

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

**Thirteenth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Friday, August 01, 2003/Sravana 10, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Sir, very disparaging remarks have been made on the National Human Rights Commission. I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise it during 'Zero Hour'.

Now, I go to the Question Hour. Q.No. 181.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, I have given a notice on national crop insurance policy. Please allow me to raise it in 'Zero Hour'. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I had raised the issue of unemployment the other day, you had said ... (Interruptions) but the House could not function on that day. I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion on the issue of unemployment. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said time and again that during zero hour I would allow you to speak on the subject that you have raised through Adjournment Motion.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should be allowed to speak first in the Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER: I had promised that you would be the first speaker during Zero Hour. I would allow other Members only after you.

[English]

Now, Question No. 181. Shri Y.G. Mahajan - Not present. Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma.

11.01 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Allocation of Foodgrains under AAY

\*181. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

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

(a) the quantum of foodgrains allotted by the Government to each State under Antyodaya Anna Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether certain States have not properly utilized the foodgrains allotted to them under the above Yojana;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (d) A Annexure showing the Statewise allocation of foodgrains under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 is enclosed.

No specific instance of mis-utilisation of foodgrains allotted under the AAY has been reported. During the year, 2002-03, the offtake under the AAY was about 85.58% of the allocation made to the different States and Union Territories.

### Annexure

Statewise allocation of total foodgrains (Rice & Wheat) under Antyodaya Anna Yojana during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03

(in '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Allocation		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.57	186.84	261.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	1.13	6.35
3.	Assam	0.00	28.15	118.24

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	0.00	150.00	420.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.19	86.22	120.71
6.	Delhi	0.00	2.40	13.44
7.	Goa	0.00	0.98	3.07
8.	Gujarat	0.00	61.75	136.50
9.	Haryana	0.00	27.35	46.97
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.97	23.62	33.06
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	25.41	47.42
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	91.63	153.94
13.	Karnataka	0.00	84.11	200.37
14.	Kerala	5.96	71.46	100.04
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15.81	189.72	265.61
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	267.86	420.72
17.	Manipur	0.00	1.91	10.72
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	3.52	11.81
19.	Mizoram	0.00	3.16	4.42
20.	Nagaland	0.00	2.84	7.94
21.	Orissa	0.00	88.47	212.32
22.	Punjab	0.00	19.72	30.12
23.	Rajasthan	9.32	111.78	156.49
24.	Sikkim	0.00	1.18	2.82
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	35.48	290.50
26.	Tripura	0.00	7.92	19.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	260.79	685.42
28.	Uttaranchal	0.00	11.45	32.05
29.	West Bengal	0.00	109.93	307.79
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.82	1.80
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.32	0.89

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.07	0.84	1.18
33.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.18	0.25
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.04	0.17
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	1.13	3.85
Total		55.87	1960.08	4127.53

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have formulated a scheme to increase the quantum of ration for foodgrains from 25 kg to 35 kg per family per month under 'Antyodaya Yojana' for 1.5 crore families living below poverty line and it also intends to increase the number of beneficiary families to two crore. The wheat will be given at Rs.2 per kg and rice at Rs. 3 per kg under the scheme. I would also like to know the names of the states which are not utilising properly the foodgrains meant for the poor and where the foodgrains are not reaching the poor?

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Please tell us about Gujarat.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: I am coming to it. 'B' Part of my question is whether elderly people, the poor handicapped and tribals are being given special consideration under the 'Antyodaya Yojana' or not? Among the states receiving foodgrains, Bihar gets the maximum allocation of foodgrains i.e. 420 thousand tonnes, Rajasthan gets 156.49 thousand tonnes and Gujarat gets 136.50 thousand tonnes. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How many questions would you ask? Please ask only one question.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Complaints are coming from the states which are receiving large quantities of foodgrains that the foodgrains are not reaching the poor. This was reported in the newspaper too, about two months back. I would like to know as to what action is being taken against the states where foodgrains are not being properly distributed among the poor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the off take of foodgrains under 'Antyodaya Yojana' is concerned, I am pleased to inform that in the previous year, the off take was 87 percent. As regards Gujarat, I would like to tell you that 91.89 thousand tonnes were lifted by the State in 2001-

2002 and in the year 2002- 2003, 84.64 thousand tonnes were lifted. The situation with regard to lifting of foodgrains has been very good in 2003-2004.

So far as the poor are concerned, the responsibility of providing food grains to identified families rests with the State Governments and we are also making all out efforts to monitor the lifting, allocation and upkeep of foodgrains, with a view to ensure that the poor get the foodgrains. There is special consideration for physically handicapped, sick, old and widows.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wanted to know about the States from where complaints have been received that the poor are not getting the foodgrains.

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no specific complaints to this effect has been received from any State. There are monitoring committees as and when we receive any such complaint action would be taken. ...*(Interruptions)* So far as Bihar is concerned, it has lifted 84 percent foodgrains.

*[English]*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the question is, which are all the States which have not properly utilised the foodgrains allotted to them under this Scheme? But the answer pertains only to the allocation of rice or other foodgrains made to the States, and no data is available with regard to the off-take under this Yojana. This is my first observation.

Secondly, the availability of foodgrains is so high in the country that the subsidy given by this Government under the PDS has been raised from Rs.9,000 crore to Rs.24,000 crore, whereas the report says that only 55 per cent of the off-take is taking place with regard to the below poverty line (BPL) population. There is enormous availability. The supply is available whereas the demand is low, which means, the poor people are not in a position to avail this facility given by the Government. What action does the Government propose to take on this?

There are also reports that at the above poverty line (APL) level, there is absolutely 30 per cent off-take and the remaining 70 per cent is idle. Therefore, there is a proposal to adopt a uniform price system instead of the BPL or APL, and there is a report that the Government is considering this. I would like to know whether the Government considers this proposal. Or, is it continuing with the same status?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would send the reply in writing separately with regard to the data the

hon. Member has sought. So far as 'Antyodaya' scheme is concerned, there is nothing of this sort. The scheme is maintaining a healthy percentage. Both the allocation and the lifting percentage is good in all the states. So far as access of the people to grains is concerned, we are putting up a good performance. Whenever the hon'ble Members visit their constituencies, they get negligible complaints regarding 'Antyodaya' Yojana. Hon'ble Prime Minister has made the provision to cover 1.5 crore families in place of one crore families under the scheme, and the information to this effect is being gathered. Once these 1.5 crore families are covered, then 25 percent families out of the total below poverty line families would be provided wheat at Rs. 2 per kg and rice at Rs. 3 per kg. This is a comprehensive plan for all the poor of the country and it is being run successfully. I would request the hon'ble Members to help in the progress of this scheme.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: MR. Speaker, Sir, Gujarat Government are repeatedly demanding more grains from Union Government and the Ministry concerned. Gujarat has BJP government. According to them, there are 35 lakh below poverty line families in Gujarat. Other States, which are governed by the constituent parties of NDA have been allocated higher quantity of grains. And even though there is a BJP Government both at the Centre and in Gujarat, the State is given less grains even after repeated demands. What is the criteria for providing grains? I would like to know the criteria on the basis of which grains are allotted. Why Andhra Pradesh and other states are allocated more grains than Gujarat. Whether it is due to lack of clout of Gujarat Government in the centre or is it due to a feeling in the Union Government that since the same party is in power there they won't say anything. It is not I only but the people of Gujarat are saying that their clout at the Centre is not much and that is why they do not get much allocation. Even though they have 35 lakh below poverty line families. I would like you to respond on the issue.

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Member has desired to get information particularly about Gujarat. I would like to give the figures of the last three years with regard to Gujarat.

Gujarat was provided the foodgrain to the tune of 8695 lakh tonnes under BPL, 5700 lakh tonnes under APL and 0.618 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under Antyodya scheme during the year 2001-2002. This way a total of 15013 lakh tonnes of foodgrain was given. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: My question is about criteria i.e. on what basis you have made the allocation and what is its basis vis-a-vis the demand - this is what I want to know from you. I have no interest to know as to how much

quantity has been provided, I would like to know the basis of allocation. I would also like to know the basis on which Gujarat was denied further allocation of foodgrains?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the allotment is made state wise. The people living below poverty line are identified as per the parameters prescribed by the Planning Commission and the recommendations are made by the Ministry of Rural Development for providing foodgrains. We do not directly allocate the foodgrains to the states. You have stated that Gujarat has made a demand for more allocation of foodgrains. In this regard I would like to say that the allotment is made to every state as per the parameters of the planning Commission in regard to the identification of poors therein. The number of poors is more in the districts of Andhra Pradesh or other states vis-a-vis Gujarat. The number of poors identified by the State Governments is larger in these states. It will make a very lengthy reply if I provide all the figures still. I will send the information to hon. Member, if they want so.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Tell about Gujarat.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Whether it be Gujarat or any other state, we make allotment as per the recommendations of the Ministry of Rural Development and I will look into all what he has said.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: There is a great difference between the data of the Planning Commissions at the Union Government level and State Government level.

MR. SPEAKER: You have been given the opportunity to speak twice. Now you resume your seat.

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: This anomaly should be sorted out. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhusudan Mistry, I have not allowed you. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all hon. Members are aware that the allocation is based on poverty ratio prescribed by the Planning Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, foodgrains are being sold away in the open market. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: I am feeling proud that Andhra Pradesh is taking whatever allocation is made by the Government of India. We are using it 100 per cent. I am requesting other hon. Members also to apply pressure on their

Chief Ministers to get whatever allocation is made to their States fully. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, you may please put your question to the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, we are not getting proper allocations for Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: This is one of the best schemes. ...*(Interruptions)* Please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: This is one of the best schemes. But the Government of India is providing foodgrains under this scheme not for all the families below the poverty line. They are not providing foodgrains to all the beneficiaries who are below the poverty line. They are allocating only to the 15 per cent of the families. We have enough funds. This is one of the best schemes. The Government of India has also decided to give excess foodgrains to the poorer sections of the society. Even the hon. Supreme Court has also given a direction to all the State Governments and to the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Yerrannaidu, please put your question now. Why are you describing this scheme unnecessarily?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: In view of the above-mentioned circumstances, this scheme should be extended. Will the Government extend this scheme to benefit all the poor families who are below the poverty line? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: MR. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the House that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You listen the reply of the hon. Minister.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Antyodya Anna Yojana was started in 2000-2001. An allotment to the tune of 56 thousand tonnes was made by the Government of India under this scheme which was increased by 19 lakh tonnes in 2001-2002. An allocation of 41 lakh tonnes of foodgrains was made in the year 2002-2003. I would like to submit that Antyodya Anna Yojana has been a very successful



scheme. Hon. Naiduji has also said that certainly the scheme has been very successful. Hence the hon. Prime Minister had announced on the 15th August last year that the scheme would be further proliferated. Hon. Finance Minister covered further 50 lakh persons under the scheme in previous budget. Now, instead of 15 percent, 23-24 percent people living below poverty line will be covered under this scheme i.e. 24 persons out of 100 will be covered under it. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to say that this scheme has been extremely successful and as suggested by Shri Yerrannaidu should be further extended. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: At least listen to the reply of the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I accept that the average percentage of foodgrain lifted in the entire country has been 87 percent. This scheme is certainly successful but as suggested it should be further extended. However we have to work within the confines of the resources. The subsidy component of the scheme is approximately two and a half thousand crore rupee certainly the scheme is successful and it should be further extended but we have limited resources at our disposal. In view of these limitations, we have been working out ways to expand the scheme further even though the Government has covered further 50 lakh persons under the scheme recently and will continue to make the efforts in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a big anomaly has come to the fore. Three days ago hon. Prime Minister had held a meeting in regard to the Public Distribution System and later on he said in his statement that the State Governments are not lifting the foodgrains at the expected level. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can speak on it in detail when discussion on the subject is held.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask for a discussion. I consider it. There should be no more supplementaries. I have to go to the next question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, please allow a full discussion on this question. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: See, there are 20 Members in today's list of questions. I have decided that at least five questions be asked everyday. I will allow holding discussion on the subject you want. Then you can ask the questions in detail. Now I am taking the next question. Please sit down. Amar Roy Pradhanji, next question is your's. I have taken the next question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have names of 20 Members in the question list.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

#### **Delimitation Commission**

\*182. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per "The Delimitation Act, 2002", the Government was required to constitute Delimitation Commission;

(b) whether the Commission has been constituted;

(c) if so, its composition and the time by which it will start functioning;

(d) whether the Commission is likely to look into the reasons for not conducting census work of Indian citizens residing in Indian Enclaves within Bangladesh territory;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the justification for excluding these Indian citizens from voter's list while making fresh delimitation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002, the Delimitation Commission was constituted on 12.7.2002 with Justice Shri Kuldip Singh, a retired judge of the Supreme Court as the Chairperson and Shri B.B. Tandon, Election Commissioner and State Election Commissioners of the concerned States as ex-officio members. The Commission started functioning from the day of its constitution, with secretarial assistance from the Election Commission of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Ministry of External Affairs has informed that there are 111 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh to which India has no administrative control or access. Presently, there is no reliable estimate of the population in enclaves of India in Bangladesh as census operations have not been conducted in these enclaves since 1951. It is, therefore, not possible to carry out delimitation work in respect of population residing in the Indian enclaves within Bangladesh territory.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Only the question asked by Shri Amar Roy Pradhan and nothing else will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister that he has set up the Delimitation Commission. Firstly, I would like to know very clearly whether it would be on the basis of the 1991 Census or the 2001 Census. You know that within this period the population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes has increased by over three per cent. If it is so, I would like to know whether you have given proper direction to the Delimitation Commission that the seats of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes either in the Parliament or in the State Legislatures would be according to the number of the population of these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are several Ministers who hail from Bihar but they don't have the information about Bihar. I want to ask a supplementary question about Bihar. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask when the discussion on Bihar is held. The proceedings of the House are conducted according to rules.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Secondly, I do not know from where the hon. Minister or the Ministry of External Affairs has got this number of 111 Indian enclaves. According to the Indo-Pak agreement of 1958, which is popularly known as Nehru-Noon agreement, there were only India and Pakistan and there was no Bangladesh. As per that agreement, it was said that 130 Indian enclaves would be exchanged with the

95 Pakistan enclaves. Later, Pakistan has split into Pakistan and Bangladesh. After that, two enclaves have already been merged with Bangladesh. If that is so, I would like to know one thing very clearly from the hon. Minister. In the Indian enclaves surrounded by Bangladesh the people are living given in the rule of jungle. In your reply you have said: "Presently, there is no reliable estimate of the population in enclaves of India in Bangladesh as census operations have not been conducted in these enclaves since 1951".

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Amar Roy Pradhanji, you ask the question. Why are you making statement. Ask the question only.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, I would like to state that in the 1951 census their number was 37,000. According to the Vande Mataram Sangeet, the population of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh was 33 crore. In that ratio, it will be about more than two lakh people now. They are Indian citizens. When hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and hon. Deputy Prime Minister Shri L.K. Advani were on this side in the Opposition, we asked a question whether these People were Indian citizens or not and it was replied clearly that though they are living in the rule of jungle, yes, they are Indian citizens. If it is so, you have got a duty. ... (Interruptions) I would like to know very clearly from the hon. Minister as to who is responsible for these people? Somebody has to take the responsibility. If the Government of India says no, what would be the fate of these two lakh population?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister should reply after comprehending the question.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, there are two questions which the hon. Member has asked. The first relates to the base year, on the basis of which the delimitation would be carried out. After the passage of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill in the last Session of parliament, the delimitation would be on the basis of the year 2001. As far as the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe seats are concerned, the number of seats would accordingly change in accordance with the population proportionality of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population.

As far as the question of the Indian enclaves in Bangladesh territory is concerned, there are 111 Indian enclaves in the Bangladesh territory and 51 enclaves of Bangladesh in the Indian territory. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, if you go through the report and past history, as per the Indo-Pakistan agreement of 1958, also called Nehru-Noon agreement, it was 130 and 95. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the land boundary agreement between India and Bangladesh was entered into in 1974 and this issue was not specifically addressed in that.

Thereafter, in the last few years, efforts are being made to have negotiations with Bangladesh so that we can come to a final agreement with regard to the enclaves which are in each other's territory. Since there is no administrative control that each country has in the other's territory, these are normally excluded out of our own delimitation proposals because of administrative control as far as these territories are concerned.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, now it is clear that about more than two lakh people, who are living in the rule of jungle in Indian enclaves surrounded by Bangladesh, are so much isolated that there is no school, there is no education, there is no panchayat, there is no police, no military and nothing of the sort. They are living in such conditions, but it is interesting to note regarding this question that after the formation of Bangladesh, it is the generosity of the Indian Government that they have allowed Bangladesh Government to have their census in Bangladeshi enclaves and they have allowed the people of Bangladesh, those who are the voters, to cast their votes, to exercise their franchise, coming through the Indian territory and going to Bangladesh. We have allowed that.

So, I want to know whether the Government would kindly make any negotiation at this stage with Bangladesh that they should also allow us to have census so that people in the Indian enclaves, population of about two lakh, may cast their votes in the Indian territory.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, we do appreciate the hon. Member's concern on a very sensitive issue. After all, they are the enclaves of each other's country in the other's territory. The hon. Member has also been taking up this issue directly with the Ministry of External Affairs and my colleague, Shri Jaswant Singh had, then as the Minister of External Affairs, informed the hon. Member that the process was on for setting up a working up which could demarcate the boundaries so that once that process was done, then the exchange of enclaves could take place. The Government of India is very seriously concerned about this issue and it is, therefore, taking adequate steps in that direction.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Only 52 years have passed! That is the tragedy of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, as per the amendment to the Constitution, delimitation, of course, is taking place on the basis of 2001 Census. Some States are facing problem and especially the State like Kerala where family planning was very successfully conducted and is going on, in certain districts, constituencies are just disappearing and getting added in some other districts. That creates imbalances. It creates problems also. Will the government consider, in consultation with the Delimitation Commission, whether a district can be taken as a unit for the purpose of delimitation etc.? For example, in my district Trichur, one constituency is going whereas in Mallapuram, three more new constituencies are coming. So, you are giving a premium to the people who are not practising family planning and, at the same time, victimising the people who are practising family planning. So, in order to alleviate this difficulty, can the Government think of having a district as a unit in the case of delimitation of constituencies?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, once the mandate through the Constitution is obtained, the Delimitation Act is approved by this House. It was approved in the year 2002. Now, that Act will have to be amended pursuant to the last Constitution amendment and the basis of delimitation is then determined by that Act and implemented by the Delimitation Commission. The Government of India and this hon. House, while passing the Act in 2002, was squarely seized of this issue that we should not give a premium to those States where population control has not taken place and penalise those States which have actually achieved population stabilisation. Therefore, we froze the number of seats at the level at which they were fixed and we also froze the number of seats in relation to every State.

SHRI A.C. JOS: You froze it in relation to the State only. The problem is that one district is losing constituency. Two or three districts are losing constituencies and three other districts are gaining constituencies. Three constituencies are gained in one small district. So, it should be district-wise.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Please allow me to complete.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jos, please take your seat.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the Act provides for taking the State as a unit and within the State, the number of constituencies would remain the same. If we take the district as a unit, it would create a further inequity within the State because constituencies of uneven size would then exist within the same State itself, which is not the object of the delimitation exercise.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this delimitation Commission has been constituted after 30 years. In these thirty years the population of the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has increased a lot. This increase in population is not because of high growth rate in the population of SCs and STs but due to the inclusion of the large number of castes in this category. Consequently your state, Maharashtra has been affected to a large extent where the population of SCs and STs has doubled. After the constitution of the Commission the Government unitedly decided that the census of 1991 will be taken as the basis for delimitation. We had raised the demand at that time also and had stated in the meeting of the all party Committee that the delimitation be done on the basis of 2001 census. Responding to it hon. Minister had said that the delimitation is not possible on the basis of census 2001 because the census report was yet to be notified then. If delimitation is not possible to be carried out on the basis of census 2001 then the election will be held on the basis of census 1971 due to which Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will remain loser to a large extent. It was under this scenario that you changed the basis of delimitation as census 1991. Later on hon. Minister assured the House that the delimitation is possible on the basis of 2001 and the decision to consider 2001 as the basis was taken. However the report of census 2001 is yet to be notified. I had went to meet the Registrar General of India personally in this regard as the number of the SC/ST in Lok Sabha was likely to be raised not by one or two but 17-18 and similarly the number of seats of the Legislative Assembly was likely to be raised by fifty three. RGI stated that the notification was not possible before October. The Election Commission and Delimitation Commission will function on the basis of the notification. Under such circumstances I feel that the Government are conspiring to hold elections on the basis of 1971 census. I would like to know from the Government as to why the census 2001 in place of census 1991 has been chosen for holding elections and carrying out delimitation. I would like to know whether the Government propose to hold elections on the basis of census 2001 and then carry out delimitation and if any such exercise is carried out, how will it be possible while the census report of 2001 is yet to be published. It might be possible that the Government could pass the buck by saying this is the job of delimitation Commission or Election Commission or RGI and what can they do in such a scenario. As such, the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be the maximum sufferer. I would like to know whether the Government are giving guarantee in this regard?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: We have enacted law in the

House to ensure that the delimitation is carried out on the basis of 1991. Thereafter the Members of most of the political parties had started to demand that the delimitation be done on the basis of census 2001 instead of census 1991 because the delimitation that will be done this time will be applicable upto the general election 2031. This demand was raised in this House itself and I strongly object to this allegation by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan in that it was a conspiracy by this Government because every Member in the House had voted in favour of changing the census 2001 as the basis of delimitation instead of census 1991 and only then census 2001 was taken as the basis for delimitation. At that time also the Government had made it clear that the report of the census will be published by the end of the year because the constitution mentions that the elections be held on the basis of the last published census. Since the other formalities have already been completed, the day the report of the census is published, it will be sent to the Delimitation Commission and we will try that the Delimitation Commission gives its report at the earliest.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I had a straightforward question in context of the response by the hon. Minister that day in that the technology has advanced to a great extent and the delimitation will be done on the basis of census 2001. I would like to ask a straightforward question to the Government because the Government is replying here and no other agency including the Delimitation Commission are likely to come to the House to reply in this regard. My question is that whether the Government will carry out delimitation on the basis of census 2001 and if the elections are not held on the basis of 2001 census, on what basis representation will be given to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: As soon as the Government receive census report it will be at once sent to the Delimitation Commission and the Government will try to receive the report from the Delimitation Commission at the earliest to notify it.  
...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Sir, recently the Delimitation Commission said in Hyderabad that it is not possible to implement this according to the 2001 census. ... (Interruptions)  
Sir, before the amendment, the Delimitation Commission.  
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is such a big issue.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to ask two questions. I can not give you more time. You will be given an opportunity to speak on the subject when the discussion on it is held. You know that this question can be raised when the discussion on dalit issue is started.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is related to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I gave you an opportunity to ask the question twice for I knew that our question is important. How can I give you time to ask a question three or four times?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: There is a parliamentary forum also to deal with SC and ST. All of you are conspiring together. ...(Interruptions) I am charging not only you but also leveling the charges against the Congress Party. ...(Interruptions) All are in collusion with each other. Will the work will go on like this? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Rajaiah ji, you ask the question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir the proposal of 2001 which has been moved. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask when I give you the permission to start the discussion.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is a very important question. I would like to submit to you that. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hence I gave you permission to ask the question twice. There are other Members also to ask the questions. I can not give you more time to you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I declare that if the elections are not held on the basis of census 2001, I will sit on the dharna in the House. ...(Interruptions) I am not joking. ...(Interruptions) You want to hold the elections on the basis of 1971 census. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: MR. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask whether the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha seats of Maharashtra. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to ask through me then ask with my permission. Right now you resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not get proper answer you can raise the question under some other rule. Again, I am not going to permit you. I understood that the question was very important, therefore, as a special case, I permitted Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to ask the question twice. Now, whatever reply sought or deem fit by the Minister, he has given the reply. If you are not satisfied with the reply of the Minister, you can raise the question under any other rule. But for asking your question, you cannot stop the proceedings of the entire House. Please do not disturb the proceedings of the House. Please sit down.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is the duty of the Chair. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If it is my duty, you must also perform your duty. If I ask you to sit down, you must sit down. You are not above the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: All dalits are joining Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. Athawale ji, you don't worry about it. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government are playing tricks with SC/ST people. ...(Interruptions) The question is not concerned with any party. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when will my turn come? My turn will not come in this way. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked your question. The hon'ble Minister may give reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, by the time my turn comes it will be 12 o' clock. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have met you twenty times in this connection.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I had permitted you. I do not differ with you in this regard. You have grievances against the Government. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You please ask the Minister to make reply. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: All 'Dalits' are joining Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. What will you do? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singh ji, what are you doing?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all Dalits are joining Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. I was telling Athawale ji not to worry about this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not proper.

[English]

### Pension Scheme for Senior Citizens

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\* 183. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched a subsidized pension scheme for senior citizens through Life Insurance Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) the details of other financial schemes being implemented by the Government for senior citizens;

(d) whether the Government have since considered the request of private insurers for providing the same support for the above scheme; and

(e) if so, the decisions taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Salient features of the scheme are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No similar scheme is being implemented as at present.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. After consideration it has been decided that as at present, only this scheme will be implemented and that too, only through the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

### Statement

#### Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana - Salient features

The scheme will be implemented by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India. The scheme provides for pension at the return of 9%. Government would provide the shortfall in the returns to LIC through budgetary allocation.

#### Eligibility

- Indian citizens aged 55 years and above are eligible.
- One person from a family can apply. The family comprises of spouse, minor children and dependants.
- Any valid age proof would be accepted by LIC.

#### Benefits

- Pension during the life-time of the pensioner.
- In the event of death of the pensioner, purchase price will be returned to the nominee.
- Minimum pension Rs.250/- per month and maximum pension Rs.2,000/- per month.
- Mode payment of pension - Monthly, Quarterly, Half yearly or Yearly as opted.

#### Premium

For monthly pension single premium payable in lump-sum - minimum Rs.33,335/- and maximum Rs.2,66,665/-.

#### Exit Option

After 15 years, the pensioner has the option to withdraw from the scheme. In that event, the entire purchase price would be returned to him.

#### Loan Facility

Upto 75% of the total deposited premium will be allowed in the form of a loan after the policy has completed 3 years. The rate of interest on the loan will be determined by the LIC from time to time.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajaiah Malyala, you can ask you question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Thank you Speaker, Sir. It is very good that the Government is very considerate towards

the question of providing social security scheme to the senior citizens. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have only question No. 183 with me. The hon'ble Minister may please give reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Rajaiah ji, you please ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajaiah Malyala, you can ask your question. Why are you not asking your question?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you not ask your question? You please ask question.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Sir, it is very good to know that the Government is very considerate towards the question of providing social security to the senior citizens. I want to know whether. ...*(Interruptions)*

Recently, the Government have decided to launch a subsidized pension scheme for senior citizens through the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

I want to know as to whether there are any adverse comments on this from any section of the people. What are the details in this regard; and the steps taken to remove the grievances?

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is complete, now hon. Minister should reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The hon. Member wants to know as to whether there has been any adverse comment on this Senior Citizens' Pension Scheme, and if there is any adverse comment on this what the Government intend to do?

I am speaking quite loud. The hon. Member wanted to know whether there have been any adverse comments on the Senior Citizens Pension Scheme, and if there had been any adverse comments, what is it that the Government intends to do about it? I have, so far, not heard any adverse comments.

But, now here Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal and my friend Shri Vilas Muttemwar have adverse comments about it. Even if I do not get a chance to hear them, were they to write to me what their adverse comments are we will certainly attend to them.

SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Sir, it is mentioned in the statement that for the exit options the amount will be paid after 15 years. If it is paid after 15 years, it will be of no use. If it is paid after six years, it will be useful to those persons who are in real need of it. I would like to know whether the Government is going to consider this or not.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: So far this is not an adverse comment. There is an observation in regard to the lock-in period. There have been observations that the lock-in period of Senior Citizens Pension Scheme needs to be shortened. Now, the determination of the lock-in period is not the function of the executive, that is, the Government. It is based on an actuarial calculation and on the actuarial calculation, the Life Insurance Corporation has come to the conclusion that they need a lock-in period of the amount for about 15 years. But I would like to inform the hon. Member that we constantly review these schemes. Even if this is a new scheme, novel scheme, we are not complacent about the totality of the scheme. We are examining what the hon. Member has said but I wish to give no assurance that I would be able to reduce the lock-in period, but we will certainly examine it and if my examination results in any favourable conclusion, then, of course, we will check again. But this must not be treated as an assurance.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Sir, it has been said in the Statement that the minimum premium is Rs.33,000 and odd and the maximum premium is Rs.2.66 lakh. I could make a small calculation. The scheme is not at all attractive. It seems to be for namesake only. Why I say so that is if I happen to invest this Rs.2.66 lakh with a bank at 9 per cent interest, the benefit I could get every month will be more than Rs.2000, whereas the pension that they are giving is only Rs.2000. What is this? I am investing Rs.2,66,665 and the income I can derive by way of interest is more than Rs.2000, whereas you are giving pension of Rs.2000 per month. What is the great attraction in this scheme?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There are a number of averments made here and the hon. Member does not find the scheme to his taste. It is a voluntary scheme. If the hon. Member does not find it according to his taste, he should not subscribe to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Malaisamy, you do not take insurance, you keep it in the bank.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: I would like to know whether a

Government undertaking can do like this. They should make something attractive. They should think of the interest of the senior citizens: they must come out in large measure to do something for the senior citizens.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that it is a voluntary scheme.

DR. V. SAROJA: If Government comes out with a scheme, it should benefit certain senior citizens. It should, in a way, benefit the people over and above the pension point of view. What is this scheme if it does not benefit the beneficiaries?

SHRI A.C. JOS: A lot of senior citizens are here. They are all agitated.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Secondly, the whole concept of the scheme was that with declining interest rate, a return of 9 per cent, that is, actually per month return that was a little more than 9 per cent, we had difficulties on that account. I am not a banker but I can have the hon. Member sit with my officials in this regard and be satisfied on the actual account. But, this was the scheme devised because when returns on investment are declining - because the whole interest rate basis is coming down - then for senior citizens, it was felt that those who are pensioners, who have life-time savings, they must have a source where they should be able to get on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis an assured return, say, of 9 per cent. If the hon. Member says that there is any bank today in the country that is giving 9 per cent return, then that is fine according to me but I do not know which bank is giving 9 per cent return. So, this becomes a theoretical question. We are giving 9 per cent on the scheme. It is the highest return that an investor can today get. We have limited it to senior citizens. I would repeat that it is a voluntary scheme. If it is not in accordance with a citizen's taste, there is no obligation whatsoever, to invest in it.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, insurance is a growing field in the country. This is one of the schemes. There are going to be a large number of schemes. The Minister was just now mentioning about actuarial calculation. This actuaries' field is a very difficult field, and sufficient men are not available in the country.

The Insurance Regulatory Authority of India, which was established in Hyderabad, has taken a very good decision to start an institute there in Hyderabad. It was coming up very well, and it was trying to establish links with London School of Actuaries. When that was the situation, it is being discouraged - what we heard in the Press - by the Government of India. If it is going to be correct, I hope the Minister will rectify it and

encourage the institution and give sufficient funds to develop the actuarial system.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There are two aspects here, about the actuarial science and its relevance in today's world; the institute established by IRDA in Hyderabad, and whether it is going to continue or not continue on actuarial. Yes Sir, it is difficult to get trained actuaries today. The whole science of actuarial determination has actually become somewhat often archaic science and there is a great deal of re-examination of the total relevance of actuarial science in the world of finance, particularly, of insurance. The IRDA is addressing itself to. Now, I have the new Chairman of IRDA. ...*(Interruption)* I am grateful that the hon. Member commends us for the choice of the Chairman. But, we are not, the institute is not going to be shut down. There were certain difficulties with the institute, which have been rectified. The institute will continue and, certainly nationally and internationally we will try both, Sir, expand the actuarial trade in the country, as also modernise it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to extend my thanks and welcome the hon'ble Minister as there had been a long-standing demand for launching such a scheme for the senior citizens. I would like to know from the Government whether it is going to specify the amount of subsidy in this regard. I would also like to know about the response to the scheme. Besides this, I would also like to know whether the Government propose to review the scheme after three months and propose to make provision regarding the premature withdrawal with the disincentive in case any senior citizen is ill. I would like to advise for the same.

*[English]*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I recollect it correctly, the first point is about subsidy. When the Scheme was first announced here, I myself announced it, we had assured the Life Insurance Corporation that the gap that will be left in the LIC's income, from the amounts that are deposited under the Scheme and the actual realisation by the LIC, will be met by the Finance Ministry of the Government. We have a target of 100,000 subscribers to the scheme. On the basis of a 100,000, our calculation was that the subsidy element to LIC would be around, I cannot say exactly, Rs. 200 crore to Rs. 300 crore per annum. We had committed ourselves to meeting that requirement.

As to the progress of the Scheme, the target is 100,000. In the first 15 days of the Scheme, for which I have the figures, the total subscribers to the Scheme have crossed 34,000. It



means more than one-third of the Scheme has already been subscribed.

Do we have a review mechanism on a quarterly basis or three-monthly basis? Personally, 'three-monthly' is too leisurely for such schemes. Therefore, at the launch of the Scheme, I have already said that I would really like to know on a weekly basis about the progress of the Scheme.

There is one more point. I find that a large amount of subscribers to the scheme is urban. I want to share with the House that 80 per cent of the subscribers to the Scheme is urban, and 20 per cent is rural. I am not happy with this record. It means that the Life Insurance Corporation is not reaching far enough to the rural citizens to extend this benefit. This is born largely of the sedentary habits that we all have: we prefer to be in our offices than to be out of our offices. I have set them a target that of the total amount of the scheme that has to be subscribed, though it should really be the other way round, at-least, 50 per cent must be rural and 50 per cent urban.

There is one more fact that I would like to mention here. The hon. Members from the East would recollect that there were two schemes and I had particularly requested them to please promote it. I find that even of this 80 per cent urban, the majority is from the Western part of India, that is, the majority is from Maharashtra and Gujarat. This is not, again, acceptable to me. The Scheme must reach out: it must go to the East, it must go to Orissa and it must go to the North-East.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It must go to Rajasthan also.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I appeal to the hon. Members to promote the Scheme, even if they do not like the Scheme. Please promote it in the South also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Please ask them to involve us and we will be happy to promote it.

### **Export of Mangoes to China**

\*184. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of India's exports to China in respect of fruits and vegetables;

(b) whether China has shown keen interest in importing Indian mangoes after the recent visit of Indian Prime Minister to China;

(c) if so, whether India has started export of mangoes to China;

(d) if so, the quantum and value of mangoes exported;

(e) the estimated quantity of mangoes to be exported to China during the remaining period of current year and estimate of foreign exchange likely to be earned from this export;

(f) whether any negotiations are in progress with China to boost export of other fruits and vegetables;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps being taken to increase the volume of trade of other fruits and vegetables with China?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

(a) The total value of exports of fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed) to China during 2001-02 and 2002-03 are Rs. 25.93 lakhs and Rs. 181.73 lakhs respectively. (Source: DGCI&S)

(b) to (d) Following the Prime Minister's visit to China, India has recently sent a consignment of mangoes as an export promotion initiative.

(e) It is premature to make an estimate of export of mangoes to China at this stage.

(f) to (h) As a follow up to the Phyto-sanitary protocol for other fresh fruits and vegetables submitted to China, a request has been made to consider opening of imports of few fruits and vegetables recently.

SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: In the statement, the hon. Minister has stated that the total exports of fruits and vegetables in 2001-02 was of the value of Rs. 25.93 lakh, and during 2002-03, it has increased to Rs. 181.73 lakh. I want to know the target fixed for export of fruits and vegetables during the current year, particularly after the visit of hon. Prime Minister to China in June.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I will elaborate on this. As far as fruits and vegetables are concerned, there was some difficulty in exporting them to China for the simple reason that China have various kinds of sanitary and phyto-sanitary clearances, as far as Indian fruits and vegetables are concerned.

For the last two years we had put up a proposal to China that 17 different fruits and vegetables could be purchased by

China from India on a regular basis. Therefore, approval of mango as a commodity, which has now taken place during the Prime Minister's visit, is the first step in that direction. We have now requested China that instead of clearing each one of the balance 16 items separately if they could expedite this. I personally had a meeting with the Chinese State Minister to make a request for this. The Chinese are seriously considering this.

Therefore, through the normal channels the export of fruits and vegetables was not taking place. This insignificant figure that we have mentioned could, perhaps, be a part of the border trade which was taking place through the various border channels. Now that this is going to increase, we will have to see it in the first few years. As of today only mango has been approved. Once other commodities are going to be added to it, this will substantially increase in volumes. Therefore, we are now just at the stage where we are watching how our trade is going to pick up for these fruits and vegetables. No specific targets for fruit and vegetable have been fixed.

SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Sir, as a result of the Prime Minister's recent visit to China, the two countries have entered into many bilateral agreements. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether action on these agreements; particularly in regard to trade, has been initiated; whether the bilateral trade via Nathu La Pass and Sikkim has started or not; what items are being exported to China apart from mangoes and vegetables; and what items India is importing from China.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: As far as opening of the border post trading position at Nathu La is concerned, we will have to set up the Customs Posts there and various administrative steps will have to be taken before the same can be operationalised. It will take some reasonable time before the same can be operationalised. I may also mention to the hon. Member that we have already two border posts which are existing - one in Himachal Pradesh and one in Uttaranchal - but border trade is a very insignificant part of Indo-China bilateral trade. Our total bilateral trade is to the tune of five billion US dollars. Five billion US dollars will be in excess of Rs.20,000 crore. As against this, the border trade is only of about Rs.9 crore. Therefore, the main trade is through the normal trading channel which is taking place.

As far as the normal trading is concerned, our trade with China, our exports with China, have picked up substantially in the last few years. Chinese imports have also been picking up each year. Most of these are confined to intermediate products which are used for industrial activity. Last year, our exports to China increased in one year by 106 per cent and

the trade gap has narrowed considerably. We are hoping that this year we will be able to virtually eliminate the adverse trade balance that we had against China.

Amongst the items which we exported to China, among the largest items, the last year have been steel, various steel and iron related items, plastic related items and various chemicals. Most of these are intermediate products which are used for industrial production.

SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Constituency Krishnagiri is in District Dharmapuri which has maximum yield of mangoes and vegetables in comparison to the other districts of Tamil Nadu. Dharmapuri is producing maximum mangoes but the growers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce due to lack of facilities for selling their produce and lack of procurement of their produce for export. Indian mangoes are very much in demand in China. We can earn considerable amount of foreign exchange from exporting mangoes, and can improve the conditions of our fruit and vegetable growers.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question. There is shortage of time. You may not get a reply if the Question Hour is over. If you want a reply, ask your question.

SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any proposal to procure maximum mangoes and vegetables from Dharmapuri district for export to China and other countries. If so, what are the steps the Government is going to take in this regard?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, I may mention that there is a very large landmass in India where mangoes in particular are produced. There is an increasing demand of mangoes world over. In fact, if two Indian food items have become mascots of our food exports internationally, one is mangoes, one is basmati rice. Mango itself does not, in terms of money, figure in very large quantities. Now trade in grapes is also increasing. What we are trying to do is to popularise the concept of Indian mango internationally.

12.00 hrs.

As a result of which the APEDA now, to popularise the sale of mangoes from all parts of the country including Tamil Nadu, has organised mango shows all over the world. They have been held at various prime places internationally. For instance, in England, it was held at Selfridges' Stores for a number of days so that it gets prominence of the media there and the Indian mangoes are in demand. As a result of this, the sales have also increased.

As a result of popularising these mangoes, the second

hurdle which we had to cross was with regard to getting the health standard of Indian mangoes accepted internationally. Except Japan and Australia, almost all countries have not accepted it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Sir, mango is an important export commodity. The mango exporters face many problems. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to set up Mango Board for the promotion of export of mango?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, APEDA is doing this work. APEDA is taking care of this single food item. So there is no need to set up a separate Board for this.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 185 - Shri Dalpat Singh Parste. Not present.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

### Capital Punishment

\*185. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to abolish Capital Punishment in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have obtained the views of eminent lawyers and other experts in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

### Cotton Textile Industry

\*186. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased be state:

(a) whether the Cotton Textile Industry in the country is facing a serious crisis and a number of mills are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment of the situations which have led to the crisis in this industry;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide relief to this industry; and

(e) the extent to which the Government have achieved success as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (e) No Sir. The cotton textile industry is not facing any serious crisis, which is also evident from the increased domestic production and also growth in exports. However, owing to various internal and external factors some units have become sick or are on the verge of sickness. A number of units are also referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

On the basis of quick studies conducted in the cotton spinning sector reveal that about 35% units are operating profitably, 38% are such which need corrective measures to prevent them from moving towards sickness and have potential for revival while remaining are in such a situation that their revival may not be possible unless promoters come forward with significant investments.

The main reasons for units becoming sick or moving towards sickness are obsolete technology, lack of economies of scale, poor management and heavy burden of debt servicing (interest payment), low productivity and poor quality of cotton and earlier distortions in the fiscal policy regime.

In the Budget 2003-04, fiscal corrections were carried out providing a level playing field to all sub-sectors of the textile industry. Basic customs duty was reduced from 25% to 5% across the textile sector to encourage modernization and technology upgradation under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme. Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC), was launched in year 2000 to improve productivity and quality of Indian cotton. In addition, Finance Minister also announced that the Government is considering a mechanism for

restructuring the debt portfolios of viable/potentially viable units in order to prevent sickness of the textile industry.

As on June 30, 2003 under TMC, launched with the objective of increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination, 109 Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMC) are being modernized and 262 Ginning & Pressing units have been assisted. In order to provide organic linkages between farm and industry, the Government has taken initiatives to popularize integrated cotton cultivation.

The Budget 2003-04 announcements will accelerate the pace of investment specially in the weaving/processing and also in the organized sector. In order to finalize the mechanism for debt restructuring, as promised in the Budget 2003-04, Government is in consultation with all stakeholders.

[English]

#### **Refund of Investments**

\*187. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

COL.(RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of plantation companies floated during 1990s had collected huge amount from the investors and are not returning their invested amount;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have given directions to these companies to refund the amount to investors alongwith the interest thereof;

(d) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Government on the efficiency in refunding the money to investors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per information with SEBI 664 CIS (Collective Investment Scheme) entities had reportedly mobilized about Rs. 3518 crore.

(c) SEBI has already issued directions under section 11B of the SEBI Act, 1992 to 605 CIS entities, directing them to refund the money collected under the schemes, with returns due to the investors as per the terms of the offer, within a period of one month from the date of the order.

(d) and (e) As per information provided by SEBI 158 entities have repaid over Rs.1365 crore to their investors. Besides, 560 entities and their concerned officials have been debarred from operating in the capital market and/or from accessing the capital market for a period of 5 years. Their cases have also been referred to the respective State Governments to have civil/criminal proceedings initiated against them for apparent offences of fraud, cheating, criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of public funds. SEBI has launched criminal prosecution against 190 entities and their directors for their failure to wind up their CIS to repay their investors. In the case of 49 erring CIS entities, SEBI has requested the police authorities to file a First Information Report against the entities and/or their concerned officials.

#### **Global Investment Agreement**

\*188. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

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

(a) whether the Government are seeking the support of developing countries against the launching of World Trade Organisation's negotiations on global investment agreement;

(b) whether the proposed international agreement suggests for negotiations about the foreign direct investment by the developed countries at the WTO;

(c) if so, the names of the countries who have extended their support to India's point of view at the proposed WTO Ministers' Conference in Cancun to be held in September, 2003; and

(d) the extent to which the proposals made by the developed countries in the matter of direct foreign investment go contrary to the interest of the developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The Doha Ministerial Declaration stated that negotiations on a multilateral framework on investment will take place after the Fifth Ministerial Conference in Cancun on the basis of a decision to be taken, by explicit consensus, at

that Conference on modalities of negotiations, Based on the Doha Ministerial Declaration, a clarificatory process has been, going on at the WTO in the Working Group on the Relationship between Trade and Investment.

One of the elements under discussion in the clarificatory process is the scope and definition of investment and this includes foreign direct investment as a form of investment. Discussion has been focused on clarifying and analyzing all elements including foreign direct investment so as to have a common understanding of these elements in any possible multilateral framework.

India has expressed its concerns about the launch of negotiations based on simple modalities which do not give an idea of the nature and direction of obligations under a proposed agreement. Some developing countries, along with India, are arguing that at this stage, there is divergence of views and lack of clarity even among proponents regarding the structure of any possible multilateral framework or its components. Hence, they want the clarification process launched at Doha to be continued. This position was reiterated by a group of twelve developing countries consisting of India, Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe in their joint paper (WT/GC/W/501) of 8 July 2003 in response to a paper by the European Community (WT/GC/W/491) proposing simple modalities.

A similar position has been taken at a recent meeting of the Ministers of Trade from Eastern and Southern Africa in Nairobi, the Second LDC Trade Ministers' meeting in Dhaka and the Trade Ministers' meeting of the African Union in Mauritius.

In addition, a group of twenty six developing countries consisting of India, Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Guatemala, Honduras, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe, submitted a paper to the Trade Negotiations Committee (TN/C/W/13) on 6 June 2003 in which on the issue of investment, they reiterated the position that in spite of intensive discussions, a large number of differences still exist on many of the subjects identified for clarification and there is a need for further analysis and that any modalities to be decided in Cancun by explicit consensus need to provide certainty on the structure and precise content of negotiations.

#### Trade with Pakistan

\*189. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

(a) the total trade between India and Pakistan during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are exploring the possibility of boosting trade ties between India and Pakistan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether as a confidence building measure, both the countries have cleared some items for import which were earlier banned by each other;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the list of items on which trade restrictions have been placed between both the countries alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):  
(a) Figures of India's total trade with Pakistan during each of the last three years are given below:-

(Million US Dollars)			
Year	Export	Import	Total Trade
2000-2001	186.83	64.03	250.86
2001-2002	144.01	74.76	208.77
2002-2003	205.81	44.52	250.33

(b) and (c) It is Government's policy to promote trade ties with all countries including Pakistan. As a WTO Member, Government of India continues to accord Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan, being another WTO member. But Pakistan has not yet reciprocated this requirement under WTO. India has also been exchanging tariff concessions with South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member countries under SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA). Other trade promotion measures include exchange of business delegations, participation in fairs and exhibitions and buyer-seller meets etc.

(d) to (f) While India has not banned the imports of any specific item from Pakistan, only 600 Indian items are notified by Pakistan for its import.

In response to Prime Minister's peace initiative, Pakistan Prime Minister in his statement on May 6, 2003 announced that in order to give impetus to SAARC, Pakistan had decided to place additional 78 items on the positive list of trade with India. These include, milk, onion, fruits, seeds, groundnut oil and oil cake, chemicals, metals and semi-precious stones etc.

A formal order in this regard was subsequently issued by the Pakistani authorities.

Items other than those mentioned in the positive list of Pakistan (600+78) for imports from India are not allowed to be imported from India.

#### **Appreciation of Rupee against Dollar**

\*190. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether value of rupee against dollar has appreciated during the last one year;
- (b) if so, whether this appreciation of rupee against dollar has affected our export during the above period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the remedial measures being taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) Yes Sir. The US Dollar has been depreciating against many currencies of the World including Indian Rupee over the last one year.

(b) and (c) Despite the Rupee appreciation vis-a-vis US Dollar, the value of exports of merchandise goods has witnessed a growth of 11.12% in dollar terms during April-May, 2003-2004 and a record exports of 52 billion dollars in 2002-03 registering a robust growth rate of 19.2% in 2002-03.

(d) The exchange rate of Rupee is broadly market determined. However, the RBI monitors closely the developments in the financial markets at home and abroad and carefully coordinates its market operations with suitable monetary, regulatory and other measures, as considered necessary from time to time.

#### **Cooperative Bank Scam**

\*191. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to review the working of the Cooperative banks functioning in Gujarat and other parts of the country in view of large number of cases of fraud unearthed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of the bank scams reported during the last six months and amount involved therein, State-wise;

(c) whether there has been an inordinate delay in framing charges on those fraud cases;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken to prosecute the scamsters and check such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), there was no fraud/bank scam relating to State Cooperative Banks (SCBs)/District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) during the period from 1.1.2003 to 30.6.2003. However, 117 cases of frauds were reported by 98 Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) involving a total amount of Rs.6047.7 lakhs during the same period. State-wise details of frauds reported to RBI during the last six months are given in the enclosed statement.

RBI is reviewing the position of banks involved in frauds on a quarterly basis by calling for returns/statements from the banks. RBI has issued guidelines/instructions from time to time to UCBs to curb / prevent instances of fraud. Banks have been advised that as a general rule, all cases of fraud, on banks whether committed by outsiders or on their own, or with the connivance of bank officials or committed by banks' officials themselves should invariably be reported to the investigating agencies. Criminal cases wherever appropriate should be filed with the Courts immediately after the bank has concluded that a fraud has been perpetrated.

(c) and (d) As per the reports received by the RBI from the concerned banks, there has not been any inordinate delay in framing charges on those found guilty except in one case in which the bank filed a police complaint only after the matter was taken up by RBI.

(e) Frauds/scams committed by the Management of the UCBs are required to be investigated by the Registrar of Cooperative of the concerned States/Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies as the case may be, for taking appropriate action. Besides, RBI has taken various measures to strengthen the system of regulation and supervision of cooperative banks such as restricting UCBs from borrowing in call money market, prohibiting them from lending directly or indirectly against security of shares to individuals/stock brokers/ any other entity, and placing restriction on issuing of bankers' cheques/pay orders/demand drafts against instruments presented for clearing unless the proceeds thereof are collected and credited to the account of the parties

concerned. These banks have also been advised that they should constitute an Audit Committee of the Board of Directors who should review the internal audit/statutory audit reports and RBI inspection reports and monitor the action taken to rectify the deficiencies pointed out in such reports.

#### Statement

*Details of frauds reported to RBI during the last 6 months indicating the number of cases, number of banks and the amount involved*

State	No. of Cases	No. of banks involved	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
Gujarat	17	15	392.62
Karnataka	15	14	5004.73
Orissa	1	1	0.82
Madhya Pradesh	2	2	29.62
Tamil Nadu	4	4	20.27
Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur	2	2	3.88
Andhra Pradesh	3	3	48.66
Rajasthan	1	1	1.40
Maharashtra	65	49	519.25
Kerala	7	7	26.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>6047.70</b>

#### Liquidity Support to Banks

\*192. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many banks have witnessed sudden withdrawal of amount by depositors throughout the country for unknown reasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India extends liquidity support to banks facing sudden and unforeseen liquidity;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any banks have approached the RBI

with a request to rescue them from their sudden and unforeseen liquidity problems; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the RBI thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) Under Section 17 of Reserve Bank of India Act, RBI can extend liquidity support to banks facing sudden and unforeseen liquidity problems. Recently, such support was extended to ICICI Bank Ltd., which faced large scale withdrawals reportedly triggered by certain press reports emanating in Gujarat. RBI granted Rs.809 crores against Government of India securities for four days to enable this Bank to meet the anticipated heavy cash withdrawals.

#### Business with China

\*193. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian and Chinese banks have decided to work closely to support business;

(b) whether business leaders have requested the Reserve Bank of India and Central Bank of China to collaborate closely so that there is a synergy in banking policies of the two countries; and

(c) if so, to what extent both India and China have agreed to help the business to flourish in both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) During the visit of the Prime Minister of India to China in June 2003 a declaration was signed under which both countries have agreed to launch a financial dialogue and cooperation mechanism. China has offered buyers' credit from Chinese EXIM Bank worth US\$ 500 million to promote mutual investment.

#### State Finance Corporations

\*194. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to allow Reserve Bank of India to have a supervisory ambit role on SFCs (State Financial Corporations):

(b) if so, whether the Government have also any plan to form a National Level Regulatory Authority to regulate the entire operation of all SFCs in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government for overall restructuring/recapitalisation of SFCs according to the recommendations of Gupta Committee?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) There is no plan for Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to have a supervisory role on State Financial Corporations (SFCs) or to form a National Level Regulatory Authority for SFCs. The G.P. Gupta Committee made a number of recommendations including recapitalisation of SFCs. The Central Govt. held consultations with RBI, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in regard to recapitalisation of SFCs. RBI/Central Govt. are not shareholders in SFCs. Since SFCs are State entities, it has not been considered expedient by RBI to provide any funds for recapitalisation of SFCs. IDBI and SIDBI expressed their inability to share the cost of recapitalisation due to their difficult financial position. The State Governments were, therefore, requested that in order to attract long-term finance from FIs, SFCs should improve recovery of NPAs and re-establish their viability.

#### **Upliftment of Tribals**

\*195. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated special schemes for the upliftment of most backward communities amongst tribals i.e. the Primitive Tribal Group and Indigenous Tribal groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations to which assistance was provided for their upliftment during the last three years;

(d) the amount sanctioned for NGOs during the current year budget; and

(e) the manner in which funds were utilized by these organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have launched a special scheme in the year 1998-99 to ensure the upliftment of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs).

The scheme is implemented through State Governments and NGOs. Any programme for their upliftment can be taken up under this scheme.

(c) Assistance was provided to 13 NGOs during 2000-01, 21 NGOs during 2001-02 and 15 NGOs during 2002-03 for the development of PTGs.

(d) Rs. 6 crores have been allocated for NGOs during current year 2003-04.

(e) The funds were utilized by the organizations for a number of programmes such as mobile dispensaries, construction of hostels for PTG children, hospitals and Handloom and Weaving training centers, setting up Residential and Non-Residential Schools, vocational training for skill development in the fields of carpentry, forest produce, garment, handicraft etc., health and educational awareness programme, culture and sports, solar electrification and mushroom and bamboo cultivation.

*[Translation]*

#### **Disposal of Damaged Foodgrains**

\*196. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently asked the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to dispose of the damaged foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated quantity of damaged foodgrains at present;

(d) the estimated loss incurred by the Food Corporation of India on this account; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to improve the functioning of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been asked to dispose off the stocks of damaged foodgrains as cattle feed, 'free of cost', to the drought affected States and to sell the



balance quantities to bona fide users, according to the prescribed procedure, not below the reserve prices determined for the purpose. The position of the stock of damaged foodgrains, as reported by the FCI (as on 30-6-2003) is as under:

Commodity	Quantity
Wheat	18389
Rice	97696
Paddy	2008
Total	118093

Based on the difference between the economic cost of the foodgrains and the amount realised on the sale of damaged foodgrains, calculated at reserve prices, the FCI estimates a loss of about Rs.107.03 crore in respect of 1,18,093 MTs of damaged foodgrains available as on 30th June, 2003.

Several steps have been taken/are being taken to improve the FCI's functioning, such as:-

- (i) Reduction in the establishment cost;
- (ii) Reduction in transit and storage losses;
- (iii) Improved inventory planning to ensure adequate foodgrains stocks at the Depots in different parts of the country for the Targeted Public Distribution System and other Welfare Schemes;
- (iv) Maintaining the quality of foodgrains procured, stored and issued;
- (v) Speedy disposal of old and damaged foodgrains;
- (vi) Strengthening of vigilance and security;
- (vii) Increased focus on procurement in non-traditional States.

*[English]*

### **Fraudulent Exports**

\*197. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have apprehended a number of exporters for fraudulent exports during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the firms alongwith the

irregularities of each one of them together with the amount involved, State-wise; and

(c) the preventive and corrective steps initiated against each one of them and against the exporters as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir; Government has apprehended 615 firms for fraudulent exports during the last three years. The total duty involved is Rs.2805.15 crores and the details of each case are provided in enclosed statement-I, II and III. Apart from punitive measures such as confiscation of goods involved, imposition of penalty and in some cases, arrest and detention under COFEPOSA, by way of preventive measures, officers dealing with examination and assessment of export cargo have been asked to be vigilant to curb attempts at export frauds by unscrupulous exporters. Officers have also been asked to be alert in dealing with sensitive commodities and exports to sensitive destinations. Checks have been incorporated in the automated customs clearance system to detect such cases. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence also gathers periodic intelligence regarding such frauds and disseminates the same to all the Custom Houses in the country.

Various safeguards have been in-built in the export promotion schemes to prevent misuse. Some of these are as follows:-

- (i) Licences issued under Advance Licensing Scheme are subject to actual user condition and are non-transferable.
- (ii) Capital goods imported under EPCG Scheme are subject to actual user condition till fulfilment of export obligation.
- (iii) A nexus is specified for duty free import under DFRC Scheme.
- (iv) In respect of items having DEPB rate of 17% or above, value cap is specified to prevent unintended benefit. Instructions already exist for verification of Present Market Value (PMV) in respect of products having DEPB rate of 10% or more and the exporter is required to give a declaration that the benefit under DEPB Scheme shall not exceed 50% of PMV.
- (v) Drawback Caps have been specified in All industry Rates of Drawback to prevent availment of higher drawback by over-invoicing. Present Market Value checks have also been provided for goods exported to sensitive destinations.

**Statement-I****Cases Booked by Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence during the last 3 years**

State	Name of the firm	Irregularities detected as alleged in the SCN alongwith the name of scheme	Amount Involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
Gujarat	M/s. Adani Exports Ltd.	Over valuation in export of CD ROMs to avail excess DEPB	7829 lacs (declared value) 1332 lacs DEPB demanded
	M/s. Intercontinental (India)	-do-	2215 lacs (declared value) 541 lacs DEPB demanded
	M/s. Colortex	-do-	1233 lacs (declared value) sought to be reduced to 67.23 lacs)
	M/s. Advance Exports	-do-	466 lacs (declared value) 48 lacs excess DEPB denied
	M/s.Kanchi Impex P. Ltd.	Overvaluation of inferior quality garments to avail drawback	160 lacs (declared value) 23.76 lacs drawback claimed
	M/s. Sonu Exports	Export of inferior quantity and quality of fabrics by over-valuing the same	15.45 lacs (declared value)
	M/s Anglo French Drugs and Industries, Gujrat	Non fulfilment of export obligation. Misuse of EPCG scheme	86.35
	M/s Pioneer Embroideries, Gujrat	-do-	27.11
Tamil Nadu	Foundation Garments, Chennai	Non-realisation of export proceeds - Misuse of Drawback Scheme	9.10
	Sphereo Sports, Chennai	-do-	2.66
	Classic Clothing, Chennai	-do-	14.57
	Aafaaq leathers, Chennai	-do-	18.46
	Pan Clothing, Chennai	-do-	14.68
	Palaniappa Industries, Chennai	-do-	3.40
	Tex India, Chennai	-do-	0.91
	India Leathers, Chennai	-do-	2.60

1	2	3	4
	Select Leathers, Chennai	-do-	1.05
	Annai Abhirami Leathers	-do-	1.92
	Alpine Clothing, Chennai	Non-realisation of export proceeds - Misuse of	6.38
	Latin Exports, Chennai	-do-	2.37
	Shah Garments, Chennai	-do-	0.19
	Ind Fabrics, Chennai	-do-	0.02
	B. Brother, Chennai	-do-	7.14
	Payal Exports, Chennai	-do-	62.13
	Aakash Trade International, Madurai	-do-	34.12
	Update Clothing, Chennai	-do-	15.42
	Bharath Impex, Chennai	-do-	126.49
	Y.K.Exports, Chennai	-do-	102.46
	Sripal Garments, Chennai	-do-	42.18
	Dhanasware Overseas, Chennai	-do-	15.42
	Champa Frabics, Chennai	-do-	67.38
	Global Network Enterprises, Chennai	Misdeclaration of weight - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	7.19
	M.S.Enterprises, Chennai	-do-	6.49
	Star International, Chennai	Misuse of Drawback Scheme	14.39
	KVS. Exports, Chennai	-do-	65.60
	Gemini Garments, Chennai	-do-	124.19
	Mercantile India, Chennai	Misdeclaration/over-declaration of quantity - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	176.37
	Presidency Kid Leather Ltd., Chennai	Suppression of job work details - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	87.26
	Firoz & Co., Chennai	Misdeclaration regarding job work details - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	2.43

1	2	3	4
	Royal Links, Chennai	-do-	14.46
	Balaji Industrial Corporation, Chennai	do-	4.89
	Adani Exports, Chennai	-do-	11.02
	Seayes Systems, Chennai	-do-	55.89
	West Asia Trading Co. , Chennai	-do-	2.23
	Seven Star Logistics, Chennai	Over-valuation of export goods - Forgery of bank realisation certificates - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	46.63
	Trans. Ind Impex, Chennai	-do-	26.57
	Exim Engineering, Chennai	-do-	13.27
	Sri Mahalakshmi Iron & Steel, Chennai	-do-	13.35
	Primestone & Monuments, Chennai	-do-	13.35
	Global Network Enterprises, Chennai (Two SCNs issued - Export through AIR & SEA)	Availment of ineligible Drawback - Misuse of Drawback Scheme	57.70
	Tirumala Traders, Chennai (by AIR)	-do-	38.41
	Tirumala Traders, Chennai (by SEA)	-do-	32.25
	Packer Sea Foods	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	0.99
	Packer Sea Foods	-do-	3.58
	Metal Sales, Chennai	Violation of Actual User Condition - Misuse of DEEC Scheme	25.00
	Nambunayaki Exports	Export of inferior goods by overinvoicing to avail ineligible duty drawback	14.98
Andhra Pradesh	Pashupathi Traders. Secunderabad	Misdeclaration of description - over - valuation - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	62.27

1	2	3	4
	Vishnu Merchants, Secunderabad	-do-	135.81
	Babu Enterprises, Guntur, A.P.	Over-valuation - Misuse of Drawback	62.84
	Vishnu Merchants, Hyderabad	Misdeclaration of description/ value - Misuse of DEPB Scheme	77.89
	Sri. Saritha Synthetics Ltd., A.P.	Drawback Scheme (overvaluation of Export goods)	5.92
Uttar Pradesh	M/S Creative Exports, Varanashi	The party had attempted to export T Shirts by overvaluation to claim higher drawback.	7.20
	Salem Trading Inc Noida	-do-	169.37
	M/s. Safetag International	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	103
	D. K. Brothers	Over-valuation, misdeclaration, fraudulent availment of duty drawback	23.39
	Alex Enterprises	Fraudulent availment of duty drawback -	42.90
	Brij Impex International	Over-valuation, misdeclaration, fraudulent availment of duty drawback	70.56
Kerala	Baby Marine Exports, Calicut	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	319.60
Kerala	Baby Marine Exports, Calicut	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	214.12
Kerala	Capithan Exporting Co, Quilon	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	174.90
Karnataka	S.K. Enterprises	Export of inferior goods by overinvoicing to avail ineligible duty drawback	12.66
	N.M. Exports	Export of inferior goods by overinvoicing to avail ineligible duty drawback	61.67
	Baraka Overseas Traders, Mangalore	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	174.77

1	2	3	4
	<b>Baraka Overseas Traders, Mangalore</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	31.78
	<b>Baraka Overseas Traders, Mangalore</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	287.27
	<b>Sterling Foods Mangalore</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	36.88
	<b>Sterling Foods Mangalore</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	45.76
	<b>Baby Marine Products</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	162.30
	<b>Baby Marine Products</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	288.42
	<b>Blue Water Foods</b>	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit	8.58
	<b>Banashankari Silk Handlooms Industries, Bangalore</b>	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	40.43
	<b>Trendz Impex, Bangalore</b>	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	22.17
	<b>Namaste Exports, Bangalore</b>	Export Proceeds not realized, Drawback to be refunded	1.23
	<b>Fabritex Exports, Bangalore</b>	Undue drawback on Exports	16.75
	<b>Cosmos Leather Exports</b>	Contravention of Customs Notfn; 160/92 & Conditions of EXIM Policy	21.06
	<b>Texport Overseas</b>	Misuse of Duty Drawback	5.00
	<b>Blue Street Fashion</b>	Misuse of Duty Drawback	1.00
	<b>Alwear Clothing</b>	Misuse of Duty Drawback	38.00
	<b>SRF Ltd.</b>	DEEC Scheme	63.45
	<b>Flora Silks</b>	EPCG Scheme	30.35
	<b>Sejawat Industries Ltd &amp; A&amp;A Zippers</b>	EPCG Scheme	238.23
	<b>Paparika Wear and Co.</b>	Misuse of Duty Drawback	4.28 (B'lore SCN) 1.88 (Mumbai SCN)
	<b>Leela Scottish</b>	Misuse of Duty Drawback	5.54 (B'lore SCN) 0.36 (Chennai SCN)
	<b>Choice Apparels</b>	Non fulfilment of Export Obligation	37.56

1	2	3	4
	Mysore Polymers and Rubber Pdts.	Non fulfilment of Export Obligation	65.67
	Kozy Silks (P) Ltd.	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	13.01
	Shetron Ltd	Non fulfilment of Export Obligation	446.16
	Silk Fabs Exports	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	61.83 (Chennai SCN) 155.30 (Calcutta SCN)
	Motorola (I) Ltd	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	96.17
	Motorola (I) Ltd	Misuse of DEEC Scheme, Non fulfilment of Export Obligation	75.82
	TTK Ltd	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	3.93
	Bells Control Ltd, Mysore	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	61.84
	Wilkinson Sword	Non fulfilment of Export Obligation	27.91
	Stumpp Schule Somappa and Sons	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	132.32
	Pierre Colsun and Sons	EPCG Scheme	7.24
	AT & S, Nanajangud	Non realization of Export proceeds where draw back was claimed	24.95 (Case transferred to JDGFT)
	Sunwear and Group Cos.	Misuse of Duty Drawback	210.34
	Prabha Enterprises	DEPB Scheme—claiming ineligible credit	18.78
	Motorola	Non fulfilment of Export Obligation under DEEC Scheme	61.06
	Amisha International	Diverting of duty free raw materials and exporting Bricks and waste.	491.80 (Bangalore SCN) 20.94 (Chennai SCN)
	Sansri Trading Corporation	Diverting of duty free raw materials and exporting inferior goods	Under investigation
Maharashtra	Merchant Exports (India), Mumbai	DEPB Scheme (overvaluation of Export goods)	12.65
	M/s Delster Audio Video Ltd.	Misuse of advance licence	17.19

1	2	3	4
	Ganesh Yamtex Exports/ Aadee Exports, Mumbai	-do-	41.06
	M/s Jupiter Exports	Fraudulent claim of higher DEPB DEPB	80.56
	M/s Kanchi Impex Corporation	Export of low value RMG by overvaluation to claim higher drawback.	---
	M/s Stanley Industries (India) Ltd.	Misdeclaration of export goods to claim higher DEPB	490.00 (FOB) 6.28 ascertained value
	M/s KSE Inc.	Excess duty draw back claim. DRAWBACK	0.41
	M/s Varun Continental Ltd	Excess DEPB claim, by misdeclaring the weight. DEPB	FOB declared value, 1346.15 Instead of actual value 656.51
	M/s Vishwajoyti Impex, Mumbai	Excess DEPB claim DEPB	22.53
	M/s Sali Exports	Excess duty draw back claim. DRAWBACK	48.00
	M/s Ain Sham Exports	Excess duty draw back claim. DRAWBACK	59.00
	M/s Sana International & M/s Universal Exports	Misuse of DEEC and DEPB scheme	130.60
	M/s Survanshi Textiles, Maharashtra	-do-	58.04
	M/s Global Board Ltd, Mumbai	-do-	213.08
	Garden Court Distilleries, Mumbai	Mis declaration of export product i.e. denatured alcohol as rectified spirit. DRAWBACK	408.00
	Sidha Seva Exports, Mumbai	Over invoicing of export of ready made garments. DRAWBACK	37.79
	KSE, International, Mumbai	Mis declaration of (chapter heading)	0.41
	Sejal Enterprises, Mumbai	Chindies/Old used cloth exported as new RMG DRAWBACK	12.41
	Elit, Mumbai	Export remittances not received DRAWBACK	16.41



1	2	3	4
	Viki Exports, Mumbai	Export of RMG to Russia under state credit repayment scheme, its diversion to a third country viz. Dubai and fraudulent availment of drawback by over invoicing exports. DRAWBACK	10.68
	Divya Enterprises, Mumbai	-do-	78.20
	Koyna Glass Works, Mumbai	-do-	114.27
	Nip Exports Mumbai	-do-	336.76
	Classic Exports & Imports, Mumbai	-do-	228.78
	Esvee Exports, Mumbai	-do-	55.94
	M/s. Precision Shears & Knives Pvt Ltd., Mumbai	Fraudulent availment of Duty Drawback by over invoicing the export goods and fraudulently diverting the goods exported to Russia under State Credit repayment scheme to a third country namely to Dubai. DRAWBACK	22.6
	M/s. Nagindas Investments Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	-do-	141.93
	Minal Exports, Mumbai	-do-	180.41
	Geetanjali Exports, Mumbai	Overvaluation of RMG sought to be exported to claim higher drawback. DRAWBACK	182.19
	M/s Leather India	Export of semi-finished leather as finished leather	30.22
	M/s Marsina Enterprises	Obtained DEEC license fraudulently DEEC	101.75
	M/s Selective Minerals and Colours Industries	Fraudulent claim of DEPB	43.79
	Sita Commercial, Mumbai	Overvaluation of RMG sought to be exported to claim higher drawback. DRAWBACK	71.46
	Deepak Exports, Mumbai	-do-	85.18
	Access Textiles, Mumbai	-do-	624.71 (DBK) 67.67 (DEPB)

