is taking place.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I support the Bill.

While supporting the Bill, I would like to make certain observations. The need of amending the Bill arises from the fact that the salaries and allowances of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and other Members of the Railway Claims Tribunal are to be increased with retrospective effect. Giving such retropective effect will definitely improve the conditions of the incumbents; and there is no doubt about it.

Since the prices of goods are skyrocketing, the increase in salaries and allowances of the staff is definitely justified. I do not have any doubt about that.

The second consideration is efficiency. If we want that the incumbents should be efficient, their remuneration should be increased. They have achieved efficiency not in the affairs of administration or management but in committing malpractices. There are gossips among the young railway officers that crores and crores of rupees are being looted by the higher echelons of the Tribunal. Such gossips are prevalent even among the railway passengers also. I think the higher echelons should be slammed in this regard. I have specific information with regard to the nexus that exists between the higher echelons of the Railway Claims Tribunal and the anti-social elements. The real problem is that the users are being harassed, whereas the persons resorting to malpractices get higher remuneration. If we compare the traffic carried by the railways with the road traffic, day after day and month after month, the road traffic is increasing at a tremendous rate. The rail traffic has not increased in such proportions. This is a pointer to the fact that the people who want to send their goods by rail are losing faith in the Railways.

Sir, in regard to salaries and allowances to the higher officers, I think, there is a great discrimination. The rate at which the officers' salaries and other allowances have been increased are incongruous insofar as the salaries and allowances of the lower categories of employees. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Railways to see to it that such incongruities are abolished. In this connection, I should mention that the compensation paid to the injured and the near and dear ones of the people who have lost their lives in the accidents are very meagre. In comparison with the need of the present day, especially in the backdrop of rising prices, we think that the rate of compensation to the previously hurt person should be increased. Compensation due to the death or loss of life should also be increased. For this purpose, a Committee should be set up to look into the need of the hour. The rate of increase in salaries and allowances in respect of the higher echelons reflect...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Akbarpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the word 'Harijan' which is being used by him repeatedly is unparliamentary and the discussion on it has been held many times in the Parliament. This resolution has been passed. Legally it has been decided that the word 'Harijan' will not be used in the Parliament since it is nowhere used in the Constitution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat, after seeing the proceedings if this word is found unparliamentary, it would be expunged.

*[English]*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : I have not mentioned the word, 'Harijan'...*(Interruptions)* I have only used the word, 'comparison'. I did not mention about any tribe or the word, 'harijan'.

*[Translation]*

KUMARI MAYAWATI : You may call 'comparison' as S.C. and S.T...*(Interruptions)* He has used the word Harijan before it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If this word is used, it would be expunged.

*[English]*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Is the word, harijan unparliamentary?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : I have not uttered the word, harijan. There is no reference to it.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not indulge yourself in this affairs and conclude your speech.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : What is wrong in it?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI : Sir, I understand this much. At first he used the word 'harijan' and later on he talked about comparison. Therefore, this word should be expunged from the proceedings.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mayawati Ji, I have asked to expunge this word if necessary after going through the proceedings.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Sir, the word 'comparison' is being heard by Mayawati Ji as 'harijan'. That is a different matter. Since the Chair has given the ruling, what Shri Premchandran says becomes relevant. Mayawati Ji has raised an issue that this word cannot be used. The Chair has said that the word will be removed from the records which means that it is unparliamentary. I would like to know whether it is unparliamentary or not. Otherwise, it will create a lot of problems in future during the discussion. She has raised the issue and has asked a very pertinent question, whether the word 'harijan' is unparliamentary...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : She has objected to the use of the word, 'harijan'.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI : I have said that it is unparliamentary...*(Interruptions)* He has used the word comparison later on...*(Interruptions)* I am listening the interpretation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not raise the controversy.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not raise controversy.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : The basic question is, whether it can be used or not.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : What is the objection in using the word 'harijan'? It was used by Mahatma Gandhi.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI : This Parliament is not being run on the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi. Nowhere in our Constitution the word Harijan has been used for SC and ST. I have talked about Constitution ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijaywada) : Sir, whatever may be its previous connotation, the hon. Speaker had ruled recently that the hon. Members should avoid using the word *harijan*. That is already on record...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Sir, respected people and leaders of this country should not be drawn into controversy and mentioned like this. This is more objectionable than the word *harijan*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chacko, please do not go into the controversy.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission is that the hon. Member has said that he has used the word comparison. The issue should have been hushed up then and there. Now this issue should be discussed after this amendment. I mean to say that this bill should be passed at first and then that issue should be discussed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have also said so.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : On one hand it is on error of listening and on the other hand it is being given the shape of debate. Price rise would be discussed at 4 o'clock. It is a small Bill. It should be passed. Therefore, I would like to submit that, it should be discussed separately.

KUMARI MAYAWATI : At first he used the word *harijan* and the word comparison was used later on. If this word is not Parliamentary then why it is used time and again in the Parliament?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mayawati ji, please take your seat.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Let the discussion on this Bill be concluded and discuss it later on...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAYAWATI : \*

What is its reverse...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not indulge in discussion.

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\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, please ask her to beg pardon at first...(Interruptions)'

KUMARI MAYAWATI : We have heard it properly.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have not allowed you. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : She has abused at first, she should beg pardon.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now nothing will be discussed about it. We are discussing the railway Bill.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Sir, I am coming to my conclusion...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, in the name of *harijan* are you going to destroy everything?... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is already a ruling by the Speaker on this matter. We should avoid the use of this word.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the word 'harijan' is parliamentary, then what is wrong if it is used?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Speaker has given his ruling so why the issue is being taken up again and again. Sudhir Giri Ji please conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, your ruling is acceptable to all and you may expunge the word you like but the hon. Member has said... to some hon. Members. That should also be expunged, that is my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The unparliamentary word should be expunged from the record.

\* Not Recorded.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, the aspersions cast on the Father of the Nation may be removed from the record...(Interruptions)

SHRI AKBAR AHMAD (Azamgarh) : I have not cast any aspersion on the Father of the Nation...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Shri Sudhir Giri, please conclude.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : The increases in the salaries and allowances of the higher echelons of society do reflect the attitude of the Government's acceptance of the diktat from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank because such incongruity cannot remain in the society itself...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sudhir Giri is not yielding. Kindly sit down.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Under Rule 376. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Chair that a Member has mentioned, if I am not wrong, that Mahatma Gandhi is not the 'Father of the Nation'. If that is so, that should not go on record. That is my very serious objection...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already said that.

SHRI AKBAR AHMAD : I have never said that.

[Translation]

I have not said. They have not listened properly...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : If that is not there, that is all right.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Giri, have you finished your speech?

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : I have not finished my speech...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI : He is hard of hearing. I hear properly...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : In conclusion, I appeal to the hon. Minister that completion of the Tamluk-Bigha Railway project is of urgent importance. I have been repeatedly reminding the hon. Minister for completing this project. I also appeal, which I have availed myself of the opportunity, that the hon. Minister should provide adequate funds in the next financial year for the completion of the Tamluk-Bigha Railway Project.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak on Railway Claims Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 1998 introduced by Hon. Railway Minister. Some Hon'ble Members have expressed their views about Railway Claim Tribunal, I would like to tell the hon. Minister something in the form of suggestions. They have said that the bill has only limited objection and if relates to the implementation of the recommendation of the Fifth Pay Commission in regard to the pay scales of Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Member of Railway Claims Tribunal. While introducing the bill, but there are also matters related with the claims about which Hon. Members have expressed their views. In this matter, I would like to say that a large number of cases are pending with the tribunal with regard to the accident of passenger trains or goods trains and such cases are not disposed of in proper time.

Therefore, I would like to request that all cases of claims pending with the tribunal be disposed of at the earliest in a time bound manner.

Secondly, I would like to say that there are always more claims related to passengers trains and transportation of goods. It is so because the most of the goods do not reach at the destination in time or get damaged. Most of the cases of claim in this regard are pending and therefore need to be disposed of.

The other point that I want to make is that there should be a positive response from the tribunal and its decisions should also be positive. Besides an immediate action should be taken in the cases of accidents or the delivery of the goods of all other such cases. As we are re-considering the pay of Chairman, Deputy-Chairman or Hon. Members through an amendment, we should also re-consider the pay of many other employees of the tribunal. We should also make an assessment of the facilities for them. There is also a need to make an assessment

of the powers and functions of the tribunal from time to time. The justified claims should be settled immediately and there should be no delay in it. The functions of the tribunal should be re-considered from time to time. There should be an assessment of powers and functions of the tribunal and the claims should also be settled. If it happens, it would be good.

I would like to add an very important point that the protection is very important alongwith maintenance of boggies be it passengers trains or goods trains.

Mr. Chairman Sir, therefore some trains which are having so bad maintenance that the ordinary passengers face great problem. Today whichever train we may travel by we get very dirty and mutilated bedroll. And when we ask as to who is having contracts in this regard, it is found that the contracts have been taken by contractors of Bihar. It is fortunate that all the Railway Ministers so far have been from Bihar. Therefore, I think that Bihar has got opportunity to provide facilities in this regard and it should set an example in this regard. With these words, I would like to say the bill should be passed unanimously and the other suggestion received in this regard should also be considered.

*[English]*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Vishakhapatnam) : Sir, since time is already over, I will speak for a few minutes before you would be pressing the bell.

The Bill brought by Shri Nitish Kumar is such that there is no chance to be opposed by any Member of the House. The entire House is unanimously supporting the Bill. We are extremely happy in supporting this small Bill. At the same time, every Member has been collectively highlighting that red-tapism should not be there and that claims should be settled at an early date. So, I want the hon. Minister to clarify whether the Government has powers or rights to give clear instructions to the Tribunals on fixing a time limit, if possible. If it is not possible legally, the entire House appeals to the Tribunals that when people die in accidents, the victims should not be unnecessarily harassed or delayed and they should be paid the compensation promptly.

In conclusion, it is a very good Bill. As regards revision of salaries, we are all supporting it. When we support them, it means we are supporting the victims of accidents.

Lastly, though it is out of the way and not concerned with the subject, I would appeal to both the Railway Ministers to increase the frequency of Vishakapatnam-Bangalore Express from two days to seven days so that people living in Vishakapatnam can go and see Saibaba at Puttubarthi via Chennai.

**SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil):** The amending Bill is only an enabling one. So, I have to support this Bill. In the meanwhile, I have to point out one thing. Now-a-days, I am afraid of getting into the trains. I do not know whether I will reach my destination. I do not know even my end will be in the railway coach because anything may happen at any time when I am fast asleep. How can I be sure that I will see the next morning? During the dead of night, everything will go and I will be nowhere. I am sorry to say that even after 50 years of Independence, this is the situation prevailing in the country. Are you sure that you will be alive when you are travelling in train? Are you sure? Can you say that you will be alive when you are travelling in train? You cannot say. That is the situation.

We are having the largest number of railway network in the world. Railways are operating round the clock. Without vigilance, we will not be able to control this situation. Now, the entire system is in chaos. This is the common man's only mode of conveyance. If you do not keep it properly, the poor man in the street and the poor Indian will be put to hardship. So, I request the hon. Minister to be more vigilant. We have two Ministers of Railways. Both of them are very active. But your activity is resulting in catastrophe. So, I only suggest to them to be more careful in running the Railways.

What is the functioning of the Railway Claims Tribunal? The people go to the Consumer Protection & Redressal Tribunals where they get the ready justice and the compensation is awarded by the Tribunals, but the people will not get award or compensation during their life time from the Railway Claims Tribunal. There were people who had gone from the world but they have not received compensation or claims from the Tribunal. Suppose I file an application for compensation. I will not be sure whether I will get the compensation during my life time. Are you sure that you will get the claim from the Tribunal when you are alive? This is the situation. Please expedite the matter. Justice delayed is justice denied. So, I request the hon. Minister to take immediate steps so that the poor man's claim is awarded and grievance is redressed.

With these words, I support the Bill.

**SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I fully support the Bill because it is only an enabling one to give retrospective effect to salaries and allowances as per the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. This Act is covering only the loss of property and life, and some other damages. It has been mentioned that in a tragedy took place long back in Perumon, Kollaur, 106 people lost their lives. So many persons were engaged and entrusted with the task of saving the lives of the people in the tragedy. They have not been given any

proper reward. So, I would like to suggest that those who are engaged in this rescue activities should also be given proper compensation and they should also be given reward. I can cite so many examples, including Perumon, Kollaur tragedy, where many persons who took part in the rescue activities have not been properly rewarded or compensated, though they have suffered a lot of difficulties in carrying out the rescue operations. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to consider this aspect also when he takes up for consideration of the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill.

[Translation]

**SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, since supplementary demands for grants for Railways are to be taken up and lengthy discussion is proposed to be held on Railway Protection, therefore I do not want to go in detail on entire activities of the railways on the pretext of this bill. This bill has limited objectives and I would like to request hon'ble minister to raise the number of tribunals as the works which are required to be undertaken, are not being done on time due to the limited number of tribunals at present.

Secondly, it should be a provision in the act itself through delegated legislation so that the need to come to the House for such thing does not arise. Please see to it.

In the last, I will say only one thing. We were sitting in the Public gallery of Rajya Sabha. Those days, hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji was in the opposition and Shri Jagjivan Ram used to occupy the seat of Minister of Railways. At that time he said that the passenger of this country travelled in trains at the risk of their lives. May I repeat it today. I support this bill with this request that arrangements be made for the safety of railway and railway passengers in view of this thing.

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, this House is aware of this bill has limited objectives to implement the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission with retrospective effect i.e. 1.1.1996 in regard to salary and other facility to Chairman, Deputy Chairman and member of the Railway Claims Tribunals as there was no provision in the Original Act for implementing the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission with retrospective effect. Everybody has extended support to it. Some things have come to the fore during the discussion on it. Every body is concerned about the safety. All of us are worried about it. We want to tell you, openly as to what safety measures have been taken. We want to bring it to the knowledge of this house as to what type of new problems are being faced by the Railways. I have asked hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs also that there should be discussion on it and it was also said in the House



[Shri Nitish Kumar]

that there would be discussion on it. I, therefore, do not want to say anything more on this issue today.

We feel happy to see Shri Radhakrishnan being present here. He is the hon'ble Member of this House even at this age and quite active to give his opinion on every subject. In a very light mood he said that who knows, we would be able to reach the destination or not. This world is not a permanent place to live. Nobody knows who is to leave and I, therefore never take it seriously and I used to travel mostly by train earlier and now also take the same mode of travelling. Tomorrow, also, when he would not be here we would travel by train...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Dead body will also be sent by train.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Railways and people have reciprocal relationship, this can't be segregated. However, this discussion is to take place on safety and we would also like to put forth our views on it.

Besides, discussion has taken place on the functions of the Railways Claims Tribunal and particularly the pending cases thereunder. There are no two opinions that cases are pending, I also have figures with me some cases have been pending for one year and some for two years but the pendency is not that long that it continues through out life. We have with us figures regarding claims for loss and missing of goods as these cases are also covered under Railway Claims. The entire House as well as the Government want that the Railway Claims Tribunal should perform its job expeditiously. There are some vacancies in the Tribunal and we have taken steps to fill up these vacancies. In fact, these are various categories of posts which are lying vacant, this is not time to go into these details but we are making efforts to fill up all the vacancies at the earliest so as to expedite the functioning of the Tribunal.

16.00 hrs.

I would like that first we would like to discuss all these matters in joint committee on Railway and also the suggestions made by the Members there regarding making improvement in the functioning of the Tribunal, should be discussed afterwards. The system existing earlier was found to be inadequate that is why the Railway Claims Tribunal was constituted. Earlier, settlement commissioner was required to be appointed after every, accident for settlement of claims by the state Government. People had to face a lot of difficulties in getting their claims settled. In order to avoid these difficulties, the Railway Claims Tribunal was constituted. But, in the changing

times, to improve the functioning of the Tribunal...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Whether it exists in Patna?

If it exist then, improve its functioning.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It does exist there, vacancy is also there. I am to state that I endorse the suggestions made here.

