

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



**Gazettes & Debates Unit**  
**Parliament Library Building**  
**Room No. FB-025**  
**Block 'G'**

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

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

Price : Rs. 50.00

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

**G.C. Malhotra**  
**Secretary-General**  
**Lok Sabha**

**Dr. P.K. Sandhu**  
**Joint Secretary**

**P.C. Chaudhary**  
**Principal Chief Editor**

**Y.K. Abrol**  
**Chief Editor**

**Vandna Trivedi**  
**Senior Editor**

**P. Mohanty**  
**Editor**

---

[Original English Proceedings included in English Version and Original Hindi Proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as Authoritative and not the translation thereof.]

## CONTENTS

[Thirteenth Series, Vol. XVII, Seventh Session, 2001/1922 (Saka)]

No. 6, Monday, July 30, 2001/Sravana 08, 1923 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 101-104	2-27
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 105-120	28-48
Unstarred Question Nos. 1057-1286	48-298
STATEMENT BY MINISTER	
CBI raids on retired air force officers' premises	
Shri Jaswant Singh	298-300
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	300-304
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS	
Sixth Report	304
FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL	307
RE: FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE	307
LIVE-STOCK IMPORTATION (AMENDMENT) BILL ...	309
RE: LIVE-STOCK IMPORTATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE	310
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	
(i) Need to take urgent steps to check the spread of malaria in Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Prahlad Singh Patel	310
(ii) Need to formulate a policy for providing benefits to the martyrs of para military forces or of the three wings of the armed forces killed in action on the lines of Kargil martyrs	
Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan	310
(iii) Need to restrict trawler fishing beyond seven kilometers of coast in Orissa	
Shri Anadi Sahu	311
Need for rural electrification in Godhara Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat	
Shri Bhupendrasinh Solanki ...	311

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

(v)	Need to reconsider the move to merge/curtail centrally sponsored schemes	Shri K.H. Muniyappa	312
(vi)	Need for construction of a by pass in Lakhisarai district in Bihar under Prime Minister Sadak Yojna	Shri Rajo Singh ...	312
(vii)	Need to amend Coastal Regulatory Zone Act keeping in view the interests of the people of coastal areas of Kerala	Shri T. Govindan ...	313
(viii)	Need to advise Government of Karnataka to release more water of river Krishna to save the standing crops in Andhra Pradesh	Dr. Manda Jagannath ...	313
(ix)	Need to provide adequate funds for attending to the problem of water-logging in Phulpur Parliamentary constituency caused by river Baruna	Shri Dharm Raj Singh Patel	314
(x)	Need to solve acute drinking water problem in Tamil Nadu	Shri D. Venugopal ...	314
(xi)	Need to exempt compensation received by farmers against land acquisition for any project from income tax	Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav ...	315
(xii)	Need to provide more railway services at Moradabad, U.P.	Shri Chandra Vijay Singh	315

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF  
PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY PRESIDENT IN  
RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR**

Shri L.K. Advani	...	...	316
Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev	...	...	321
Shri Kharabela Swain	...	...	327
Shri Bajju Ban Riyan	...	...	331
Shri K. Yerrannaaidu	...	...	334



SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ...	336
Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy ...	341
Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar ...	344
Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul ...	353
Shri P.H. Pandiyan	354
Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay ...	357
Shri Holkhomang Haokip...	360
Shri P.R. Kyndiah	362
Shri Raghunath Jha ...	365
Dr. Jayanta Rongpi	368
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ...	372-380

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Monday, July 30, 2001/Sravana 8, 1923 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are trying to hush up the U.T.I. Scam . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 101, Shri Selvaganpathi.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record except Shri Selvaganpathi.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You create disturbance in the House daily. Please sit down.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, we already gave notice for an Adjournment Motion in this regard. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh ji, I have told you time and time again that your behaviour in the House is not proper.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Selvaganpathi.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to discuss everything in the Question Hour? What is this?

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU) : Mr. Speaker, every time he takes the name of the Minister. It should not be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said that it would not go on record.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, he is a member of the Panel of Chairmen and he is behaving in such a way. He must be removed from the Panel. . . . (Interruptions)

11.01 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Cost Sharing of Projects Under NRCP

\*101. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the States are likely to bear 30 percent of the cost of projects to be undertaken in future under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) as against the current practice of bearing the entire expenditure by the Union Government;

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

(c) the number of projects approved and implemented so far in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government have undertaken a review of the projects approved so far; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) and (b) At the Xth Meeting of the National River Conservation Authority (NRCA) held on 13th March 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister and where Chief Ministers were also present, it was decided after detailed discussions that the cost of works shall be shared between Centre and States/local bodies/public on 70:30 basis. The public shall contribute not less than 10% of the cost as it was felt that sustainability of such a programme can be improved with public participation in the river action plans. In fact most of the problems concerning sustainability of the programme are expected to be resolved as a detailed plan for recovery of operation and maintenance cost shall become part of the project proposal in future. An important consideration here was that the participating States feel their responsibility and involvement in making this

programme a success. In the above context a holistic and integrated approach shall be adopted for all future works by addressing not only river pollution but other components like internal sewerage, solid waste disposal, low cost toilets etc.