1	2	3	4
	M/s. Mata Santoshi International Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	Misdeclaration of export product i.e. denatured alcohol as rectified spirit. DRAWBACK	211.00
	M/s Aroma International, Mumbai	Diversion of duty free materials to the local market. 100%EOU	584.00
	M/s Bright Impex and (ii) Neha Impex	Fraudulent exports of Availment of Drawback DRAWBACK	1) 13.00 2) 22.25
	M/s Alpha Exports	Misdeclaration in description, quantity and value DEPB	138.45
Delhi	Vandana Exports, Delhi	Excess duty draw back claim. DRAWBACK	18.15
	Sam Overseas, Delhi	-do-	0.73
	A.B. Creations, New Delhi	Excess duty draw back claim. DRAWBACK	116.13
	Deep Fashions, New Delhi	-do-	178.83
	Gautam Budhha Overseas, New Delhi	-do-	197.19
	Geeta International New Delhi-60	-do-	123.09
	Neel Kamal Impex, Delhi	-do-	232.72
	Sheeba Enterprises Delhi-92	-do-	215.48
	Ganga Yamuna Exports, New Delhi	-do-	20.00
	D.S International New Delhi	-do-	236.68
	D.J. Overseas, New Delhi-92	-do-	62.71
	Vidisha Maxima Exim, Delhi	-do-	122.57
	M/s Unicorn Industries, Delhi	Diverted synthetic rubber imported under actual user conditions DEEC	229.52

1	2	3	4
	M/s Utshav Exports, New Delhi	Misuse of Drawback Scheme by exporting of cheap and substandard goods.	14.27
	B.S. International, New Delhi.	-do-	130.98
	Utsav Creations, New Delhi.	-do-	15.25
	H.S. Fashion Expo, New Delhi.	-do-	11.72
	Vaas International, New Delhi.	-do-	17.61
	D.K. International, New Delhi.	-do-	12.68
	S.P. International New Delhi.	-do-	10.83
	Varuna Overseas, New Delhi.	-do-	26.23
	Embell Apparels, New Delhi.	-do-	10.11
	Greatway International, New Delhi.	-do-	16.54
	Rajeshwari Associates, New Delhi.	-do-	112.10
	Promocell Exports, New Delhi	-do-	93.00
	M/s N.K. Fashions, New Delhi	-do-	56.80
	M/s Rewa Exports, New Delhi.	-do-	37.67
	M/s Rehman Fashions, New Delhi	-do-	56.44
	Unicorn Industries, New Delhi.	-do-	5.22
	Oberoi Industries. New Delhi.	-do-	17.99
	Oxford Fashions. New Delhi.	-do-	22.58

1	2	3	4
	M/s Sandhya Overseas	-do-	6.65
	M/s Pacific International	-do-	6.00
	M/s Davinder Fabricators	-do-	13.00
	M/s M.S. Fashion Expo	-do-	11.00
	M/s Tegh Bahadur Import & Exports	-do-	90.00
	Unicorn - Industries, New Delhi.	Misuse of DFRC Scheme	35.26
	Oberoi Industries, New Delhi.	-do-	135.14
	Oxford Fashions, New Delhi.	-do-	170.96
	M/s Dimension Overseas, New Delhi	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	3.84 45.42
	M/s Unicorn Industries, New Delhi	-do	240.40
	M/s Chhabra Industries, New Delhi.	-do	349.29
	M/s Oberoi Industries, New Delhi	-do-	417.31
	M/s Bonita Industries, New Delhi	-do-	38.00
	Aravali India Ltd.	Misuse of DBK Scheme by exporting of junk quality pipes.	692.00
	Perfect Micro Pvt. Ltd.	Over invoicing of export goods, Drawback scheme	1701.00
	M/s Vijay Overseas	Misuse of DEPB scheme Over- invoicing of export goods.	16.08
	M/s Adhunik Overseas	-do-	38.33
	M/s S.Y. International	Over-invoicing of RMG and Rags. DBK Scheme	13.25
	M/s Salem Trading	Misuse of DBK scheme	169.00
	M/s A.B. Creations	-do-	116.00
	M/s Deep Fashions	-do-	179.00

1	2	3	4
	M/s Gautam Budha	-do-	197.00
	M/s Geeta International	-do-	123.00
	M/s Neel Kamal Impex	-do-	233.00
	M/s Shiva Enterprises	-do-	215.00
	M/s Ganga Yamuna Exports	-do-	20.00
	M/s D.S. International	-do-	237.00
	M/s D.J. Overseas	-do-	63.00
	M/s Vidisha Maxima Impex.	-do-	123.00
	Marvellous Creations, N. Delhi	Drawback Scheme (overvaluation of Export goods)	11.34
	Mamtha Fashions	Drawback Scheme (overvaluation of Export goods)	31.57
	M/s S.K. Imports and Exports, New Delhi	Overvaluation to claim higher drawback.	13.41
	Lucky Exports	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	315
	M/s. Sundram Exports Pvt. Ltd, Delhi	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	104
	M/s. Netcompware Pvt. Ltd.	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	42
	M/s. Asian Exports	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	28
	M/s. Universal Garments	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	7
	M/s. Ethnic	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	4
	M/s. Hindustan Fibres	Misuse of EPCG Scheme	23
	M/s. Mohtrsons	Misuse of EPCG Scheme	147
	M/s. Padmini Polymers Ltd	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	1977
	M/s. Classic ITM	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	28
	M/s. Padmini Polymers Ltd	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	781
	M/s. Chanakya Exports	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	41
	M/s. Sundram Exports	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	22
	M/s. Shyam Exports	Misuse of DEEC Scheme	118

1	2	3	4
	M/s. Ethanic Exports	Misuse of DRAWBACK Scheme	286
	M/s. Harshita Limited	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	930
	M/s. Jainson Exports	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	10
	M/s. Cosmo Films Ltd	Misuse of DEPB Scheme	6
	M/s. Monica Overseas	Misuse of DFRC Scheme	284
	Delta Overseas	Fraudulent availment of duty drawback	34.83
	J. K. Drugs	Misuse of advance licence under DEEC Scheme	127.14
	Indo Export House	Fraudulent availment of duty drawback	30.98
	Neelam Exports	Fraudulent availment of duty drawback	21.10
	Vyoma International	Fraudulent availment of duty drawback	20.10
	Mahavir Impex, Sikar (Rajasthan)	Misuse of 100% EOU Scheme	182
Rajasthan	The Choice	Non-realisation of sale proceeds, DBK Scheme	0.74
	Madhur Exports	-do-	4.95
	Via Jodhpur	-do-	0.55
	Sharp Exports	-do-	0.81
	R.N. Exports	-do-	16.38
	M/s Rochi Ram	-do-	0.71
	M/s Rajasthan Watches	-do-	1.54
	M/s Taito Watches	-do-	1.81
	M/s Rajasthan Watches	-do-	10.53
	M/s Taito Watches	-do-	3.91
	M/s Crafts Studio	-do-	1.00
	M/s Goyal Fashions	-do-	0.03
	M/s Ashish Apparels	-do-	0.23

1	2	3	4
	M/s Goyal Overseas	-do-	0.05
	M/s Rahima Creations	-do-	0.10
	M/s Goyal Exports Corpn.	-do-	0.05
Punjab	M/s SRSR International & other five firms	Misdeclaration in terms of Description, Value and Weight under DBK/DEPB scheme	306.00
	-do-	-do-	493.00
	Indeep Impex	Export proceeds not received, part of consignment was auctioned at Dubai, Exported under DBK scheme	39.21
	Cannon Steels, Ludhiana	DEPB Scheme (overvaluation of Export goods)	33.25
West Bengal	Peerless Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	Irregular DEPB Credit	328.22
	M.B. Innotech (India) Ltd.	Mis-declaration in weight at the time of export and diversion in DTA.	49.93
	Anjana Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Irregular claim of Drawback	5.27
	Aries Systems & Services	Irregular availment of DEPB Credit	563.61
	Kirpal Exports, FEPZ, Sector-I, SDF Building, 24 Pgs. (N)	The exporter attempted to export readymade garments vide two S/Bills: inflating the FOB value of the goods to earn undue fraudulent Drawback	8.57
	North East Clothiers Pvt. Ltd.	Irregular claim of Drawback	420.66
	Amit Impex	Irregular claim of Drawback	46.95
	Loknath Export,	The exporter attempted to export 100% cotton knitted T-Shirts of cheaper quality under one S/Bill inflating the FOB value of the goods to earn undue fraudulent Drawback	29.12
	Falcon Marine Exports	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products	1910
	ITC (IBD) Ltd.	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	563

1	2	3	4
	Sun Biotechnology Ltd.	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	536
	Magnum Exports	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	357
	Coreline Exports	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	311
	Veejay Impex	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	301
	IFB Agro	Wrong availment of DEPB Credit in respect of export of fish and marine products.	210
	M/s. RSI Ltd.	Over valuation in export of CD ROMs to avail excess DEPB	1660 (declared value) 317.06 excess DEPB claimed
Bihar	Kalyan Pur Cement Ltd.	Non-fulfilment of export obligation under EPCG scheme	59.05
	Zenith Export Ltd.	Non-fulfilment of export obligation under DEEC Scheme	16.75
Jharkhand	Indian Aluminium Company Ltd.	Non-fulfilment of export obligation under EPCG Scheme	37.16
	Omni Auto Ltd.,	Non-fulfilment of export obligation under EPCG Scheme	8.28
Goa	RBA Exports, Goa	Availment of excess DEPB by misdeclaration of export products. DEPB	160.00

**Statement-II**

*Details of the companies who have misused the Export Promotion Scheme during last 3 years viz. 2000-01 to 2000-03 and for current year upto June, 2003*

**West Zone**

**Mumbai II (Customs)**

Year	Sl. No.	Name of the Exporters M/s	Amount involved (Rs. in Lakhs)	Irregularities noticed/ Action taken
1	2	3	4	5
2000-2001	1.	M/s. Vee Enn Exporters	6.12	Forged drawback claims
	2.	M/s. Fed Exports	8.54	
	3.	M/s. Rupen Exports	156	
2001-2002		Case-1 (Nhava Sheva)	650.45	



1	2	3	4	5
	1.	M/s. Impex India International		Forged drawback claims
	2.	M/s. Ambey Industries		
	3.	M/s. Khurana Corporation		
	4.	M/s. Krishna Traders		
	5.	M/s. Tarun Industries		
	6.	M/s. Gupta Corporation		
	7.	M/s. Ajanta International		
	8.	M/s. Tribute Corporation		
	9.	M/s. Punjab Traders		
	10	M/s.. Saibaba Enterprises		
	11	M/s. Sharma Traders		
	12	M/s. Mittal Traders		
	13	T.K. Brothers		
		Case - 2	11.76	
	1.	M/s. Safala Enterprises		
2002-2003		Case-1 (Nhava Sheva)	446	Drawback Claimed without actual export
	1.	M/s. Sheth Industries		
	2.	M/s. Jain Industries		
	3.	M/s. Ritesh Metal Corporation		
	4.	M/s. Supreme Art Works		
	5.	M/s. Gujarat Industries		
	6.	M/s. Concorde Mgf. Co.		
	7.	M/s. Apex Industries		
	8.	M/s. Anchor Mezals		
		Case No.2 (Nhava Sheva)	75	
	1.	M/s. ANH Overseas		
	2.	M/s. Methapore Enterprises		
	3.	M/s. Saffiar & Co.		

1	2	3	4	5
	4.	M/s. Sapan International		
	5.	M/s. Mod Age Handicrafts		
	6.	M/s. Aroma Enterprises		
	7.	M/s. Gupta Fabrics		
	8.	M/s. B & R Importers and Exporters		
	9.	M/s. Swan Traders		
		Case No.3 (ACC) Mumbai	49.69	
	1.	M/s. Orange Exports		

**West Zone****Vadodara (C. Ex. & Cus.)**

2001-2002	1.	M/s. Favourite Inds.	201.16	Drawback claimed without actual export *9 Persons arrested
	2.	M/s. MZ Khidr.	357.40	
2002-2003	1.	M/s. Suresh Dyes	25.97	Drawback claimed without actual export  Rejected material exported after expiry *Pending with CEGAT Drawback claimed without actual export
	2.	M/s. Wagnakriwala	492.81	
	3.	M/s. Cosmic Tex. Pvt. Ltd.	65.83	
	4.	M/s. Rameshwar Overseas	126.37	
	5.	M/s. Payal Texts	75.84	
	6.	M/s. Dupont Synthetic	12.97	
	7.	M/s. Sarveshwar	110.61	
	8.	M/s. Banyan Chemical	38.49	
	9.	M/s. Shiv Shakti Text	80.94	
	10.	M/s. Aditya Yarn Proc.	60.50	
	11.	M/s. Raju Fabrics	71.78	
	12.	M/s. Gopi Proc.	116.86	
	13.	M/s. Siddhant Exports	72.99	
	14.	M/s. Ascent Apprels	21.16	
	15.	M/s. Siddhi Vinayak	352.81	
	16.	M/s. Sri Shakti Int.	1300	

1	2	3	4	5
	17.	M/s. Shiv Metal Corpn.	563	
	18.	M/s. Karnawati Garments & Mattres	145.81	
<b>Ahmedabad (Customs)</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. Naveen Sales Corpn.	1.32	Over valuation of DEP/B/Over invoicing
	2.	M/s. R.S. International	21.84	
	3.	M/s. Tulsi Wear	0.72	
	4.	M/s. Robinson Impex	4.22	* Export not allowed. Cases adjudicated
	5.	M/s. Vimal International	21.96	
	6.	M/s. T&T Overseas	94.50	Non Fulfilment of Export Obligation * SC Notice issued
	7.	M/s. Elite	14.43	Over valuation/Over invoicing
2001-02	1.	M/s. Kiran Fashion	1.72	
	2.	M/s. Sitanath Shipping Co.	20.00	* Export not allowed. Cases adjudicated
2002-03	1.	M/s. Karthik Overseas	7.37	Over valuation/misdeclaration of description.
	2.	M/s. Dev Impex	3.52	
	3.	M/s. Western Silk	106	
	4.	M/s. Zinal Corp.	4.95	
	5.	M/s. Ekta Exporters	5.71	* Export not allowed/ SC Notice issued.
2003-04	1.	M/s. SYP Agro Foods Ltd.	00.00	Misdeclaration of description * Under investigation
<b>Jaipur (C.Ex.)</b>				
2002-03	1.	M/s. Pink Line	126.66	Over Valuation * Under investigation
	2.	M/s. Anita Texprint	723.31	Mis-utilisation of Noti.No.53/97- Cus dt.3.6.97 *SC Notice issued
<b>Mumbai-I (C. Ex.)</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. Umaji Overseas	35.74	Short Payment of Duty *SC Notice issued.

1	2	3	4	5
2001-02	2.	M/s. Skyway Apparels	18.52	Non-Fulfilment of Export Obligation
	3.	M/s. Atash Industries India Ltd.	3163.27	
2002-2003	1.	M/s. Crystal Exports	1959	
	2.	M/s. Tirupati Fabrics	450	
	3.	M/s. Shivratri Textiles	425	
	4.	M/s. Ruia Acquaculture Farms	84.57	* SC Notice issued/Cases under investigation
<b>Mumbai-III (Customs)</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. Quality Apparels Exp. Pvt. Ltd.	1503	Over valuation/Misdeclaration of description
	2.	M/s. Shree Khatto Exports	268.55	
	3.	M/s. Kanomo Exports	600	
	4.	M/s. Bharat Export Corpn.	20.62	
2001-02	1.	M/s. Hitachi Jewelry Inds.	55.70	* SC Notice issued/Cases adjudicated.
<b>Mumbai-I (Customs)</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. National Ent.	7.79	Under Investigation
	2.	M/s. Tawakkal Trdg.	0.51	-do-
	3.	M/s. KPS & Voran	20.04	-do-
	4.	M/s. Euro Asia & Ors.	2440	-do-
	5.	M/s. Baba Impex	158.50	-do-
	6.	M/s. Navneet Trading	70.44	-do-
	7.	M/s. Ambay Exports	117.66	-do-
	8.	M/s. Pacific Int.	5.20	-do-
	9.	M/s. Kaleida Exp.	114	-do-
	10.	M/s. MA Mohd.	1.74	-do-
	11.	M/s. Gemini Overseas	7	-do-
	12.	M/s. Maharaja Entp.	130	-do-
	13.	M/s. Manisha Impex		

1	2	3	4	5
	14.	M/s. Surya Entp.		
	15.	M/s. Paramount Trdg.	60	-do-
	16.	M/s. Bhagya Laxmi Garments	21.81	-do-
	17.	M/s. Yash Freight	2440	-do-
	18.	M/s. S.P. Exports	10.74	-do-
	19.	M/s. R.S. Exports	12.05	-do-
	20.	M/s. Velco Overseas	22.26	-do-
	21.	M/s. T.C. Overseas	27.96	-do-
	22.	M/s. Salam Paras	1.91	-do-
	23.	M/s. Vishal Textile	13.64	-do-
	24.	M/s. Mahavir Export	9.72	-do-
	25.	M/s. Simran Apparels	1.99	-do-
	26.	M/s. Searose	0.68	-do-
	27.	M/s. A.A. Impex	5.13	-do-
	28.	M/s. Akshay Export	23.82	-do-
	29.	M/s. A.V.G. Enterprise	1.99	-do-
	30.	M/s. M.R. Impex	25.30	-do-
	31.	M/s. Sansar Metal	10.28	-do-
	32.	M/s. Everest Flavour	158.76	-do-
	33.	M/s. Chanakya Impex	36.87	-do-
	34.	M/s. Super Impex	5.23	-do-
	35.	M/s. Ask Int.	65.92	-do-
	36.	M/s. Vishal Export	6.29	-do-
	37.	M/s. Trade aid India	2.80	-do-
	38.	M/s. Asha Export	3.30	-do-
	39.	M/s. East Asia Trading	6.91	-do-
	40.	M/s. Awaz Zain	3.24	-do-
	41.	M/s. Virundavan Exports	31.26	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
	42.	M/s. Riya Int.	20.82	-do-
	43.	M/s. Millmate Pharma	2.83	-do-
	44.	M/s. Ishi Exports	19.43	-do-
	45.	M/s. Sindhu Appreals	129.22	-do-
	46.	M/s. Resham Exports	425	-do-
	47.	M/s. Rama Syntex	10.85	-do-
	48.	M/s. Deep Int.	27.19	-do-
2001-2002	1.	M/s. Neha Trading	214.90	-do-
	2.	M/s. Surabhi Impex	6.26	-do-
	3.	M/s. Gulab Das & Co.	57	-do-
	4.	M/s. G.S. Int.	0.27	-do-
	5.	M/s. Deepa & Ors.	7	-do-
	6.	M/s. Overseas Trading	126	-do-
	7.	M/s. Sita Commercial		-do-
	8.	M/s. Khaki Entp.	146	-do-
	9.	M/s. Al Madina Overseas	297	-do-
	10.	M/s. India Impex	81	-do-
	11.	M/s. Jilaine Int.	353	-do-
	12.	M/s. Kajal India Export	318	-do-
	13.	M/s. S.K. Int.	226.55	-do-
	14.	M/s. Canon Int.	2.64	-do-
	15.	M/s. Astro Impex	1.59	-do-
	16.	M/s. Paramount Entp.	3.13	-do-
	17.	M/s. J&G Exports	158.34	-do-
	18.	M/s. Tanvi Overseas	131	-do-
	19.	M/s. Sea Trang	14.31	-do-
	20.	M/s. Mico Inds.	11.73	-do-
	21.	M/s. Khusboo Int.	101.73	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
	22.	M/s. Centuary Denim	44.86	-do-
	23.	M/s. Brano Fashions	53.54	-do-
	24.	M/s. Regency Int.	73.23	-do-
	25.	M/s. Sagar Garments	7.10	-do-
	26.	M/s. Sidhart Intl.	0.78	-do-
	27.	M/s. Bayoma Exports	5.6	-do-
	28.	M/s. Jalaram Overseas	2.73	-do-
	29.	M/s. Pristine Exports	6.47	-do-
	30.	M/s. Skam	2.04	-do-
	31.	M/s. Cadibo Exports	18.04	-do-
	32.	M/s. Invogue Apparels	12.19	-do-
	33.	M/s. Parson Overseas	24.78	-do-
	34.	M/s. Mongipa Roadways	21.62	-do-
	35.	M/s. Vazir Exports	33.20	-do-
	36.	M/s. Vipin Entp.	85.24	-do-
	37.	M/s. Ambassadore Ind. Corp.	23.45	-do-
	38.	M/s. Mahesh Exports Imports	11.18	-do-
	39.	M/s. Sonilika	108.62	-do-
	40.	M/s. Bhim Entp.	33.53	-do-
2002-2003	1.	M/s. M.W. Impex	6.69	-do-
	2.	M/s. Rajshri Entp.	17.31	-do-
	3.	M/s. Kai Overseas	3.98	-do-
	4.	M/s. Zebra Textile	11.88	-do-
	5.	M/s. Sama Creations	3.42	-do-
	6.	M/s. Rasad Exim	1.84	-do-
	7.	M/s. Classic Impex	4.91	-do-
	8.	M/s. Delta Entp.	4.07	-do-
	9.	M/s. Vitesse Export	4.53	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
	10.	M/s. Pawan Impex	3.60	-do-
	11.	M/s. Muddassir Exports	5.10	-do-
	12.	M/s. Surya Fashion	12.89	-do-
	13.	M/s. Sai Polimers	3.29	-do-
	14.	M/s. Miraz Exim	7.06	-do-
	15.	M/s. P.D. Impex	7.43	Over valuation/Over invoicing/mis-declaration
	16.	M/s. Khatan Siddhik	3.40	
	17.	M/s. Aar Cee	17.50	
	18.	M/s. Lovely Entp.	5.84	
	19.	M/s. Pamms Trading	12.17	
	20.	M/s. Wel worth Intl.	7.08	

**East Zone****Kolkata (Customs)**

1.	M/s. Shyamsundar Entp.	200	Over valuation/Forged drawback claim.
2.	M/s. Ramapati Export	100	
3.	M/s. Madhur Textile	15	
4.	M/s. Millenium Star	14.10	
5.	M/s. Laxmi Overseas	135	
6.	M/s. Green Corp Impex	21.32	
7.	M/s. Anju Exim Pvt. Ltd.	81.14	
8.	M/s. Anju Intl.	55.96	
9.	M/s. Santosh Overseas	2.5	

**South Zone****Cochin (Cen Ex.)**

1.	M/s. Seena International	20.46	Mis-declaration of goods. *Penalty/Redemption fine imposed.
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**Coimbatore**

1.	M/s. V.S. Exports	6	Over valuation *Drawback withheld. Penalty imposed
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1	2	3	4	5
<b>Bangalore</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. Cannon Steels	47.99	Over invoicing/ Mis-declaration of Description/Quantity *Case adjudicated/ Penalty imposed
	2.	M/s. Laxmi Overseas	3.60	
	3.	M/s. Kurikkal Exports	0.33	
	4.	M/s. Kurikkal Overseas	0.95	
	5.	M/s. Self Knitting works	22.89	
	6.	M/s. Trade Value Exports	1.01	
	7.	M/s. Cascade Creation	14.43	
	8.	M/s. Khatir Intl.		
	9.	M/s. Vinay Knitwear	7.75	
2001-02	1.	M/s. Berry Exports	22.83	
	2.	M/s. Stabin Exports	0.65	
	3.	M/s. Aishwariya Exports	0.61	
	4.	M/s. Sukumar Exports	4.63	
2002-03	1.	M/s. Sweety Intl.	256	
	2.	M/s. Micro Entp.	4.22	
	3.	M/s. Sadguru Exports	16.07	
	4.	M/s. Sanjar Exports	7.24	
<b>Chennai (Prev.)</b>				
2000-01	1.	M/s. Raja Sabari Exports	0.29	Fraudulent Export. *Seven (7) persons arrested. Goods seized.
	2.	M/s. Merli Exports	16.34	
	3.	M/s. Manba Entp.	5.28	
	4.	M/s. Trust worthy Enterprises	3.18	
	5.	M/s. Leela Scottish Lace	4.97	
	6.	M/s. Smith Exports	3.92	
	7.	M/s. MM Exports		

**Statement-III**

*Details of the companies who have misused the Export Promotion Scheme during last 3 years viz. 2000-01 to 2000-03 and for current year upto June, 2003.*

**North Zone****Chandigarh Cen. Excise**

Year	Sl. No.	Name of the Exporters M/s	Amount involved (Rs. in Lakhs)	Irregularities noticed/ Action taken
1	2	3	4	5
2000-01	1.	M/s. Gagan Enterprises	12.14	Misdeclaration of Export Product/ DEP/B benefit denied by DGFT
	2.	M/s. Megna Impsex	158.05	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/ SC notice issued
	3.	M/s. World Wide Import & Export	4.05	-do-
2001-02	4.	M/s. Alfa International	32	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/ Rs.12 lakhs have been recovered, SC notice issued
	5.	M/s. Associated Import & Export	6	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	6.	M/s. ATM International	20	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	7.	M/s. Bem Exports	95	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	8.	M/s. Chugh Exports	6	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/ Rs.2.05 lakhs recovered, SC notice issued
	9.	M/s. Golden Tools	3	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/ SC notice issued
	10.	M/s. Jaina International	22	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/ Rs. 6 lakhs recovered, SC notice issued
	11.	M/s. Mega Exports	5	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	12.	M/s. Parker Industries	37	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued.
	13.	M/s. Tiwari Brothers	57	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	14.	M/s. Eagle Forgings	21	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued

1	2	3	4	5
	15.	M/s. Jamba Export	17	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/SC notice issued
	16.	M/s. Exim International	43	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/Draft: SC notice sent to Commissioner(Sea) for issue
2002-03	17.	M/s. Manalaxmi Sales	35.43	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/Firm found non-existent DGFT authority directed not to issue any DEP/B scrips.
	18.	M/s. JAS Knitwear	17.4	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/the case is under investigation.
	19.	M/s. Cyrag Exports	4.9	Fraudulent Availment of DEP/B/DGFT authority directed not to issue any DEP/B scrip.
	20.	M/s. Bash International	14.15	-do-
	21.	M/s. Royal Industries Ltd.	1590	Misuse of 100% EOU scheme/SC notice issued
	21.	M/s. Punjab Exports	562	-do-
	22.	M/s. Fashion World	42	-do-
	23.	M/s. Leo knit Fab.	94	-do-
	24.	M/s. Himachal Filaments	29	-do-
	25.	M/s. Himachal Filaments P. Ltd.	120.70	-do-
	26.	M/s. Classic Wool & Fib.	20.03	Substitution of imported raw material with indigenous material/case is under investigation.
<b>Delhi (Customs)</b>				
2000-01	27.	M/s. Future M/s. Mandra Exp. & M/s. Sanjeev Garments	206	Over invoicing
	28.	M/s. Bright Entp.	3.05	Higher drawback claim
	29.	M/s. Duggal Exp.	5.08	RMG misclassified
	30.	M/s. Majid Intln.	1.85	Mis-declaration to avail higher drawback claim
	31.	M/s. Shukka Impex	3.16	Rags attempted to be exported to RAG
	32.	M/s. Cepham Milk	50.33	Not fulfilment of export obligation
	33.	M/s. Superior Overseas	0.80	Over invoicing

1	2	3	4	5
	34.	M/s. Riya India	3.60	Over invoicing
	35.	M/s. Pioneer Intl.	1.85	Over invoicing
	36.	M/s. Nisha Entp.	5.27	Mis-declaration, party non-existence
2001-02	37.	M/s. Unicorn Ind.	433	Misuse of DEPB
	38.	M/s. Chhabra Intl.	1413	-do-
	39.	M/s. Obaroi Ind.	415	-do-
	40.	M/s. Bonita Ind.	252	-do-
	41.	M/s. Zap Fashion	800	Mis-declaration of Commodity
	42.	M/s. Degvijay Designs	2.41	Over invoicing
	43.	M/s. Shri Ganessa	0.23	Mis-declaration of higher DBK claim
	44.	M/s. BEE ESS Exp.	7.29	Over invoicing
	45.	M/s. Shancok Intl.	0.46	Over invoicing
	46.	M/s. Shroy Intl.	0.52	Over invoicing
	47.	M/s. Malini Exports	1.78	Over invoicing
	48.	M/s. Global Exports	0.07	Mis-declaration of DBK
	49.	M/s. Biji Fashion	3.26	Over invoicing
	50.	M/s. Shastic Intl.	9.12	Over invoicing
2002-03	51.	M/s. Jai Amba Foods	3.13	Over invoicing
	52.	M/s. Surya Metals	1.08	Over invoicing
	53.	M/s. Panex Overseas	9.9	Mis-declaration of freight
	54.	M/s. PBG Exports	7.00	-do-
	55.	M/s. Orient Crafts Ltd.	3.93	-do-
	56.	M/s. SPL Inds. Ltd.	3.50	-do-
	57.	M/s. Gaurav Ind.	13.6	-do-
	58.	M/s. Instyle Exports	2.20	-do-
	59.	M/s. Instyle Exports Pvt.	0.76	-do-
	60.	M/s. Modelama Exp.	5.78	-do-
	61.	M/s. Trend Setters	1.25	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
	62.	M/s. Chunau Int.	1.08	Mis-declaration of freight.
	63.	M/s. Addi Indus. Ltd.	28.25	-do-
	64.	M/s. Glaze Garments	2.00	-do-
	65.	M/s. Foremost India	3.59	-do-
	66.	M/s. Trend Setter	9.78	-do-
	67.	M/s. Orchid Overseas	1.32	-do-
	68.	M/s. Gupta Exim	3.03	-do-
	69.	M/s. Pearl Global	1.10	-do-
	70.	M/s. Sahi Exp.	4.40	-do-
	71.	M/s. Pee Empro	1.08	-do-
	72.	M/s. Pearl Agencies	0.50	-do-
	73.	M/s. Mona Design	0.14	-do-
	74.	M/s. T.H.E. Makers	2.82	-do-
	75.	M/s. J.B. Exports	1.91	-do-
	76.	M/s. Swahney Creations	1.98	-do-
	77.	M/s. Cornell Overseas	0.44	-do-
	78.	M/s. Boutique Intl.	2.28	-do-
	79.	M/s. Kish Exports	4.46	-do-
	80.	M/s. V&S Intl.	1.45	-do-
	81.	M/s. RMS Joss	0.26	-do-
	82.	M/s. G.P.T. Overseas	0.65	-do-
	83.	M/s. Transworld Trdg. Ltd.	0.35	-do-
	84.	M/s. Krishna Overseas & Oths	54.19	-do-
	85.	M/s. Glopan Intl. & Oths.	53.08	-do-
<b>Lucknow Central Excise</b>				
	86.	M/s. Brij impex	51.15	SCN issued by DRI Lucknow
	87.	M/s. Delta Overseas	34.83	-do-
	88.	M/s. Rotomac Exp.	13.57	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Delhi (Customs)</b>				
2000-01	89.	M/s. Gagan Enterprises	12.14	Misdeclaration of export product/ DEPB benefit denied
	90.	M/s. Megna Impex	158.05	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/ SCN issued.
	91.	M/s. World Wade Import	4.05	-do-
2001-02	92.	M/s. Alfa International	32	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/ Rs. 12 lakhs recovered, SCN issued.
	93.	M/s. Associated Import & Exp.	6	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	94.	M/s. ATM International	20	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	95.	M/s. Beni Exports	95	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	96.	M/s. Chugh Exp.	6	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/2.05 lakhs recovered, SCN issued.
	97.	M/s. Golden Tools	3	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	98.	M/s. Jaina Intl.	22	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	99.	M/s. Mega Exp.	5	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	100.	M/s. Parker Industries	37	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	101.	M/s. Tiwari Bros.	57	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	102.	M/s. Eagle Forgings	21	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	103.	M/s. Jamba Exp.	17	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	104.	M/s. JAS Knitwear	17.1	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	105.	M/s. Cyttag Exp.	4.00	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.
	106.	M/s. Bash International	14.15	Fraudulent Availment of DEPB/SCN issued.

1	2	3	4	5
107.	M/s. Royal Industries Ltd.		15.90	Misuse of 100% EOU/SCN issued.
108.	M/s. Punjab Exp.		562	Misuse of 100% EOU/SCN issued.
109.	M/s. Fashion World		42	Misuse of 100% EOU/SCN issued.
110.	M/s. Leo Knit Fab.		94	Misuse of 100% EOU/SCN issued.
111.	M/s. Himachal Filaments		29	Misuse of 100% EOU/SCN issued.

[Translation]

### Performance of Export Promotion Schemes

\*198. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- the details of the various export promotion schemes being implemented at present;
- whether performance of each of the above schemes has been assessed;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the details of the schemes proposed to be implemented to boost the export trade?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Export Promotion Schemes essentially aim at facilitating manufacture of goods for exports by providing duty free access to international quality raw-material, intermediates, components and consumables through Advance Licences or for replenishment of raw materials and intermediates already consumed in the manufacture of exported goods through Duty Free Replenishment Scheme. As the exporters are entitled to either exemption from duty on raw materials and inputs going into export production or remission of duty on inputs used in export production, they are entitled to either draw back under the Scheme being implemented by Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue or duty credit under the Duty Credit Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPB) subsequent to exports. In order to facilitate a production base for exports at comparatively lower costs, capital goods and spares are allowed to be imported at 5% duty against export obligation under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCG). In addition, there are special schemes in the Gems and Jewellery Sector allowing import and replenishment of inputs at Zero Duty.

Units undertaking to export their entire production of goods and services, except permissible sales in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA), can be set up under the Export Oriented

Units (EOU) Scheme, Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme or Software Technology Park (STP) Scheme for manufacture of goods and rendering of services. Similarly, Special Economic Zones are specifically delineated duty free enclaves which are deemed to be foreign territory for the purpose of trade operations and duties and tariffs for allowing units for manufacture of goods and rendering of services in an internationally competitive environment with the necessary infrastructural facilities.

In addition, an initiative has been taken to promote export of services through the Duty Entitlement Exemption Scheme. As an incentive to achieve high growth rates in exports, another new scheme has been introduced for status holders achieving a growth rate of 25% and above in their exports with a minimum turnover of Rs.25 crores.

The details of all the schemes are given in the Export & Import Policy, 2003-04 and the Handbook of Procedures which have come into operation on 15th April, 2003. These documents have been laid on the Table of the House on 8th April, 2003. These are also available in the Parliament Library. The details can also be accessible on the DGFT website <http://dgtt.delhi.nic.in>.

All export promotion measures are reviewed every year in the process of the formulation of the Exim Policy. The overall thrust of the current Exim Policy has been on reduction in transaction cost through procedural simplification and transparency, to make Indian goods and services more competitive in the world market.

[English]

### Private Non-Life Insurance Companies

\*199. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDEL:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private non-life insurance companies operating in the country;

(b) the norms set by the Government for these companies to cater to the needs of rural areas and weaker sections of the society;

(c) whether these private insurance companies have reached rural areas;

(d) if so, the total amount collected by the said companies as premium from rural consumers till date; and

(e) the extent to which these companies are helping the rural people?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) There are eight such companies.

(b) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has prescribed norms for these insurance companies.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per IRDA, the gross premium from rural areas was Rs. 52.65 crores in 2002-03 as against Rs. 14.23 crores during 2001-02.

#### **New Guidelines for Agriculture Loans**

\*200. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has recently announced new guidelines to be implemented by banks in regard to agriculture loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also slashed down the rate of interest on agriculture loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which farmers would be benefited thereby; and

(f) the total amount of loan disbursed by banks to farmers for agriculture purposes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY

AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) Indian Bank's Association (IBA) has advised all public sector banks on 12th July, 2003 to charge an interest rate not exceeding 9% p.a. on crop loans upto Rs. 50,000/- with effect from 15th July, 2003. The reduction in rate of interest will benefit most of the crop loan account holders among small and marginal farmers.

(f) State-wise outstanding agriculture credit of commercial banks for the last years is given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise Outstanding Advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks to Agriculture as on end March 1999, 2000 and 2001 (Rs. crore)*

	March 1999	March 2000	March 2001
	1	2	3
Northern Region	7183	9470	12431
Haryana	1312	1585	1924
Himachal Pradesh	157	167	199
Jammu & Kashmir	168	164	135
Punjab	2745	3170	3706
Rajasthan	1894	2261	2790
Chandigarh	294	421	727
Delhi	611	1704	2951
North Eastern Region	468	464	465
Assam	331	314	323
Manipur	19	29	19
Meghalaya	17	19	19
Nagaland	22	24	22
Tripura	52	51	57
Arunachal Pradesh	12	15	13
Mizoram	5	6	5
Sikkim	8	7	7



	1	2	3
Eastern Region	3842	4411	5094
Bihar	1225	1279	1207
Jharkhand			163
Orissa	730	783	801
West Bengal	1883	2345	2919
Andaman & Nicobar	4	3	4
Central Region	6020	6929	7975
Madhya Pradesh	2577	2881	2969
Chhattisgarh			140
Uttar Pradesh	3462	4048	4751
Uttaranchal			115
Western Region	7481	11142	13670
Gujarat	2253	2455	2960
Maharashtra	5158	8620	10651
Daman & Diu	1	1	1
Goa	67	64	56
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	1
Southern Region	16203	17017	19676
Andhra Pradesh	5196	5671	6343
Karnataka	4358	4367	5210
Kerala	1844	1936	2069
Tamil Nadu	4751	4978	5991
Pondicherry	51	53	61
Lakshadweep	1	12	1
All India	41210	49434	59310

[Translation]

#### Changes in Patent Laws

1686. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian companies are far behind the foreign companies in respect of patenting the food products;

(b) if so, whether the existing legal complexity is the main reason for this;

(c) if so, whether the Government have decided to make certain changes in the existing Patent laws;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent and the manner in which Indian companies would be benefited by the said changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Patents on food products are not admissible under the Patents Act, 1970 and are not granted. Only process patents are considered in this category.

(c) to (e) The Patents (Amendment) Act, 2002 (operationalized from May, 2003) has made substantive changes in the patent law. These, inter alia, relate to introduction of uniform term of patents for 20 years, revision of compulsory licensing provisions, simplification of procedures, protection of national/public interest, etc. Further, as a signatory to the WTO Agreement including the TRIPs agreement, India is also obliged to provide for a product patent regime in all fields for which products patents are not admissible now. This includes food products also. These changes in the Indian patent law are to be brought into effect from January 1, 2005 only. The changes in the Indian patent laws and the modernization of the administrative framework aim, inter-alia, to encourage all inventors, including Indian companies, to seek and secure benefits from patent rights.

#### Personnel Working in the Ministry

1687. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnel working in groups 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' in the different department and undertakings in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs;

(b) the number of personnel belonging to Other backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes separately, out of total number of personnel; and

(c) the group-wise number of personnel belonging to OBCs, STs and SCs?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is having an undertaking, i.e. National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) and an apex level cooperative society, i.e. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED), under its administrative control. The details about the Ministry, the NSTFDC and the TRIFED are given below:-

S. No.	Orgn.	Group	Total No. of Employees	No. of Employees belonging to different categories			
				SC	ST	OBC	GEN
1.	Ministry	A	18	3	-	-	15
		B	26	2	-	1	23
		C	26	6	1	3	16
		D	15	4	2	1	8
		Total	85	15	3	5	62
2.	NSTFDC	A	15	3	6	-	6
		B	8	-	1	2	5
		C	11	3	1	2	5
		D	11	7	-	-	4
		Total	45	13	8	4	20
3.	TRIFED	A	12	1	2	-	9
		B	39	4	3	1	31
		C	229	48	36	15	130
		D*	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	280	53	41	16	170

\* As per their Administrative Manual, TRIFED does not have any staff belonging to Group 'D'.

[English]

### Trade Agreement with Afghanistan

1688. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any preferential trade agreement has been signed by India with Afghanistan recently;

(b) if so, the details of agreement; and

(c) the time period upto which the agreement would be in vogue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Afghanistan was signed in New Delhi on 6th March, 2003. As per the Agreement, India has extended tariff concession ranging from 50 to 100% to Afghanistan on import of 38 items of dry fruits, fresh fruit, seeds, medicinal herbs and precious stones. Afghanistan is granting duty free access to 8 items including tea, pharma products, sugar and cement.

(c) The Agreement shall remain in force until either Contracting Party terminates this Agreement by giving six months notice to the other of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

### Pension Fund

1689. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several mutual fund companies and fund management companies in India and abroad have sent representations to Government against restricting number of pension fund to six, as earlier decided;

(b) if so, the reasons adduced by these companies, to increase the number of Pension Fund Schemes;

(c) whether it is difficult to manage the multifarious Pension fund Schemes in view of the swelling numbers of new Government recruits, of around 33,000 excluding defence services, each year; and

(d) if so, the Government's decision on the representations for more pension fund schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) During consultations with the representatives of mutual fund industry and insurance industry on the new pension system announced in the Budget 2003-04, representations were received suggesting unrestricted number of entities, which could be allowed to operate pension schemes. The major reasons for such a suggestion, inter-alia, included no restrictions on number of players in banking sector, mutual fund sector and insurance sector, market based open door policy with strict entry norms ability of a separate regulator for pension sector to regulate large number of players and faster education of the masses with more players.

(c) and (d) The number of pension fund managers which will operate in the new pension system has not been decided by the Government.

### Handloom Workers

1690. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of handloom weavers in each State of the country;

(b) the facilities given to these handloom weavers during 2001-2002, 2002-2003, State-wise; and

(c) the amount released to each State for this purpose during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) As per the joint census of hand looms and powerlooms conducted during 1995 - 96, there were 65.51 lakh persons engaged in the handloom weaving and its associated activities in the country. State-wise details is given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) and (c) During the year 2001-02, Government of India had implemented a number of Schemes for the overall development of handloom sector and the welfare of the handloom weavers throughout the country, including:

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana
2. Mill Gate Price Scheme
3. Setting up of Marketing Complexes
4. Publicity and Exhibition Scheme
5. Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing
6. Project Package Scheme
7. Handloom Development Centres/Quality Dyeing Centres
8. Market Development Assistance Scheme
9. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme
10. Health Package Scheme
11. Group Insurance Scheme
12. Thrift Fund Scheme
13. Setting up of Enforcement Machinery
14. National Centre for Textile Design

The above schemes were continued during 2002-03 in the form of the following Schemes:

- (1) Design Development & Training Programme
- (2) Marketing Promotion Programme
- (3) Mill Gate Price Scheme
- (4) Deen Dayal Hathkarga Prothsahan Yojana
- (5) Workshed-cum- Housing Scheme

- (6) Weavers Welfare Scheme
- (7) Handloom Export Scheme
- (8) Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985.

A sum of Rs.8802.10 lakh and Rs.10875.00 lakh were released to various State Governments during 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively for the implementation of the above schemes. A statement-II showing the State-wise releases during 2001-02 and 2002-03 is enclosed.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise details of Handloom Weavers engaged in Weaving and Associated Activities*

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of persons engaged in Weaving and associated Activities
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	490616
2	Arunachal Pradesh	53473
3	Assam	2322268
4	Bihar	110732
5	Chhattisgarh	28362
6	Delhi	6708
7	Goa	25
8	Gujarat	57936
9	Haryana	22810
10	Himachal Pradesh	65099
11	Jammu & Kashmir	51847
12	Jharkhand	56975
13	Karnataka	177562
14	Kerala	63153
15	Madhya Pradesh	27744
16	Maharashtra	80901
17	Manipur	462087

1	2	3
18	Meghalaya #	#
19	Mizoram #	#
20	Nagaland	126228
21	Orissa	246782
22	Pondicherry	7369
23	Punjab	13160
24	Rajasthan	71915
25	Sikkim	1228
26	Tamil Nadu	607675
27	Tripura	291761
28	Uttar Pradesh	401362
29	Uttaranchal	19322
30	West Bengal	686254
Total All India		6551354

# Data not received from Meghalaya and Mizoram

**Statement-II**

*Details of Releases made during 2001-02 & 2002-03 to various States under Different Handloom Schemes*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	Financial Assistance Released	
		2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	1613.93	1320.94
2	Arunachal Pradesh	498.67	66.92
3	Assam	950.85	1133.42
4	Bihar	6.50	6.25
5	Chhattisgarh	61.90	89.71
6	Delhi	23.68	164.02
7	Goa	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
8	Gujarat	241.80	113.01
9	Haryana	44.04	17.57
10	Himachal Pradesh	99.78	239.82
11	Jammu & Kashmir	66.11	127.96
12	Jharkhand	0.00	8.60
13	Karnataka	480.64	498.57
14	Kerala	926.24	1197.77
15	Madhya Pradesh	96.72	114.20
16	Maharashtra	94.26	124.06
17	Manipur	25.04	608.57
18	Meghalaya	12.74	19.73
19	Mizoram	11.00	53.98
20	Nagaland	377.20	163.88
21	Orissa	57.79	159.99
22	Pondicherry	1.23	0.00
23	Punjab	29.38	43.41
24	Rajasthan	66.01	86.53
25	Sikkim	3.99	2.97
26	Tamil Nadu	2104.99	3020.54
27	Tripura	25.97	27.35
28	Uttar Pradesh	769.86	985.24
29	Uttaranchal	40.25	79.22
30	West Bengal	71.53	401.67
Total		8802.10	10875.90

[Translation]

#### Silk Yarn for Carpet Weavers

1691. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any steps

to make silk yarn available for the carpet weavers in the country particularly in Jammu & Kashmir at cheaper rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the other steps taken to boost the domestic carpet industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDAR PATIL (YATNAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The import of spun silk yarn is allowed under OGL and is now easily available for the carpet weavers.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken to boost the domestic carpet industry include: organisation of workshops/seminars, buyer-seller-meets, sales exhibition in metros; setting up of Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT) at Bhadohi and organisation of Indian Carpet Expos bi-annually in New Delhi.

[English]

#### US-64 Scheme

1692. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of US-64 unit of the UTI redeemed after May, 2003;

(b) whether the Government have announced any promotional offer to re-invest on various schemes of UTI-1; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith the total amount of funds so re-invested, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS ( SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### VSNL Investment in TATA Group

1693. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding decision of VSNL investments in Tata Group Companies;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) Sir, A dispute had arisen regarding decision of VSNL management to invest Rs.1200 crores in Tata Tele Services Limited (TTSL). The government desired that before the final decision is taken, careful analysis and consideration and the desirability of such an investment by VSNL in the targeted company may be undertaken through the process of study by the sub-Committee proposed by the Board as per following enlarged scope of the Committee.

- I. to study and decide the quantum and the valuation / price at which the investment will be made by VSNL in TTSL at various points of time;
- II. to decide the tranches and periodicity of investment in TTSL;
- III. to negotiate, finalise and execute shareholders agreements and other contractual arrangements with TTSL to best protect the interests of VSNL in respect of the investment;
- IV. to determine conditions of draw down of the investment to TTSL linked to defined milestones to be achieved by TTSL;
- V. to play a constructive role in the matter in which TTSL utilizes and applies the investment;
- VI. to identify and quantify any additional investment opportunities which are more attractive and submit the same to the Board for its consideration.
- VII. Such other functions as may be delegated to it by the Board from time to time.

As per the decision of the Sub-Committee, a sum of Rs. 835.80 crores would be invested by VSNL by way of equity in Tata Teleservices over a period of 7 years. For the first 4 years an amount of Rs. 636.80 crores will be invested and remaining amount as per timetable and mode to be decided mutually between VSNL & TATA Teleservices.

### **Streamlining of BIS**

1694. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have streamlined the working of Bureau of Indian Standards which was found to be lenient in enforcing standards in the case of drinking (mineral) water in March, 2003; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In view of the Report of Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a Non-Governmental organization, regarding presence of pesticide residues in the Bottled Water, the Government had constituted an Inquiry Committee under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Satwant Reddy, Additional Secretary in the Department of Consumer Affairs on 5th February, 2003. The Committee submitted its Report on 25th March, 2003. The major findings and recommendations of the Report in respect of functioning of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) are as per enclosed statement. The Government has accepted all the recommendations of the Inquiry Committee pertaining to BIS.

### **Statement**

The major findings and recommendations of the report are as under:

BIS has an established system for developing and formulating standards by involving different sectors. Consensus is an essential procedural principle and a necessary condition for the preparation of Standards. Further BIS has adopted the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Guide 7 - 1982 on the requirements suitable for product certification. The views expressed by the scientists, consumer organization and DGHS (PFA) on draft standards are taken into consideration. Overall, the prescribed procedure was followed while formulating these two standards for Packaged Drinking Water. The BIS Secretariat has carried out its assigned function of identifying appropriate Sectional Committees consulting the interested sectors, placement of comments before the Sectional Committee, and recording of the decisions related to each of the quality parameters. The standards have specified all those characteristics and requirements that are necessary, the required limiting values and also the test methods.

BIS certification for Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water was made mandatory under PFA by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through two Notifications issued on 29th September, 2000. Before these Notifications were issued, the matter was discussed by experts in the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), set up under Rule 3 of PFA Act. This Committee, under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services considered the BIS standards and found them adequate for adoption under PFA. The specifications for pesticides residue under PFA standards as well as BIS standards are "below detectable limit".

The Committee found that the standards for Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water were adequate and the detection limits of pesticides residue in these two standards compare favourably with pesticide residues in other food items such as milk, fruits, vegetables and food grains, which account for a major portion of daily intake by human beings. For example existing test methods detect DDT in packaged water upto the level of 0.02 ppm, whereas in milk and milk products (on a fat basis), it is permitted upto 1.25 ppm under PFA.

The two standards on Packaged Drinking Water were formulated by deriving assistance from Codex and WHO guidelines. At that time Codex had not yet agreed upon the relevant test method for detection and determination of pesticide residues. Hence the concerned Technical Committee of BIS decided to adopt the test method standard established by another technical committee of BIS, which were prescribed for pesticides residues in fruits, vegetables and soils. These standard test methods were not specifically meant for drinking water. Since an agreed Codex test method was not available at that time, no individual officer or organization can be held responsible for this weak link in the test method adopted.

A pro-active approach towards keeping the standards dynamic and at par with international developments in related fields is necessary. This would ensure that BIS strives for continuous improvement of standards by providing for an in-built alert system, which would flag emerging problems before they assume threatening dimensions.

BIS should have a Core Group of Scientists from various fields with the responsibility of keeping track of recent scientific and technical developments in critical areas. These scientists would alert the BIS management on the need to update and revise particular standards even before the review is due.

Draft standards should be put on the Website of BIS in order to obtain comments from all interested individuals and groups. This should be brought to public notice by giving advertisements in the print and electronic media.

The standard formulation is a voluntary activity and BIS does not pay anything, even in terms of TA/DA, for participation in meetings of the Technical Committees set up for standard formulation. As a result, at times, scientific organizations and consumer organizations are not able to participate in the meetings of Technical Committees. There is an urgent need to take remedial measures to get over this problem.

The steps involved in the certification process as laid down in the BIS Act, Certification Regulations and Manual of Operations etc., have been followed in licensing the manufacturing units. Surveillance inspections and picking up of samples from the factory and the market place for assessing their conformity to the requirements of standard in a recognized laboratory have also been carried out. Instances of action taken, including stoppage of marking when non-compliance was observed, indicate that supervision and monitoring, required under the scheme were carried out. However, some shortfall was observed in the targets set for frequency of surveillance inspections and testing of samples. It has also been observed that in addition to the existing demands for certification, about 750 licences for Packaged Drinking Water were added for which additional resources like manpower were not provided. Constraints of manpower available for the over all certification and enforcement activities of BIS might, therefore, have contributed to the shortfall noticed in the surveillance inspection. No single individual can be held responsible for this.

When BIS certification for an item of mass consumption like packaged water is made mandatory, it increases the responsibility and answerability of BIS towards the consumers. BIS should have a complete in-house review of its resources before accepting this responsibility. Inadequacies of manpower and other resources should be identified and ways to fill up those gaps be explored before the challenge is accepted. But once BIS has accepted this responsibility, it must discharge it faithfully and not cite lack of manpower or resources as justification for non-adherence to the norms.

BIS prepares one Scheme of Testing and Inspection (STI) for each product, after due consideration of the specifications in the relevant standard but this STI, once prepared becomes applicable to all licensees of that

product. In the European directives, it is found that the frequency of sampling and analysis for water put into bottles or containers for sale varies according to the capacity of production. It is suggested that BIS may consider the desirability of linking the frequency of testing with the production. In other words instead of a single STI for all licensees, BIS may take into account the quality of raw water, the technology used for purifying and quantity of water produced in a day and develop a STI for that individual manufacturing unit.

BIS may consider setting up product specific committees, as prevailing in AFNOR (French Standard body), having provision for outside expert participation at least for certification of mandatory items. This will enable BIS to involve the mandating body, say PFA of DGHS or its nominee to advise on the STI, choice of testing laboratories and overall implementation effectiveness of the scheme.

In addition to BIS's Central Laboratory, Sahibabad, services of 13 other laboratories were made use of by BIS for testing of the samples drawn. It was necessary for evaluation of applications for grant of licence and for supervision. The recognition of the laboratories has been based on international standards regarding the competence of the testing laboratories. The laboratories have followed the testing methods specified in the standard and have submitted reports in time in properly designed format indicating the specified value and the values obtained for the samples submitted.

The Bureau of Indian Standards, the National Standards Body of India, became functional as a statutory body under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 with effect from 1 April, 1987 taking over the staff, assets and liabilities of Indian Standards Institution established in 1947. For over 50 years this institution has been successfully promoting and nurturing the standardization movement in the country. It has provided for the harmonious development of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods. However, there is now a need for BIS to revitalize its core competencies. The existing procedures of BIS formulated several years ago are somewhat shrouded in secrecy and confidentiality. Government is, however, committed to greater transparency. There is also a great participation of people in decision making. The increased use of computers, the internet and websites has made it possible to reach out to people in a cost effective way. BIS should overhaul its procedures in the light of these developments and increase transparency in its operations. List of members of Technical Committees,

draft standards, list of licensees and their present status may be put on its website and updated at monthly intervals. The possibility of placing test reports of samples drawn from factory or market on the web may also be considered.

In the developed countries, there is only one standard for drinking water and countries are expected to ensure that all drinking water for human consumption, whether it is made available through the distribution network or in containers, conform to those standards. It is time that the Government/ Municipal machinery gears itself upto provide safe drinking water through its distribution network.

- There is also need to review the permissible limits of contaminants in other food products under PFA. This may also lead to a wider discussion regarding permissible levels of use of pesticides and fertilizers for agriculture and horticulture purposes. As long as pesticides and fertilizers are used for agriculture, they would have an adverse effect on food and water.
- A water re-charging system should be made mandatory for this industry. Some guidelines regarding selection of sites for installation of packaged drinking water industry are also required to ensure their location in pollution free areas.
- When BIS establishes a standard, it must specify the corresponding test methods. In the amended standards (Amendment No.4 of February 2003) it has been stated that "the analysis shall be conducted by using internationally established test methods meeting the residue limits specified". This is vague and has left the choice of method to laboratories, which will lead to confusion, as it will not permit comparison between the results of different laboratories. BIS should constitute a Committee of Experts from the leading research institutions like Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Central Food Technology Research Institute (CFTRI), Central Food Laboratories, Indian Toxicological Research Centre (ITRC), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) etc. engaged in evaluation of water quality for a review of the standards specified in IS:13492 and IS:14543 in order to specify the test methods to be followed by the testing laboratories.

#### **Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation**

1695. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:



(a) the names of States which have constituted the Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation (TDCC);

(b) the grants provided by the Union Government in this regard to various States during each of the last three years; and

(c) the work done by each TDCC in those States during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The States which have constituted the Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation (TDCC) are:

Andhra Pradesh	Jharkhand	Kerala
Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh	Orissa
Manipur	Maharashtra	Meghalaya
Rajasthan	Tripura	West Bengal

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Year	Amount Released	Purposes for which grant released	Utilization
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2000-2001	150.00	For Minor Forest Produce operations (MFP)	UC received
		2001-2002	520.00	(i) Procurement of MFP (ii) Strengthening of Share Capital (iii) Construction of Godowns/Warehouses	UC received
		2002-2003	480.00	For procurement of MFP	UC awaited
2.	Gujarat	2000-2001	150.00	For MFP operations	UC awaited
		2001-2002	-	-	-
		2002-2003	-	-	-
3.	Kerala	2000-2001	-	-	-
		2001-2002	-	-	-
		2002-2003	225.00	(i) Strengthening of Share Capital (ii) For MFP operations (iii) Construction of godowns/warehouses	UC awaited
4.	Meghalaya	2000-2001	-	-	-
		2001-2002	47.00	For MFP operations	UC received
		2002-2003	100.00	-do-	UC awaited
5.	Orissa	2000-2001	192.00	For MFP Operations	UC received
		2001-2002	200.00	-do-	UC received
		2002-2003	400.00	-do-	UC awaited
6.	Rajasthan	2000-2001	-	-	-
		2001-2002	251.61	(i) Strengthening of share capital (ii) For MFP Operations (iii) Construction of MFP Units	UC received
		2002-2003	119.37	(i) Strengthening of share capital (ii) Construction of Godowns/Warehouses	UC awaited

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Maharashtra	2000-2001	350.00	(i) For MFP operations (ii) Construction of Godowns/ Warehouses	UC received
		2001-2002	200.00	For MFP operations	UC awaited
		2002-2003	-		-
8.	Tripura	2000-2001	-	-	-
		2001-2002	62.06	For MFP operations	UC received
		2002-2003	122.00	For MFP operations	UC awaited
9.	West Bengal	2000-2001	-	-	-
		2001-2002	-	-	-
		2002-2003	53.63	For MFP operations	UC awaited

### International Leather Complex

1696. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sought sanction for the setting up of an International Leather complex; and

(b) if so, the action taken to give a fillip to the leather industry to provide employment generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of an international leather complex in the State has been received. The scheme for setting up a leather complex at an appropriate location is part of a proposal for integrated development of leather sector having an outlay of Rs. 400 crore in the Tenth Five Year Plan and comprising several schemes/initiatives. These schemes/initiatives are aimed at improving global competitiveness of the Indian leather industry thereby catalyzing employment in the sector.

### FCI Godowns

1697. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up more godowns in West Bengal to increase capacity of FCI in the 10th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated thereon in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

### External aided projects in West Bengal

1698. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether external aided projects are being implemented in West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of externally aided projects being implemented in West Bengal are given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

							As on 30/6/2003
S.No.	Name of the project	Source country	Starting Date	Currency	Loan/Grant amount (Million)	Cumulative drawal (Million)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	Basic health programme	Germany	22.6.99	DM	2.00	2.00	
				Euro	30.68	0.59	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Rural water supply	Germany	5.7.96	DM	39.01	28.08
				Euro	28.12	4.15
3.	Calcutta slum improvement	UK	1.1.91	UK Pd.	16.94	1.44
4.	Calcutta environmental improvement	UK	8.11.01	UK Pd.	28.30	0.00
5.	North Bengal terai development phase-III	Netherlands	30.11.94	NL Guilder	10.30	5.91
6.	Geological Survey of India (GSI-CL)	France	23.11.98	Euro	2.91	1.21
				Fr. Franc	11.05	11.05
7.	Calcutta Municipal Corpn. (CMC-WB, LA-I)	France	23.11.98	Euro	5.62	2.12
				Fr. Franc	17.63	17.63
8.	Industrial Pollution Control	Japan	28-2-95	J. Yen	955.17	744.81
9.	Teesta canal hydro-electric project (IDP-072)	Japan	23.1.91	J. Yen	6120.75	489.23
10.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. & extension (IDP-097)	Japan	28.2.95	J. Yen	8336.75	657.96
11.	West Bengal transmission system project	Japan	25.2.97	J. Yen	11087.00	9354.79
12.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. project-II	Japan	12.12.97	J. Yen	32300.69	21170.17
13.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. project-III	Japan	24.3.99	J. Yen	11537.00	8624.89
14.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. Extn. (IDP-147)	Japan	31.3.03	J. Yen	36771.00	0.00
15.	West Bengal transmission system project-II	Japan	10.5.02	J. Yen	3127.00	139.44
16.	Calcutta transport infrastructure development	Japan	25.2.97	J. Yen	10679.00	4161.06
17.	Teesta canal hydro-electric project (IDP-040)	Japan	18.12.86	J. Yen	7882.21	277.65
18.	Purulia pumped storage	Japan	28.2.95	J. Yen	20520.00	9359.67
19.	WB corridor development	ADB	10.12.02	US \$	210.00	2.19
20.	Calcutta environmental improvement	ADB	18.12.01	US\$	220.00	4.52

**Reservation of Seats in Sikkim  
Legislative Assembly**

1699. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred question replied on 25th April, 2003 regarding inclusion of Tamangs and Limbos in Tribal list and state:

- (a) whether the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has received a representation from the Chief Minister of Sikkim for providing separate reservation to the newly recognized Scheduled Tribes of Tamangs and Limbos in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Sikkim. The matter is still under consideration of the Government.

- (c) Does not arise.

**Co-ordination with China on WTO Issues**

1700. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and China would engage themselves in a co-ordinated manner on issues of common interest in the ongoing negotiations of the Doha Development Round of WTO;
- (b) if so, the issues/areas identified for this purpose; and
- (c) the manner in which the 'anti-dumping' issue is proposed to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) India and China have been working closely on various issues covered by the Doha Work Programme especially those issues of concern to developing countries. The issues include TRIPS and Public Health; implementation-related concerns with regard to the existing WTO Agreements; Special and Differential treatment for Developing countries; and the developmental aspects in the ongoing market access negotiations for agricultural and non-agricultural products and services.

(c) Anti-dumping cases are normally initiated on the basis of fully documented petition filed by the domestic industry containing sufficient evidence in respect of alleged dumping, injury and causal link between the two. Designated Authority may also initiate suo moto investigations if it is so satisfied from the information, received from the Collector of Customs appointed under the Customs Act, 1962 or from any other source that sufficient evidence exist as to the existence of dumping, material injury to the domestic industry and causal link between the two. The exporters concerned with this investigation have the opportunity to provide information in the questionnaire prescribed and to have a Public Hearing by the Designated Authority.

The bilateral mechanisms in place between India and China, such as the Joint Commissions, Working Group on Trade, provide the forum for dealing with any bilateral issue between the two countries including anti-dumping cases.

**Import of Wheat from Bulgaria**

1701. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a substantial quantity of wheat has been imported from Bulgaria in any of the years in between 1997-98 and 2002-03;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the imported price of wheat inclusive of custom tariff per quintal vis-a-vis the price of our indigenous wheat in that particular year;
- (d) whether the Government have assessed the demands of goods for exports to Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary; and
- (e) if so, the efforts made during the last three years to augment exports to these countries alongwith the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total quantity of 2.37 lakh MT of wheat valued at Rs.137.20 crores has been imported from Bulgaria during the year 1999-2000 due to requirement in the country.

(c) It is not possible to compare the imported price of wheat and the price of indigenous wheat in 1999-2000, the two being a function of various factors, including varieties traded.

(d) No Sir. However, the main items of exports to Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary are inter- alia textiles, cotton yarn fabrics, made ups, agricultural products, drugs and pharmaceuticals, manufactures of metals, tobacco unmanufactured, and machinery and instruments.

(e) Some of the steps taken to augment the level of trade with these countries include providing prompt information and assistance to Indian as well as European companies; disseminating trade related information through apex trade and industry organisations, Export Promotion Councils and other relevant bodies; exchange of business delegations; encouraging Indian companies to participate in major trade fairs in the Central & East European countries and vice versa; organising business seminars; organising meeting of the Commercial Representatives of the Central and East European countries and discussing ways and means to further increase bilateral trade during the Joint Commission Meetings and other high level interactions/meetings/visits. As a result of these steps, the overall trade with these countries has increased.

#### **Delimitation of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies**

1702. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delimitation Commission set up for delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies has completed its reports; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana**

1703. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to clear the projects under Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana for the comprehensive development scheme for the handloom sector of Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken or being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) proposals for release of assistance for the comprehensive development of the handloom sector are considered on the basis of viable proposals received in conformity with the guidelines of the scheme. Presently, no proposal of the Government of Kerala is pending with the Government of India under the DDHPY.

(b) An amount of Rs.1313.22 lakh has been sanctioned so far to the Government of Kerala consisting of Rs.123.82 lakh towards Basic Input component of the scheme for implementation of 53 projects and Rs.1189.40 lakh as Marketing Incentive component of the scheme. Out of this a sum of Rs.1250.84 lakh has been released so far to the Government of Kerala.

#### **Mahila Branches**

1704. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector banks have set up Mahila Branches; and

(b) if so, the number of such branches set up so far, bank-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the following public sector banks have set up Mahila Branches/ converted existing branches.

1. Oriental Bank of Commerce: 5  
(New Delhi-2, Jaipur-1, Ahmedabad-1, Dehradun-1)
2. Allahabad Bank-1 (New Delhi)
3. Indian Overseas Bank-1 (Chennai)
4. State Bank of Travancore-1 (Muhamma)
5. Union Bank of India-1 (Mumbai)
6. Vijaya Bank-1 (Mandya, Karnataka)

**National Tax Tribunal**

(In US\$ million)

1705. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Tax Tribunal for uniform interpretation on Income Tax laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which tribunal is likely to be set up; and
- (d) to what extent this Ombudsman is likely to be helpful in settlement of income tax disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) A proposal for setting up of a National Tax Tribunal for settlement of tax disputes is under consideration of the Central Government. The proposal suggests that appeals against orders of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal will lie before the National Tax Tribunal and that appeals against orders of the National Tax Tribunal will lie before the Supreme Court. Since the proposal is under consideration only, it is not possible to lay down the time by which the Tribunal is likely to be set up. The proposal suggests that setting up of a National Tax Tribunal will help in quick settlement of tax disputes, based on uniform interpretation of Income-tax laws.

[Translation]

**Export of Hosiery**

1706. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the achievements made in the export of hosiery products during the years 2001-02 and 2002-03;
- (b) the extent to which the increase has been registered in the exports as compared to the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01; and
- (c) the steps being taken to boost the export of hosiery products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) As per available DGCI&S data, the exports of readymade garments including hosiery products during the years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 have been as follows:-

	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Readymade Garments including hosiery products	4464.3	5087.0	4618.7	5031.5
%age increase/decrease over the previous year	5.8%	13.9%	-9.2%	8.9%

(c) Government have been taking a number of measures to boost the exports of readymade garments including hosiery products. Some of the important initiatives are:-

- (i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and up-gradation of the sector.
- (iii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.
- (iv) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought from 15% to 5%.
- (v) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (vi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the textile products pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.
- (vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international

standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

- (viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) has been launched.

#### Financial Assistance to States

1707. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the head-wise assistance including foreign assistance given to each State during the last three years;

(b) the details alongwith the heads under which States have not utilized the earmarked amount within prescribed time limit and the funds lapsed due to non utilization within the stipulated period, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the names of States which have misused the funds; and

(d) the quantum of funds for which the State Governments have not submitted the utilisation certificate to Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The Central Assistance is released to the State Governments as block loans/block grants for achieving the approved Plan outlay. Any shortfall for achievement in targeted Plan Outlay invites proportionate cut in Normal Central Assistance. The assistance under earmarked schemes in State Plan is governed by their respective guidelines. The State Governments are accountable to their State Legislature for proper utilization of funds through State Audit Report prepared by the C&AG of India under Article 151(2) of the Constitution.