*[English]*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, the Standing Committee on Railways have already given a recommendation.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : No, no; the 'passenger amenities' is a different thing.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It was both on passenger amenities and security.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What other hon. Members have mentioned is not related to safety and security. They have mentioned that its scope should be widened. They had asked about the functioning of the Railway Claims Tribunal and its various types. And about delays, what steps should be taken so that each and every case could be expedited?

*[Translation]*

In view of concern shown by the Members, I would suggest that the standing committee on Railways could include this subjects in the list of points to be considered by them. After that if there is any need/or for improvement or change, we are prepared for that. This is the limited objective, I do not think that any Member has opposed it, therefore, it should be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I shall put the consideration motion to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1 Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we are taking up the discussion regarding atrocities committed on minorities in various parts of the country.

16.04 hrs.

[PROF. RITA VERMA *in the Chair*]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, what about the discussion regarding rise in prices of essential commodities? The other day it was not concluded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What happened?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The other day, the discussion on price rise was inconclusive. It has to be taken up first.

MR. CHAIRMAN : According to the agenda supplied, we have to discuss the issue regarding atrocities committed on minorities in various parts of the country at 4 p.m.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, I would like to know at what time will we be taking up the discussion on rise in prices? It was inconclusive that day.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, we can continue the discussion on the price rise. It is up to the House. Shall we take it up?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, we are discussing the price rise.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me please call your name, Shri T.R. Baalu, Shri Baalu, please continue.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : But, we would like to know when you will take up the question of minorities...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will come to know shortly.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : How long will you continue, so that accordingly, we will adjust? How many speakers are there?

MR. CHAIRMAN : At least, 15 names are there.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Then it will go on indefinitely.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : No, it cannot go on indefinitely.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can take up the issue of Atrocities on Minorities after this discussion is over. Fifteen names are there and I should say that everyone should take not more than five minutes.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Madam, I think, the hon. Home Minister is not in town today and any discussion on the question of atrocities of minorities in the absence of the hon. home Minister will not serve any purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is precisely the point.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : In fact, I was given to understand that the Government was to make a request for the postponement of this discussion for tomorrow. I would like to know the position because nobody from the Ministry of Home Affairs is present in the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat) : It should not be discussed in the absence of the hon. Home Minister...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : No, it has to be.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : But there has to be some commitment.

SHRI RAM NAIK : According to the parliamentary practice and procedure, we can take a note of the points and pass on to the hon. Home Minister. But the point is valid that if the hon. Home Minister is present then that would be better...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Without the hon. Home Minister the discussion cannot start...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : They have all agreed.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : This is a very important subject and it is not that if notes are going to be taken and passed on the hon. Home Minister.

SHRI RAM NAIK : He has misunderstood me. I said that his point was valid, so the discussion on price rise can go and this discussion could be there when the hon. Home Minister was there. That is why I was trying to say...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : But we must know, when?

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will find out and let you know within 10-15 minutes time.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshdweep) : Madam, you have now the names of 15 Members already on the price rise discussion. In any case, if you give five minutes to everyone, it will be more than two hours. That means it will go up to 6 o'clock. So, unless you extend the sitting of the House, we cannot take up this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, we can extend the sitting of the House up to 8'clock.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, please.

SHRI RAM NAIK : May, I suggest? The suggestion from my side would be that this discussion should continue now and be concluded today itself and the discussion on Atrocities and Minorities can be fixed for tomorrow. But I have to find out the availability of the hon. Home Minister and for that I will come back within 10-15 minutes...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Hon'ble Home Minister will be present here with in half an hour. We have no problem if the issue of the "price-rise" is taken up and discussion on it is concluded today itself...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi) : The Price rise is a big issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : We leave it to the House. If the Houses wants to conclude the discussion on the issue of the price-rise then we can take up the issue of atrocities today. If discussion on the issue of the price-rise does not conclude today then, we can take it up tomorrow.

*[English]*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : It can be taken up tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : We should complete discussion on the issue of price-rise today...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshdweep) : If every body speaks five minutes each then only we can conclude the discussion on it.

16.05 hrs.

## DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

### Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities—Contd.

*[English]*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Madam, Chairperson, on the other day, I was referring to the fact of mismanagement and maladministration by the people in power, especially, in the National Agriculture Cooperative and Marketing Federation.

Madam, for instance they have applied with the Ministry of Commerce for an import licence. In spite of the instruction of the Ministry of Commerce that the application for import of onion should be made in a particular format, they have not done so because of the reason well known to them. Will anybody believe that a particular national agency, which is NAFED, which is in the know-how of things and formalities pertaining to import and export day in and day out does not know how to apply for an import licence? It is unheard of.

Madam, in spite of this, with all his generosity, the Director-General of Foreign Trade has sanctioned the licence to see that things are going in the right direction. In spite of this hue and cry, the first man who has awakened for his deep sleep was the hon. Prime Minister of India. He took a joint ministerial meeting on the 7th October and discussed how the problem has arisen and what are the remedial measures to be taken up. Only after the Prime Minister's intervention, on the 8th October NAFED had applied for import licence for importing 10,000 tonnes of onion. In the evening, the Ministry of Commerce cleared it and they got the import licence.

The Delhi Government had applied on the 9th October for importing 3,000 tonnes of onion. They got the licence on the same day. This action should have been taken during the month of August itself or September but things were allowed to go and the price of onion was going up and up unabatedly and it was sky-rocketed from Rs. 10 per kilogram to Rs. 60 per kilogram.

Madam, I would like to remind this august House about the couplet in Tamil of the great Tamil Saint, Thiruvalluvar :

"Seithakka alla seya kedum

Seithakka seyyamaialum kedum."

In English, it means :

"One can lose by wrongs of commission and also by wrong acts of omission."

My submission to this House is this. How the BJP has lost by acts of commission are : (a) announcement regarding granting of OGL within three days from the date of issuance of permit to NAFED and (b) loud and desperate cry of this Government about airlifting of onions from Iran.

The second thing, which I want to impress upon this House is this. How the BJP has lost by wrong acts of omission is firstly the refusal by the Department of Consumer Affairs to extend the counter-guarantee in regard to import of onion to NAFED. Secondly, the Government has exported onion in spite of the crisis and NAFED, as an organisation supposed to be in the know-how to apply for an import licence, have not done so in a particular format.

On the other day, the hon. Member, Shri Vaiko had blamed the United Front Government for which I should be allowed to answer within a minute. Please refer to the Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy of the Tenth Lok Sabha. Shri Vaiko has accused the United Front Government by saying that United Front Government was responsible for the hike in the prices of petroleum products. This is the Report of the Standing Committee on Energy headed by hon. Shri Jaswant Singh, the new Minister of External Affairs. In his recommendation-recommendation number 99 - he has said in the oil sector, diesel and kerosene prices, mindful of their utilisation, have to be rationalised.

As regards the LPG, subsidy on LPG should be gradually reduced. This is the recommendation number 104.

Thirdly, he has recommended - recommendation number 126 - that the prices of products should reflect the economic cost of supply. This is particularly important if private sector marketing of product is to be promoted.

These are the recommendations made by the Committee on Energy which was headed by hon. Shri Jaswant Singh. But on the other day, Shri Vaiko was accusing me without knowing that he is exposing the B.J.P. Government of which he is a part and parcel as he is one of the allies.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajan) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussions commence first in the House then reach the people outside. However the discussion on the issue of the price-rise started from out-side. Today, we are discussing the issue of price-rise here in this House. Cutting across the party lines every Member has admitted that the prices have gone up. Why is it so, Members from all the parties have expressed their views on this issue.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I find that there are four five reasons for soaring of the prices. As per the statement of the Minister of Finance reported in the newspapers the prices have gone up due to the natural calamity, it is true, that natural calamity has caused the price-rise however it could not be admitted that this is the only reason. It is true that the unseasonal rains have adversely affected cultivation of the vegetables. We expect that the prices of vegetables will rise further of course Natural Calamity is the only reason for it. The prices have start soaring gradually right after the last Parliamentary elections but I fail to understand as to why the attention of the Government has not been drawn to it. Everytime when elections take place, the Government is formed on the basis of the negative vote but this time, this coalition government has got positive votes too alongwith the negative votes. There are proofs for it. There was slogan doing the soun in the villages.

Raj Tilak Ki Karo Taiyari, Aa Rahe Hain Atal Bihari (Make preparations for coronation, Shri Atal Bihari is coming) This slogan reflects the positive will of the voters. Not only this, people were saying - Dekha Sabko Bari-Bari, Ab Ki Bari Atal Beharee (We have tested everybody one by one, this time it is the turn of Mr. Atal Bihariji). This slogan shows that people's approach was positive. They wanted to see Atalji as the Prime Minister and he became the Prime Minister. More than nine months have passed since this Government came into office, however among several achievements of nine months rule the issue of the price rise has caused the downfall of the BJP Government in Delhi as well as Rajasthan. It could not be said that only negative votes have contribute in formation of the Governments. If it be the case then, the Congress Party might have not been ruling in Madhya Pradesh.

What I feel personally is that one of the reasons for the price-rise is the gradual enchantment of the people with Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. People believe that it is a weak Government and it has been a failure in the country. This debate started when the question of the transfer of an officer Shri Bezbaruah came up. Then the Government had to postpone the transfer due to some or the other reason. And the people began to think that if a Prime Minister of the country cannot afford to transfer an officer what use is such a Prime Minister? The image of the Prime Minister received a blow. It got another blow when the recommendation for the dismissal of the Bihar Government was sent to the President and he sent it back to the Government for reconsideration. The Prime Minister gave a Statement in one of the meetings in Bodh Gaya that Mafia rule is going on in Bihar. Unfortunately, even today that mafia-rule is going on in Bihar...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude since you people have decided to conclude the discussion early. I would have given you an hour but it was suggested by you people that it would be concluded soon.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Madam, if you do not like I stop and take my seat.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, it is not so. You may speak but conclude it.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Madam, I have it in writing, I just stop reading, speak orally whatever I can.

Madam, I was saying that Minister's image has also contibuted towards price rise because the traders and the profiteers had started thinking that Government was weak and could not do anything. This price hike concerned almost all the commodities. The day when Barnala ji was talking about the Essential Commodities Act, I told him then that the morale of the profiteers is being boosted by section-7 of the Essential Commodities Act. Even he had started realising that the Government should put check on it. The moment they heard the news regarding section-7 through the Newspapers, they started gaining confidence and they felt that the Government were protecting them and this has resulted in this price-rise. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to make section-7 more stringent and do not compromise in anyway with the profiteers. Nobody knows how much the Bihar Government spent. Administration cannot be run merely by words, that is why some restraint must be put on the government.

Madam recently Chief Ministers' conference was held in Delhi wherein a discussion was held to devise measures to check the price rise. I would like to ask from the Government that 9 months have elapsed since it came to power but why no action has been taken by it so far to check the rising prices? Even the meeting of the Chief Ministers took place when Kumari Mamata Banerjee resigned from the co-ordination Committee and said that they are not going to participate in the meeting unless prices are checked. I would like to know from the Government as to what achievements have been made after the Chief Ministers' meeting. What was done to put a check on the profiteers and the price rise? I would like to know from the Government that how the onions worth Rs. 6 per kg. were sold for Rs. 65 a kg. and now when it is being sold for Rs. 25 per kg. the Government claims to have put a check on its prices. Had you restricted the price of Rs. 6 per kg to Rs. 6 or reduced it to Rs. 5 per kg we could have agreed that you have controlled the price-rise.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Twelve minutes have gone. Please conclude now.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Madam I will conclude with in two minutes.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Madam, we come here to listen if something is discussing in the House. It is not that discussion on some serious subject will not be allowed. Let it go on. We are not sitting here merely to watch.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House wants to sit late and to continue the discussion then it's okay.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Madam I will take two to three minutes to conclude.

I wanted to say that the meeting of the Chief Ministers took place only when Kumari Mamata Banerjee resigned but we cannot hold the Union Government greatly responsible for controlling the price rise. The State Governments are responsible for controlling the price rise. We say the State Governments because the supply inspectors block supply officials and the district-officials are of the State Government and function at the behest of the State Government. There is every need to have a check on the State Governments because if there is price rise and the State Governments in the league with its officials direct them to let the price increase. The food items are supplied to rural areas from the P.D.S. shops. What is going on in the rural areas. I would not like to go into the situation of the entire country but I know about Bihar, 90 per cent people there were not given P.D.S supply. Madam Chairman, you come from Bihar and you are aware of the situation there. Fortunately you are in the Chair. Take it seriously and whenever you get a chance issue directions to the government to have a check on it. The commodities which are sent for the rural consumers do not reach them because of the nexus of the government employees and the other officials concerned. They have a share in the sale proceeds, the commodities sold through the P.D.S. shops on account of which the consumers do not get these commodities. Who will monitor all this? How to check the bungling done by the officials in the State in the matter of arranging the commodities and the supply.

The Union Government should enact an affective law for that purpose.

Madam Chairman, I appreciate your sentiments. I would not like to speak beyond it that I would like to submit this much only that the Union Government did not carry out its responsibility in a proper way to control the price rise due to which the profiteers thrived and the poor people were made to sell their ornaments to purchase foodgrains. Therefore the Union Government should be serious in such cases and should ponder over it. The government does not merely belong to the businessmen and profiteers

but the government belongs to the rural masses. Therefore, it must be pondered over seriously.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kumari Mayawati. I hope that you would deliver a brief and beautiful speech.

KUMARI MAYAWATI : Madam Chairman, the issue of price rise has been discussed in detail on 3rd December under rule 193. This subject is being discussed again today as the discussion remained incomplete. This issue is very serious and is linked with the common man. The price rise of all the commodities as per the treasury bench is due to bad weather and short fall in the production. I do not agree to both of these reasons. Since the production has declined during the last few months it has the responsibility of the government to make necessary arrangement for it. The essential commodities meant for the common people should have been imported. But I am sorry to say that on one hand the government claims that the production has declined and on the other hand even after shortage of the essential commodities these are being exported by the government and when the common man cries for such essential commodities then these are imported. I think this is all premeditated by the Union Government. On one hand it is being said that the production has decline and on the other hand these items are being exported and when the people cry for these items these are imported. It means that the government must have earned some commission in the export and import deal. The Government have nothing to do with the common people. The B.J.P. government is aware of the fact that this time they have come to power but in future they are not going to have a chance. Therefore, they should earn as much as they can through the commission. I remember... (Interruptions) why it was not proved. Levelling allegations is easy but it is very difficult to prove, such allegations. I remember that at the time of elections the B.J.P. had given a slogan that 'if not now then never'. These people are aware of the fact that now they have come to power but in future they will not come to power. Taking this fact into consideration they have promoted price rise. Prices have not gone up of their own but these have gone up under a well planned conspiracy and the government seems to be involved in it. Since, the prices soared, it was the responsibility of the Government to make the Essential Commodities Act more stern and stringent and besides there shone have been some monitoring cell so that the activities of the hoarders and the blackmarketeers could have been checked and they have been in the jail and not outside. If all this steps would have been taken, I feel that, the prices would have not risen. I got the opportunity at different places during last five-six months to know that raids were conducted at the shops of hoarders or at their business centres by the officers, here I am talking about the entire business class, I am talking about the people doing

backmarketing and hoarding in connivance with B.J.P., when raids were conducted at their business centres, the officers were beaten by these black-marketeers at some places, but the government did not taken any action against such people. Bureaucrats want that strict action should be taken through and monitoring cell against the people involved in hoarding and blackmarketing. But black-marketeers and hoarders are roaming freely due to the pressure on B.J.P. The officer have been beaten at many places. Therefore I feel that price-rise is a part of well planned conspiracy and B.J.P. is expert in covering up their weaknesses. Their connivance caused the price-rise. B.J.P. government is involved with such people. who are doing hoarding and black marketing and the connivance led to price rise.