(c) One project at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.97 crore has been approved recently in Punjab with the new funding pattern of 70:30. The project covers pollution abatement works in two towns namely, Kapurthala and Sultanpur Lodi located on the banks of a major tributary of river Satluj namely, West Bein. The project is under implementation.

However, prior to the decision of the NRCA the Government had in February 2001 under the National River Conservation Programme sanctioned pollution abatement schemes relating to seven towns of Tamil Nadu namely, Karur, Kumbakonam, Myladuthurai, Thanjavur, Madurai, Thirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli at an estimated cost of Rs. 575.50 crore. The share of the Government of India was limited to Rs. 282.15 crore while the balance amount of Rs. 293.15 crore which also includes the cost of land wherever applicable was to be shared between the State Government (Rs. 125.95 crore), local bodies (Rs. 117.70 crore), and public/local elected representatives (Rs. 49.50 crore).

(d) and (e) The progress and implementation of the Ganga Action Plan and the National River Conservation Plan are reviewed regularly at various levels. At the apex level, the programmes are reviewed by the National River Conservation Authority under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister and the Standing Committee of the NRCA chaired by the Minister of Environment and Forests. A Monitoring Committee under Member, Planning Commission and a Steering Committee under Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests review the Programmes quarterly.

In April 1995 a mid-term evaluation of the Ganga Action Plan Phase I was undertaken jointly by a team consisting of representatives of the Aligarh Muslim University, Roorkee University, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta. In January 1998 a cost benefit analysis of the Ganga Action Plan Phase I was undertaken by team consisting of representatives from Metroeconomica, U.K. and some Indian Institutes viz. Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, Indian Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow and All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta.

There have been problems of operation and maintenance of assets created under the programme. These include non-availability of continuous supply of

quality electricity for running the assets and of timely funds. There has been discernable improvement in quality of water over the pre-GAP period. For instance in 1986 the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) which is an indicator of pollution of river water quality ranged from 5.5 to 15.5 mg./l in the critical stretch of Ganga from Kannauj to Varanasi. As against this, the values of BOD in 1999 in this stretch ranged from 1.8 to 6.5 mg./l. Similarly, the dissolved oxygen (DO) levels which indicate the health of the river, was in the range of 5.6. to 7.2. mg./l in 1986 in this stretch and in 1999 the range improved to 6.8 to 8.8 mg./l.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, this is a vital question concerning the National River Conservation Plan, which has an outlay of hundreds and hundreds of crores of rupees, even thousands of crores of rupees. I have raised a question as to what are the projects that have been periodically reviewed by the Government, and as to what is the outcome thereof. The statement laid does not contain information as to what review was made, when was it made, and what was the outcome. This is the way answer is given to a question raised by a Member of Parliament!

I come to the main issue now. The National River Conservation Authority has decided that the Centre and States would share in the ratio of 70:30; and that the public shall contribute ten per cent of the cost through local bodies. I would draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General had recently come down heavily on the schemes with regard to Ganga Action Plan Phase-2. In the year 1997, the Authority convened a meeting with regard to this. The Prime Minister chaired the meeting and decided to. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Selvaganpathi, there are twenty questions to be asked in the Question Hour. If you speak like this, I think we would not be able to finish even two questions.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : I am coming to my question. Hundred per cent of the cost of the scheme should be borne by the Centre. That was the decision again when especially the State Governments are reeling under severe financial crunch.

Many schemes have gone waste just because of lack of coordination between the Centre and the State Governments. If again the same decision is continued, I think, the whole exercise will be futile.

Will the Government of India, under the present circumstances, review this proposal of sharing of cost between the Centre and the States, which is practically not possible, as has already been seen in the Ganga Action Plan ?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member's question is about cost sharing between the Centre and the States.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, basically the pollution abatement and the environment protection is the primary responsibility of the concerned State Government. In 1985, the Central Government had envisaged an ambitious Programme of Ganga Action Plan Phase I. It was taken up in stages and Rs. 452 crore was spent on this Programme. It was closed on 31.3.2000.

Then from 1993 to 1996, we had taken up the Ganga Action Plan Phase II wherein Yamuna, Damodar and Gomti Action Plans were envisaged. In this Plan, Rs. 1499 crore had been approved. In 1996, the work progress was reviewed. Then, we envisaged the National River Conservation Plan. In the Ninth Plan, we had provided Rs. 3,318 crore. As many as 27 rivers have been considered in 16 States and 151 towns have been taken up. The works are in progress.