#### Statement

#### *Central Assistance Released to State Governments for Annual Plans 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	States	2000-01			2001-02			2002-03		
		Normal Central Assistance	Addl. Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects	Others	Normal Central Assistance	Addl. Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects	Others	Normal Central Assistance	Addl. Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	803.62	1442.34	518.80	854.43	3755.84	482.32	1107.46	1905.69	478.58
2	Arunachal Pradesh	437.87	0.00	153.14	442.87	0.32	167.62	482.78	2.21	119.64
3	Assam	1077.58	78.26	388.43	1047.97	93.25	432.05	1200.25	51.33	523.88
4	Bihar	1281.05	63.67	511.09	1180.64	16.83	244.74	1253.33	0.64	581.01
5	Chhattisgarh	113.69	0.00	165.56	322.35	7.17	113.30	360.94	11.22	203.33
6	Goa	60.42	0.00	70.72	70.74	0.00	61.92	52.18	0.00	41.69
7	Gujarat	421.16	891.24	701.89	465.58	1604.96	730.98	481.42	940.81	1512.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	Haryana	175.65	296.66	118.04	194.66	151.93	43.92	204.30	120.89	158.05
9	Himachal Pradesh	521.24	56.40	375.28	529.50	38.16	460.03	593.45	33.99	667.03
10	Jharkhand	121.11	0.00	194.12	384.43	0.00	53.73	411.97	0.00	145.11
11	Jammu & Kashmir	1017.91	15.71	623.40	987.00	38.05	997.51	1097.89	37.83	1169.45
12	Karnataka	469.81	579.50	473.63	529.68	1691.74	625.89	560.57	463.60	949.64
13	Kerala	465.1	77.16	139.76	536.04	96.99	156.41	498.07	730.10	231.31
14	Madhya Pradesh	806.48	172.68	520.14	775.43	819.60	326.29	810.73	735.10	480.81
15	Maharashtra	450.81	318.70	472.28	768.68	289.23	191.89	614.26	377.83	699.92
16	Manipur	304.58	19.57	89.26	303.67	16.27	255.64	351.06	10.18	206.43
17	Meghalaya	265.74	8.15	130.87	263.00	43.12	102.68	290.29	8.11	110.19
18	Mizoram	312.24	1.89	85.65	312.24	3.49	144.16	343.46	20.91	143.01
19	Nagaland	310.33	0.00	112.37	325.13	1.06	133.36	358.15	3.76	92.10
20	Orissa	499.83	516.34	438.28	597.38	310.50	378.86	640.39	621.89	644.22
21	Punjab	129.25	187.15	229.88	250.61	209.58	205.76	269.58	111.92	202.93
22	Rajasthan	528.82	248.42	412.65	599.90	99.12	290.75	571.85	273.77	517.59
23	Sikkim	198.67	0.50	67.19	205.57	1.92	95.81	221.63	4.18	65.02
24	Tamil Nadu	663.44	775.14	314.12	702.22	340.19	217.56	706.69	269.72	385.95
25	Tripura	410.35	0.03	249.14	454.85	3.67	238.05	505.84	0.89	141.68
26	Uttaranchal	26.07	9.73	439.98	538.00	17.41	593.13	581.80	200.71	822.31
27	Uttar Pradesh	1930.75	1697.90	1351.74	1908.46	606.37	992.02	2341.01	709.35	1246.42
28	West Bengal	1000.36	636.09	419.65	1040.59	688.45	343.96	1103.75	631.24	450.40
<b>Total</b>		<b>14803.93</b>	<b>8093.23</b>	<b>9767.06</b>	<b>16591.62</b>	<b>10945.22</b>	<b>9080.34</b>	<b>18015.10</b>	<b>8277.87</b>	<b>12991.04</b>

[English]

**Mineral Water**

1708. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Consumer Affairs have

recently conducted random survey at the premises of bottled water manufacturers and found faecal bacteria in packaged water bottles;

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

(c) whether the manufacturers of packaged water bottles are still playing with the precious lives and violating the Consumer Acts; and



(d) if so, the further steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Bureau of Indian Standards through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance Inspections ensures that its licensees are manufacturing Packaged Drinking Water and Natural Mineral Water as per the specifications stipulated in the relevant Indian Standards. However, as a precautionary measure, BIS has further tightened its rules for action to be taken on the failure of the samples. Now the licensee is put under stop marking even on the first failure in critical requirement/unsatisfactory performance.

#### **Redemption of Redeemable Preference Shares**

1709. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether that Indian Companies who have mobilized funds through Redeemable Preference Shares (RPS) have been allowed redemption before the mandatory period of five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefore;

(d) whether this early redemption of Redeemable Preference Shares have been allowed on the requests of some selected companies;

(e) if so, the companies who represented to the Government for permission to waive the mandatory period of five years for redemption of their Redeemable Preference Shares;

(f) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to monitor the activities of these companies who have been allowed redemption of their RPS;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Participation of ITPO in Trade Fairs Abroad**

1710. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the trade fairs held in foreign countries during 2001, 2002 and the current calendar year in which India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) participated from India; and

(b) the details of business done during the trade fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) participated in the overseas fairs as per the following details:

Year	No. of Fairs
2001	47
2002	48
2003 (Upto June)	26

The details of the overseas fairs held during the above years are as under:

#### **2001**

(1) Heimtextil, Frankfurt, Jan. 2001. (2) Domotex, Hanover Jan. 2001, (3) Conswnexpo, Moscow, Russia, January, 2001, (4) International Houseware Show, Chicago, USA, Jan 14-17, 2001, (5) Intl. Hardware Show, Cologne (Germany) February, 2001, (6) Dhaka Intl. Fair, Dhaka, Feb., 2001, (7) Khartoum Intl. Fair, Khartoum (Sudan), Feb., 2001, (8) Indxpo, Dubai, Feb. 2001, (9) Expocomer, Panama, March, 2001, (10) World Watch Clock Jewellery Show, March, 2001, (11) IFE Intl. Food & Drink, London, (UK), March, 2001, (12) Asia Pacific Leather Fair, Hongkong March, 2001, (13) Foodex, Japan, March, 13-16, 2001. (14) Tripoli intl. Fair, Tripoli (Libya), April, 2001, (15) Beijing Intl. Fair, Beijing, April, 2001, (16) Hanover Fair, Hannover April, 2001, (17) Kuwait intl. Fair, Kuwait, April, 2001, (18) Muba Fair, Muba, Basal, May, 2001 (19) 12th India Home Furnishings Fair 2001, Tokyo, Japan, May 15-17, 2001. (20) India

Handicrafts & Gift Show, Tokyo, May 15-17, 2001, (21) Business Show, Tokyo, Japan, May 22-25, 2001, (22) Algiersi, intl. Fair, Algiers. June, 2001, (23) JCI, Casablanca, June, 2001. (24) 22nd India Garment Fair, Osaka, July, 24-26, 2001, (25) International Fancy Food & Confectionery Show, USA, July 9-11, 2001. (26) National Hardware Show, Chicago, August, 2001, (27) CPD- Dusseldorf (Germany), August, 2001, (28) Izmir intl. Fair, Izmir, August, 2001, (29) WSA, Las Vegas, August 1-4, 2001, (30) PRET-APORTER, Paris, Sept, 2001, (31) Fashion World, Paris, Sept., 2001, (32) India Exhibition, Sao Paulo, Sept, 2001, (33) World Food, Moscow, Sept., 2001, (34) Tehran Industry Fair, Tehran (Iran), Sept., 2001, (35) Saitex, Johannesburg, Sept, 2001, (36) Intergift, Madrid, Sept, 2001, (37) PC Expo, Tokyo, Japan, Sept., 2001, (38) Anuga Food Fair, Cologne (Germany), October, 2001 (39) K-2001, Dusseldorf (Germany), October, 2001, (40) Equip Auto, Paris, France, October 16-21, 2001, (41) 5th Japan Stone Fair, Tokyo, Japan October 30-November 2, 2001, (42) AAPEX Show, Las Vegas, USA, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2001, (43) Baghdad Intl. Fair, Baghdad, November, 2001, (44) Import Shop, Berlin, November, 2001, (45) 3rd China High-Tech Fair, Chongqing, China, November 16-20, 2001. (46) Inchem Tokyo 2001, Tokyo, Japan, November 27-30, 2001, (47) AFL-Artigiano, Milan (Italy), December, 2001.

## 2002

(1) Heimtextil, Frankfurt (Germany), January, 2002 (2) Domotex, Hannover (Germany), Jan., 2002, (3) Vicenza Jewellery Fair (Italy), Jan., 2002, (4) Khartoum intl. Fair (Sudan), Jan., 2002 (5) International Houseware Show, Chicago, USA, Jan. 2002 (6) Atlanta Gift & Home Furnishing Show, Jan. 12-16, 2002 (7) Mubaplus, Basal Feb., 2002, (8) WSA, Las Vegas, Feb., 6-9, 2002, (9) intl. Hardware Show, Cologne (Germany), March, 2002, (10) Foodex, Japan, March 13-16, 2002, (11) Expo Comer International Commercial Exhibition, Panama, March 6-10, 2002, (12) Tripoli Intl. Fair, Tripoli (Libya), April 2-12, 2002, (13) World Watch Clock and Jewellery Show, Basel (Switzerland), April 04-11, 2002, (14) Hannover Fair, Hannover (Germany), April 15-20, 2002, (15) Foire De Paris (France), April 30- May 12 2002, (16) APLF-(Hong Kong) April 8-10, 2002 (Part-I), April 9-12, 2002 (Part-II), (17) TIBCO-Intl. Consumer Goods Fair, Bucharest (Romania), May 29-June 04, 2002, (18) 13th India Home Furnishings Fair, Tokyo, Japan, May 21-23, 2002. (19) 2nd India Handicrafts & Gift Fair, Tokyo, Japan, May 21-23, 2002, (20) Coverings- intl. Stone & Tile Exposition, New Orlando, USA, May 6-9, 2002, (21) Algiers Intl. Fair, Agiers (Algeria), June 12-21, 2002, (22) Vicenzaro II Vicenza (Italy), June 8-13, 2002, (23) NACDS Market Place, San Diego, California, USA, June 15-18, 2002, (24) Intl. Fancy Food & Confectionary Show, New York, USA, July 7-9, 2002, (25) Bricolage & Expo, Ferragista, Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 17-21, 2002, (26) 23rd India

Garment Fair, Osaka, Japan, July 23-25, 2002, (27) Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show, Lusaka (Zambia), August 1-5, 2002, (28) CPD-Dusseldorf (Germany), August 4-6, 2002, (29) Pret-A-Porter, Paris (France), August 30-Sept. 2, 2002, (30) WSA-The Shoe Show, Las Vegas, USA, August 1-4, 2002, (31) National Hardware Show, Chicago, USA, August 11-13, 2002, (32) Expo International, Rujac, Mexico, Aug. 28-30, 2002, (33) TIP-Brussels (Belgium) Sept. 6-9, 2002, (34) BNV-Budapest (Hungry) Sept. 13-19, 2002, (35) Vicenzaro Vicenza (Italy), Sept. 7-12, 2002, (36) Expohogar- Barcelona (Spain), Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2002, (37) International Food Fair, Sharjah (UAE), Scp. 29- Oct. 4. 2002, (38) Automechanica, Frankfurt, Germany, Sept. 17-22, 2002, (39) Saitex, Johannesburg, South Africa, Oct, 1-5, 2002, (40) Tehran Industry Fair, Tehran (Iran), Oct. 2-6, 2002 (41) Uganda International Trade Fair, Kampala (Uganda), Oct. 3-10, 2002, (42) Sial Food Fair, Paris (France), Oct. 20-24, 2002, (43) WPC Expo, Tokyo, Japan, Oct. 16-19, 2002, (44) SAARC Trade Fair, Kathmandu, Nepal, Oct. 25-29, 2002, (45) Baghdad International Fair, Baghdad (Iraq), Nov. 1-10, 2002, (46) Import Shop, Berlin (Germany), Nov. 8-9, 2002 (47) AAPEX Show, Las Vegas, USA, Nov. 5-8, 2002, (48) AF-L' Artigiano in Fiera-Intl.-Handicrafts Selling Exh., Milan (Italy), Nov, 29-Dec., 8, 2002.

## 2003 (upto June)

(1) Heimtextil, Frankfurt Germany, January 8-11, 2003, (2) Domotex, Hannover Germany, January 8-14, 2003, (3) Vicanzaro, Vicenza (Italy), January 12-19, 2003, (4) Khartoum International Trade Fair, Khartoum (Sudan), January 15-25, 2003, (5) Paper World, Frankfurt (Germany), January 31-Feb, 4, 2003, (6) Atlanta International Gift & Home Furnishings Market, Atlanta USA, January 10-14, 2003, (7) WSA - Las Vegas, USA, February, 2003, (8) International Spring Fair, Birmingham (UK), February 3-7, 2003, (9) Indian Exhibition Moscow (Russia), February 17-21, 2003, (10) Muba Plus, Basal Switzerland, February 14-23, 2003, (11) Addis Ababa Intl. Trade Fair, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), February 24-March 2, 2003, (12) International Hardware Show, Cologne (Germany), March 9-12, 2003, (13) Foodex 2003, Tokyo, Japan, March 11-14, 2003, (14) Expocomar Intl. Commercial Exhibition, Panama, City, Panama, March 12-16, 2003, (15) Coverings - Intl. Stone & Tile Exposition, New Orlando, USA, March 24-27, 2003, (16) Trade Services Show, Seoul, March, 2003, (17) Tripoli International Fair, Tripoli (Libya), April 2-12, 2003, (18) World Watch, Clock and Jewellery Show, Zurich, Switzerland, April 3-10, 2003, (19) Foire De Paris, Paris, France, April 30-May 11, 2003, (20) 14th India Home Furnishings Fair, Tokyo, Japan, May 27-29, 2003, (21) 3rd India Handicrafts & Gifts Fair, Tokyo, Japan, May 27-29, 2003, (22) Vicenzaro-Intl. Exhibition of Gold Jewellery, Silverware and Watches, Vicenza, Italy, June 7-12, 2003, (23) Algiers

International Fair, Algiers (Algeria), June 11-19, 2003, (24) FIA LISBOA - Intl. Handicraft Exhibition, Lisbon, Portugal, June 28-July 6, 2003, (25) Dar-es-Salaam Intl. Trade Fair, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, June 29-July 9, 2003, (26) Fancy Food Show, New York, USA, June 29-July 1, 2003.

(b) The detailed business generated year-wise is as under:

Year	Business Generated (Rs. in lakhs)
2001	1,04,582.91
2002	1,20,081.58
2003 (upto June)	28,234.52

[English]

#### Trilateral Trade

1711. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Brazil and South Africa have formed a trilateral bloc to boost trade;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the area identified for trilateral trade; and

(d) the extent to which the new grouping will be helpful to boost the trade among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) During External Affairs' Minister visit to Brazil a Trilateral Meeting was held on 6th June, 2003 amongst the Foreign Ministers of India, Brazil and South Africa to launch the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum with the aim of further enhancing South-South Cooperation. IBSA Dialogue Forum is strictly not a trading bloc, but is a grouping which envisages a wider canvas of cooperation in various fields among these three countries. Trade, of course, will form an important part of this trilateral cooperation.

#### Export of Plantation Crops

1712. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports from the plantation sector have not shown expected buoyance in this fiscal year;

(b) if so, the reasons for the slow growth of exports in the plantation sector;

(c) whether the foreign importers have complained of poor quality and packaging of goods from the plantation sector;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to pay attention to the traditional exports from the plantation sector;

(e) whether any promotional campaigns are required for the remaining period of this year to boost exports from the plantation sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The main reasons for the slow growth of exports in the plantation sector, specially tea, coffee and natural rubber, during the current financial year are:-

- Decline in exports of tea to Iraq (there were no exports during April-May, 2003 whereas 3.19 million kgs. were exported during the same period last year), lower off-take of tea by Russian Federation, stiff competition from other tea producing and exporting countries like Sri-Lanka, China, Indonesia, and Kenya, ban on tea imports by Iran.
- Domestic price of Natural Rubber (NR) ruling higher than international price, making exports unattractive.

Decline in production of coffee leading to a consequent decline in exports of coffee.

(c) and (d) No complaint on poor quality and packaging in the case of plantation commodities like tea, coffee and natural rubber have been received from foreign importers in the recent past.

(e) and (f) In order to boost the exports of plantation commodities, medium term export strategies have been formulated for tea, coffee and natural rubber through

consultants, which are being implemented by the respective Commodity Boards. As part of the strategy, promotional campaigns are being undertaken in key export markets. The Boards are also participating in major international trade fairs and exhibitions to provide essential publicity and enhance the quality image of Indian tea, coffee and natural rubber. Promotional support is also being lent to the Indian exporters in their marketing efforts through organization of buyer-seller meets and provision of relevant market information with respect to the target export countries.

#### **OBU of SBI**

1713. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Bank of India propose to provide cheaper loans to exporters located in the SEZs through the banks offshore units located in the SEZ;

(b) if so, whether Overseas Banking Units (OBUs) do not come within the purview of RBI's credit guidelines;

(c) whether the SBI's OBU will also provide other services at globally competitive rates to SEZs; and

(d) if so, the details of such services which SBI proposed to provide at SEZs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) In terms of the Reserve Bank of India guidelines, Off-shore Banking Units (OBUs) would be treated on the same footing as a foreign branch of the bank by State Bank of India (SBI). As the OBUs would be in a position to raise funds from the international market at globally competitive rates, the foreign currency funds requirement of the customers can be met at competitive rates which would benefit the exporters.

(b) OBUs have to follow RBI's guidelines and all prudential norms applicable to overseas branches of Indian banks.

(c) and (d) SBI will provide all eligible services to the customers of units located in SEZs of OBUs at competitive rates. The services would inter-alia include foreign currency loans, customized hedging assistance for interest and exchange risks, investment activities, deposit products for Non Resident Indians (NRIs) and eligible residents etc.

*[Translation]*

#### **Blackmarketing of Essential Commodities**

1714. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not received the information of the cases of blackmarketing and breach of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 from many States;

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

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(d) the success achieved after taking the action?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 empowers the Central and State Governments to detain persons whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. The Act is being implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations for the prevention of unethical trade practices like hoarding and blackmarketing etc. In accordance with Section 3(4) of the Act, a report in this regard alongwith the grounds on which the order has been made and other particulars are required to be furnished to the Central Government within seven days of the order made or approved by the State Government. The State Governments and UT Administrations have also been requested from time to time to report the action taken as per the provisions of the Act. The detention orders made by the State Governments during the last three years and upto 25.7.2003 are as under:

States/UTs	During the year 2000	During the year 2001	During the year 2002	From 1.1.2003 to 25.7.2003
Gujarat	179	98	80	56
Tamil Nadu	28	37	17	04
Orissa	01	05	1	--
Assam	--	--	01	--
Uttar Pradesh	04	07	--	01
Madhya Pradesh	13	02	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>61</b>

Other States/UTs have not reported any detention under the Act during the above period.

*[English]*

#### **Anti-Dumping Measures**

1715. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are using the anti-dumping measures to protect India's domestic products against cheap imports and developed the expertise to carry out the investigations for using the anti-dumping measures;

(b) the number of cases of anti-dumping measures carried out against India since coming into effect the anti-dumping measures in 1995 and the number of such investigations carried out by India during the last one year with names of the countries;

(c) whether there is demand from the WTO member countries to amend the anti-dumping laws to make it more user-friendly and less discriminatory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and when the law is going to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per the Anti-Dumping Rules, anti-dumping investigations are normally initiated by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties (DGAD) on receiving a fully documented petition from the domestic industry with prima-facie evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between the dumped goods and injury to the domestic industry. The purpose of Anti-dumping duties is to counteract trade distortion caused by dumping and the consequential injury to the domestic industry. The imposition of Anti-dumping measures does not restrict imports from the subject countries.

The DGAD has a team of professional qualified officers, who have the requisite experience to handle anti-dumping cases.

(b) According to a report compiled by WTO Secretariat regarding anti-dumping action upto December, 2002, 44 (forty-four) anti-dumping measures have been imposed against Indian exporters since 1995. In the year 2002-03 DGAD initiated Anti-dumping investigations into 30 (thirty) products involving various countries namely, Indonesia, Thailand, South Africa, Macedonia, China, Singapore, Korea, USA, Canada, Ukraine, Russia, Iran, EU, Taiwan, Germany, Poland, Romania, Venezuela, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, UK, Australia, Kazakhstan, Turkey, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Philippines and UAE.

(c) and (d) The Doha Ministerial Conference of the WTO

has provided for negotiations aimed at clarifying and improving disciplines under the Agreements on Anti-Dumping and Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, while preserving the basic concepts, principles and effectiveness of these Agreements. In the initial phase of the negotiations, participants are to indicate the provisions, including discipline on trade distorting practices that they seek to clarify and improve in the subsequent phase.

Proposals have been submitted by various countries seeking improvement and clarification in the Anti-Dumping Agreement. The negotiations are required to be completed by January, 2005.

*[Translation]*

#### **Voter Identity Cards**

1716. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where working relating to preparation of voter identity cards are going on and the States where it is likely to begin within next few months;

(b) whether voter identity cards are likely to be issued to the citizens who have attained the age of 18 years on June 30, 2003;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The scheme of issuing electors' photo identity cards (EPICs) is being implemented by the State Governments/Union territory Administrations directly under overall charge of Election Commission of India. The electoral roll is the basis for issue of EPICs to the registered electors. The electoral rolls are revised every year with 1st January of the year as the qualifying date. All persons who attain 18 years or above as on that date are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll and can apply for the same. Once they are registered in the roll, they would be eligible for getting an EPIC. The scheme of issuing EPICs is, therefore, a continuous and ongoing process for the completion of which no time limit can be fixed as the registration of electors is a continuous and ongoing process (excepting for a brief period between the last date for filing nomination and completion of electoral process) on account of more number of persons becoming eligible for the right of franchise on attaining the age of 18 years as also due to movement of electors. The electors who are not covered in

the current programme will always constitute a residual part of the programme. The Commission's continuous effort is to provide the EPICs to the electors who are left out in the previous campaigns as well as the new electors. A statement

showing the progress of issuance of EPICs as on 30.7.2003 is enclosed.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Election Commission of India*

*Status Report on Progress of Electors Photo Identity Cards*

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	Total Electors	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards	Percent (figures in 4 as % of 3)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	54,936,102	32,549,914	59.25
2	Arunachal Pradesh	663,066	288,040	43.44
3	Assam	14,426,221	67,479	0.47
4	Bihar	45,453,577	17,092,234	37.60
5	Chhattisgarh	13,333,596	9,620,499	72.15
6	Goa	936,085	559,634	59.78
7	Gujarat	33,238,195	22,213,432	66.83
8	Haryana	12,247,273	10,713,212	87.47
9	Himachal Pradesh	4,069,878	2,731,903	67.12
10	Jammu & Kashmir	6,163,274	2,251,824	36.54
11	Jharkhand	16,233,841	7,385,389	45.49
12	Karnataka	37,231,412	33,388,007	89.68
13	Kerala	21,548,000	20,519,000	95.22
14	Madhya Pradesh	35,347,783	21,855,970	61.83
15	Maharashtra	61,468,890	44,455,999	72.32
16	Manipur	1,503,402	1,033,733	68.76
17	Meghalaya	1,280,766	1,033,575	80.70
18	Mizoram	505,587	378,768	74.92
19	Nagaland	1,012,541	697,609	68.90
20	Orissa	25,567,097	19,987,030	78.17

1	2	3	4	5
21	Punjab	16,394,079	8,366,305	51.03
22	Rajasthan	33,788,459	26,311,914	77.87
23	Sikkim	266,168	132,242	49.68
24	Tamil Nadu	49,327,491	31,662,414	64.19
25	Tripura	1,930,718	1,495,315	77.45
26	Uttaranchal	5,568,898	3,203,225	57.52
27	Uttar Pradesh	99,685,000	62,830,538	63.03
28	West Bengal	46,462,519	38,946,215	83.82
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	230,555	126,216	54.74
30	Chandigarh	503,930	278,499	55.27
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	118,964	58,618	49.27
32	Daman & Diu	77,146	45,645	59.17
33	NCT of Delhi	8,256,176	5,699,482	69.03
34	Lakshadweep	37,888	23,588	62.26
35	Pondicherry	614,823	611,479	99.46
All India Total		650,429,400	428,614,946	65.90

[English]

### Unofficial Stock Market

1717. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has written to State Governments seeking their help to curb the growing menace of unofficial, stock markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which such stock markets are functioning; and

(d) the corrective steps taken or likely to be taken by SEBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Securities & Exchange

Board of India (SEBI) has written to the Chief Ministers of all the States and to the Heads of all the Union Territories on several occasions seeking their help to put the police on continuous alert and to take action against offenders, who are carrying out illegal trading of securities in violation of section 19 of Securities Contracts (Regulation), Act (SCRA), 1956, which are punishable under the Indian Penal Code. Further specific information as well as press articles in this regard have been forwarded to chief ministers from time to time, seeking their help to look into the matter and take action against those found to be involved in the illegal trading of securities.

(c) The names of the states which have appeared in various complaints and news articles regarding illegal trading are Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(d) Apart from writing to the State Governments and the Union Territories as mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above, SEBI has taken various measures in this regard, which,

inter-alia, include, issuing a public notice in the leading newspapers warning the investors against participation in illegal trading of securities, writing to different stock exchanges to curb alleged misuse of their trading terminal for the purpose of illegal trading by taking action against those found to be involved in such misuse, conducting joint inspections with National Stock Exchange and carrying out search and seizure operation on the premises of the broking entities for curbing illegal trading of securities and prohibiting such broking entities, allegedly involved in such trading, from dealing in securities.

[Translation]

#### Lok Adalats

1718. SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- the number of Lok Adalats of the High Courts held in the country since January 1, 2003 till date, State-wise;
- the number of cases referred to Lok Adalats and the number of those disposed off, State-wise; and
- the number out of them disposed as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Export of Floriculture

1719. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- whether floriculture exports from the country have gone up during the last two years;
- if so, the details thereof in terms of quantity and money; and
- the names of major States exporting floriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of quantity and value of exports during the last two years are as under:

Year	Qty. (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
2001-2002	18822	12,743
2002-2003	23078*	17,487

Source (value): DGCI&S (Figures rounded to nearest whole number)

\*Quantity statistics for 2002-2003 is available upto January, 2003;

Source (Qty): APEDA

(c) Fresh flowers are mainly exported from Tamilnadu, Karnataka & Maharashtra, whereas dried flowers are being exported mainly from Tamilnadu & West Bengal.

#### Kisan Credit Card

1720. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the target fixed for issuing of Kisan Credit Cards has not achieved by several banks during the last three years;
- if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- the steps taken to issue Kisan Credit Cards in all the States uniformly and also to meet the target in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The target set for issue of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) by Public Sector Banks, Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the last three years and achievements there against is as under:

Year	Public Sector Banks		Cooperative Banks		Regional Rural Banks	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
2000-01	25	23.90	45	56.14	5	6.48
2001-02	33	30.72	60	54.36	7	8.34
2002-03	25.81	26.81	65	45.79	7	9.64

(Cards in lakhs)



A study conducted by RBI through its Regional Offices in June 2001 attributed slow progress in issue of cards in some areas to operational problems in implementation on account of lack of updation of land records, small size of the land holding, rich farmers not showing interest in availing of KCCs, inadequate publicity of the scheme among the rural masses.

RBI and NABARD have advised banks to familiarize their staff about KCC Scheme through training programmes and to give greater publicity for the Scheme. Banks have also been advised to work out a suitable action plan to achieve total coverage and to break the targets branch-wise and month-wise for effective monitoring. Further, banks have also been advised to accelerate the issue of the KCCs and cover all eligible agricultural farmers under the Scheme by March 2004.

### **Domestic Diamond Industry**

1721. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India accounts for over 70 per cent of the global diamond cutting and polishing industry;

(b) whether China is eyeing that industry in view of cheap labour cost in China; and

(c) the action proposed to review labour policies, infrastructure bottlenecks etc. threatening domestic diamond industry with labour problems with threat to relocate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) India is the largest cutting and polishing centre in the world. India's share in global cut and polished diamonds approximately is 60% in terms of value, 85% in terms of volume, 92% in terms of pieces. 11 out of 12 diamonds set in Jewellery worldwide are cut and polished in India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Review and updation of labour policy is a continuous process so as to ensure its relevance to the emerging needs. The labour policy to a large extent is governed by various labour laws aimed at protecting the interest of workers in terms of their health, social security, welfare, and safety within the frame of overall economic policy of the Government. In the recent years the Government

initiated the process of Labour Reforms with a view to meeting the challenges of globalization. Accordingly, steps have been initiated to carry out amendments in some important labour laws with a view to maintaining their contemporariness. The Indian diamond Industry uses advanced technology to remain competitive.

### **Scholarship Scheme for STs**

1722. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to bring some changes in the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Tribes students;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed changes and the time by which these changes are likely to be implemented;

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase the rate of scholarship;

(d) whether the Government will revise the minimum annual income criteria for beneficiary of scholarship for ST students;

(e) whether there will be periodical revision of these scholarship scheme by the Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the number of students likely to be benefited from this scheme in 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. There is a proposal to modify the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for ST students which inter-alia includes revision in the scholarship rate & minimum income limit also.

It is not possible to indicate a precise time frame for the implementation of these changes.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. There is no such proposal. However, the annual income ceiling is linked with the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers and income ceiling is revised after two years.

(g) The number of students likely to be benefited from this scheme in 2003-04 is approx. 7.09 lakhs.

**Compensation for Losses of  
Cooperative Banks in Gujarat**

1723. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in Gujarat the losses of cooperative banks have been compensated by the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the amount compensated to each cooperative banks;
- (d) whether the cooperative banks in other States will also be compensated;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) Union Government has not compensated the losses of co-operative banks in Gujarat.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

**World Bank Loan for Food Projects**

1724. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether World Bank is considering providing some amount in the form of loan for food projects in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of the States where these projects are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) The World Bank has recently approved a credit of US\$ 54 million for a new project namely, 'Food and Drugs Capacity Building project'. It is a Health sector project. One of the components of this project is Food Safety, consisting of activities to strengthen government's oversight and regulatory capacity for food safety, to educate consumers, and to upgrade related skills in private sector.

(c) It is a central sector project for implementation in various parts of the country.

**Strike by Bank and Insurance Sector**

1725. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

SHRI M. K. SUBBA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the officers and staff of banks and insurance companies throughout the country were on a day's strike recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have held talks with the officers and staff of banks and insurance companies regarding their demands; and
- (d) if so, the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) to (d) Officers and Staff of banks and a few insurance companies observed one day's strike on 21.5.2003 against Government's economic policy relating to diluting Government's stake in public sector undertakings, downsizing, retrenchment, changes in labour laws, special security measures, etc. The representatives of officers' associations/workmen unions held discussions with their managements to settle the issues amicably. Regional Labour Commissioner, Mumbai had also held meeting with the representatives of Indian Banks' Association as well as bank officers/employees and discussed with them for withdrawal of the strike. However, the conciliation proceeding failed.

*[English]*

**Recovery of Bank Loans**

1726. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that certain banks in public sector as well as in private sector are using muscle power to recover the money of loan given;
- (b) if so, the details thereof?
- (c) whether the RBI has received any representation urging the banks to resist from using muscle power to recover the loan amount;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India

to ask the banks not to make use of muscle power to recover the loan amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) some complaints have been received against few foreign banks regarding use of force/threats for recovery of loans mainly pertaining to credit cards dues, Auto/Car loans etc. However, the concerned foreign banks have denied the allegations and have informed RBI that they have advised their recovery agents to be polite/not to call on odd hours while calling on customers for recovery of loans.

(e) RBI has issued guidelines to banks on Fair Practices Code for lenders on 5th May, 2003 wherein the banks were advised as lenders not to resort to harassment viz. persistently bothering the borrowers at odd hours, use of muscle power for recovery of loans etc.

#### **Residential Schools**

1727. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential schools for tribals targeted to be opened during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the number of such schools opened in Maharashtra particularly in Mumbai during the last three years; and

(c) the locations identified for such schools in Mumbai during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have so far released funds for setting up of 84 Eklavya Model Residential Schools from Class VIth to XIIth for tribal students. The priority of the Ministry is to release the balance amount for making these 84 schools fully functional during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) Funds for setting up of 4 Eklavya Model Residential Schools have been released to the Government of Maharashtra. Also six Residential Schools have been sanctioned to the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years. No Residential School has been set up in Mumbai. There is no proposal for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential School in Mumbai.

[Translation]

#### **Bank Dacoities**

1728. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of loot, dacoity and burglary in public sector banks is on the rise;

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

(c) the number of incidents of loot, dacoity and burglary in various public sector banks of the country during the last 3 years and till May, 2003 and the total worth of loot of the Government exchequer as a result thereof;

(d) the number of people against whom action has been taken in these incidents and the total amount recovered from them;

(e) whether the Government have taken any effective measures to ensure safety in the banks and prevent incidents of dacoity and loot; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The details of incidents of robberies/dacoities occurred, amounts involved/recovered during the years 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 (Upto May, 2003) as reported by public sector banks to Reserve Bank of India are as under.

Year	No. of incidents	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount recovered (Rs. in lakhs)
2000	110	1013.39	143.02
2001	107	410.30	26.22
2002	106	619.21	110.73
2003 (upto May)	32	238.99	27.48

146 persons have been arrested in connection with these incidents.

(e) and (f) Security measures implemented by the public sector banks are reviewed in the State Level Security

Committee meetings convened by RBI. The meetings are required to be attended by bankers and State Government officials including senior Police officials. The Committee takes stock of the security environment in the State, steps needed to be taken to strengthen bank security and whenever further improvements are necessary requisite guidelines/ instructions are given to banks. Banks have classified their branches depending on the risk factor involved and posted armed guards, installed anti-burglary devices etc., wherever necessary. Where deficiencies are reported in regard to guarding of bank branches by the armed guards supplied by the State Police, the Committee stresses on the police officials to provide adequate armed guards.

[English]

### CWC Godowns

1729. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total capacity of godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation in the country, State-wise, as on date;

(b) whether these godowns are insufficient at present; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the capacity of godowns in order to stock more foodgrains and sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is operating 474 Warehouses with a total storage capacity of 91.72 lakh MT as on 1.6.2003. State-wise storage capacity is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The existing storage capacity available with CWC is sufficient to meet the requirement of storage space at present.

(c) Does not arise.

### Statement

#### Storage Capacity of CWC as on 1-6-2003

(Figures in Lakh MT)

State/UT	No. of warehouses	Covered Capacity			Cap Capacity			Grand Total	Percentage Utilisation
		Owned	Hired	Total	Owned	Hired	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	49	11.63	1	12.63	0.7	0.02	0.72	13.35	47
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	5	0.44	0.02	0.46	0	0	0	0.46	62
Bihar	12	0.85	0.07	0.92	0	0	0	0.92	85
Chandigarh	1	0.11	0.02	0.13	0.02	0	0.02	0.15	91
Chhattisgarh	10	1.88	0.3	2.18	0.42	0	0.42	2.60	87
Delhi	11	1.03	0.23	1.26	0.11	0	0.11	1.37	103
Goa	2	0.27	0	0.27	0.03	0	0.03	0.30	49
Gujarat	29	2.42	0.77	3.19	1.25	0.36	1.61	4.80	60
Haryana	27	3.67	1.06	4.73	0	0	0	4.73	78

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Himachal Pradesh	2	0.05	0	0.05	0	0	0	0.05	73
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Jharkhand	3	0.34	0	0.34	0	0	0	0.34	83
Karnataka	37	2.3	1.61	3.91	0.73	0.27	1	4.91	71
Kerala	8	1.04	0	1.04	0	0	0	1.04	52
Madhya Pradesh	31	4.4	1.62	6.02	0.57	0.1	0.67	6.69	81
Maharashtra	48	4.83	1.55	6.38	5.04	0.80	5.84	12.22	75
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Nagaland	1	0.13	0	0.13	0	0	0	0.13	92
Orissa	12	1.76	0.04	1.8	0.02	0	0.02	1.82	34
Pondicherry	1	0.07	0	0.07	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.10	91
Punjab	31	5.66	1.82	7.48	1.04	0	1.04	8.52	76
Rajasthan	29	2.06	0.74	2.8	0.44	0.11	0.55	3.35	62
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Tamil Nadu	25	5.41	0.27	5.68	0.88	0.03	0.91	6.59	47
Tripura	2	0.24	0	0.24	0	0	0	0.24	75
Uttar Pradesh	51	9.25	0.66	9.91	0.54	0.28	0.82	10.73	68
Uttaranchal	7	0.64	0.12	0.76	0	0	0	0.76	67
West Bengal	40	3.45	1.31	4.76	0.42	0.37	0.79	5.55	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>63.93</b>	<b>13.21</b>	<b>77.14</b>	<b>12.23</b>	<b>2.35</b>	<b>14.58</b>	<b>91.72</b>	<b>67</b>

**Irregularities in Banks**

1730. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:  
 SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:  
 Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether information regarding cases of irregularities in banks has been given to the Central Vigilance Commission during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases referred to CVC during the last three years;

(c) the number of cases out of the above in which facts have been ascertained after investigation; and

(d) the number of persons found guilty and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO

VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Public sector Banks are required to submit cases of irregularities by officials which are investigated by the concerned Chief Vigilance Officer to the Central Vigilance Commission.

(b) The Central Vigilance Commission has reported that 3156 cases were referred to it during the years 2000, 2001 & 2002 by public sector banks for advice.

(c) The Central Vigilance Commission is an advisory body and does not investigate the cases. The cases are, however, investigated by the Chief Vigilance Officer of the respective bank and cases involving officers of scale III and above are referred to the Commission for its advice. Cases involving award staff and officers upto scale II are not required to be referred to the commission for advice. During the years 2000, 2001 & 2002, the Central Vigilance Commission has recommended major/minor penalty in respect of 2181 delinquent officials of public sector banks. The public sector banks have imposed major/minor penalties against 2792 officials during the above period.

#### **Import of Oilseeds**

1731. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are importing oilseeds to supplement the needs of the country;

(b) if so, the value of foreign exchange spent thereon during the last year;

(c) whether the Government have explored the possibility to set up warehouses for storing buffer stock of oilseeds to save the foreign exchange on the lines of FCI;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) There is no proposal to import oilseeds on Government account.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) to (e) In view of persistent shortage it is not feasible to build a buffer stock.

#### **Merger of SBI and its Associate Banks**

1732. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the proposal of merger of seven associate banks of State Bank of India with it; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

[Translation]

#### **Appraisal of Projects by Banks/ Financial Institutions**

1733. DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought the advice of the RBI to find out the ways and means to prevent inordinate delays in appraisal of projects proposals by corporates to banks and financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RBI has constituted any team for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether proposals submitted by corporates for appraisal to banks and financial institutions are inordinately delayed; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government or directions issued by RBI to banks and Financial Institutions to minimize the delay in project appraisal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was requested to make an assessment of process of project appraisal.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No such finding has been reported by RBI.

(f) RBI in consultation with Government of India has issued guidelines to banks on "Fair Practices Code for Lenders" in May 2003. The guidelines, inter-alia, stipulate that in the case of lending under consortium arrangement, the participating lenders should evolve procedures to complete appraisal of proposals in a time bound manner to the extent feasible, and communicate their decisions on financing or otherwise within a reasonable time.

#### Jute Service Centre

1734. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up sixteen Jute Service Centres in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith locations and the time by which these centres are likely to be set up; and

(c) the number of jute/textile mills proposed to be set up in order to increase the trade share of textile/jute industries in the international trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no proposal with the Govt. to set up new jute textile mills in the public sector.

[English]

#### Setting up of SEZs/EPZs

1735. SHRI J. S. BRAR:

SHRI G. J. JAVIYA:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

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

(a) the Special Economic Zones and Export Processing Zones constituted in the country, location-wise;

(b) the performance of existing SEZs and EPZs for the last three years;

(c) the targets set for these zones for 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(d) the special consideration, concessions and incentives given to these zones to achieve their targets;

(e) the State-wise details of proposals regarding sanctioning of SEZs/EPZs under consideration of the Union Government presently; and

(f) the places, where SEZs/EPZs are proposed to be set up in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) All the 8 Export Processing Zones (EPZs) located at Kandla and Surat (Gujarat), Santa Cruz (Maharashtra), Cochin (Kerala), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Falta (West Bengal) and Noida (Uttar Pradesh) have been converted into Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

(b) Export performance of EPZs/SEZs during the last three years is indicated below:

Year	Exports (Rs. Crore)
2000-01	8552.30
2001-02	9189.55
2002-03	10056.62

(c) and (d) Indicative export target for SEZs is fixed on year to year basis and target for 2003-04 has been set at Rs.13,060 crores. The policy relating to SEZs are under constant review and improvements are brought about from time to time as considered necessary. Some of the major incentives recently announced for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) include 100% income tax exemption for 3 consecutive years and 50% for next 2 years to off-shore banking units in Special Economic Zones, permission to carry forward losses and Income Tax exemption to the extent of 50% of ploughed back profits for three consecutive years to SEZ units and treating supplies from domestic tariff area to SEZ at par with physical exports for the purpose of income tax exemption

(e) and (f) As per the policy, the Central Government is not to set up any new SEZs. The scheme, however, envisages setting up of SEZs in the public, private, joint sector or by the State Governments. The following proposals received through the concerned State Government for setting up of SEZs are under consideration:

1. Baikampady, Padubidri and Agsur (Karnataka)
2. Dahej (Gujarat)
3. Mundra (Gujarat)

Since the SEZs are approved for establishment in the private/joint sector/by the State Governments, it is not possible to indicate the places where the SEZs would be set up during the current year.

#### **Auction System in Tea**

1736. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the recommendations of the Ferguson Committee to improve the auction system in tea;
- (b) the steps already taken by the Government for the implementation of the same;
- (c) the progress achieved by those steps;
- (d) whether the Government have noticed that several tea estates have been closed and thousands of workers were thrown out of employment and starvation deaths occurred; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Concerned with the fall in auction prices of tea and such fall not getting reflected in the retail prices, a study of the primary marketing system for tea was conducted through M/s A.F. Ferguson & Co. The major recommendations of the Ferguson Committee with respect to the auction system, include discouraging divisibility of lots and proxy bidding, fixing maximum sample limits, defining lot sizes in terms of weight rather than volume, introduction of ex-estate sale and electronising the bidding process in the auction centres.

(b) and (c) Based on the recommendations of M/s A.F. Ferguson & Co. the Government notified the Tea Marketing Control Order, 2003 on 01.01.2003 in replacement of the TMCO 1984. Necessary directions regarding the changes in the auction rules were issued by the Tea Board for a more transparent and efficient price discovery mechanism. Government has also approved implementation of an Information Technology based Information Dissemination Plan for the tea industry which covers electronising the tea auction centers in India.

(d) and (e) Continuous fall in prices of tea coupled with

increased cost of production and fall in demand have adversely affected the economy of the tea plantations resulting in closure/lockout of the some of the gardens. As per the information available, during the year 2002, 36 gardens spread over the States of Kerala, West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura were closed down due to financial crisis, resulting in unemployment among the workers of these gardens.

#### **Interest on Tax Free Saving Bonds**

1737. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to cut the rate of interest on tax free savings bonds; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Illegal Sale in Domestic Market**

1738. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that sugar and food items meant for export are being illegally sold in the domestic market; and
- (b) if so, the details of the items sold illegally in domestic market in each of the last three years by the cooperative sugar industry and other cooperative societies, society-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per the Commissionerate of Central Excise and Customs, Pune, Aurangabad and Nagpur Zones, certain exporters diverted sugar meant for exports to the domestic market. A Statement containing the requisite information in respect of the last three years is enclosed.

One case of diversion of rice meant for exports to the domestic market in 2002-2003 was also reported.

#### **Statement**

##### *Sugar Mills Exporters Relating to Diversion of Sugar Meant for Export of the Domestic Market/Proof of Export not Furnished*

S.No.	Name of the Sugar Mill	Quantity Diverted/Proof of Export Not Furnished (In MTs.)
1	2	3
1.	M/s Dnayneshwar S.S.K. Ltd., Bhende	1900.0 2496.0 260.0
	Total (Three exporters)	4656.0



1	2	3	4
2.	M/s Shree Shankar SSK Ltd., Sadashivnagar	(one exporter)	6492.9
3.	Shri Shankar Maharshi Shankarrao Mohte Patil SSK Ltd., Akluj	(one exporter)	26995.6
4.	M/s Gadhinglaj Taluka SSK Ltd., Gadhinglaj	(one exporter)	15445.0
5.	M/s Krishna SSK Ltd., Karad	(one exporter)	13772.3
6.	M/s Shri Kedareshwar SSK Ltd., Shevgaon	(one exporter)	4750.0
7.	M/s Agasti SSK Ltd., Akole, Agasti nagar	(one exporter)	1845.0
8.	M/s Niphad SSK Ltd., Niphad	(one exporter)	9216.7
9.	M/s Vasantryao Dada Patil SSK Ltd., Vithewadi	(one exporter)	5420.5
10.	M/s Sant Eknath SSK Ltd., Paithan	(one exporter)	2500.00
11.	M/s Purna SSK Ltd., Basmathnagar		5000.0
		Total	5000 0
		(Two exporters)	10000.0
12.	M/s Hutatma Jaywantrao Patil SSK Ltd., Suryanagar	(one exporter)	2269.6
13.	M/s Sahyadri SSK Ltd., Sahyadri	(one exporter)	160.0
14.	M/s Sant Damaji SSK Ltd., Mangalvedha	(one exporter)	Not available
15.	M/s Dongarai Sagarshwar SSK Ltd., Raigaon	(one exporter)	1231.5
16.	M/s Shetkari SSK Ltd., Killari	(one exporter)	776.0
17.	M/s Mula SSK Ltd., Sonai	(one exporter)	500.00
18.	M/s Terna SSK Ltd., Ternanagar	(one exporter)	2695.0
19.	M/s Daulat SSK Ltd., Halkarni	(one exporter)	80.0
20.	M/s Gangapur SSK Ltd., Raghunathnagar	(one exporter)	3033.0
21.	M/s Bhogawati SSK Ltd., Irle, Vairag	(one exporter)	5000.0

### Financial Crises Faced by States

1739. SHRI C. N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

state:

(a) whether some States are facing financial crisis;

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

(c) whether any specific proposals particularly relating to one time grant or soft loan have been received from the State Governments to bail out the financial crisis;

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

(e) the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Many State Governments have been facing cash imbalances due to mismatch in their receipts and expenditure. A statement on financial position of the State Governments as per Reserve Bank of India records is enclosed.

(c) to (e) Government of Manipur requested for conversion of Medium Term non-plan loan amounting to Rs.371 crore sanctioned by the Government of India during last year into one time grant to tide over financial problem faced by the State Government. It has not been found feasible to accede to this request.

#### Statement

*Opening Cash Position of States in 2002-03 and 2003-04 as per RBI records*

(Rs. crore)

State	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	108.46	3.19
Arunachal Pradesh	-57.76	56.62
Assam	-1303.60	-570.54
Bihar	-440.34	-24.53
Chhattisgarh	165.65	643.86
Goa	-46.56	-84.11
Gujarat	-498.38	809.43
Haryana	-632.17	-78.26
Himachal Pradesh	-345.34	-369.64
Jammu & Kashmir*		
Jharkand	398.69	128.43

\* Do not Bank with RBI.

1	2	3
Karnataka	941.62	467.32
Kerala	-355.64	-584.24
Madhya Pradesh	307.44	-67.80
Maharashtra	408.17	949.78
Manipur	-600.07	-367.70
Meghalaya	-59.63	48.22
Mizoram	-118.73	-74.88
Nagaland	-203.49	118.09
Orissa	-1217.82	-595.95
Punjab	-342.82	-128.97
Rajasthan	-1141.57	-523.68
Sikkim*		
Tamil Nadu	-148.21	-1118.18
Tripura	44.82	7.79
Uttar Pradesh	-582.95	-223.79
Uttaranchal	-92.36	262.07
West Bengal	-2060.23	16.16

\* Do not Bank with RBI.

#### Better Results shown by Corporate Sector

1740. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of companies of corporate sector in India have shown better working results during the years ending March, 31, 2003;

(b) if so, the percentage of companies which have shown improved results in this year as compared to results a year earlier; and

(c) its likely impact on the economy of the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A majority of the companies, whose financial results have been declared so far, have shown better results during the year ending 31.03.2003. It is not possible to reduce this to percentages.

(c) The improved working results of companies will stimulate the process of economic growth and further promote the capital market.

#### **Schemes under RIDF**

1741. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes undertaken under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund of NABARD in Orissa;

(b) the funds allocated to Orissa under these schemes during last three years; and

(c) the work carried out in Orissa during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) to (c) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), a total of 19403 projects under various sectors like minor, medium and major irrigation projects, rural bridges and rural roads, involving an amount of Rs. 1284.61 crores have been sanctioned in the State of Orissa under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) - I to VIII. The tranche-wise amount allotted under this scheme to Orissa is given below:

Tranches	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
RIDF-I (1995-96)	169.50
RIDF-II (1996-97)	130.05
RIDF-III (1997-98)	180.36
RIDF-IV (1998-99)	162.56
RIDF-V (1999-2000)	134.62
RJDF-VI (2000-01)	107.43
RIDF-VII (2001-02)	153.25
RIDF- VIII (2002-03)	246.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>1284.61</b>

Funds are disbursed to State Government in a phased manner based on the progress in implementation. NABARD has further reported that as against the 19403 projects sanctioned, 11768 projects (covering 11636 irrigation projects, 106 rural bridges and roads projects and 26 cyclone damaged farm projects) have been completed as on 31st May, 2003.

#### **Sick Sugar Factories**

1742. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

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

(a) whether sugar factories have become sick and are not paying dues to the sugarcane growers;

(b) if so, the amount of sugar accumulation in the country as on date;

(c) whether the Government have any immediate plan to sell sugar in the international markets and create liquidity in the sector;

(d) whether the Government propose to help the sugarcane growers to receive economical prices for their products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The accumulation of cane price arrears is attributable to such factors as financial constraints, inadequate sales realization and negative networth. As on 22nd June, 2003, the stocks of sugar in the country were around 152.60 lakh tonnes, as against about 154.53 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date of the last season.

(c) to (e) Exports of sugar are allowed under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) under the present EXIM policy and, as such, various sugar mills/exporters have been exporting sugar on commercial terms. During the financial year 2002-2003, a quantity of about 14.70 Lakh tonnes was exported.

The Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane was fixed at Rs. 69.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% for the sugar season 2002-2003, as against the SMP of Rs. 62.05 per quintal during the season 2001-2002. The SMP for sugarcane is determined factory-wise, depending upon the recovery level (and not State-wise).

#### **Bank Interest Rates**

1743. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a plan to safeguard the interests of senior citizens, pensioners and widowers against the falling rates of interest on investments;

(b) whether there is any proposal to include charitable societies/trusts in this category; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that interest rates of banks have been deregulated. However, based on the requests received from the senior citizens and their organizations, since April, 2001 banks are permitted to formulate fixed deposit schemes specifically meant for senior citizens offering higher and fixed rates of interest as compared to normal deposits of any size.

(b) and (c) From April 21, 2003 charitable institutions have been permitted to invest in the 8% savings (Taxable) Bonds, 2003.

#### Construction of Additional Godowns

1744. SHRI R. S. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to build additional godowns for foodgrains and have floated global tenders for grain silos in different locations in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to involve private firms to construct the godowns; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The private sector participation would be sought and encouraged for development of infrastructure for the integrated bulk grain handling, storage and transportation on Build-Own and Operate (BOO) basis. RITÉS, on behalf of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) have floated global tenders for creation of grains silos in different locations in the country.

(b) The State-wise locations of grain silos proposed to be created through private sector participation are as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Locations of the proposed silos
1	2	3
1.	Punjab	(i) Barnala (ii) Moga
2.	Haryana	(i) Sirsa (ii) Kaithal

1	2	3
3.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Chennai (ii) Coimbatore
4.	Karnataka	Bangalore
5.	Maharashtra	New Mumbai
6.	West Bengal	Hoogly

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The private sector will be encouraged to build storage capacities on Build-Own and Operate (BOO) basis in which they will store and maintain foodgrains procured by the Government agencies, for which they will be entitled to storage charges.

#### Misuse of Public Money by Companies

1745. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that more than 30 companies based in the State of Gujarat and their promoters have misappropriated public money by misusing the funds raised from public issue of share and debentures;

(b) if so, the names of the promoters with their companies;

(c) the total money has been misutilised/siphoned off by the promoters of these companies; and

(d) the steps the Union Government have taken or propose to take against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Women in Directors of Boards of Corporate Bodies

1746. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend Section 252 of the Companies Act 1956 to have minimum number of women as Directors on the Boards of corporate entities;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) the time by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2003, introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 7.5.2003, provide that public companies having a paid-up capital of Rs. 5 crore or more, or a turnover of Rs.50 crore or more, will have such number of women directors as may be prescribed.

(c) The time by which the proposal can be implemented would be dependent upon the form in which the amending Bill is finally passed by the Parliament.

[Translation]

#### Import of Coins

1747. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries from which coins are imported;  
(b) the number of coins of different denominations imported during each of the last three years;  
(c) the foreign exchange spent on the import of these coins;  
(d) whether the Government propose to import coins during the year 2003-2004; and  
(e) if so, the details of the coins and the countries from which it is likely to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The name of the countries, quantity of coins of different denominations imported during each of the last three years and the foreign exchange spent on these imports is as follows:

Year	Country	Denomination	Quantity (in million pieces)	Foreign Exchange Spent
2000-2001	Slovakia	Re.1	260.304	US\$ 2175109.76
	United Kingdom	Rs.2	300.000	£ 531906.06
	Russia	Rs.5	538.600	DM 35407023.56
2001-2002	Slovakia	Re.1	600.000	US\$ 7031363.75
	Russia	Rs.2	750.000	US\$ 21225572.54
	Russia	Rs.5	454.100	DM 42124.64
2002-2003	Russia	Rs.5	345.220	US\$ 28000258.89
				US\$ 11979734.65

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Non Banking Financial Companies are duping investors to the tune of crores of rupees per year;  
(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to empower the Company Law Board to order unconditional

[English]

#### Attachment of Property of Defaulting NBFCs

1748. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

attachment of properties of defaulting non banking finance companies in a bid to ensure investor-protection against vanishing companies;

(c) if so, the manner in which this move would protect investors; and

(d) the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir. However, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have come across certain cases of irregularities in the form of asset liability mismatches/ liquidity problem, which have resulted in non payment/delay in repayment of public deposits.

(b) to (d) Financial Companies Regulation Bill, 2000, is at present under consideration of Government. In this it is proposed that Company Law Board (CLB) would continue to be the adjudicating authority for depositors of financial companies. The CLB would be empowered, inter alia, to prohibit alienation of assets by defaulting financial companies and to attach and sell their assets for effecting repayment of the deposits. The management of such assets would be vested with a recovery officer to be appointed by the CLB.

### **Third Party Motor Insurance**

1749. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that public sector general insurance companies (GIC) are facing huge losses due to unstructured compensation being paid by them in regard to third party motor insurance;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that private players in the insurance sector are not covering this (third party motor insurance) as it is loss making business;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make it mandatory for all private/public companies so as to protect the public sector insurance companies from getting destabilized or weakened;

(d) whether Government are also propose to amend the Motor Vehicles Act for bringing in structured

compensation and for laying down maximum cap on third party liability in case of accidental mishaps; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, to some extent. The Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority has instructed all insurers to cover mandated/compulsory Third Party Liability under motor insurance.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways have reported that the question of amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act regarding laying down maximum amount of liability etc. will be appropriately considered in consultation with the Ministry of Law during the next round of amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act.

### **NABARD Assistance to Irrigation**

1750. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD is assisting various States for developing irrigation sector;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such assistance provided during the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise details of projects undertaken through such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides assistance to the State Governments from the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for the development of rural infrastructure which, inter-alia, includes major, medium and minor irrigation projects.

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of number of projects and financial assistance sanctioned and the amount disbursed for irrigation projects under RIDF during the last three years are given in enclosed statement-I and II.

## Statement-I

State-wise details of number of projects and financial assistance sanctioned for Irrigation Projects under RIDF during the last three years

(Rs. Crore)

State	RIDF VI 2000-01		RIDF VII 2001-02		RIDF VIII 2002-03		Total	
	No.	Sanc.	No.	Sanc.	No.	Sanc.	No.	Sanc.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	35	42.67	1848	133.16	40	64.79	1923	240.62
Bihar	0	0	122	22.73	4467	136.41	4589	159.14
Goa	5	5.02	6	4.48	0	0	11	9.5
Gujarat	12001	241.71	0	0	0	0	12001	241.71
Haryana	7	12.8	24	35.94	0	0	31	48.74
Himachal Pradesh	206	27.3	166	17.38	53	21.34	425	66.02
Jammu & Kashmir	13	12.27	18	13.93	37	52.18	68	78.38
Karnataka	36	47.22	70	21.4	64	66.55	170	135.17
Kerala	94	36.65	62	6.27	70	7.2	226	50.12
Madhya Pradesh	18	9.2	23	56.92	54	118.58	95	184.7
Maharashtra	35	120.72	80	143.21	60	151.03	175	414.96
Manipur	157	8.33	0	0	0	0	157	8.33
Meghalaya	5	2.63	0	0	0	0	5	2.63
Mizoram	0	0	7	1.86	7	2	14	3.86
Nagaland	1	1.13	0	0	12	5.05	13	6.18
Orissa	16090	59.36	67	34.56	280	56.46	16437	150.38
Rajasthan	2101	19.23	91	132.85	0	0	2192	152.08
Tamil Nadu	20	37.2	7	6.32	1	13.96	28	57.48
Tripura	1	26.5	15400	6.79	0	0	15401	33.29
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	4	18.74	403	66.26	407	85
West Bengal	235	8.43	1113	18.98	4024	82.49	5372	109.9
Chhattisgarh	23	25.09	24	25.26	95	116.57	142	166.92
Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	40	14.24	40	14.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>31083</b>	<b>743.46</b>	<b>19132</b>	<b>700.78</b>	<b>9707</b>	<b>975.11</b>	<b>59922</b>	<b>2419.75</b>
<b>Medium Irrigation</b>								
Andhra Pradesh	2	91.37	0	0	1	21.31	3	112.68
Bihar	0	0	3	32.87	2	3.67	5	36.54
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	2	4.47	2	4.47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Kerala	1	10.33	0	0	0	0	1	10.33
Madhya Pradesh	2	77.93	0	0	1	80.32	3	158.25
Maharashtra	3	54.67	0	0	3	65.89	6	120.56
Orissa	1	0.18	1	2.93	3	19.81	5	22.92
Tamil Nadu	0	0	3	93.72	2	42.74	5	136.46
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	1	1.23	1	3.28	2	4.51
Chhattisgarh	2	15.24	0	0	1	0.53	3	15.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>249.72</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>130.75</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>242.02</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>622.49</b>

**Major Irrigation**

Andhra Pradesh	1	15.48	0	0	0	0	1	15.48
Gujarat	0	0	0	0	1	125.12	1	125.12
Haryana	0	0	21	63.14	45	54.27	66	117.41
Madhya Pradesh	7	83.64	4	136.47	9	194.69	20	414.8
Maharashtra	0	0	1	30.58	0	0	1	30.58
Rajasthan	1	106.03	2	126.6	0	0	3	232.63
Uttar Pradesh	1	28.2	2	7.79	4	76.73	7	112.72
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	2	33.84	2	33.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>233.35</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>364.58</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>484.65</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1082.58</b>

**Statement-II**

*State-wise details of financial assistance disbursed for irrigation projects under RIDF during the last three years*

(Rs. Crore)

State	Minor Irrigation			
	RIDF VI (2000-01)	RIDF VII (2001-02)	RIDF VIII (2002-03)	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	14.29	35.84	0.47	50.60
Bihar	-	4.55	0.00	4.55
Chhattisgarh	22.52	11.76	3.86	38.14
Goa	0.50	3.17	-	3.67
Gujarat	199.38	-	-	199.38
Haryana	6.79	13.76	-	20.55
Himachal Pradesh	20.79	9.31	9.62	39.72
Jammu & Kashmir	4.82	5.72	16.06	26.60
Karnataka	33.02	7.11	6.01	46.14
Kerala	15.50	1.50	2.16	19.16



1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh	5.97	19.47	5.41	30.85
Maharashtra	62.68	42.16	4.03	108.87
Manipur	0.00	-	-	0.00
Meghalaya	1.46	-	-	1.46
Mizoram	-	1.86	0.00	1.86
Nagaland	1.10	-	0.95	2.05
Orissa	21.91	11.75	10.92	44.58
Rajasthan	16.70	66.99	-	83.69
Tamil Nadu	32.43	0.00	0.00	32.43
Tripura	2.00	0.00	-	2.00
Uttar Pradesh	-	1.75	2.88	4.63
Uttaranchal	-	-	0.64	0.64
West Bengal	3.29	4.81	16.49	24.59
Total	465.15	241.51	79.50	786.16

(Rs. Crore)

State	Medium Irrigation			
	RIDF VI (2000-01)	RIDF VII (2001-02)	RIDF VIII (2002-03)	Total
Andhra Pradesh	61.99	-	0.00	61.99
Bihar	-	6.67	0.00	6.67
Chhattisgarh	3.05	-	0.00	3.05
Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	1.79	1.79
Kerala	0.00	-	-	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	28.33	-	0.00	28.33
Maharashtra	0.00	-	6.31	6.31
Orissa	0.04	1.74	5.98	7.76
Tamil Nadu	-	59.94	14.19	74.13
Uttar Pradesh	-	0.25	0.09	0.34
Total	93.41	68.60	28.36	190.37

(Rs. Crore)

State	Major Irrigation			
	RIDF VI (2000-01)	RIDF VII (2001-02)	RIDF VIII (2002-03)	Total
Andhra Pradesh	13.89	-	-	13.89
Chhattisgarh	-	-	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	-	-	13.53	13.53
Haryana	-	0.00	35.47	35.47
Madhya Pradesh	26.32	54.85	0.00	81.17
Maharashtra	-	0.00	-	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	99.74	47.60	-	147.34
Uttar Pradesh	22.86	2.56	0.00	25.42
Total	162.81	105.01	49.00	316.82

**Unutilised Fund of Tribals**

1751. SHRI G. J. JAVIYA:

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of un-utilized tribal development funds under the centrally sponsored schemes by several State Governments, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for not spending such funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The details of unspent amount with State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by this Ministry are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Some of the reasons for not spending funds by the State Governments are:

(i) Under some of the Schemes grant-in-aid is released for construction of the building only. As the construction work takes time, the funds remain unutilized till completion of buildings.

(ii) Some time the funds are released in the last quarter of the financial year due to late receipt of the proposals from the State Governments. Therefore, this amount remains unutilized in the relevant financial year.

(iii) Under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship grants-in-aid is released on the basis of the anticipated expenditure in a particular year. So, some times, in case of lesser number of beneficiaries, funds are not fully utilized by the State Governments.

(c) The following actions have been taken by the Government in this regard:-

(i) The Officers of the Ministry visit various State Governments for the inspection of the projects from time to time and State Governments are asked for utilization of the funds in earliest possible time.

(ii) Further grant is considered only after the grant released in previous years has been utilized.

(iii) Representatives from various State Governments are also invited in the Ministry for taking their suggestions and discussions in this regard.

(iv) the unspent amount of the previous grants is adjusted in the next year's grants in case of Post Matric Scholarship.

**Statement***Unspent amount during the last three years. (2000-01 to 2002-03)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Coaching & Allied	Post Matric Scholarship	Book Bank	Research & Training
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	360.52	204.5	-	8.04	-	47.20	5.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20	38	-	-	-	-	0.44
3.	Assam	-	-	-	1.69	1275.94	-	5.31
4.	Chhattisgarh	10	-	400	-	32.07	8.21	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Gujarat	-	21.57	-	-	-	10.25	6
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	2.90	20.27	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	6.50	7	0.44
8.	Jharkhand	197.37	197.37	-	-	-	-	6
9.	Karnataka	15.25	111.08	130	1.76	75.38	20	-
10.	Kerala	0.59	22.05	-	-	-	-	2.5
11.	Madhya Pradesh	484.8	422	820	9.93	-	10.1	101.04
12.	Meghalaya	13.75	13.75	-	-	805.98	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	165.02	-	6
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	820.11	-	-
15.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	370.98	-	-
16.	Nagaland	32.5	32.5	-	-	697.19	-	-
17.	Orissa	33.5	42.75	-	7.31	74.44	5.02	3.64
18.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	131.95	5.20	10.78
19.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	0.19	7.771	4.7025	6.97
20.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	1.49	5
21.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	0.63	2.3	-	-
22.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	2.67	166.54	-	-
23.	West Bengal	-	5	-	-	-	2.85	40.40
24.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	1.59	-	29.50
25.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	1.05	-	-
26.	Delhi	-	50	-	-	-	-	-
Total		1168.28	1160.57	1350	35.12	4655.081	122.0225	229.5

[Translation]

**Safeguarding Consumers Interests**

1752. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government, keeping in view the interests of the consumers, are deliberating over framing any rules for preventing harassment of consumers by gold and silver jewellers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) In order to protect consumers from being cheated while purchasing gold

jewellery the 'Hallmarking Scheme of Gold Jewellery' was launched by BIS in April, 2000 under the BIS Act, 1986. The principal objectives of the scheme are to ensure that the common consumer is assured of the purity of gold jewellery purchased by him, to protect the public against adulteration and to guide manufacturers to maintain standards of fineness. On demand of consumers and the silver trade, BIS is considering to introduce "Hallmarking of Silver Articles". The details in this regard are under finalisation.

[English]

**Export by FCI**

1753. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

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

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is planning to enter into exports directly instead of routing through public sector agencies like STC and MMTC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendation of Abhijit Sen Panel is being implemented for a decentralised procurement policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been formulated.

(c) and (d) The High Level Committee on Long Term Grain Policy had, inter-alia recommended that while the Centre should continue to take primary responsibility to procurement, it should also become more dispersed. The scheme of decentralized procurement of foodgrains is being implemented since 1997-98. The Central Government has also been encouraging other States, which have potential for procurement, to step up their procurement efforts.

#### **Merger of Regional Stock Exchanges**

1754. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to unify all the Regional Stock Exchanges under one All India Stock Exchange; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **FDI in Inflow**

1755. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

(a) whether the policy regarding giving approval

to the foreign capital investment in the country is in force for about a decade now;

(b) if so, whether the amount of foreign capital investment in India is still less in comparison to other big nations of Asia;

(c) if so, the amount of investment of foreign capital made in India, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and South Korea during the year 2002-2003; and

(d) the amount of investment made by Indian companies in foreign countries during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The new Industrial Policy, including the Foreign Direct Investment policy, has been in force since July 1991. The estimated FDI inflows in India during 2002-03 has been US\$2.57 billion. Under the on-going exercise of realigning FDI statistics to international best practices, this has been provisionally revised to US\$4.66 billion. The World Investment Report 2002 includes FDI statistics only upto 2001. The FDI inflows according to this Report in India and other Asian countries during 2001 are as under:

Country	Year 2001 (in US\$ billion)	
	1	2
India		3.40
China		46.85
Malaysia		0.55
Indonesia		-3.28
Singapore		8.61
Republic of Korea		3.20

(d) The amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) made by Indian companies abroad during 2002-2003 has been estimated as US\$0.459 billion. Under the on-going exercise of realigning FDI statistics to international best practices, this has been provisionally revised to US\$1.049 billion.

[English]

#### **Refund of Income Tax**

1756. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of refund returns applications filed during the Financial Year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 in

following charges Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Ahmedabad;

(b) whether the refund orders are yet pending to be issued in the above charges; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the same and the time by which these are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The number of refunds that have arisen on processing the returns filed during the Financial Years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 in these Charges are 14,49,220 and 24,24,030 respectively.

(b) Out of above, refunds have not yet been issued in 2,47,720 cases.

(c) Refunds are pending in sizeable number of cases for verification of tax payments. Instructions have been issued for expeditious issue of refunds.

#### Indian Judicial Service

1757. SHRI V. S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Indian Judicial Service in the Judicial Department;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to introduce Indian Judicial Service in the Judicial Department. However, the Law Commission of India, the Supreme Court of India in All India Judges Association Case (W.P. No.1022/89) and the First National Judicial Pay Commission have recommended creation of All India Judicial Service. On the other hand, the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, in its report, recommended that the formation of All India Judicial Service would not be a better alternative to the existing system.

#### Export Development Fund

1758. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Export Development Fund is placed with APEDA for export promotion activities in the North Eastern Region and Sikkim;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the APEDA in disbursing the funds in the North Eastern Region and Sikkim and the amount sanctioned for various kinds of export promotion activities in the last three years in the region as well as the list of beneficiaries making use of this fund; and

(c) the detailed guidelines for project proposals under Export Development Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) APEDA disburses funds to projects approved by the Empowered Committee. Funds disbursed in the last three years are as below:-

(Figures in Lakhs)

2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
38.14	252.45	659.048

Projects are approved for facilitation of exports from North Eastern Region and Sikkim and benefits of the same are shared by the exporting community in particular and the entrepreneurs of North Eastern Region and Sikkim in general.

(c) The objective of the Export Development Fund is to assist specific projects having direct linkage with the exports from the region. Guidelines for the Fund are available on the website of the Ministry of Commerce (<http://commerce.nic.in>)

#### Report of the LIC Board Committee

1759. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific recommendations of the Committee set up review the citizen charter of LIC alongwith rationale and reasons for each recommendation alongwith the action taken to implement each of the recommendations till date of the LIC;

(b) whether the Revised Citizens Charter of LIC has been implemented at Zonal, divisional and branch levels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the specific action taken to inform LIC policyholders on the contents of the LIC Citizens Charter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has furnished the recommendations and action taken thereon which is enclosed as statement.

(b) and (c) LIC has informed that the revised Citizens Charter will be formally launched on 1st September, 2003 as a part of Insurance Week activities.

### Statement

#### *Action Taken Report (ATR) on The Recommendations of Committee to Review Citizens Charter of Life Insurance Corporation of India*

Recommendations	Action Taken
Computation of time lag in servicing areas	Time lags are being monitored regularly to ensure that time lags in any servicing area do not go much beyond the benchmarks fixed. The specific software for this purpose has already been developed and tested and is improved upon.
Use of Composite Index for the performance of the Branch Offices.	Composite Index concept has been re-introduced after improvement and modification at all the Branch Offices and is being used as a tool for assessment of the performance of the Branch Office.
Payment of interest in case of delayed settlement of claims.	Interest on the delayed settlement of claims is being paid at the rate specified in IRDA's Protection of Policyholders' Interest Regulations, 2002.
Spirit of competition among Offices in rendering customer service to policyholders.	Broad based competitions in the area of policy servicing and claims are being floated regularly for motivation of employees to provide better customer service.
Strategic development of Information Technology for improvement in customer service.	All 2048 Branch Offices are fully computerized. Out of these, more than 1700 Branch Offices have been networked to provide service of premium payment facility anywhere to the policyholders.
Management Information System for monitoring service activities at Branch Offices and well defined authority/responsibility chain accountable for improving customer service.	Periodic review of services related to policyholders is being done through a well defined system for all Offices i.e. Branch Offices, Divisional Offices, Zonal Offices & Corporate Office. Thrust area and further fine tuning are done by the top management at each Office through the system of Action Plan finalization and review.