The BJP government says that all this has happened due to the bad weather and decline in production but I do not agree with it because it is felt that prices have risen manifold, wherever B.J.P. is in power whether in the centre or in other states. Uttar Pradesh is a largest state, where the government servants are facing a lot of problems in getting their salaries even. Here the discussion is going on price rise but I feel that after few days this rises would dominate the House that Uttar Pradesh is facing economic crisis and the government employees are not being paid their salaries. When they are asked why the government employees are not being paid their salaries, they say that they got empty coffer from the last government, therefore they are unable to pay salaries to the employees. The reality is not that as I told you the B.J.P. government is expert in covering up their weaknesses, so the fact is that there are about 100 Ministers in the B.J.P. government in Uttar Pradesh. The entire amount is being spent on them so wherefrom the government employees would be paid their salaries and how the development work would be done. The BJP connivance led to the price rise but B.J.P says something else. The economic crisis is because of weaknesses of B.J.P. government in Uttar Pradesh as the B.J.P. government makes an excuse that they got the empty coffers from the previous government, likewise in the matter of price rise they can say that present government is bearing the burden of price rise, because of wrong economic policies adopted by the previous government.

Hon'ble madam, through you, I want to request the government that if they are really interested in controlling the price rise, the prices of essential commodities, they have to pay attention to the problems of the farmers. If the weather is bad, even then they have to find any solution as how to increase the production. Essential commodities Act has to be made more stringent, monitoring cell has to be strengthened. Unless the government is strict, I feel the prices would not come down, prices will go on increasing and every section of the society is bearing

[Kumari Mayawati]

its brunt but the poor casual labourer, who goes out for earning his livelihood daily bore its burnt more. Hon'ble Chairman knows as how poor the Bihar state is: If a labourer gets 40 rupees wage per day, keeping in view the rising prices of the essential commodities it is very difficult for him to buy oil and other essential commodities with this meagre amount. We should see that more attention is paid towards the poorest section of the society, the down-trodden in country, who live below the poverty line. The middle class is also affected by it even every section of the society have been affected but the most affected section is the weaker section of the society. It is the responsibility of the government to formulate such stringent laws which could check the price-rise.

Although the hon'ble Prime Minister has held a meeting of the Chief Ministers, he has asked them to give their suggestions in this regard. Those suggestions have also been noted down by his secretaries and the entire planning must have made. We have to put them into the action but are not being implemented so far. It means the mentality of the government is not clear and I feel until they are mentally ready for that they won't be able to control price-rise. I recall that slogan time and again that if not now then never, now you will never get the chance. If you want to have some mass support at least, you should pay attention to the downtrodden people or each section of the society which is affected by the price-rise. Even though the present government are a failure on every front as each front has been discussed in this House, but the price-rise has badly affected every section of the society. It has resulted in the damage to your BJP in the assembly election of four States.

You are responsible for the price-rise in the country at one hand and increase in the number of atrocities on the other. The atrocities have increased on the large scale. The victims of atrocities are particularly downtrodden people, and the people belonging to Scheduled Caste, Schedule Tribe, backward classes and religious minorities. I do not want to speak much over minorities because one of our party members has already given notice to speak on this matter. Ever since B.J.P government has come to the power, the law and order has totally failed. And I think the issue to check law and order is also connected with price-rise when law and order is relaxed, the hoarders and profiteers think that there is nobody to check them. The entire country is reeling under price hike and it is just because the government is not having right mentality. The law and order has totally failed in the country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh. Why has it failed? The crimes can never be checked in the state where Ministers having criminal records are holding charge

in the government. If the downtrodden people and those belonging to backward class and religious minorities are struggling with price-hike at one hand as is the case of each section of society, they are also facing atrocities. Therefore Madam, through you I would like to request that if government want to save whatever public support it has, it should take note of the points raised by me in the House. With these words, I finish my speech and do not want to take more time since I am listening the ringing of the bell. I will not take more time otherwise our male Members will object that a lady is favouring a lady. Therefore I thank you for giving me time.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today is the third day of this debate which was started by Hon. Rajesh Pilot with very good words, good intention and some positive suggestions.

It is a universal fact that whenever there is unnecessary increase in the prices of the commodities, the public have to face the difficulties and not only the public even administration and the politicians have to face the difficulties. I do not want to go into the details, since this has been said earlier. Particularly when there is increase in the prices of essential commodities of daily use, the situation becomes very horrible for poor people. It is natural for the Hon. Members to be anxious in this regard and it is also a proper thing. For last three days discussion has been going on in this matter and all aspects and points of this matter have been highlighted therein. Many Members have mentioned relevant points and had given useful suggestions in which views have been expressed over all aspects - political, administrative and economic. So far as the politics is concerned, I have already said that the public have to bear the burden, no matter who had committed mistake.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Madam, Chairperson is it a debate that he is making?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already explained. He is only intervening.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMPAL : It is only an intervention in the debate...(Interruptions) It is not a reply. I have sought permission to intervene in the debate, and I can refer to any point raised by any hon. Member ... (Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Do not exhaust all these things. Let Shri Barnala also reply...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Madam, this is not correct. Immediately after Shri Rajesh Pilot's speech, he could have intervened and said anything...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA (Chikballapur) : Madam, he is giving a long speech...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sompal Ji, you may proceed.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you will go on making noise like this, it will take more time.

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, I will put forward my views. But it is also the right of every member to discuss the points raised in the House. I will not go beyond that. I will not resort to violation...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please take your seat. Is it necessary for everybody to intervene the proceedings. Please allow the smooth functioning of the House.

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, I would like to make special mention of the points raised by two members. These two persons are hon. Pilot and Shri Chidambaram Ji. As I have stated that Shri Pilot was very much right when he said whatever it was, it was we should take a lesson from this incident. We should think over the administrative and economic measures, which can be taken in this direction. All of the parties need to think positively cutting across party lines and give suggestions in this matter. I have heard the scholarly analysis put forward here on economic matters by Shri Chidambaram. As far as his ability and word-power over economic concepts and subjects is undisputable. The manner in which he gave micro-analysis in Harvard style, he also said that he had warned hon. Minister of Finance while speaking over Budget that this budget would be inflationary. He had stated this also that Government had lost control over expansion of M-3 and the monetary and financial equipments and implements and this caused price rise. I want to say in brief that no argument has any relevance in the present situation because the rate of inflation has recently come down. All of us know that price-rise in essential commodities, which we call primary articles raised the rate of inflation for some time. The Prices on general price level did not get affected due to increase in circulation of money, financial sources or management or mismanagement thereof. He has presented his views. All the members as well as myself heard his speech intently. The manner, the

style and the feeling with which he analysed the western economic philosophy, was very much pleasing. But it was totally bookish and based on the Western economic Philosophy. He had used the same language as well as the same phrases. The present situation has nothing to do with it. I want to stress this point because except those essential commodities the prices of not a single item did not rise. Neither the prices of regulated products nor the prices of Government Controlled products like petroleum products rose. The price-rise has been nominal. Thus, there was no effect on the general prices level. The analysis he made has nothing to do with the present context to prove it, I would like to say that prices of essential commodities have not risen, except those of green vegetables, potato and onion and mustard oil in edible oils and there have been specific reasons for it. I would like to mention them. Onion was on the forefront in vegetables.

Prices of Arhar and Urad among pulse have increased...*(Interruptions)* There is nothing to conceal about it. Everybody knows it. In this matter, the onion led and as the hon'ble Prime Minister said that onion does not only bring tears to the eyes of housewives but it also affects the politics. It sometime wake their vision too, nuclear and we had to pay for it. I do not know as to whether it was our fault or not but the common man took it as mistake committed on our part. I would like to say in brief that the prices of mustard oil have increased but one reason for it was the dropsy. The supply of mustard oil was reduced due to the adulteration of Argimon, with the mustard oil...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under which rule are you on a point of order?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Madam Chairperson, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please quote the rule.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I need not say under which rule I am on a point of order. You may hear me and decide whatever you want...*(Interruptions)* I do agree that the Minister can intervene at any stage to clarify a particular question. Here, the hon. Minister has been speaking for a long time. What is the purpose of the intervention? I am not able to understand it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order in this.

*(Interruptions)*



SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : These are matters to be dealt with at the time of reply. If in the course of the discussion there is something misleading, he can clarify but not give a long speech...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Radhakrishnan, there is no point of order.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : He has to reply at the end of the discussion. We are creating a bad precedent. This is not correct...*(Interruptions)* He is replying for the sake of some other purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : He can clarify a particular situation. He can give an *ad hoc* reply but not a lengthy reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please take your seats. There is no point of order.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sompal, please make a brief statement.

*[Translation]*

Now you speak.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMPAL : When you would be silent...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You, please continue. Do not wait for him.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMPAL : You may recall it that this disease which is called 'Dropsy' is caused by adulteration poisonous seed, Argimon, sometimes, it may bring misfortune. The members, whose occupations are farming, know this factor...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The hon. Minister is referring to a matter raised quite some time back. Shri P. Chidambaram spoke three days ago.

SHRIMA! GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I do not know how the oil prices have increased...*(Interruptions)* After the dropsy deaths, people have stopped taking mustard oil but the prices have gone up...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Shri Chidambaram spoke three days ago...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMPAL : Please calm down. First, order has to be restored.

Unnecessary intervention is a problem that he has...*(Interruptions)* He has been a Speaker of an Assembly and he sees a point of order in everything, whether it is there or not. That is the problem ...*(Interruptions)* He seems to be suffering from a 'point of order' syndrome.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Shri Chidambaram spoke three days ago. You could not intervene then. You are intervening now, three days after he delivered his speech. Is it Parliamentary? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMPAL : I have been allowed by the Chair.

Madam, you have allowed me...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, I want to say that because of that problem, wherein some anti-social elements did such type of...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Madam, please restore order first. Then only I can speak, otherwise, I cannot. This is not the way. I never intervened when they spoke...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please keep quiet.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : There is a tradition in this House that any Minister, on behalf of the Government, can intervene. Let us maintain that tradition. Now, Shri Sompal, is speaking on behalf of the Government; let him speak. We have such a tradition...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Radhakrishnan, you had been a Speaker yourself, why are you saying like that?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : There is such a tradition. He can intervene...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Premchandran, you have to address the Chair and not another Member.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : He is doing it for a different purpose. We are here to participate in

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\* Not Recorded.

this discussion. He is replying. This is a clear-cut reply. He is replying to each and every word of what is said here. This is not fair...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. Shri Premchandran, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Madam, you are creating a bad precedent...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. Please sit down.

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, it is an established norm in the House that a Member or a Minister cannot be asked a reply in a certain way which the other Members like.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sompal, please address the Chair.

SHRI SOMPAL : I am addressing you only, Madam...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. Please do not waste the time of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, I want to say that because of this incident for some time there was shortage in supply and rise in prices. Thereafter, we took some administrative measures so that this kind of incident should not be repeated. A network of test laboratories was set up in the entire country. Their technical capacities were upgraded. Prior to that it was decided that the edible oil will be sold only in a sealed packing and will bear the 'tested' label pasted on it. Considering the limitations and problems being faced by the rural industries the states were exempted for giving relaxations in this regard.

Madam, now I would like to say something about vegetables...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : When dropsy incidents of occurred, the price of mustard oil was Rs. 35 in Delhi.

[English]

After that, it has gone up to Rs. 65 or Rs. 70. Now, it is selling at Rs. 60. Why is it so?

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, I am reiterating that it was a casual increase. There was a real shortage of mustard in the last crop and this shortage would continue for some more days. Now, the mustard oil is being sold at the rate of Rs. 57 per litre. Through NDDDB and other outlets. Its price has lowered down.

As far as the pulses are concerned ... (Interruptions) I am unable to respond to the questions raised by hon. Members separately. This is your responsibility to check them. My time is being wasted... (Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We are not asking for a reply. I want to say only one word. Hon. Minister said that after the dropsy incidents, the price came down. But it is not a fact... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, you have made your point.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Before dropsy incidents, it was selling at Rs. 35; after dropsy incidents, it was selling at 80. Now, it has come down to Rs. 60 or Rs. 65 in Delhi. Please find it out... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sompal, how much more time do you want?

SHRI SOMPAL : I need another ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you need another ten minutes? Can you not do it in five minutes?... (Interruptions) Please let him finish.

SHRI SOMPAL : I have given in writing asking for fifteen minutes. In that, five minutes have been wasted.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Madam, we could like to hear his voice, and so, we want him to continue for a longer time!

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, after that edible oils were imported and import duty was also lowered and this was kept under Open General Licence category. Simultaneously, sufficient quantity was made available to the consumers through the Public distribution system. Edible oil like Palmolen was imported. I want to state that both these measures were taken in this regard.

Amongst the pulses the price of Arhar increased. You are aware that due to bad weather and unseasonal rain, crops were damaged and prices were increased. Only one view of Chidambaramji can be applied here - the basic principle of general economics, i.e. where there is scarcity, there is price rise. To prevent the situation getting worse, the Government have taken necessary steps.

As far as the question of natural calamities is concerned, the House is aware that it started raining

[Shri Sompal]

on 27th May and till 24th July it rained heavily. I was on a tour to north eastern states in those days, and there was not a single day when it did not rain heavily. The seventeen tributaries of the Brahmaputra river were flowing above their level. The situation has been the same in North Bihar, the four parts of eastern Uttar Pradesh. In Maharashtra, Karnataka and later on in North India on the occasion of Diwali...*(Interruptions)* You are such a senior member, interrupting in between...*(Interruptions)*

17.00 hrs.

[English]

Shri E. Ahmed, I have never expected this at least from you. I have never interrupted you.

Madam, I want to say that at the time of Diwali, it rained for nine days in Maharashtra. It is unprecedented in the history of hundred years. Then it seems that due to the clouds that overcast the sky for 16 days the onion crop reduced down from 13 lakh ton to 8 lakh ton and it further got delayed for 26 days to come in the open market, because of which the prices rose. Even then we decided to import onions. Even this fact is to be acknowledged that, in no part of the world that quality of onion could be found on such a large scale that would meet the demands of the people of the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Then why you were exporting it?

SHRI SOMPAL : Shri Pilotji, we exported because had we not done so the farmer would not have got even a single penny and we exported whatever had been decided in advance. And then as soon as he come to know about meeting the problem of shortage we banned the export...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Mr. Minister, at that time it was available in India. You exported it. You exported 17,000 tonnes onions in August and September, 98.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : You must be remembering that near Diwali, in one day 5 lakh 54 thousand cussac water was released from the Tajewala Headwork from where Western Yamuna and Eastern Yamuna canal system emerge and after two days from Tajewala to Allahabad both the banks of Yamuna, where vegetable are grown on a large area and the main supply comes...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : Madam, this is not at all convincing.

SHRI SOMPAL : You can say so when you get a chance to speak. I have never interrupted you. This is not the way...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sompalji, please address me.

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, how can I speak like this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not listen to others and please conclude.

SHRI SOMPAL : I want to say that vegetables grown in 927 km of yamuna river bed had been damaged within two days, Rajesh Ji knows that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : Madam, please give me time to speak, if you want I will sit down...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

If this is so, I will not speak. All my time is being wasted. I am sorry in this atmosphere nobody can speak.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You continue, interruptions do happen. You go on, nothing to worry.

[English]

SHRI SOMPAL : How can I speak unless I am allowed to speak? All the time I had been interrupted. This is not my responsibility.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It goes on. You should continue.