Sir, as far as the hon. Member's question is concerned, it pertains to the point why 100 per cent funds have not been provided, especially for the Tamil Nadu project. I infer that he wants to know why more than 50 per cent has been asked to be shared by the Tamil Nadu Government.

The then Tamil Nadu Government, headed by Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi had sent the proposals for seven towns in which they had agreed to provide more than 50 per cent sharing of the cost. To be very frank with you, Sir, through the initial stages itself, that is, from 1985, the Programme was for 50:50 sharing only between the Centre and the State Government. Then afterwards, it was revised because no State Government had come forward for this project.

In the Ganga Action Plan Phase I itself, we had provided 100 per cent. Now, since the State Government of Tamil Nadu has come forward to provide 50 per cent funds, we have taken up the project.

Strictly speaking, if my friends come and meet me after some time, I will tell them in details. The arithmetic of the interception, diversion and treatment was for about Rs. 230 crore whereas we have provided Rs. 280 crore. This means, we are encouraging the State Governments to come forward to have local Government's participation and public participation.

As far as the Comptroller and Auditor General's comment is concerned, I think, my colleague Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi would have gone through the whole thing but he has very conveniently forgotten to say the other part. The C and A.G. himself has very clearly commented that 'since there is no public participation, since there is no

State Government sharing, the projects are not properly dealt with.' That is also there in the comment of the C and A.G.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, if the State Government comes forward, would you take up the issue ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : If the State Government comes forward, we will definitely take up the issue. The funds have already been sanctioned. It is for the State Government to see that the projects are taken up immediately.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, there are certain deviations from the main Question. We will seriously come forward to the Government of India to bear the 100 per cent cost which the hon. Minister has agreed to consider. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : I have not agreed for 100 per cent. . . .(Interruptions) I have not agreed for 100 per cent to be borne by the Central Government. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi, whatever he has said, that is there in the record. You do not bother about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Now, I come to my second supplementary. There are seven towns of Tamil Nadu, namely, Karur, Kumbakonam, Myladuthurai, Thanjavur, Madurai, Thirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli which have been taken up under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and sanctioned pollution abatement schemes. Here also, as per the new proposal, the local body has to participate. But in none of these cities, the Corporation has surplus funds to bear these costs at all.

They are also reeling under severe financial crunch. How do you ensure that the scheme takes off at all ? There are no funds available; the Treasury also totally drew a blank. How do you expect it to happen ?

MR. SPEAKER : What is your supplementary please ?

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Whatever the hon. Minister has said is only on paper. In 1997, the Prime Minister has decided, because there was a failure of Ganga Action Plan, to have 100 per cent participation by the Centre. Will the hon. Minister again review it because of the present circumstances in which all those seven towns are reeling under financial crunch ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : First of all, I would answer the second portion. The Ganga Action Plan is not at all a failure. The then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi envisaged the Ganga Action Plan-I. At that time, the pollution load was 1340 mtd. whereas we were trying to tackle only 873 mtd. So, the Government has taken that

conscious view because of the paucity of funds. It is about 60 per cent of the pollution load at that time. The population has increased over the last 15 years. So, after 15 years we are discussing the matter here. We were able to tackle only 60 per cent. The Ganga Action Plan-I was a success.

I want to narrate a story of the River Thames. River Thames has only a stretch of about 250 kms. whereas River Ganga has a stretch of about 2525 kms. It is longer by more than 10 times. To complete the River Conservation Programme on River Thames, it took 35 years; and crores and crores of pounds had been spent. In spite of it, Solomon Fish reappeared only after 100 years; that means, that River was cleaned only after 100 years.

Ours is an ambitious programme. Our population is also increasing day by day. The hon. Member and my friend wanted to know whether the Government will again review it. It is not at all a possibility; there are problems; it is primarily the duty of the State Government to come forward in this regard. Here, we want to have integrated projects. In the Integrated projects, we are going up to the doorsteps. That means, we connect the internal sewerage to the main trunk; from the trunk we take it to the treatment plant; from the treatment plant, after treating the water, it will be sent back to the original river itself or after treating the water, it would be used for industrial purposes.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Where is the fund for doing all these things ?