#### **World Bank Aid for Maharashtra**

1760. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the Government of Maharashtra forwarding the State Government's request for "Special Structural Adjustment Loan" to World Bank;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government have examined the proposal and forwarded the same to the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Govt. of Maharashtra have requested for a Structural Adjustment Loan (SAL) of US \$ 750 million equivalent to Rs.3750 Crores from the World Bank.

(c) and (d) The proposal has been examined and it has not been found feasible to pose it to the World Bank in view of the limited availability of funds for SAL assistance and the proposals of other states already posed to the Bank.

#### Japanese Investment

1761. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has invited Japanese direct investment in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether India is one of the few countries registering economic growth despite world-wide recession;

(c) if so, to what extent Japan has agreed for more investment particularly in Karnataka;

(d) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO WITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (c) to (e) The location of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is determined by the commercial judgement of the foreign investors, based on the policy, economic and business environment. According to Joint Survey conducted by Confederation of Indian Industry and the World Bank on 'Competitiveness of Indian Manufacturing' in terms of investment climate, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have been categorised as 'good investment climate' states. FDI in Karnataka has primarily been received from Mauritius, USA, Germany, Japan and Sweden. In terms of FDI inflows during the last three years the state ranked fourth.

(b) India is among the countries which have avoided the downward trend in world FDI flows and is registering consistent economic growth.

[Translation]

#### Vocational Training Centres

1762. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have launched any scheme for opening vocational training centres in the various States for tribals;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme alongwith the vocations for which the training is being imparted;

(c) the funds released to these centres during each of the last three years, centre-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are considering to open more such centres in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The scheme was introduced during 1992-93 with the aim to develop the skill of the tribal youths to gain employment/self-employment opportunities. It is implemented through the State Govts./U.Ts. and Non-Governmental Organisations. The scheme provides for 100% grants-in-aid for opening and running of vocational training centers. Each centre is required to cater to five vocational courses and the vocations in these centers differ from centre to centre as these are identified by State Govts./Non-Governmental Organisations depending upon the employment potential of the area. Each tribal boy/girl is trained in two trades of his/her choice, the course in each trade being for a duration of three months. Each trainee is attached at the end of six months to a Master Craftsman for a period of six months to learn his/her skill by practical experience. Each trainee is provided a stipend of Rs.350/- per month and raw material cost of Rs.1200/- for the entire course. More details of the scheme are available in the Annual Reports of the Ministry for years 2001-02 and 2002-03. The details are also available in the website of the Ministry ([www.tribal.nic.in](http://www.tribal.nic.in)).

(c) The information as to the funds released to the centres during each of the last three years, centre-wise state-wise in respect of State-run centers and NGO-run centers is enclosed as statement-I and II, respectively.

(d) and (e) The Scheme is a continuing one. Therefore, the Ministry will consider opening of more centres alongwith running of ongoing centres. However, opening of such centers will depend upon receipt of complete proposals from the State Govts./ NGOs, and availability of funds.

## Statement-I

S.No.	Name of State	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		Amount Released
		Centres	Amount Released	Centres	Amount Released	Centres	Amount Released	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	Seethampeta, Srikakulam	14,81,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Jeegiram, Vizianagram	14,95,110/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Chintapally, Vishakhapatnam	14,81,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Maredukili, East Godavari	14,68,110/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Yetpaka, Khammam	15,08,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Keramari, Adilabad	10,76,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Srisailem, Kurmool	12,11,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Eturnagaram, Warangal	23,96,610/-	-	-	-
		-	-	Kota Ramchandrapuram, East Godavari	23,96,610/-	-	-	-
2.	Assam	-	-	-	-	Khasiabari, Gossaigaon	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Gurmow, Rangia	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Baganpara, Nalbari	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Kapaheera, Marigaon	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Nagaon	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Brimajakhili, Gopalpara	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Majuli	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Dhemaji	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Lakhimpur	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
		-	-	-	-	Gohpur	4,42,623/-	4,42,623/-
3.	Gujarat	-	-	Chotaudaipur, Vadodara (Male Training Centre)	6,70,846/-	Chotaudaipur, Vadodara (Male Training Centre)	2,29,166/-	2,29,166/-
		-	-	Chotaudaipur, Vadodara (Female Training Centre)	7,38,346/-	Chotaudaipur, Vadodara (Male Training Centre)	2,29,166/-	2,29,166/-



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Vansada, Valsad (Male Tr. Centre)	6,57,346/-	Vansada, Valsad (Male Tr. Centre)	2,29,166/-
				Kaprada, Valsad	6,30,346/-	Kaprada, Valsad	2,29,166/-
				Dahod (Male Training Centre)	7,38,346/-	Dahod (Male Training Centre)	2,29,166/-
				Dahod (Female Training Centre)	7,38,346/-	Dahod (Female Training Centre)	2,29,166/-
				Rajpipla, Narmada	4,68,346/-	Rajpipla, Narmada	2,29,166/-
				Mandvi, Surat	5,35,846/-	Mandvi, Surat	2,29,166/-
				Danta, Banaskantha	4,95,346/-	Danta, Banaskantha	2,29,166/-
				Bhikoda, Sabarkantha	7,38,346/-	Bhikoda, Sabarkantha	2,29,166/-
				Andhrakha, Sabarkantha	7,38,346/-	Andhrakha, Sabarkantha	2,29,166/-
				Songadh, Surat	7,38,346/-	Songadh, Surat	2,29,166/-
				Dangahwa, Dang	7,38,346/-	Dangahwa, Dang	2,29,166/-
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	Kangan, Srinagar	6,18,000	Kangan, Srinagar	10,07,000	Kangan, Srinagar	6,71,625/-
						Agling Leh	40,00,000/-
5.	Karnataka			Bangalore	6,75,000/-		
				Mysore	6,75,000/-		
				Davangere	6,75,000/-		
				Mangalore	6,75,000/-		
				Raichur	6,75,000/-		
				Bellary	6,75,000/-		
6.	Mizoram	Lunglei	9,63,000	Lunglei	6,00,000	Lunglei	12,00,000/-
		Serchhip	9,63,000	Serchhip	6,00,000	Serchhip	12,00,000/-
		Kolasib	9,63,000	Kolasib	6,00,000	Kolasib	12,00,000/-
7.	Orissa	Chittrakond	6,34,500			Chittrakond	4,27,667/-
		Matakambeda	7,12,146			Matakambeda	4,27,667/-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Kodimga	13,36,500	-	-	Kodimga	4,27,667/-
		Gopalpur, Sundargarh	2,13,281	-	-	Gopalpur, Sundargarh	4,27,667/-
		Banbhum	13,50,000	-	-	Banbhum	4,27,667/-
		Bhojpur	4,48,577	-	-	Bhojpur	4,27,667/-
		Sunabeda	9,18,000	-	-	Sunabeda	4,27,667/-
		Kailashpur	8,48,239	-	-	Kailashpur	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Naranpur	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Birkaldhi	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Sarat	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Nalagaza	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Barniput	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Mohane	4,27,667/-
		-	-	-	-	Gopalpur, Kalahandi	4,27,667/-
8.	Tripura	Bishramganj,	6,75,000	-	-	Bishramganj, West Tripura	6,75,000
		KBI Udaipur	6,75,000	-	-	KBI Udaipur	6,75,000
		BBE Dharampur, North Tripura	6,75,000	-	-	BEE Dharampur, North Tripura	6,75,000
		Kulai	6,75,000	-	-	Kulai	6,75,000
		Mandi, West Tripura	6,75,000	-	-	Mandi, West Tripura	6,75,000
		Tulasithar, West Tripura	6,75,000	-	-	Tulasithar, West Tripura	6,75,000
		Rupaicharni, South Tripura	6,75,000	-	-	Rupaicharni, South Tripura	6,75,000
		Baithora, South Tripura	6,75,000	-	-	Baithora, South Tripura	6,75,000
9.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	Ranibandh, Bankura	6,12,990
10.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	Sariya, Raigarh	9,15,000
		-	-	-	-	Sarangarh, Raigarh	9,15,000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
						Kanker	9,15,000
						Narayanpur, Bastar	9,15,000
						Dantewada	9,15,000
						Nagri, Dhamtari	9,15,000
						Kosa Centre, Jagdalpur, Bastar	9,15,000
						Saw Mill Jagdalpur, Bastar	9,15,000
						Kondagaon, Bastar	9,15,000
						Durg	9,15,000
						Rattanpur, Bilaspur	9,15,000
						Kunkuni, Jashpurnagar	9,15,000
						Raigarh	9,15,000

## Statement-II

Sl.No.	Name	Address	Project	Assistance Extended during years			(Amount in Rupees)
				2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>							
1.	A.P. Girijana Sevak Sangh	Chendamapet, Nandigama-521185, Krishna, A.P.	Vocational Training Centre	1325500	723000	1963500	
2.	Integrated Development Agency	Krishna District, Raithupet, Nandigama-521185, Krishna District, A.P.	Vocational Training Centre	1333500	2169000	1297500	
3.	Priyadarshini Service Organisation	D.No. 45-56-9, Saigramapuram, Narasimhanagar, Akkayyapalem, Vishakhapatnam-500024 (A.P.)	Vocational Training Centre	963000			
4.	Rajeshwari Mahila Mandal	D.No. 6/11-He.I.E., Sathya Deva Nagar, Near By pass Road, Anantapur, A.P.	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000	
5.	Women Awareness & General Education Society	D.No. 19, MIG, Vuda Colony, Rajiv Nagar, Vijayawada, District, Krishna-15 (A.P.)	Vocational Training Centre	1155540			
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>							
6.	R.K. Moesang Memorial Society	PO Jairampur, District Changlong-792121, Ar.P.	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Assam</b>						
7.	Dr. Ambedkar Mission	Village Dhopatan, P.O. Changsari, District Kamrup-781001, (Assam)	Vocational Training Centre	1325500	1446000	1419336
8.	Grama Vikas Parishad	P.O. Jumarumur, District, Nagaon-782427, Assam	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>						
9.	Chhattisgarh Samagra Vikas Institute	C-30, Sector-1, Devendra Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh	Vocational Training Centre	0	722000	140500
<b>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli</b>						
10.	Rural Development Foundation	Adarsh Technical Institute, Limdavala Devakhana Compound, Station Road, Anand-388001	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Gujarat</b>						
11.	Priyadarshani Gramin and Adivasi Sevabhavi Samatha	Sangamner, Ahmednagar, M.S.	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
12.	Vivekanand Gramin Tekniki Kendra	Gumandev, P.O. Kapalsadi, Tal: Jhagadia, District : Bharuch, PIN 393110, Gujarat	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Karnataka</b>						
13.	Gnana Jyothi Education Trust	No. 702, 32nd Main, 13th Cross, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560078	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
14.	Manjunatha Samamy Vidya Samasithe	D.No. 4206/9, 10th Cross, Siddaveerappa, Badavane, Davangere-4, Karnataka	Vocational Training Centre	248000	923000	1080000
15.	Mother's Care Education Society	No. 2362, Mig, 3rd Phase, Y.N.T., Bangalore, PIN-560064, A.P.	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
16.	Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA)	No. 12-11-61, Arab Mohalla, Raichur-584101	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>						
17.	Amar Mathia & Bal Uthan Shiksha Samiti	C/o House of Shri Nand Kishore Shukla, Village/PO, Sarauli, Majhgawn, Block Sihora, Jabalpur, M.P.	Vocational Training Centre	963000		
18.	Ankit Shiksha Prasar Evam Kalyan Samiti	Vinay Nagar, Gwalior, M.P.	Vocational Training Centre	0	82960	1001040
19.	Bandhewal Shiksha Samiti	92, Purana Naryal Khera, Bhopal-462038, Madhya Pradesh	Vocational Training Centre	810500		784500
<b>Maharashtra</b>						
20.	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Adivasi Magaswargiya Shikshan Sansthan	At-Nawate Plot, Amravati, Maharashtra State	Vocational Training Centre	963000		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Kasturba Gramin Mahila Shikshan Prasarak Mandal	Vill. Mana, District Akola-444106, Maharashtra State	Vocational Training Centre	963000		
22.	Swapan Puri Shikshan Sanstha	Belora, Savaikar Bhawan, Gedamnagar, Yavatmal-445001, MS	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Manipur</b>						
23.	Houdou Akou Rural Development Society (HARDS)	Chialo, Liyai, Senapati (Manipur)	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
24.	Manipur Tribals Pioneer Association	Minuthong Namdumlong, Stadium Road, Imphal, PIN 795001, Manipur	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Meghalaya</b>						
25.	Nongkrem Youth Development Association	Shillong (Meghalaya)	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Nagaland</b>						
26.	Kezie Society	Lerie Kohima, P.O. Kohima-797001, Nagaland	Vocational Training Centre	963000		
27.	Teisokezie Women Society	Kohima Village, Kohima, Nagaland, PIN 797001	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
28.	Vitole Women Society	New Market, P.O. Kohima-797001, Nagaland	Vocational Training Centre	963000	1269788	1269788
29.	Wokha Town Women Welfare Society	At - Tsumang Colony, PO/Block Wokha, District, Wokha-797111, Nagaland	Vocational Training Centre	963000	1446000	
30.	Women Welfare Society Aboizu	At - Atoizu Town, PO Atoizu, Via Akuluto, District Zunheboto-798627, Nagaland	Vocational Training Centre	0	963000	1446000
<b>Orissa</b>						
31.	Global Art & Culture	M 3-16, Civil Township, Rourkela, PIN: 769004, District Sundergarh, Orissa	Vocational Training Centre	0	352500	1331500
32.	Institute of Career Studies	Rourkela District, Sundergarh, Orissa	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
33.	Victory	At: Kanta Chhak, P.O. Pallahat, PS: Khurda, Distt. Khurda, PIN 752056, Orissa	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>						
34.	Bharathiar Makkal Natchu Sangham	82, Sanyasi Kundu Extn., Kitchipalayam, Salem-636015 (TN)	Vocational Training Centre	0		240000
<b>West Bengal</b>						
35.	Satubi Mahila Mandal	At - Satubi, P.O. Khalakpur, District Midnapore, West Bengal	Vocational Training Centre	602500		

[English]

**Visit of Trade Delegation to Kazakhstan**

1763. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a trade delegation from Kazakhstan recently visited India to discuss the possibilities of improving the trade relations between the two countries;

(b) whether the delegation impressed upon the Indian industry about the possibility of investment and trade especially in the sectors such as energy, pharmaceutical, leather and light engineering because of the rich minerals in that country which could be exploited to the advantage of both the countries;

(c) if so, the whether the Government have examined the offer made by Kazakhstan; and

(d) the extent to which the Government propose to expand its investment and trade with that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) These discussions were held at the business to business level and presently there is no proposal under consideration of the Government in this regard.

(d) It has been Government's endeavour to expand bilateral trade relations with the CIS Countries including Kazakhstan. With a view to giving further impetus to this intention, Focus: CIS Programme was launched as a part of EXIM Policy 2003. The "Focus: CIS Programme" aims to focus at the countries of the CIS region with emphasis in the first phase on seven countries including Kazakhstan. Details of the programme are available on Department's website, [www.commerce.nic.in](http://www.commerce.nic.in) under the head 'Trade Promotion Programmes'.

**Supervisory Body for Cooperative Banks**

1764. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of issuance of guidelines by Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development the non-performing assets of State

Cooperative Banks, District Central Cooperative Banks, State Cooperative Agriculture Rural Development Banks and Primary Cooperative Agriculture Rural Banks are increasing alarmingly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had set up a task force in April, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Deputy Governor, RBI to go into the details of such irregularities in cooperative banks and whether RBI has mooted a proposal in Monetary and Credit Policy 2001-02, for setting up a separate Supervisory Body for taking over the entire supervisory functions in relation to Urban Cooperative Banks;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to set up such supervisory bodies and task force for every type of cooperative banks in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) the gross Non-Performing Assets as percentage of total loans outstanding of State Co-operative Banks (SCBs), District Central Co-operative Bank (DCCBs), State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (SCARDBs) and Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs), as at the end of 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is as follows:

Agency	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
SCBs	10.94	13.02	13.61
DCCBs	17.28	17.86	19.01
SCARDBs	18.80	20.40	18.50
PCARDBs	20.10	24.30	30.40

(c) to (e) Government had set up a task force in April, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Capoor, former Deputy Governor of RBI to study the working of the co-operative credit structure in the country and to suggest measures for strengthening the same. RBI had also mooted a proposal in the Monetary and Credit Policy for the year 2001-2002 for setting up a separate supervisory body for urban co-operative banks, which could take over the entire inspection/supervisory functions with regard to urban co-operative banks. A proposal for setting up an exclusive apex

body for the supervision of UCBs, in view of the duality of control prevailing in the co-operative banking sector, was submitted by RBI to Government. The proposal was examined and it was found that without legislative changes in the State Co-operative Societies Acts, the apex body as suggested would suffer from similar legislative handicaps that RBI suffers today. State Governments have, therefore, been advised to modify the State co-operative Societies Act, in line with the Model Co-operative Act. Simultaneously, besides taking measures to revitalize the cooperative credit system, the efforts of the Union Government are also directed towards making necessary changes in Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to further expand the jurisdiction of RBI over Co-operative Banks.

#### **Crisis in Assam Tea Industry**

1765. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tea industry in Assam is facing crisis;
- (b) if so, the precise situation faced by the Assam tea industry;
- (c) whether the Assam Government have sought Central aid to meet the situation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the grant-in-aid provided by Union Government to Assam to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Indian tea industry, including Assam, has been facing a crisis due to the continuous fall in prices over the last few years coupled with high cost of production and fall in demand.

(c) and (d) The suggestions received from the Government of Assam to deal with the situation, include routing of 100% of tea production through the auctions system, meeting the food requirements of the labour employed in the tea gardens under the Below Poverty Line Scheme of the Central Government at subsidized rates, compensation from Central Government to the State Government for reducing or waiving the cess on green tea leaves, exemption for tea industry from levy of excise duty and making available bank loans to the tea gardens on prime lending rate of interest.

(e) No separate grant-in-aid is provided to the Assam tea industry. However, financial assistance is being provided by the Tea Board, under the various developmental schemes during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing

productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country, which is extended to the Assam tea industry also.

#### **Zero Based Budget of States**

1766. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether one of the States has finally got the green signal from the Union Government to resort to Zero Base Budgeting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is going to be introduced in all the remaining States;
- (d) if so, whether the Union Government have worked out any mechanism to link or delink the Zero Based Budget with the debt of the State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The primary responsibility of managing their finances rests with State Governments, for which they are responsible to their respective State Legislatures. They do not require the concurrence of Government of India to resort to zero based budgeting and it is up to them to take a decision in this regard.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Pension to Bank Employees**

1767. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide pension facility to the bank employees who were appointed before 1995;
- (b) if so, the financial burden likely to be borne by the exchequer as a result thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) to (c) The Bank (Employees') Pension Regulations were notified in the Gazette of India by the

nationalised banks on 29.9.1995. All those officers/employees who were in the service of the bank before the notified date and continued to be in service of the bank on or after the notified date were to exercise an option to take pension or continue to be with the then existing scheme of Contributory Provident Fund (CPF). Similar option was also provided to the employees who were in the service of the bank on or after 1.1.1986 and retired before the notified date. Around 50 per cent of the employees gave option for pension and the remaining employees opted to continue with the scheme of CPF.

Although there has been persistent demand from those employees who had not opted for pension within the stipulated period, the same could not be considered by the Government keeping in view the fact that servicing of the pension fund in respect of existing members has proved to be a costly proposition to the banks. As per actuarial calculations, the estimated cost as on 31.3.2003 for providing fresh option for pension was Rs.10,160 crores. Keeping in view the financial implications on the banks, the demand in question has been found unacceptable.

#### **Health Package Scheme of Handloom Sector**

1768. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented the health package scheme for handloom weavers in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of handloom weavers benefited by this scheme; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated to the State under the said scheme during the financial year 2002-03?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Yes, Sir; the Government of India has been implementing the Health Package Scheme for the handloom weavers in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Since inception of the scheme in the year 1992-93, 68,759 weavers of Uttar Pradesh have been benefited.

(c) Funds under the scheme are released on reimbursement basis to the implementing agencies. As and when proposals for reimbursement of medical expenses to the weavers are received from the State Governments, the same are considered for release of funds under the guidelines of the scheme.

[English]

#### **Appointment of Notary Public**

1769. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for appointment as Notary Public by the Government;

(b) the State-wise number of applications received by the Government for appointment as Notary Public since November 1, 2002;

(c) the number of persons appointed as Notary Public out of these applications;

(d) whether Notary Public are appointed on the basis of first-cum-first serve; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) The criteria for appointing a Notary Public are laid down under the Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956. Under Section 3 of the said Act, the Central Government as well as the State Governments are empowered to appoint Notaries. The Central Government has power to appoint Notaries for the whole or any part of India, whereas a State Government is empowered to appoint Notaries for whole or any part of the State concerned. Under Rule 3 of the Notaries Rules, a person from amongst legal practitioners may apply for appointment as a notary, if he has been practising as such for 10 years. In case the applicant for notaryship is a person belonging either to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes or a woman, then the condition for eligibility for appointment as a notary is 7 years of legal practice. A person is also eligible for appointment as a notary if he has been a member of Indian Legal Service under the Central Government or if he has been for ten years, a member of Judicial Service, or held an office under the Central Government or a State Government requiring special knowledge of law after enrolment as an Advocate or held an office in the Department of Judge Advocate General or in the legal department of the Armed Forces. The eligible persons may apply for appointment as notary on a prescribed form i.e. Memorial, which has to be countersigned by a Magistrate, a Bank Manager, a Merchant and two prominent local residents. The Competent Authority appointed by the Central Government thereafter examines the Memorial and calls for comments/objections from the State Bar Council where the memorialist is enrolled as an advocate. The applicant is also requested to submit an affidavit, deposing that he is neither a notary already appointed by any State



Government nor his application for appointment as Notary is pending with the concerned State Government and also state the number of courts and the number of notaries in the desired area of practice. After considering the objections and the various facts mentioned in Rule 7 of Notaries Rules, a decision to recommend for appointment or otherwise of the applicant is taken by the Competent Authority. On receipt of the report of the Competent Authority, the Central Government after considering the same takes an appropriate decision.

(b) and (c) The State-wise applications received by the Government for appointment as Notary Public since November 1, 2002 and the number of persons appointed as Notary Public out of these applications are as per the Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) Each memorial is considered on its own merits.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of the State	Application received	Notaries Appointed
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	09	-
2.	Assam	-	-
3.	Bihar	18	-
4.	Gujarat	24	03
5.	Kerala	35	01
6.	Madhya Pradesh	16	01
7.	Tamil Nadu	13	-
8.	Maharashtra	94	21
9.	Karnataka	55	04
10.	Orissa	01	-
11.	Punjab	80	08
12.	Rajasthan	46	10
13.	Uttar Pradesh	127	24
14.	West Bengal	20	04
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-
16.	Nagaland	-	-

1	2	3	4
17.	Haryana	83	12
18.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-
19.	Manipur	-	-
20.	Tripura	01	-
21.	Meghalaya	-	-
22.	Sikkim	-	-
23.	Mizoram	-	-
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
25.	Goa	-	-
26.	Uttaranchal	03	-
27.	Chhattisgarh	02	-
28.	Jharkhand	-	-
29.	Delhi	35	04
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-
33.	Daman & Diu	-	-
34.	Pondicherry	-	-
35.	Chandigarh	02	-

**World Bank Report on Indian Economy**

1770. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has drawn a gloomy picture of the country's financial and economic growth;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported by the World Bank report; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to address the problems which have been pointed by the World Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The World Bank in its development policy review entitled 'India: Sustaining Reform, Reducing Poverty' released on July 14, 2003, while acknowledging that India's growth over the past two decades has been one of the world's highest among large countries, has expressed concern over the deterioration in the fiscal position of the Centre and the States. The Review observed that rising deficits and worsening public expenditure composition has limited the prospect for accelerating growth and poverty reduction.

(c) The Government is conscious of the need for reduction in fiscal deficit and promoting investment for productive purposes. Fiscal consolidation is one of the five priorities addressed in the Union Budget for 2003-04. The Budget has proposed a number of initiatives, such as, promoting infrastructure development by leveraging public money through private sector participation, promoting private investment and measures aimed at fiscal consolidation. These initiatives are expected to have a positive influence on the growth of the economy.

#### Coffee Houses

1771. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coffee Board is encouraging the establishment of coffee houses in malls and shopping complexes all over the country;

(b) whether the Coffee Board is also assisting such entrepreneurs by giving publicity to their establishments;

(c) the steps the Coffee Board is taking to increase consumption of Indian coffee in the country;

(d) whether any rebates or excise reliefs or other financial incentives are being offered to companies to boost sales internally in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Coffee Board is no longer involved in coffee marketing activities. However, the Board have been providing intensive training on roasting and brewing coffee by conducting Kaapi Sastra courses in different locations for

the benefit of private coffee entrepreneurs. The Board also provides support to grower cooperatives for brand building and marketing.

(c) To promote domestic coffee consumption, the Board conducted a Market Research Study in urban India and based on the findings of this study, the Board has been taking the following steps to enhance the domestic coffee consumption:-

- Participation in important national festivals/exhibitions.
- Producing world class publicity promotion material.
- Organising coffee festivals throughout the country.
- Sale of consumer friendly coffee making machines/percolators to the consumers through promotional units of the Board.
- Aggressive generic promotion efforts through public relation campaigns.
- Establishing a hightech roasting and packaging facility in the Board for making coffee blends, packaging it in attractive vacuum packed pouches and selling through promotional units of the Board as well as extending the facility to grower cooperatives/consortia.

(d) and (e) For boosting domestic sales of coffee, Board has been extending financial incentives for procurement of coffee vending machines by the private entrepreneurs.

#### Investment by Foreign Funds

1772. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SEBI is keeping a close watch on the pattern of investment by foreign funds operating in the Indian market;

(b) if so, whether SEBI has detected any illegal activity so far in 2003-04 by any foreign fund;

(c) if so, the major areas of investment where foreign funds play a major role;

(d) the extent to which foreign funds would determine the volatility of our stock exchanges;

(e) whether SEBI has taken precautionary steps

to ensure that foreign funds obey the law in word and spirit; and

(f) if so, the details of such safeguards taken by SEBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) maintains investment data in respect of Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and their sub-accounts under portfolio investment scheme. As per SEBI's (Foreign Institutional Investors) Regulations, 1995, foreign institutional investors shall ensure reporting to SEBI on a daily basis the transactions entered into by them on their own account or on behalf of their sub-accounts through domestic custodians. SEBI, on exception basis and through oversight of exchange functioning, and the Exchanges as part of normal monitoring functions, keep watch on any unusual or abnormal trading activity in the market. This is applicable to overall monitoring of trading in the stock market and not specific to FII activity.

No illegal activity by foreign institutional investors has been detected by SEBI so far in 2003-04.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per data collected by SEBI on daily basis, the gross turnover (purchases + sales) of FIIs and their sub-accounts during April 2003 to June 2003 is Rs. 29,745 crores, whereas turnover (one sided) of Mumbai Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE) during the same period was Rs. 233,513 crores. Since the overall FIIs turnover is a small percent of the total market turnover, this may not affect the volatility of stock exchanges.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. The following steps have been taken by SEBI for ensuring fair dealings in Indian markets by FIIs/ sub-accounts:

(i) FII/Sub-account- Investment Limits

Category	Limit
FIIs sub accounts (except foreign corporates and foreign individuals)	10% of the paid-up capital of investee company
Sub accounts - foreign corporates and foreign individuals	5% of the paid-up capital
All FIIs and sub-accounts put together	24% / 49% / upto sectoral cap of the paid up capital

(ii) FII Investment Restrictions

- FIIs shall transact business only on the basis of taking and giving deliveries of securities brought and sold.

FIIs shall not engage in short selling in securities.

- The transactions of FIIs in securities shall be only through registered stock brokers.

(iii) Recently SEBI Board in its meeting held on July 24, 2003, has approved the following provisions to be incorporated in the SEBI (Foreign Institutional Investors) Regulations, 1995:

code of conduct for foreign institutional investors

- FIIs shall fully disclose information concerning the terms of, and parties to, off-shore derivative instruments, such as, participatory notes, equity linked notes, or any such instruments by whatever names they are called, entered into by it or its affiliates relating to any Indian securities, as and when and in such form as the Board may require.

#### External Assistance for State Projects

1773. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received by the Union Government from different foreign agencies for State projects in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan and first year of Tenth Plan;

(b) the details of agency/country, project-wise; and

(c) the amount of interest payable by the Union Government on this total credit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) For State projects in the country, the Union Government received Rs. 37,368.09 crore and Rs. 8,359.01 crore respectively during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the first year of Tenth Plan (2002-03).

(b) Agency/country, project-wise details are given in enclosed statement.

(c) The Union government has paid Rs. 21675.33 crore as interest on external debt during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The revised estimates for interest payment during 2002-03 are Rs. 4842.33 crore.

**Statement***External Assistance for State Projects*

S.No.	Name of the Project	Country/ Agency	Disbursement during (in Rs. crore)	
			Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-98 to 2001-02)	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Loans</b>				
1.	Minor Irrigation Project, Maharashtra	Germany	81.85	1.74
2.	Orissa Lift Irrigation	Germany	38.45	0.17
3.	Rajasthan Rural & Water Supply	Germany	27.07	0.00
4.	Rehabilitation of Urban Gas Plant, Maharashtra	Germany	0.00	0.25
5.	Rural water supply & sanitation, Maharashtra	Germany	0.00	2.76
6.	GTTC, Karnataka	France	7.79	1.28
7.	Improvement of water supply & sanitation, Karnataka	France	9.14	19.21
8.	Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage Board	France	0.00	1.31
9.	Imphal Sewerage	France	0.00	8.83
10.	Water management of Jaipur	France	0.62	3.69
11.	NAMCHI Hospital, Sikkim-Modernisation	France	3.32	1.24
12.	Seabase breeding culture, T.N.	France	0.87	0.80
13.	SGPGI, UP-Sply & implementation of medical equipment	France	17.05	1.41
14.	GSI-CL (FRGL 4203 E)	France	0.00	4.23
15.	CMC Ltd., Calcutta	France	11.09	7.72
16.	AP Dairy Development Coop. Ltd.	France	10.29	0.00
17.	Fusegates system on dams in Gujarat	France	23.33	0.00
18.	Detailed Study for rehabilitation of road, Manipur	France	4.93	0.00
19.	Upgradation/augmentation of Kangchup water supply	France	21.84	0.00
20.	Ground Water exploration project, Imphal	France	2.97	0.00
21.	Creation of freshwater prawn hatchery, Maharashtra	France	1.63	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Ceation of freshwater prawn hatchery, Gujarat	France	1.47	0.00
23.	Geological Survey of India - CL (FRGL 4203)	France	7.02	0.00
24.	Srisailam Power Transmission system, AP (IDP-85)	Japan	78.84	0.00
25.	Srisailam left bank P.S.P. II (IDP-94)	Japan	375.62	0.00
26.	Srisailam left bank T.P.S. (IDP-95)	Japan	273.56	0.00
27.	Kothagudem 'A' T.P.S. (IDP-99)	Japan	109.55	2.27
28.	Simhadri and Vizag transmission system	Japan	364.23	28.31
29.	Srisailam left bank power station (IDP-43)	Japan	534.50	58.84
30.	Simhadri and Vizag transmission system project-II	Japan	0.00	74.70
31.	Kurnool-Cuddapah canal modernisation	Japan	198.63	204.21
32.	Chhattisgarh sericulture	Japan	18.42	4.59
33.	Gujarat afforestation and development	Japan	285.93	20.58
34.	Pipavav port ship breaking	Japan	230.74	0.00
35.	Eastern Karnataka afforestation	Japan	376.09	84.51
36.	Bangalore water supply & sewerage	Japan	453.90	128.28
37.	Mysore Paper Mill	Japan	59.28	0.00
38.	Attappady wasteland comprehensive environment	Japan	13.25	10.35
39.	Manipur sericulture	Japan	18.79	0.47
40.	Umiam hydro power station renovation	Japan	52.33	11.71
41.	Ghatghar T.P. project	Japan	269.82	163.83
42.	Lake Bhopal conservation and management	Japan	126.69	27.38
43.	Rajghat canal irrigation	Japan	180.86	69.30
44.	Rengali irrigation	Japan	136.00	47.87
45.	Gandhar gas based C.C.P.	Japan	-0.02	0.00
46.	Punjab afforestation	Japan	203.92	37.41
47.	Afforestation development - Indira Gandhi Nahar	Japan	89.60	0.00
48.	Afforestation of Aravalli Hills	Japan	113.79	0.00
49.	Rajasthan Forestry Development	Japan	123.12	0.93

1	2	3	4	5
50.	Tamil Nadu afforestation	Japan	345.89	71.31
51.	Chennai Sewerage R&F improvement	Japan	44.50	0.00
52.	Anpara 'B' T.P. project	Japan	283.95	46.86
53.	Anpara power transmission system-II	Japan	245.36	0.00
54.	Industrial pollution control, West Bengal	Japan	13.90	19.51
55.	Teesta canal hydro-electric project (IDP-072)	Japan	68.26	0.00
56.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. & extension project (IDP-97)	Japan	280.01	0.00
57.	West Bengal transmission system project	Japan	242.82	108.12
58.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. project-II (IDP-130)	Japan	1072.56	111.59
59.	Bakreshwar T.P.S. project-III (IDP-137)	Japan	291.97	33.50
60.	West Bengal transmission system project-II (IDP-143)	Japan	0.00	5.00
61.	Calcutta transport infrastructure development	Japan	104.23	53.65
62.	Teesta canal hydro-electric project (IDP-040)	Japan	10.92	0.00
63.	Purulia pumped storage	Japan	209.21	131.05
64.	Kalinadi hydro electric project	Kuwaiti Fund	12.08	0.00
65.	ORET loan for Gujarat health care project	Netherlands	128.93	0.00
66.	Gujarat Power Sector Development (1803-ND)	ADB	240.71	0.00
67.	Gujarat Power Sector Development (1804-ND)	ADB	10.84	40.32
68.	Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management	ADB	683.20	0.00
69.	Gujarat earthquake rehabilitation and reconstruction	ADB	375.54	122.52
70.	Karnataka urban infrastructure development	ADB	217.13	32.95
71.	Karnataka urban dev. and coastal environment mgnt.	ADB	7.02	11.78
72.	Modernizing Govt. and fiscal reform in Kerala	ADB	0.00	481.00
73.	MP Power sector development	ADB	9.75	17.89
74.	MP state roads sector development	ADB	0.00	57.76
75.	MP Public resource management	ADB	801.25	357.23
76.	Second road project	ADB	253.81	0.00
77.	Rajasthan urban infrastructure development	ADB	6.04	78.46

1	2	3	4	5
78.	Second North Madras thermal power project	ADB	101.96	0.00
79.	WB Corridor development	ADB	0.00	10.09
80.	Calcutta environment improvement	ADB	0.00	19.59
81.	AP hazard mitigation	IBRD	75.07	70.08
82.	AP Power restructuring	IBRD	567.55	189.47
83.	AP State highway	IBRD	821.75	433.77
84.	AP Economic restructuring	IBRD	742.52	28.81
85.	AP Economic reform	IBRD	608.75	0.00
86.	AP irrigation-III	IBRD	0.00	273.64
87.	Delhi Water supply and sanitation	IBRD	1.38	1.43
88.	Gujarat state highway	IBRD	186.66	144.53
89.	Haryana power sector restructuring	IBRD	152.18	0.00
90.	Karnataka state highways improvement	IBRD	103.83	79.64
91.	Karnataka economic restructuring	IBRD	353.18	0.00
92.	Karnataka economic restructuring prog.-II	IBRD	243.50	0.00
93.	Kerala state transport	IBRD	0.00	83.24
94.	Mumbai sewage disposal	IBRD	433.50	106.43
95.	Mumbai urban transport	IBRD	2.68	98.73
96.	UP diversified agriculture support	IBRD	0.00	133.62
97.	Integrated watershed development (hills-II)	IBRD	3.69	129.74
98.	Nathpa Jhakri power project	IBRD	301.59	-44.81
99.	States' road infrastructure development	IBRD	173.09	-3.01
100.	UP rural water supply and environment sanitation	IBRD	96.95	28.38
101.	Orissa power sector restructuring	IBRD	648.72	146.71
102.	Rajasthan power sector restructuring (4594-IN)	IBRD	97.87	144.43
103.	Rajasthan power sector restructuring (P2350-IN)	IBRD	-1.27	0.00
104.	TN agriculture development	IBRD	39.38	0.00
105.	Second Tamil Nadu urban development	IBRD	339.51	10.98

1	2	3	4	5
106.	Second Chennai water supply	IBRD	284.96	29.92
107.	UP power sector restructuring	IBRD	272.78	227.01
108.	UP power sector restructuring advances	IBRD	-6.39	0.00
109.	UP Fiscal reform and public sector restructuring	IBRD	560.83	0.00
110.	Calcutta water supply sewerage and drainage	IBRD	3.88	0.36
111.	Shimla Sewerage	OPEC	27.64	16.01
112.	Raichur district hospital	OPEC	29.54	0.00
113.	Kerala rainfed farming development	OPEC	10.32	0.00
114.	Rewa hospital	OPEC	43.68	0.00
115.	Basti district hospital	OPEC	18.00	0.00
116.	A.P. hazard mitigation & C.R.P.	IDA	374.03	4.15
117.	AP district poverty initiative	IDA	24.73	83.97
118.	AP Forestry	IDA	225.68	0.00
119.	AP community forest management	IDA	0.00	12.00
120.	AP economic restructuring	IDA	521.88	280.67
121.	AP health system	IDA	134.59	0.59
122.	AP economic program	IDA	615.25	0.00
123.	AP irrigation	IDA	574.71	27.16
124.	Assam rural infrastructure	IDA	313.55	62.62
125.	Bihar plateau development	IDA	297.60	0.00
126.	Gujarat emergency earthquake reconstruction	IDA	0.00	421.96
127.	Haryana water resources consolidation	IDA	801.05	26.79
128.	Karnataka watershed development	IDA	14.39	1.98
129.	Karnataka community-based tank management	IDA	0.00	14.58
130.	Karnataka economic restructuring	IDA	355.93	0.00
131.	Karnataka economic restructuring prog.-II	IDA	247.31	0.00
132.	Karnataka rural water supply & environmental sanitation	IDA	260.83	0.00
133.	Second Karnataka rural water supply and sanitation	IDA	0.00	22.14



1	2	3	4	5
134.	Kerala rural water supply & environmental sanitation	IDA	45.35	12.71
135.	Kerala forestry	IDA	78.37	35.42
136.	Maharashtra forestry	IDA	203.50	0.00
137.	Mumbai urban transport	IDA	0.00	85.56
138.	MP forestry	IDA	179.83	0.00
139.	MP district poverty initiatives	IDA	20.77	22.34
140.	Shrimp and fish culture	IDA	58.17	0.00
141.	Agriculture human resource development	IDA	198.19	5.31
142.	UP diversified agriculture support	IDA	205.98	18.65
143.	Integrated watershed development (hills-II)	IDA	291.96	6.73
144.	Forestry research, education and extension	IDA	77.02	0.03
145.	UP forestry	IDA	137.31	52.41
146.	Technical education	IDA	271.79	0.00
147.	Secodn technical education	IDA	501.98	0.00
148.	Second state health systems development	IDA	720.80	248.06
149.	UP health systems development	IDA	19.38	41.69
150.	Third technical education	IDA	16.99	25.87
151.	Technical/Engineering education quality improvement	IDA	0.00	28.57
152.	Integrated watershed development (hills)	IDA	4.50	0.00
153.	Dam safety	IDA	211.94	0.00
154.	Hydrology project	IDA	272.45	93.04
155.	Mizoram state roads	IDA	0.00	19.15
156.	Orissa health system development	IDA	54.46	33.69
157.	Orissa water resources consolidation part H	IDA	61.93	55.15
158.	Orissa water resources consolidation	IDA	557.75	67.17
159.	Agriculture development, Rajasthan	IDA	165.78	0.00
160.	Rajasthan district poverty initiative project	IDA	1705.91	6.99
161.	Rajasthan second district poverty initiative project	IDA	21.43	51.81

1	2	3	4	5
162.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring project	IDA	24.36	1.91
163.	Second Tamilnadu nutrition project	IDA	2.01	0.00
164.	Tamilnadu water resource consolidation project	IDA	604.23	162.37
165.	UP sodic lands reclamation project	IDA	137.76	0.00
166.	UP sodic lands reclamation project-II	IDA	237.72	157.73
167.	UP fiscal reform and public sector restructuring programme	IDA	546.21	0.00
168.	UP basic education project	IDA	305.61	0.00
169.	UP basic education project-II	IDA	253.78	0.00
170.	UP health system dev.	IDA	65.12	83.89
171.	UP water sector restructuring project	IDA	24.36	2.39
172.	AP parti. tribal dev. project	IFAD	51.57	23.60
173.	AP tribal development project	IFAD	34.08	0.00
174.	Mewat area development project	IFAD	20.22	9.14
175.	Maharashtra rural credit	IFAD	76.29	0.67
176.	Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh tribal development programme	IFAD	4.72	0.00
177.	TN women development project	IFAD	18.79	0.00
178.	Srisaïlam left bank power station (IDP-128)	Japan	67.38	0.00
179.	Hyderabad water supply & sanitation	IDA	66.17	0.00
180.	Environmental Management capacity building	IDA	14.36	0.00
181.	Gujarat Forestry	Japan	210.32	0.00
182.	Haryana highway upgrading	IBRD	79.32	0.00
183.	Raichur T.P.S.	Japan	6.95	0.00
184.	MP sericulture	Japan	1.77	0.00
185.	Maharashtra rural water supply	IDA	133.58	0.00
186.	Bombay Sewage Disposal	IDA	0.25	0.00
187.	Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake & Rehabilitation	IDA	165.20	0.00
188.	Maharashtra Power	IBRD	410.65	0.00
189.	Bombay urban Transport-II	IBRD	2.69	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
190.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	Germany	24.86	0.00
191.	Upper Kolab Irrigation	Japan	24.02	0.00
192.	Upper Indrawati Irrigation	Japan	35.45	0.00
193.	Orissa tribal development	IFAD	10.13	0.00
194.	Punjab Irrigation	Japan	93.14	0.00
195.	Tamilnadu agriculture development	IDA	65.79	0.00
196.	Basin bridge gas turbine-II	Japan	17.76	0.00
197.	Expansion of lignite mine & power station	Germany	298.93	0.00
198.	North Madras Thermal Power	ADB	-33.83	0.00
199.	TN urban development	IDA	97.56	0.00
200.	Anpara power trmn. system (I)	Japan	230.02	0.00
201.	UP rural water supply & env.	IBRD	28.61	0.00
202.	WB forestry	IDA	18.05	0.00
203.	Teesta canal HFP	Japan	28.34	0.00
204.	Bakreshwar thermal power	Japan	697.35	0.00
205.	Sterilisation and milk pacakaging NDDB & APDD	France	2.54	0.00
206.	Integrated watershed development	IDA	63.60	0.00
207.	National sericulture	IDA	14.54	0.00
208.	Second National Highway	IDA	310.71	0.00
209.	Road Improvement	ADB	77.84	0.00
210.	Second port	ADB	24.57	0.00
211.	Second District Primary Education	IDA	333.99	0.00
212.	Mumbai port trust	ADB	3.39	0.00
<b>Grants</b>				
213.	Rajasthan agriculture drainage	Canada	17.20	1.24
214.	Seri-2000 (sericulture project)	Switzerland	1.67	0.00
215.	Karnataka Sec. Level Hosp. Dev. Project	Germany	27.58	0.00
216.	Karnataka watershed development programme	Germany	12.14	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
217.	Basic health Maharashtra	Germany	7.42	0.00
218.	Multipurpose cyclone shelter, Orissa	Germany	1.49	0.00
219.	Rural water supply, Rajasthan	Germany	30.88	0.00
220.	Residential schools project, Rajasthan	Germany	16.89	0.00
221.	Rajasthan rural water supply phase-I	Germany	116.62	0.00
222.	Rajasthan minor irrigation project phase-I	Germany	1.57	0.00
223.	Basic health programme, West Bengal	Germany	4.22	0.00
224.	Rural water supply, West Bengal	Germany	72.14	0.00
225.	Karnataka watershed development project phase-II	Denmark	11.65	3.40
226.	Women & youth training project phase-III	Denmark	0.90	3.50
227.	Women & youth training extn. ph-II project in Karnataka	Denmark	2.00	1.48
228.	Rural water and sanitation ph.II Karnataka	Denmark	20.50	4.00
229.	MP women in agriculture	Denmark	3.49	0.00
230.	Comprehensive watershed dev. pjt, Tirunelveli ph-II	Denmark	17.35	0.00
231.	Live stock dev. pjt. Basta, Chhattisgarh	Denmark	1.27	2.85
232.	Watershed dev. in western M.P.	Denmark	8.91	2.70
233.	MAPWA phase-II	Denmark	0.00	2.50
234.	Comp. watershed dev. pjt., Koraput, Orissa	Denmark	6.39	1.50
235.	Integrated livestock dev. pjt., Koraput, Orissa	Denmark	3.19	0.00
236.	TN Women in agriculture (TANWA) Ph-II	Denmark	20.61	0.00
237.	Comprehensive watershed dev. pjt., Ramanathapuram	Denmark	7.22	0.00
238.	Rural water & sanitation ph.II Tamil Nadu	Denmark	11.00	0.00
239.	Pudukottai livestock dev. project ph.-II	Denmark	5.70	3.20
240.	Haryana community forestry project	EEC	15.67	11.35
241.	Kerala horticulture development	EEC	9.18	0.00
242.	Kerala minor irrigation project	EEC	4.56	0.00
243.	Saline lands reclamation in Maharashtra	EEC	5.20	0.00
244.	Water control system for dev. of crop. Maharashtra	EEC	36.59	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
245.	Minor irrigation in Orissa	EEC	4.96	0.00
246.	Tank rehabilitation project, Pondicherry	EEC	5.51	2.15
247.	Sidhmukh & Nohar irrigation project, Rajasthan	EEC	30.89	0.00
248.	Tank irrigation system (ph.II) in Tamil Nadu	EEC	16.61	0.00
249.	Ravine stabilization in U.P.	EEC	0.00	0.25
250.	Doon valley int. watershed management	EEC	69.57	4.11
251.	Karnataka sec. level hospital development	Germany	0.00	10.73
252.	Karnataka watershed development programme	Germany	0.43	1.16
253.	Basic health, Maharashtra	Germany	0.00	5.86
254.	Rural water supply, Maharashtra	Germany	0.00	0.60
255.	Multipurpose cyclone shelters programme II, Orissa	Germany	7.69	3.46
256.	Rural water supply, Rajasthan	Germany	0.00	36.84
257.	Residential schools project, Rajasthan	Germany	0.00	11.20
258.	Basic health programme, West Bengal	Germany	0.00	2.72
259.	Rural water supply, West Bengal	Germany	7.01	19.14
260.	Green Hyderabad environmental programme	Netherlands	0.00	26.30
261.	Green Hyderabad programme	Netherlands	0.00	0.35
262.	Training women in agriculture in AP ph.-II	Netherlands	0.00	0.38
263.	APWELL project, Andhra Pradesh	Netherlands	0.00	1.35
264.	Training women in agriculture-Gujarat ph.-II	Netherlands	0.00	2.15
265.	Gogha regional water supply (NLGG 006E)	Netherlands	0.00	1.47
266.	ORET project for Gujarat health care	Netherlands	29.39	10.10
267.	Recont. & Repair of primary schools in Gujarat	Netherlands	0.00	19.39
268.	Community managed dev. of water & sanitation-GU	Netherlands	0.00	26.45
269.	Recl. of waterlogged & saline lands of Haryana	Netherlands	0.00	0.76
270.	Rural water supply & sanitation proj. Karnataka	Netherlands	0.00	1.02
271.	Grant India 1996-07 Ganga action plan support prog.	Netherlands	0.00	10.56
272.	Rural water supply U.P. state proj-VII	Netherlands	0.00	7.02

1	2	3	4	5
273.	U.P. sub project VI	Netherlands	0.00	1.27
274.	AP energy efficiency	UK	116.92	83.34
275.	A.P. rural livelihood project	UK	4.17	19.39
276.	Governance reform programme in AP	UK	1.46	1.20
277.	AP Dist. primary education project local cost grant	UK	129.52	43.74
278.	Andhra Pradesh urban services improvement for poor	UK	20.00	19.80
279.	Himachal Pradesh forestry	UK	13.69	0.00
280.	Westren ghats forestry	UK	63.92	0.06
281.	Karnataka watershed development	UK	0.00	6.31
282.	Cochin urban poverty reduction project	UK	45.32	0.00
283.	Maharashtra rural drinking water & sanitation	UK	5.52	0.00
284.	Rehabilitation of cyclone-damaged LIP's in Orissa	UK	9.72	18.17
285.	Orissa power sector reforms	UK	123.96	0.00
286.	Orissa health & family welfare project phase-III	UK	6.82	5.34
287.	Orissa district primary education prog.	UK	0.00	7.20
288.	Orissa post cyclone recon. of primary school project	UK	0.00	29.42
289.	Budgetary support for Orissa's socio eco. dev.	UK	0.00	223.74
290.	Cuttak urban services improvement proj.	UK	15.01	0.00
291.	Shiksha karmi project phase-III	UK	36.34	13.21
292.	Western India rainfed farming proj. II	UK	7.56	10.89
293.	Calcutta slum improvement project	UK	12.93	0.70
294.	Participative watershed dev., Karnataka	Switzerland	3.93	0.00
295.	PAWDI project, Rajasthan	Switzerland	0.70	0.00
296.	Bombay resettlement & rehabilitation project	IBRD	0.50	0.00
297.	Hyderabad green belt	Netherlands	2.49	0.00
298.	Training of women in agriculture-AP	Netherlands	1.03	0.00
299.	Green Hyderabad program.	Netherlands	19.57	0.00
300.	APWELL project, Andhra Pradesh	Netherlands	17.81	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
301.	Training women in agriculture-Gujarat phase-II	Netherlands	4.58	0.00
302.	Gogha regional water supply (NLGG 006)	Netherlands	1.51	0.00
303.	Project for Gujarat health care	Netherlands	70.82	0.00
304.	Reconstruction of primary schools in Gujarat	Netherlands	169.02	0.00
305.	Water resources dev. & mgt. prog. Phase-I	Netherlands	0.14	0.00
306.	Recl. of waterlogged & saline lands of Haryana	Netherlands	2.57	0.00
307.	Mysore paper mills phase-III	Netherlands	2.94	0.00
308.	Rural water supply & sanitation proj. Karnataka	Netherlands	42.14	0.00
309.	Tungabhadra irrigation pilot project phase-II	Netherlands	0.83	0.00
310.	Kerala community irrigation	Netherlands	1.25	0.00
311.	Kerala water supply, Pavartty	Netherlands	6.84	0.00
312.	Grant India 1994-01	Netherlands	0.09	0.00
313.	Ganga action plan support proj.	Netherlands	11.52	0.00
314.	Rural water supply U.P. sub. project-VIII	Netherlands	16.59	0.00
315.	UP sub project-VI	Netherlands	2.81	0.00
316.	North Bengal terai dev. project phase-III	Netherlands	61.42	0.00
317.	Renewable resources development project	IDA	0.34	0.00
318.	Trout farming project-Himachal Pradesh	Norway	0.11	0.00
319.	Himachal Pradesh environmental programme	Norway	0.17	0.00
320.	Indo Norwegian environment programme	Norway	9.30	0.00
321.	Orissa environmental program.	Norway	9.18	0.00
322.	Orissa forestry/capacity building	Sweden	0.90	0.00
323.	Dungarpur integrated waterland dev. project	Sweden	9.16	0.00
324.	I.C.D.S. ph.-III	Sweden	3.29	0.00
325.	Modernising govt. & fiscal reform in Kerala (grant)	ADB	0.00	120.30
326.	Solar Thermal power project-Maharashtra	Germany	0.51	0.10
327.	Integrated agricultural demand side management pro.	IBRD	0.00	0.82
328.	A.P. Rural poverty reduction project improvement	IDA	1.21	0.82

1	2	3	4	5
329.	Netherlands grant for Gujarat dis. primary education	IDA	19.50	13.40
330.	Karnataka watershed development project	IDA	0.84	0.00
331.	Karnataka Integrated health nutrition & family wel.	IDA	0.00	0.33
332.	Karnataka community based tank improvement proj.	IDA	1.43	0.00
333.	Second Maharashtra rural water supply & environment	IDA	0.20	0.85
334.	Rural water supply & sanitation Kerala/Karnataka	IDA	1.49	-0.09
335.	Punjab water resources MG project	IDA	0.14	0.00
336.	A.P. tribal development project	IFAD	6.53	0.00
337.	Sustainable dryland agriculture	UNDP	2.48	3.00
338.	Energy serv. for rural ind. Angara, Bihar	UNDP	0.73	0.27
339.	Bio-diversity conservation & tribal development	UNDP	0.58	0.00
340.	Natural rce. mgt. & sus. livelihood for women-OR	UNDP	6.43	1.58
341.	Decent eng. systems Komna Block, Orissa	UNDP	3.50	0.00
342.	Development & use of natural dyes in textiles	UNDP	1.76	0.00
343.	Haryana integrated women's empowerment & dev. prog.	UNFPA	12.90	2.32
344.	Integrated population & development in MH	UNFPA	8.38	8.09
345.	Vijayawada habitat imp. project	UK	1.90	0.00
346.	DPEP-II	IDA	51.20	0.00
347.	NABARD V Adivasi programme, Gujarat	Germany	3.59	0.00
348.	Rehabilitation of commonlands in Aravalli hills	EEC	15.45	0.00
349.	Lok Jumbhish Ph.-II	Sweden	32.10	0.00
350.	Shikhakarmi project in Rajasthan ph.-II	Sweden	13.19	0.00
351.	ICDS ph.-III	Sweden	17.84	0.00
352.	National sericulture	Switzerland	6.04	0.00
353.	Social marketing by PSS & PSI	Germany	8.84	0.00
354.	Tourism Infrastructure Development	Japan	45.01	0.00
355.	Family Welfare	IDA	94.88	0.00
356.	TB Control	Japan	23.28	0.00



1	2	3	4	5
357.	Ajanta Ellora conservation & tourism development	Japan	28.67	0.00
358.	Eco-development	IDF	9.38	0.00
359.	District poverty initiative	IDA	1.44	0.00
360.	Import of irrigation equipment for rural development	Japan	6.88	0.00
361.	Training women in agriculture	Netherlands	1.04	0.00
362.	Import of cable percussion type drilling	Japan	16.48	0.00
363.	Private infrastructure	IDA	1.74	0.00
364.	TEWA Orissa phase-II	Denmark	2.08	0.00
365.	National leprosy eradication phase-II	Denmark	1.00	0.00
366.	Health care ph.III, Tamilnadu	Denmark	5.00	0.00
367.	West Bengal Primary Education	UK	10.45	0.00
368.	ICDS	IDA	7.10	0.00
Total for State Projects			37368.09	8359.01

#### Private Agencies Distributing Coins

1774. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India pays a commission of about 10% to private agencies distributing coins in exchange for currency notes of equal value;

(b) if so, the manner in which such agents or agencies are appointed or allocated; and

(c) the number of such coin distribution agencies and the amount of commission paid to agents during each of the last three years and during the current year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) With a view to ensure distribution of coins in a wider areas and to reach to a large segment of population, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has implemented a scheme on temporary basis for distribution of coins through Post Offices, Co-operative Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Transport Undertakings and NGOs. The coins are collected by these institutions from RBI Offices against payment of face value. An amount of Rs.250/- per coin bag (irrespective of denomination and value) is paid by RBI to

these institutions to defray their expenses for collection, transportation and distribution of coins at face value to the public.

(b) The institutions are permitted to undertake the work on application subject to usual safeguards.

(c) Number of institutions which offered their services are as under:-

Co-operative Banks	-	9
RRBs	-	6
Post Offices		4
State Transport Undertakings	-	3
NGOs	-	5

The scheme was introduced in August, 2002 and so far an aggregate amount of Rs. 93.94 lakhs has been paid to the institutions.

#### Demand for Vanaspathi

1775. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for vanaspati is in excess of its production and supply;

(b) if so, the actual demand, production and supply of vanaspati during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the increasing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Demand for vanaspati has not been separately assessed. The total availability of vanaspati has been as under:-

(Qty. in lakh MTs)	
Year (Apr.-Mar.)	Total supply
2000-01	14.76
2001-02	13.50
2002-03	13.92

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Govt. to meet the demand of vanaspati are as under:-

(i) Import of edible oils has been allowed in OGL to facilitate raw material availability to the vanaspati units.

(ii) Under Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade, one lakh MTs of vanaspati can be imported free of custom duty.

#### **RBI Stake in SBI**

1776. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has decided to give up 55 per cent of its stake in State Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating its objective and the circumstances leading to this decision; and

(c) the steps so far taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Scam in SFCs**

1777. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to allow the Board of SFCs (State Finance Corporations) to fix up the accountability/responsibility alongwith delegation of power against Chief Executive and other functionaries in the field of sanction, Disbursement, Legal Documentation, Technical valuation of assets etc., to check the bad finance and corruption to the greater extent;

(b) if so, whether the government have taken necessary steps for a detailed inquiry of the scam of NPA in SFCs to the tune of Rs.60,000/- crore; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The State Financial Corporations (SFCs) (Amendment) Act, 2000 already inter-alia, empowers the Boards of SFCs to:-

- frame guidelines with regard to sanction, disbursement, legal documentation, technical valuation of assets as also, fixing of accountability/responsibility in such matters relating thereto;
- delegate its powers and duties to the Managing Director or to any other Officer of SFC as it may deem necessary;
- give direction that any power exercisable by the Board under the Act shall also be exercisable, as may be specified by it, by Chairman, Managing Director or Whole Time Director.

Also, the State Governments are empowered to give instructions to SFCs on question of policy, in consultation with Small Industries Development Bank of India.

#### **Special Component Plan for STs**

1778. SHRI PRAKASH YASWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the special measures taken by the Government for Scheduled Tribes under the special component plan for STs; and

(b) the total amount allocated for this purpose during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP) is given by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to 21 Tribal Sub-Plan States with the objective of filling the critical gaps in the family-based employment-cum-income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto not only family-based, but also run by the Self-Help Groups (SHGs)/ Community. The ultimate objective of extending SCA to TSP is to boost the demand based income-generation programmes and thus raise the economic and social status of tribals.

(b) During the current financial year, an amount of Rs.497.00 crore has been budgeted for the SCA to TSP.

[Translation]

### Export of Coffee

1779. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the coffee exported during each of the last three years upto June 30, 2003;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the export of coffee during the first quarter of the current year;

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

(d) the long term measures taken by the Government to boost the export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The details of coffee exported during the last three years are given below:-

Year	Qty. Exported in MT	Value realised in Rs. Crore
2000-01	248908	1374.00
2001-02	213586	1050.36
2002-03	201486	1013.09
2003-04 (April-June)	67924*	82.44#

\* Export Permits issued

# On confirmed exports

(b) and (c) The export of coffee in the first quarter of the

current year is estimated at 67924 tonnes as per export permits issued, which is 4% less than the exports of 70883 tonnes, carried out in the first quarter of 2002-03. The main reason for this decline is the lower production of coffee, which fell from 3 lakh tonnes in 2001-02 to 2.75 lakh tonnes during 2002-03.

(d) Coffee Board is implementing a medium-term export strategy, prepared by a private consultant, M/s McKinsey & Co., to sustain and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in the global markets over the next few years. For boosting the exports of coffee, Coffee Board is concentrating on targeted export markets like Italy, USA, Germany, Japan, Russia, etc. The external promotional activities of the Coffee Board include:

- participation in selected International Exhibitions and Trade fairs by exhibiting exportable grades of raw coffee, Indian/instant coffee, charts, blow-ups and distribution of promotional literature on Indian Coffee in different foreign languages. Liquid coffee made out of Indian Coffee is also prepared and served to the visitors through stalls in these exhibitions

- sponsoring trade delegations/inviting roasters' delegations from key target markets to India and organizing buyer-seller meets between Indian exporters and overseas buyers in such markets organizing 'cupping' of Indian coffees by international quality experts to evaluate and propagate the finer attributes of Indian coffee

releasing advertisements highlighting the quality and selectivity of Indian Coffee in important coffee trade journals and magazines with a good circulation in potential markets for Indian Coffee etc.

In addition, the Board has also instituted export excellence awards to encourage the Indian Coffee exporters to produce better coffees and also speciality coffees, which fetch attractive premiums in the world market.

[English]

### Pension Scheme for Unorganised Sector

1780. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA:

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have finalised any new pension scheme for unorganised sector;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;
- (c) whether the Government have consulted the State Governments before its finalisation;
- (d) if so, the response from the State Governments and the ratio of contribution by the State Governments towards pension fund; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) In the Budget 2003-04, Government announced to introduce a new pension scheme applicable to new entrants to Government service, except to the armed forces and upon finalisation, offer a basket of pension choices. The new scheme will also be available on a voluntary basis, to all employers for their employees, as well as to the self-employed. The new pension scheme will be portable, allowing transfer of the benefits in case of change of employment, and will go into 'Individual pension account' with pension funds.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The necessary procedures have been initiated for implementing the new scheme. However, a definite time for the same is not decided.

#### **Pending Murder Cases**

1781. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases relating to murder pending in various courts in the country;
- (b) the duration of pendency of the said cases;
- (c) the reasons for delay in the disposal of these cases;
- (d) whether the Government propose to issue some directions to courts to expedite disposal of these cases; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Statements regarding pendency of cases under Section 366 of Cr.P.C. in the High Courts and under Section 302 IPC in the subordinate judiciary are enclosed as statement-I and statement-II. No such classification of cases is maintained in the Department in respect of Supreme Court.

(c) Pendency of cases, including cases relating to murder, is due to various complex factors. These, inter-alia, include non-filling up of vacancies of judges, inadequate judge strength, delay in investigation, non-production of witnesses, increased institution of cases on account of awareness of the rights on the part of the citizens, enactment of numerous laws, radical change in the pattern of litigation, frequent adjournment of cases, lawyers' strike etc.

(d) and (e) For speedy disposal of cases, the Government have taken the following measures:-

- (i) **Setting up of Fast Track Courts:-** Fast Track Courts have been set up to speed up the trial of delayed cases, and in particular the cases of undertrials who have been in jail for a long time.
- (ii) **Computerisation:-** A pilot project has been started for Networking and Computerisation of City Courts in the four major metro cities of Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai to serve as a model. The project is aimed at augmenting capacities of courts and speeding up their disposal through better court management with the help of information technology.
- (iii) **Facilitation Centres/Enquiry Counter:-** Government have sanctioned funds to States for establishing Facilitation Centres/Enquiry Counters in their respective High Courts under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme along with funds for use of Information Technology in High Courts.
- (iv) **Filling up of vacancies:-** Government have also been constantly reviewing the accumulation of arrears in courts. Besides reviewing and increasing judge strength of High Courts every three years, Government have set up/encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolution including conciliation, mediation and arbitration. State Governments & Union Territories have been requested to fill up vacant posts of judges/magistrates & supporting staff in District/Subordinate Courts.

## Statement-I

*Pendency of cases under Section 366 of Cr.P.C. in the High Courts for confirmation of Death Sentences.*

No.	Name of the High Court	Pendency of cases	As on	Less than 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	More than 10 years
	Allahabad	37	31.3.03	16	20	1	-
	Andhra Pradesh	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
	Bombay	6	31.3.03	6	-	-	-
	Calcutta	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
	Delhi	2	31.12.00	2	-	-	-
	Gawhati	1	30.9.02	-	1	-	-
	Gujarat	1	31.3.03	1	-	-	-
	Himachal Pradesh	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
	Jammu & Kashmir	40	31.12.02	2	18	16	4
1.	Karnataka	-	31.12.02	-	-	-	-
	Kerala	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
2.	Madhya Pradesh	5	31.12.02	4	1	-	-
3.	Madras	1	31.12.03	1	-	-	-
4.	Orissa	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
5.	Patna	1	31.3.03	1	-	-	-
6.	Punjab & Haryana	5	30.8.02	2	3	-	-
7.	Rajasthan	1	31.12.02	1	-	-	-
8.	Sikkim	-	31.3.03	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>

## Statement-II

*State-wise pendency of Murder Cases under Section 302 IPC*

No.	Name of the State/UT	As on	Duration of Pendency					
			No. of cases pending	Less than 6 months	6 to 12 months	1-3 years	3-10 years	Over 10 years
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Andhra Pradesh	12/2002	6109	1041	1242	3181	642	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	N.A.	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	12/2001	2354	488	695	918	253	0
4.	Bihar	6/2002	24165	1661	4577	9016	7204	1707
5.	Chhattisgarh	6/2002	1330	435	436	264	175	20
6.	Goa	12/2002	64	9	11	36	8	0
7.	Gujarat	12/2002	3731	471	510	1513	1148	89
8.	Haryana	12/2002	1395	390	278	553	171	3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12/2002	160	51	38	54	17	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12/1999	2403	846	712	733	78	34
11.	Karnataka	12/2002	4387	1109	959	1654	658	7
12.	Kerala	6/2002	1263	163	273	621	202	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6/2002	9757	1178	1380	2996	3704	499
14.	Maharashtra	12/2002	12264	2934	1693	3376	3712	549
15.	Manipur	12/2000	65	4	8	22	27	4
16.	Meghalaya	12/1999	599	96	63	157	180	103
17.	Mizoram	6/2001	123	18	38	61	6	0
18.	Nagaland	Not received	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Orissa	12/2002	1992	400	449	866	277	0
20.	Punjab	12/2002	1386	293	299	625	167	2
21.	Rajasthan	12/2002	2633	496	451	907	729	50
22.	Sikkim	12/1999	27	7	11	5	4	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	12/2002	4692	1391	1174	1406	604	117
24.	Tripura	12/2002	243	74	102	48	17	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	6/2002	39178	4496	6998	13114	13132	1438
26.	West Bengal	6/2002	4140	1147	992	1096	800	105
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6/2002	45	14	13	16	2	0
28.	Chandigarh	12/2002	55	2	14	30	9	0
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12/2002	13	2	3	5	2	1

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0. Daman & Diu	12/2002	12	5	1	6	0	0	
1. Delhi	12/2002	1292	230	156	556	306	44	
2. Lakshadweep	12/2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3. Pondicherry	12/2002	33	4	11	4	14	0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>125910</b>	<b>19455</b>	<b>23587</b>	<b>43839</b>	<b>342448</b>	<b>4781</b>	

### OTS Scheme in PNB

1782. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab National Bank has given powers to its zonal managers to recover non-performing assets under a new one time settlement scheme;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) whether this scheme is proposed to be introduced in other banks also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO KHOTBAADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A copy of Reserve Bank of India's guidelines on the subject applicable to all Public Sector Banks is enclosed statement.

#### Statement

*Reserve Bank of India*

*Central Office*

*Department of Banking Operations and Development*

*Centre-1, World Trade Centre*

*Cuffe Parade, Colaba Mumbai-400 005*

30D. BP. BC. 65/21.04.117/2002-2003 January 29, 2003

Chairmen and Managing Directors  
of all Public Sector Banks

Dear Sir,

Revised guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of public sector banks

Please refer to our circular DBOD.BP.BC.11/21.01.040/99-00, dated 27th July, 2000, setting out the guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic NPAs up to Rs.5.00 crore.

2. A review of compromise settlements of NPAs through the above Scheme has revealed that the progress of recovery of NPAs through this mechanism has been moderate. In consultation with Government of India, it has been decided to give one more opportunity to the borrowers to come forward for settlement of their outstanding dues. Hence fresh guidelines are now issued, which will provide a simplified, non-discretionary and non-discriminatory mechanism for compromise settlement of chronic NPAs below the prescribed value ceiling. All public sector banks should uniformly implement these guidelines, so that maximum realisation of dues is achieved from the stock of NPAs within the stipulated time.

3. The revised guidelines will cover NPAs (below the prescribed ceiling) relating to all sectors including the small sector. The guidelines will not, however, cover cases of wilful default, fraud and malfeasance. The banks should identify cases of wilful default, fraud and malfeasance and initiate prompt action against them. Accordingly, in modification of guidelines set out in our Circular of 27th July 2000, revised guidelines for compromise settlement of dues relating to NPAs of public sector banks in all sectors are given below:

(A) Guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic NPAs up to Rs. 10.00 crore

(I) Coverage

(a) The revised guidelines will cover all NPAs in all sectors irrespective of the nature of business, which have become doubtful or loss as on 31st March, 2000 with outstanding balance of Rs. 10,00 crore and below on the cut off date.

(b) The guidelines will also cover NPAs classified as sub-standard as on 31st March 2000, which have subsequently become doubtful or loss.