[English]

Shri Jalappa, you yourself were a minister. Nothing that he speaks will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

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\* Not Recorded.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want that the time should not be wasted then let the Minister conclude his speech peacefully.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit in brief that it was an unexpected situation which the nation had to bear due to which there was a shortage of perishable commodities particularly vegetables. I will conclude with two-three points regarding the measures adopted by us in this regard. First, we established an ultra modern centre for nation wide crop forecast at the Ministry of Agriculture so that we could be more accurate while assessing such situation and thus more realistic picture could be presented before the nation. Secondly, one price-monitoring cell was also established for price-monitoring under the cabinet secretary and other under the Ministry of Agriculture where the major Mandis of the country will be connected with computer and the prices of daily uses commodities will be monitored. Thirdly, we are going to create an information network for getting the reliable information about the stocks. For vegetables and perishable commodities in rural areas, a long term scheme has been prepared to set up a Mandi for every 20-25 villages for adequate marketing. A scheme has been formulated to set up a chain of cold storages and upgraded storage facilities so that goods like onions and potatoes could be stored for more than one crop season. The Central Government will provide 50% of amount as a grant for setting up a cold storage of two thousand tonne capacity in every block. A chain of cold storage will be established in all over the country. We are streamlining the system of loan so that the farmers can store their crops in licenced godowns and can get loans from banks in lieu of their storage receipts thus they should not be forced the distress sale at the time of harvest and later on consumers could get them at reasonable prices whenever required. Similarly steps have been taken to strengthen cooperative movement so that it can become more competent and able. Our Ministry is making the cooperative movement more competent and able after talking to State Governments so that to check the tendency of profitmaking by middle men and to establish direct link between producer and customer

So far, Agriculture Produces Marketing Act is not being implemented properly. There is provision therein for open auction. Everywhere steps are being taken to ensure that it is properly implemented. Mandi tax and other taxes also affect the prices. It will be solved through discussion amongst state governments and their Chief Ministers. Agriculture ministers and finance ministers. Recently on 27th of

the last month, hon'ble Prime Minister had called a meeting of Chief Ministers. In that meeting it has been agreed that no State will not put any type, would put a ban on the transportation of agricultural goods so that the producer and consumer could not be harmed. Similarly the streamlining of multiplicity of taxes is also being done.

Similarly we are going to set up a seed bank at the national level. This is an important matter. The agriculture-scientists have developed a new technology in respect of potatoes where the storage can be made not in the form of potatoes but in the form of foodgrain. Arrangements are being made so that we have sufficient seeds of vegetables for the next two years. We will have that sufficient stock so that at the event of any such eventuality there are no shortage of demand in future.

Likewise, the facility of intervention is being provided to NAFED, other agencies and all the State Governments on the basis of 50-50 percent contribution. As far as the edible oils and pulses are concerned, appropriate policy is being formulated for their import and for growing these. Whenever these decisions would be taken in future, these would be taken after due consultation with all Ministers and the Chief Ministers of the States concerned. Likewise as far as the minimum support price is concerned we are making efforts to link it with onion and potato so that the economy can be provided stability. In the technical field the government is going to make arrangements to provide new seeds and the high yield variety seeds to the farmers. They would be given timely inputs and at reasonable prices and they would be taught new crop practice and post harvest technology to stop 30 to 40 percent loss of fruits and vegetables. With these words I would like to thank you and the hon. Members also who have interrupted time and again.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Berhampur) (Orissa) : Madam, thank you very much that you have given me a chance. The common men across the length and breadth of the country have been severely burdened with the increase in prices...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : You should have replied to all the Members.

SHRI SOMPAL : I do not understand what is the meaning of your intervention...(Interruptions) This is not becoming of you. You are a senior Member and we all respect you...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : You are creating a very bad precedent...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMPAL : I can speak at the top of my voice and louder than you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Madam, besides, in the States having high incidence of poverty, the effect of price rise have been more distressing. Especially, the common house wife does not know the economic jargon. All she understands is that while the income remains more or less at the last year's level, the trip to the market is more taxing on the purse now. The main reason for the price rise is that there is a wide gap between the wholesale and retail prices. The causes being attributed to the price rise are (i) shortfall in production due to the unfavourable weather; (ii) export of all these commodities, mainly, onion; (iii) the devaluation of rupee leading to higher cost of imported oil and pulse; and (iv) hoarding and speculative prices by traders.

Madam, one more thing that I have to tell is that the existing forecasting mechanism has totally failed in anticipating these shortages. Even as late as in September, 1998 the bumper kharif onion crop was forecast and the consequent return to the normalcy was expected. The prime responsibility for the national level forecasting lies with the Union Government who have the overall picture of the production at various stages in different States. But this has not been looked into by the Government.

The status of import and export at the national consumption requirement which leads to accurate and more reliable forecast has also not been managed by the Government.

We have seen that leaving essential commodities to the vagaries of market forces of demand and supply leads definitely to price rise. public distribution system has a definite policy for market intervention in rice, wheat and sugar. So, there is a need for the Government policy supported by legislation and infrastructure for management of these commodities. All these should be managed by a designated agency who can handle the procurement and marketing of these commodities. This designated agency should be controlled and funded by the Union Government and the State Government should accord cooperation and coordination through the identified State Government undertakings for managing the State level distribution.

There is a serious allegation that wholesalers and traders—by way of hoarding and speculation—are primarily responsible for the price rise and much has been said about the Essential Commodities Act. So, hoarding must be checked and stringent action must be taken against the hoarders.

There is also price rise at the major centres of cultivation and production and it becomes

exceedingly difficult for the consuming States to control the prices of those commodities which are imported from other States. The Government should ensure free movement of all essential commodities into the State and also ensure that wholesalers and traders keep their profit margin to the minimum. The Government should ensure that the Government undertakings and cooperatives — the Minister has said just now — should enter the market and sell all the essential commodities without profit. It should also take stringent steps black-marketeers and hoarders.

The pre-fixation of prices of free trade commodities under the Essential Commodities Act should be made more effective. To make it more effective, price fixation needs to be done at the centres of the cultivation, production and wholesale trade and on this basis, the consuming States should fix the price giving all allowance for transportation, handling, storage and trade management. The Government should also seriously consider fixing a minimum support price for protecting the farmers as well as giving maximum sale price to protect the consumers against the price rise.

The Minister has already said about the high fluctuation in the price of vegetables which is a matter of great concern to all of us because the vegetables have become an essential part of the common man's diet. Different vegetables grow in different seasons. During off season, to get the vegetables, one has to depend on the neighbouring States. But the vegetables that are grown during season should be preserved for the rest of the year and for this, we do not have any facility for cold storage. Appropriate technology should be developed to store vegetables in small cold storages. Liberal subsidies should be provided to develop cold chain infrastructure linking vegetable-producing areas of one State to another State for export of vegetables. The subsidies available from the National Horticulture Board and the Ministry of Food Processing are difficult to assess. The NCDC scheme of cold storage has a very high cost of borrowing. These scheme should carry concessional rate of interest for poorer States having inadequate infrastructure. We strongly urge upon the Government to take up necessary short-term, as well as long-term measures to control the present price situation as well as to prevent the recurrence.

The prices are pushed up because of the mismanagement in economy by the Government. There is a huge laxity on the part of the Government. The Government should wake up now — we have already heard from the Agriculture Minister — and the Government should take urgent steps in this regard. We know that the Government has exploded a nuclear bomb but it has failed complete to curb the price explosion.

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasofe) : The hoarders should be taken into custody. How many hoarders and blackmarketers have been arrested in Orissa? Would Atal Bihari Vajapayee Ji send army there?...*(Interruptions)* They say that it should be done but who will do so...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Madam Chairperson, during the last few months, there has been an upward of prices of all essential commodities particularly of oil, pulses, rice, onions and other vegetables. The problem was faced by all the people of India particularly, the poor people. We should all feel sorry for this sorrowful plight of the common man. The reasons are many. Its effect on the poor man's suffering is very large.

In the last Session, on July 9th, in this very House, we had discussed this subject elaborately. The leaders of various political parties had mentioned about so many problems. They suggested so many measures to control the price rise. But the Government of India had failed to control the price rise. If the demand and supply is equal, then there is no need to discuss this issue here. If there are multiple problems, the Government must control the situation. The problem may be nature-made or man-made or it may be due to inflation or the decreasing value of the rupee. Whatever it may be, the Government must control it. The Government must take steps to control the price rise.

There is another aspect. I think there is no coordination among the Ministers. We are aware of it. We have seen it in the newspapers. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Civil Supplies told the Government that due to heavy rains and severe heat, the entire onion crop has been spoiled. But in this particular period, the Ministry of Commerce has exported two lakh tonnes of onions to other countries. So, there is lack of coordination. It is a failure of the Government.

During the recent elections, when the exit-poll people surveyed the entire country and asked the people what was the main issue during the election, 65 per cent of the voters said that it was price rise. In India, 70 per cent people are living in the villages. In some States 36 per cent people and in some other States about 50 per cent people live below the poverty line. These people will get rupees thirty or fifty or even one hundred as wages. With the meagre wages, how is it possible for them to purchase all the essential commodities? Of course, in so many areas, we have achieved results. But in respect of providing essential commodities at cheaper rates, we failed. Just now, even the hon. Minister has also

said that the Government did a wrong thing and that is why people have this judgement.

Then, there is no mechanism to make forecasts in respect of demand and supply. During the last fifty years of India's Independence, there is no mechanism for making such a forecast. Every year, heavy rains in some areas spoil the crop. In some other areas, floods spoil the crop. Yet in some other areas, drought spoil the crop. Taking into consideration all these factors, there must be a mechanism for forecast what is the demand and supply position in this country. If the demand is going to be on the higher side, the Government must make a calculation as to how much import should be made. That is the job of the Minister. The bureaucrats and so many people are there in the Ministry without doing all these things. Therefore, in my view, the Government must take the responsibility in this respect.

For the price rise, so many factors are there. Decline in production, scarcity situation and even hoarding and trading by middlemen are some of the important factors. There is no timely market intervention. There is mischief and manipulation by the entrepreneurs and traders. So, all these are the causes for the prices rise. Further, at time, people also become very panicky due to rumours. Madam, you are aware of this recently in respect of salt. Actually, there is no shortage of salt in India. But due to the panicky situation created by the hoarders and blackmarketeers, the price of one kilogram of salt was raised to Rs. 60. There was no truth in the rumour. But due to the panicky situation prevailed in the country, the hoarders and blackmarketeers created this type of rumour. If such a situation is created, naturally the prices will increase. So, the Government must take all the necessary steps to ensure price stability. Even the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is very stringent Act. If we want to control all these things, we must add some strict provisions in the Act. We should not water down the legislation.

In this connection, I appreciate the Food and Civil Supplies Minister for one thing. He made a statement in this House saying that he would bring forward the legislation with good amendments and with stringent provisions also. For that, I appreciate our Food and Civil Supplies Minister.

I want to give you an example. My Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu has taken a lot of steps to control the situation. Due to the Market Intervention Scheme, the prices are a little bit less in Andhra Pradesh...*(Interruptions)* I am not misleading the House. If you see the *India Today*, you will come to know of it. Madam, you are aware that the *India Today* made a survey in the whole country regarding

[Shri K. Yerrannaidu]

the price situation and everything. After the survey, it published a report in the *India Today* saying that in Andhra Pradesh, the prices are a little bit less, comparing the whole of the country. The reason is that we have taken a lot of steps. We have got the Market Intervention Scheme. We purchased chillies.

When everywhere chillies are sold at Rs. 70, in Andhra Pradesh, through Fair Price Shops and Super Bazar, we sold chillies at Rs. 35. Same is the case with oil and other items. We procured from everywhere the available products and then sold the same through the Fair Price Shops and Super Bazar to the poor people. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had introduced Market Intervention Scheme. We provided Rs. 100 crore for this scheme. We purchased excess essential commodities in bulk in the lean season and stored the same in the godowns. During the peak season when the market was very tight, we released those stocks. In this way, we reduced the prices of essential commodities in Andhra Pradesh.

The States cannot alone control the price rise. Centre's intervention and support is also required to control the prices of essential commodities. Kumari Mamata Banerjee has also requested the Prime Minister to immediately convene the Chief Ministers' Conference. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had also written a letter to the Prime Minister for immediately convening the Chief Ministers' conference. The Central Government must have convened the Conference of Chief Ministers one month before or the Central Government must take some steps to bring down the prices. But after the elections, they convened the Chief Ministers' conference. It is the responsibility of both the Centre and the States to control the price rise. Under the Essential Commodities Act, the Centre made provisions but it is the responsibility of both the States and the Centre to implement the Act. That is why, the Government of Andhra Pradesh have taken the responsibility to reduce the prices of essential commodities. If we follow the procedures adopted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, we can reduce the prices of essential commodities all over the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH (Narasaraopet) : I am seeking your permission to ask a question ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : If he wants to speak, he can speak later...*(Interruptions)* Both of them served as MLAs in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly. They will tell some stories. But, I am speaking the reality.

DR. RAVI MALLU (Nagar Kurnool) : We are also elected from Andhra Pradesh. We know at what prices you are selling in Andhra Pradesh ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH : I seek a small clarification from my friend.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you yielding, Shri Yerrannaidu?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : If you allow him, I will yield...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can make your point when your turn comes.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Last year, in Andhra Pradesh, due to adverse seasonal conditions, there was a fall in production of essential commodities, especially of foodgrains. There was a shortage of 27 lakh tonnes of rice production, 8.62 lakh tonnes of groundnut, 2.58 lakh tonnes of chillies and 1.07 lakh tonnes of greengram. Due to pests also, the production of essential commodities had come down. But the State Government has taken effective steps earlier. The Chief Minister has just now announced a State level Coordination Committee. At the Chief Minister's level, there is a Committee. At the Cabinet Secretary level, there is a Committee. We have constituted a State level Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary. We have constituted a Prices Coordination Committee with traders and officials. We have constituted a District level Committee with Collectors. We have also set up a State Prices Monitoring Cell and a Task Force Cell. With all these continued monitoring, we reduced the prices of essential commodities in Andhra Pradesh. It is very difficult to control the prices with the powers vested with the States Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : The whole country is appreciating the efforts taken by the Andhra Pradesh Government...*(Interruptions)* During the eight months of the current year, 2700 cases were booked against hoarders and blackmarketees and Rs. 50 crore worth of commodities were seized...*(Interruptions)*  
[Translation]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : Madam Chairman, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yerrannaidu ji, please take your seat. Shri Vora ji is on a point of order. Vora ji under which rule is your point of order?

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Madam Chairman, my friend...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

He is on a point of order.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Madam Chairman, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what Rule?

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : I am raising a point of order under Rule 376.

Madam, my friend Shri Yerrannaidu is speaking about the price situation in Andhra Pradesh. We are discussing the rise in prices of essential commodities in the country. I do not know why he is referring only to steps taken by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Are we discussing about prices in Andhra Pradesh? You have to clarify this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right. There is no point of order.

Shri Yerrannaidu, please conclude now.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Madam, I will conclude within two or three minutes.

Madam, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken various steps to control the prices of essential commodities there and succeeded in reducing the prices. That is why, I want to make a comparison here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : When we are speaking, we are not at all discussing about the price situation in Madhya Pradesh or Andhra Pradesh. We are speaking about the price situation in the whole country. We are discussing about the total failure of the Central Government to control the rise in prices of essential commodities...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever they say will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Yerrannaidu, please conclude now.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Madam, due to the steps taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, rise in prices could be controlled there. I would request the Central Government also to take all these steps to control the rise in prices of essential commodities. So, I would like to make a few suggestions to the Government for this purpose.

A Central Price Monitoring Cell comprising the representatives of the State and Union Governments should be immediately formed to provide advance information about demand, production of various food crops, cereals in the country and the world alongwith wholesale and retail prices. Then, effects of natural disasters like flood, cyclone, drought etc. on the production have to be factored.

Madam, in a small State like Andhra Pradesh, we are collecting information from 100 places to monitor the price situation. In one district the price of chilli may be Rs. 35 per kilogram and in another district it may be Rs. 75 per kilogram. But we are collecting information from all the districts and streamlining the prices. So, I would request the Central Government also to take such steps to control the prices.

Then, the price trends of various commodities, particularly those items which are normally used by the common man and poorer sections of the society should be collected and disseminated throughout the country.

The Central Price Monitoring Cell should be entrusted with the responsibility of collection dissemination of market intelligence, advance information about crop production and prices of various crops throughout the country and the world.

The State Governments should be informed about the price mechanism so that farmers could divert from one crop to other for getting better monetary benefit.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Madam, is he reading?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : I am giving suggestions to the Government.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Madam, he is a senior Parliamentarian. He should not read his speech like this.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : I am aged about 40 years and my experience in Parliament is only two-and-a-half years...*(Interruptions)* I am explaining as to how we could control the prices in our State. The same thing can apply to the whole of the country.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Why do you not advise Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Madam, I would make only one more suggestion.