(c) These guidelines will cover cases on which the banks have initiated action under the Securitisation and

Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and also cases pending before Courts / DRTs / BIFR, subject to consent decree being obtained from the Courts / DRTs / BIFR.

- (d) Cases of wilful default, fraud and malfeasance will not be covered.
- (e) The last date for receipt of applications from borrowers would be as at the close of business on 30th April 2003. The processing under the revised guidelines should be completed by 31st October 2003.
- (II) Settlement Formula - amount and cut off date
- (a) NPAs classified as Doubtful or Loss as on 31st March 2000

The minimum amount that should be recovered under the revised guidelines in respect of compromise settlement of NPAs classified as doubtful or loss as on 31st March 2000 would be 100% of the outstanding balance in the account as on the date of transfer to the protested bills account or the amount outstanding as on the date on which the account was categorised as doubtful NPAs, whichever happened earlier, as the case may be.

- (b) NPAs classified as sub-standard as on 31st March 2000 which became doubtful or loss subsequently

The minimum amount that should be recovered in respect of NPAs classified as sub-standard as on 31st March 2000 which become doubtful or loss subsequently would be 100% of the outstanding balance in the account as on the date of transfer to the protested bills account or the amount as on the date on which the account was categorised as doubtful NPAs, whichever happened earlier, as the case may be, plus interest at existing Prime Lending Rate from 1st April 2000 till the date of final payment.

(III) Payment

The amount of settlement arrived at in both the above cases should preferably be paid in one lump sum. In cases where the borrowers are unable to pay the entire amount in one lump sum, at least 25% of the amount of settlement should be paid upfront and the balance amount of 75% should be recovered in instalments within a period, of one year together with interest at the existing Prime Lending Rate from the date of settlement up to the date of final payment.

[IV] Sanctioning Authority

The decision on the compromise settlement and consequent sanction of waiver or remission or write-off should be taken by the competent authority under the delegated powers.

[V] Non-discretionary treatment

The banks should follow the above guidelines for compromise settlement of all NPAs covered under the revised scheme without discrimination and a monthly report on the progress and details of settlements should be submitted by the concerned authority to the next higher authority and their central Office. Banks should go for wide publicity and also give notice by 28th February 2003 to the eligible defaulting borrowers to avail of the opportunity for one time settlement of their outstanding dues in terms of these guidelines. Adequate publicity to these guidelines through various means must be ensured.

[VI] Reporting to the Board

The banks should submit a report on the progress of the compromise settlement of chronic NPAs under the revised guidelines every quarter to the Board of Directors. A copy of the quarterly progress report should also be sent to us.

(B) Guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic NPA over Rs. 10.00 crore

As already advised in our earlier circular dated 27th July 2000, CMDs should personally supervise the compromise settlement of chronic NPAs on case to case basis, and the Board of Directors may evolve policy guidelines regarding one time settlement of NPAs covered under this circular as a part of their loan recovery policy.

4. Deviation only by Board of Directors

Any deviation from the above settlement guidelines in any borrower should be made only by the Board of Directors.

5. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully

(C.R. Muralidharan)  
Chief General Manager



**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA**

Central Office

Department of Banking Operations and Development

Centre-1, World Trade Centre

Cuffe Parade, Colaba Mumbai-400 005

DBOD. BP. BC. 108/21.04.117/2002-2003 May 23, 2003

Chairmen and Managing Directors  
of all Public Sector Banks

Dear Sir,

**Revised guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic  
Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of public sector banks**

Please refer to our circular DBOD No. BP.BC. 65/21.04.117 / 2002-2003 dated January 29, 2003 setting out the guidelines for compromise settlements of chronic NPAs up to Rs. 10.00 crore. In terms of paragraph 3 (A) (i) (e) thereof, the last date for receipt of applications from borrowers was as at the close of business on April 30, 2003. The processing under the revised guidelines was required to be completed by October, 31, 2003

2. The Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India have received requests from banks for extending the time limit for operation of the guidelines. In view of the above, it has been decided, in consultation with the Government of India, to extend the time period for receipt of applications under the OTS Scheme from April 30, 2003 to September 30, 2003 and date of processing applications from October 31, 2003 to December 31, 2003.
3. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/-  
(Dr N. Krishnamohan)  
General Manager

**Procurement of Foodgrains**

1783. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for procurement of foodgrains and the actual quantum of foodgrains procured during each of last three years and the current year in each State with their locations;

(b) whether there has been a shortfall in procurement during the above period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No targets for procurement of foodgrains are fixed by the Government. The quantities of wheat and rice procured State-wise alongwith the number of purchase centers opened by the FCI and State Government Agencies during the last three years are enclosed as statement-I and II. The location of procurement centers is decided by the State Governments keeping in view the potential for procurement in these areas.

(b) and (c) The procurement of foodgrains has declined during the current Kharif/Rabi Marketing Season due to a number of factors viz. drought conditions in most of the paddy producing States, fall in production of foodgrains and open market prices ruling at par or higher than the Minimum Support Prices.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise procurement of Rice and Number of Paddy Purchase Centres Opened the FCI and State Governments Agencies during Kharif Marketing Seasons 1999-2000 to 2002-2003*

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State/UTs	1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03*	
	Rice	No. of Purchase Centres	Rice	No. of Purchase Centres	Rice	No. of Purchase Centres	Rice	No. of Purchase Centres
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	5498	172	7174	405	6425	455	2532	325
Assam	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA
Bihar	-	153	19	552	89	783	158	927

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	15	-	16	-	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	-	-	857	-	1922	2226	1214	1443
Delhi	6	4	-	4	-	2	-	2
Haryana	987	244	1481	224	1484	231	1325	220
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1	2	11	4	7	4
Karnataka	111	100	230	31	137	9	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	1104	2177	176	2155	273	428	159	301
Maharashtra	51	255	34	255	129	823	128	748
Orissa	889	42	918		1253	-	733	20
Pondicherry	9	4	40	4	11	-	-	2
Punjab	6815	1452	6963	1587	7282	1653	7939	1463
Rajasthan	32	12	26	12	39	12	40	12
Tamil Nadu	919	-	1695	-	852	-	107	347
Uttar Pradesh	1422	1320	1174	1400	1936	1605	1360	1155
Uttaranchal	-	-	42	-	235	52	232	50
West Bengal	351	-	434	-	48	-	103	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>18229</b>	<b>5935</b>	<b>21280</b>	<b>6631</b>	<b>22126</b>	<b>8597</b>	<b>16036</b>	<b>7130</b>

\* Position as on 23.7.2003.

**Statement-II**

*State-wise procurement of Wheat and number of wheat purchase centres opened by the FCI and State Government Agencies during Rabi marketing seasons 2000-2001 to 2003-2004*

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State/UTs	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04*	
	Wheat	No. of Purchase centres	Wheat	No. of Purchase centres	Wheat	No. of Purchase centres	Wheat	No. of Purchase centres
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bihar	-	26	43	37	41	797	1	923
Chandigarh	-	-	12	-	16	-	Neg.	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	32	Neg.	-
Delhi	-	2	50	2	35	2	12	2
Haryana	4498	380	6407	370	5888	338	5122	340
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	2	2	2	4	1	4
Madhya Pradesh	351	1035	294	897	424	895	188	930
Punjab	9424	1548	10560	1584	9863	1652	8938	1520
Rajasthan	539	140	676	144	461	100	259	60
Uttar Pradesh	1545	4708	2446	4390	2111	4390	1213	4222
Uttaranchal	-	-	140	190	183	204	67	202
Total	16357	7839	20630	7616	19024	8414	15801	8203

\* Position as on 23.7.2003

### Export of Spices

1784. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of spices in terms of quantity and value made during each of the last three years, commodity-wise;

(b) whether the export of certain spices has gone down substantially during the last two years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) While the total exports of spices from India have increased during last two years, export of certain items of spices have come down, as the annexed statement would show.

(c) Major reasons for decline in exports of spices include emergence of new producers of spices, and more competitive prices being offered by them.

(d) It is the constant endeavour of Government to increase export of spices. Some of the steps taken, through the Spices Board, include adoption of high-tech processes and technology upgradation for value addition; promotion of Indian spices in major markets through market studies, product development, market promotion; support to organic spice farming, integrated pest and diseases management, better post harvest improvement programme, research programmes etc.

### Statement

Quantity in Tonnes; Value in Rs. Crores

Spice	2000-01		2001-02(E)		2002-03(E)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pepper	21,830	380.82	24,000	211.93	20,000	166.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cardamom (Small)	1,545	84.68	900	55.86	550	37.60
Cardamom (Large)	1,506	24.51	1,250	20.38	1,300	18.48
Chilli	62,448	229.73	75,000	255.84	83,000	301.55
Ginger	6,288	26.82	8,000	25.04	8,500	24.09
Turmeric	44,627	115.58	35,000	84.63	32,000	99.38
Coriander	12,480	37.36	15,000	45.05	15,500	47.85
Cumin	18,891	178.35	14,000	123.35	10,000	76.15
Celery	4,565	14.11	4,500	13.57	4,250	13.46
Fennel	4,417	18.82	4,000	16.28	4,200	16.67
Fenugreek	9,353	19.78	6,000	15.10	11,250	25.00
Other seeds (1)	3,708	14.31	5,000	17.67	12,250	29.24
Garlic	11,087	12.75	1,100	3.87	1,250	5.71
Nutmeg & Mace	856	16.30	1,350	19.90	1,400	26.35
Vanilla	22	5.05	27	17.51	25	22.26
Other Spices (2)	18,408	62.86	35,623	144.79	25,975	110.89
Curry Powder	5,841	43.00	6,250	40.48	6,750	46.40
Mint Oil	4,185	154.98	3,600	127.64	8,500	360.56
Spice Oleoresns & other oils	3,860	393.71	4,400	386.48	4,250	362.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>235,916</b>	<b>1833.53</b>	<b>245,000</b>	<b>1625.35</b>	<b>250,950</b>	<b>1790.00</b>
<b>Value in Million US\$</b>		<b>400.51</b>		<b>341.60</b>		<b>370.10</b>

(1)Include Aniseed, Bishops weed (Ajwainseed), Dillseed, Poppyseed, Mustard etc.

(2)Include Tamarind, Asafoetida, Cinnamon, Cassia, Saffron etc.

Source: Spices Board (E) Estimated

### Profit/Loss of RRBs

1785. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA:

SHRI A. P. ABDULLAKUTTY:

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:

SHRI R. S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss of each Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the last three years;

(b) whether most of the RRBs are running in losses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of requests from various States for

setting up new RRBs and action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) whether due to severe discrepancies in RRBs farmers and other sectors are not getting benefits of the banks; and

(f) if so, the effective remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard and also to improve the performance of the RRBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Details of Profit earned/loss incurred by Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the last three years are furnished in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) As on 31st March, 2002 only 29 out of 196 RRBs were running in loss.

(d) No proposal of State Governments for setting up new RRBs is pending for decision of Central Government.

(e) and (f) The loans and advances issued by RRBs increased from Rs. 8823 crore during 2000-2001 to Rs. 10578 crores during 2001-02. The steady growth in loans and advances during the previous years reveal that farmers and

other sectors are getting the benefit of the RRBs consistently. There are systems and procedures in place to look into discrepancies, if any, in sanction of loans, etc. and to take corrective measures. Further the following steps have been taken for improving the performance of the RRBs:-

- (i) Introduction of Development Action Plan and Memoranda of Understanding on an annual basis for bringing improvement in the performance of the RRBs in a planned way and introduction of prudential norms covering income recognition, assets classification and provisioning norms;
- (ii) diversification of business portfolios and activities;
- (iii) increased avenues for investment of surplus Non-SLR funds;
- (iv) rationalization of branch network including relocation and merger of loss making branches;
- (v) deregulation of interest rate structure; and
- (vi) providing greater role for the sponsor banks in the management of RRBs;
- (vii) skill upgradation of RRB employees.

#### Statement

*Profit/Loss of each Regional Rural Bank (State-wise) during the years 1999-00, 2000-01 and 2001-02*

		(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sl. No.	Name of Regional Rural Banks	Profit/Loss 2000	Profit/Loss 2001	Profit/Loss 2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank	149.87	362.01	365.38
2.	Gurgaon Gramin Bank	1507.36	2208.64	2906.8
3.	Hissar-Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank	258.03	352.72	323.47
4.	Ambala Kurukshetra Gramin Bank	176.27	180.4	181.36
	<b>Haryana</b>	2091.53	3103.77	3777.01
5.	Himachal Gramin Bank	404.14	404.14	404.14
6.	Parvatiya Gramin Bank	160.53	160.53	160.53
	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	564.67	564.67	564.67
7.	Jammu Rural Bank	531.81	762.1	868.47

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Ellaqui Dehati Bank	-493.31	-636.61	-618.62
9.	Kamraz Rural Bank	-253.63	3.61	87.06
	<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	-215.13	129.1	336.91
10.	Shivalik Kshetriya	504.25	544.98	751.02
11.	Kapurthala Ferozpur Gramin Bank	141.32	225.46	504.72
12.	Gurdaspur Amritsar Kshetriya Gramin Vikas Bank	491.4	862.01	1076.65
13.	Malwa Gramin Bank	401.99	508.89	415.94
14.	Faridkot Bathinda Gramin Bank	169.61	185.35	176.32
	<b>Punjab</b>	1708.57	2326.69	2924.65
15.	Jaipur Nagaur Anchalik Gramin Bank	828.32	536.71	436.46
16.	Marwar Gramin Bank	268.38	262.18	390.14
17.	Shekhawati Kshetriya Gramin Bank	255.9	642.44	890.49
18.	Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-281.18	-447.96	-370.06
19.	Alwar Bharatpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	107.54	413.1	702.62
20.	Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-329.8	-473.27	-65.47
21.	Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank	197.05	201.35	113.58
22.	Mewar Anchalik Gramin Bank	101.83	-60.32	2.54
23.	Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank	-121.66	4.94	57.86
24.	Bundi Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	49.11	77.17	69.48
25.	Bhilwara Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank	270.97	218.3	261.14
26.	Dungarpur Banswara Gramin Bank	6.39	4.34	9.12
27.	Sriganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	93.42	143.64	82.39
28.	Bikaner Kshetriya Gramin Bank	4.03	10.62	28.55
	<b>Rajasthan</b>	1446.27	1522.62	2580.29
29.	Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank	55.05	-179.28	-835.94
	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	55.05	-179.28	-835.94
30.	Pragiyotish Gramin Bank	170.38	7.83	55.16
31.	Lakhimi Gaonlia Bank	143.53	375.36	67.48

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Cachar Gramin Bank	132.65	191.55	179.58
33.	Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank	-83.45	-182.86	-99.89
34.	Subansiri Gaonlia Bank	74.27	87.81	93.21
	<b>Assam</b>	437.38	499.89	295.54
35.	Manipur Rural Bank	-47.81	-32.04	-116.07
	<b>Manipur</b>	-47.81	-32.04	-116.07
36.	Khasi Jaintia Rural Bank	344.4	262.61	387.27
	<b>Meghalaya</b>	344.4	262.61	387.27
37.	Mizoram Rural Bank	34.41	20.27	34.32
	<b>Mizoram</b>	34.41	20.27	34.32
38.	Nagaland Rural Bank	7.24	9.14	2.38
	<b>Nagaland</b>	7.24	9.14	2.38
39.	Tripura Gramin Bank	-669.43	-818.78	25.96
	<b>Tripura</b>	-669.43	-818.78	25.96
40.	Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank	431.24	1017.5	1172.75
41.	Champanan Gramin Bank	-598.07	-496.69	16.97
42.	Magadh Gramin Bank	623.79	1408.01	1884.8
43.	Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-433.66	252.45	556.67
44.	Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-320.66	20.79	-160.85
45.	Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-70.64	-281.1	-56.12
46.	Madhubani Kshetriya Gramin Bank	172.53	20.23	-228.88
47.	Nalanda Gramin Bank	-487.58	-228	-78.44
48.	Mithila Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-358.17	101.61	104.32
49.	Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	6.06	130.59	-138.77
50.	Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-262.29	450.06	411.17
51.	Saran Kshetriya Gramin Bank	200.12	-34.74	6.59
52.	Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank	67.03	422.03	612.1
53.	Pattiputra Gramin Bank	-176.32	70.83	187.34

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Bhagalpur Banka Kshetriya Gramin Bank	449.41	82.96	2.11
55.	Begusarai Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-164	215.66	123.8
	<b>Bihar</b>	-919.19	3154.19	4417.56
56.	Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank	607.25	174.51	-69.7
57.	Singhbhum Kshetriya Gramin Bank	63.76	125.69	45.38
58.	Palamau Kshetriya Gramin Bank	262.61	139.58	59.47
59.	Ranchi Kshetriya Gramin Bank	70.4	-137.47	-336.86
60.	Giridih Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-120.74	59.77	161.96
61.	Hazaribagh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	47.39	312.83	189.4
	<b>Jharkhand</b>	930.67	674.91	49.65
62.	Puri Gramin Bank	19.33	-148.86	17.96
63.	Bolangir Ahcnalik Gramin Bank	-1405.46	-708.29	-828.95
64.	Cuttack Gramya Bank	-209.36	-209.5	-998.89
65.	Korapur Panchabati Gramin Bank	102.19	178	-399.9
66.	Kalahandi Anchalik Gramin Bank	28.05	17.25	-805.61
67.	Baitarani Gramin Bank	-164.75	102.98	14.4
68.	Balasore Gramin Bank	-833.5	-926.34	-1056.76
69.	Rushikulya Gramin Bank	132.73	305.8	308.76
70.	Dhenkanal Gramin Bank	180.44	280.57	300.58
	<b>Orissa</b>	-2150.33	-1108.39	-3248.41
71.	Gaur Gramin Bank	-831.99	109.75	411.85
72.	Mallabhum Gramin Bank	44.33	266.33	240.78
73.	Mayurakshi Gramin Bank	-493.67	155.35	125.13
74.	Uttar Banga Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-331.38	64.42	104.06
75.	Nadia Gramin Bank	179.5	183.87	107.04
76.	Sagar Gramin Bank	149.72	503.16	512.48
77.	Bardhaman Gramin Bank	100.2	68.04	323.48
78.	Howrah Gramin Bank	29.59	121.53	298.98



1	2	3	4	5
79.	Howrah Gramin Bank	27.78	55.81	121.59
	<b>West Bengal</b>			
80.	Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	18.54	-230.55	-213.75
81.	Surguja Kshetriya Gramin Bank	18.54	61.35	30.77
82.	Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	217.36	-437.06	-414.11
83.	Durg-Rajnandgaon Gramin Bank	58.02	151.68	164.29
84.	Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	115.37	176.93	110.3
	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	427.83	14.25	-77.98
85.	Kshetriya Gramin Bank Hoshangabad	-75.38	206.17	220.51
86.	Rewa-Sidhi Gramin Bank	-445.6	658.79	408.39
87.	Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank	221.48	250.45	178.92
88.	Sharda Gramin Bank	-180.06	230.65	128.25
89.	Jhabua-Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	79.28	-92.16	61.75
90.	Shivpuri-Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank	95.01	123.41	201.21
91.	Damoh-Panna-Sagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	127.89	263.34	268.96
92.	Dewas-Shajapur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	114.9	160.25	261.9
93.	Nimar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	40.56	-20.13	-2.86
94.	Mandla-Balaghat Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-87.57	21.11	90.42
95.	Chhindwara-Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank	7.78	28.88	83.41
96.	Raigarh-Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank	21.82	41.58	78.96
97.	Shahdol Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-156.18	-78.28	21.14
98.	Ratlam-Mandsaur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	100.03	117.84	171.27
99.	Chambal Kshetriya Gramin Bank	51.35	103.53	141.04
100.	Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-240.26	-189.84	-284.41
101.	Indore-Ujjain Kshetriya Gramin Bank	109.68	1.5	-23.53
102.	Gwalior-Datia Kshetriya Gramin Bank	61.11	150.74	191.23
103.	Vidisha-Bhopal Kshetriya Gramin Bank	191.23	289.53	293.4
	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	37.07	2269.36	2489.96

1	2	3	4	5
104.	Nainital-Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank	2161.83	396.76	365.52
105.	Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	2669.59	217.15	204.84
106.	Ganga-Yamuna Gramin Bank	1143.59	90.67	105.49
107.	Alaknanda Gramin Bank	466.54	139.42	86.84
	<b>Uttaranchal</b>	<b>6441.55</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>762.69</b>
108.	Prathama Bank	356.57	2617.03	2669.1
109.	Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	621.32	2860.11	2879.92
110.	Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1622.19	1979.66	2011.49
111.	Barabani Gramin Bank	533.58	506.24	518.6
112.	Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank	381.22	347.55	404.43
113.	Farrukhabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	726.1	621.92	300.85
114.	Bhagirath Gramin Bank	569.48	1930.08	1766.33
115.	Ballia Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1234.23	611.36	682.59
116.	Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	210.17	145.79	162.73
117.	Avadh Gramin Bank	76.12	1032.6	760.72
118.	Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	-170.69	335.42	692.87
119.	Sravasti Gramin Bank	262.93	966.3	643.87
120.	Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1265.32	314.26	87.34
121.	Kisan Gramin Bank	265.07	202.82	317.43
122.	Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank	212.09	-296.64	-101.73
123.	Kashi Gramin Bank	428.91	580.41	908.68
124.	Basti Gramin Bank	70.59	1040.57	1209.78
125.	Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	503.82	405.14	491.89
126.	Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	708.79	399.29	515.52
127.	Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	866.45	590.39	626.7
128.	Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	357.31	132.63	143.29
129.	Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank	252.42	510.56	539.05
130.	Devi Patan Kshetriya Gramin Bank	275.07	697.74	754.57

1	2	3	4	5
131.	Aligarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	179.39	1168.63	1221.29
132.	Tulsi Gramin Bank	-462.45	580.28	425.42
133.	Etah Gramin Bank	281.16	221.46	95.61
134.	Gomti Gramin Bank	568.23	393.59	641.29
135.	Chhatrsal Gramin Bank	354.43	256.66	281.73
136.	Rani Lakshmi Bai Kshetriya Gramin Bank	187.14	-239.09	-273.87
137.	Vidur Gramin Bank	593.69	332.69	501.71
138.	Shahjahanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	179.09	728.14	768.25
139.	Vindhyavasini Gramin Bank	113.27	51.9	63.62
140.	Sarayu Gramin Bank	287.42	754.3	907.72
141.	Jamuna Gramin Bank	68.92	190.19	300.23
142.	Muzaffarnagar Gramin Bank	116.71	136.39	311.11
143.	Hindon Gramin Bank	110.11	202.58	155.47
	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	14096.06	23106.37	24229.45
144.	Kutch Gramin Bank	274.84	359.25	585.33
145.	Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank	301.49	465	339.46
146.	Banaskantha-Mehasana Gramin Bank	36.73	181.59	65.27
147.	Panchmahal Vadodara Gramin Bank	119	104.75	109.47
148.	Surendranagar-Bhavnagar Gramin Bank	231.18	203.2	288.42
149.	Valsad-Dangs Gramin Bank	279.02	331.47	423.6
150.	Surat-Bharuch Gramin Bank	1.22	42.95	-156.73
151.	Sabarkantha-Gandhinagar Gramin Bank	209.75	216.09	247.01
152.	Junagadh-Amreli Gramin Bank	197.62	209.79	154.87
	<b>Gujarat</b>	1650.85	2114.09	2056.7
153.	Marathwada Gramin Bank	201.25	50.79	5.18
154.	Aurangabad-Jalna Gramin Bank	533.2	455.29	502.35
155.	Chandrapur-Gadchiroli Gramin Bank	37.03	73.15	101.97
156.	Akola Gramin Bank	47.27	132.62	159.68

1	2	3	4	5
157.	Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Gramin Bank	10.59	57.31	-135.48
158.	Solapur Gramin Bank	24.78	37.33	10.86
159.	Bhandara Gramin Bank	2.16	-24.11	-215.48
160.	Yavatmal Gramin Bank	108.91	153.6	160.94
161.	Buldhana Gramin Bank	117.72	124.57	196.85
162.	Thand Gramin Bank	143.25	205.24	162.68
	<b>Maharashtra</b>	1176.6	1265.79	949.55
163.	Nagarjuna Gramin Bank	298.28	378.04	101.3
164.	Rayalseema Grameena Bank	995.94	1102.41	1556.8
165.	Sri Visakha Grameena Bank	366.35	502.54	632.07
166.	Sree Anantha Grameena Bank	918.08	1035.4	1112.86
167.	Shri Venkateshwara Grameena Bank	385.73	548.73	256.82
168.	Sri Saraswathi Grameena Bank	418.47	259.11	422.74
169.	Sangameshwra Grameena Bank	483.51	724.75	545.87
170.	Manjira Grameena Bank	551.22	612.4	621.64
171.	Pinakini Grameena Bank	512.93	810.55	312.66
172.	Kakathiya Grameena Bank	116.72	128.88	-319.66
173.	Chaitanya Grameena Bank	226.16	165.89	301.45
174.	Shri Sathavahana Grameena Bank	208.57	165.16	104.63
175.	Golconda Grameena Bank	228.11	182.12	179.77
176.	Sri Rama Grameena Bank	263.04	181.23	204.97
177.	Kanakadurga Grameena Bank	228.31	196.6	189.92
178.	Godavari Grameena Bank	159.05	86.52	68.18
	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	6360.47	7080.33	6292.02
179.	Tunghabhadra Gramin Bank	1330	1603	1610
180.	Malaprabha Gramin Bank	1848.42	1579.51	920.26
181.	Cauvery Gramin Bank	202.11	197.42	665.5
182.	Krishna Gramin Bank	613.62	963.87	422.55

1	2	3	4	5
183.	Chitradurga Gramin Bank	122.06	382.8	543.81
184.	Kalpatharu Gramin Bank	261.2	500.05	279.91
185.	Kolar Gramin Bank	310.6	387.58	493.72
186.	Bijapur Gramin Bank	902.48	1187.69	1258.36
187.	Chikmagalur Kodagu Gramin Bank	301.75	176.88	134.43
188.	Sahyadri Gramin Bank	235.69	252.03	262.72
189.	Netravati Gramin Bank	50.25	83.27	109.51
190.	Varada Gramin Bank	132.55	64.15	205.26
191.	Vishwaraya Gramin Bank	81.25	100.86	145.55
	<b>Karnataka</b>	6391.98	7479.11	7051.58
192.	South Malabar Gramin Bank	1278.47	1474.58	1193.33
193.	North Malabar Gramin Bank	1555.36	1785.43	905.16
	<b>Kerala</b>	2833.83	3260.01	2098.49
194.	Pandyan Grama Bank	442.31	515.74	815.91
195.	Adhiyaman Grama Bank	169.05	186.75	253.61
196.	Vallalar Grama Bank	202.29	215.35	177.16
	<b>Total</b>	813.65	917.84	1246.68
	<b>Grand Total</b>	42968.7	60061.69	60787.21

**Notification of IRDA**

1786. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Confederation of General Insurance Officers Association has protested against the notification issued by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority dispensing with the facility of a discount of five per cent in lieu of Commission (brokerage) on business placed directly by non-public sector clients with insurance companies;

(b) if so, the objections raised by the Confederation; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority (IRDA) have reported that based on the feedback received by them from insurers, insured and others, the Authority has issued a Notification on 16th July, 2003 keeping in abeyance the earlier Notification issued by the IRDA dispensing with the facility of a discount of 5% in lieu of commission (brokerage) on business placed directly by non public sector clients.

**FDI projects in Karnataka**

1787. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major projects which are being implemented with foreign direct investments in the State of Karnataka at present;

(b) the amount of FDI involved in each of these projects;

(c) whether there is any proposal to approve more projects in Karnataka for foreign direct investments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the target fixed in this regard for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR

RAO): (a) and (b) A statement showing the approved foreign direct investment (FDI) projects involving foreign direct investment of Rs.100 crores or more in the State of Karnataka is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The location of the projects is left to commercial considerations of the investor. Government has put in place a liberal and transparent FDI policy wherein many sectors are open to FDI upto 100% on the automatic approval route. Cases requiring Government approval are considered in a time-bound manner. No targets for FDI are fixed.

### Statement

*FDI projects involving FDI of Rs. 100 crs. and above*

S.No.	Name of the Company	Sector	Foreign Equity (in Rs. Lakh)	Collaborator	Country
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	America Online Inc.	Telecommunications	46000	America Online Inc., Virginia	USA
2.	Bellary Steel & Alloys Limited	Ferrous	10480	Visa Ltd.	UK
3.	BPL US West Cellular Telecommunications	Cellular Mobile/Basic Telephone Service	27518	US West Cellular Investments Company	Mauritius
4.	Britannia New Zealand Foods Pvt. Ltd.	Food Products	10488	Fonterra Cooperative Group Ltd. New Zealand	New Zealand
5.	Delphi Automotice Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Automobile Industry	45000	General Motors Corporation	USA
6.	General Motors Corporation	Automobile Industry	11260	General Motors Corporation	USA
7.	IBM Global Services India Pvt. Ltd.	Design & Eng. Services	10500	IBM World Trade Corporation, USA	USA
8.	Information Technology Park Ltd.	Non-Financial Services	14000	Information Technology Park Investment	Singapore
9.	Jindal Tractebel Power Co. Limited	Power	14500	Tractebel S.A.	Belgium
10.	Lifestyle International Limited	Trading (Activities)	10000	Life Style International Pvt. Ltd. (OCB)	NRI
11.	Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited	Oil Refinery	67100	Overseas Foreign Investors	Euro Issues (GDR)
12.	Praxair India Pvt. Ltd.	Chemicals (Other than fertilizers)	20000	Praxair Air Pacific Ltd.	Mauritius
13.	State Bank of India	Financial	175000	Euro Issue	Euro Issues (GDR)

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Tanir Bavi Power Company	Power	10000	Chicago Power Inc.	USA
15.	Tanvir Bavi Power Company	Power	25650	M/s. Tanir Bavi Power Company Ltd.	Mauritius
16.	TATA Lucent Technologies Limited	Telecommunications	14920	Lucent International Inc.,	USA
17.	TMT (India) Limited	Floriculture	16000	Agro Adviesburo	Netherlands
18.	Toyota Kirloskar Motor	Automobile Industry	44400	Toyota Motor Corporation	Japan
19.	Toyota Kirloskar Motor Ltd.	Automobile Industry	52200	Toyota Motor Corporation	Japan
20.	Toyota Kirloskar Motor Co. Ltd.	Automobile Industry	62200	Toyota Motor Corporation	Japan
21.	Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd.	Passenger Cars	10000	Toyota Motor Corporation	Japan
22.	Usha Iron & Ferro Metals Corporation Limited	Ferrous	50000	Ferro Stal Aktieng Esellschaft	Germany
23.	Volvo India Ltd.	Automobile Industry	27280	Volvo Truck Corporation	Sweden
24.	Wipro Limited	Computer Software Industry	279500	GDR/ADR	Euro Issues (GDR)
25.	Biwater International Ltd.	Construction Activities	42000	Biwater International Ltd. UK	UK
26.	Eaton Corporation	Others (Transport)	12750	Eaton Corporation, USA	USA
27.	Eurokapital Aktiengesellschaft	Power	15902	Eurokapital AG	Germany
28.	Indiainfo.com Private Limited	Computer Software Industry	70950	ADR Issues	Euro Issues (GDR)
29.	Kalyani Coke and Cogeneration Private Limited	Power	33000	M/s. Tenaska International Energy Ltd.	Mauritius
30.	Protel India Pvt. Ltd.	Cellular Mobile/Basic Telephone Service	15680	Compagnie Internatinal DU Radiotelephone (C.I.)	France
31.	Smith Cogeneration (India) Private Limited	Power	20520	Smith Cogeneration International Inc.	USA
32.	Tractebel Energy South Asia Pvt. Ltd.	Oil Refinery (Other)	311600	Tractebel S A. & Tractebel Powerfin PLC.	Belgium
33.	Candia Energy System Pvt. Ltd.	Power	17500	Universal Water & Power Limited	NRI
34.	Eurokapital Akitengesell Schaft	Power	12588	Eurokapital Akitengesell Schaft	Germany

1	2	3	4	5	6
35.	Independent Power Corporation	Power	11700	Independent Power Corporation	USA
36.	Nippon Denso Ispat Limited	Oil Refinery	67500	Ispat Group Overseas Companies	NRI
37.	Pulakeshi Power Company Pvt. Ltd.	Power	13200	NRI Capital Corpn.	USA
38.	Congentrix Development Company	Power	27450	Congentrix Development Company	USA
39.	Coastal Power Company	Power	11200	Coastal Power Company	USA
40.	Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts Pvt. Ltd.	Automobile Industry	30375	Toyota Motor Corporation	Japan
41.	Scottish & Newcastle PLC.	Fermentation	79000	Scottish & Newcastle PLC (S&N)	UK
42.	China Construction (South Pacific) Development Co. PTE. Ltd.	Construction Activities	10000	I.R.E. Corporation Ltd. Singapore	Singapore
43.	Kirloskar Toyoda Textile Machinery Ltd.	Industrial Machinery	19977	Toyoda Automatic Loom Works Ltd.	Japan
44.	The Vysya Bank Ltd.	Hospital & Diagnostic Centres	34081.07	Bank Brussels Lambert	Belgium

### National Multi-Commodities Exchange

1788. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have set up a "National Multi-Commodities Exchange" to give momentum to forward/future trading;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Exchange has become operational; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the commodities identified/selected for trading in the proposed Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The Government has given approval for setting up four National-wide Multi Commodity Exchanges in the corporate sector out of which the National Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd.,

(NMCEIL) Ahmedabad has been given final recognition and three others viz. the National Board of Trade (NBOT), Indore, the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Ltd. (NCDEX), Mumbai and the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), Mumbai have been given in principle approval to complete the procedural formalities. The Exchanges are promoted by private and public sector corporate bodies. Government gives approval/recognition since these Exchanges are regulated under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. The NMCEIL, Ahmedabad started operations in November, 2002 trading in 47 items comprising the edible oil block, aluminium, nickel, sugar, rubber, gur, pepper, lead, copper, tin, zinc, gram, guarseed and sacking. The other three Exchanges are in the process of completing necessary infrastructural and statutory formalities, though the Exchange at Indore is already operating with large trading, as a regional Exchange. Once they complete the formalities they will be applying for permission for trading in specific commodities.

[Translation]

### National Judicial Commission

1789. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:



SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have recently decided to set up the National Judicial Commission;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the composition, terms and conditions of the said commission; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Constitution (Ninety-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2003 has already been introduced in the Parliament on May 9, 2003 for the setting up of National Judicial Commission. The Bill provides that the said Commission would consist of:

- (i) the Chief Justice of India - Chairman;
- (ii) two other Judges of the Supreme Court next to the Chief Justice of India in seniority;
- (iii) the Union Minister-in-Charge of Law and Justice;
- (iv) one eminent citizen to be nominated by the President in consultation with the Prime Minister for a period of three years;

2. The proposed Commission shall:

- (i) make recommendations of persons for appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts;
- (ii) make recommendations for the transfer of Chief Justices of High Courts and the Judges of the High Courts from one High Court to any other High Court;
- (iii) draw up a Code of Ethics for Judges of the

Supreme Court, Chief Justices of High Courts and the Judges of the High Courts;

- (iv) inquire into, suo-moto or on a complaint or reference, cases of misconduct or such deviant behaviour of a Judge other than those calling for his removal and advise the Chief Justice of India or the Chief Justice of a High Court appropriately after such inquiry.

[English]

#### FDI Proposal of Jammu and Kashmir

1790. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has submitted several proposals to the Union Government for Foreign Direct Investments in the State during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Union Government's decision thereto; and
- (c) the details of the FDIs made in the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has not received any Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposal from the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) During January 2000 to May 2003, no FIPB approval has been granted for the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

[Translation]

#### Restrictions on Import of Shrimps

1791. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI C. N. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the American Government has recently imposed a ban on the import of Indian shrimps;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to get this ban lifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) There has been no recent ban on import of Indian Shrimp by the USA. However, on the ground that trawling for shrimp by mechanized means would adversely affect certain varieties of sea turtles, the USA imposed a ban in 1996 on the import of shrimp from such countries, including India, which are not certified to be Turtle Excluder Device (TED) compliant. The ban is continued even today and India's efforts before Disputes Settlement Body of World Trade Organization to get the USA to withdraw the restriction have not succeeded. However, exports to USA of shrimps of aquaculture origin, and shrimp caught by non-mechanized means are continuing on the basis of certificates issued to this effect by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA).

#### Branches of LIC

1792. SHRI P. R. KHUNTE:

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise number of branches of Life Insurance Corporation of India and General Insurance Corporation in various States particularly in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether the number of branches of the above insurance corporations in Chhattisgarh are adequate; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to set up more such branches in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), has informed that the Corporation has 2048 branches in India including 30 branches in Chhattisgarh. The State-wise details including location-wise Branches of LIC in Chhattisgarh as indicated by LIC is enclosed as statement. So far as General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) is concerned, they have their corporate office at Mumbai and a liaison office at Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

The State-wise number of Branches & location of Branches in Chhattisgarh is given below:

S.No.	State	No. of Branches
1.	Delhi State	70
2.	Haryana	31
3.	Himachal Pradesh	23
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	17
5.	Punjab	69
6.	Rajasthan	110
7.	Uttaranchal	32
8.	Uttar Pradesh	215
9.	Chhattisgarh	30
10.	Madhya Pradesh	110
11.	Assam	66
12.	Bihar	64
13.	Jharkhand	37
14.	Orissa	56
15.	West Bengal	140
16.	Andhra Pradesh	176
17.	Karnataka	138
18.	Kerala	85
19.	Tamil Nadu	176
20.	Goa	11
21.	Gujarat	142
22.	Maharashtra	250
Total		2048

Location-wise Branches in Chhattisgarh State:

S. No.	Branch Number	Location
1	2	3
1.	38G	Bhatapara
2.	38K	Bhilai (Career Agents Branch)

1	2	3
3.	38L	Bhilai-I
4.	38E	Bhilai-II
5.	3065	Bilaspur (Career Agents Branch)
6.	384	Bilaspur-I
7.	38H	Bilaspur-II
8.	38F	Dalli Rajhara
9.	38C	Dantewada
10.	379	Dhamtari
11.	383	Durg
12.	377	Jagdalpur
13.	3066	Kankar
14.	389	Korba-I
15.	38J	Korba-II
16.	248	Mahasamund
17.	38D	Mungeli
18.	38A	Naila
19.	3067	Pathalgaon
20.	385	Raigarh
21.	390	Raipur CBO (Career Agents Branch)
22.	382	Raipur CBO-I
23.	298	Raipur CBO-II
24.	38M	Raipur CBO-III
25.	249	Rajnandgaon
26.	38L	Saraipalli
27.	3103	Surajpur
28.	386	Ambikapur
29.	38B	Manendragarh
30.	3099	Chirimiri

*[English]***Wheat Consignment to Iraq**

1793. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the fate of wheat consignment made to Iraq under the Food for Oil Scheme of UNO during the period of war and prior to war?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): Under the United Nation's (UN) Oil for Food Programme, revenues from Iraqi oil exports prior to the outbreak of war went into an escrow account controlled by the UN, from which payments were made for essential imports into Iraq. The supply contracts were approved and supervised by a Committee of the UN.

Indian wheat exporters had signed contracts prior to the war under the Oil for Food Programme as it existed then, but only two contracts involving 52850 MTs of wheat, were prioritized.

**Restructuring of NTC Mills**

1794. Dr. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will The Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 5800 on May 2, 2003 regarding Restructuring of NTC mills and state:

(a) whether the scheme of arrangement of restructuring has been prepared and approved by 'competent authority';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which the scheme is likely to be finalized;

(d) the meaning of competent authority who has to approve the restructuring scheme; and

(e) the broad details of the view points put forth by the NTC Management in regard to restructuring to scheme and incorporated in the restructuring scheme by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) The scheme for merger of NTC Companies has been approved by the Government and an application has been moved before BIFR for approval of the same.

(b) The scheme proposes merger of 9 NTC companies into 4 independent regional companies. The

scheme provides for downsizing of corporate offices while providing greater decentralisation of powers and responsibility to NTC companies in order to make them accountable for their performance.

(c) BIFR is currently considering the scheme.

(d) BIFR is the Competent Authority for ordering merger of the sick companies under The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act.

(e) NTC management, while favouring the downsizing option, sought for merging all the companies into a single company. Since this would result in more centralisation, it was not agreed to.

#### **Public Sector Banks in Insurance Business**

1795. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several public sector banks have not been able to venture into field of insurance due to want of permission from the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the reasons for not granting permission;

(c) whether the government propose to issue directions to the Reserve Bank of India in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) It is not true that public sector banks have not been able to venture into insurance business due to lack of permission of the Reserve Bank of India. Banks

have been permitted to enter into insurance business subject to their obtaining necessary licence/ registration from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA). Accordingly, a bank can now become a joint venture partner or act as a Corporate Agent or take up referral arrangement with an insurance company. For instance, State Bank of India has been permitted to set up an insurance subsidiary - SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. - while its seven associate banks have been permitted to take up corporate agency. Twelve nationalized banks have so far been permitted to act as Corporate Agents of Insurance Companies while five nationalized banks have been permitted to have referral arrangement with various insurance companies.

#### **Consumer Information Centres**

1796. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of District Consumer Information Centres established so far and those in operation in the country, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether NGOs are involved in the setting up process; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The District Consumer Information Centres are established either by Zilla Parishad or reputed voluntary Consumer Organization/NGO who has been duly verified/recommended by the concerned State Government/ District Collector/District Magistrate.

#### **Statement**

*List showing the number of DCICs Sanctioned/Released*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of DCICs sanctioned/released	Name of the District	
			2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	Guntur	
2.	Chandigarh	1	Chandigarh	
3.	Daman & Diu	1	Moti Daman	
4.	Delhi	2	Kidwai Nagar	Mayur Vihar

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Gujarat	3	Rajkot, Sabarakanta	Vadodra
6.	Haryana	1	Jhajjar	
7.	Manipur	6	Chandel,	Thoubal, Senapati, Imphal (2), Bishnupur
8.	Madhya Pradesh	3	Bhopal(2), Gwalior	
9.	Maharashtra	1	Ahmednagar	
10.	Mizoram	1	Aizawl	
11.	Orissa	7	Mayurbhanj Kandhamal, Bhadrak, Kalahandi, Balangir, Balasore, Angul	
12.	Pondicherry	2	Karaikal	Ayyenkutipalayam
13.	Rajasthan	3	Chittorgarh	Dausa, Ajmer
14.	Uttaranchal	3	Dehradun, Chamoli	Almora
15.	West Bengal	6	Midnapur, Bankura,  Kolkata	Kidderpore, Nadia,  Hooghly
16.	Sikkim	1	Gangtok (East)	
17.	Kerala	1		Thiruvananthapuram
18.	Tamil Nadu	1		Ramnathapuram
Total		44		

### **Incentives to Special Economic Zones**

1797. SHRI J. S. BRAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have enhanced incentives to Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the significance of these incentives in the economic growth and removal of unemployment in Special Economic Zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI

SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Some of the major incentives recently announced for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) include 100% income tax exemption for 3 consecutive years and 50% for next 2 years to off-shore banking units in Special Economic Zones, permission to carry forward losses and Income Tax exemption to the extent of 50% of ploughed back profits for three consecutive years to SEZ units and treating supplies from domestic tariff area to SEZ at par with physical exports for the purpose of income-tax exemption.

(c) Enhancement of incentives to SEZs would help in generating greater economic activity and consequential generation of direct and indirect employment opportunities.

### **Amount Sanctioned by NSIFDC**

1798. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds sanctioned by the National

Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) for the welfare of the targeted groups of tribals during the last three years and current year so far, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which the State Government have utilized the funds;

(c) whether serious irregularities have been reported in the implementation of the programmes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes particularly in Maharashtra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL

ORAM): (a) The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), has been incorporated as a Government of India Undertaking under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 10th April, 2001. The State-wise details of post incorporation sanctions during the last two years and for the current year till June, 2003 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Post incorporation, various States/UTs Channelising Agencies have cumulatively availed funds amounting to Rs. 72.39 crores till 30th June, 2003.

(c) and (d) No serious irregularities have been reported to NSTFDC in the implementation of the programmes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes particularly in Maharashtra.

### Statement

*Statewise details of Sanctions during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 (till 30/6/03)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Sanctions 2001-2002 NSTFDC's share	Sanctions 2002-2003 NSTFDC's share	Sanctions 2003-2004 NSTFDC's share
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	372.04	577.81	1.07
2	Arunachal Pradesh	32.64	-	-
3	Assam	425.85	124.80	-
4	Bihar	-	76.00	-
5	Chhattisgarh		720.86	-
6	Gujarat	867.57	1012.87	-
7	Himachal Pradesh	247.66	116.18	28.70
8	Jammu & Kashmir	255.48	78.19	25.50
9	Jharkhand	286.50	538.39	-
10	Karnataka	324.69	493.94	150.00
11	Kerala	15.60	16.10	-
12	Lakshadweep	7.24	13.18	-
13	Maharashtra	259.75	354.40	7.50
14	Meghalaya		38.66	-
15	Madhya Pradesh	753.44	1204.05	136.00
16	Mizoram	51.85	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
17	Nagaland	88.13	170.79	76.77
18	Orissa	482.81	197.40	-
19	Rajasthan	720.45	508.73	67.75
20	Sikkim	127.23	174.00	-
21	Tamil Nadu	-	2.80	-
22	Tripura	69.68	118.45	-
23	Uttaranchal	142.28	-	-
24	West Bengal	493.69	460.61	40.00
	Total	6024.58	6998.21	533.29

**Financial Assistance in Marketing Support Activities**

1	TRIFED;- For Marketing Support Activities	300.00	-	-
2	Girijan Co-operative Corporation Ltd. (GCC). Andhra Pradesh	-	500.00	-
	Total	300.00	500.00	-

**Special Project:- Coffee Plantation**

1	A.P. Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Finance Corpn. Ltd.	-	2400.00	-
	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
	Total	-	2400.00	-
	Grand Total	6324.58	9898.21	533.29
	Net Sanctions after Revisions and Cancellations	6280.50	9895.28	533.29

**Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks**

1799. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the drastic reduction in the credit deposit ratio of the nationalised and scheduled banks in Kerala compared to other States in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to end this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir, the CD Ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks in Kerala is lower as compared to some of the States in the country, although, it is higher when compared to that of some of the other states.

(b) With an objective of having uniform economic development, banks have been advised to achieve a CD Ratio of 60% in respect of their rural and semi urban branches on an all India basis. Also, there has been, among others, regular discussion on CD Ratio in the various fora under the Lead

Bank Scheme such as, SLBC, BLBC and DLRC meetings, to improve the CD Ratio in the State as a whole.

### **Customs Receipts**

1800. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of trend of customs receipts for 2001-2002 which was Rs. 40,096 crore against the budget estimates of Rs. 54,822 crore resulting in a shortfall of 27%;

(b) whether the total customs duty of Rs. 24,799 crore was forgone under export promotion scheme i.e. 62 per cent of total customs receipts during 2001-02;

(c) if so, reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to realise pending customs duty which is running in crores of rupee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to boost the exports, Government of India, through the instrumentality of various export promotion schemes rebates the duties of customs and central excise in respect of goods which are exported out of this country.

(d) Government is constantly monitoring realisation of pending customs revenue. Field formations have been directed to initiate necessary administrative and legal measures to recover the outstanding Government revenues. Action under section 142 of the Customs Act 1962, read with provisions of Customs (Attachment of Property of Defaulters for Recovery of Government Dues) Rules 1995, is also initiated for recovery of Government revenue. Special Tax Recovery Cells have been constituted at all Commissionerates for effective monitoring and expeditious recovery of Government revenue.

### **National Institute of Fashion Technology**

1801. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Fashion Technology has undertaken any steps to boost the export growth especially in cotton fabrics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research development in design and education on handloom products has been done by NIFT;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the Government propose to take steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) is an educational Institution for training professional manpower for the textile and garment industry across the country. The manpower produced by NIFT works with various exporters, Government and non-Government organizations and thereby contribute to the growth of exports in the entire textile sector including cotton fabrics.

(c) and (d) Every year a large number of students of various programmes of NIFT, visit important clusters of Handlooms and document their findings on the basis of field situation and make number of useful suggestions for implementation of the design products etc. relevant for the contemporary market. Several projects from time to time are also undertaken by NIFT on design and product development in the Handloom sector such as Design Development for Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB), Priyadarshni Handlooms, Handlooms and Textiles, Design and prototype development and marketing of Khadi products, high fashion men, women and kids wear using handloom fabrics, capacity building project with Kota Sarees cluster in Rajasthan and Chanderi Sarees Cluster in Madhya Pradesh, etc.

NIFT has also prepared Trend development forecasts for Handloom fabrics for the National Centre for Textile Design.

(e) Question does not arise.

### **Branches of Foreign Banks**

1802. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has issued guidelines to foreign banks to expand their operations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign banks are allowed to take over branches of other commercial banks which have become dormant;



(d) if so, the number of such branches for which RBI has granted permission to foreign banks to operate; and

(e) the steps taken by RBI to ensure that branches of banks in rural areas are not closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) There is no bar on foreign banks to take over the branches of other commercial banks on mutually agreed terms. This however requires prior permission from Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, no foreign bank has approached RBI so far for permission in this regard.

(e) Closure of rural branches can be done only with prior permission of RBI. As per RBI's instructions closure of loss making branches at rural centres having a single commercial bank branch is not permitted. At centres served by two branches of commercial banks (excluding branches of Regional Rural Banks) the decision for closure of one of the branches may be taken by the concerned banks by mutual consultations with the prior permission of the RBI.

#### **Trade with Latin American Nations**

1803. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India propose to enter into trade agreement with Mercosur alliance of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and other Latin American nations to increase the volume of trade with these countries;

(b) if so, the total trade with each of these countries during 2001-02, item-wise;

(c) whether there has been exchange of trade delegation between these countries of this region;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to focus more on trade relations with Central American and Carribbean nations also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Presently the Government is working on the proposal for entering into Preferential Trade Agreement with Mercosur.

(b) Item-wise total trade with each of these countries during 2001-02 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) (i) An official delegation led by the Brazilian Foreign Trade Minister along with a Business delegation visited India in April 2002 and first meeting of Indo-Brazil Commercial Council was held in New Delhi on 8th April 2002.

(ii) A three members delegation led by Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce visited Uruguay and Paraguay (25th-29th April 2003) in connection with first round discussion on the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Mercosur.

(iii) A Uruguayan delegation comprising Director General of Health, Chemical, Eng., Director, Health Products Division and Director, Department of Medicine visited India (12-14 May 2003) in connection with visit of Laboratory and Plants of Indian companies producing entire range of medicines.

(iv) Minister of State for Commerce & Industry visited Paraguay in June 2003 and signed a framework agreement between India and the Mercosur.

(e) and (f) The Trade Chambers, Export Promotion Councils are encouraged to lead regular trade delegation to Central American and Caribbean nations depending upon the potential of the export of Indian products to these markets and quantum of the Market Development Assistance available with the Ministry.

## Statement

India's Trade during 2001-02 in US\$ (million)

Name of the products	Brazil		Argentina		Paraguay		Uruguay	
	Value	Name of the products	Value	Name of the products	Value	Name of the products	Value	Name of the products
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>India's export</b>								
1. Petroleum products	5.55	Inorganic/organic/ agro chemicals chemicals	11.73	Drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals	2.28	Drugs, pharmaceuticals & chemicals	14.25	Drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals
2. Drugs, pharma and fine chemicals	73.49	Drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals	13.29	Species	0.61	Inorganic/organic/agro chemicals	0.92	Inorganic/organic/agro chemicals
3. Inorganic/organic/agro chemicals	16.35	dyes/intimidies & coar tar chemicals	2.50	Inorganic/organic/ agro chemicals	0.30	dyes/intimidies & coar tar chemicals	0.40	dyes/intimidies & coar tar chemicals
4. Manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups	9.71	residil chemicals & allied products	1.49	transport equipments	1.62	finished leather	1.72	finished leather
5. Machinery and instruments	17.01	transport equipments	6.01	tobacco unmanufactures	0.11	transport equipment	1.69	transport equipment
6. Dyes/intimidies & coar tar chemicals	12.65	machinery and instruments	2.45	RMG cotton incl accessories	0.54	electronic goods	0.12	electronic goods
7. Manufacture of metal	7.82	plastic & inoleum products	0.90	manufactures of metals	0.42	rubber mfd. products except footwear	1.57	rubber mfd. products except footwear
8. Transport equipments	7.48	iron & stl bar/rod etc.	1.00	machinery and instruments	0.32	RMG cotton incl. accessories	0.66	RMG cotton incl. accessories
9. Plastic & inoleum products	7.03	manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups	2.66	rubber mfd. Products except footwear	0.13	cotton yarn, fabrics, madeups etc.	0.58	cotton yarn, fabrics, madeups etc.
10. Rubber mfd. products except footwear	6.36	manufacture of metals	3.00	manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups	0.16	manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups	0.30	manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11. other products		55.56	other products	19.59	other products	0.23	other products	3.74
<b>India's Imports</b>								
1. Vegetable oils fixed (edible)		123.87	Vegetable oils fixed (edible)	384.64	cotton raw conn./uncomb/waste	16.76	wool, raw	1.54
2. Machinery except elec. & electronic		30.17	leather	12.19	other commodities	0.41	leather	0.38
3. Non-ferrous metals		12.18	iron & steel	8.90	essential oil & cosmetic prepn.	0.06	other commodities	0.27
4. Organic chemicals		24.33	other commodities	4.92	species	0.03	professional inst. etc. except electronic	0.02
5. Transport equipments		27.19	wool, raw	2.79	iron & steel	0.03	electronic goods	0.01
6. Metalliferous ores & Metal scrap		6.60	profnsl. inst. etc. except electronic	1.00	Machinery except elec. & electronic	0.39	essential oil & cosmetic prepn.	0.06
7. Other commodities		5.78	machinery except elec. & electronic	2.29	transport equipments	0.27	raw hides & skins	0.11
8. Pearls precious stones		5.94	metalliferous ores & metals scrap	2.69	chemical material & product	0.01	made-up textile articles	0.05
9. Synthetic & reclaimed rubber		1.59	medicinal & pharmaceutical	0.14	wood and wood products	0.07	organic chemicals	0.03
10. other crude minerals		6.39	pearls precious stones	0.01			medicinal & Pharmaceutical	0.20
11. other products		64.13	other products	16.43			other products	0.85
Total trade		527.18	Total trade	500.62	Total trade	24.86	Total trade	29.46

**Uncollected Taxes**

1804. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether uncollected amount of income tax including Corporate tax as on March 31st, 2002 amounted to Rs. 90,180 crores;

(b) if so, whether pendency of assessments has also increased during the year ended 31st March 2002 and if so, to what extent as compared to earlier year;

(c) whether tax recovery cells were constituted under all the Commissionerates;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total recovery made by these cells till March 31, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir. The uncollected amount of Income Tax and Corporation Tax amounted to Rs. 72,671 crores as on the 31st March, 2002.

(b) The pendency of assessments as on 31.3.2002 had declined to 77,617 from the pendency of 101,462 existing as on 31.3.2001.

(c) Yes, Sir. A Tax Recovery Officer is posted in each Commissionerate, who is entrusted with the work of recovery of outstanding dues.

(d) A Tax Recovery Officer is an Officer of the rank of Income Tax Officer (I.T.O.) and exercises powers under chapter XVII and schedule II of the Income Tax Act to recover arrears of Taxes.

(e) The total recovery made by the Tax Recovery Officers till March 31, 2003 is under compilation. However, an amount of Rs. 143.34 crores was collected by the Tax Recovery Officers till September, 2002.

**Rice Export Council**

1805. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been included in the Asian Rice Export Council;

(b) if so, the names of Asian countries included in the said Council alongwith the details thereof;

(c) whether India is likely to get any help in rice exports after being included in the said Council; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) Government is not aware of the existence of Asian Rice Export Council. However, India has joined Council on Rice Trade Cooperation (CRTCC) which is in its formative stages.

*[Translation]*

**Tax Information Network**

1806. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating a scheme to implement the 'Tax Information Network' in order to improve the administration of the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the date from which the said scheme would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Government has accepted the recommendations of the Task Force on Direct Taxes headed by Dr. Vijay Kelkar to set up a Tax Information Network (TIN) for improving the tax administration in the country.

(b) The proposed Tax Information Network will house information in respect of:-

(i) Deduction of Taxes at source;

(ii) Payment of Direct Taxes made in various banks.

(iii) Information relating to high value financial transactions.

(iv) Information relating to returns of Income/taxes due/refundable.

(c) The proposed Tax Information Network will have different components. Each of these will be operationalised separately. It is expected that the first component relating to digitization of TDS returns will be completed in the current financial year. The remaining components will be operationalised in F.Y.2004-05.

*[English]***Export of Edible Oil**

1807. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of edible oil earmarked for import during the financial year, both country-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether the domestic production is short of requirement; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to improve production and check exports in view of domestic requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The import of edible oils is under Open General Licence (OGL). Presently, there is no proposal to import edible oil on Government account.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Some of the steps taken are as under:-

(i) A Technology Mission on Oilseeds is in place to harness appropriate production processing and management technology.

(ii) Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops, like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

(iii) Better incentives to producers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Negligible quantities are exported due to stiff international competition.

*[Translation]***Credit Facility of NABARD**

1808. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government received request to raise the credit facility (credit line) of NABARD from existing Rs.6500 Crore to Rs.15000 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been sanctioning General Line of Credit (GLC) to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for meeting the production/marketing refinance requirements of State Co-operative banks (SCBs)/District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Credit limit of Rs. 6500 crores have been sanctioned during each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. RBI is not in favour of increasing the GLC limit in view of its monetary implications.

*[English]***Shifting of Special Services to States**

1809. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the Unstarred question number 6843 dated May 9, 2003 and state:

(a) whether legislative measures in regard to shifting of some specified services to the States for taxation purpose have been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Constitution (95th Amendment) Bill has already been passed by both the Houses of Parliament during the Budget Session 2003. This amendment provides for a specific entry 92C in the Union List which provides for tax on services. A new Article 268A as well as consequential amendment to Article 270 has been made to enable Parliament to formulate by law, the principles for determining the modalities for levy of tax on services by the Central Government and collection and appropriation of the proceeds thereof by the Central and State Governments. As per Article 368, clause (2) (c) of the Constitution, the Bill as passed by the Parliament has to be ratified by the legislatures of not less than one half of the States by Resolution to that effect passed by those legislatures before the Bill making provision for such amendment is presented to the President for assent. Thereafter, the Constitution amendment Bill will be notified as an Act.

[Translation]

**Expenditure of Ministries**

1810. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had taken a decision to cut the expenditure of various Ministries by 10 per cent during the last financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have achieved these targets;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government on the non-achievement of these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The non-Plan expenditure at Rs. 2,96,809 crore in BE-2002-2003 was brought down to Rs. 2,89,924 crore in RE 2002-2003. The outcome of the economy instructions will be known after the Government accounts for 2002-2003 are finalized.

[English]

**Declaration as Commercial Bank**

1811. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the IDBI and ICICI Ltd. have been converted into a commercial bank;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have dropped the plan to convert IFCI into commercial bank; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government had introduced

a bill titled "Industrial Development Bank (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 2002" in the Lok Sabha on 4.12.2002. The Bill had been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance for scrutiny. The Committee has since submitted its report with certain recommendations to the House which are under examination of the Government.

ICICI Ltd., a financial institution, merged with ICICI Bank Ltd., (a banking company under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949) with effect from May 3, 2002, the appointed date of merger being March 30, 2002.

(c) and (d) There is no plan to convert IFCI into a commercial bank.

[Translation]

**Rewards to Informer**

1812. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have duly rewarded the informers who provided vital information for arrests of smugglers and criminals of intoxicating substances;
- (b) if so, the number of such informers rewarded during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage such informers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of such informers rewarded for giving information in respect of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances during each of the last three years is as under:

Year	Total No. of Informers Rewarded
2000-2001	9
2001-2002	37
2002-2003	33

(c) The reward scheme for payment of reward to informers is displayed on Notice Boards of the field formations and also on their websites so as to encourage public to come forward with information. There is also a provision for secret service fund which is utilised to cultivate informers. Also, rewards are sanctioned and disbursed expeditiously so as to encourage informers.

*[English]***Production/Consumption of Tea**

1813. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of CTC and orthodox brand of tea produced in the country during the last five years till March, 2003.

(b) the total consumption of tea in domestic market and the available surplus tea for exports during the above period, year-wise;

(c) the special efforts made to popularize Darjeeling and Assam Logo tea in international market;

(d) whether there is any specific expansion programme of Assam special variety and Darjeeling variety tea production in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The quantity of CTC and orthodox categories of tea produced in the country during the last five years is as follows:

(in million Kgs.)

Category	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-03
CTC	735.18	754.90	761.48	751.02	745.13
Orthodox	112.79	73.37	79.04	89.52	87.54
Other	7.19	8.23	7.84	6.71	4.93
Total	855.16	836.50	848.36	847.25	837.60

(b) Details of production, estimated domestic consumption and the estimated surplus available for exports during the last five years are as under:

(in million Kgs.)

Year	Production	Import	Consumption**	Estimated surplus available for exports (Production+ Import-Consumption)
1998-1999	855.16	8.9	620	244.06
1999-2000	836.50	10.4	638	208.90
2000-2001	848.36	15.3	658	205.66
2001-2002	847.25	16.1	678	185.35
2002-2003	837.60	19.6	698	159.20

\*\* Based on the estimated figures of consumption as projected by IIM, Kolkata.

(c) Darjeeling and Assam Teas, demarcated with their respective logos, are promoted by the Tea Board on a continuous basis in international markets by way of special promotions in collaboration with overseas supermarket/retail chains, as well as through trade fairs and exhibitions. Some of the special efforts/promotion activities recently undertaken

by Tea Board to promote Assam and Darjeeling teas in overseas markets are as follows:

An India Tea promotion Campaign was held in Paris from 4th to 30th April, 2003 in which a selection of 12 teas representing the three regions i.e. Darjeeling, Assam and Nilgiri were put on offer.

- Tea Board sponsored 'Sips & Tips' - a series of two-hour tea tasting sessions from 7th to 10th April, 2003 in Melbourne, Australia with the objective of broadening the awareness and understanding of quality Indian teas, particularly orthodox tea.

- A one week Assam Tea Promotion Campaign was organized in Ost Friesland, Germany from 10th to 17th May, 2003.

An Indian tea promotion event was organized at Harrods, London in June 2003, during which a superior selection of Darjeeling and Assam first flush teas was introduced.

(d) and (e) Government has not formulated any specific expansion programme for production of Assam and Darjeeling varieties of tea in the country. However, Tea Board is implementing a number of developmental schemes to improve the productivity and quality of teas produced in the country including the Assam and Darjeeling varieties

**Allotment of Kerosene to Kerala**

1814. SHRI V. S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala has requested the Union Government to reconsider the restoration of monthly allotment of kerosene in the context of reduced monthly allotment to the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In 2002, Government took a policy decision on allocation of SKO to the States/Union Territories based on LPG connections released in each of the State/Union Territory. Accordingly, Government has been reducing the Kerosene allocation to various States/UTs taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each of the State/UT. In view of the above, the request of Government of Kerala could not be acceded to.

**Assessment Cases**

1815. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a loss of Rs.3496.67 crore has been caused to the State by the Income Tax authorities for assessing less income in 12791 assessment cases as brought out in the 'Dainik Jagran' of 5th May, 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons for assessing less income and have those assessing officers been charge-sheeted for assessing less income or for showing favour to the assessee;

(c) whether the money have been recovered from the assessee;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps have been taken to make the assessing officers accountable and responsible for under assessing causing loss to the State; and

(f) the details of the corporate houses etc. whose income has been under assessed more than one crore in each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No Sir, fact mentioned are observations of C&AG of India contained in the C&AG Report No. 12 of 2003. The process of audit observation and its settlement is a continuous feature.

(b) Reasons for under assessment include incorrect computation of business income, mistake in allowance of depreciation & investment allowance, incorrect allowance of capital expenditure, incorrect carry forward and set off of loss, incorrect deduction under Chapter VIA of Income Tax Act, excess refund, incorrect calculation of tax and interest etc. In appropriate cases the action is taken against the erring Assessing Officer by the concerned Jurisdictional Commissioner of Income Tax.

(c) and (d) Tax recovery is subject to appeals at CIT (Appeals), ITAT, Settlement Commission, High Court and Supreme Court and the final figure of recovery can be ascertained only after giving these appeal effects. There is no central mechanism to determine exact amount in such cases which have resulted in recovery of taxes at various stages.

(e) There is in-built mechanism of inspections and internal audit to make Assessing Officers accountable and responsible.

(f) This is not maintained centrally at the Ministry level.

**Committee by the BIS**

1816. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BIS has set up a Committee to improve systems, efficiency and credibility for the ISI mark;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of recommendations accepted and the number of recommendations not accepted along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on each of the specific recommendations till date?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.



### Functioning of Multi National Chartered Accountant Companies

1817. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from several chartered accountants, experts regarding the functioning of multi-national chartered accountant companies;

(b) whether a level playing field has been demanded by the Indian accounting firms; and

(c) if so, the present status and guidelines in this regard?

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

(c) Under the provisions of Companies Act, 1956, only members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) can conduct audit of companies, and all members of this Institute are subject to the discipline of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. If any audit is carried out in violation of provisions contained in these Act, penal action can be taken.

### Branches of Banks

1818. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the State bank of Hyderabad in the State of Orissa and location thereof;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to open new branches of State bank of Hyderabad in Orissa during financial year 2003-2004; and

(c) if so, the places identified for those branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) State Bank of Hyderabad has reported that it has five branches in Orissa which are located at (1) Bhubaneswar Main (2) GGP Branch- Bhubaneswar (3) Jagmara-Bhubaneswar (4) Cuttack and (5) Berhampur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

### Reduction in Subsidies

1819. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been negligible growth in the public savings during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reduce the subsidies on public utilities like power, railways and urban water supply through the imposition of rational user charges;

(c) if so, whether the investment on infrastructure has come down as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision with regard to the reduction in subsidies in the aforesaid sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) As per the latest available information released by the Central Statistical Organisation, Gross Domestic Saving (GDS) for the last three years are as follows:

	(Rs. Crore)	(as percent of GDP at current market prices)
1999-2000	466640	24.1
2000-2001	491761	23.4
2001-2002	549963	24.0

(b) Review and rationalisation of subsidies is a continuous and ongoing process and the Government has been taking corrective steps, whenever necessary.

(c) As per the latest available information, Gross Capital Formation in major infrastructure sectors during the last three years are as follows:

	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
	(Rs. Crore)		
1	2	3	4
Electricity, gas & water supply	34255	37292	38623
Transport, storage & communication	40865	55119	46254
Financing, insurance, real estate & business services	49273	51372	53810
Community, social & personal services	44075	46030	58227
	(as per cent of GDP at current market prices)		
Electricity, gas & water supply	1.8	1.8	1.7

1	2	3	4
Transport, storage & communication	2.1	2.6	2.0
Financing, insurance, real estate & business services	2.5	2.4	2.3
Community, Social & Personal Services	2.3	2.2	2.5

(d) and (e) The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) aims at improving the fiscal health of the Government, both at the Centre and at the State levels by making necessary corrections in the subsidy and the pricing regime for public provisioning of services.

#### Import of Tea

1820. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total tea imports from China, Myanmar and other countries during 2001-02, 2002-03 and the current year, so far;

(b) whether it is imported at rates much below the cost of production of tea in India;

(c) if so, the average import-cost and cost of production of indigenous tea; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ensure level playing and fair competition to indigenous producers of tea and to prevent dumping of imported tea at cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The total tea imports from China, Myanmar and other countries from 2001-02 till April-May, 2003 is given below:-

(Figures in Million kgs.)

Imports from	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 (Apr-May)*	2002-03 (Apr-May)
China	0.13	0.26	0.08	0.10
Maynmar	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	16.01	19.38	1.26	1.48
Total	16.14	19.64	1.34	1.58

\* Provisional

(b) Tea was imported into India at an unit C.I.F. price ranging from Rs.30.30 per kg., to Rs. 400.76 per kg., during the aforesaid period. However, the average unit C.I.F. prices stood at Rs. 51.86 per kg. in 2001-02, Rs. 46.30 per kg. in 2002-03 and Rs. 58.00 per kg during April-May 2003-04, which are below the cost of production of tea in India.

(c) The average import-cost & cost of production of indigenous tea is given below:-

(Rs./Kg.)

2002-03	
Unit C.I.F. Price	Estimated Cost of Production of Tea in India
46.30	50.00 to 65.00

(d) In order to prevent any surge in imports of tea into India, the import duty on tea has been increased from 70% to 100%. Imported tea has also to conform to the same quality parameters stipulated under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 which are applicable on teas produced in India.

#### Remittance Limit of Education

1821. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have raised the forex limit to 1,00,000 US dollars for purposes of education and other needs;

(b) if so, the purposes for which it has been raised;

(c) whether such a decision is likely to have an adverse impact on foreign exchange reserves; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to raise the foreign exchange reserves also proportionately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India has delegated powers to Authorized Dealers to release foreign exchange up to US\$ 1,00,000 for education abroad, medical treatment abroad, employment abroad, maintenance of close relatives abroad, and emigration.

(c) and (d) The liberalised facility has been extended to Indian residents in view of the comfortable foreign exchange reserves being held by the country. The increased limit is unlikely to have any adverse impact in view of the comfortable forex reserves position.

### Investment by Hedge Funds

1822. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SEBI has noticed huge investments by Hedge funds;

(b) if so, whether the presence of Hedge funds is legal according to SEBI;

(c) if not, the action proposed by SEBI to ensure that Hedge funds do not operate in the markets;

(d) whether SEBI has approached regulators in Mauritius to curb such inflow of money to the country; and

(e) if so, the full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

### Procurement Under PDS

1823. SHRI V VETRISELVAN:

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

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

(a) whether the procurement prices of wheat, rice, sugar and several other items meant for sale through PDS have increased manifold during the last three years;

(b) whether this increase in prices have affected the offtake of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether multi-national companies have been allowed to purchase foodgrains; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The Minimum Support Prices of wheat and paddy fixed for the last three marketing seasons are as under:

Marketing Season	(Rs. per quintal)		
	Wheat	Paddy	
		Common	Grade-A
2000-01	580	510	540
2001-02	610	530	560
2002-03	620	530*	560*

\* Special Drought Relief Price of Rs.20.- per quintal allowed over and above these MSP

Statements-I, II and III showing State-wise levy rice prices fixed for the last three Kharif Marketing Seasons are enclosed.

As regards PDS sugar, a statement-iv showing zone-wise levy sugar prices fixed for the last three sugar seasons is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The issue prices under the TPDS are governed by the Central Issue Prices (CIPs) which have remained stable for the last three years. The lifting of foodgrains by States/UTs under TPDS depends on several factors, such as parity between the Central Issue Prices and the open market prices, availability of foodgrains in the open market, release of foodgrains under various welfare schemes such as Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Special Component of SGRY, Antyodaya Anna Yojana, etc., food habits of the people in different regions of the country, etc.

The offtake of sugar depends upon the issue price fixed for levy sugar and prevailing market price of non levy sugar. The offtake of the levy sugar has been affected due to excess supply of non levy sugar in the market on the basis of court orders obtained by the sugar factories.

(d) and (e) As per the present policy of the Government, foodgrains trade is free in the country and procurement of foodgrains is thus open to the private sector. Multi-national companies are eligible to purchase foodgrains from the open market subject to compliance of relevant Government guidelines in this regard.

### Statement-I

State-wise prices of Levy Rice (Raw & Parboiled) of Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	State	Raw Rice		Parboiled	
		Common	Grade 'A'	Common	Grade 'A'
		2000-2001	2000-2001	2000-2001	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	899.80	949.60	900.90	950.00
2.	Assam	845.90	892.50	847.80	893.80
3.	Bihar	861.20	908.80	863.00	909.80
4.	Chandigarh	876.70	925.10	878.20	925.90
5.	Delhi	896.50	946.20	897.70	946.60
6.	Gujarat	826.60	872.10	828.80	873.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	904.20	954.30	905.30	954.70	13.	Punjab	903.60	953.70	904.70	954.00
8.	Karnataka	830.40	876.20	832.60	877.70	14.	Rajasthan	881.30	930.00	882.70	930.70
9.	Madhya Pradesh	839.70	886.00	841.70	887.30	15.	Uttar Pradesh	868.90	917.00	870.60	918.00
10.	Maharashtra	831.50	877.20	833.70	878.70	16.	West Bengal	826.60	872.10	828.80	873.70
11.	Orissa	869.00	917.00	870.60	917.90	17.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-
12.	Pondicherry	822.70	868.00	825.00	869.70	18.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-

**Statement-II**

*State-wise prices of Levy Rice (Raw & Parboiled) of Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001 and 2002-2003 (with Special Drought Relief Price Component) Letter No. 167 (22)/2002-PY I, Dated 24-10-2003)*

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	State	Raw Rice				Parboiled			
		Common		Grade 'A'		Common		Grade 'A'	
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	935.10	970.30	985.00	1020.10	931.00	956.20	980.10	1006.20
2.	Assam	879.10	914.30	926.00	960.90	875.80	901.00	921.80	947.00
3.	Bihar	895.10	930.30	942.60	977.80	891.60	916.80	938.50	963.70
4.	Chandigarh	911.10	946.30	959.50	994.70	907.40	932.80	955.10	980.30
5.	Delhi	937.50	972.70	987.40	1022.60	933.40	958.60	982.60	1007.80
6.	Gujarat	859.10	894.30	904.60	939.80	856.10	881.30	901.00	926.20
7.	Himachal Pradesh	863.10	898.30	908.80	944.00	860.10	885.30	905.10	930.30
8.	Haryana	939.10	974.30	989.10	1022.80	935.00	960.20	984.30	1009.50
9.	Karnataka	863.10	898.30	908.80	944.00	860.10	885.30	905.10	930.30
10.	Madhya Pradesh	872.70	907.90	919.00	954.20	869.50	894.70	915.10	940.30
11.	Maharashtra	863.10	898.60	909.20	944.40	860.50	885.70	905.60	930.70
12.	Orissa	903.10	938.30	951.10	986.30	899.50	924.70	946.80	972.00
13.	Pondicherry	855.10	890.30	900.40	935.60	852.20	877.40	896.80	922.00
14.	Punjab	939.10	974.30	989.10	1024.30	935.00	960.20	984.30	1009.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15.	Rajasthan	915.90	951.10	964.60	999.80	912.10	937.30	960.10	985.30
16.	Uttar Pradesh	903.10	938.30	951.10	986.30	899.50	924.70	946.80	972.00
17.	West Bengal	875.10	910.30	921.50	956.70	871.90	897.10	917.60	942.80
18.	Chhattisgarh	871.10	906.30	917.30	952.50	868.00	893.10	913.50	938.70
19.	Uttaranchal	903.10	938.30	951.10	986.30	899.50	924.70	946.80	972.00

**Statement-III**

*State-wise prices of Levy Rice (Raw & Parboiled) of Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001 and 2002-2003  
(with Special Drought Relief Price Component) Letter No. 167 (22)/2002-PY I, Dated 23-12-2002)*

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	State	Raw Rice				Parboiled			
		Common		Grade 'A'		Common		Grade 'A'	
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	935.10	940.40	985.00	990.20	931.00	926.80	980.10	976.80
2.	Assam	879.10	884.40	926.00	931.10	875.80	871.60	921.80	917.60
3.	Bihar	895.10	900.40	942.60	948.00	891.60	887.40	938.50	934.20
4.	Chandigarh	911.10	916.40	959.50	964.90	907.40	903.20	955.10	949.40
5.	Delhi	937.50	942.80	987.40	992.80	933.40	929.60	982.60	978.40
6.	Gujarat	859.10	864.40	904.60	909.90	856.10	851.90	901.00	896.80
7.	Haryana	939.10	944.40	989.10	994.50	935.00	930.70	984.30	980.10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	863.10	868.40	908.80	914.20	860.10	855.80	905.10	900.90
9.	Karnataka	863.10	868.40	908.80	914.20	860.10	855.80	905.10	900.90
10.	Madhya Pradesh	872.70	878.00	919.00	924.30	869.50	865.30	915.10	910.90
11.	Maharashtra	863.10	868.80	909.20	914.60	860.50	856.20	905.60	901.30
12.	Orissa	903.10	908.40	951.10	956.40	899.50	895.30	946.80	942.60
13.	Pondicherry	855.10	860.40	900.40	905.70	852.20	848.00	896.80	892.00
14.	Punjab	939.10	944.40	989.10	994.50	935.00	930.70	984.30	980.10
15.	Rajasthan	915.90	921.20	964.60	970.00	912.10	907.90	960.10	955.90
16.	Uttar Pradesh	903.10	908.40	951.10	956.40	899.50	895.30	946.80	942.60

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	West Bengal	875.10	880.40	921.50	926.80	871.90	867.70	917.60	913.40
18.	Chhattisgarh	871.10	876.40	917.30	922.60	868.00	863.70	913.50	909.20
19.	Uttaranchal	903.10	908.40	951.10	956.40	899.50	895.30	946.80	942.60

**Statement-IV**

*Zone wise Ex-factory Levy Sugar Prices for three sugar seasons from  
1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002*

S.No.	Zones	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Punjab	1075.18	1278.57	1281.80
2.	Haryana	1053.25	1150.08	1221.90
3.	Rajasthan	1139.07	1210.14	1289.90
4.	West Uttar Pradesh	1051.67	1135.75	1213.11
5.	Central Uttar Pradesh	1075.41	1160.81	1224.87
6.	East Uttar Pradesh	1160.20	1263.48	1303.33
7.	North Bihar	1085.43	1165.24	1217.67
8.	South Gujarat	1050.78	1104.90	1115.93
9.	Saurashtra	1126.38	1130.92	1160.80
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1175.73	1265.34	1245.30
11.	Central Maharashtra	1086.45	1119.42	1157.63
12.	South Maharashtra	1118.63	1169.54	1190.19
13.	North Maharashtra	1169.03	1186.40	1179.94
14.	N.W. Karnataka	1143.59	1190.72	1218.61
15.	Rest of Karnataka	1102.72	1147.24	1181.80
16.	Andhra Pradesh	1189.34	1239.02	1250.78
17.	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	1177.93	1220.49	1227.41
18.	Assam/West Bengal/ Orissa/Nagaland	1091.51	1171.63	1241.27
19.	Kerala/Goa/Coastal Karnataka	1232.44	1283.56	1267.25
20.	All India	1110.70	1165.79	1191.72

### Misconduct by Judges

1824. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of complaints of misbehaviour, misconduct etc. received against the Judges of High Courts/ Supreme Court during the last two years;
- (b) the action the Government have taken against them;
- (c) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to empower the Chief Justice of India to take punitive measures against the erring Judges;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. C. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The issue of Judicial Accountability was discussed at the Conference of Chief Justices held in 1990 and on the basis of the broad consensus emerging out of the deliberations, the Chief Justice of India summed up the position as follows:

"The Chief Justice of the High Court has the competence to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of his court and when he receives any he would look into it for finding out if it deserves to be closely looked into. Where he is satisfied that the matter requires to be examined, he shall have facts ascertained in such manner as he considers appropriate keeping the nature of allegations in view and if he is of the opinion that the matter is such that it should be reported to the Chief Justice of India, he shall do so.

The Chief Justice of India shall act in a similar manner in regard to complaints relating to conduct of Judges of the Supreme Court and in regard to conduct of Chief Justices of the High courts. On the basis of the facts ascertained, the Chief Justice of the High Court or the Supreme Court, as the case may be, shall take such appropriate action as may be considered proper, keeping the interests of the judiciary as the paramount consideration."

2. The complaints received against the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts are dealt with in the

manner indicated above. The Judges Inquiry Act, 1968 specifies the procedure to deal with misconduct/ misdemeanour of Judges of the Supreme Court/High Courts but Government has no Constitutional competence to order enquiry against them.

3. The Constitution (Ninety-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2003 for setting up of National Judicial Commission has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 9.5.2003 which would inter-alia draw up a Code of Ethics for Judges of the Supreme Court, Chief Justices and the Judges of High Courts.

4. The Commission shall also inquire into, suo-moto or on a complaint or reference, cases of misconduct or such deviant behaviour of a Judge other than those calling for his removal and advise the Chief Justice of India or the Chief Justice of the High Court appropriately after such inquiry.

### Modernisation of RBI

1825. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have spent heavy amount on modernisation of its departments;
- (b) if so, the details of modernisation works carried out;
- (c) the amount spend on this account; and
- (d) the reasons for spending such a huge money in the name of modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has carried out modernisation works at different regional offices which includes installation of work stations to use Information Technology in the bank's operations, networking installation, security equipments, fire alarm systems, replacement of lifts etc.

(c) and (d) The total capital expenditure of RBI was Rs.251 crore during the year 2001-2002 and Rs.160 crore during the year 2002-2003. The reasons for modernisation are to improve infrastructure to continue to provide the support to the changing requirement of banking and also to provide efficient services to the customers of the Bank.

### Food Regulatory Authority

1826. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

**OTS for Banks**

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

1828. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether food industry has demanded setting up of an autonomous Food Regulatory Authority to recommend amendments in laws;

(a) whether there was a lukewarm response to the one time settlement (OTS) scheme announced by the Reserve Bank of India and they had to extend the scheme twice considering the poor response;

(b) whether the Government has received any suggestions from PHD Chamber of Commerce and other such organisations in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether on the other side the One Time Settlement Scheme announced by the respective public sector banks had received good response; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in setting up the Food Regulatory Authority?

(d) if so, the reasons the RBIs scheme found less takers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) A Group of Ministers (GOM) has been constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other changes for preparing a Modern Integrated Food Law and related regulations by converging and modernizing existing laws for regulation of food products.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued non-discretionary and non-discriminatory guidelines for compromise settlement of chronic non-performing assets (NPAs) below Rs. 10 crores applicable to all Public Sector Banks to be implemented uniformly. On the requests received from banks, the time limit for the operation of these guidelines was extended by RBI.

**Services of TPA for Mediclaim Policy Holders**

1827. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints about the poor customer care by the Third Party Administrators (TPAs) for the Mediclaim Policy holders;

(c) and (d) All the public sector banks have been advised that CMDs of banks should personally supervise the compromise settlement of chronic NPAs over Rs. 10 crore on case to case basis, and the Board of Directors may evolve policy guidelines regarding one time settlement of NPAs not covered under the revised guidelines for One Time Settlement (OTS). As the scope and coverage of both the schemes differ no comparison between the two schemes can be made.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to offer better services by TPAs to the policy holders?

**Hike in Export Prices of Foodgrains**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) General Insurers' (Public Sector) Association of India (GIPSA) has reported that complaints have been received by the public sector general insurance companies regarding deficiency in customer services by the Third Party Administrators (TPAs). The complaints, inter alia, relate to non-issuance of photo identity cards to policy holders, non-availability of cashless facility in some of the hospitals and delay in settlement of claims.

1829. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hike in export prices of foodgrains may hit exports badly in the long run;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

(c) Effort for improving customer services is a continuous process. The public sector general insurance companies have been coordinating with the TPAs, on a regular basis, for bringing about improvements in the system and for redressal of grievances of the customers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Wheat and



rice are made available to exporters at Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) prices/uniform price, fixed by the Government from time to time based on crop year, variety, location of stocks and international prices. Post Delivery and other WTO Compatible expenses are allowed to them.

#### Corporate Frauds

1830. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

DR. M. P. JAISWAL:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to transfer cases of corporate frauds to Serious Fraud Investigation Office;

(b) if so, the details of cases transferred to SFIO till date;

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed to dispose off these cases; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Serious cases of corporate fraud will be taken up by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office.

(b) to (d) No case has as yet been transferred to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office as the SFIO is still in the process of being set up.

#### Raids on Customs Officials

1831. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI C. N. SINGH:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI ADHI SANKAR :

SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have conducted raids recently on the residence and office premises of customs officials in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against them;

(d) the details of seizure made; and

(e) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The residence/office premises of one Additional, Commissioner, one Joint Commissioner and one Deputy Commissioner of Customs at Kolkata were searched recently by the CBI and a regular case has been registered.

(d) During the search, recoveries were made from the residences of:

(i) Addl. Commissioner - Rs.19,00,100/- in cash, jewellery of Rs.10,19,540/-, investment of Rs. 22.5 lakhs;

(ii) Joint Commissioner - Nil; and

(iii) Deputy Commissioner - Rs. 88,28,550/- in cash, jewellery of Rs. 5,09,354/-, investment of Rs. 12.5 lakhs.

Incriminating documents which were recovered were also seized by the CBI.

(e) Instructions have been issued to the Chief Commissioners so as to tighten vigilance machinery, post officers of integrity and efficiency in sensitive positions, to conduct checks at sensitive and vulnerable points for bringing lapses involving the officers for departmental action, not to give sensitive postings to officers of doubtful integrity and those who have been chargesheeted for major penalty or penalised.

#### World Bank Aided Schemes in HP

1832. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes which have been undertaken in Himachal Pradesh with the assistance of World Bank; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the World Bank alongwith the target achieved for each of the schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) There are no ongoing state sector schemes/ projects with World Bank assistance exclusively for Himachal Pradesh. However, there are two multistate projects covering Himachal Pradesh also, namely, (i) Technical Engineering Education Quality Improvement Project (TEEQIP), and (ii) Integrated Watershed Development (Hills - II) Project [IWD(H) P].

(b) For TEEQIP, the utilisation of World Bank assistance is yet to commence. For IWD(H) P, the position is as under:

Year	Targets Achieved * (Rs. Crores)	Assistance by World Bank (Rs. Crores)
2000-01	22.60	16.53
2001-02	25.78	18.98
2002-03	25.46	19.16
Total	73.84	54.67

\* Targets achieved include State Government share besides World Bank assistance

#### Stock Market Scam

1833. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether JPC report on the stock market scam highlighted the involvement of members of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI) and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) in the stock market scam;

(b) if so, the action recommended against such erring members;

(c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the JPC; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to make the existing Acts more effective and to keep a check over the activities of the Institutes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of New Cooperative Bank

1834. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of new co-operative banks pending with the Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) the reasons of their pendency and the time by which the process of according sanction for the same is likely to begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as on date there is no proposal pending for setting up new State Cooperative Bank/Central Cooperative Bank. However, there are 221 proposals for setting up of new urban cooperative banks pending with RBI. The reasons for delay in disposal of pending proposals are submission of incomplete proposals by the promoters, delay in receipt of clarifications sought by RBI and delay in receipt of information from promoters' bankers/ employers/ other agencies. Decision on a pending proposal is taken only on receipt of all the required information.

[English]

#### Growth of Infrastructure Sector

1835. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether infrastructure sectors recorded a minimum growth during 2002-03 and in the first quarter of current year;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and details of the reasons responsible for poor growth;

(c) the targeted growth rate and actual growth rate in coal, petroleum, cement, electricity and steel for above period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the growth rate of infrastructure sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The six infrastructure industries, namely, crude petroleum, petroleum refinery products, finished steel, coal, cement and electricity posted an overall growth of 5.2 percent in 2002-03, which is higher than 3.5 percent in 2001-02. These six industries registered an overall growth of 4.1 percent in the first quarter of current financial year compared with 6.2 percent in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. Decline in the output of crude petroleum, and low growth in coal, petroleum refinery products and cement

have been responsible for overall low growth in six infrastructure industries during the first quarter of the current financial year.

(c) The details of target and actual production in six infrastructure industries during 2002-03 and first quarter of current financial year are given below:

Industry	Unit	2002-03		2003-04 (April-June)	
		Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Crude Petroleum	Million	33.28	33.07	7.78	8.00
	Tonnes		(3.3)		(-2.1)
Petroleum Refinery Products	Million	116.83	112.56	28.65	27.73
	Tonnes		(4.9)		(0.2)
Coal	Million	331.6	336.52	78.21	79.12
	Tonnes		(4.3)		(4.6)
Cement	Million	11.55	11.63	31.5	31.3
	Tonnes		(8.8)		(4.9)
Finished Steel	Million	36.88	34.38	9.23	8.72
	Tonnes		(8.7)		(7.5)
Electricity	Billion	545.55	531.43	138.89	135.01
	Units		(3.1)		(4.0)

Source: M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation

Figures in bracket are growth rate (%) over corresponding period of last year

(d) The Government has announced following measures to boost growth rate of infrastructure sector:

Budget 2003-04 provides a major thrust to infrastructure, principally to roads, railways, airports, and seaports, through innovative funding mechanisms. This is likely to have a favourable impact on steel and cement in particular. This comprehensive initiative will cover the following:

- 48 new road projects at an estimated cost of around Rs. 40,000 crore;
- National Rail Vikas Yojana projects worth Rs. 8,000 crore;
- Renovation/modernisation of two airports, and two seaports at an estimated cost of Rs. 11,000 crore; and
- Establishing two global standard international

convention centres at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,000 crore.

- \* Union budget extends the benefits of mega power projects to any new project that fulfils the conditions already prescribed for major power projects.
- \* Given the importance of transmission in the power sector, the government has reduced custom duties on specific equipments for High Voltage transmission projects from 25% to 5%.
- \* The Electricity Act, 2003 seeks to bring about a qualitative transformation of the electricity sector by, creating liberal framework of development for the power sector.

### Foreign Investment

1836. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of foreign investment and foreign borrowings in the national income during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the main five countries that are making maximum foreign investment in our country during the last three years;

(c) the terms and conditions of the above investments;

(d) the impact of foreign investments and borrowings on our economy; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government during Ninth Five Year Plan to mobilise indigenous source to reduce the role of foreign investments and borrowings in the national income and the steps proposed in this regard for the Tenth Five Year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) On the basis of Balance of Payments estimates by Reserve Bank of India; the percentage of:

- (i) foreign investment in the national income (Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current Market Prices for the year 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (provisional) is 1.27, 1.39 and 0.90 respectively.
- (ii) external assistance (Net) plus Commercial Borrowings (Net) in the national income during each of the above last three years is 0.90, (-)0.95 and (-)0.82 respectively

(b) The main five countries that are making maximum foreign investments in India are: Mauritius (38.7%), USA (17.1%), Japan (6.8%), U.K (5.2%) and Germany (5.0%) during the last three years.

(c) Investment and returns are freely repatriable except where approval is subject to specific conditions such as lock-in period in original investment, etc. as per the notified sectoral policy.

(d) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) directly impacts on output growth in India by augmenting the available investible capital. However, a far more important impact of FDI is through externalities leading to higher efficiency and productivity. FDI typically serves to increase competition in markets, bring new technology, and foster skill acquisition amongst domestic labour. FDI by international corporations is also central to the process of India being utilised as a platform for global production chains, which would pave the way for strong export growth.

(e) During the Ninth Five Year Plan gross domestic savings was targeted to increase to 26% as percentage of GDP at market prices. In addition, foreign investments and borrowings were targeted at 2.1% of GDP at market prices so that the overall investment of 28.2% is achieved during the Ninth Plan period.

Similarly, during the Tenth Five Year Plan, Gross Domestic Savings are targeted to increase to 26.8% of GDP at market prices. The domestic savings are targeted to increase mainly as a result of increased public sector savings emerging from a reduction in dis-savings of the Government sector. Foreign investment and borrowing is expected to increase to 1.70% of GDP. The total investment as percentage of GDP is targeted to increase to 28.4% during the Tenth Plan.

#### **Investment by Multinational Companies**

1837. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether FICCI conducted a survey on the investment and expansion by the Multinational Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the MNCs have favoured higher investment in India provided infrastructure, legal and labour law bottleneck are removed;

(d) if so, whether the FICCI has presented the survey report to the Government for consideration and action; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to make the environment friendly for MNCs for their expansion plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) conducted a Foreign Direct Investors in India - 2002.

(b) and (c) Survey covered 385 respondents from across sectors. The five key conclusions of the survey were: (i) Performance of foreign investors is satisfactory with 61% reporting profits or break-even, (ii) 51% of respondents stated that they have expansion plans in the near future, (iii) States which are perceived more positively can be expected to receive higher FDI inflows in the near future, (iv) Policy issues have shown a marked improvement over the previous year with 93% indicating that handling of approvals at the centre is good to average and policy related issues are effective, (v) Market Growth conditions are still robust, (vi) The Survey also highlights need to rationalize the tax regime, labour laws and regulatory framework.

(d) FICCI submitted a copy of the survey report to Government of India for information.

(e) Government is now ushering in the second generation reforms aimed at further and faster integration of the Indian economy with the global economy. FDI is encouraged in almost all sectors including the services sector except a small negative list.

#### **Wealth Tax Assesseees**

1838. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the actual collection of wealth tax ranged from only 9 to 19 percent of the total outstanding arrears of wealth tax demand during 1997-98 to 2001-02;

(b) if so, the reasons for a steady decline in number of wealth tax assesseees though no major amendments have been made in the wealth tax law; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase wealth tax assesseees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

However, it may be noted that most of the outstanding wealth tax demand is not recoverable immediately as it is under various stages of litigation and also includes demands stayed by Courts/Settlement Commission/Appellate Tribunals and various Income Tax Authorities.

(b) The number of Wealth-tax assesseees is declining progressively because of the fact that with effect from AY 1993-94, only non-productive assets are being charged to Wealth-tax. Further, assesseees may also be making investments in exempt productive assets such as Bonds, Shares, Securities, Fixed Deposits, etc. for the purpose of availing the benefits of exemption from Wealth-tax. Another reason for the decline in the number of assesseees is that the exemption limit for filing of Wealth-tax returns has been raised to Rs.15 lakhs with effect from AY 1993-94.

Further, due to recent amendments in the Wealth-tax Act, w.e.f. 1.4.1999, the following classes of assets have also been exempted from the charge of Wealth-tax:-

- (i) Any residential property that has been let-out for a minimum period of three hundred days in the previous year;
- (ii) Any property in the nature of commercial establishments or complexes.

Thus it can be seen that Wealth-tax is presently chargeable only on a select few categories of "non-productive assets". It is because of these reasons that smaller Wealth tax assesseees have gone out of the tax net resulting in the decline in the number of Wealth-tax assesseees.

(c) The Government is taking a number of steps to bring more and more people under the wealth-tax net such as:

- (i) Introduction of One by Six scheme making it compulsory for persons satisfying any one of the six economic indicators such as ownership of house, car, etc. to file their returns of income.
- (ii) Introduction of changes in the Income-tax return forms to bring on record the ownership of various assets by the assesseees.
- (iii) Moreover, the Income Tax Department has undertaken a comprehensive computerization programme wherein all the 501 Income Tax Offices throughout the country are gradually being brought on an All India computerized network. With the proposed Tax Information Network

(TIN) in place, it will soon be possible to ensure that a person carrying out any business activity/financial transaction would fall within the tax net.

### External Borrowings

1839. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total external borrowing made by public sector and Indian Government in the years 2001-02, 2002-03;

(b) whether sovereign guarantee has been given by the Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons for giving the sovereign guarantee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The total external debt of the Public Sector and Indian Government outstanding at the end-March 2001, end-March 2002 and end-Dec. 2002 (latest available) are given below:

	(US \$ billion)		
	end- Mar.01	end- Mar.02	end- Dec. 02
1. Government Debt	44.0	43.6	45.8
2. Public Sector Debt*	9.0	8.2	7.1
3. External Debt with Government Guarantee (a+b+c)	6.3	7.0	6.4
a. Financial Sector	1.4	1.6	1.4
b. Public Sector	4.6	5.2	4.9
c. Private Sector	0.3	0.2	0.07

\* Public sector debt represents borrowings of non-financial public sector enterprises

(c) Government of India provides guarantees on selective basis to the Public Sector Enterprises for their external borrowings wherever it is an inescapable and unavoidable condition of the lender. A Guarantee fee is charged by the Government for this purpose to cover its 'contingent liability'.

### Business in Post-War Iraq

1840. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government apprised itself of the business scenario in post-war Iraq;

(b) if so, the details of the possibilities for Indian companies and industry;

(c) whether some Indian companies and industries have already got some contracts; and

(d) if so the nature of the business and foreign exchange likely to be earned by the Indian companies and industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) It is expected that good opportunities will arise for Indian companies in post-war Iraq. According to one assessment, Indian Industry will have opportunities for supply of essential items, in export of engineering goods and for construction sub-contracts. Indian companies may be preferred due to their long experience of such activities in Iraq.

(c) and (d) These Indian companies who had secured contracts under 'Oil for Food Programme' are in the process of fulfilment of their contractual obligations under the said Programme which has been extended up-to 20.11.2003 by the United Nations. More business opportunities may emerge for Indian companies subsequently. Thus, the quantum of foreign exchange to be earned cannot be specified.

#### **Bank Loan Defaulters**

1841. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many high officials of some companies/corporations who are the prime loan defaulters of banks and financial institutions are still on the Board of some of these banks/financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for keeping such officers of defaulter companies/corporations on the Board of banks and FIs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Import Growth**

1842. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether import bill of almost all the sectors has increased during the first quarter of current year;

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

(c) the sectors which have witnessed maximum import during the above period alongwith the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to curb the import bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) As per DGCI&S's quick estimates, there is an increase of 30.5% in imports during the first two months of the current year as compared to the same period of the previous year. The items, which have witnessed maximum import, are the following: Petroleum Crude and Products; Gold and Silver; Electronic Goods; Pearls, Precious and Semi-Precious Stones; Machinery, Electrical and Non-Electrical; Organic and Inorganic Chemicals and Vegetable Oil (Fixed).

With removal of quantitative restrictions on most of the items for imports, market demand determines the level of imports of any item. However, the imports are being closely monitored and the Government is determined to ensure through appropriate use of tariff and other mechanisms that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic producers.

#### **Export of Commercial Services**

1843. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Indian exports in respect of commercial services; and

(b) the details of measures taken by the Government to increase the export of commercial services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per the latest WTO report, the value of exports of commercial services made by India in 2002 is placed at US\$ 20.7 billion constituting 1.3% of the world exports of commercial services. The rate of growth of export of commercial services in 2002 over the previous year was 8% in dollar terms.

(b) Under the Exim Policy, the Government has formulated a scheme wherein Service Providers have been allowed duty free credit entitlement for import of spares, office equipment and furniture, professional equipment and consumables, except the agriculture and dairy products. The entitlement would be equivalent to 10% of the average foreign exchange earned by them in the preceding three licensing years excepting for the Service Providers in the Tourism Sector. The entitlement in the case of hotels of the category of three star and above and those related to the Tourism Sector, registered with the Department of Tourism, would be 5% of the average foreign exchange earned by them in the preceding three licensing years. The scheme will cover only those Service Providers who have an average foreign exchange earning of over 10 lakhs in the preceding three licensing years.

[Translation]

#### **Deferment of Deduction in Outstanding Amount**

1844. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the State Governments regarding deferment of deduction in the outstanding amount;

(b) if so, the details of issues mentioned in the representation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No request has been received during the current year for deferment of deduction in outstanding amount. However, Government of Orissa has requested for write off of 50% of the high cost loan and consolidation of balance outstanding loans of Government of India as on 31.3.2003 and Government of Nagaland have requested for waiving of interest burden.

(b) and (c) Debt relief by Government of India is guided by the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) for the period ending 2004-05. Any debt relief outside the EFC's recommendations would not be consistent.

[English]

#### **Price Stabilization Fund**

1845. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any plan to enhance the corpus of the price stabilization fund for the plantation sector from Rs.500 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Ministry of Finance in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the plan to enhance the corpus of the price likely to be stabilized in plantation sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The setting up of a Price Stabilisation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore for the benefit of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco growers has recently been approved by Government of India with effect from April, 2003. Any enhancement of the corpus of the Fund will be considered only after assessing the performance of the scheme for 2-3 years.

#### **Modernisation of NTC Mills**

1846. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 119 textile mills with NTC in the country, only 24 mills are working in full potential while 53 are working partially and 42 are lying closed;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have not allocated a single penny to any State since 1996-97 onwards for modernization of NTC mills;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefore; and

(e) the amount of loss suffered by the Government due to these mills during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) Out of the 119 NTC mills, 72 mills are functioning presently. 44 unviable mills have been closed after giving VRS to employees. The balance 3 mills are not functioning due to operational reasons; but are proposed for revival as per the Rehabilitation Scheme approved by BIFR.

(c) and (d) As per rehabilitation Scheme approved by BIFR, modernisation of the revival mills is to be carried out with the proceeds from sale of surplus lands. The process of land sale is currently going on. From the proceeds so far accrued from sale of surplus lands, Rs.26.42 Cr. has been earmarked for release as first instalment for modernisation/maintenance in the mills.

(e) NTC sustained a net loss of Rs.1,075.57 Cr. in 2000-01, Rs.617.23 Cr. in 2001-02 and Rs.1,488.39 Cr. in 2002-03.

#### **New Insurance Scheme**

1847. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not provided any assistance to Karnataka Government under the New Insurance Scheme and Development of Exportable products and their marketing scheme launched by the Central Government in the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 respectively for the development of handloom industry; and

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) Under the New Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers, no funds have been released as no proposals were submitted by the Karnataka Government.

Under the scheme of Development of Exportable

Products and their Marketing, a sum of Rs.15.91 lakh was sanctioned during 2001-02, out of which a sum of Rs.7.951 lakh was released as the first instalment.

#### **Sugar Development Loan**

1848. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given on May 9, 2003 to the Unstarred Question No.6835 regarding sugar development loan and state:

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by the State Government of Maharashtra for sanctioning of the sugar development loan for cane development to the sugar factories in the State;

(b) the number of such proposals examined by the Union Government and when were these proposals submitted by the State Government;

(c) the amount recommended for sanction against each of such proposal; and

(d) the reasons for not sanctioning all the proposals recommended by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) Between January, 2000-June, 2003, 66 proposals were received through the Government of Maharashtra in respect of financial assistance for cane development from the Sugar Development Fund. The information relating to the proposals sanctioned so far, including the amounts involved, is contained in the enclosed statement.

2. The proposals received from the State Governments and Union Territories in this behalf require to be scrutinized in the light of the relevant criteria and a view taken after full information, as required, has been furnished by the authorities concerned.

#### **Statement**

S.No.	Name of sugar unit	Date of State Government's recommendation	Status
1	2	3	4
<b>Year 2000</b>			
1.	Sahakar Maharishi Swargiya Bapuraoji Deshmukh SSK Ltd., Distt. Wardha.	4.2.2000	Loan of Rs.210.13 lakhs sanctioned.



1	2	3	4
2.	Vishwasrao Naik SSK Ltd. Yeswantnagar, Distt. Sangli	16.2.2000	Loan of Rs.269.87 lakhs sanctioned.
3.	The Sanjivani (Takil) SSK Ltd., Sahajanandnagar, Distt. Ahmednagar	31.3.2000	Loan of Rs.273.60 lakhs sanctioned.
4.	Sant Eknath SSK Ltd. Khanapur, Distt. Sangli	4.4.2000	Loan of Rs.262.305 lakhs sanctioned.
5.	Yeshwant SSK Ltd., Tal. Seloo, Distt. Wardha.	5.5.2000	Loan of Rs.298.08 lakhs sanctioned.
6.	Mahatma SSK Ltd., al. Seloo, Distt. Wardha.	2.11.2000	Loan of Rs.132.80 lakhs sanctioned.
7.	Manjara Shetkari SSK Ltd., Distt. Latur	3.11.2000	Loan of Rs.269.75 lakhs sanctioned.
8.	Doodhganga Vedganga SSK Ltd., Distt. Kolhapur	13.12.2000	Loan of Rs.252.66 lakhs sanctioned.
<b>Year 2001</b>			
9.	Sahakar Maharishi Shankarrao Mohite Patil SSK Ltd., Distt. Solapur	2.2.2001	Loan of Rs.297.00 lakhs sanctioned.
10.	Hutatma Kisan Ahir SSK Ltd., Distt. Sangli	16.2.2001	Loan of Rs.300.00 lakhs sanctioned.
11.	Sahakar Maharshi Shankarrao Mohite Patil SSK Ltd., Distt. Solapur	19.2.2001	Loan of Rs.297.00 lakhs sanctioned.
12.	Shri Dnyaneshwar SSK Ltd., Tal. Newasa, Distt. Ahmednagar	5.9.2001	Loan of Rs.189.00 lakhs sanctioned.
13.	Bhima Shankar SSK Ltd., Distt. Pune	2.11.2001	Loan of Rs.269.71 lakhs sanctioned.
14.	Krishina SSK Ltd., Distt. Satara	19.11.2001	Loan of Rs.157.50 lakhs sanctioned.
<b>Year 2002</b>			
15.	M/s Natural Sugar and Allied Industries Ltd., (Sai Nagar), Ranjani, Tal. Kallam, Distt. Osmanabad.	11.1.2002	Loan of Rs.137.36 lakhs sanctioned.
16.	Sh. Sant Tukaram SSK Ltd., Distt. Pune,	11.1.2002	Loan of Rs.279.00 lakhs sanctioned.
17.	Jarandeshwar SSK Ltd., Distt. Satara	7.2.2002	Loan of Rs.224.64 lakhs sanctioned.

**Audit of Companies**

1849. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review some of the provisions of rules affecting auditors and their reports which have become applicable from July 1, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the use of long term loans by companies for short-term investments is one subject which get emphatic scrutiny in future;

(d) whether such finances were not being properly used or conservatively invested by companies; and

(e) if so, the safeguards instituted to ensure that companies are constantly under watch by auditors for their actions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has issued the Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2003 [CARO, 2003] under Section 227(4A) of the Companies Act, 1956 by virtue of which auditors are required to, inter-alia, report on certain additional requirements prescribed by Central Government. Apart from many such matters, the report shall also, include a statement regarding use of long term funds by companies for short term investments and vice-versa.

(d) and (e) The purpose of seeking a report from the auditors on use of long term funds is to discover whether they are being properly used by companies. Proper disclosure is itself a primary safeguard against misuse, as such misuse would then come to the notice of shareholders, the owners of the company.

#### Electronic Transaction

1850. SHRI A BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether income tax authorities are planning to dematerialise the challan issued by banks as a receipt;

(b) if so, whether the Income Tax Department have any proposal to accept payment electronically by banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with the time by which such system came into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The Task Force headed by Dr. Vijay Kelkar has recommended a revised procedure for collection of taxes and their accounting. Under the new procedure, a tax payer will be required to fill up only one copy of the challan while making payment of the tax in the bank. The present requirement of filling up four copies of challan for payment of direct taxes is proposed to be given up. The banks will be networked to Tax Information Network (TIN) and will receive payment on-line. The banks will be required to issue a computerized receipt to the taxpayer simultaneously. With instant accounting of tax collection, the requirement of enclosing a copy of the challan as evidence of tax payment along with the annual return of income would be done away. It is also recommended that since the Tax Information Network will digitize all its returns, the requirement to file TDS certificate alongwith the return of income may also be dispensed with

To implement these suggestions, the Reserve Bank of India has constituted a High Powered Committee for setting up the facilities for online Transmission of Tax Payment Data from banks to the Income Tax Department. The issue of Electronic payment to Banks shall also be examined after all bank branches are fully computerized. The new system is expected to be operationalized by the beginning of the next financial year.

#### Meeting of CMD and Employees Representatives of GIC

1851. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had called a meeting of the CMDs of the four non-life insurance public sector companies and representatives of the unions in this sector on June 30, 2003;

(b) if so, the details of the points discussed in the meeting; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. A meeting was scheduled for 30.6.2003 to discuss the procedural matters relating to Check-off System to determine the representative strength of Unions/Associations in the public sector general insurance companies. The meeting could not materialize due to office exigencies.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Creation of Textile Fund

1852. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a report submitted by the India Cotton Mills Federation, the textile industry had a loan exposure of about Rs. 20,000 crore, of which Rs. 16,000 crore was from institutional sources;

(b) whether with the creation of Rs. 5,000 crore textile fund, nearly Rs. 10,000 crore of the institutional loans could be repaid to the lenders;

(c) whether a significant number of potentially viable units was not able to repay their debts owing to debt driven capital structure and high cost of debt;

(d) if so, whether the Government have decided to come forward to rescue them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to ICMF report, with the creation of Rs.5000 crores Textile Reconstruction Fund, nearly Rs.10,000 crores of the institutional loans could be restructured in such a way that repayment to the lenders could be ensured.

(c) High cost of debt servicing was one of the main reasons for default in the repayment of debt by a number of potentially viable units.

(d) and (e) A number of proposals in this regard are before the Government and the Government is in consultation with all stakeholders.

#### Coarse Grains of FCI

1853. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether small and medium traders have urged the Government to withdraw the new tendering norms of payment and the lifting of stocks for coarse grains introduced by the FCI;

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

(c) whether the Government have accepted the demand of the small and medium traders; and

(d) if not, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has received representations from traders for change in the tendering norms of payment and lifting of stocks of coarsegrains.

(b) Two representations received from the Maharashtra Roller Four Millers' Association, Mumbai and M/s Hansa Enterprises, Mumbai, have raised the following common issues:-

(i) the time limit for making payments may be revised from 10 days to 90 days without interest and storage charges etc.; and

(ii) the delivery period of 30 working days may also be extended.

(c) No, Sir. The FCI has not accepted the demand of the small and medium traders.

(d) The period of 10 working days (approximately 15 calendar days) for making payment and 30 working days (approximately 45 working days) for delivery has been prescribed to ensure quick disposal to genuine parties. It would not be in administrative interest to reduce this period.

#### Industrial Clusters Development Scheme

1854. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to introduce an Industrial Clusters Development Scheme for strengthening infrastructure and other facilities in certain existing Industrial Clusters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has proposed a new scheme for upgradation of industrial infrastructures in selected locations, in the name of Industrial Cluster Development Scheme for implementation in the Tenth Five Year Plan. However, the name of the Scheme has been changed to Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) with the main emphasis on upgrading the quality of infrastructures in the existing industrial locations with a view to enhance the competitiveness of the Indian Industry. The Expenditure Finance Committee has approved the Scheme. The proposed Scheme will now be placed before the Cabinet for seeking its approval.

#### Refund of Social Security Payments

1855. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has demanded the USA to refund social security payments;

(b) if so, the response of USA Government in this regard; and

(c) the total amount of payments to be refunded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) India has offered USA to enter into a Social Security Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement. As per preliminary estimates Indian professionals contribute about US \$ 500 million annually to the US Social Security Programme. So far no agreement could be reached on the subject.

#### **Export Quota Policy**

1856. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many exporters are complaining against existing quota policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to remove drawbacks in the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) to (c) The Government had set up a Task Force to make recommendations on the long term quota (export entitlement) distribution policies for a period of five years with effect from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2004. The Task Force invited responses from Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), leading trade associations and federations on various exporters and the associations concerned at New Delhi and Mumbai. Thus it may be seen that the Task Force considered the inputs from a wide range of sources before submitting the report. This report was taken into account while framing the New Quota Policy.

Suggestions are received from various associations of textile/garment exporters from time to time. These are duly considered and appropriate changes are made, whenever deemed necessary, to facilitate the smooth operation of the Quota System. Some of the changes affected in the Garment and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy (2000-2004) and Yarn, Fabrics and Made-ups Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy (2000-2004) Notifications due to these suggestions are listed below:-

- (i) Issue regarding third party shipments are not allowed in respect of non-transferable quotas has

been clarified. This has been done because third party shipments are nothing but de-facto transfers and, therefore, the third party shipments against non-transferable quotas are violation of the provisions of policy and are liable for enforcement action.

- (ii) To allow the stand alone exporting units, directly engaged in value addition to garments and totally dedicated to garmenting activity, to claim New Investors Entitlement (NIE) quota. Besides, the Notification also provides the NIE quota holders to opt for not more than 50% of their eligible investment for entitlement in the next year. This provision has been introduced to facilitate continuity in export operations by the new investors.
- (iii) Carry over of Part-I quotas to Part-II period has been allowed in PPE/NQE system subject to the condition that quota of that country/category which the exporter wants to carry over to the second part and even the second part quota in that particular country/category shall become non-transferable during the entire allotment year. The measure has been introduced to mitigate the difficulties in export of certain textile categories having seasonality in demand.
- (iv) Mutual Transfer System along-with ETS has been allowed and DG, AEPC empowered to review his speaking order in respect of pending appeal cases of first and second appellate authority.
- (v) Base period has been extended from 12 months to 20 months in respect of NIE quota entitlement. The amendment is intended to make the relaxations granted during 2001 valid for the remaining period of quota regime i.e. upto 2004.
- (vi) Relaxation has been given in performance level for purpose of forfeiture of EMD/BG/LUT/Post Dated Cheque for the year 2001.
- (vii) The last dates of realisation of exports from 31st August has been changed to 31st December in sub-para 5 (iii) and 7 (iv) of the Garment & Knitwear Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy 2002-2004.

#### **Export of Foodgrains**

1857. SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

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

(a) the target of export of wheat and rice achieved for 2001-02 and 2002-03 and foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) whether the Union Government have earmarked any target for the export of foodgrains for the year 2003-04;

(c) if so, the details thereof, foodgrain-wise;

(d) the quantity of foodgrains exported by NAFED during the last three years alongwith varieties and rate;

(e) whether private traders and cooperative institutions have also exported such foodgrains after obtaining NOC from NAFED;

(f) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that gross irregularities are committed in obtaining No Objection Certificate and enquiry made thereinto; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) The Government have not fixed any quantitative targets for export of foodgrains from the Central Pool. The quantity and value of wheat and rice exported during 2001-02 and 2002-03, as per figures furnished by Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, is at enclosed statement.

The foreign exchange earned by the country in terms of US Dollars would depend upon the rates contracted by the exporters. The actual remittances received in the country would be higher than the value paid by the exporters to the FCI for purchasing the stocks.

(d) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) has reported that 1.24 lakh MTs, 0.76 lakh MTs and 0.05 lakh MTs of wheat amounting to Rs.56.81 crore, Rs.37.49 crore and Rs.5.34 crore have been exported during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively. Similarly, 1.27 lakh MTs, 2.49 lakh MTs and 0.13 lakh MTs of rice amounting to Rs.84.17 crore, Rs.169.53 crore and Rs.9.15 crore have been exported during the above periods.

(e) to (g) NAFED has reported that it has exported wheat and rice on its own as well as through Associate Shippers who are Government of India, recognized export houses/trading houses. NAFED has not issued NOC to any private or Cooperative Institutions for the purpose of export of wheat and rice from the Central Pool.

#### Statement

Commodity	April 2001-March 2002		April 2002-March 2003	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Rice Basmati	667.07	1842.77	594.87	1729.54
Rice (Other than Basmati)	1541.49	1331.37	4076.35	3634.08
Wheat	2649.38	1330.21	3570.90	1700.18

(Quantity '000 tonnes)  
(Value: Rs. Crores)  
(Provisional)

\* Source: Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, Kolkata.

#### Pending Central Excise Duty

1858. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a 150 percent increase in the amount of Central Excise duty of Rs.45,685 crores pending decision with different authorities on March 31, 2002 as compared to earlier year;

(b) whether recovery cells set up to realise outstanding dues managed to realise only a sum of Rs. 1.58 crores after four years of their establishment; and

(c) if so, the effective steps being taken to realise huge excise arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Assistance to Weavers for Modernisation of Looms

1859. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are providing assistance to weavers of various States for modernisation of their looms;

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

(c) the number of looms modernised thus in Punjab during last three years; and

(d) the number of looms proposed to be modernised during current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Yes, Sir. Assistance is provided to the weavers under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) for modernisation of their looms.

(b) The details of assistance provided for purchase of new looms, dobby, jacquard and accessories so far under the DDHPY to enable modernisation of the looms are as under:-

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	105.36
2	Arunachal Pradesh	90.09
3	Assam	1652.97
4	Chhattisgarh	18.86
5	Gujarat	425.00
6	Himachal Pradesh	36.99
7	Jammu & Kashmir	8.10
8	Kerala	16.12
9	Madhya Pradesh	4.99
10	Manipur	274.84
11	Meghalaya	3.37
12	Nagaland	161.10
13	Rajasthan	1.41
14	Tamil Nadu	80.24
15	Tripura	13.57
16	Uttar Pradesh	415.77
17	Uttaranchal	28.88
18	West Bengal	109.19
Total		3446.85

(c) and (d) No State-wise physical and financial targets are fixed under the DDHPY. Assistance is provided on the basis of viable proposals received from the State Government in conformity with the guidelines of the scheme. No proposal has been received from the Government of Punjab so far under the DDHPY.

#### **New Joint Venture by Foreign Companies**

1860. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review its policy governing the exit of foreign company from a joint venture with its Indian partner and setting up a new venture by the overseas partner;

(b) whether it is obligatory on the part of a foreign company to obtain a no objection certificate from its original Indian partner for starting a new joint venture;

(c) if so, the names of the business partners who had separated and set up a new company during the last one year; and

(d) the details of the policy change, if any, made by the Government to protect the interest of the Indian companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The current policy in this regard is governed by Press Note No.18 of 1998 (on Guidelines pertaining to approval of foreign/technical collaborations under the automatic route with previous ventures/tie up in India) issued by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

(b) No Sir. Press Note No. 18 of 1998 stipulates that the automatic route for FDI and for technology collaboration would not be available to those who have or had any previous joint venture on technology transfer/trade-mark agreement in the same or allied field in India.

(c) Details of joint venture partners who had separated and set up a new company during the last one year are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The current policy already takes into account the legitimate interests of the Indian joint venture partners.

#### **Dumping of Acrylic Fibres**

1861. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Acrylic Fibres originating from Belarus are being dumped in the country;

(b) if so, the total quantity of Acrylic Fibre dumped in the country by the Belarus;

(c) whether any representation has been received by the Government from affected companies/corporations manufacturing Acrylic Fibre in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken against the dumping of Acrylic Fibres by the Belarus;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up any organization to assess the impact of dumping of goods by countries and the exact quantity of goods being dumped in the country so that action is taken immediately without any loss of time; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (e) On the basis of a petition received from the Forum of Acrylic Fibres Manufacturers Association, New Delhi, the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties (DGAD) has initiated Anti-dumping investigations into the alleged dumping of Acrylic Fibres from Belarus vide Notification dated 1.7.2003. As per the Anti-dumping rules, anti-dumping investigation is required to be concluded within a period of 12 months from the date of its initiation. However, in exceptional circumstances, it may be extended by and upto 6 months. The extent of dumping or otherwise of Acrylic Fibres from Belarus would be assessed during the investigations and Preliminary Findings and Final Findings would accordingly be notified.

(f) and (g) Government has already set up the organisation of Designated Authority to deal with dumping matters under rule 3 of Custom Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules. 1995.

#### Import of Gold and Silver

1862. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) there has been a spurt in the import of gold and whether silver during May, 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the extent to which India's import bill has increased as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The information available on provisional basis indicates that there has not been any spurt in the import of gold and silver during the month of May, 2003.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Revised Export Target

1863. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Directorate General of Foreign Trade had announced that export growth is expected to be buoyant in the first quarter of this financial year;

(b) whether DGFT has predicted that the Sectors like textiles, gems, basic chemicals and engineering will exceed set targets for exports;

(c) whether this growth in the four sectors indicative of buoyancy for the whole year in these sectors;

(d) whether there is a proposal to revise the targets for exports upwards for these four sectors for current fiscal; and

(e) if so, the details of new targets being set?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) According to the Provisional data available with the Government for the period April-June, 2003-04, the Basic Chemicals have registered growth rate of 6.50% in dollar terms. Gems & Jewellery, Engineering Goods and Textiles have registered a decline of 14%, 1.90% and 4.2% respectively in dollar terms.

(d) and (e) An export growth target of 12% in dollar

terms has been fixed for 2003-04 and as of now there is no proposal to revise the target in the current fiscal year.

#### **Interest Rates on NRE Accounts**

1864. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has stipulated that interest rates on new repatriable non-resident (NRE) accounts should not exceed 2.5% over LIBOR;

(b) if so, the reasons for this new RBI guideline regarding interest rates on NRE accounts;

(c) whether the Indian Banks are paying very high interest rates on NRE accounts; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to reduce foreign exchange outflow by reducing the interest rates on such accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has issued directive advising banks that the interest rates on Non-Resident External (NRE) deposit for one to three years should not exceed 250 basis points above the LIBOR/SWAP rates for US dollar for corresponding maturity. This was done in order to provide consistency in the interest rates offered by the banks to Non-Resident Indians.

(c) and (d) At present, the interest rates on FCNR (B) deposits are subject to a ceiling of LIBOR/SWAP rates for the corresponding maturities minus 25 basis points, and generally conform to global interest rates in foreign currency deposits in US Dollar, pound sterling, euro etc.

#### **List of Non-Sensitive Items for Tariff Concessions from ASEAN**

1865. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalized the list of non-sensitive items for possible tariff concessions to be sought from ASEAN in exchange of similar list presented by the members of the ASEAN;

(b) whether suggestions were invited from the member countries of ASEAN with regard to the list to be included in the proposed regional trade and investment agreement so as to ensure that India's domestic industry is not in any way affected in the matter of exports to ASEAN;

(c) if so, the details of the lists finalized in this regard;

(d) whether the same has the approval of all the ASEAN countries; and

(e) the extent to which the proposed items included in the list are to benefit the country in the export of such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (e) ASEAN India Economic Linkages Task Force (AIELTF) has been mandated to prepare a draft Framework Agreement to enhance ASEAN India Trade Economic Cooperation and recommend measures and integration towards closer economic partnership. The Framework Agreement covers the provisions of Free Trade Agreement in goods, services and investments between India and ASEAN. One of the components of the Framework Agreement is an Early Harvest Programme (EHP) as a confidence building measure between India and ASEAN. Discussions are continuing with the members of ASEAN to finalise the agreed common list of items on which tariff concessions can be exchanged under the EHP, with the objective of enhancing the trade between India and ASEAN. The common endeavour is to exchange concession on an agreed common list of items in such a way as to achieve a trade coverage of 5-10% of the total bilateral India - ASEAN trade volume. The EHP items will get subsumed into the full-fledged FTA on goods to be negotiated and finalised subsequent to signing of the Framework Agreement.

#### **Sugar Release Mechanism**

1866. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new norms/rules governing sugar release mechanism have come into force;

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

(c) the total number of buyers/sellers who have flouted the rules as on date and have been booked;

(d) the action taken against them; and

(e) the extent to which the Government's action has helped the sugar management crisis?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (e) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has been amended in June 2003 through the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2003 (37 of 2003) with a view, inter-alia, to strengthen the "Regulated Release" mechanism governing the supply of levy free sugar. The powers conferred on the Central Government by the said Amendment were exercised for the release of monthly quota for July, 2003.

2. It is envisaged that through stabilization of the market prices of levy-free sugar, the capacity of the sugar mills to pay cane price dues of the sugarcane growers would also improve.

#### EEC and UK Assistance to State Projects

1867. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by European Economic Community and U.K. to various Indian States' projects during the last two years and till date, State-wise particularly in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan and Germany are the major contributors to external assistance to the States; and

(c) if so, the details of assistance received by the States during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) State-wise details of financial assistance provided by European Economic Community and U.K. during the last two years and till 30.6.2003 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details of external assistance received during the said period by the States are given in the enclosed statement-II.

#### Statement-I

(Figures in Rs. crore)

S.No.	State	Disbursement during		
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
<b>European Economic Community</b>				
1.	Haryana	9.13	11.35	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Kerala	9.18	0.00	0.00
3.	Maharashtra	5.20	0.00	0.00
4.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	4.96
5.	Pondicherry	3.46	2.15	0.00
6.	Rajasthan	24.91	0.00	0.00
7.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	3.52
8.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.25	0.00
9.	Uttaranchal	19.21	4.11	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>United Kingdom</b>				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	527.65	167.52	15.91
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2.36	0.00	0.00
3.	Karnataka	3.53	6.37	5.60
4.	Kerala	20.04	0.00	0.00
5.	Orissa	15.51	283.88	18.43
6.	Rajasthan	19.36	13.22	1.50
7.	Uttar Pradesh	5.61	10.90	2.12
8.	West Bengal	3.97	0.71	0.00

#### Statement-II

(Figures in Rupee<sup>a</sup> Crore)

S.No.	State	Disbursement during		
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
(upto 30.6.2003)				
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3436.91	2022.373	222.518
2.	Assam	123.86	62.616	0
3.	Bihar	0.6	0.279	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	8	4.59	1.687
5.	Delhi	1.38	1.429	0

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	563.9	738.154	265.441
7.	Haryana	305.17	50.372	8.991
8.	Himachal Pradesh	17	16.014	2.75
9.	Karnataka	1683.48	429.078	73.735
10.	Kerala	56.16	743.022	20.47
11.	Manipur	4.1	9.297	0
12.	Meghalaya	43.52	11.707	0
13.	Maharashtra	288.07	471.279	30.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	505.28	543.855	48.992
15.	Mizoram	0	19.154	8.505
16.	Orissa	298.98	626.166	118.366
17.	Pondicherry	3.46	2.149	0
18.	Punjab	69.42	37.414	0
19.	Rajasthan	169.7	350.837	128.626
20.	Sikkim	0.06	1.241	0
21.	Tamil Nadu	293.34	278.586	30.278
22.	Uttar Pradesh	677.86	549.301	101.263
23.	Uttaranchal	19.21	4.112	0
24.	West Bengal	470.62	526.969	85.234
25.	Multistates	595.33	768.473	213.395

#### Ban on Export of Dual Use Products

1868. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are keen on controlling or banning the export of dual use products by amending the existing Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for compelling the Government to take such a decision;

(c) whether the Government have identified such products/equipments;

(d) if so, the details of such products/equipments;

(e) the countries where such equipments are exported by India at present; and

(f) the likely impact on our foreign trade by control of these exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The Export and Import Policy of India and the ITC(HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library, notified under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 already contain provisions for regulating the export of dual use (SCOMET) items. These items are listed in Appendix-3 of Schedule 2 of ITC(HS) Classification of Export-Import Items 2002- 2007.

The review of provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 92 is undertaken from time to time with reference to the basic objectives of the Exim Policy, national security concerns as well as our commitments through international agreements, conventions and treaties.

(e) and (f) The dual use items are permitted for exports to various countries as per the Exim Policy on the basis of license issued by DGFT. The quantum of export of dual use items under licensing is very small. Such export regulations do not have any noticeable effect on our foreign trade in general.

#### Export of Man-made Fibres

1869. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several importers from the USA and the European Union have expanded their activities in India for the import of man-made fibre;

(b) whether China has so far been monopolising the export of these items and their quantum of exports jumped considerably during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring down the high tariffs with a view to compete with the other textile exporting countries;

(d) whether the Government have explored the

possibilities of increasing its export of man-made fibre items to the USA and other European countries;

(e) if so, the likely increase expected in the export of these items in the coming years in comparison to the earlier two years;

(f) whether the Government have negotiated any bilateral agreements with large consumer countries like USA and European Union to provide market access to Indian exporters on a level playing field;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps have been taken or being taken by the Government to increase the export of man-made fibre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) The imports of synthetic and re-generated fibre in the country from USA and European Union have registered a growth of 10.3% and 45.6% respectively in 2002-03 as compared to 2001-02.

(b) According to the information furnished by the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai (SRTEPC), though China's volume of man-made fibre textiles exports are comparatively high, the quantum of China's exports of man made fibre textiles did not grow significantly during the last two years.

(c) The Government has been following a suitable tariff structure for man-made fibre textile items keeping in view its international commitments and also keeping in view the growth and development of domestic industry to meet the global competition.

(d) SRTEPC has been pursuing its efforts in terms of holding exhibitions/BSMs, conducting market studies, overseas publications, direct mails in order to increase the export of man-made textiles to all countries, including USA and EU. Council's participation in various exhibitions like TIP 9, Belgium, Intertex, Milan, Italy, Texworld Paris, Indian Textile exhibition at Hungary, Czech Republic and Poland in the previous years has resulted a significant growth in the exports. Exports to USA have grown considerably for those items where quota was removed in earlier phases. Since, the export potential of Indian man-made textiles to USA is affected by the quotas, the complete phase out of quota regime by the year 2005 will help Indian exports to grow further.

(e) The exports of man-made textiles to USA and EU have grown by 76% and 5.34% respectively in 2002-03 as compared to 2001-02, though there was a decline in 2001-

02. The Council is aiming to achieve a higher growth rate for USA and EU during 2003-04.

(f) and (g) In December 1994, India had signed two separate market access textile agreements (called MoUs) with European Union and United States. Under Indo-EU and Indo-US MoUs, market access was to be facilitated through tariff bindings and removal of Quantitative Restrictions. EU was to remove all restrictions on India's exports of handloom products and cottage industries products. In addition, India was to be given exceptional flexibilities in addition to existing flexibilities. The quantum of flexibilities was 7000 tonnes per year for 1995-97 and 8000 tonnes per year for 1998-2004.

As per the Indo-US MoU signed in December 1994, the US had extended the following provisions to India:-

- The specific limit on Cat. 369-O, comprising other cotton made-ups, has been removed.
- The base levels for the categories 218 (yarn Dyed Fabrics); 219 (Duck Fabrics); 313 (Cotton Sheeting); 342/642 (Cotton & MMF Skirts); 347/348 (Trousers/Slacks & Shorts) and Group II have been increased by 5%.
- Additional 5% quotas have been given for 100% cotton garments made of handloom fabrics in categories 334/634 (Men's and boys coats) and 351/651 (Pyjamas and nightwear).
- In certain categories, additional flexibilities viz. swing, Special swings etc. have been provided.
- All outstanding issues relating to the export of 'ghagrias' have been resolved.

(h) Government have been taking a number of measures to increase the export of textiles including man-made fibres. Some of the important initiatives are:-

- (i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (ii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.
- (iii) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms and other important textile machinery items has been brought down to 5%.

- (iv) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.
- (v) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)' has been launched.

#### Pilferage of Foodgrains

1870. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

DR SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "FCI eats up, is always hungry for more" appearing in 'Indian Express' dated May 10, 2003;

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

(c) the action taken against those held responsible; and

(d) the preventive measures taken against such recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The News Report of 10th May, 2003 (Indian Express) contains the observations of the latest CAG Report No.4 of 2003. The facts are as follows:-

- (i) Losses occur in transit, inter-alia on account of multiple handling, long distance carriage, trans-shipment and loss of moisture. As per the records of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) the losses in transit between the period 1997-98 to 2000-2001 were about Rs.758.68 Crore.
- (ii) Storage losses occur due to diriage of moisture, long duration of storage, bird/rodent menace and theft. Storage loss of Rs.2,233 crore reported is for the period 1982-83 to 1999-2000 (i.e. for 18 years).

(iii) The total purchase of levy rice from 1997-98 to 2000-2001 was 372.89 lakh MTs and as per CAG, the substandard procurement of rice was 3.67 lakh MTs. Thus the percentage works out to 0.98% only.

(iv) In Punjab, procurement is made through Kacha Arthias registered with the Market Committees established under the relevant law. That is the reason the relevant column relating to payment to farmers, was kept blank. This, however, does not mean that prompt payments were not made to the farmers.

(v) The Budget Estimate of the food subsidy for 2003-04 is Rs.27,750 crore. The increase in subsidy over the years was due to various reasons such as increase in MSP, higher levels of buffer stocks due to increased level of procurement, and high off-take leading to higher consumer subsidy, normal inflationary trends, etc.

(vi) The figure of 4997 Vigilance Cases pending in FCI since 1997 quoted in the Audit Report appear to have been calculated by the addition of all closing balances of pending Vigilance Cases in the FCI. The number of Vigilance cases pending as' on 31.12.2001 was only 1663.

(vii) The FCI could not finalise its accounts up-to-date as earlier there was a dispute between the FCI and the Principal Auditors. After an amendment in the Food Corporations Act in June, 2000 the C&AG became the sole auditor. The accounts of the FCI have since been certified by the C&AG upto 1999-2000. The backlog is only for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02, the accounts for which are currently under audit.

(c) and (d) The operations of the FCI are monitored by the Government from time to time and the guidelines and instructions are enforced Strictly in order to plug the loopholes. Wherever specific irregularities have been noticed, action has been initiated under Staff Regulations/Vigilance procedures to fix responsibility. The penalties vary from stoppage of increment, reduction to lower ranks, dismissal from service, etc. Criminal action is also taken, wherever warranted.

The FCI has been taking various preventive measures like surprise inspection of depots, augmentation of covered storage capacity, installation of electronic weigh bridges, deployment of Central Industrial Security Force personnel at vulnerable depots, etc. Further, instruction are issued to field functionaries for procurement of foodgrains strictly as per the specifications laid down, for disposal of all pending disciplinary cases in a time bound fashion etc.

**Gold Bank**

1871. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a Gold Bank to operate as a refinance agency for banks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage dealing in gold abroad through a government run gold bank to operate in international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) At present there is no proposal for setting up a Gold Bank to operate as a refinance agency for banks.

(b) *Does not arise.*

(c) Two schemes are being operated by authorized/nominated banks to make available gold to domestic users and jewellery exporters. The two schemes are (i) Gold Deposit Scheme (ii) Gold Import Scheme.

SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Basangouda R. Patil (Yatnal), 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 British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, for the year 2001-2002.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

*[Placed in Library. See No. L. T. 7872/2003]*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:-
  - (i) G.S.R. 521 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to allow provisional assessment of consignments of vitrified and porcelain tiles, other than industrial vitrified tiles, produced by M/s Nanhai Shangyuan Oulian Construction Ceramics Co. Limited, China and exported by M/s Prestige General Trading, Dubai, UAE.
  - (ii) G.S.R.522 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No.35/99-Cus., dated the 17th March, 1999.
  - (iii) G.S.R. 524(E) published in Gazette of India dated 3rd July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No.23/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.

12.01 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission of India:-

- (1) One Hundred Eighty-Fourth Report on the Legal Education and Professional Training and Proposals for Amendments to the Advocates Act, 1961 and the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.

*[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7860/2003]*

- (2) One Hundred Eighty-fifth Report on Review of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (Volumes I to IV)

*[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7861/2003]*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SYED

- (iv) G.S.R. 525 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 7th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the imposition of final anti-dumping duty on graphite electrodes, originating in, or exported from China, at the rates recommended by the designated authority.
- (v) G.S.R. 526 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated 7th July 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 20/98-Cus., dated the 5th May, 1998.
- (vi) G.S.R. 534 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated 9th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on green veneer tape, originating in, or exported from, Chinese Taipei, at the rates recommended by the Designated authority.
- (vii) G.S.R. 537 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated 10th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Mulberry Raw Silk (not thrown) 2A grade, originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China.
- (viii) G.S.R. No. 543 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated the 11th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Titanium dioxide, originating in, or exported from, the People's Republic of China, at the rates recommended by the designated authority.
- (ix) G.S.R. No. 545 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Ammonium nitrate, originating in, or exported from, Russia and Iran, at the rates recommended by the designated authority.
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-
- (i) G.S.R. 544 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 50/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (ii) S.O. 547 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 36/2001-Cus. (N.T.) dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (iii) S.O. 603 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency of *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of import.
- (iv) S.O. 604 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of export.
- (v) S.O. 729 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of import.
- (vi) S.O. 730 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of export.
- (3) A copy of the Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coins) of the Hundred Rupees (Containing Silver 50%, Copper 40%, Nickel 5% and Zinc 5%), Ten Rupees (containing Copper 75% and Nickel 25%) and One Rupee Ferritic Stainless Steel (containing Iron 82% and Chromium 18%) coined in honour of "Maharana Pratap" Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 432 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th May, 2003 under sub-section (1) of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7862/2003]

- (4) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Indore, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon under sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7863/2003]

- (5) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Reports thereon.
  - (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Reports thereon.
  - (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (v) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (v) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (vii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (viii) Report on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7864/2003]

- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994:-
- (i) G.S.R. No. 499 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the service tax leviable on call centres and medical transcription centres.
  - (ii) G.S.R. No. 500 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the service tax leviable on services provided in relation to commercial training or coaching by vocational training institutes, computer training and recreational training institutes.
  - (iii) G.S.R. No. 501 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the service tax leviable on services by certain commercial training or coaching centres or vocational training institutes as mentioned in the Notification, subject to certain conditions.
  - (iv) G.S.R. No. 502 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the service tax leviable on services in relation to the maintenance or repair, under a maintenance contract or agreement in relation to maintenance or repair of any goods or equipment excluding motor vehicle, which was entered into prior to the 1st day of July, 2003 provided the bill for such services is raised, and payment made, before the 1st July, 2003.
  - (v) G.S.R. No. 503 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt with effect from 1st July, 2003 so much of the value of all the taxable services, as is equal to the value of goods and

materials sold by the service provider to the recipient of service, from the service tax leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.

- (vi) G.S.R No. 504 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt business auxiliary services provided by a commission agent who has been defined as a person who causes sale or purchase of goods, on behalf of another person for a consideration which is based on the quantum of such sale or purchase.
- (vii) G.S.R. No. 505 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt taxable services provided to any person by a mandap keeper for the use of the precincts of a religious place as a mandap, from the service tax leviable thereon.
- (7) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 498 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 appointing 1st July, 2003 as the date from which the service tax shall be levied issued under sub-section (2) of section 66 of the Finance Act, 1994, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:-

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7865/2003]

- (i) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 115 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 217 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7866/2003]

- (9) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 481 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing the duty of excise payable on reprocessed plastic granules, manufactured and cleared by a hundred per cent export oriented undertakings or a unit in a free trade zone shall not be required to be paid for the period commencing from 2nd June, 1998 and ending with 9th May, 2000 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944.
- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-
- (i) The Indian Overseas Bank (Employees') Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. PAD/PEN/002/2002 in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (ii) The UCO Bank (Employees') Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. PEN: 1:2002 in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 2003.
- (iii) The Allahabad Bank (Employees') Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. Admn/5/4370 in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 2003.
- (iv) The Andhra Bank (Employees') Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. 666/20/P/517 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd May, 2003.