The Government should ensure proper coordination between Ministers of Agriculture, Food and Civil Supplies and Commerce and avoid working at cross purposes. There should be a built-in mechanism to provide incentives as well as minimum price for those crops, including cereals, pulses and

\* Not Recorded.



[Shri K. Yerrannaidu]

vegetables, where reduction in the area and yield are noticed. The Government should provide necessary input subsidies at a minimum level of 50 per cent. This will encourage production of those items which are found to be in short supply.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

DR. RAVI MALLU : Madam, our hon. friend is a part and parcel of the Government. He was speaking about the measures taken by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh here. I would like to know what advice he has given to the Minister of Food and the Prime Minister here. Now, he is shirking from the responsibility...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : No, no...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You need not reply.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right.

DR. RAVI MALLU : They were a part and parcel of the Government. He would have given an advice to the Government...*(Interruptions)* He is not in the Opposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is enough.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down. This is too much.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Rajveer Singh will speak.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am asking Shri Ravi Malluji that Shri Naidu is not delivering the speech, I am his friend, please listen to me.

The discussion here is going on the issue of price rise and the point of discussion is that the Government should be put into dock by hook or crook. Shri Rajesh Pilot is our friend, I was going through his speech day before yesterday. He delivered a wonderful speech and told that flour is being sold at Rs. 16 per kg. I don't know whether he was quoting the rates there at the United States or that in India. India as even this rate is not prevalent in Delhi, at present I buy flour daily in Delhi, therefore I am saying it. Sometimes the opposition are required to present a distorted version of the facts ...*(Interruptions)* Certainly, we were also in the

opposition and sat beside you. We learnt what you taught us. I was referring to the factors that created this problem. Problems may crop up in future too. These sort of problems can come up against any Governments in future. The Natural Calamities can occur any time. Whether those who ran this country in the last 50 year, ever paid any attention towards these problems? It is not the first time that the prices have roared. The prices have gone up under the Congress rule as well as others. Now I am able to recall...*(Interruptions)* Shri Voraji you are very senior colleague and why are you confronting us juniors. May be the issue of the pricerise is agitating you also. I would say that the prices had gone up to the extent that it reflected in the filmy songs of those days. 'Baki Jo Bacha Tha, Woh Menh gayi Mar Gai' which means remaining comforts have been snatched away by the pricerise. Such an extraordinary pricerise had also occurred that such songs were sung that time sing. Film Actresses also faced the brunt of the pricerise and Mr. Murli Deora who resides in Mumbai must be suffering more. I would like to state as to why the prices soared and who is responsible. Elections are held for five years. You people proved so inefficient that you could not run the government for full term of five years after 1996.

As many as six elections have been held in the last five years. If by elections are held frequently, State assembly elections were held in Uttar Pradesh, Parliamentary elections were held there and all know that black money plays it role in the elections. Legislative Assembly as well as Lok Sabha were held in the Uttar Pradesh and everyone is very well conversent with the fact that the black money works in the elections when the black money comes in the market, then the prices of everything would certainly go up. The prices for each commodity will go up. The scarcity of Potatoes and Onions is due to the natural calamity. I have a suggestion for the congressmen to build a temple of onions at their doors, because the Congress Party, got lease twice from onions, in the year 1980 and 1998...*(Interruptions)* At times it happens just opposite. I would like to tell you people that you should not feel overenthusiastic with the results of these three states, because I must remind you that in the year 1967, when Mrs. Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, the Congress Party was ruling, and in the state assembly elections in 1967 from Calcutta to Amritsar, the Congress Party was swept away and in this year 1971, when the elections were held, the Congress Party rejoined home with majority in the Lok Sabha. The State assembly elections did not pose any threat to the Centre.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Mumbai South) : Then, congratulations to you.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Shri Deora, please listen to me. I would like to say that you should not feel unduly excused with these elections because your party would be swept away in the Lok Sabha elections. You just forget about these three states i.e. Delhi, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMED (Madhubani) : You would know when the reality comes before you.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Shri Shakeel Sahib, please sit down. You came here on the money of Shri Lalu and now daring to speak before us.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Your party lost in these three states.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rajveer Singh, you must address the Chair.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : The prices of Potatoes and Onions were going up in the year 1996 and 1997, when our party was not in the Power. That time, Potatoes got rotten in the fields as there was no space in the cold stores. The Potato growers were crying. They were suffering a lot. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad was the Minister that time, he did not attempt to provide any relief to the Potato growers. As a result of which, the Potato growers did not sow onions and potatoes next time. It has created shortage in the market. Therefore, we need to consider it seriously. I want to discuss this matter cutting across party lines.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur) : Are you doing the same?

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Yes Sir, I am doing the same, but you please listen to me. Unless we take some steps in our agriculture sector in the country, the situation would remain the same. At times, sugarcane is burnt in the fields. Just two years before, it was burnt. At times wheat gets rotten in the fields, and at times there is excess of rise in the market. This is a chronic problem of the farmers. Last time they sowed 'Maitha' instead of potato and onion. 'Maitha' is used for proding oil. They thought that since the oil is fetching a good price in the market they would get good price for the 'Maitha'. But the price of 'Maitha' fell suddenly, resulting in a huge stock of 'Maitha' lying unused. It is in this way that the farmers are doubly punished. You are always worried as to how to catch more and more votes and not at all worried and not paying any attention towards the problems of the farmers. I would like to suggest a way out that all the political parties should sit together and find out the crux of the problem and how it can be solved. We have to make a planning in this regard and have to conduct a survey across the country to assess the requirement of oil, flour and sugarcane etc. Production must keep pace with the requirement. The farmers will have to remain

alert about it. Then neither the consumer nor the producer will be affected. If we go into the basic reason of the pricerise, we find that both the producer and the consumer are affected by it. The consumer is suffering due to lack of planning only. The Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is not responsible for it nor are Shri Barnala and Sompal are responsible for it because their government came to power hardly six months back. This has all happened due to wrong policies framed by you.

In 1951, the industrial policy was framed and implemented. Today we are in the year of 1998, but the agriculture policy has not been announced so far. Now Shri Sompal is going to announce the agriculture policy, you should understand this bitter experience. Who is responsible for it? Why has the agriculture policy not been announced? Even though a long debate was held for framing an agriculture policy in the House from 1991 to 1996 but it was never implemented. Shri Pilot might recollect that the draft for the same was once prepared unanimously when Shri Jakhar was the Minister and you were in power and we were in the opposition but that draft was also put in the cold storage. Therefore, we must pay attention towards all these things.

Just now, a madam who has also been a Chief Minister earlier has alleged that there has been a bungling in the import. When I told her that charges also levelled against her earlier, she replied that levelling charges is an easy job. I further asked her she was also accusing in the same spirit?

I will not take much time. She levelled an allegation and I thought it proper to give a reply. She had said that the Government of Uttar Pradesh had gone bankrupt. The development works of Government of Uttar Pradesh have discontinued. If I do not say anything I will be doing injustice to the State of Uttar Pradesh. I can proudly say that such a large number of cases pertaining to development have never been undertaken in Uttar Pradesh during the last fifty years as has been undertaken during this year...*(Interruptions)* When I say fifty years, why does it sound bad to you?...*(Interruptions)* Should I say five years? Should I refer the period when you were out of power? I can say whatever you want. Should I say that? Hon. Motilal Vora has been Governor of Uttar Pradesh, he knows how much Uttar Pradesh has been neglected during the last fifty years. He is well aware of the situation prevailing there and therefore is a witness to it. Today the Government of Uttar Pradesh has taken a major decision that no village having population of one thousand will be left without any metalled road. We are going to connect every village by road. We have started work in this regard. The situation in Uttar Pradesh is that the number of agencies working in this regard have decreased, the bricks have become costly and there is paucity of material. So many

[Shri Rajveer Singh]

development works have started under my Local Area Development Fund...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Which year's census have you taken?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : I have taken 1991 census...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Why do you mislead this country?...(Interruptions) the population of one thousand in 1991 has gone up to five thousand today...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : It is not so...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I am telling you...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : The way the population has increased in the cities, it is not so in the villages...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You take 1996 census. Why do you take 1991 census?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : The population in the village has decreased, not increased. All are running towards the cities.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : In Kalyan Singh's rule, rural population has gone down.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Shri Jogi Ji, not in Kalyan Singh's rule, rather it is the result of your long rule wherein no development took place in villages, no water, irrigation, and educational facilities were provided in the rural areas which has led to the exodus of village population to urban areas...(Interruptions) This has led to raising of J.J. Clusters in Delhi and Mumbai. This has also caused problems in Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Calcutta. Had you provided these basic facilities in the villages, villages would not have fled to cities. Those things need to be attended to. This is not something for anyone to feel ill. Through you, it is my earnest request to the Government that the problem of price rise is bound to flare up as our colleagues are out to aggravate it. It is very painful to see the people sitting on the other side repeating in one voice.

I had read a Panchatantra story of Sanskrit in my Childhood. I would like to narrate it. Once a priest visited his *Yajman's* home on a feast and got a she-calf in donation. As it was a weak and thin, the priest took it on his shoulders and headed towards his home. Some thugs saw him taking a pretty she-calf on the shoulders. They began to think that they should get she-calf by hook or crook...(Interruptions) The thugs asked the priest as to what he was carrying?

SHRI K. BAPIRAJU (Narsapur) : Why are you narrating this story?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : What has happened to him?...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You speak, please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : They asked as to what he was carrying? He replied he was carrying a she-calf which he had got in donation. They all retorted whether he had gone mad as what he was carrying was a puppy. The priest told them gently that rather they had gone mad. But, when as many as six thugs, standing apart were repeating one and something, then...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, if the story remains half told then it may cause semicrasia to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude soon and not leave it half narrated.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : All the thugs, repeated the same...(Interruptions) When all the thugs uttered something then he felt that something was wrong and left leaving the she-calf there...(Interruptions). Likewise, the masses of the country who got the Atal Government in donation and the six-seven thugs who are out to cheat it, are present here in the House...(Interruptions) and are repeatedly saying that it was a puppy...(Interruptions). It said about its impact in two-three states. However, the people have swiftly realised that they made a big mistake. You people got exposed about salt, certain people have been arrested in the Dropsy Case. Despite ample availability of salt, you people tried yourself to create artificial shortage of salt, and give publicity to it...(Interruptions). Whenever other people form a Government at the centre, you people can not digest it. You people oppose us it does not matter but you people toppled Government headed by Shri Devegowda, Shri Gujral and Shri Chandrashekhar...(Interruptions) Nobody is going to believe you. Therefore, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government, perhaps my views may go outside as well through the Media, that people have come to know these imputes and they would never believe them. The price-rise is not a temporary phenomenon and it has always been going up. It has soared several times. In your rule, people did not get wheat even on ration cards, and you people had gone abroad with a begging bowl. Even edible oil was not available in your rule and the society has undergone all these difficulties in your rule...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude now.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Obeying you, I would like to earnestly request that the Government should

check this malicious campaign. The Government should also interact with Media as they presented the picture in a wrong manner because their way of presenting things has also added to the price-rise...*(Interruptions)* For instance, a shopkeeper is being shown on T.V. saying that the onions would be sold Rs. 60/- per kg tomorrow. The newspapers are reporting that even salt would not be available tomorrow. This led the people to go panik and purchase salt in huge quantity.

Therefore, I would like to say through you that the entire situation should be controlled and there should be planning in the agriculture. Unless this planning takes shape, these problems would continue to come to the surface from time to time.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Madam Chairperson, this House is discussing a very serious matter of national concern. And just minutes before, the Minister of Agriculture, in a way of intervention, had been replying to the debate actually. So, we had protested at it, because we are also here to participate in the discussion and especially when the Ministry of Agriculture, is having the prime responsibility in dealing with this matter and there are very big latches on the part of the Ministry of Agriculture he was replying in between the discussion. That is why we had protested at that juncture.

I am not going to repeat the things which have already been mentioned here. While raising a discussion under Rule 193, the hon. Shri Rajesh Pilot had set three criteria for the good governance of the country. The first of that is this, regarding the price-rise. He said that the governance of the Government could be determined by the way or how the Government was able to control the price rise. Because, the Government servants, the middle classes, the working classes of the country are themselves more than 60 per cent of the people of this country. They are mainly depending upon the essential commodities from the consumer market and if a Government which is able to control or regulate the market or the prices of the essential commodities that would go to show the poor governance or bad governance or misgovernance of the country. So, it is a litmus test. The eight months or the nine months governance of the BJP Government in this country, itself is a litmus test how this Government is functioning.

The first point which I would like to highlight is regarding the onions, potatoes, edible oil and all the essential commodities. These are all the symbols of

the governance of this Government. Not only these things alone; there is a big difference between the price rate of the commodities in the market eight months before or nine months before and the price rate now.

The Minister of Agriculture was depending on the climatic conditions. The agricultural production has come down 10 to 15 per cent. What is the rate of increase of price rise? When compared to the decline of the agricultural production and the rate of price rise there is no comparison. So, it is just like a rocket. It is going up just like a rocket.

There is no justification on the part of the Government to say that it is due to lack of agricultural production or because of the reason of the adverse climatic conditions. So, the Government has absolutely failed in controlling the prices, regulating the market and in intervening in the market. This is the thing which has happened.

We in Parliament from the Opposition side had, on the 9th July cautioned the Government that there was scarcity of the products, that there was a decline in the agricultural production, and that they should try to avoid the exports. And it was learnt from the newspapers — whether the Ministry of Agriculture is denying or not — I do not know. I specifically warned not to export onions. Even after the caution, or even after the warning, the Ministry of Agriculture exported onions. In one month 45,000 tonnes of onions were exported. So, what is the foresight of this Government? Also, it is to be seen that the rate of price had gone when they had intervened in the market.

I remember the reply given by the Ministry of Finance on the 9th July. On that day he was saying that this crisis would be over by the end of September. What happened at the end of September? So, it is going on. Only after Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was given a new delegated power as the Chief Ministership of the State of Delhi did the situation improve.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are still about 15 Members who want to speak. I want to seek the opinion of the House. What should we do?

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Please extend the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted was two hours and we have already discussed it for more than six and a half hours.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : That shows the importance of the subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In that case, if you want to discuss it, shall we extend the time of the House by, say, one hour?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Please extend by one hour but on condition that every Member will speak for only six minutes so that all will get an opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is that the mind of the House? Everybody shall adhere to that so that I shall not have to ring the bell.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : You have to ring. Otherwise we will forget the timing.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Shri Reddy, you may say that as a discipline for six minutes. It happens like that all the time at the fag end of the Session. Much of the time is wasted during the day. I have no objection, but you will give me only six minutes now. What has happened to this House? We are wasting the time and then at the fag end of the day, there is no time to express our ideas. This is very unfair. The Presiding Officers must keep the House in order all the time and discipline the House so that no time is wasted. If at the fag end of the day, we have to express our ideas, we shall no time.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Madam Chairperson, practically, all the fifteen Members cannot speak in one hour. It means the Minister will not reply today also. So, if you are really giving chance to everyone, then let it be discussed tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can do one thing. We shall finish the discussion today and the Minister will reply tomorrow. Otherwise there is no end to it.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : You are right, Madam.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, does the House agree to extend the time by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time of the House is extended by one hour and everybody shall adhere to the deadline of five minutes, with one minutes grace. Shri Premachandran, please conclude now.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Madam, it is to be noted that we have collected onions from the farmers at the rate of Rs. 3.12 per kilogram and we have exported 2.05 lakh tonnes of onions from our country. At the same time, we have purchased onions from outside at a higher price. This is nothing but looting, Madam, this is not price rise. So, I would suggest that a Joint Parliamentary Committee be constituted to investigate into these affairs.

There is no coordination between the Ministries also. One Ministry is blaming the other Ministry. The Agriculture Ministry has been cautioned by the Commerce Ministry and the Commerce Ministry is blaming another Ministry. At the same time, NAFED, which is exporting all these things, is blaming all

these three Ministries. So, a Parliamentary Committee has to be constituted in order to investigate into these affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Yes, I am concluding, Madam.

18.02 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Sir, regarding inflation also, this House had cautioned the Finance Ministry during the presentation of the Budget and also afterwards, but the Government has not taken it into consideration. The remedy, I would suggest, is effective Public Distribution System. I am again stressing that when Shri Sompal was replying to the debate, he was saying that it should be discussed beyond political barriers. This cannot be discussed beyond political barriers because this depends upon the political policies of each and every party. What is the policy of the BJP Government regarding TPDS, they have to make it clear. I, on behalf of the LDF Government of Kerala, take it as a challenge. We are not producing the agricultural products. Kerala is only a consumer State. But we are proud to say that we are able to maintain the prices. That means we are able to regulate the market because of the effective functioning of the Public Distribution System which is prevailing in our State. Here, in this case, the Government has miserably failed to control the prices. Even the Finance Minister, while addressing the Confederation of Indian Industry, has said that let the prices be determined by the market and that let it be an open market. That means so intervention by the State or by the Centre. That means this is the policy of this Government. So, the Government has to be blamed for all this. There are strong irregularities in controlling the prices. Also, the hoarders, black-marketeers and profiteers are being benefited for illicit consideration. Hence, I once again say that an investigation by a Joint Parliamentary Committee is necessary.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA (Sirsa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you a lot for giving me time to take part in the discussion. We had read in text books and heard in the discussion that democratic Government is formed for the welfare of the common man. But the situation is totally different today. This Government, to which we are extending support, is looking after the interests of a particular section ignoring common man. What I perceive from the

policies of this Government is, that it is working for the welfare of a particular section. The financial condition of the country is going bad to worse. Common man are troubled due to the sky rocketing prices. If the essential commodities Production, whether it is of agriculture, steel or textile industry is going down, but the Government is busy in showing the dreams to the people of improving the economic conditions by announcing incentive worth thousands, lakhs and crores of rupees for exports and imports keeping in view the interest of a few people of country engaged in foreign trade. Hon'ble Prime Minister himself has accepted it that the economic condition of the country is in bad shape and that they have inherited it. Of course, I do agree that the economic condition of the country is going bad to worst and this Government claim that they have an able leader and I agree with that. Despite that the economic condition of the country has become bad to worse during the last eight to nine months. The prices of food items of daily use have risen. Hon'ble Prime Minister had himself stated on the occasion of Independence day that the prices went high due to bad weather. I think that his argument is altogether baseless.

I have got the datas of Centre For Monitoring of Indian Economy which prove that hon'ble Prime Minister thinking is contrary to it. It has been stated in the report that the export of fresh vegetables has increased 14 percent in the year 1998-99 compared to last year, tea has been exported 71 percent more, 37 percent increase has been registered in export of pulses and export of Non-Basmati rice increased by 76 percent. The export of Non-Basmati rice which is the food of common man in the country would be increased and prices of rice would go high due to resultant shortage in supply thereof as compared to its demand in domestic market. Can weather be held responsible for it?

India ranks first or second in the world in production of vegetables, however, this quantity falls short of the demand in the country 25 to 40 percent vegetables get perished. Out of the remaining sixty percent vegetable 14 percent more vegetables were exported to the foreign countries in comparison to the exports made last year as a result of adopting the export promotion policy by the Government. so, wouldn't there be a shortage in the domestic market? And if there is a shortage in the market, the prices are bound to go up. Therefore, putting the blame on weather is a mere deception. Perhaps, Vajpayeeji is forgetting that farmer grows vegetable on the land where there is adequate availability of water. The farmer of the country never depends upon rains for growing vegetables. Therefore, the impact of bad weather is negligible on production of vegetables. The rise in the consumer price of pulses in the country is mainly due to the exim policy of the

Government. It is, therefore, not fair to blame the nature for the bad intentions and wrong policies.

I strongly feel that alongwith the bad condition of the country's economy, the safety of common man in the country is also in peril. The Prime Minister has very recently announced two economic policies to contain deteriorating economic conditions. One committee each has been constituted under both these economic policies. One Committee comprises of ten members who have served on higher Government posts in some or the other capacity. Important among them are Shri P.N. Dhar, Shri Ashok Desai, Shri Kirit Parekh, Shri I.G. Patel, Sardar M.S. Ahluwalia and others. The second committee is a twelve member committee comprising of big industrialists of the country Shri Ratan Tata, Shri R.P. Goenka, Shri Kumar Mangalam Birla, Shri Nusli Wadia, Shri Mukesh Ambani and others. Both these committees have been entrusted responsibilities in different areas. One will give its suggestions for formulating economic policy and the other will submit its recommendations for the development of trade and industry in the country. There are noted financial experts in the Council for giving suggestions regarding formulation of economic policy. These experts have been participating in some capacity or other in formulation and implementation of country's economic policy so far and it can categorically be stated that to an extent these financial experts are also responsible for the present economic condition of the country. The gap between the poor and the rich is widening even after the implementation of eight Five Year Plan. The Unemployment is increasing despite of Government's claim and assurances. The nation is being burdened by foreign debt. Despite increase in the production every year a major share of it is being utilised for payment of debts and interests. The country is not progressing as a result thereof.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, second lobby is that of big industrial houses who so far have been advising and recommending the Government on policy matter and have been sending demands through FICCI, CII and several organisations of the industrialists related to several chamber of commerce and trade, on the basis of that the Government have also announced concessions worth crores of rupees but the stability has not so far been achieved by the trade and industries of the country. These industrialist had accumulated Rs. 14,275 crores from the people of the country during 1996-97.

MR. CHAIRMAN : O.K. please conclude now.

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : Sir, I am speaking for the first time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, lay the papers on the table.

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : Sir, it is incomplete, I want to add something in it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude in one minute

So far economy of the country is being run on these suggestions and recommendations where as our economy agro based.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should be brief, while speaking for the first time.

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : All right, The 70% population of the country is dependent on agriculture sector. The Committees which have been set up are consisting industrialists and cabitalists who do not know about agriculture. The farmers have been neglected in the past, also. In brief I would like to say and suggest that today the Government should remove the difficulties and problems of agriculture sector. Even agriculture is being carried out on large scale and traditionally but Indian agriculture is lagging behind in the world because Government have not provided the basic facilities which are required during past years. The first and the foremost priority of the Government should be to take effective steps for the development of agriculture. For this I have the following suggetions :-

1. To improve the quality of agricultural products.
2. To improve the rate of agricultural products besides agricultural production.
3. To break up and to abolish the present chain of middleman between the producer and the consumer for the sale of agriculture products.
4. To make the produce of small and marginal farmers profitable.
5. To set up system for the benefit of agricultural producers through the policy of liberalisation and globalisation in the country.
6. To make time bound effective scheme for making the more surplus land fertile lying useless than the land under cultivation.
7. To reduce the cost of production of agricultural products.
8. To free the agricultural irrigation from the dependence on uncertain rain.

If the Bhartiya Janta Party Government are aware of its promise then it would immediately have to pay attention towards the said points. The development of the nation in underlined in the development of agriculture and the country would be self-reliant from this point onwards. In real sense, self reliance means development. Shri Vajpayee ji had said on the occasion of the last independence day "inertia can

not be accepted in the name of swadeshi." It is alright but neglecting one's own resources, necessities and aspirations has anyone made progress by utilising the borrowed resources and imitating others? The dream of development can come true by the maximum utilisation of one's own resources and in case of their shortage utilising the borrowed resources as per the requirement in the favourable circumstances instead of the person showing richness by the borrowed money. The resources are available in the country. These should be fully utilised. The country can be made self-reliant by bringing the traditional industries in agriculture since the roots of development are in self-reliance. If agriculture is developed, the hungry will get bread, the unemployed will get employment the patient will become healthy and the common man will naturally be prosperous.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, prices have been a very major factor in the recently concluded elections of the States Assemblies and I am very happy about it because it is the common man and the poorest of the poor who have given the verdict. It is because the upper middle class people only enjoy the fruits, they never make any sacrifice and the sacrifice is always made by the poor people and they have waited for fifty years for a better dispensation. Now, they have given the verdict.

Prices have been increasing tremendously and the Government did not take any notice of that. Finally, when they went to the hustings, they got the result. It was a verdict against BJP, and in favour of Congress and other elements. But I am not worried about these percentages of votes. In my opinion, it is a rather a verdict in favour of democracy.

The Prime Minister explained in his own inimitable style the climate changed. He called it 'Aasmani', and then he said, 'Sultani'. He was correct 51 per cent climate has changed. India is on the world map so far as environment is concerned. But we have to become conscious to it. Once the Prime Minister said, 'unseasonal rains have let in'. In India drought occurs in some parts, famine conditions are there in some parts, and flood occur in some other parts because of continuous changes in the atmosphere because of emission. The United States is the greatest polluter of the world. It was China and India together which taught them a lesson in Japan in Kyoto. This time also in Buenos Aires, China and India remained together and now America has agreed to reduce emission. This May was the hottest month in 57 years. Climate is changing. So, 51 per

cent, the Prime Minister was correct because the climate is changing. He called it 'Aasmani Vajuhat' and then 'Sultani Vajuhat'. That leads to 'Jamini Vajuhat' which the Government did not attend to. I feel very sorry because I do not grudge BJP to rule this country. As long as they have numbers they must rule, but they rule properly.

[Translation]

In Urdu it is said that they can not run the Government improperly.

[English]

Here I have certain things with me to prove that the Government was not giving a serious thought to it. Onions, potatoes, tomatoes and other articles of mass consumption are very important to the poorest people. For them, religion comes next. We have not learnt the earlier lessons. In the emergence of Bangladesh it was proved to the people of the world that the religion in modern times is not the basic cementing factors. Yes, it is also a very important social factor, a very important cultural and religious factor by itself. But there are so many needs which are dearer to the human beings. So, when the verdict came, it was against the concept of RSS' Hindutva. It was proved by the poor people, be the Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, that the articles of mass consumption on which they have to live were very important. They gave a lesson to India, that is, 'never mix religion with politics'. If this is a lesson very bitter for BJP, it is a lesson for all of us that we must not try to mix religion with politics. Therefore, this verdict in favour of onions, potatoes and tomatoes is not a simple thing. It is a great lesson for this country. We must become humane, we must become secular, we must become patriotic and we must have our religion as a personal faith that can remain with us as a matter of pride.

Now, where did this Government fail? It failed on three fronts. I have to be very quick because at the fog end of the day there are no stories to be told. Fortunately two or three senior Ministers are here. I will not go into so many details of price rise. I will only explain very briefly a very understandable situation to everybody. This Government did not react to the continuous spiral of prices. I will say quickly how the prices increased during the period from 11th June, 1998 to 30th October, 1998, and how the Government failed to react.

On 11 June, 1998, the price of onion was at Rs. 6 per kg. On 31 July, 1998, it was at Rs. 18 per kg. On 31 August, 1998, it was at Rs. 22 per kg. On 17 September, 1998, it was at Rs. 33 per kg. On 3 October, 1998, it was at Rs. 40 per kg. On 7 October, 1998, it was at Rs. 46 per kg. And, on 30 October, 1998, it was at Rs. 60 per kg. When the prices were shooting up, this Government was not reacting at all.

Secondly, this Government failed to stop exports. India is the third largest country in the world, as far as exports are concerned, after Spain and Netherland. The Government of India could take a decision very quickly. In fact, the Commerce Ministry had suggested some sort of in, but not categorically. I cannot give the hon. Commerce Minister this much of credit that he warned the Government. He is a Cabinet Member. It is the collective responsibility. He could go to the Prime Minister's house. It is not necessary to go to the Prime Minister's Office. He could raise an alarm. He could have held a press conference and said that this was happening. Casually, sending a note or talking to some fellow colleague is not correct. So, exports were not stopped. Had exports been stopped, the prices would have fallen.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I come to the third failure of the Government. Of course, I must give credit to their Parliamentary Affairs Minister because his coordination is very fine. I am satisfied. But what the Government as a whole must do is what Shri Madan Lal Khurana is doing with us. He is explaining the cause to us. Sometimes, he is apologising to us, if something goes wrong. He creates a condition of harmony and understanding. But the Government did not do it. Not on a single issue so far, they have consulted the opposition political parties because collective wisdom is always greater than the individual wisdom.

These are the three main failures of the Government. Due to all this, our Jammu and Kashmir has suffered the most. You must know, when the cost of onion is Rs. 60 per kg here, either it is not available in Srinagar or it will be available for Rs. 10 per kg more. Therefore, Jammu and Kashmir has suffered a great deal more. Therefore, I propose, Mr. Chairman, including this discussion that for future, Jammu and Kashmir must get a subsidy of transportation so that at least, if you have something sold at the rate of Rs. 60 per kg in Delhi, it is made available in Srinagar too at the same rate of Rs. 60 per kg.

Sir, the price index in Srinagar is always different than Delhi and other major cities. Srinagar is the costliest city now. Therefore, through you, Mr. Chairman, I am proposing to the hon. Minister concerned that he must consider my proposal to give subsidy on transportation cost to Jammu and Kashmir on articles of mass consumption.

With these words, I conclude.

18.23 hrs.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I just would like to make one suggestion that whenever such an important discussion on the price rise is being taken up, every Member of each party should be given an opportunity to speak. Had I not been allowed, my party would have been denied the opportunity to participate in the discussion.



[Shri E. Ahamed]

Sir, for the last two-three days, the discussion under Rule 193 is going on. In our country, we have been passing through a grave situation as far as price front is concerned. The common man is really suffering through the crunch because of the price rise and he is put to great hardship and difficulty. But when these matters have been raised in this House, the Ministers have been taking shelter under flimsy ground or rather I would say, unreasonable ground. Here, the hon. Agriculture Minister has been telling that it was a universal phenomenon. Then again, he is saying that it was due to unforeseen weather. Then, he is saying that it was due to spate in rivers. Then he is saying that there is shortfall in production.

I would like to ask them, except bad weather, is it not their duty to have a control if there is any shortage in production?

Shri Rajveer Singh, my friend from the BJP said that there was artificial scarcity. Who is responsible for that? If there is artificial scarcity, is it not the duty of the Government to take sufficient steps to arrest such a situation? Why then are they sitting there? Is it for the opposition to take up the responsibility? People have been expecting some stringent measures from the Government against the hoarders. They have not taken action. They have been taking shelter under several excuses.

The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture came here and made a long speech defending his Government and his Department. The hon. Prime Minister has observed about the failure of his own Ministerial colleagues. I have seen a report where the Prime Minister has admitted that the Cabinet Sub-committee appointed for price control had not acted and not taken any step. I am sure the hon. Minister of State must be a member of this Sub-committee. He should have explained here the steps he has taken instead of which he has been just blaming the universal phenomenon, the artificial scarcity and such other things.

I would say that the most lethargic attitude of the Government and the mismanagement of the situation has resulted in the price rise. The Government have absolutely no justification. What has happened on the price front in this country? People are suffering because of the price rise.

The other day, the Minister of Finance and today the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture tried to mislead the people regarding price rise. They have been quoting some statistics from certain records only to justify their stand but the fact is otherwise. I would like to quote statistics to show the magnitude of the price rise in view of the Ministers' observations made on the floor of this House.

The rate of inflation which was under control at four and a half per cent last year has suddenly jumped to eight per cent and is going to be nine per cent at end of this month. It will be nine per cent by the end of December. It is very difficult to control inflation now. The common man is not concerned with the Wholesale Price Index; he is concerned with the retail prices. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the Consumer Price Index for the industrial workers was five per cent. By September, 1998, it has increased to sixteen per cent. If we further look at the break-up, primary articles contributed sixty per cent of the growth of inflation in September, 1998, whereas the growth in the prices of manufactured goods contributed only thirty eight per cent of the overall rise in the inflation in September, 1998...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI E. AHAMED : I have started just now. I have been waiting for long. I was not given the opportunity to speak when the Ministers were present here.

If you look at the individual commodities like *dal*, compared to 1996, there was a fall of 22 per cent in the prices of *arhar dal* in 1997; but in 1998, there has been an increase of 43 per cent in the prices of *arhar dal* compared to 1998. This is the situation.