- (11) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i to iii) of (10) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7867/2003]

- (12) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-
- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Central Listing Authority) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 443 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th April, 2003.
- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Foreign Institutional Investors)



- (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 548 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 2003.
- (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 632 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 2003.
- (iv) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Depositories and Participants) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 696 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 2003.
- (v) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Debenture Trustees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 763 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 2003.
- (vi) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 796 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7868/2003]

(13) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended the 31st March 2003, together with Auditor's Report thereon:-

- (i) Adhivyan Grama Bank, Dharmapuri.
- (ii) Alaknanda Gramin Bank, Pauri Garhwal
- (iii) Aligarh Gramin Bank, Aligarh
- (iv) Alwar Bharatpur Anchalik Gramin Bank, Bharatpur
- (v) Barabanki Gramin Bank, Barabanki
- (vi) Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur
- (vii) Bhandara Gramin Bank, Bhandara
- (viii) Bhilwara-Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhilwara
- (ix) Bikaner Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bikaner
- (x) Buldhana Gramin Bank, Buldhana

- (xi) Bundi-Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi
- (xii) Chaitanya Grameena Bank, Tenali
- (xiii) Chhindwara-Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chhindwara.
- (xiv) Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack.
- (xv) Damoh-Panna-Sagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Damoh.
- (xvi) Dungarpur Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Dungarpur.
- (xvii) Etah Gramin Bank, Etah.
- (xviii) Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Faizabad.
- (xix) Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Fatehpur.
- (xx) Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kota.
- (xxi) Hazaribagh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hazaribagh.
- (xxii) Junagadh Amreli Gramin Bank, Junagadh.
- (xxiii) Kalpatharu Grameena Bank, Tumkur.
- (xxiv) Kapurthala-Firozpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kapurthala.
- (xxv) Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshangabad.
- (xxvi) Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Narsinghpur
- (xxvii) Malaprabha Grameena Bank, Dharwad.
- (xxviii) Manipur Rural Bank, Keisampat, Imphal.
- (xxix) Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu.
- (xxx) Marwar Gramin Bank, Pali
- (xxxi) Nalanda Gramin Bank, Biharsharif.
- (xxxii) Patilputra Gramin Bank, Patna.
- (xxxiii) Pratappgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pratappgarh.
- (xxxiv) Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raebareli.
- (xxxv) Rajgarh Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sehore.

- |           |   |          |  |
|-----------|---|----------|--|
| (xxxvi)   | Rani Lakshmbai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhansi.         | (lxii)   | Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sawai Madhopur  |
| (xxxvii)  | Rattlam-Mandsaur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandsaur.     | (lxiii)  | Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank, Jamnagar.   |
| (xxxviii) | Rewa-Sidhi Gramin Bank, Rewa.                         | (lxiv)   | Kashi Gramin Bank, Varanasi  |
| (xxxix)   | Rushikulya Gramya Bank, Berhampur.                    | (lxv)    | Mandla Balaghat Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandla.   |
| (xl)      | Sabarkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank, Himatnagar.      | (lxvi)   | Murshidabad Gramin Bank, Murshidabad.  |
| (xli)     | Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Azamgarh.               | (lxvii)  | Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gyamin Bank, Pithoragarh.  |
| (xlii)    | Saran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chapra.                  | (lxviii) | Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raigarh.  |
| (xliii)   | Shahdol Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahdol                | (lxix)   | Sri Saraswathi Grameena Bank, Adilabad.  |
| (xliv)    | Shahjahanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahjahanpur.     | (lxx)    | Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sultanpur.  |
| (xlv)     | Shivpuri-Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shivpuri         | (lxxi)   | Surendranagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank, Surendranagar.  |
| (xlvi)    | Singhbhum Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chaibasa.            | (lxxii)  | Vallalar Grama Bank, Cuddalore.  |
| (xlvii)   | Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Siwan.                   |          | [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7873/2003]  |
| (xlviii)  | Sri Sathavahana Grameena Bank, Karimnagar.            | (14)     | A copy of the Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Goods under the Preferential Trade Agreement between the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan and Republic of India) Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.542 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 2003 under section 10 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 together with an explanatory memorandum. |
| (xlix)    | Sri Ganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sri Ganganagar. |          | [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7869/2003]  |
| (l)       | Subansiri Gaonlia Bank, North Lakhimpur.              |          |  |
| (li)      | Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank, Bharuch.                   |          |  |
| (lii)     | Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur.                   |          |  |
| (liii)    | Tungabhadra Gramin Bank, Bellary.                     |          |  |
| (liv)     | Valsad-Dangs Gramin Bank, Valsad.                     | (15) (i) | A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith the Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 19 and 24 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.   |
| (lv)      | Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bareilly.             |          |  |
| (lvi)     | Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bilaspur.      |          |  |
| (lvii)    | Kalahandi Anchalik Gramya Bank, Kalahandi.            | (ii)     | A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003.   |
| (lviii)   | Kolar Gramin Bank, Kolar.                             |          |  |
| (lix)     | Solapur Gramin Bank, Solapur.                         |          |  |
| (lx)      | Srirama Grameena Bank, Nizamabad.                     |          | [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7870/2003]  |
| (lxi)     | Yavatmal Gramin Bank Yavatmal.                        |          |  |

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Spices Board (Registration of Exporters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.No. Admn./Reg./01/2003 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2003 under section 40 of the Spices Board Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7871/2003]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA  
AND  
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA - *Laid*

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2003 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th July, 2003."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2003, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 30th July, 2003.

12.02½ hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 4th August, 2003 will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:

- (i) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Repeal Bill, 2001.
- (ii) The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2003.
- (iii) The Constitution (Ninety-fourth Amendment) Bill, 2002.
- (iv) The Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Bill, 2003.

3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) The Foreigners (Amendment) Bill, 2003.
- (ii) The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003.
- (iii) The Railway (Amendment) Bill, 2003

4. Discussion on the Science and Technology Policy, 2003; and

5. Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railway) for 2003-04.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

(i) Agrarian situation in the country is grim. The WTO agreements imposed massive imports of agricultural products creating serious problems for our farmers. Suicides of farmers are increasing. The agricultural workers are not getting even 100 days work in a year. Continued drought and flood only accentuated the crisis. Farmers are not getting proper price. This problem should be discussed in the House and remedial measures should be identified and implemented by the Government.

(ii) The Women's Reservation Bill is pending for long. It is a challenge before our democratic system. Keeping half of our population outside the orbit of representation is not democracy in the true sense. The Bill should be discussed in its present form and passed in this Session.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO): Sir, you had called both the parties to have discussion on issues relating to Tehelka, as the notices in this regard are pending.

After the talks it was decided that you would take a final decision in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: A discussion had taken place in BAC yesterday on the issue raised by you. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi knows everything about it. You may talk to him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Need to accord sanction urgently to the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra sent to the Union Government for diverting flow of rivers flowing on western side of Nasik district to the eastern side.
2. Need to provide stoppage of Sevagram Express from Dadar to Nagpur at Naidongri Tehsil, Nandgaon and accord sanction for starting work for laying of Manmad, Dhulia, Nardana, Indore new railway line, whose survey has already been conducted.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Need to pass the Women's Reservation Bill during this current Session of Parliament.
2. Need to accord clearance for 1x 20 MW Hydro-Electric Project at Kolli Hills in Rasipuram Parliamentary Constituency by the Ministry of Environment and Forests forthwith.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (SAHARSA): Sir, the following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Special repair of the stretch between Sonvarsharaj to Saharsa on NH-107 and Madhepura to Birpur on NH-106 in Bihar should be done.
2. FM Radio Station should be set up in Saharsa in Bihar.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR): Sir, the following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Jaipur Airport be declared an International Airport.

2. Statue of Maharana Pratap be installed in the Parliament House as he has been an ideal for the whole nation.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (KHERI): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:

1. Though basic education has been made a fundamental right in the Constitution yet not even 8 percent of the Budget allocation has been earmarked for education whereas it has become basic duty of the Government of India.
2. Need for setting up of National Commission on Education for bringing progressive improvement in utility, quality and process of teaching of education.

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Drought and flood situation in the country
2. Repeated Railway accidents.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Increasing activities of terrorists in various parts of the country.
2. Problems being faced by the rubber cultivators in the country.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Need for enacting stringent law to check increasing sale of spurious drugs and to punish the people involved in the business of spurious drugs and banning the sale of drugs banned in foreign countries in the country.
2. Need to enact a stringent law in national interest, cutting across party politics, to control effectively the unprecedented increase in population in the country.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (RAMANATHAPURAM): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. The progress of the feasibility report of the age-old long awaited Sethu Samudram Project.
2. The progress made in the inter-linking of rivers proposal.

12.09 hrs.

## ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

## Rubber Board

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): I beg to move the following:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act 1947 read with rule 4(1) of the Rubber Rules 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act 1947 read with rule 4(1) of the Rubber Rules 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of Adjournment Motion on the issue of unemployment. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a serious issue about Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have so many issues for Zero Hour. If you want to raise these issues during Zero Hour, please take your seats. All of you would be given an opportunity. If you do not want to raise any issue and behave like this then I may not be able to extend any help.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do you know why such a situation is being created? There are Members who do not want other Members' issues to be discussed in this House. I am

requesting you time and again that I can give you opportunity if you go to your seats. If you behave like this how will any member get opportunity to express his views? I have a list of members who are trying for the last one week to get this opportunity. First of all, I am giving opportunity to Shri Malhotra. As per the list I would give opportunity to all. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not ready to listen to anybody. Let the issue be complete which is already before me. If you do not like to complete the discussion on this issue, how will it be possible to have discussion on other issues as well.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (PURNEA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire North Bihar is flooded and people are suffering. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yadavji, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is the last time I am requesting, you will not say anything thereafter. I request you that I would like to allow maximum number of members to speak. Please take your seat. Your issues will not be taken up if you do not resume your seat and ultimately you will only remain at a disadvantage.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of Adjournment Motion regarding floods in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I told you I would like to have discussion on it and discussion will be held.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: First of all, my Adjournment Motion should be disposed of.

MR. SPEAKER: I would take it up. Please take your seat.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It may be taken as per rules. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotraji, please speak. All other Members please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Sir, in an advertisement, the Survey of India has published an incorrect map of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to permit you. If Members cooperate, you will get chance otherwise, you will not get it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of Adjournment Motion. It may be considered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can keep on shouting if you so wish.

[English]

I have rejected all the notices of Adjournment Motion. I will give them chance during 'Zero Hour' as and when their names come.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such rule under which I am bound to give you preferences before allowing Adjournment Motion. You know the rules.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): The notices of Adjournment Motion should get preference over other matters. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such rule. If they are accepted then that rule is applicable, otherwise not.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But you should allow us to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Every time you go on arguing without knowing the rules.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have given permission to Shri Malhotraji. There is no such rule under which I am bound to allow you to speak in the House if I do not admit your Adjournment Motion.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir I have given notice of Adjournment Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

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

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such rule. Please show me the rule. What the rule says, first read it.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have given a notice.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have already rejected all the Adjournment Motion notices.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a number of notices of Adjournment Motion as also a notice of suspension of Question Hour. I have rejected these notices. In due course of time, I will take them up.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: On which issue Malhotraji has given the notice. I have given notice of Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The notice given by Malhotraji is with me.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji, I am saying something, please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Raghuvansh Prasadji, you can not speak like this?

[English]

You can raise a point of order. I will hear you.

[Translation]

Rule does not permit you to speak like this. You neither can violate the rule nor dictate the Chair. You quote the rule and I am ready to transact the business of the House as per that rule.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to raise question on a very important issue that in the House of a Member of Rajya Sabha.  
...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all please dispose of the Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already done that  
[English]

I have disposed of all the notices. I have disallowed them.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: On what ground it has been disallowed. Will you not listen to our grievances?

MR. SPEAKER: There is no rule under which I am bound to admit each and every Adjournment Motion. You too know the rules in this regard.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. ... (Interruptions)

This is failure on the part of Government. ... (Interruptions)  
Please see the rule.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not argue with the Chair. This is also not within the rules.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You quote the rule.

[English]

Show me the rule.

[Translation]

First bring the rule book, I am ready to discuss the matter.

...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I am referring only to the rule. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such provision in the rule. I have disposed of Adjournment Motion.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The notice of Adjournment Motion can be admitted on four grounds. This provision is in the rule.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not go through the Rule Book but I will.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have memorised the entire Rule Book.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have a good memory, that is why you commit mistakes. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will show you the rule.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of Bihar is to be taken up after this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I am seized of Bihar's issue.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the house of Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal a Member of Parliament.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Sir, this matter is subjudice, how can it be raised. The whole case is going on in the court and the court is investigating it. There is corruption of crores and billions of rupees in the State. ... (Interruptions)  
There is so much loot in the whole State. ... (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Vigilance Department of Punjab raided the house of Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal on 25th July and a charge was levelled against him that he possessed property worth 3500 crores of rupees. ... (Interruptions) But they did not get anything there. In Punjab. ... (Interruptions) They did not get anything in the premises of Badal Saheb. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support this.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Government of Punjab did not receive even a single paise out of the alleged property worth Rs. 3500 crores for 18 months. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. His speech will be completed within two minutes. Thereafter your issue will also be addressed.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he can discuss on the Ayodhya issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you are permitting him to speak, then kindly permit me also to speak after him.

MR. SPEAKER: I will permit only one Member. Now please do not disturb him.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: They made an announcement in the year 2001 and also in 2002 that Badal Saheb and his family owned property worth Rs.3500 crores. Big advertisements were published in all major news papers and 18 months have passed since then and no complaint was lodged till date, no FIR was lodged in 18 months. ...*(Interruptions)* Nothing took place in 18 months and advertisements were given in newspapers that there was property worth Rs.3,500 crores. It was also written that he would be put behind the bars today or in days to come. It was also written as the type of jail which he would be put into. Even after that nothing has happened so far. First they set up a Commission and the Chairman of the Commission resigned stating that he did not want to be a part of that Commission. Thereafter no commission was set up till date. Suddenly a Congress leader was instructed to give an application on 24th June making a demand that the investigation regarding worth of their property be conducted. The application was given on 24th June, FIR was lodged on 24th June and the investigation started on that very day i.e. 24th June. They raided 14 properties in a day and now the vigilance. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, what are you permitting him for? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can argue. I will permit one person from your side.

*[Translation]*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the vigilance has given a report that nothing irregular had been found about any of his property. It means that nothing had been found in 14 properties. The vigilance had also lodged this report. They claimed that he has a farm measuring ten thousand acres in Australia. The Congress party had issued this poster. They alleged that he has a farm measuring three thousand acres in California, four multi-storied buildings in Manhattan and two parking slots in New York. They deputed people there by spending crores of rupees but property of even not a single rupee had been found there in his possession.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring the most dangerous facts before you about the elements who are Khalistanis. Jagjeet Singh Chauhan is a Khalistani. The Central

Government has been keeping an eye on him. By taking his help in Punjab. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): They are bent upon ruining Punjab completely. These people have encouraged Khalistan and Khalistani people. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): Sir, what is he saying? It is the Congress Party who has lost his leaders. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Rajiv Gandhi lost his life. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, it was Shri L.K. Advani who cleared his passport. It was not cleared by the Punjab Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Even today Jagjeet Singh Chauhan says that he wanted to build Khalistan, he is a Khalistani and they are laying allegations on Badal Saheb by taking his help. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, he is making a long speech.

*[English]*

Whom is he addressing? Is he addressing the Home Minister of India? Whom is he addressing? What are we making of Parliament? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am raising the issue in the Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR) : Sir, may I seek a clarification? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say one thing in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Right now, I am listening to Somnathji.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am sure. Shri Malhotra feels very strongly about it and that is why he has raised this issue. ...*(Interruptions)* I am only seeking a clarification. ...*(Interruptions)* Who can reply to what he is raising? ...*(Interruptions)* Who can reply to this subject? ...*(Interruptions)*



[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Reply to this issue is not my concern and I am concerned about raising the issue in the Zero Hour. I think it is you who should give reply i.e. clarify your position in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Either the hon. Home Minister should reply or if the Finance Minister thinks that he is competent to reply, then he should reply, or the Congress Party should reply. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why, before such issues are raised it should be considered as to who can respond to this. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, such issues should not be raised. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra, please conclude as early as possible.

[Translation]

Rest of the people, please sit down, now Malhotraji is speaking.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, what does he want from the Government of India? ...*(Interruptions)* Are such issues permissible to be raised in the House? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Shivraji and Somnathji are sitting here. I will not say that residences of any Member of Parliament cannot be raided, it can be raided if he is criminal. But please tell me if measurement of the residence and also of furniture e.g. chair etc. is also taken while conducting any raid? They realise only if raids are conducted in their houses.

[English]

and this is a game most parties can play. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can make your demand and conclude.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I would like to say that \*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not go on that subject.

[Translation]

Please speak on the issue for which you have been allowed.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make a reference to that. I will delete that from the records.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Who is going to be responsible for this Soniyaji or Amrinder Singhji? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHU): Jagjit Singh Chauhan was not permitted to come to India. Your Government and your honourable Home Minister has given him permission to come here. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I want to ask a fundamental question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, would you like to speak on this subject? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I want to ask a fundamental question. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, is it permissible to raise such issues in this House? ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you are forcing us to come to the well of the House. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you are forcing us to do so. ...*(Interruptions)* We are being forced to come to the well of the House and then please do not blame us for this. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, a person of the stature of Shri Malhotra knows as to what can be said in the Parliament and what cannot be said. ...*(Interruptions)* Whom does he want an answer from? ...*(Interruptions)* All frivolous and irresponsible allegations are being made. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to say something on the issue that he has raised, then I am permitting you. If you do not want to say anything, then I am permitting Shri Brar to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Brarji, you may please speak. Malhotraji, your speech is over, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No. Shri Malhotra, I cannot allow you more than this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Brarji, you may please speak. At least you will allow Mr. Brar to speak. He is a Member of your party. Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will permit you to speak if you want to speak on this issue only. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. That issue has already come before the House. You cannot speak much in the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Amrinder Singh should be arrested in Punjab. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also associate myself with Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra on this issue. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your names will be associated.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri J.S. Brar, you can speak now.

...(Interruptions)

12.26 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri J.S. Brar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (DELHI, SADAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice on behalf of 15 Members and now one week has since elapsed. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, atrocities cannot be allowed in Punjab. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When I permit you to speak, only then you give him the reply.

[English]

Let it come on record.

...(Interruptions)

12.27 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri J.S. Brar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to permit you to speak because your notice is on the same issue which he has given. Now Shri Brar will speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice on this issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Members who have given notice first should be given permission to speak first. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a practice in the House that during the 'Zero Hour', if the Speaker thinks proper, he can allow different leaders to speak. Therefore, within my rights I have permitted Shri J.S. Brar to speak. If you do not want the House to be continued, then it is different.

[Translation]

I will give you permission after him. If you want, then speak and if not then it is your wish not to speak.

...(Interruptions)

12.28 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Prabhunath Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Khuranaji, your notice is there on this issue. I am going to give you permission. I have already told this to you.

...(Interruptions)

12.29 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Prabhunath Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice. Why our notice is not being considered. I want to raise issues of public importance.  
...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: BJP is a responsible party. It is a major group in the House. They also have the responsibility of conducting the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Earlier, there were three Members to speak on this issue. Now only two Members will be there. After Shri Brar, Shri Khurana will speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: After him, I shall allow you to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If hon. Members will start deciding as to who will speak then the House cannot be run smoothly.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am ready to give you an opportunity to speak but there is no such rule to allow whenever you wish to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Let me give an opportunity to many Members to speak in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brar, you may bring your views on record.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI J. S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall reply to the question asked by Chief Whip within two minutes only.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall give you a chance to speak later on, please sit down now.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, he should be allowed to speak first. ... (Interruptions)

(Translation)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me first. We keep quite but this does not mean that I will not allowed to speak. ... (Interruptions) I was asking for the permission for last one week. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have spoken a lot, now will you listen to me?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you listen to what I have to say. You do not want to listen to me and keep on speaking whatever you want to speak and not listen to me at all? Khuranajee, you are a senior Member, your notice is with me and you have also brought it to my notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have never done like this but I have been asking for permission for the last one week. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall allow you after Brarjee.

...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brar, do you mind speaking after him? He will speak now and then you may speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence. I want to close this issue in the next three to four minutes.

...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Sir, you have called Shri Brar to speak first. ...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He will speak after him. ...(Interruptions) and run away after making noise. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

If Brarjee will not be allowed to speak, we shall not allow anyone among them to speak ...(Interruptions) We will not even let any Minister speak. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been asking for permission for the last one week. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted you. Shri Brar. Please go ahead.

SHRI J. S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you that you allowed me to speak. I would like to say two basic things in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen.

SHRI J. S. BRAR: Responsible leaders of BJP spoke about the Congress Party. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: If Brarji will not be allowed to speak, then no one among you will be able to speak. ...(Interruptions) What do you think of yourself. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The speech of Mr. Brar only will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we sit quietly. But that does not mean that we will not be allowed to speak. ...(Interruptions) Please allow me to speak first. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI J. S. BRAR: The Akali Party ruled in Punjab from 1997 to 2002. It has been mentioned here. I have heard Vijay Kumar Malhotraji. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will be allowed to speak after him.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not speak on this subject. Please speak on the subject for which you have been allowed.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: He has not given any notice. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI J. S. BRAR: I shall not go into that subject. The first thing which I would like to say in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Shri Khurana, I have given notice. ...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You talk about what you are doing today Not about what happened between 1997 and 2002. Members have said about that today.

[Translation]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let him speak first. I shall also allow you to speak after him.

What has happened to it? ...(Interruptions)

\* Not recorded.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Vijay Kumarji, you also sit down.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: He wants to speak about the poor.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is more than enough.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI J. S. BRAR: Is there any correlation among propriety and sacrifice? Though wild allegations have been levelled against us, we do not need any certificate from them. The two Prime Minister who have been killed by terrorists belonged to Congress Party. So we do not need any certificate from them. ...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What actions was taken against those who killed four thousand people in 1984? Can you explain why four thousand Sikhs were killed. Is it because of that you are taking revenge?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: 4000 Sikhs were killed.

[Translation]

SHRI J. S. BRAR: The corruption about which we are talking has been witnessed by the people of Punjab during five years. People have seen how the state has been plundered in Nadirshahi manner. The BJP was also with the Akali Party in this loot. And therefore, the BJP and Akali Party both were wiped out in the election of 2002. I would like to put this on record that the BJP has not raised the issue of corruption in the last one and a half year, but now keeping in view the impending elections in four States pressure has been mounted on BJP and because of such pressures these baseless charges are levelled against the present ruling party. I would like to say.

[English]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the custodian of this House.

[Translation]

I am telling you with certainty and responsibly because I have defeated him in election. The family and especially the son of Prakash Singh Badal who was being referred to. I do not want to go into it as it is a State issue. The next thing that I would like to inform Malhotra Saheb that thousands of farmers in Punjab have more than what Badal has right now i.e. 80-90 acres of land. But how did he become leader of the richest party i.e., Akali Dal.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You can file your case before the court, you can file a case against them in the Supreme Court. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now conclude.

SHRI J. S. BRAR: A case of investigation against him has been started by the Chief Minister of Punjab Government. The video recording of the case is being done as ordered by the Court.

[English]

The law is taking its own course.

[Translation]

You plundered the whole State, misled the youth and by instigating them Akali Dal and BJP gave birth to terrorism. Today, they will have to face its consequences.

[English]

The law is taking its own course. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Now listen to Madan Lal Khuranaji. Please sit down.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I am not going into the controversy right now. Two issues are before me. I have to say that the house of MP and his bungalow is being kept under surveillance. Any private person would have. ...(Interruptions) I have to say that this is the Parliament of India. It is unethical as well as illegal to keep a surveillance over the house of the leader of Akali Dal. ...(Interruptions) On the other hand, the Chief Minister of Punjab owe Rs.15 crores to excise department.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, has he given his notice to you about this issue?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a notice on this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Madan Lal Khuranaji, you carry on, why did you stop?

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how will he speak? You please first ask them to sit down.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second issue is that Captain Amrinder Singh owes Rs.15 crores to the Government. I have got the orders issued by Excise Department. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

He is a defaulter.

[Translation]

In my opinion no defaulter can become the Chief Minister. Therefore, he may be dismissed. ...(Interruptions) I have sent a letter to the Finance Minister. The photocopy of that letter is with me. ...(Interruptions) We will expose them his. ...(Interruptions) The order issued by Excise Commission with me alongwith the other documents. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

He is a defaulter. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, are you permitting a debate on this issue? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Khuranaji, please lay those papers on the Table. ...(Interruptions) Please lay those proofs on the table you are talking about. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have got the proofs.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you authenticate it?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I authenticate it.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CUATURVEDI: Please lay it on the Table of the House. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Shri Prabhunath Singh to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, you can authenticate it and lay on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I will lay\* a photocopy of it on the Table of the House. ...(Interruptions) It bears the signatures of the concerned officials. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would like to know whether he has authenticated the papers or not.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This issue is over. Please sit down. I am going to the next issue. Shri Prabhunath Singh to speak now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Prabhunath Singh to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CUATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please get it authenticated. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked him to authenticate it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Prabhunath Singh to speak. It is his turn now.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Except Shri Prabhunath Singh's version, nobody else's version will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*\*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he owes 15 crore rupees to the Excise Department. Proof has already been laid on the Table of the House. ...(Interruptions)

\* (Placed in Library. See No. LT 8754/2004)

\*\* Not recorded

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the papers that he referred to have not been authenticated by him. ... (Interruptions) He has not authenticated the papers. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have taken up another subject. So please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I am going to check. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you speaking time and again.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, he should first authenticate the papers. He has not authenticated the papers. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to check it up.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The letter I gave to the Minister of Finance bears the signatures. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, kindly get the papers authenticated by him.

MR. SPEAKER: I will get it done from him. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing on this subject should go on record because I have completed this issue.

... (Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I can request him.

... (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He has signed the letter which he has given to the Minister of Finance. He has mentioned in the letter that it should be investigated. strict action should be taken against him and Capt. Amarinder Singh should be punished. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should also reveal as to what their ally is doing in Uttar Pradesh. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It bears the signatures of the competent authority. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This issue has been completed. Shri Prabhunath Singh to speak now. Nobody else will be permitted to speak now. I am sorry, I am not prepared to permit you

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singhji, why are you not speaking? I have given you permission to speak

... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards Bihar. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Madan Lal Khurana has not authenticated the papers.

MR. SPEAKER: I am first getting it checked

[Translation]

Don't you have patience for two minutes?

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal you are a very senior Member of the House. I am getting it checked. If the papers are not authenticated, he will have to authenticate them. That is the rule of the House.

\* Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The situation in Bihar is getting bad to worse. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (SANGRUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: That issue is over. I have completed that issue. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are again doing the same thing what they did before 1984. They are instigating the people, their sentiments. ...*(Interruptions)* The Bharatiya Janata Party people are instigating the people on certain issue. ...*(Interruptions)* It is being said that if it so happens the Punjab situation would deteriorate. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has used Bhindranwale's name. This should be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will remove that from the record. If any sentence which has gone on record is indecent or not proper, I will remove it from the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: They are not concerned what effect it might have on the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to discuss Bihar. The law and order situation is continuously deteriorating in Bihar. The situation is so bad that a nephew of a Minister in Bihar Government has been kidnapped. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Due to the worsening law and order situation in Bihar, the Patna High Court has passed

strictures for the fifth time that the State Government is incompetent. So much so that the day on which the sixth anniversary of Shrimati Rabri Devi Government was being celebrated, the criminals were also celebrating. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to read one newspaper published from there, "when the Ministers and the workers of Rashtriya Janata Dal were celebrating Rabri Devi's completion of sixth year in office as the Chief Minister on Friday, the criminals marred the celebrations by kidnapping three more persons. The criminals kidnapped a coal trader, a bank manager and a teenager in Rohtas district. Earlier, on Thursday, the Sugarcane Development Minister's Shri Raghvender Pratap Singh's seven year old nephew was kidnapped." ...*(Interruptions)* The Chief Minister herself said that such type of crimes take place not only in the entire country but also all over the world. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri M.L. Khurana has not authenticated it.

MR. SPEAKER: If Shri Madan Lal Khurana does not authenticate the documents, his entire speech will be deleted from the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Khuranaji you will have to authenticate it. If you do not authenticate it, your speech will not go on record. Are you ready to authenticate it?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to state that the Patna High Court has issued such strictures on Bihar for the fifth time. There is no Law and Order in Bihar. Criminals live in Chief Minister's residence. The Government in power is a coalition Government where the Congress Party is an ally. The Congress President admitted that there is no law and order in Bihar. The Congress people are deceiving the public in Bihar. So, through you, Sir, I would like to request the Government that Bihar Government should be dismissed and people who are making a fun of law and order should be brought under control. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I had submitted that seven in Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*



MR. SPEAKER: I shall call you after this.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will call the names one after another till one O'clock. After one o'clock I cannot call them.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: I had said yesterday also that the law and order situation in Bihar is worse. ...(Interruptions) Five persons were killed in Hazipur recently. ...(Interruptions) Traders in Arrah, Jhabua, Patna and Begusarai are deeply apprehensive due to such a situation. Yesterday, a doctor, brother of a correspondent while coming from clinic was kidnapped and there is nobody to pay attention to their plight. ...(Interruptions) Criminals now live in the houses of people in Government and plan for kidnapping people. I cannot tell you how worse is the situation prevailing in the State. ...(Interruptions) Police personnel as well as the criminals keep on firing shots and all this is done at the Government's instance. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, even Ministers, M.L.As. and M.Ps. have been named in such cases. ...(Interruptions) In Bihar, more than two dozens people are assassinated and seven to eight children are kidnapped daily.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now. Your time is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: In Bihar, any person who has enmity with the Government is killed. ...(Interruptions) I would like to submit that the State Government should be dismissed. ...(Interruptions) As long as President's Rule is not imposed in Bihar, 8.5 crore people are not safe. So President's Rule should be imposed in the State. ...(Interruptions) The Government should give some reply. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (DARBHANGA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. I have associated your name with this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bihar Government should be dismissed and President's Rule imposed there. ...(Interruptions) Even terrorists kill people stealthily but however Ministers in Bihar Government are killing openly, they do wrong things daringly. ...(Interruptions) Such a situation prevails there. Leaders of the ruling party are directly involved in opening fire. ...(Interruptions) They engineer abduction but no action is being taken against them. ...(Interruptions) The Bihar Government should be dismissed and President's Rule imposed there. ...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the traffic on the road has come to a standstill. The National Highway is in a very bad condition. ...(Interruptions) It is a central subject. ...(Interruptions) The Government of India has not so far provided any assistance to the Bihar Government. ...(Interruptions) Calamity Relief Funds and Calamity Contingency Relief Funds have not yet been released to the Bihar Government. ...(Interruptions) The Central Government have withheld the funds due to which problem is being faced in providing relief to the flood hit areas. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Traffic has come to a halt now due to destruction of NH-77 and NH-104 caused by flood. People are in great trouble. ...(Interruptions) Through you, I would request that Government should pay attention to flood situation in Bihar. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to say something, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, if you are not allowing those who have given notices, why should we stay here? ...(Interruptions) You are not controlling them. ...(Interruptions) Everybody says everything in this House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, I have been giving notice since Monday. ...(Interruptions) Why are you not allowing me? ...(Interruptions) It is happening every day. ...(Interruptions) You are not allowing me. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not being allowed by other Members - not by me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will get a chance provided you all cooperate. If you do not co-operate, you will miss the opportunity to speak in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are Members who do not want 'Question Hour'. Only those Members are shouting.

They are disturbing the House and they are taking the opportunity of other Members who want to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am prepared to listen to you. You have also given a notice.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister should say something in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: She does not want to reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to respond?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): The points placed before the House.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, there is no point in staying in the House. We are walking out.

12.56 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.56½ hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock.

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch  
at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair) ▾

## REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS BILL-2002

[English]

SHRI P. H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, I was speaking on that day and let me continue. I will take two more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Were you on your legs?

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: I was speaking on the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you want to continue, you can. But it was presumed that your speech was over. Anyway, you can continue.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: I will continue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then, you are considered to be you were on your legs last time!

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Sir, I was referring to the International Criminal Court wherein the cases from the countries can be transferred to those courts where the offences against humanity, genocide and oppression can be dealt with according to the international law. Sir, on 17th July, 1998, after three years of discussion, a number of countries assembled there in Rome came to the conclusion for the establishment of an International Criminal Court. In that Conference, 120 countries voted in favour of a statute for creating the International Criminal Court, 21 countries, including India, abstained, and only seven countries, including the USA and China voted against it. At this juncture, I just want to know from the Home Minister on what ground India had abstained from voting in the Rome Conference for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. If there is sufficient reason, what will be the future mode of action by the Central Government to initiate any criminal prosecution against the individuals, even nations, when they offend the international criminal law? There were a number of discussions on that point only. There was a reference to the death penalty in that discussion. Whether death penalty can be imposed was also a subject matter of discussion there, in the Conference convened for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. I would say that India is a party to the UN Covenant on the Abolition of Death Penalty. So, had we abstained on this ground in that Conference or on any other ground? That is all.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (BERHAMPUR, ORISSA): Sir, I stand here in support of the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002.

Before I go into the Bill, I would like to dispel certain confusions which have cropped up day before yesterday during the debate on this Bill. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a distinction between extradition and repatriation. Extradition means, a fugitive from justice of one country is to be compelled to be brought to the country where he has committed the offence for trial under the criminal procedures. For that matter, may I give the instances of Dawood Ibrahim, Iqbal Memon Mirchi, Nadeem Akhtar, Abu Salem and Quattrocchi?

These are the persons who were to be extradited for the purpose of facing trial in India.

Long back in 1962, the Extradition Act was enacted by this Parliament with a view to providing fugitive justice. For extradition, the most important thing is that the person who has taken refuge in another country should have been taken into consideration of the criminal law of that country. Section 105 and 105 (c) of the Cr.P.C. relate to extradition of the persons where the Central Government plays a very vital role. Once a person has been convicted in this country, if he is of a foreign origin and there is a request from the person concerned or his relative or anybody for that matter or the Government of origin, the question of repatriation will arise.

When a person has been convicted under section 417 of the Criminal Procedure Code, he is confined to jail and confining to jail relates to the State Government's activity. Special jails also could be established like Shri Lalu Prasad being put in a special jail and given all facilities given to a VIP staying in a circuit house. That is beside the point but anybody being put in a jail by the State Government is to be decided by the State Government.

As for the procedures in the Criminal Procedure Code, a person convicted in India cannot be repatriated under the Criminal Procedure Code. So, there has to be a separate procedure for that. That procedure is being brought about in the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002. There is a slight difference here. I am coming to the difference between the Extradition Act and the Bill now being discussed. In the Extradition Act, the Central Government plays a vital role whereas in the Repatriation Bill that is being considered the Central Government does play a role but it is the prisoners or the place of origin that plays a vital role.

This Bill has very clearly indicated the procedure to be followed in transferring of prisoners who have been put in jail. Now, take the case of the Purulia arms dropping. There has

been a persistent demand for the release of a particular person, who was the pilot. The demand is not for the release of the person to be repatriated to the State from where he had come, he being a subject of that country. Unless we have a treaty, it would not be possible to repatriate him. There are many people who have been convicted and put inside prisons in India and there are many persons of Indian origin who have been put in jail in other countries for certain offences they had committed. When the question of repatriation comes, there is no necessity of weighing evidence as it is the case in the Extradition Act. Here it is a question of transferring this man to another country's jail where the Criminal Procedure Code is not taken into account. That is why the Repatriation Bill has been brought before this Parliament.

There is a necessity of fulfilling six conditions under this Bill. The first and most important condition is that a 'treaty between the country from where he is to be repatriated and the country to which he would be repatriated should be there. If a prisoner has to be repatriated from India to another country, there must be a treaty. If there is no treaty, there must be an agreement for that particular person and that agreement has to elaborately indicate the details. When a prisoner is to be taken to another country, a notification indicating the elaborate conditions has to be issued so that there is no confusion regarding the repatriation of the prisoner.

The second condition is that there should be a notification detailing the text of the treaty. As I said, 'treaty or otherwise'. A treaty could be there formally; and otherwise' means for a particular individual, there could be an agreement between the two countries but that agreement or that treaty has to be indicated in the notification. Whenever a prisoner is to be repatriated, that notification has to be cited. Otherwise, it would be null and void.

Thirdly, the application is to be made by the prisoner or by the representative of the prisoner whereas in the case of extradition, it is the Government, which has to take action. The criminal courts have to move and the Government of India has to take action, but here the person who has been convicted or his representative or may be the country of his origin can make a representation to the Government of India. The final factor of repatriation rests with the Government of India. The Government of India has to decide as to whether a person is to be repatriated from India to the place of his origin or not. It rests with the Central Government. But contracting State has to agree to receive the prisoner. Now, supposing a person has asked for to be sent to United Kingdom, USA or to Russia, then the receiving State has to agree. Otherwise, there will be difficulty. We can send a prisoner to another country, but if we have to receive a prisoner in our country, *vis-a-vis*, there will be difficulty, in the sense where he will be kept.

Now, any prisoner in India is to be kept in the State

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

Government's jail. So, when a prisoner is being brought from another country to this country, that a particular State has to agree, to keep him in one of their jails. That is also a precondition, otherwise the Government of India or the contracting State cannot just send that man or woman to India. A jail has to be found out and jail is a State subject. So, a State has to agree on this.

Fourthly, a warrant is to be issued in India. In criminal cases, judicial officers issue warrants of confinement - whether it may be a Magistrate or a District Judge. But, here, in this provision of the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, an Executive Officer of the level of Joint Secretary at the State Government, or a particular officer of the Central Government is to issue a warrant for repatriation of that prisoner to the State of his origin after fulfilling all the conditions. But by making mere application it does not mean that the prisoner will be sent. There are some restrictions also. This Bill has very clearly indicated it and I am very happy that the hon. Minister has projected it in a very good manner also. The limitations for repatriation have to be taken into account; that is, if the prisoner has been convicted of death penalty - the capital punishment of death - then there is no question of sending him back. Then, if anybody is accused of violating the martial law, there is no question of repatriation of that particular person.

Last but not least, the conviction is a matter prejudicial to the sovereignty, security and other interests of the State. There are many people who have come to this country. They might have committed minor offences. But by utterances, by bringing in fundamentalists to their group or by creating chaos in this country, they might have created a sense of security for this country and questioning the sovereignty of this country, they cannot be repatriated. It would be against the best interests of this country and if any other case is pending against him, he cannot be repatriated.

The last point is that a civil prisoner cannot be repatriated. That is also good. Supposing, somebody has been convicted for not paying money and all those things or for defamation of civil nature - not of criminal nature - then a civil prisoner also cannot be repatriated. These are very good provisions, which have been brought forward in this Bill itself. There are lots of agreements between 1962 and 1969. The Government of India had contracted many agreements relating to the extradition treaties. As far as my knowledge goes, Australia, USA, UK and many other countries have passed such laws and treaties have been done.

Now, so far as Monica Bedi is concerned, there is confusion for extradition because of our law and their laws are not in consonance with each other. But so far as repatriation is concerned, there is no question of weighing

the evidence. It is a question of humanitarian ground. A person languishing in the jails of India could be repatriated on humanitarian grounds, but he has to undergo the imprisonment of that term which has been pronounced by the judiciary. That is most important.

So, in all respects, this is a good Bill and I support it.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome this initiative. This is a welcome step and this will be beneficial for the prisoners who are in foreign jails. This Bill was introduced in May this year in this House. I think that this has gone to the Standing Committee and the Standing Committee had made certain recommendations. After that this Bill has come before this House.

I think that India has entered into agreement with only three countries and agreements with more countries are in the pipeline. By passing this piece of legislation, it will be highly beneficial for the prisoners who are in jails in foreign countries. Such a law is necessary because as Members of Parliament we are writing so many letters and we are receiving so many representations from the people regarding those who are in the jails especially in the Gulf countries. I had written so many letters regarding the prisoners who are suffering in the jails in Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is a country where they are having rigorous punishments. Our Embassies are always telling us that they do not have any facilities for providing legal assistance. The Indian Embassy is always turning down the proposals for legal assistance.

Now, more than 80 people from India are in the jails of Saudi Arabia for so many reasons. Most of them are from Kerala. They were cheated by the drug mafia from Mumbai. The innocent people from Malappuram, Calicut and other parts of the State of Kerala were misled by some drug mafia in Mumbai and they were sent to Saudi Arabia for jobs there. Actually when these people were going to Saudi Arabia, they were misused by these unscrupulous elements as carriers of bags and when they were caught in Saudi Arabia they were sent to the prisons. So many people were given capital punishment. There are even cases where the hands of these people were removed and all these rigorous punishments were given to these people. Actually speaking, they are innocent people and they do not know the consequences of what they were doing and due to their ignorance they have been used by these kinds of unscrupulous elements.

I have a request to make here. The crime which they have done is, of course, heinous crime which we cannot approve also. But, at the same time, we have to give legal assistance to them. We approached the Ministry of External

Affairs and the Embassy of Saudi Arabia. They are saying that they have no provision for any kind of legal assistance. Employing somebody there for legal assistance is a costly affair. So, it is the duty of the Government to provide legal assistance for these people so that their cases can be argued properly in Saudi Arabia.

There are so many cases in the case of Maldives also. Many people from Tamil Nadu and some parts of Kerala have gone to Maldives also, because to go to Maldives no visa is necessary and people can go there easily. Some of them are in jails. No proper legal assistance or aid is given from our Embassy side. We do not know whether there is any kind of agreement with the Maldivian Government or not. An year before the hon. Prime Minister has visited Maldives. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any such agreement with that country or not. They are saying that the International Human Rights Covenant is not governed by Maldives. We would like to know whether there is any kind of agreement with the Maldivian Government and the Indian Government or not, so that these poor people who are suffering in the jails will get some kind of legal assistance.

This Bill covers those people who are convicted and sent to the prisons. This Bill does not cover those people who are undertrials. I think that the Government should form a separate cell in the Home Ministry to know as to how many people are facing trials, how many people are convicted and sent to the jails, how many are suffering who are wanting legal assistance. All this should be monitored by a cell in the Home Ministry.

After passing this legislation, I think that in all fairness such a cell is necessary so that we can calculate the number of people who are undertrials, who are convicted and who are in the jails and who are really needing the legal assistance.

All these details can be picked up and collected by the Cell and proper follow up action can be taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Also, mere passing of this law will not help. It should be publicised also. So, my request to the hon. Minister for Home Affairs is to give proper publicity to it through the embassies. People who are living in the other countries do not know about this Act. So, embassies should give proper publicity to this law so that people who are in the jail or who are under trial may get to know the details of this Act and can approach the Government.

In this case, I would like to know one thing very specifically. Who will bear the charges? Of course, when we frame the rules, we will go into the details of that. I think, the contracting State should bear the expenses for the repatriate. It should be made specific. Otherwise, we know what will

happen. The officials always say that they do not have any provision and so, they cannot bear these expenses. In such a case, the law cannot be enforced properly. In the case of legal assistance, this is what happens. When the people, who are suffering in the jails of Saudi Arabia or UAE, approach the embassy, they will say that they do not have any provision for spending on the legal matters or legal assistance. So, this should be made very clear. Unless and until you make this very clear in the rules, this benefit will not go to the people who really need this.

It has recently come in the newspapers that the Indian people, who had gone to Malaysia for jobs, were also facing a lot of problems. They were put in jails and their trial was also going on there. Some are convicted and some are suffering in the jails. All these aspects can be looked into. I think, the Cell, which can be formed under the Ministry of Home Affairs, will look after this aspect so that it will get to know the total number of such people. Then, they can follow up and proper assistance on time can be given to the people who are Indian citizens facing this kind of a problem.

Sir, the Chair is also well aware of certain people who are in Calicut and Mallapuram and are of 60, 70 or 80 years. Once upon a time, they were in Pakistan and now, they are settled in Kerala. Legally, they are facing a lot of problems. They cannot go back and they cannot have any facility in India because of the citizenship. It has been a very long time since they came here. They themselves went to the District Magistrate and declared that they were Indian citizens. Because of the historical reasons, they were not allowed to become Indian citizens, but they are staying there. The innocent people who are facing this kind of problem also are to be looked after by the Home Ministry. Certain old Members of Parliament from Kerala had given a lot of representations in this regard. They are innocent people who are suffering for want of legal sanction. So, the Home Ministry should look into this aspect also.

Sir, I welcome this piece of legislation because this is going to help the poor people who are somehow misguided by certain unscrupulous elements and had to face lot of rigorous punishment in the foreign jails. At the same time, I would like to repeat that when we frame the rules, we must be more generous. Otherwise, this will not be made applicable and cannot be made more effective.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (JAHANABAD). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002.

[Shri Arun Kumar]

Sir, it is the responsibility of a civilized society that legislation is done in such a way that innocent people are not trapped in such procedures which cause violation of fundamental rights. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Government for bringing the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002. This legislation especially in the context of Indians touches the humanitarian aspect as it has been brought for the people who have gone to various countries in large number in search of employment. They have been detained there for committing theft ignorantly and have been trapped in foreign countries for their involvement in various crimes in their ignorance. This legislation is legislated by an Act of Parliament as to enable the Government to take proper action in regard to persons who are innocent and also the criminals who take shelter in neighbouring countries to avoid police here. By doing so they cause a problem to our national and internal security. In this way, we can strengthen the procedure.

Sir, a number of poor people live in coastal areas and take to fishing for their livelihood, while doing so they cross our territorial waters and enter territorial waters of their countries ignorantly. They are caught and put in jails for long periods. There is nobody to take their case. Nobody knows whether they are alive or dead. We can help such people through this procedure by enacting a comprehensive law in this regard. As hon. Ramesh Chennithala just said that we should develop a monitoring cell for this. It is a good suggestion. After independence the poorest of the poor and those living in lowest rung of the society should feel that as the citizen of the country wherever they might live, the Government are all along concerned for them. We have seen that some countries are worried for the most petty problems of their citizens.

Sir, many persons of our country languish in prisons of several countries committing same minor mistakes ignorantly. They continue to remain in difficulty for want of legal advice and legal arrangements. Therefore, the Government are enacting a good law through this piece of legislation. This shows the humanitarian concern and sensibility of the Government. This is a very good initiative taken by the Government.

Sir, maximum precaution has been taken while introducing this piece of Bill. First this Bill was sent to the Standing Committee where it was discussed widely. But even then Government should make it more effective. Sir, finally I support this Bill and take my seat.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to fully support the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002, introduced in the House by the

Government. Many foreign prisoners who have been languishing in Indian Jails are causing considerable concern to the Government of India, therefore, this bill will enable us to repatriate these prisoners to the jails of their respective countries from here because after all a lot of money is being spent to keep them here and we also have to face many problems. The Government of India have introduced a very good Bill to avoid all these problems. If we repatriate them to their respective countries then they will be able to lead their remaining lives near their own families. They will be meted out treatment as per their social status and will undergo remaining terms of their sentence in their own countries. I welcome this Bill which provides for inter-state transfer of prisoners. In the Indian Penal Code, 1973 there was no provision to repatriate such persons, so hon. Minister has brought this Bill. I am supporting the Bill introduced by the hon. Minister as it provides for repatriation of prisoners and I am also supporting this Bill because it relates to those persons who are either going to get punishment or are already undergoing punishment. If the prisoner is already 70-72 years old and fears that he may die any time then he can apply for his repatriation as he is reaching the fag end of his life and if a prisoner is not able to make an application himself because of his ill health or mental condition then the application can be made by his representative on his behalf. The Government of India will certainly consider his application under these three conditions. But the request of transfer of prisoner will have to be agreed upon by the transferring State and the receiving State. Their consent is very essential as per the provisions of the Bill.

I would like to submit that only those prisoners can be transferred who have been awarded punishment and that punishment is final that they will have to serve a term of five, ten or fifteen years in jail but if the prisoner has made any appeal or applied for revision in India then neither his application will be transferred nor he will be repatriated. But there are certain conditions which will debar his transfer. First and the foremost is that if the convicted person has committed a crime which is prejudice to the sovereignty, security and national interest of our country and is serving jail term, he cannot be repatriated. Secondly there should be no case pending against him in inter state or any other matter which makes his stay in the country obligatory. Thirdly if he is convicted of any offence and fourthly if he has been awarded death penalty he cannot be transferred from here.

Besides these three-four conditions any person is liable to be transferred if he or his representative give application that this person is at the fag end of his life and physically incapable so his transfer is very essential. The person on which we are spending and wasting money can be transferred by

the Government of India to the nation to which he belongs and that too when their country agrees to take him. That is why hon. Minister has brought a very appropriate Bill because this bill provides for repatriation of prisoners. If a person has gone abroad for business and inadvertently committed some minor offence and have been imprisoned there, then he can be transferred to our country from that country. We can also get transferred the prisoners of Indian origin from any other place. Pardon me, for my saying that there are many Indians who are languishing in Pakistani jails and hands and feet of some of them have been amputated. They are punished and amputated. There are many countries where our people have been kept as prisoners and now these prisoners want to come to stay beside their families in India but they are not allowed to come here. Once I read in the newspaper about a prisoner released from a Pakistani jail and how his family celebrated the reunion. I think this is a really a good Bill. The foreign prisoners who are put in Indian jails should be transferred from here. So the foreign prisoners who are undergoing punishment in jails of various states of the country should be repatriated. This is very essential to bring the prisoners of Indian origin to India who are undergoing life imprisonment in other countries. In this way they will remain besides their families and on Indian soil and lead a social life.

I appreciate honourable Minister for bringing this Bill. After passing this Bill efforts should be made to implement it with immediate effect. Thank you very much for giving me time to speak.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Repatriation of prisoners Bill, 2002 brought here is related to provide more facilities to the persons of Indian origin imprisoned abroad or the persons belonging to foreign countries imprisoned in India and the manner in which they can be helped. But I have to say that many gangwars take place in Mumbai and many people flee the country after committing crimes in Mumbai and Maharashtra, be it Pakistan, Dubai or Malaysia etc. These people are although not prisoners yet they are criminals and the people of these countries consider them as citizens of India visiting their country on a business trip and deal with them like wise while in India they recorded as proclaimed offender. Regarding Dawood Ibrahim or Abu Salem India have taken up the matter with the countries in which they are hiding right now. I have to submit in this regard that honourable Minister should take up this matter also with the UNO. The United Nations should enact a law to make it mandatory that, any person who after committing a crime in a country and flee to other country is to be handed over to the country where he committed the crime. There is also a need to bring new legislation for the purpose. Although we will certainly bring our legislation in this regard,

yet we should take up this matter with the United Nations and also with United States of America. USA Government probably be agreeing with us because many people flee that country after committing crime there. So my submission is that such a legislation should be enacted which enables the Government to bring back those people in India who flee from the country after committing crime here and it can be very effective to bring down crime in India. I would like to suggest this only.

I support the Bill introduced by you. If some Indians imprisoned in Pakistan and some Pakistanis imprisoned in India are released then they as well we all will feel nice. But personally I shall feel nice only when India and Pakistan will come together. I support this Bill and you should also bring one more comprehensive Bill, to bring down the crimes in our country. This is the only suggestion which I have to make.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fully support the Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002. I associate myself with all other honourable Members who have stated that India have always been supporter of humanitarian approach and have always been vociferous defender of human rights in the world. An effort has been made to highlight that human aspect in this very Bill. The Bill provides for repatriation of convicted foreign prisoners to their home-countries to serve their remaining jail terms so that they would be near their families and have better chances of social rehabilitation. Similarly, if our own people are undergoing sentence of imprisonment in foreign jails and are suffering, they should be transferred to Indian jails so that they would be near their families and have better chances of reformation and social rehabilitation. Once they are released from jail they could lead a good life. Such provisions have been made in this Bill. A few days back, certain cases came to my notice. An Indian good will delegation went to Panama under the leadership of Hon'ble Speaker when we reached there, we came to know that a contractor or an agent had deserted 12 persons there telling them that they would get good jobs there. He left them there on their fate. They were arrested there. In a similar case, some persons of Gujarat were brought to Panama instead of America without Passport. They were also arrested there and confined to the jail. There was no fault on their part but due to unemployment or some other pressing circumstances they got into the grip of unscrupulous fellows and were cheated by them and they were sent to jail. If there is an extradition treaty with that country then we can bring those people to our country and can give them chance to reform themselves. This is our main objective.

As has been stated just now that criminals and other persons who took lives of hundreds of innocent people in

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

Mumbai blast have taken refuge in gulf-countries and in Pakistan, be he Dawood Ibrahim or Abu Salem whose name have been mentioned have just now. If there are mutual extradition treaties between India and those countries then it will be easy to bring these criminals to home country and this trials could be conducted here or they can also be punished. More information can be gathered from them. Just some days ago extradition of Monika Bedi was in the air. There is another similar case, some people had gone to Russia for pursuing medical course. Afterwards, they took some of their friends who were in medical profession along with them. There was some altercation among them and Indian medical trainees and their friends were arrested and sent to jail. Though there are friendly relations between India and Russia, yet our people are in jails there.

In this context I would like to submit to the Government that wherever our embassies are they should be vigilant and they should provide legal aid to innocent Indians who have been imprisoned for committing minor offences so that they could be repatriated or if this confinement is necessary, they should live near their families and can get a changed environment.

Just a few days ago, there was a news that a fourteen year old Pakistani boy crossed the Indo-Pak border near Kesharisinhpur village near Ganga Nagar and was caught by the police. He is still in jail. He has not been released till now. Such rules are very helpful in such cases where humanitarian aspects are related. I hope that we will certainly succeed in such cases where India has bilateral extradition treaties with other countries or with the countries where such treaty is under consideration. Such treaty will enable us to bring those criminals who committed crimes here and have taken refuge in other countries or those Indians who are languishing in foreign jails, the foreign prisoners can be sent to their own countries since the existing Indian Penal Code 1973 here or the rules related to this had no such provisions that we can repatriate foreign criminals to their own countries.

The condition of fishermen is very pitiable. They enter into foreign territory while fishing. Pakistan or Sri Lanka make them captive where they languish for a long time. The enactment of act will make it easy to bring our people and repatriate there people to them and it will make easy to face the trial have which they are facing in foreign countries.

I will say two things certainly - the first is that the Government have constituted a Legal Aid Committee besides this there should be a legal advisor in Legal Aid Cell in our embassies which would give information of the facts and would provide legal aid to those prisoners who have none to help them and facilitate the extradition of prisoners of each other by providing them legal aid.

Our friends have mentioned about monitoring. I would also like to support this that there should be special information about prisoners who are in jails for committing minor offences, there should be monitoring so that they may not be left in the jails languishing there, may not fall victims of diseases and not be far off from their family. ... (*Interruptions*)

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Rasa Singhji, please conclude now.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: It appeared in the newspapers few days back that India released Pakistani prisoners of war but still there are some Indian prisoners of war of 1971 war who are in Pakistani jails about whom it was not clear that whether they have become martyr or lost or had gone somewhere and we do not know their whereabouts. Efforts should be made to get information about them for their release. Let the Government provide information as to how many prisoners of war are still there in Pakistani jails. Special attention should be given to them.

As I have said in the beginning, the Bill will highlight the humanitarian aspect, promote social rehabilitation, bring prisoners close to their kith and kin and will strengthen the humanitarian ties between the two countries. I support this Bill. I express my gratitude to you for giving me a chance to speak.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): Mr. Deputy Spcaker, Sir, at the very outset, I must express my gratitude to all the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate on a very important, but a very simple, very innocuous and a very enabling and a humanitarian law which will solve many problems of the prisoners who are now languishing in foreign jails and many of those who are in the jails of India wanting to go back to the country of their origin.

As many as 11 Parliamentarians have given a lot of suggestions. Specially I am grateful to Shri Pandian who has enlightened us on many of those things which may not be within the ambit of this law, but all the same he made some very important suggestions.

Hon. Member Anadi Sahu has made my task a bit easier; he has gone through the whole law and pointed out the distinction between extradition and repatriation, as well as all those conditions which will have to be fulfilled.

Therefore, I will only confine myself to removing some of the misgivings or impressions which may be there in the minds of some of the colleague - hon. Members. Shri



Sudarsana Natchiappan who started the debate had pointed out - this has been repeated by Shri Radhakrishnan and also Shri Ramesh Chennithala - that there are many prisoners who are in foreign jails. They have gone there without any knowledge of the law, or just innocently or unwittingly they landed themselves up in those countries, especially the Arabian countries. They are mostly Malayalis and this has been pointed out.

I may say on this that this law has primarily been brought forward to help all those persons who have been languishing in foreign jails so that on the basis of the treaties that were entered into with different countries, it could be done. Of course with Saudi Arabia and other countries, they pointed out something, but for the present we have not entered into any treaty with them. For the present there are only three countries with whom we have treaties. But this law will help the Government of India to enter into treaties with many other countries.

Earlier, the difficulty was that till such time an enabling law is there whereby we can act upon or implement those treaties, it was not possible. Till now, there are treaties only with U.K., Canada and Norway. Those treaties are also not being implemented because there was no enabling law. If this law is passed by this august House and also by the Upper House and afterwards it is also assented to by the President of India, this would enable us to enter into treaties with other countries.

Another impression being carried by some of the Members, especially from Bihar, is that if other countries want to repatriate a number of criminals who have committed heinous crime, they may be let off as their laws may allow them to go away. It is not like this. This law applies only to the convicts, all those persons who have been convicted for some heinous crime, and not the under-trials. It is applicable to even those persons who have been convicted for certain offences which are anti-national, prejudicial to the national security and sovereignty. All these are primary conditions before the contracting or the Central Government agrees to the request of the convict the Government or any authorised person on behalf of that convict. So, the primary thing we will have to see is, whether it is in the interest of the country, in the interest of the security of this country that we agree to repatriate a particular prisoner. Repatriation can be done only on the satisfaction of the Government of India and the provisions of this Bill can be taken recourse to.

The other thing that was mentioned by the hon. Members from the other side was regarding some of the prisoners who have absconded as fugitives. This law does not deal with the fugitives. If there is a treaty with that country and this

repatriation law comes on the statute book, then we can certainly take help. Even now the Government of India has never lowered its guard, slowed down its activity or its effort to bring back those fugitives who have run away from this country and whom we want to give justice. It is not within the ambit of this law to include all those fugitives who have run away. It is primarily meant only for those convicts who either on their willingness want to go back or anybody on their behalf can move an application for the same. Such conditions are already there and the rules will take care of some of the things which Shri Chennithala has pointed out.

So far as expenses are concerned, when the rules are framed, it can be seen whether an individual should bear the expenses or the receiving country or the State which has accepted the application should bear the expenses. All these things would be taken care of at the time rules are framed.

Another misconception was brought before the House by one or two Members. I think Shri Pandian also has pointed out that conviction or the sentence can be purchased by money. In some of the countries there are certain things. Why can we not do the same? It is the discretion of our country, if the rules of other countries are adaptable, if they are really on the same line then only the Government of India gives its consent to repatriate a prisoner. So far as remission, commutation, clemency or mercy petition are concerned, the power of the President, Governor in the State and the power of the review of court is already safeguarded. Wherever any clemency is to be shown, all these powers would remain with the judicial authority of this country, the President of the country and the Governor of the States. No other, country where the prisoner has been transferred can show that clemency, can let him off and purchase the sentence. This is not possible because the provisions have already been made in the law.

15.00 hrs.

Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members as they all have agreed, notwithstanding the political differences, that this is a law which was needed very badly. This would help all those Indian nationals who are languishing in foreign jails or the foreign nationals who are languishing in our jails. All those people must go back as that helps them in not only to be nearer to their people and families but in their rehabilitation also.

With these words, I would make an appeal that this Bill may kindly be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of certain

prisoners from India to country or place outside India and reception in India of certain prisoners from country or place outside India, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 16 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 16 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 1 Short title and commencement**

*Amendment made:* Page 1, line 3, --

for "2002"

substitute "2003" (2)

(Shri I.D. Swami)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Enacting Formula**

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 1, --

for "Fifth-third"

substitute "Fifty-fourth" (1)

(Shri I.D. Swami)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, was amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The Title was added to the Bill.*

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

**15.04 hrs.**

[English]

**SIXTH SCHEDULE TO THE CONSTITUTION  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India in its application to the State of Assam, be taken into consideration."

In fact, the Bodo Accord was signed some time back in 1993 with the All Bodo Students Union and Bodo People Action Committee with the objective to provide maximum autonomy to the Bodos within the framework of the Constitution. But the Bodo Autonomous Council which took birth out of this Accord could not take proper shape as no elections were held and no powers were transferred. Ultimately, it became non-functional. It did not satisfy the aspirations of the people. It did not fulfil the desired objective of the Accord.

A Memorandum of Settlement, which was a tripartite accord, was entered into by the Assam Government, the Central Government, and the Bodo Liberation Tigers on 10.2.2003 for durable solution of the Bodo issues. To meet the aspirations of the Bodo people as also in pursuance of the Memorandum of Settlement, it has been proposed to create an autonomous district by the name Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District in the State of Assam under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

To constitute a self-governing body known as the Bodoland Territorial Council for administration of BTC area district we shall have legislative, administrative and financial powers in respect of specific subject as distinguished from the earlier arrangement in which there was no legislative power given to that Council and also to provide for adequate safeguards for the non-tribals. It is because this was one of the worries of certain non-tribal people of Assam of the BTC area and they wanted to ensure that they were not put to any

disadvantage in relation to their pre-existing rights and privileges, including their land rights enjoyed by them at the commencement of the BTC. The Government of Assam has already repealed the Bodoland Autonomous Council Act, 1993 - earlier the arrangement was under the Assam Government Legislative Act - and also has dissolved the interim Executive Council which was, as I have already said, not functional at all. Now, the new Bill, the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2003 that I have proposed for consideration and passing, may kindly be taken up for consideration and passing so that the Sixth Schedule is further amended.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (DHUBRI): Sir, about one lakh adivasis and people of the minority community are staying in the refugee camps. Their future should be made clear before passing of this Bill. They should go back to their homeland. It is a very serious matter. Since 1966 so many people are living in the refugee camps. It would be a liability for the State Government. More than one lakh people are staying in the refugee camps. The Home Minister should make it clear as to what would be their future before this Bill is passed. It is a serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your party has given the name of Shri Madhab Rajbangshi to speak on this Bill. I have called his name. You cannot take the floor like this.

SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Sir, this matter should be looked into.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, while replying to the debate, you may kindly take note of this point.

Shri Hamid, the hon. Minister will take note of this point while replying to the debate.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, I may assure the hon. Member that special rehabilitation programmes for the people affected by ethnic disturbances is already in view and under consideration of the Government.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (KOKRAJHAR): Sir, I have given a notice to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have given an amendment to this Bill. You will get your chance to speak.

Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India in its application to the State of Assam, be taken into consideration."

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI (MANGALDOI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of the Congress party and also on behalf of the Government of Assam, stand here to support the Bill.

Sir, at the same time I would like to draw your attention to paragraph 1 where it has been said that, 'provided that nothing in the sub-paragraph shall apply to the Bodoland Areas Territorial Council District constituted under the provision of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (2) of this Schedule.

Sir, there is a provision for a Regional Council in the Sixth Schedule. But in this Bill there is no provision for a Regional Council. This is a grave injustice to the non-tribal people who are living in the State of Assam in the proposed BTC area but not recognised as a scheduled tribe.

The adivasi people who are Scheduled Tribes in Bihar, Orissa and other States are not Scheduled Tribes in Assam. They are demanding that they should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. On 25th July, eight persons have died in police firing. When they were demanding their inclusion in the list of the Scheduled Tribes, the police just fired on them and eight persons died. They are complaining that some of the police personnel fired on them without orders.

In the proposed BTC area, only 28 per cent tribal people are there whereas 72 per cent people are non-tribals, according to the State Government census report.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: What he is saying is not the correct position.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When you speak, you can rebut his point.

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI: Out of these 72 per cent people, a maximum number of people are Koch Rajbongshis, adivasis and religious minorities.

You know about Koch Rajbongshi people of Assam. They are demanding that they should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes since 1967. In 1999 they were included in the list of Scheduled Tribes by promulgating an Ordinance and it was followed up by a Bill. The Central Government introduced a Bill in the House and the Bill was forwarded to the Parliamentary Select Committee. That Committee, after visiting the State of Assam, had recommended on 14th August 1997 that Koch Rajbongshi be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. After that, the State Government of Assam, the Tribal Research Institute of Assam, the Registrar General of India, the Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the Standing Committee of the Tribal Affairs Ministry have all made recommendations to the same effect.

[Shri Madhab Rajbangshi]

On 18th December 2002, on the floor of this very House, Shri Jual Oram, hon. Minister for Tribal Affairs, declared while replying to the debate on a comprehensive Bill on Scheduled Tribes that only one community, that is, Koch Rajbongshi community, which has fulfilled all the conditions, would be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. It was recommended eight days ago by the Standing Committee on Tribal Affairs and it would be decided in the Cabinet so that this community would be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. But it is not done. It is an injustice to this community. Last week, he has replied in the Rajya Sabha to an Unstarred Question that no Koch Rajbongshi and adivasi will be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. The same Minister, Shri Jual Oram, who spoke on the floor of the House and said that Koch Rajbongshi has fulfilled all conditions and they have been recommended by the Registrar General of India, by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, by the State Government of Assam, by the Tribal Research Institute of Assam and by the Standing Committee of the Tribal Affairs Ministry and that they would include them in the list of the Scheduled Tribes, has now replied in Rajya Sabha that Koch Rajbongshi has not fulfilled the conditions for being included as a Scheduled Tribe.

After this announcement by the Minister, do you know what is the condition in Assam? An eighty-hour bandh has been called by the adivasis and Koch Rajbongshis in Assam. Today a serious resentment has developed in the State of Assam.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): I want a clarification from the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why do you not seek the clarification from the hon. Minister?

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: No, Sir. I want to know from the hon. Member, since he belongs to the State, whether the Government of Assam or the Commission for Tribal Affairs, has recommended that this particular tribe be included as a Scheduled Tribe. If so, when was it sent?

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI: Koch Rajbongshi was not only recommended by the State Government of Assam but it was included in the list of Scheduled Tribes also. An MLA was elected as a candidate of Scheduled Tribes from Assam. Now, there is constitutional crisis in the State of Assam. Koch Rajbongshi is neither a Scheduled Tribe nor an OBC nor a general caste now. It is not only once but it was recommended thrice by the State Government of Assam. ...*(Interruptions)* I would request the hon. Minister of State to solve the problem. If you do not solve the problem of Koch Rajbongshi and adivasis in the proposed BTC areas, there

will never be peace in those areas. I am telling you this seriously. There will never be peace in, the proposed BTC areas if you do not include Koch Rajbongshi and adivasis in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

I would like to draw your kind attention to sub-Section (2) of Section 2. It says:

"In paragraph 2, after sub-paragraph (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:--

"Provided that the Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District shall consist of not more than forty-six members of whom forty shall be elected on the basis of adult suffrage, of whom thirty shall be reserved for the Scheduled Tribes."

For 28 per cent, 30 seats are given and there will be five seats for non-tribals. For 72 per cent, only five seats are given. It is five seats for other communities and the remaining seats shall be nominated by the Governor having same rights and privileges as other Members with voting rights and so on. There are only 28 per cent seats for tribals and 72 per cent for non-tribals. You have given 30 seats for tribals and only 5 seats for non-tribals. How will the problem be solved? We, in the Congress Party, always welcome it. The Memorandum of Settlement regarding Bodo problems will be solved in the State of Assam. But how can we solve the problem giving seats like this?

There is a serious resentment among the non-tribals that you have given only five seats to the non-tribals and 28 per cent seats for tribals. There is no provision like this in other Autonomous Councils. You may go to Karbi Anglong District, you may go to North Cachar Hills or you may go to Mizoram. There is no provision of reservation of seats. Only in Assam North-Eastern Council, you have kept this provision that 30 seats will be given to Scheduled Tribes and five seats will be given to non-tribals and six members will be nominated from others. This is no justice to us. Please look into this aspect.

I would like to mention the main point now. The Sixth Schedule (Amendment) Bill will be passed after some time. But what will be the rights and privileges of the non-tribals in the proposed BTC area? There is no security to anybody. Already my senior colleague, Shri Abdul Hamid has spoken. Till today, more than one lakh adivasis and 50,000 religious minorities are in the relief camps. Till BTC is not formed, they cannot go to their homes, they cannot go to their lands. You may ask the hon. Member, Shri Bwiswmuthiary on this point. ...*(Interruptions)* Army is now deployed in the proposed BTC area. Kindly ask him whether he can go to the proposed BTC area without the Army.

Without Army, can he go to the BTC area and come back alive? No, he cannot. He cannot go to the proposed BTC area without the Army. More than one lakh adivasis are there. They are from Bihar and Orissa. They are Shri Jual Oram's and Shri Parsuram Majhi's people. They cannot go to their home and they cannot go to their land. How are you going to ensure the rights and privileges of the non-tribals? I would request you to please inform us as to what kind of rights and privileges will be given to the non-tribals in the proposed BTC area. You have to ensure the rights and privileges of the non-tribals. So many non-tribals, religious minorities, and linguistic minorities are living there. Nepali people are living there. Adivasi and Koch Rajbongshi people are living there. I have not seen a situation where 28 per cent of the people rule over 72 per cent of the people. You have imposed this Bill in order to let 28 per cent of the people rule over 72 per cent of the people. You know the situation that exists in the State of Assam.