Who is responsible for that? How did it happen? It is because there was laxity on the part of the Government, mismanagement on the part of the Government and insensitivity on the part of the Government.

Again, take the case of potatoes. There was 50 per cent increase in September 1997. It shot up to 275 per cent in September 1998. They say that inclement weather is the reason for that or unforeseen weather is the reason for that. I would like to ask one thing. If it is so, how can the potato which was selling at Rs. 30 per kg. in Bombay, could be sold at Rs. 60 in Delhi and at Rs. 100 in Agra? What sort of a weather that we have in this country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : Are you mentioning about potatoes? It is not the case with potatoes.

SHRI E. AHAMED : I am sorry. I am talking about onion. I stand correct. I have got all the names, Shri Barnala; and everything is mixed up like the price rise. Thank you very much for correcting me.

Onions were selling at the rate of Rs. 60 kg. in Delhi in September, in Agra, it was selling at Rs. 100 and in Bombay, it was selling at Rs. 30. This is the position. Is it because of weather? Therefore,

absolutely, there is no management by the Government and there is no coordination between the Departments.

I would like to read from the monthly review of the Indian economy by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy. They say that the Union Government announced the following measures aimed at checking price rise. Firstly, they say that action against hoarders, black-marketeers and anti-social elements has been intensified under the Essential Commodities Act of 1955. Shri Barnala, I would like to ask you one thing with all humility. What is the provision under the Act of 1955? Are there any teeth in that Act to take severe action against hoarders? You have yourself assured the House that a new Bill will be placed before this House on Wednesday. So, what is the action that you are going to take under these provisions? Secondly, they mentioned, 'prevention of black-marketeers and maintenance of Essential Commodities Act, 1958 by the State Governments'. Is there any coordination between the State Governments and the Central Government? Is it not because of Kumari Mamata Banerjee's threat that the Government have called a meeting of the Chief Ministers to discuss this matter? People are suffering like anything; when they were put to great hardship and difficulties, did they get time to call the meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss such a serious problem facing the common man of this country? Is it not because the Government was already squabbling among themselves and was surrounded by controversies? Therefore, there was utter failure of the Government to arrest price rise; and the price of essential commodities skyrocketed. They have not done justice to the people of this country. People would definitely give a reply; they have already given one reply in recent elections in three states.

I would like to tell one more thing. Shri Naqvi is here. People are not going to vote for *Vande Mataram* or for Pokhran blasts. They will not only vote on seeing at what price they are able to get the commodities in the market. *Saraswati Vandana* is not going to give one vote; Pokhran blasts will not give them one vote. If you want common man to be satisfied, then you have to do something regarding price of essential commodities.

Therefore, I hope that the Government will do something here. As I do not have time, I am not able to give some very good suggestions. I hope that as the Chair knows very well, the Chair will direct them. Thank you.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Movattupuzha) : I am happy that we are having a discussion today on this very serious and important issue of price rise.

Sir, some important points have been highlighted. I would submit that lack of coordination between the Ministries has been one of the major reasons for price rise.

We find that in spite of the fact that there were indications that the prices are going to rise sky high, proper steps have not been taken by the Central Government. We also find that the exports of essential commodities were not controlled at a time when they were to be controlled, with the result that they had to be imported at a very very high price at later stages. Many of items which were imported have been lost by decay or due to lack of coordination for lifting of materials which have been imported to be taken to the common man. The common man is in a very poor position now.

As far as the State Governments are concerned, we hear from the representatives of the various State Governments ruled by different parties that price structure was different in many States. But I find that throughout the country there has been a rise in the prices of essential commodities.

Take the example of medicines. This point was not touched upon by many hon. Members. I am sure that Shri Barnala will be interested in this because he has been taking up this matter in this House. The prices of medicines have gone so high that the poor man is not able to purchase the life-saving drugs and essential medicines. There were undertakings and assurance that price tag will be there on all the medicines. But I fail to understand as to why the Central Government could not take any stern step so far to see that there is a price tag of maximum retail price on all medicines. This is true for not only medicines but for some other goods also. For example, I can cite the case of shoe. There was a question in Parliament to which the reply was that for shoes there is no law which says that the price tag should be fixed. Though this does not come under essential commodities, I would like to mention this. It is also a matter which affects the prices. The prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed affecting the purchasing capacity of the common man. The prices of lesser essential commodities have also gone up. All these items are inter-related. For the common man, the purchasing power has now increased. The common man who has not increased his purchasing power is not in a position to live at all.

My next point is about the petroleum and diesel. These are also essential commodities. But many hon. Members did not touch upon this point. So, I would like to mention this point. Petrol, diesel, LPG and other petroleum products are very essential now-a-days. In the international market the prices of petrol and diesel have come down. There was a very good opportunity for the Government to reduce the prices and to say that action is being taken to see that prices are controlled in this way. Prices in the international market have come down and we are also taking steps to bring down the prices of LPG, diesel and petrol. But that was also not done.

[Shri P.C. Thomas]

As far as other essential commodities are concerned, elaborate discussions have already taken place. Some friends here have pointed out that in Kerala, prices are low. I totally disagree with that. In Kerala also the prices are very high. Maybe it is because of the lack of coordination between the State and the Central Government. I do not know what is the reason. In Kerala also, the prices are very high.

I would like to make another point. Everybody has said that the prices of vegetables have gone up. The farmer has not benefited by this. He is not getting anything out of this. Then, who is benefited? The persons who are financially sound are benefited. They have the capacity to lobby and do the trading in such a way that the poor becomes poorer and they are unable to purchase the essential commodities.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whether the price of tapioca has also gone up?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, yes, it has.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : I do not want to repeat what other hon. Members have already said. It has been an accepted fact, agreed by all the Members irrespective of the party to which they belong, that prices have gone up abnormally. And, the fact remains that the Government has been taking the plea that the prices have gone up, because the climate was not good, as there were either floods, droughts or such other calamities. I would say that this is nothing new. We always have floods or droughts in different parts of the country. The pity is, how the Government has failed to assess the situation. How could the Government allow the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation to export about 2 lakh tonnes of onions in August-September? I would say, there is a gross confusion in the Export-Import Policy of the Government. On the one side, vegetables like onions are exported without seeing its implications and when the order was given to stop its export, their hands were already burnt. Sugar is another example. When the Government had enough stock of sugar, it imported sugar at a nominal price while on the other hand, the Government did not import the essential commodities which were required by the country. This is very unfair. We would like to have a categorical reply as to what is the policy of the Government in this regard? Why did the Government fail to import the essential commodities when there was an urgent demand, when it was expected that there is going to be a shortage because of the

climate? What made the Government to import sugar when there was enough stock of it? These two things should be clarified tomorrow when the Minister is going to reply the debate.

Merely finding fault with each other or debating the issue is of no use. Our country has seen a glorious time. We must see that a poor man is not made to suffer. He should be given 'roti, kapada aur makaan'. These are the most important things for a poor man.

The Government must concentrate on cold storage. I have seen on a number of occasion, when vegetables are dumped into the market, their prices will not be too high but after some time the prices suddenly jack up. I have got a reliable information. In Maharashtra, in some parts of Nasik, some of the traders seeing the uncertain climate, stocked onions and potatoes and when their prices went up, they made a big sale of them. The Chief Ministers Conference was held recently. The Government must monitor daily, weekly or monthly as to what is happening in other States. What is the result of the Chief Ministers' Conference? That must be informed. There should be proper coordination between the States and the Centre. They should be properly kept informed about the distribution of essential commodities, taking action on traders as also about the export or import of essential commodities.

Cold storage is the biggest philosophy which is being followed all over the world except in India. No doubt, it needs money. If there is a shortage of fund, the Government can call the private people and give the BOT system, or can take the World Bank loan or United Nations Food Development Assistance. There are States which grow a lot of vegetables. There are States which do not grow these vegetables. So, the Government can organise inter-State export. The Government should give top priority to cold storage. Nobody has applied mind to it till today. Therefore, instead of unnecessarily finding fault with each other, let us be constructive, practical and positive in solving this problem.

So, my suggestion would be, the export import policy should be made systematic and rationalised. There should be coordination between the Food Ministry, Finance Ministry and also the Prime Minister. I could see in some imported items, there is a coordination in deciding the import duty. The cold storages should be given top priority. The hoarders should be watched vigorously and punished. There was a proposal to dilute the Essential Commodities Act. Seeing the situation of the country, this Act should be strengthened.

Lastly, tomorrow while the Minister gives his reply, he must give a concrete and categorical assurance to the House and the people of India how

they are going to control the prices and how they are going to give a much more glorious future for the poor people. With these words, I conclude.

**SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil):** Sir, I thank you very much for calling me, at least, now because I find some irregularity in calling the names. My Party is next to Congress Party but only one person has taken part in the discussion from my Party. I do not know how it has happened.

Sir, the price rise is a national and vital issue. Several debates have taken place in the nation at different levels. Now, the most important thing, I would suggest is that the policy of the present Government should change. They are under a mistaken notion that the market economy will make things correct. That will not take place because in the competitive and open market, prices will escalate. That is our experience. So, giving an unfettered chance to open market will definitely lead to a catastrophe, i.e., price rise which cannot be curtailed. In the instant case I may suggest some methods.

It is worthwhile to mention the Public Distribution System which is prevailing in the State of Kerala. We had introduced 14 items as essential commodities. These commodities are collected by the Civil Supplies Corporation and distributed through various fair price shops. The entire population is covered by the statutory rationing. Those who live below the poverty line are eligible to get foodgrains at 50 per cent below the Central issue price. The fair price shops were able to sell essential commodities at 10 per cent less than the open market price. All the essential commodities such as rice, sugar and kerosene are supplied through the Public Distribution System. The Civil Supplies Corporation had about 684 sales depots spread throughout the State. In addition, there are 2,300 fair price shops through which essential articles are sold. In 1995-96, the total sales were amounting to Rs. 2.90 crore. In 1996-97 the turnover was Rs. 5.20 crore and this year, it is Rs. 7.76 crore. How is it achieved? It is because there is an effective market intervention. Only through effective market intervention, we can curtail the prices. Otherwise, it will not be possible. We have successfully implemented that scheme in Kerala and Kerala is the only State having an effective Public Distribution System spread throughout the State. I am referring to a report which appeared in the Hindu which said that in spite of the fact that Kerala is a consumer State, in Trivandrum, one kilogram of carrot was sold at Rs. 10 whereas it was Rs. 150 in Delhi. In Cochin, one quintal of rice was sold at Rs. 1150 whereas it was Rs. 1320 in Hyderabad. Even though our State is a consumer State, the prices were controlled because of the effective market intervention through network of fair price shops, rationing depots and cooperatives which

are spread throughout the State. We have stocks of all these materials and they are sold through these fair price shops. The Kerala Government initiated widespread action against hoarders and black-marketeers. In this connection, it may be pointed out that essential goods worth Rs. 20,41,194 were recovered and the hoarders were penalised to the tune of Rs. 21,84,752 and the amount was recovered. We can control the prices only through this process.

I would suggest certain methods by which the Central Government may control the prices. My suggestions are as follow :

- (i) To revise the Export-Import Policy — The policy should be changed in such a way to suit the condition prevailing in the domestic market;
- (ii) continue the food subsidy without cutting down in any way;
- (iii) all imports detrimental to the interests of the agricultural produce be stopped;
- (iv) Strengthen the public distribution system throughout the nation;
- (v) subsidise the State Government in strengthening the PDS;
- (vi) remove all restrictions in the transit of essential commodities from one State to another;
- (vii) implement decision taken at the Chief Ministers' Conference without delay; and
- (viii) implement the decision taken at the Chief Secretaries' Conference regarding the free transit of goods from one State to another.

If the Government is kind enough to follow this, I am sure, they can control the prices. I plead with the hon. Minister to look into these facts. This is a request coming from the Government of Kerala as well as people of Kerala.

[Translation]

**SHRI. SHAIENDRA KUMAR (Chail) :** Hon. Mr. Chairman, I extend my sincere thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Today the entire House is discussing the issue of price hike. The record breaking price rise has demoralised the whole society as well as the Government. As stated by the Prime Minister 50 per cent price hike is due to natural calamities and rest of the 50 per cent has been created by the previous Government. I would say that 50 per cent of the price-rise is due to climate and for the remaining 50 per cent price hike, the present Government is responsible. Had the Government waken up in time, the prices would not have soared that high. Today, the price rise has

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

adversely affected all ranging from a poor labourer to the middle class families. Owing to the unprecedented price-rise, the ordinary people, the common people have been compelled to spend six thousand crores of rupees. The part of this money has gone into the pockets of country's and foreign traders, private bankers, brokers, officers, leaders and the Ministers. The Prime Minister himself can tell in this regard. For the Prime Minister, there is a saying, 'One can not feel the pain of others unless one has undergone the same'. Since the Prime Minister himself is a bachelor, how can he understand the problems of ordinary people? All people are aware of it.

We have had discussions on the issue of the price-hike affecting the farmers for very little time. Today, the entire House will have to ponder over it so as to ensure that the farmers get remunerative price of their produce. We will have to pay special attention in this regard. A Union Minister had advised in this House not to consume tomatoes in the rainy season as it causes stone disease. A Minister belonging to the B.J.P in Uttar Pradesh had asked whether the doctor had advised to eat tomatoes? The statements of this kind clearly indicate that it is a failure of this Government. BJP President, Shri Kusha Bhai Thakare says that the price hike is a conspiracy hatched by the opposition. These are all irrelevant things. Today more than half of the agriculturists are in debt. We will have to think as to how they can be out of this trap and how they can boost their production. Even the High Court feels compelled to say that the Government should check the price hike. It is a matter of shame. The then Chief Minister of Delhi Shrimati Sushma Swaraj had said that salt hoarders and those selling it at higher price would be booked under National Security Act. I would like to act as to how many persons have been booked under the said Act. The Finance Minister stated that the Government would control the price hike within a month. The exorbitant price rise is the result of the B.J.P's collusion and complicity with hoarders, profiteers and the blackmarketeers. It is also due to overlooking the fundamental principles of agriculture policy. It could be contained by providing loans and financial assistance to the cooperative society on easy terms and conditions. The poor workers consume rotis, onion, salt and edible oil and the price of these commodities has gone up. The price-rise has affected the farmer and the labour class most. The onion is the main ingredient for preparation of meals and other dishes on the season of marriage but it was absent there. Owing to negligence of the Deptt. of Customs and non completion of paper-work, 150 tonnes of onion got rotten on the Mumbai port. The Government formulated a 11 points policy to contain the prices but it failed utterly and the prices

went through the roof. As you people might be knowing that the price of salt in Banaras and Patna soared upto Rs. 60/- per kg. The Government's inability to check the rising prices led its Mamata Banerjee to resign from the Coordination Committee. The Chief Ministers' conference was held right after that. The Government considered over these issues. Had Ms. Mamata Banerjee not resigned from the Coordination Committee, the Prime Minister would not have taken this action. I would suggest that a comprehensive price rise policy should be framed and implemented to contain the price rise. How can this Government take stern action against the hoarders, profiteers and blackmarketeers as these people vote for the B.J.P and BJP has got no control over them. The Government did not conduct any raids on any cold storage or Commission agents (Adhatis). Had the Government conducted raids against the big hoarders, profiteers and blackmarketeers, it would have been successful in containing the prices and the commodities hoarded by them would have come in the open market.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one of senior ministers of the Cabinet, Shri George Fernandes told in Lucknow that the Government did not take any action against hoarders, and blackmarketeers, therefore, the prices soared. In past one year, the prices went up exorbitantly. The prices of pulses went up to Rs. 45/- per kg. and that of vegetables to three to six times which is a record. You people might have read in the newspapers that the prices of onion went up to Rs. 122/- per kg at Agra. This is shameful. Before the Dropsy case, the edible oil was available at 45 to 48 rupees per kg and the day the Government put control on it, its prices jumped to 65 to 70 rupees per kg.

Delhi Government had promised to distribute 125 Metric tonnes of onion at 2 kg per ration card through Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar, Delhi State Supply Corporation and Mother Dairy but it was rotten onion brought from the ports where it had rotten. The big traders made huge profits due to big gap between demand and supply. As far as production of onion is concerned, the production of onion was 41.22 lakh Metric tonnes in 1996-97 which went down to 34.5 lakh Metric tonnes in 1997-98 therefore, the shortfall in production of onion is only 6.72 lakh Metric tonnes. When production of onion had fallen short, the Government should not have exported it but still 4.41 lakh Metric tonne of onion was exported which added to the price rise. I would like to tell the Government that 13 thousand tonnes of onion was imported from Arab countries which got rotten at the port and never reached the consumers through Public Distribution System. All these factors contributed to the price-rise. Our country can be easily self-reliant in fruits, vegetable and foodgrains but for this purpose we will have to strengthen the

farmers, by providing financial assistance and agricultural tools to them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I extend my sincere thanks to you for allowing me to speak on the issue of the price rise under rule 193.

19.00 hrs.

\*SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (Dharwar South) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I am very glad to participate in this vital discussion. This problem has assumed great importance at the national level in the recent times. First of all I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

There are five very important essential commodities of which prices have increased tremendously. There are potato, foodgrains, edible oil, pulses and common salt. In my life I have not heard about the shortage of common salt. There was no shortage of salt during the last 50 years of our post independence era. The States and the Centre do not know how to govern. There is an art to rule the country. My feeling is that the Government has lost the capacity to rule the country.

Farmer have to get remunerative prices and these prices have to be fixed by the Government periodically. Unfortunately there is no coordination between the States and the Centre. During 1980, there was an artificial acute shortage of potatoes and ultimately late Smt. Indira Gandhi won the elections. Now history has repeated himself. There is shortage of potato throughout the country and the ruling party at the Centre has lost its grip in three States. Congress party has gained advantage due to the shortage of potato. The Government has failed miserably to check the growth of black money. An amount of 100 crores of rupees had been used to create artificial shortage of potato. This entire amount is black money. It encourages black marketeers and hoarders and the Government could not assess the situation properly. They failed to control the prices of essential commodities. Some Chief Ministers visited many godowns which had enough stocks of potato and other commodities including common salt. But they not take any action. There was no proper distribution and an artificial shortage was created. There Governments, States and Centre will not be able to protect the interests of the poor people until they are able to control the traders.

Fifth Pay Commission report is also responsible for the increase in the prices of essential commodities. More than this, it is the governance of the State and support they have extended to the black marketeers which are responsible for the steep increase in the prices. It is the middleman and the poorer section of our society who are severely

affected by this price rise. Our Lok Shakti is a friendly party to the ruling party at the Centre. I, therefore, say that Shri Rama Krishna Hegde had given his view regarding export duty. But none in the Centre too accepted his suggestion. Shri Hedge gave his view in this august House itself and we could have stopped export at the time itself. Then, we should have imported potato. The Finance Ministry did not yielded to the suggestion of Shri R.K. Hegde. There is lack of coordination between Ministries which is mainly responsible for this crisis. Therefore, what I want to suggest to the Central Government is that they should learn ruling the country instead of simply making speeches inside and outside the Parliament.

Sir, once again I thank you for allowing me to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR (Kulaba) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity and time to speak in the discussion on price-rise of essential commodities.

Even last time, a discussion was held on this subject. In every session and during the tenure of every Government the discussion takes places at length on this subject. I am a new member. For me the discussion on the subject in the House is very vital. But we have also to know why the discussion is being held in every session and every year on the subject. I think that there was no outcome of earlier discussion.

Therefore, we should discuss this matter with some seriousness, because we are not speaking just because we got a chance or our speech might go on record. Hon. Minister is sitting here. I am grateful to Barnalaji, he is listening to every member very attentively. During the discussion the Government have proved that it is not responsible for the price rise. The earlier Government is to be blamed. They did not do anything, so we also would not to do anything. What do I can suggest, am I going to suggest anything new? Everybody feels that prices should be checked. The common man and the Parliamentarians also feel but why no improvement is being made. We are posing as if we are talking beyond politics. Everybody is speaking about his Government, someone is talking about Kerala, someone is raising question about Andhra Pradesh, that there is price rise in their State. But I do not think that such an act can appease the common man. Today the farmers are not getting the remunerative price of their crop. Everything is so costly in the market. Even potatoes and onions are very costly. Onion is available for Rs. 30 to 60 a kg. while the farmer does not get any profit from it. He gets very low rate. He is not getting the adequate profit. Whenever hoarders are raided the impact is evident. Even if it is carried out at one place it leaves an impact everywhere. Therefore, raids must be carried on.

\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

[Shri Ramsheth Thakur]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to tell an incident of Maharashtra, onions worth Rs. 4 to 4.5 crores were seized in a raid conducted at MAFCO, New Mumbai. As a result of this prices of onions had fallen from Rs. 50 to Rs. 30 per kilogram. If it happens everywhere, it will be good for people. Nothing can be achieved merely by words. Percentage has come down from 8.4 to 8.1, prices have fallen, all these are only wishful thinking, we can not get anything out of it.

I am thankful to my colleagues. The attitude shown today by Miss Mamata Banerjee is a welcome step. Today Samta Party also have provided a good support. We should work with seriousness whether we are part of the Government or not.

I have some suggestions, it is not good being satisfied with meagre downfall of rates by one or two percent. The rates of onions and potatoes go up upto three to four hundred percent. The rates of groundnuts has been in demand by Rs. 30 per kg. It is hard for common people to afford it because they have to purchase from the market. Many members from the treasury benches have also accepted its effect due to which the ruling party had been defeat in three-four States. I want to say that it is not people's fault. Therefore, I believe that it will be good to implement it in true spirit. I conclude with these words.

[English]

DR. RAVI MALLU (Nagar Kurnool) : Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to participate in this very important debate. Most of the hon. Members who have spoken from the other side justified the rise in prices by saying that the production of foodgrains has come down. When we are discussing rise in prices, we must go back to the previous years when the prices have gone up. I agree that prices have been rising continuously, year after year during the tenure of previous Governments also. But this time, the prices of essential commodities have gone unusually high that they were not within the reach of the common man. The common people, particularly the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes could not even purchase even the essential commodities to keep up their health.

Sir, onion is a very important vegetable which is very essential for the people to have good health. But they were not in a position to purchase onion. Tamarind is having Vitamin 'C' which is very important for the health of the common man. But the people could not purchase tamarind also due to the very high price. They are not in a position to have a proteinous diet by purchasing *dal* and other things. Even the essential commodities, which are useful

and necessary for the common man in his day-to-day life, could not be purchased particularly by the lowest strata of the people, that is, by the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. This is not a one-day problem. You came to power about eight or nine months back. From that day onwards, the traders and the businessman thought that they have been liberated from the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. This has been shown by the hon. Minister by bringing forward an amendment to the Essential Commodities Act saying that he wanted to take out the non-bailable section and also reducing the punishment from seven to five years. By bringing forward such a Bill, the traders and the business people thought that the Government at the Centre was in their favour. Then, they thought that they could do whatever type of business they could do. So, such a feeling had gone out as a result of which the essential commodities like onions, tamarind, salt and pulses and such other commodities were not available throughout the country. It was not only in Delhi but also in the surrounding States.

My great friend from the Telugu Desam — he is also a leader of his group in the house — was telling that the prices have been low in Andhra Pradesh. I do agree that there is little difference in the prices prevailing in Delhi and Hyderabad and also those in Delhi and Punjab, and Delhi and Haryana and other States. Just like that, it was also there. The essential commodities were beyond the reach of the common people in Andhra Pradesh. The people were suffering there.

The reason for unusual rise in prices is that the Government has not taken any decision on the basis of the priority. Priority must be there while taking any decision for controlling the prices. They have not taken it. They have neither bothered to make an assessment of production in the country nor have they planned for import of essential commodities like onions, tamarind, pulses or such other things and to market them through the public distribution system so that the business people and the traders could keep the prices under control. This is the most important thing which these people could not assess.

They have not given any importance to the price rise. The people who are supporting the BJP Government, that is the Telugu Desam people, are now telling that such-and-such have been the reasons for increase in the prices. They were all supporting the Government for the last about nine months and keeping silent. Only after the elections, they have realised that the people have given a negative vote to the Government. Now, they are giving suggestions that the rise in prices is one of the reasons.

I want to tell the people who are now shirking their responsibility about the price rise are also a

part and parcel of the Government. They cannot just say that only the BJP is responsible. Those people, who are supporting the BJP Government, have to take the responsibility. The price rise is one of the things. It is now felt by the common man. Previously, the common man in the village did not know which party had been ruling. Whenever there was an election, they came, voted and went back. Next time, when they go to elect, they would ask which party are they to vote for. Now, they have realised which party is ruling the country because of price rise. They have been feeling it every day that the BJP Government is ruling at the Centre. The prices of onions, pulses, tamarind have gone up. Now, I want to tell the hon. Minister to keep the previous experience in mind when Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and others were there and when the production was also low. This is not the first time that the production has come down. When there was low production, there used to be buffer stocks. They used to keep the buffer stocks and released them or importing the foodstuff or essential commodities from other countries. Then, they used to maintain the price line at the level at which it was acceptable to the common man. I request the hon. Minister of Food to take stock of the situation at least now. To assess the situation, keep the same old Essential Commodities Act in force, also let the non-bailable Section continue and keep the punishment for seven years. If necessary, increase the punishment to the maximum extent so that the hoarders, the business people and the traders are careful. Thus, the prices will come down. Cutting across the party lines, I feel that you should now try to understand the commonman's plight and bring down the prices so that if he is not able to get a full day meal, at least he should be able to get half-a-day's meal by purchasing the essential commodities like onion, tamarind, pulses, etc.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to bring 2-3 issues related to Jammu and Kashmir into the notice of hon'ble Minister. There are no two opinions that a lengthy discussion has already been held on the issue of price-rise in this House and our rival party has derived benefits out of it. Those who were lagging behind are very much enthusiastic today. I feel that though you have made sufficient arrangements but still, as the issue has been raised here, there is acute shortage of fertilizers particularly, DAP through-out the country at present. There is hue and cry all over and I think only ten fifteen days are left for sowing the crops. The Government should ensure that the fertilizers reach to every place.

I have returned from my constituency today itself. There also I saw that people are crying for D.A.P. and these are long queues everywhere. They are

not getting the requisite quantum of fertilizers. It may cause loss to the crops because rain is not occurring and if fertilizers would also not be available then people would face a lot of difficulty and our crop would be a total failure.

Jammu & Kashmir is a region which is deficient from every angle. No big industry has been set up there. The entire raw material is supplied to the State from other States and the finished goods from the State are sold to the other States in the country. They have installed a toll post on the way to Lakhampur. They have to pay toll-tax of Rs. 15-20 per quintal for transporting any type of raw-material to the State and have to pay some amount of toll tax while bringing goods from the State. Where such hindrances are there the prices are bound to rise as you have to pay Rs. 30-40 per quintal unnecessarily. They argue that this is the only source of their income. You please increase their income this way or that way because the consumers are suffering on this account. If attention is paid towards this, it would certainly solve the problem. The increase of Rs. 30-40 per quintal is too much therefore do something in this direction. Rice and Paddy are being supplied there by the Food Corporation of India. You, please see all the details. Whether ration is being supplied there according to the population? We have information and our Government say that our capacity to grow foodgrains is increasing every year and import is also increasing. It means we have to send food there in more quantity. We have to ponder over it as to whether this food is being smuggled to Pakistan. You please pay full attention towards it and ascertain the full facts so that the food is not sent there in excess and it may not be smuggled to Pakistan.

In the last, I would like to say that the manner, in which the prices particularly of onion and potato went skyrocketing, there must be some price regulatory committee, which could monitor all these things and whenever such escalation is observed, it becomes the responsibility of the Government to check it at that very moment.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you. During the discussion on price rise many of our friend, have said that BJP has been responsible for it. BJP has ruled for six months only. The actual responsibility, lies on those who had ruled earlier. We have not adopted the agriculture policy which we should have adopted. We have not been able to give that sort of assurance to the farmers about their crops which should have been there. As a result of that, whenever there is a bumper crop, farmers do not get fair prices at that time, they get frustrated and do not grow the same crop next year. Due to this a situation of shortage arises. Whether it is the issue of sugarcane, potatoes,



[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

cotton in Gujarat or oil — all this happen because of frustration amongst farmers due to poor return of their crops. If such a policy had been formulated that the prices of all crops would be fixed, farmers would not have changed their crops.

We have talked about villages also. The farming and sowing is decreasing in villages day-by-day. Farmers are migrating to cities due to low returns of agriculture. Lot of land is barren today, can make use of that?

We talk about vegetables, it can be grown on small piece of land also. It can be grown in the courtyard of the House. We can encourage people for it. Have we been able to encourage people in this regard? You can find in Delhi that some Ministers sow potatoes and vegetables in small piece of land in their bungalow. They get enough seasonal vegetables. Could not we encourage this throughout the country and announce incentives like "free seeds" for this purpose? Farmers could be asked to form cooperative societies and set up their own cold storages. The trend for setting up new cold storages has got momentum during the last five years, otherwise we have never paid our attention towards it, that is why, we could not be able to preserve vegetables. I had heard that last time the production of potatoes was so much that farmers have laid them outside the cold storages in sacks but the people throw out potatoes and took away empty sacks only. They got rupees three for each bag. Why a situation like this arises?

It is not fair to hold any party responsible for this. I would like to urge upon the Government to set up a cold storage in each district in the days to come and the farmers should be assured that they would get this much of price of a particular product. They would cultivate according to that price. Subsidy may be given where it is necessary and simultaneously the blackmarketeers should be awarded exemplary punishment, action should be taken against them, so that the common and the poor people may not suffer in such times. It was a matter of one or two months.

Potato costs rupees six and onions rupees ten per kilogram in Gujarat now a days...*(Interruptions)* The issue of salt was raised here. Salt was in plenty in Gujarat but when rumour from Delhi spread in Gujarat people started lining up even there. When we clarified that salt was in abundance, and the people could have as much salt as they needed. No body came for salt the next day. We said congressman are our friends they only went a bit too far in spreading the rumour and were assisted by the media as well. I noticed that in six out of 10 T.V. serials only potatoes and onions were being talked

about. This issue was framed more than the reality. It is a misleading factor and it all happened due to the vicious campaign. The people of this country are simple and innocent, if we tell them that such a thing would not be available tomorrow they will form huge lines to procure it but it was not the reality. Everything was under control in the entire country. Nevertheless, we had to make observation in Gujarat. Elections to Lok Sabha were held in Gujarat, why potatoes and onions did not become expensive in Gujarat, while prices rise high everywhere, there were only few to carry the vicious campaign. At other places it was stretched a bit far. It was a temporary issue but a mountain was made out of a mole-hill so that rates be lowered.

I, therefore, would like to submit that if all the farmers are given assurance vegetables and paddy can be in abundance. We can have that much potential to carry out our exports forever, only if our agriculture policy in made more systematic upgraded and the farmers are assured remunerative price.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Potatoes are cultivated on an average 2.20 crore tonnes every year in the country. There should be at least 50 per cent cold storage capacity in the country. According to this a capacity of 1.10 crores tonnes is required while we have the capacity of only 90 lakhs tonnes. 20 lakh tonnes capacity falls short in the country. In the Ninth Five Year Plan it has been decided by the Government to set up a cold storage with one and a half lakh tonnes capacity in the cooperative sector, even then there is shortage of 18.5 lakh tonnes, capacity. Therefore there is a shortage of cold storage which should be met with.

[English]

SHRI K. BAPIRAJU (Narsapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member was mentioning that people were innocent to believe certain things. People are never innocent. People are very poor in our country. Democracy in India has been there for quite long. In future also India will continue to be one of the democratic countries in the world.

[Translation]

Never say that people are innocent and ignorant. They are very clever.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Lok Sabha now stands adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, 8 December, 1998.

19.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 8, 1998/Agrahayana 17, 1920 (Saka)*