I request you that at least sixty per cent of the seats should be given to the non-tribals and forty per cent of the seats should be given to the tribals so that peace and amity could be maintained in the proposed BTC area. Otherwise, I am telling you repeatedly that there will be no peace and amity in the proposed BTC area. It will never happen. Nobody can rule this area. Neither the State Government nor the Central Government can rule the proposed BTC area without satisfying the adivasis and Koch Rajbongshi people. You have to ensure the rights and privileges of non-tribals. What will be our land rights? What will be our political rights? What will be our social rights? What will be our language rights? What will be our educational rights? And what will be our employment rights? You have to ensure this and inform this on the floor of the House. We have no objection to pass this Bill. We always wanted peace in this proposed area in the State of Assam. But without ensuring the rights and privileges of the non-tribals, you should not impose this Bill, you should not impose this Autonomous Council over the non-tribals. Please ensure us the land rights, the political rights, social rights, employment rights, and educational rights. Then there will be no problem. Otherwise, nobody will be able to rule this area. Neither BLT nor Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswuthiary nor anybody else will be able to rule this area. Nobody can rule this area without finding a solution to the problems of the non-tribals, without satisfying the Koch Rajbongshi and adivasis in the State of Assam. I would again and again request the Central Government to please ensure us our rights and privileges. I do not want to take more time of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already taken twenty minutes.

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI: Sir, I am from that area.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is why I did not disturb you.

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI: I have uttered many times on the floor of the House about the problems of Koch Rajbongshi in the BTC area. I will support Dr. Jayant Rongpi, but he is not supporting me. He has told me that he will support the demands of Koch Rajbongshi. Shri Rajen Gohain is present here. He is the President of the State Unit of Assam. Today he will support me.

He is suffering. His people are suffering. The problem of Koch Rajbongshi is supported by the BJP of Assam, the Congress Party of Assam, the All-Communist Party of Assam, the AGP of Assam, but the Central Government is not supporting it. ... (Interruptions) The Central Government is always misleading us through Shri Jual Oram. One day, he will speak that the Koch Rajbongshi community has fulfilled all the conditions to be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes, but in the Rajya Sabha, he will speak saying that no Koch Rajbongshi and the adivasi people will be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes in order to satisfy Shri Drupad Borgohain and Dr. Arun Sharma. What is the reason for this? In this connection, I am supporting all the political parties and all sections of the people. ... (Interruptions)

So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to include the Koch Rajbongshi and the Adivasi people in the List of Scheduled Tribes. I would request all the sections of the people, the Central Government, the State Government, the BLT as also the signatories to the Memorandum of Settlement that in the proposed BTC area, peace and amity should be maintained so that all sections of people can live together without any fear, without any interference in the proposed area.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (BERHAMPUR, ORISSA): Sir, at the outset, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I stand here in support of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. ... (Interruptions)

Let us not start with a pessimistic note. Let us be optimistic in all aspects.

For Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I would like to quote an English proverb:

"Tell me not in mournful numbers

Life is but an empty dream."

Let us not think that life is a dream. Let us think in a constructive manner to see as to how we are able to solve a

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

vexed problem, a vexed problem not only in the Bodo areas but a vexed problem in the North-East. For that matter, before I go into the Bill itself, I must congratulate the late Shri Hiteshwar Saikia and Shri Rajesh Pilot who had made a beginning by the Bodo Accord. It has not gone without any fruits although it had so many other difficulties because of certain lacunae, certain inherent difficulties in the Bodo Accord. People who live in those areas could not come to an understanding; elections could not be held and proper representation was not there. I do not say that they had not started in right earnest. They had started in right earnest. But the problem of the people living in that area, whether they are tribals or non-tribals, had not been properly assessed as my friend has been telling just now. The apprehensions he has are genuine apprehension. Whenever there are apprehensions, those apprehensions have to be sorted out in course of time. And, in course of time, we have to sort out all these problems by giving a patient hearing to different groups of people - ethnic groups, religious groups and linguistic groups. There is a problem for the linguistic groups. There is a problem for those people who are non-tribals. There is also the problem for the tribals. How did the Bodo problem come up? It is because of land alienation, influx of people from different places and the threat to their ethnic majority in that particular area. We have to take it into account. That is why, right from 1986, we have had a number of law and order problems in the sense that the National Democratic Front of Bodoland started creating problems. They wanted to secede from India. Then, in 1993, the Bodo Liberation Tigers was formed. They did not want to secede from India but they wanted a place of prominence in the Indian polity. This is the difference between the two. There were lots of bloodshed. There was a lot of acrimony and, for that matter, casualties of the worst order. Now, in 2003 February a positive step has been taken. I have been to Assam. I have worked there for two years. I have seen how good the people are. We must see as to how we can bring about a permanent solution to the problems that Assam has been facing for the last fifty, sixty years. Now the Memorandum of Settlement which has been signed in February, 2003, is a landmark. For that, Shri L.K. Advani, the hon. Deputy Prime Minister has to be congratulated or for that matter the Chief Minister of Assam has also to be congratulated because both of them as elected representatives, as people who think of the good of this country, they came to an agreement and the Memorandum of Settlement was signed. You may find some loopholes here and there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Anadi Sahu, you can continue your speech on Monday.

Now we shall take up item No.12 - further discussion on

the Resolution moved by Shri Ramdas Athawale regarding Implementation of policies and programmes for SC/ST, etc.

[English]

15.32 hrs.

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS RESOLUTIONS

(i) **Re: Implementation of policies and programmes for S.C./S.T. etc.**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before further discussion on the Resolution regarding implementation of policies and programmes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, etc. moved by Shri Ram Das Athawale is resumed, I have to mention that 2 hours 53 minutes have been taken on this Resolution. The time allotted for discussion on this Resolution has already been exhausted. The concerned Minister who was on his legs has to resume his intervention now. Thereafter the mover has the right of reply. The House may consider whether to extend the time for further discussion on the Resolution.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the time for this Resolution be extended by 15 minutes?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time is extended by 15 minutes. So, the hon. Minister may resume his intervention now.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (KOKRAJHAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the learned Member's of this august House may consider extending time for discussion on the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary, you are a senior Member, we have already taken Private Members' Business which I just mentioned now. The hon. Minister is now again on his legs.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last time the discussion was not concluded and I was speaking at that time. I may be given one or two minutes to conclude my speech. It is not concluded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, the hon. Minister was on his legs. The hon. Minister did not conclude his intervention.

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, after his reply, I may be allowed to put one or two supplementaries.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): It will be welcome. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this proposal has come up before the House as a Resolution. The concern has been expressed in it that the Government must chalk out some policies and programmes for the welfare of SCs and STs which may help alleviate their social, educational, political and economic position and thereby improve their living standards so that they may lead their life as responsible citizens.

We all know that the Constitution of India is committed to it. It has been enshrined in the preamble to the Constitution of India itself. It has been said in it -

[English]

"We the people of India solemnly resolve to constitute India into..."

[Translation]

"We, the People of India having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN....." i.e., we do not want to see our country weak. Further while highlighting its characteristics, it has been stated that "SOCIALIST, SECULAR, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens" - Obviously no Indian citizen has been left outside its ambit - "Justice, Social, Economic and Political. This is really a big thing. Providing social, economic and political justice is essential. Further it has also been stated by us that there is a provision of social and economic justice, liberty of belief, faith and worship etc. and the right to justice, equality, fraternity, etc. Thus, all these characteristics have been enumerated. The first basic requirement is of providing social, political and economic justice i.e. "Justice Social, Economic and Political." Social justice can be provided only if economic and political infrastructure has been set up and also arrangements for providing education is made. So, being academically qualified and economically prosperous is also essential. Today the issue before us is that while being economically prosperous, how one can get the political empowerment, we have been given the opportunity to discuss it in the House. It includes the measures taken by the Government during the last 50 years. The achievements registered are before us. It is not that the work has finished, so we have to continue doing it and when we do this, the co-operation of all sections of the society is required for this purpose.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know that financial assistance is very necessary for the implementation of schemes of the Government and the schemes are carried

forward to the proportion in which funds are made available. Everything goes topsy-turvy without funds. Therefore, it depends much on the financial assistance provided by the Government. We all are worried for the financial assistance so that we can empower each and everyone. We have passed through a long way certainly and simultaneously we keep on reviewing the situation as well. We still have to go a long way.

Sir, we have provided for reservation in the field of education. Scholarship is also being provided under it for their progress. And the amount of money given under such Scholarship is being revised from time to time. Only the proper co-ordination between the state, union and local bodies and timely distribution of scholarship can ensure change in the situation as well. But we see that the desirable result is not forthcoming wherever no attention has been paid to it and therefore delay takes place.

Sir, we have worked to provide facilities for the last 50 years. The first thing under it is providing social protection and measures relating to social equality and setting up of the legal infrastructure to check atrocities being perpetrated on Scheduled Castes and Weaker sections of the society and also to ensure safeguard against social discrimination because social equality is the birth right to a man. This is purposive and also conclusion of fundamental principles of our constitution. Therefore, the first thing is that man must deal with man as human being and if spoken in terms of constitutional philosophy as citizens. If somebody fails to live upto it, he belittles his faith and respect for Constitution of India. Therefore, our requirements and desire is such. But we see that our efforts of so many years have yielded little as social discrimination is still prevalent. There would not have any need to power upon it had it not been in existence. But certainly, it is still prevalent, it was also there in the past. This law has been enacted to bridge this gap.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ramji Lal Sumanji wanted to know about the steps aimed to stop the atrocities on weaker sections. I would like to tell him that we have enacted the laws precisely to stop the atrocities on weaker sections. The atrocities being committed anywhere must be stopped with iron hand. The culprits must be dealt with sternly by invoking the provisions of laws. But we see that despite the existence of law in this regard such incidents are taking place continuously. Inside and outside the House, people do take notice of such incidents. Today, we are not in a position to say that we fully support the cause of Scheduled Castes and Weaker sections of the society and the Government is also with them. The inner strength will be developed only when we support this while being socially awakened.

We have certainly enacted PCR Act 1955 and PO Act

[Shri Satyanarayan Jatiya]

1989. But the people or the community face hardships when they want to put their case strongly in Courts to prosecute the guilty and also want legally proceed for the purpose and thus injustice is done to them. There are many reasons for not paying proper attention to the proceedings involved concerning them. There may be crunch of financial resources or it might have been given a lower order of priority. Because of all those reasons despite being the law there, atrocities are committed and injustice is being meted out. Many steps of laws are there in our country. Despite the existence of IPC - crimes do take place. But that does not mean that perpetration of crime will not be punished. Though the law certainly have provisions to punish the criminals, yet it does not practically percolates, as people do not have fear and awe towards such provisions of the law. Seen from this angle, law also must make provision for their protection.

Sir, we know that in the Constitution also, all sorts of measures are taken and on their basis, we said that nobody should be discriminated against. We have ended untouchability. The Constitution says that it is a matter of serious concern if we believe in untouchability and treat certain individuals of community as untouchables of human beings. One person is sacred and the other one not so sacred, whether a mere touch can make someone unholy? Sometimes I think that this concept of being holy or unholy is baseless as mere touching cannot make a person unholy. Therefore, there is the need to change this mental state. Gradually, the winds of change are sweeping over. Fifty years is not a too short period. Therefore, it is a matter of serious concern for all of us and also for our Government as to how the people are to be awakened and be provided the rights to restore their honour. By reserving the posts of Sarpanch, Chairman of Municipality and Nagar Panchayat, Municipal Corporations, Members of Parliament and Vidhan Sabhas in certain regions. We continue our efforts to restore to them their dignity. But despite all, it is merely political empowerment. The economic empowerment is equally very important. It is also very essential to make them economically prosperous. The Government have started schemes for that purpose. We have introduced such schemes on behalf of the Government through which loans are given at very low rates of interest. Those, who undertake small trades or do their own business at small level, do not require much funds. A person who earns his livelihood by pulling a cart or selling goods on pavement or running a small corner shop does not require much funds. He requires funds ranging from two, five, ten, twenty or twenty five thousand rupees only. We provide loan at the rate of 5% through corporations, we have set up and there they can start their own business.

Sir, we had introduced this scheme last year and it has yielded good results. Major banks are there for providing high

loans. The educated people know that they can get loan from the Bank. They can make some arrangements. But a person who is not much educated and does not enjoy other facilities for people such as them we have tried to extend the benefits of these schemes and we have got good response. It has to be done through channelising agencies, i.e. the State Governments through which it will be done. There are beneficiary groups to whom we provide loan at low rates of interest as they have to be given assistance through these agencies. At the initial level we extend loan at 2% but they take 2 to 3% at the state level. If there is any more channelising agency or in order to provide assistance to any beneficiary, the expenditure is sometimes on the higher side, thus our objective is not fulfilled. So our objective is to give benefits directly to them. We make efforts for such measures. We have introduced many new schemes for providing scholarship in the education sector and have tried to improve the standard of education. Last year we introduced Ambedkar Scholarship Scheme and the response was good. Students from all over the country have come forward to get benefit of this scheme. There are students who drop-out of schools after matric and cannot study further. Recently I visited Hyderabad and saw that this programme was taken up in Andhra Pradesh. There was tremendous response to this programme. Even when we launched this programme in Delhi, students from 10-11 states responded. We have introduced a special scholarship, meant for the students belonging to both scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. There is a provision that a student who secures first rank in the Board will get Rs. 60,000/-, who secures second rank will get Rs. 50,000/- and who secures third rank will get Rs. 40,000/-. If no girl student secures above mentioned position, then a provision of Rs. 40,000/- for an additional scholarship has been made in such cases. Not only this, we have introduced 250 scholarships of Rs. 10,000/- each on the basis of ratio of scheduled castes & scheduled tribes population in the states so as to encourage them. I am happy that this scheme has since been started.

Besides, we want that they should get admitted in good residential schools and good public schools. At present this scheme is under formulation. This scheme is ready to take off soon. Lack of funds is also one of the reasons as now-a-days money has become a medium for quality education. Good money begets good education. Poor people, people from weaker sections and scheduled castes do not have money. The education imparted to them is of poor quality. Because they cannot get good quality education by spending more money. That is why the Government have decided to start a scheme to remove disparity in the standard of education. We want that students who wish to go for higher studies and have talent, but do not have money, would benefit by this scheme and a number of students are able to take admission in public



schools and other good schools. They would be provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 10,000/-, 20,000/-, 25000/-, 50,000/- or even Rs. 1 lakh so as to make full payment towards their fees and enable them to receive good quality higher education. That scheme is also under consideration of the Government.

There are good residential schools. I am aware that education is the basis of man's development. If there is no education human beings will not behave like human beings. I know that one does not face any problem to move ahead, if the standard of education is good right from the beginning should his primary education and secondary education be good, we will ensure that he also gets good opportunity for higher education, thereafter. If he wants to go for professional studies and there are a number of professional disciplines in which he should get opportunities. We may not have the required resources and money for that, but we have the will power. We want them to make progress through good education. Besides this, people who are engaged in different professions. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted for this Resolution is already over. We may extend the time, for this Resolution, by 15 minutes. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time on this Resolution by 15 minutes?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. The time on this Resolution is extended by 15 minutes.

*[Translation]*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Besides, we provide them coaching and impart training. So that they may appear in competitive exams. It is an important issue and exhaustive too. Many Hon. Members alongwith hon. Shivraj Patilji, Suman ji have participated in this discussion. Ramdas Athawale ji has moved the Resolution with the determination and will power to bring weaker sections of the society forward. We must bring these people forward. During the course of discussion many important proposals have been put forth though I can reply to them but it will not be possible for me to do so due to the time constraint. But being a Minister and a part of the Government I will try to take all possible steps to improve the standard of education but for that we need cooperation of all. We have Government as well as private educational institutions which are in large number but they hardly reserve seats for the children belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, weaker sections and backward

classes. The institutions which reserve seats for such classes deserve to be congratulated, but good institutions charge higher fees. If somebody has Rs.50,000/- or Rs.10,000/- he will go to institution according to his capacity and if somebody has nothing then he will send his children to those schools where there are no equipments and no teachers to teach. There is no roof above nor there is a place beneath to sit. We hope that we can introduce that new thing for which the Government have taken steps through Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. The State Governments should extend sufficient cooperation to materialise Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan of the Government and work for bringing awareness in the society. When a child joins school it should be the responsibility of all educated people. Whosoever gets some benefit from the representative of people, he should take same initiative in this regard. Building should be constructed from MP Fund. Then a village student who has no source to pursue his studies will also benefit from this. We want to do all these things but there is a need to lay emphasis on it.

Work has been done in all spheres of education. We see that those who are working in scavenging jobs, do safai work, attract little attention of the society. In view of this, we have constituted a Finance Development Corporation of Safai Karmcharis. We have imparted training to them. We have rehabilitated them. Today we still want to do that job speedily but our financial resource crunch has come in the way. But with the experience we have gained while working in this field we can say without my hesitation that in Ninth Plan we have provided assistance to more than 19 lakh students from families working in scavenging jobs. A sum of Rs.36 crore and 25 lakhs have been spent on this scheme. During 2002-2003, this number was 5 lakh and 55 thousand and a sum of Rs.19 lakh 8 thousand have been provided to them. The Government have also taken notice of those people who are living below poverty line and are doing scavenging jobs. We have spent Rs. 11 crore and 19 lakh on providing coaching to 48,500 students in the Ninth Plan. During 2002-2003, a sum of Rs.5 crore and 50 lakh has been spent on 12081 students. With a view to provide proper facilities for books, we do all this in the form of book banks. Even after all these, a lot is yet to be done. All learned persons like Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Shri Ramdas Athawale, Shri Ramji Lal Suman have given their suggestions in this debate. The suggestions received during this long debate will help us in time to come.

Just now hon. Dr. Saroja was saying that she would like to make a suggestion. I would welcome that suggestion. I hope that the Government will do this job in the light of this debate with all sincerity and giving due respect to the feelings of the hon. Members. I request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. V. Saroja, from the record I found that you have already spoken on this.

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, I will give only one suggestion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After the Minister has spoken, only the Mover of the Resolution can speak. This is a deviation from the established convention. As a special case I will permit you for a minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, can I make certain suggestions to the hon. Minister in connection with this very particular issue? ... (Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for allowing me to give a suggestion.

After passing the Seventy-third Amendment Bill, out of 34 lakh elected representatives, we have elected 10 lakh women representatives, 3.64 lakh Scheduled Caste representatives and 2.59 lakh Scheduled Tribe representatives.

I would like to say that in Tamil Nadu, we have formed the male Self-Help Groups, and we are also forming economic-oriented schemes. Through the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Finance Corporation, we are trying to focus our attention on these depressed groups. So, I would like to ask the Minister whether he would come up with concrete and specific economic-oriented programmes so that we will not only be empowering the male Self-Help Groups economically, but also we can find a solution to the problem of educated unemployed youth of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. This is one suggestion that I wanted to make. Sir, you can even involve all the elected representatives, the concerned MPs and the MLAs so that we will really do some justice to this community.

My second suggestion is that in Tamil Nadu, during 1994, a novel scheme was launched from the Special Component Plan for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. Rs. 130 crore loan was raised from the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation. In that, 41 per cent of the money is to be paid towards import duty charges by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs under this novel scheme. This is the only one scheme in India to empower the economically depressed people. They have written to the hon. Prime Minister also. I would submit this copy to him for giving concession. Kindly look into this matter and do justice. I urge

upon the hon. Minister to have the same scheme in all the States so that it really yields the fruits. Both the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission and the Standing Committee visited this place at Tripur in Coimbatore district. They are much satisfied. I would request that the same scheme could be extended to all the States of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As a special case, I am allowing you. Otherwise, we are deviating from the established convention.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, actually I have been observing through some newspapers that a very dangerous law is being imposed upon the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people in regard to contesting the Panchayat elections. This condition has been recently confirmed even by the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court of India's latest order is that if a candidate is having more than two children, then that candidate cannot contest the election even if it is for Panchayat. This sort of restriction should be relaxed in the case of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people because they are not having much population compared to the population of the general category people. So, this relaxation should be there. This is my humble request to the Government of India. Please honour this.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I moved this resolution with the objective of pointing out that even after 53 years of independence, justice could not be done to Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribes and people of backward classes when we adopted the Constitution we resolved that:

[English]

"WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;....."

[Translation]

When the Constitution of India was adopted, it was envisaged therein to provide justice to all.

16.00 hrs.

Just now hon. Minister, Shri Jatiya talked about some schemes. Each year budgets bring such schemes but people do not get justice. We find that percentage of landless people among SC and ST is 70 per cent and percentage of cultivators is 20 and percentage of rural labourers is 65 while in urban area it is 30. The literacy rate was 10.3 in 1961 and in 1991, there was an increase of 7 per cent in it but there is a need to increase it more. Now if we look at reservation position, we will find that it has increased by 9.83 per cent in Class-I posts in respect of SC and 3.1 per cent in respect of ST according to figures of 1999. In class-II, it is 11.4 per cent in SC and 2.78 per cent in ST category. In class-III it is 17.5 per cent in SC and 5.94 per cent in ST category and in class-IV it is 19.20 per cent in SC and 7.64 per cent in ST category. This number needs to be increased further. According to 2001 census the percentage of SC and ST population has increased. The percentage of SC and ST population in 1951 was 22.5 but now it is 28-29 per cent of the total population. Therefore, this reservation limit should be increased. Reservation in private sector is very necessary and for this there is a need to enact a law. While policy of privatisation was being chalked out, it was necessary to consider reservation provisions but Brahministic mentality brought this issue of privatisation to deprive the SCs and STs of reservation. I demand reservation in private sector as well. If we do not provide reservation in private sector SC and ST will not get jobs and they will have to flee the country. This is the situation when they do not get jobs, a serious situation will develop and that is why our former President Shri K.R. Narayanan advocated for reservation in private sectors. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, how much more time would you require? We have to extend the time accordingly.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Please extend time. Half an hour will do.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time allotted for this Resolution by fifteen more minutes?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, the time is extended by fifteen minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I am asking for extension of time and not for increasing any amount of money. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It does not matter. You leave aside the subject.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: On 26th January, 2001, Shri K.R. Narayanan spoke about reservation that SC and ST should be given reservation in the private sector. Therefore, I demand from the Government of India that they should bring a Constitution Amendment Bill, this very session for reservation in private sector. If reservation is not provided in private sector then poor tribals, dalits of this country will be on the roads. We will take Ratilal Vermaji also to our side from that side.

16.05 hrs.

(SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU *in the Chair*)

My demand includes one more thing also. There is a need to enact a law to implement reservation and give protection to it. I demand that reservation provision should be incorporated in the Ninth Schedule. There is a need to make the dalits socially and economically strong. If we do not make them strong, the country will not become strong. If we do not become strong, you will also become weak. Therefore, reservation provisions should be incorporated in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

For the political, economic and social uplift of people belonging to SCs and STs category, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar worked for the demand of reservation for almost thirty years and got it approved by South Bureau Commission in 1947. He also arrived at Poona Pact with Mahatma Gandhi in this regard. If we do not accept it, it will be a treachery with Mahatma Gandhi also. Atalji and all others from different parties talk about Mahatma Gandhi and work for the promotion of his ideas. It is easy to talk about Gandhi but to promote his ideas is very difficult. Therefore, Dalits need reservation.

The Constitution of India have certain provisions for reservation for Dalits. Chatrapati Sahujeer Maharaj started providing reservation in an institute at Kolhapur in Maharashtra in 1902. It has completed hundred years today, we must bring forward his ideals also. The provisions for reservation for SCs and STs is not a work of charity but their right is guaranteed by the Constitution of India. The Constitution says that people belonging to SCs and STs have to be brought in the mainstream. Social justice to all is assured in the preamble of the Constitution, this is our main aim. Thereafter, in order to implement it, we all must think seriously. The Government of

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

India has accepted the census of 2001. My demand is that as per the population in 2001, there is the need to increase the seats in Lok Sabha and in Legislative Assemblies for the economic development of SCs and STs, every Dalit should be provided 5-10 acres of land in villages. Either the Union Government or the State Government should take steps to do it. If the Government does not own the land, it must purchase land and provide it. The fund allocation in the name of Special Component Plan in each department, must be spent on SCs and STs as per their ratio to the total population. Till now, no such measures are being adopted.

The name of the Minister is Satya Narayan Jatiya, you are 'Satya', 'Narayan' is in your name and 'Jatiya' is your surname. You have got an opportunity to use the fund allotted to your Ministry for the purpose. You should raise your voice if you feel that it is less than required. We would also co-operate with you. The Government needs to chalk out programmes for giving land to Dalits. The right to economic equality enshrined in the Constitution needs to be implemented. Owning of too much of property needs to be banned. Today, thousands of acres of land is owned by Ambani and Mafatlal. On the other hand, most of the Dalits do not own land even now. Thus, there is economic inequality in the country. Therefore, the tendency to own too much of land should be restrained. The Government must take over the surplus land from these who own it. One family should not own more than 50 acres of land and rest of the land may be distributed among Dalits. If your Government cannot do this then please resign, we shall do it. This is for the welfare of Dalits. Therefore, there is the need for fixing ceiling for property. I say that SCs and STs must be provided equal opportunity in this field. Not only this, in commercial field also they need reservation. SCs and STs need reservation in transport companies and multinational companies as well. They also need reservation in High Courts, Supreme Court, Legislative Councils and Cabinets of Union Government and State Governments. When there is the provision for reservation in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies, they must also get it in Cabinets. At least, 30% of the total number of Ministers must be from our community. If 30% Ministers are taken from our community, they can play a pivotal role in uplifting our society.

Atrocities are being mounted on SCs and STs. Though Atrocities Act is in existence and it is being implemented in some regions yet it is not effective in most of the regions. And social equality has not been achieved in our country till now. They are not allowed inside temples. We appeal to the Prime Minister that he must convene a meeting of all parties and discussion should be held and the Member of whichever party perpetrate atrocities on SCs and STs people, may be thrown out of the party and such people may not be accepted in other

parties as well. He may not be allowed to go out from one political party and join another. Therefore, there is the need to boycott them. There is the need to think seriously as to how SCs and STs people can achieve equality, we must also work for strengthening socialism.

So far as education is concerned, if we want to educate students of SCs and STs well, they must get reservation in non-Government colleges because they do not have money for giving donations. The public schools for K.G. children too demand Rs. 20-25 thousands. People from our community cannot pay Rs. 30-35 lakhs for payment seat admission in Medical Colleges. Wherefrom will they get this money. Therefore, whether it is junior or senior school, college or faculty, students belonging to SCs and STs category must get entry as per their population. Besides, this condition be put on management and for that we must make our efforts. Such an order must also be issued by your Ministry.

NSBC needs to be given more power, it needs to have more funds. The loans granted by NSBC or banks require security. The persons who belong to SCs and STs are unable to give security for the loans amounting to Rs. 10-20 lakhs or Rs. One crore. Therefore, State Governments or the Union Government should provide security for loans given by NSBC or banks to them. Therefore, this problems of ours also needs to be looked into by the Government. Likewise, atrocities on Dalits need to be curbed. You asked me to withdraw this resolution, I cannot do so. This resolution is going to strengthen India, socially and economically. I cannot take back this resolution. I will not betray Dalits. We have not come to Parliament to betray them I appeal to you that such type of resolution must also come from the Government. Efforts must be made on the part of the Government to uplift Dalits, Tribals and Backward people. Efforts should be made by the concerned Ministry. Efforts may be made by Atalji, by Shri George Fernandes. Efforts may be made by the Minister for Labour, Dr. Saheb Singh Verma. If this Government does not work for the welfare of SCs and STs, the latter would support some other party. I also request Mr. Chairman that he hails from Andhra Pradesh. If your party supports us, we can form a good Government. If you promise right now to fulfil this resolution, I can take back it. I request hon. Minister to seriously consider the suggestions received in this regard. You need to work for the welfare of Dalits and your Government should make efforts.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, are you withdrawing this resolution or not?

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Sir, I want an assurance from the Minister and from you also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair will always assure you for the welfare of the people, particularly dalits, tribals and of other weaker sections.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make my submission within one minute only.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may ask only one clarification.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: (DHANDHUKA): Mr. Chairman Sir, after disinvestment and privatisation of PSU's reservation for Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes should get priority. I support the suggestions made by other members on reservation for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and I request the hon'ble Minister to take steps to amend the Bill accordingly.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Sir, discussion on this subject in House has proved useful. Just now Dr. Saroja spoke on special component programmes and special central assistance. The State Governments have the opportunity to work in this direction. The assistance provided by the centre for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes should be spent on their welfare for the purpose for which it was released. We will make efforts in this direction and all should cooperate in it. I have noted the suggestions made by the hon'ble Member. If the Resolution is withdrawn it does not mean that. Everything will come to an end. The Government are working seriously in this direction and you are also cooperating and your suggestions will be considered. I will like to submit that keeping this in view we all are serious about it. Some solution should be found out, so it will be better that you withdrew your Resolution.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I shall withdraw my resolution, but the Government should give a clear assurance in this regard for providing reservation to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in private companies.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The hon'ble Minister has since given complete assurance for this.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, the Government will take all your suggestions with true letter and spirit.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Sir, if the Government are ready and serious to implement suggestions made by me for social, economic and political development of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, I withdraw my Resolution. It is not enough if Shri Jatiya alone is prepared. The entire Cabinet should be prepared. Since you are making efforts for implementation so I withdraw my resolution for some days.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Ramdas Athawale be withdrawn.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

16.22 hrs.

[English]

**(ii) Re: Measures to protect the interests of workers**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up the Resolution regarding measures to protect the interests of workers' presented by Shri Basu Deb Acharia. Before we take up the Resolution for discussion, we have to fix time for discussion on this Resolution. Initially, two hours are allotted in the first instance. If the House agrees, two hours may be allotted for this discussion.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): I beg to move:

"This House expresses its deep concern over continuous reduction in social securities for workers and urges upon the Government to take measures to protect the interests of the workers by introducing Provident Fund Scheme for all unorganised workers; restoring interest rate of provident fund to 12 per cent; removing ceiling on bonus payment; ensuring payment of all statutory dues of the workers; providing adequate health care facilities; enacting a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers; and ensuring payment of minimum wages to contractual workers."

Sir, this is a vast subject, and you should increase the allotted time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, after two hours we will decide on it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this issue pertains to 40 crore workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Initially, we have allotted two hours, later we will decide about it.

SHRI BASU DEBACHARIA: Sir, today I am raising some burning problems of 40 crore workers of our country. Sir, out of 400 million workers only 28 million workers belong to organised sector, and rest belongs to the unorganised sector.

Sir, after the Government of India adopted the new economic policy -- policy of liberalisation and globalisation - it has adversely affected the working class, particularly the unorganised sector.

Sir, there has been an all out attack against the unorganised sector, as well as the organised sector. The social securities that are being enjoyed by the workers are not sufficient. There has been a growing attack on the social securities that are enjoyed by the workers in our country.

Sir, to provide social security to the workers has been enshrined in the Constitution of India. Sir, in article 43 it has been stated that:

"The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities and, in particular, the State shall endeavour to promote cottage industries on an individual or co-operative basis in rural areas."

16.25 hrs.

(SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*)

Article 43 of the Constitution very clearly state that after independence, the workers particularly belonging to rural areas -- workers belonging to unorganised sector, workers belonging to agricultural sector, cottage industries, and rural industries - will have a decent living and will get living wages. However, even 50 years after the adoption of our Constitution, nothing has been done to improve the lot of crores of workers of our country, except passing some legislations to protect the interest of the workers. These legislations today remain only on papers and the provisions of these legislations are not being observed either by the Government or by the employer. These provisions are being blatantly violated by the employers, and the Government has nothing to do against them.

Sir, what has been stated about social security in the

Approach Paper to the Ninth Five-Year Plan? I quote from the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five-Year Plan in regard to social security.

"Social security will be provided to the workforce both in organised and unorganised sector. An integrated comprehensive scheme on social security will be evolved by having a single legislation covering all the social security schemes."

The Ninth Five-Year Plan suggested for a single legislation covering all the social security schemes. The other recommendations made by the Working Group of the Planning Commission are:

- (a) Announcement of a National Policy on Social Security;
- (b) Examination and ratification of ILO Convention on Social Security minimum standard of 1952;
- (c) Provision of budgetary support for social security and its integration with economic development and planning process;
- (d) A separate department for social security in the Ministry of Labour;
- (e) Contributory Employment Assurance Scheme in organised sector;
- (f) Social security is the universal need of the workers; a social safety net is to be formed for those who somehow, temporarily or permanently, are thrown out of employment. Thousands of workers today are facing this problem, becoming either temporarily unemployed or permanently thrown out of employment;
- (g) Single system of social security for unorganised rural labour and cost effective and easy access to benefits;
- (h) Social security for all workers, both in the organised and unorganised sectors, irrespective of type of establishment or amount of wages drawn;
- (i) Reform process in ESIC; and
- (j) Pattern of investment in EPF and EPS.

The Task Force which was appointed by the Planning Commission recommended very strongly for speedy

implementation of all these recommendations. However, none of these recommendations has so far been implemented by the Ministry of Labour of the Government of India. No announcement of national policy on social security, which was recommended by the Task Force of the Planning Commission has been made.

The Tenth Five-Year Plan also recommended for a central fund for the welfare of workers based on the experience of the existing Welfare Fund for Beedi Workers. That experience has not been good. It is said that efforts must be made to constitute some Welfare Fund for Fish Processing and Salt workers, etc.

I have the 2000 Edition of the Pocketbook for Labour Statistics with me. I do not know whether a later edition of it was published. Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya would be able to say that since he was the former Labour Minister. If you see that pocketbook, you will be surprised to know that the amount collected out of cess amount deposited in the welfare fund in a number of cases has not been spent fully. I will take up the plight of beedi workers later when I speak on Beedi Workers Welfare Fund.

The Tenth Five-Year Plan recommended a pension scheme for the unorganised sector. The Government of West Bengal introduced three years back a Provident Fund-cum-Pension Scheme for the unorganised workers. This scheme is an ideal scheme that can be implemented by the other State Governments also. Particular attention should be given to vulnerable groups of labourers like child labourers, bonded labourers, migrant workers, building and construction workers, and landless agricultural workers. They have suggested introduction of a pension scheme for such vulnerable sections of workers. I do not know what action has so far been taken with regard to implementing the suggestion made by the Task Force on Social Security which was constituted in 1999.

This Task Force had made a number of recommendations. My experience is that none of those recommendations has so far been implemented. The latest one is setting up of the Second National Labour Commission. It was stated on the floor of the House that the main purpose of constitution of the Second National Labour Commission was to recommend certain measures to protect the interests of unorganised workers. The percentage of unorganised workers is 80 to 85 and most of these workers are exploited even today. Though there are certain legislations, the provisions of these legislations are not observed by the employers.

Sir, the Second National Labour Commission

recommended for an umbrella legislation. The Ministry of Labour circulated a draft on the Unorganised Sector of Workers Bill, 2003. It has not yet been introduced. But this draft Bill has been circulated among the trade unions for eliciting their opinion.

The Labour Minister has elaborated and eloquently stated as to what he has in his mind about the welfare measures to be adopted by the Government of India. All the trade unions, from BMS to CITU, objected very seriously the various provisions of this draft Bill. And, they jointly sent their suggestions to the Ministry of Labour for their consideration.

What are their suggestions? They are: (a) to improve the Unorganised Sector Workers Bill, 2003; there should be a separate Bill for large and distinct segments such as agricultural workers. Separate Bills on employment condition, welfare, security aspects should be moved simultaneously along with this Bill.

Sir, I have gone through the draft Bill. It is my view also that with the existing provisions, this Bill would not serve the purpose. It will not be able to protect the interests of the workers. There is no such provision in the Bill except the creation of certain Boards and Committees.

Then, suggestion (b) is that this Bill including the Unorganised Sector Workers Bill should provide initial funds and regular contribution from the Centre and the State Governments.

Their suggestion (c) is that the entire cost of the administration of the Act be borne by the Government, at least, for five years, and the position could be reviewed and revised. The commitment should be worked out after a specified period.

Their Suggestion (d) is that the minimum basic welfare and pensionary benefits included in the scheme should be incorporated in the Bill. That is not in the Bill.

Their suggestion (e) is about the employer-employee relation. In certain sections today, there are home based workers, particularly, in the bidi industry. Same is the position in your State also, Mr. Chairman, Sir. In the bidi sector what is happening? The bidi is not manufactured at one place. The workers in the morning receive tobacco and the leaves, they go to their homes and roll the bidis and then in the evening they bring the bidis to the employers, and go back. So, there is no employer-employee relation. When the employer is not identifiable, the worker is compelled to change the employment. In the case of construction workers and bidi workers, the employee change his employer frequently. So,

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

the contribution of employer should be paid by the Government and the Board. This is the suggestion of all the trade unions jointly. The Board constituted under the Act should be a body having the statutory powers to administer the various functions and schemes of the Board.

These are the suggestion; the Government has not so far reacted to it or agreed to incorporate them. The original draft was later on changed, but even when the second draft was brought forward, not a single suggestion of the trade union was incorporated.

There are a number of legislations. There is it legislation in regard to contract workers - Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970. There was a Joint Committee; that Committee made certain recommendations. Then, the legislation was prepared and was enacted in Parliament in 1970. There are a number of good things in regard to contract workers in it. But may I know whether all those provisions are being followed or being observed by the contractors?

Section 20 of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act says that if any amenity is required to be provided under section 16, 17, 18 and 19 for the benefit of the contract workers, and if employer in an establishment is not providing within the time prescribed, then such amenity shall be provided by the principal employer within such time as may be prescribed. May I know whether this is happening anywhere? No such thing is happening. May I know whether the principal employer is discharging his responsibilities?

As regards payment of minimum wages, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act provides that the contract workers should be paid the wages at par with the wages which is being paid to the regular workers. The wages should be at par with the regular worker or the permanent worker. But the payment would be on daily basis. May I know whether the contract workers engaged by the CPSUs or contract workers engaged by the Indian Railways are being paid wages at par with the regular workers? Gradually a number of works are now being handed over to the contractors. Except in a few cases, is there any place where the contract workers are being paid wages at par with the permanent workers?

Today in Indian Railways, maintenance of tracks is being done by the contract workers. Railway gang men are also engaged for the maintenance of tracks. May I know whether the contract workers engaged for the maintenance of tracks of Railways are being paid the wages at par with permanent workers?

There is a subsidiary of Coal India, that is, Mahanadhi Coal Fields. I visited the Vasundhara area of the Mahanadhi Coal Fields, where the number of contract workers is 22,000 and the number of permanent workers is only 17,000. In that area of Basundhara, what I have seen is that the contract workers are not being paid even the minimum wages. It is called the minimum wages and not the maximum wages. The wages should not be less than what has been determined by the Government notification. But in Mahanadi Coal Field, I know of a particular area because I have visited that area, the workers are not getting even the minimum wages. You will be surprised to know that in Adra Godown of FCI, even the employer's contribution to the Provident Fund, that means the contractor's contribution, is also deducted from the salaries of the employees. This was brought to the notice of the Ministry of Labour and to the Contract Labour Board but till today both the employer's and the employee's contribution is deducted from the workers' salaries.

I know, in Railways there is no provision of the Provident Fund for contract workers. There should not be any discrimination between the male and the female workers but still it is continuing. The Contract workers are not getting the minimum wages, not to speak of the wages at par with the permanent workers. There are about 40 lakh bidi workers. Previously 50 paise cess was collected for 1000 bidis. It is Rs. 2 now. This cess is for the welfare of the bidi workers. Now, in the Government of India, particularly the Finance department, there is a Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure. They have decided that there will not be any hospital for the bidi workers. You know, Sir, the condition in which these bidi workers have to work. Their overall life is much less than the life of a worker of other category. This is because of the unhygienic conditions, smell of tobacco, in which they have to work. They have to work for twelve hours in these unhygienic conditions and therefore, their overall life is much less than the workers of other category.

In 1996 the Government of India had decided that there would be a national floor level wage. This concept was mooted in 1996. The Central Government has no power. The State Governments were requested to ensure that in none of the scheduled employment, the minimum wage was below the national floor level wage. Initially, it was fixed at Rs.35 per day based on the recommendation of the National Commission on Rural Labour, which was formed in 1991 and periodically revised as per the rise of price level. The national floor level wage has recently been revised to Rs.50 per day with effect from 1.9.2002. What is the position today in different States?



I have the figures. The highest rate is in West Bengal. It is Rs.61.62; and in Madhya Pradesh, it is Rs.32.42 which is even less than Rs.35 that was decided in 1996. Now, it should not be less than Rs.50. But today in Madhya Pradesh, the bidi workers are being paid Rs.32.50.

The Supreme Court has given a judgement that all the bidi workers should be covered under the Provident Fund Scheme. There are 50,000 bidi workers in my district. They are concentrated in two-three development blocks. What I found there, out of 50,000 workers, only 17,000 workers have so far been covered under the Provident Fund Scheme though it is compulsory and mandatory. I know about one workers' cooperative of Bankura which is in my constituency. I approached the Minister of Labour with a request that some relaxation should be allowed as the owners of the cooperative are the workers and that they cannot deposit Rs.50 lakh to Rs.60 lakh as arrears. If they do so, the cooperative would be wound up and all the 300 bidi workers would become unemployed. But no relaxation was granted for that cooperative which belonged to the bidi workers. They were allowed payment in instalments. But in the case of private employers even if they do not introduce the provident fund scheme, no action is taken against them. The Minister will tell us how many employers have so far been prosecuted under the Provident Fund Act. I do not have any information about any prosecution.

Sir, I was just referring to the welfare fund. As per the figures of 2001-02, Rs.67 crore were collected through bidi cess. Out of Rs.67 crore, only Rs.35 crore were spent. One bidi workers' hospital was sanctioned in my district. Dr. Jatiya had written me a letter which says:

"I am happy to inform that the proposal of setting up a 30-bed hospital for bidi workers at Jhalda has been approved in principle. The construction of the hospital and the residential complex will be taken up when the requisite funds are available in the Bidi Workers Welfare Fund."

We have the figures to show that funds are available. It has been stated in the Annual Report that out of Rs. 67 crore, only Rs. 35 crore has been spent. Twelve acres of land was handed over to them by the State Government free of cost. Subsequently, I received a letter from the Secretary, Ministry of Labour stating that the project can be set up only after it has been considered by the Committee of Non-Plan Expenditure. Considering the likely delay of the project, which will require to satisfy the Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure on some of the issues, the CNE opined that the management

of hospitals should be handed over to organisations of employees, State Governments and NGOs etc. The CNE will consider a fresh proposal after this exercise is complete. Fund is available with the Ministry of Labour. This fund is meant for the welfare of the bidi workers and not for any other purposes. I would like to know as to how much revenue is being collected from my district and how much is being spent every year for the welfare of the bidi workers in the districts of Purulia and Bankura. That hospital was not meant for any one district. But it was meant to serve three districts covering around one lakh bidi workers. The State Labour Board, the Bidi Welfare board had recommended for this and the hon. Minister also approved it. In spite of that, even though the land has been made available, for the last two years no action has been taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, there are a number of points that are to be covered. The Resolution is quite exhaustive in its nature. If you would see, I have so far touched only one or two points.

Sir, next I come to the construction workers. They have to work under hazardous conditions. A legislation was enacted for the construction workers in 1996 wherein it was said that a Welfare Fund would be created for the welfare of the construction workers. Though it was enacted in 1996, so far only two States, namely, Assam and Kerala, have enacted this legislation and four States - including the State of West Bengal - have framed the rules and another five to six States have only appointed an Expert Committee. After prolonged persuasion and demand, the Government of India had enacted this legislation but not a single provision of this Act, except in two or three States, has been implemented so far. What is the Ministry of Labour doing in this regard? I would like to know whether this matter was raised and brought to the notice of the State Labour Ministers in the Conference of the State Labour Ministers or not. What are the difficulties in implementing the provisions of this Act? There are a number of good things contained in this Act. But they are not being implemented by the State Governments. A Welfare Board has to be created; a Welfare Fund has to be created; inspectors would have to be appointed. All these things are there. But nowhere we find anything happening in this regard. There are about two crore construction workers. In the year 1999, the figure was 1,76,00,000. Today the figure is two crores.

17.00 hrs.

There is no provident fund, no gratuity, no pension, not even the minimum wage that is paid to the construction

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workers, though they have to work in a hazardous condition.

As you know, there are more than twenty crore agricultural workers in the country. A majority of unorganised workers are agricultural workers. In 1991, the National Commission on Rural Labour very specifically made certain recommendations in regard to agricultural labourers. What has been recommended that there should be a Central legislation for agricultural labourers providing for security of employment, prescribed hours of work, payment of prescribed wage and machinery for settlement of disputes. They have also recommended that there should be a provision for registration of agricultural labourers providing them with identity cards. The legislation should also make an enabling provision to prepare schemes for the welfare and social security measures.

In 1991, a voluminous report was presented to the Government of India, Ministry of Labour. It is now gathering dust there. No effort has so far been made to implement at least some of the recommendations, particularly in regard to the agricultural workers. There has been a demand for a comprehensive legislation for the agricultural labourers. But there is no such legislation so far. We have legislation for other category of workers. But the workers whose number is more than 20 crores, who are mostly exploited, do not come under any legislation.

You know that agricultural labourers of Bihar migrate from their own State to Haryana and Punjab in search of work. Do they get the minimum wage? Do they get regular work? Is there any welfare scheme for the agricultural labourers? There is no scheme for the agricultural labourers except in West Bengal where a provident fund scheme has been introduced, where land reforms have been done in rural areas. Nowhere an attempt has been made to enact any legislation. A Bill was drafted in 1990 when the National Front Government was there. The draft Bill was also circulated.

In the Annual Report it has been stated that some of the State Governments have not agreed to it. A State Government may agree or may not agree. When POTA was enacted, did all the State Governments agree to such a draconian law? Sir, you also did not agree and support it. In spite of that, that draconian law was enacted. But, when it comes to the question of enacting a legislation for agricultural workers, then the objection from the State is being raised. That means, one can understand the intention of the Government. Unless a comprehensive legislation is enacted, unless certain welfare

measures are taken for crores and crores of agricultural labourers, the lot of the unorganised sector cannot be improved. We have to agree to do something for the welfare of the agricultural workers.

How much of statutory dues are yet to be paid now? What about gratuity provident fund, pension and salary? I have got the figures. They are increasing every month. In reply to my Calling Attention in March, I was told that it was Rs.1700 crore and today, it is Rs. 2022 crore.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, initially, I said that this is a very important issue pertaining to 40 crore workers. So, please give me about 10 minutes more. I have not come to unemployment problem, bonus and other issues.

Sir, they are called statutory dues. Salaries are not being paid to the workers of Central Public Sector Undertakings. I do not know whether the Minister for Labour is aware of it or not. We have the Payment of Wages Act, but for months together, workers are not getting their salary. It is surprising to know that workers of Burn Standard have not received their salary for three months. Workers of some units of National Project Construction Corporation, have not received salary for eight months. There are a number of cases like this. In Hindustan Cables, a premier cable manufacturing company, 4000 workers have not received their salary for the last five months. I have written a number of letters to the Minister. Not only farmers, but there are workers also who are committing suicide. I can give you the list of workers who have committed suicide. There have been starvation deaths. Provident fund, gratuity and statutory dues are not being paid to them.

A Group of Ministers had been appointed in the month of August last year. One year has elapsed. But there is no result except deliberations and deliberations, meetings and meetings. The dues of these workers are statutory dues. When the Government of India is the owner of the company, against whom can action be taken? The Labour Minister knows the Payment of Wages Act better than me. If the wages are not paid in the next month, there is a provision that action can be taken. Against whom shall we take action when the Government of India is the owner of the company? I raised the point a number of times. I want to know whether Workmen Compensation Act is being implemented anywhere or not, particularly in the case of contract workers and multinational companies. You go to the export processing zones where you may find that workers are working for 12 hours. The Minimum Wages Act is also not being implemented. Sir, he knows the

problem. I thank him that he refused to grant permission to MMTC to close down the Mica Division.

Around 327 workers are being retrenched. He has again called a meeting on 7th. I do not know what will happen on 7th. My request is that the Minister should not agree to their proposal. It is because Mica Division is also like any other Division of MMTC and the workers of Mica Division are also like any other worker of MMTC, particularly after its merger with MMTC. They cannot be discriminated against. I have visited two mica units, that is Giridih and Jumritalaya. I have seen that their basic salary is only Rs. 300. Their pay scale has not been revised since 1987. They refused to revise the pay scale of mica workers. Unemployment problem is also related with social security. Under-employment is growing. Unemployment is also growing. It is increasing day by day. Today, we all tabled notices for an Adjournment Motion on this issue, which is a burning issue. The number of unemployed persons as per the register is about six crores. But the number is much more, particularly in the rural sector. There the industries are being closed down. We have opened our doors after adopting the policy of liberalisation and globalisation. Our own indigenous industries are gradually being closed down.

Sir, you will be surprised to know that about four lakh small and medium industries have been closed down since 1991. Many workers who were engaged in these units have become jobless today. This Government, in its manifesto, had promised to provide one crore jobs each year. One crore jobs to the unemployed youth! After two months, this Government will complete four years in office. That means four crores of unemployed youth should have got jobs. But in reality, how much is it? As per the reply of the hon. Prime Minister, it is only 75 lakhs, that too not permanent ones. For them, job means job in rural development work. Today it is because of closure of industrial units that the workers who were employed in these units have become jobless.

The number of workers in the organised sector is gradually decreasing while the number of workers in the unorganised sector is increasing. It is because workers who were working in the organised sector are now shifting to the unorganised sector. Such a serious situation exists today. There has been a demand for restoration of interest rates on Provident Fund. It was 12 per cent three years back. Today it is 9.5 per cent or 9 per cent.

I will cite one case about employees' pension. Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 was introduced in November, 1995 and implemented immediately. EPS, 1995

replaced Family Pension Scheme, 1971 which gave pension to the family/widow after an employee's death. Contribution was: employee 1.16 per cent of the total wage, equal contribution from employers and equal amount by the Government of India. So, total is 2.32 per cent from employees own P.F. money plus 1.16 per cent from the Government. EPS, 1995 is funded by 8.33 per cent from employer's contribution, which is also employee's money for all reasons.

The Engineers India Ltd. Union and the Steel Workers Federation of India challenged the EPS, 1995 and got stay order from the Calcutta High Court.

The Government of India filed an SLP in the Supreme Court against the order of the Calcutta High court. All the cases from the High Courts have been brought before the Supreme Court. The hearing was completed on 2.5.2001 but the judgement has been reserved till today. Thousands of crores of rupees are locked up in the Suspense Account since 1995-96. All the money locked up in the Suspense Account may be returned to the employees in case of those who have already retired, or to their PF account in case of those who are still working, if they have not opted for the EPS, 1995.

Now I come to the ceiling on bonus. There has been a demand from all sides and from all the trade unions that the ceiling on bonus should be removed. There should not be any ceiling on bonus. The Government of India should take a decision because the pooja festival is coming after two months. So, before that, a decision has to be taken.

I would like to conclude by quoting from the World Labour Report, 2000. That Report was mainly on social securities of the workers. It says:

"At the dawn of 21st century, the persistence of the poverty in the midst of plenty is facing deeper cleavages in many societies. Achieving income security for all is probably the major challenge now facing the National Governments and the international organisations. Gainful work - be it employment or self-employment - is without doubt the key element in response to that challenge. But work must be complemented by social protection. And it must not be work at any price, but decent work that is the freely chosen and that respects human dignity.

Finally, social protection is not morally indispensable but also economically viable. And efficient economy and effective system of social protection are both essential for attainment of income security and stable security. Striking a balance between one and the other is in line

with the primary goal of ILO - securing decent work for all women and men and in tune with economic and political realities of our times."

This is my last point. I now come to the coal industry, particularly the Bharat Coking Coal Limited. I would request the hon. Minister to get the information correctly. At one point of time, there were more than 30,000 female workers in Bharat Coking Coal Limited. What is the position today? It has been reduced to a few thousands. Female workers are forced to take VRS. Gradually, the female workers are being reduced.

I have brought forward this Resolution with the intention that the time has come now that we all should seriously think for the section of workers who are mostly exploited. They are the unorganised workers - the brick-kiln workers, the construction workers, the contract workers, the agricultural labourers and the beedi workers. All these workers are exploited. What are we spending today on them? The Government of India is spending only 1.4 per cent of the GDP whereas Sri Lanka, a small country, is spending 4.5 per cent of GDP on social security. So, we should increase our percentage of spending on social security.

With these words, I thank you for giving me the time today to speak on the problems of forty crore workers, who are mostly the unorganised workers of our country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"This House expresses its deep concern over continuous reduction in social securities for workers and wages upon the Government to take measures to protect the interests of the workers by introducing Provident Fund Scheme for all unorganised workers; restoring interest rate of provident fund to 12 per cent; removing ceiling on bonus payment; ensuring payment of all statutory dues of the workers; providing adequate health care facilities; enacting a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers; and ensuring payment of minimum wages to contractual workers."

Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): May I make a request before Shri Suman speaks? The next Resolution is also identical to this. It also concerns workers. You may kindly club these two Resolutions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will be taken after this one.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I only want a direction from you. ...*(Interruptions)*

You may kindly club both the Resolutions, then we will speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is almost identical.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, it is almost the same. It again concerns the employment scenario in the country. You may kindly club the two Resolutions.

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want, you can speak on this subject.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I can speak but the discussion will be comprehensive if both the Resolutions are clubbed together. The purpose of both the Resolutions is similar in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN (JAMMU): In my view also both should be clubbed together, then a discussion could be held on both the Resolutions.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): Sir, I agree because the objective of both these Resolutions is same. If both are discussed together. I have no objection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, It is not permissible under rules. If they want to club both the subjects, they can speak.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Chairman. Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia for providing social protection and ensuring minimum wages to Labourers and providing them employment opportunities. I, Shri Basu Deb Acharia spoke at length on his resolution and you given him more time, he would not have left anything for others to speak. You did a good thing by stopping him otherwise he was not going to yield.

Sir, in our country, 94% of Labourers are in unorganised sector and only 6% are in the organised sector. The Government appointed the second National Labour Commission and the Commission recommended that the Government should enact laws for economic and social security of labourers in the unorganised sector. On 25th Feb. the Hon'ble President said that the Government should accord priority to the social security of the labourers. The Minister of

Labour, Dr. Sahib Singh Verma is present in the House. He has been reiterating the point that the Government would not allow any laxity to social security of labourers and that Government would provide facilities for the protection of labours' interests. The Government would take steps to bring a legislation in this Monsoon Session for providing security and protection to labourers in the unorganised sector. The statements of the hon'ble Minister Shri Sahib Singh Verma were published continuously till 10 July and he has been announcing in different...that Government are bringing a legislation for the unorganised labourers in this very Monsoon Session. It was published in some newspapers dated 12th July that it was Sahib Singhji's intention to make law for the protection of 37 crore labourers of the unorganized sector. The Law Ministry gave its clearance but the Finance Ministry did not. It is a very serious issue which concerns the life of commonman. It is also linked with the future of crores of people of the country. You may please hold talks with the Finance Minister to get it passed. This is my request that this Bill may be introduced at the earliest.

The draft bill related to law for agricultural labourers has been pending with your Ministry since 1975. It's draft was revised in 1980. You made some amendments in 1997. Thereafter, the Government of India convened a conference of Labour Ministers. The Conference of Labour Ministers of all states was convened again on 18th January, 2002. Thereafter, it was announced that the Labour Ministers of all States do not have unanimous opinion in this regard. A time-limit cannot be fixed to make such a law. Acharyaji said very rightly that Government of India sometimes make laws without the recommendation of the State Governments if they wish to do so. I would like to request the hon. Minister that he should once again convene a conference of Labour Ministers of all States on the question related with crores of agricultural labourers. He should personally take interest if required to ensure this because this is the question of future of the country. I may be excused for this submission, you may remember that I told, not once, but a number of times that the tension in the society is increasing due to unemployment and not because of any other reason. If we do not provide employment to people, they will sit idle. If they do not have any work, their idle mind will go in a different direction. As a result of that today there is tension in the society. To have peace in the society, it is required that people should get employment. You were about to bring a Bill for this purpose in this very session for the protection and social security of labourers of unorganized sector. The Finance Ministry did not give its clearance. So please talk to the hon. Prime Minister, if necessary. It has been pending since 1975. A draft has since

been prepared to make a law on the problems of agricultural labourers. There is uncertainty over it which should come to an end.

As far as rural labourers are concerned, I would like to state that in 1991 the National Commission for Rural Labour Welfare had been constituted for the welfare of rural labourers. Thereafter, minimum wages were fixed at Rs. 35/- per day. The daily wage of farm labourers had been Rs. 45/- per month since 1-12-99. Thirty per cent rural people have a monthly income of Rs. 327 per month. They get work only for 100 days out of 365 days. There is no arrangement of permanent work for them. As far as the question of creating employment opportunities is concerned, it has increased by 2.04% between 1983 and 1994. During the period between 1994 and 2000, when hon. Vajpayee's Government came to power in 1998 this percentage increased. The question is in which world we are living? The Government talk of creating one crore new jobs in a year. Whatever we do should be accepted by common man to be real and it will certainly be far from reality if it is not so. I feel that it is cheating in itself.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there were 2.8 crore labourers in the organized sector in 1999-2001 and 36.9 crore labourers in the unorganized sector out of which 23.7 crore were in the agriculture sector alone. I have already said that 3 crore labourers get work for less than 183 days, while the Government talk about giving employment to 1 crore labourers. Every year 70 lakh new unemployed people join the force of jobless people in the country. If this situation continued to be the same at the end of Tenth Five Year Plan then this number will go upto 21 billion.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government started Social Security Scheme for agriculture labourers from 1-7-2001. These were Jeewan Sah Shrama Yojana and Dhanarashi Vapasi Pension Varsh Labh Schemes under the scheme to benefit labourers between 18 to 50 years of age. The Government said that the labourers will contribute one rupee daily from their pockets to this scheme and the Government would contribute Rs. 2 daily to it. I would like to request the hon. Minister to give complete details in his reply as to how this scheme would be implemented. A corpus was to be set-up in the year 2000 for the welfare of agriculture labourers and therefore it was decided that a corpus would be set-up with the partial contribution of employers for the welfare of labourers but that scheme could not be implemented till date.

In this country 60% labourers depend on agriculture. 13% labourers depend on industries, 27% people are

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

associated with the service sector. I would like to say through you that Government's policy is paradoxical. The hon. President's Address is the document of the Government and there was a mention to provide employment to 1 crore people in it. On 15th August, 1998 the hon. Prime Minister said from the rampart of Red Fort to provide employment to 1 crore people every year. It was regularly in the news. I would like to mention what the hon. Prime Minister said during the debate on President's Address last year. Hon. Prime Minister said that "the question of employment is complicated. Economic development is necessary and there is a need to progress in right direction but employment opportunities are declining in heavy industries and for technical reasons it is likely to go further down in future."

From the discussion on hon. President's Address it becomes clear that the problem of unemployment in our country will be more complicated due to our economic liberalization policy. The Government may make any declaration, but they, infact, know the dangers ahead. Now the most basic and important question is that if we have to solve this problem of this country then we will have to adopt these two measures i.e. preparation of agriculture based budget, setting up of labour oriented industries. It is justified only if we encourage investing capital in techniques for automation based industries where the population is less but in a country like India where there is more than 100 crore population. There can be no welfare of the country even in 100 years if we run industries based on such technique. As long as our country's budget is not agriculture oriented nothing positive will happen. It is very often said that farmer is the grain provider and 60-70% people in the country depend on agriculture but agriculture has been neglected continuously in India's Budget. So if this country is to be saved, we cannot do welfare of the country by overlooking the social condition of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was also said that as a means of employment labourers of rural areas will be given employment in road construction work. And a target has been fixed to complete Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna from the year 2003 to 2007. There is a proposal first to connect villages with population of 1000 persons and then villages with population of 500 people by roads. So, this programme will be over by the year 2007. According to the Government if this work is delayed, even then the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna will be over by the year 2010. The hon. Minister should explain while replying what will he do for them after 2010 because the progress of the scheme is very slow. Today the

need of the hour is that there should be guarantee of life long employment of the people and their jobs should not be snatched away.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this time it has been stated in the Tenth Five Year Plan, as I submitted earlier, that we will provide employment to 1 crore people in a year. I do not know about employment but I definitely know about the Committees. We immediately constituted Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia Committee and set up the second Labour Commission after the speech of the hon. Prime Minister on 15th August, 1998. Dr. S.P. Gupta Committee has been constituted and Task Force has also been set up in the States. Regarding the target of providing employment to one crore people per year, Shri S.P. Gupta, who is the member of the Planning Commission had submitted that the target of providing employment to one crore people per year i.e. employment to five crore people in five years would be achieved by way of providing employment to three crore people at the annual growth rate and to rest two crore through the implementation of Government schemes. I would like to submit politely to Shri Vermaji that the target of growth rate which has been fixed by the Government is 8 percent. Last year the growth rate was 4.5 percent and this year it is expected to be 6.5 percent because of good weather. We are not able to achieve the target of annual growth rate that we wanted to achieve and we are not even near the mark of 8 percent annual growth rate that we have fixed. As such, how can we be able to provide employment to the people. It is certainly a question worth pondering. The Government claim to provide employment to one crore people per year. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the sectors where employment opportunities will be generated. I would like to cite an example in this connection. In the year 1999-2000. Rs. 4217 crore was allocated under the Sampoorn Gramin Rojgar Yojana which has reduced to Rs. 3868 crore in the year 2000-2001 it was further reduced to Rs. 3792 in the year 2001-2002 and is now only Rs. 3698 crore in the year 2002-2003. How the employment will be generated when instead of increasing the budget for those schemes which could have generated the employment for rural people the Government are gradually reducing the allocations meant for them. Besides this under Gramin Swarn Jayanti Rojgar Yojana Rs. 959 crore was allocated in the year 1999-2000. Through you, I would like to submit that under the said scheme Rs. 116 crore in 2000-2001, Rs. 969 in the year 2001-2002 and only Rs. 659 in the year 2002-2003 were allocated. The Government are continuously reducing the budget for those schemes in rural areas which, could have provided employment to the rural people. Being a political worker it is beyond my comprehension to understand as to how the employment to one crore people

per year will be provided by the Government under the schemes being implemented in rural areas.

At the end, I would like to submit that it is a grave situation and the problem of unemployment is very serious. We usually talk in figure terms that so many persons are registered in employment exchanges and so many people are unemployed in the country - I feel that these figures are not correct. Saheb Singh Verma was the Chief Minister of Delhi and at that time 10.5 lakh persons were registered in the employment exchanges of Delhi. More than Rs. 3.5 crore were spent on the offices and in three years only 215 persons could get employment. It is a very serious matter and I feel that the discussion initiated by Shri Basu Dev Acharia will be meaningful only when we may generate new employment opportunity, may provide employment to unemployed may protect them and make legislation for the payment of benefit of insurance to the people. I want to request only this.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party I support the Bill that has been moved by Shri Basu Dev Acharia regarding what measures should be taken for the welfare, protection and social security of the workers and the protection of their interests.

Sir, Shiv Sena has always been a party working for the interests of the workers. I have attentively listened the speech of Basu Devji. After listening to his speech there is nothing left to add any more regarding the workers. The population of our country is more than hundred crore. Our country is predominantly rural. Out of this hundred crore 40 crore are workers. This issue is concerned with 40 crore people. Both organised and unorganised labourers are included in it. Organised workers are aware of their interests and protect it through Trade Union and Dharnas etc.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that unorganised labourers do not have any organisation of their own. Especially the labourers who are involved in agricultural activities do not have their organisation. More than 12 crore people are involved in agricultural activities in the country. They do not have any organisations of their own. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Labour towards the pathetic condition of the agricultural labourers. They are living in very wretched condition. Neither there is any fixed working hours nor any facilities have been provided to them. They work for 10 or 12 hours. Despite minimum wages that should have been paid to them are not paid. There is no provision of any type of leaves for them. There is no medical

facility available to them. They work day and night in the fields but there is no labour law in the country which may provide them security and protect their rights. There is no dearth of labour laws in the country however its benefits are being availed by the organised workers and the unorganised workers do not get its benefits. There is no single labour law in the country which may provide social and economic security to the agricultural labourers.

Sir, there are many laws in the country. The Government make efforts to provide all types of facilities however the efforts which are being made by the Government to provide facilities to the unorganised labourers are not sufficient. Several schemes are being run by the Government for their welfare. Some of them are social security scheme, Insurance Scheme, work based scheme however all these schemes have limited impact. The form of these schemes which are being implemented by the Government should be comprehensive and its area of influence should be broad based. The problems of unorganised labourers are multi dimensional and the labourers in unorganised sectors are scattered. Normally they do not have bargain power and if they have, it is limited. There are various types of problem before unorganised labourers. All these schemes which are launched by the Government should be comprehensive and they should have wider scope because the problems of labourers in the unorganized sector are very diverse in nature. The labourers of unorganized sector are scattered. Generally, they do not have the bargaining power and even if they have, it is fewer in number. The labourers of the unorganized sector have to face many problems.

Sir, the main problem facing the labourers of unorganized sector in agriculture sector is bad weather. They do not have any regular employment. We have not been able to provide regular employment to labourers of the unorganized sector although 55 years have elapsed since independence. In his speech the hon. Member of Parliament, Shri. Ramji Lal Suman wanted to know from the Government about the time by which regular employment is likely to be provided to labourers by the Government.

Although many legislations have been enacted for the labourers in agriculture sector, there is a need to enact a comprehensive legislation by consensus at the earliest. The Minister of Labour and the hon. President in their speeches have promised that suitable employment would be given to 40 crore labourers in the unorganized sector.

Sir, the Minister of Labour Shri Sahib Singh Verma knows

[Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav]

the agony of farmers. He is aware of the sufferings of 12 crore small and marginal farmers. The Labour Minister had promised that a legislation would be brought in the interest of the labourers for providing them social and financial security in the monsoon session, but I do not know why has it not been introduced in the House. Through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that he should take steps to fulfil his promise. People who work with petty builders and contractors in the villages are neglected. There is no legislation for them. They do not get minimum wages decided by the Government. They have to work for 8, 10 or 12 hours a stretch.

Sir, I am the incharge of Shiv Sena in Andhra Pradesh. I felt that the Bidi workers have to face many problems. There is no law for those working in small Talukas and small shops. There is no security for them. These problems are being faced by 40 crore population. It is very important for the country. This is a problem concerning unorganized workers. If we do not resolve this, peace cannot be maintained in the country. Some effective and permanent measures will have to be taken to solve the problems of unorganized sector.

Sir, through you, I would like to appeal the Central Government that a comprehensive Bill be brought with the consensus of the House to provide social security and economic safety to such workers. The Government should work for the welfare of the country by addressing the problem of 40 crore people of the country.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Resolution which has been moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to protect the interests of labourers.

But he has tried to depict a disappointing picture as if NDA Government are not doing anything for the labour sector as the present. Minister of Labour is not taking any steps to protect the interests of the labourers. He has presented a very dismal picture of P.S.Us. Everything has two aspects. One is the bright side and the other is dark side. He has tried to depict the picture in the manner he has seen with his own outlook. He may be correct from his stand point but to me it seems to be a little exaggerated. I would like to say that measures are being taken in the interest of the labourers since the day the N.D.A. Government came to power. The Labour Minister is present here, who is himself son of a farmer. His rural background provides him a scope to know the problems being faced by the agriculture labourers and the labourers working in other sectors. His predecessor is also present here. The work they have done during their tenure is

before the country. We must praise them for the work they have done for the social security of labourers. The present Labour Minister is making all out effort in this regard. The hon. Minister can say that it is half done and much more remains to be done. But to say that, nothing has been done, is only presenting the one side of the problem.

With permission of Shri Sumanji and Shri Achariaji I would like to submit that although 94 percent labourers are in unorganized sector and only 6 percent are in organized sector, but the condition of even the organized sector labourers in industrially backward states like Kerala and West Bengal is very pitiable which policies are responsible for that. Giving a call every has now and then to fulfil one's demand at any cost has brought the PSUs called the temples of modern India to such a pass. We used to feel proud them because they raised a hope in us that they would provide employment to thousands of people, and we would become prosperous industrially. But the unions, labourers in the organized labour sector and people having a particular ideology under different banners demand many things and as a result of that all the PSUs are in a pitiable condition. We would have to make a self-retrospection as to who is responsible for this situation due to which why contract labourers are employed to make PSUs functional. All major mills in Mumbai and Beawar which is in my constituency and Ahmedabad are lying closed. If any unit is working at a loss because unions over there are not apprehending their responsibilities. Although unions are constituted lawfully to protect the interests of the labourers, they fight for their interest, they have full rights to do that but there should be a limit to everything. How the work would be managed, if they do not work. They should have worked in the interests of the country and they demanded full payment for that. If we work with the spirit that we work for the industrial progress of our country, then it is a good approach. So, to me the picture which has been depicted on PSUs is not proper from any stand point.

Through you, I would submit that according to this description it seems that unemployment has increased during the reign of this Government only. If it is so, then please explain what has been done by the parts who was in power for last 50 years. How much employment they have generated. After all, unemployment is doubling day in and day out. As in Ramcharita Manas it has been said when Sursa the demon queen opened her mouth to eat Hanuman, Hanuman jee doubled his size-"Jas jas sursa badan badhawa, taso duni kapi roop dikhawa." Although the Government kept on working to tackle unemployment, yet unemployment continued to increase.



**18.00 hrs.**

Even then it can be said that after the coming of NDA Government in Centre, lot of efforts have been made for alleviating unemployment and for generation of employment opportunities under the leadership of Hon'ble Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would submit to Shri Rasa Singh Rawatji that it is purely a negative effort. There must have been some or the other reason for that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rasa Singh Rawatji, you can continue your speech tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, 4th August, 2003.

**18.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 4, 2003 Sravana 13, 1925 (Saka).*

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