MR. SPEAKER : Please complete your reply.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Regarding funds, definitely the local bodies, the public and the State Governments have to come forward. This is not the primary duty of the Central Government; it is the primary duty of the State Government.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed us that urban population is increasing. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the level of pollution in Ganga river at Haridwar, Garhmukteshwar, Farrukhabad, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna and Munger when the Ganga Action Plan was initiated and the level of pollution as of now. Besides, I also want to know whether the construction of Tehri Dam would affect the pollution level in River Ganga in any way ? If so the details of the extent thereof ?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : In 1986, the Biochemical Oxygen Demand, BOD, which is an indicator of the pollution of river water quality ranged from 5.5 to 15.5 mg. per litre in the

critical stretch of Ganga from Kannauj to Varanasi. As against this, the values of BOD in 1999 in this stretch ranged from 1.8 to 6.5 mg. per litre. Similarly, the Dissolved Oxygen, DO, which indicates the health of the river was in the range of 5.6 to 7.2 mg. per litre in 1986 in this stretch. In 1999, that range improved to 6.8 — 8.8 mg. per litre.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the River Moosi, which divides the twin city of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, takes a huge quantity of sewerage into it. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent a proposal under the National River Conservation Plan.

If it has been examined by the Union Government, is the Minister going to include it in this year's Action Plan ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has personally requested me and has also sent a letter about cleaning of river Moosi. The DFR has been sent to us. We have also discussed with a delegation of the hon. Members, headed by Shri Yerrannaidu, some time back, after which a team of officers was sent to inspect the river Moosi. In fact, after the Parliament Session, I am going to have an on-the-spot inspection. The pollution load of river Moosi is very much high. It is for us to see that Moosi River is taken up very soon. We have already requested the State Government to prepare a DPR and send it to us.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two departments doing the same work; one is, the Urban Development Department which finances the municipalities as well as corporations for setting up the sewerage and cleaning plants, and the other is this Ministry which has taken up the same plan again. The Minister has said that there is paucity of fund with his Department to carry on the work. The Urban Development Department lends to the Nagarpalika and to the Corporation at 15 per cent interest. It is unbearable for the Nagarpalikas and the municipalities to pick up the loan at the rate of 15 per cent. Will the Minister take it up with the Urban Development Minister to see that it is financed at a lower rate of interest ? Is the Minister going to think on the same line for setting up a modern plant, be it a purification plant or a generation plant, or is he straightaway going to follow the old system ?

The other thing which relates to this river is the baalu which is known as sand. It is being mined at mind-bungling rates. The natural process of cleaning the river water is now being depleted and it has affected even the groundwater level. As the Minister of Environment, is he going to look into this matter ? In the note the Minister has said that the National River Conservation Authority does not say

anything about mining of sand which is taking place in the river-beds.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The mining of sand in the river-bed is not within the ambit of my Ministry.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : I know but since the Minister is going into the Inter-State Water Disputes Bill, which is being discussed in the House, it becomes his property.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The matter has already been discussed with the Urban Development Minister. We have already requested the Urban Development Minister even for Tamil Nadu projects and he has agreed to it.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : I do not want Tamil Nadu to be discussed. I would like to know what is the policy. . . .*(Interruptions)* We are neither discussing Andhra Pradesh nor Tamil Nadu. We are discussing, what is going to be the national policy. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : For everything, why are you referring to Tamil Nadu ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, even for Tamil Nadu projects, we have requested the Urban Development Ministry to involve some of the local bodies in it. He has also agreed to participate in two of the projects. However, Shri Prakash Ambedkar has given a good suggestion and it will be looked into.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I am thankful to the hon. Minister for admitting that Ganga Action Plan Phase-I, which was the dream-child of Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, was successful. If he goes through the proceedings of the Ganga Action Plan Committee, of which I had the privilege to be the Member, a decision was taken that periodically the State Government and the Central Government shall interact on three counts.

The first count was to find out the pollution effect in the river and also find out how to get rid of it, the second count was to develop the municipal towns on the banks of the Ganges; and the third count was; no more expansion of polluting industrial units on those banks. I want to know whether this proposal, which was initiated by the late Rajiv Gandhi when he was the Prime Minister, has been meticulously followed in all critical reforms of the State Governments, and if not, whether the Government is prepared to adopt a policy with the State Governments on these three counts to keep the Ganga's lifeline free from all pollution hazards on the banks, and also the civilisation which starts from Gangotri and goes to Malda, which is the range where the Ganga flows. I would like to know

whether the Minister will consider this policy of the periodic reviews with the State Government. I know the West Bengal Government made three constructive proposals in this regard earlier. But no proposal has been responded by the Ganga Action Plan.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I also want to ask a question.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Acharia, your point has already been asked.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, we are having frequent monitoring. In fact, on 13th March, the National River Conservation Authority, of which the hon. Prime Minister is the Chairman, has reviewed it in the Chief Ministers' Conference. More than ten times the meeting has been convened. The Standing Committee under my Chairmanship has reviewed it three times; the monitoring Committee headed by the Member, Planning Commission has reviewed it thirteen times; the Steering Committee headed by my Secretary has reviewed it more than 45 times. We will adhere to whatever policies of the previous Governments were there whether it was of the late Rajiv Gandhi or of any other person, to prevent the pollution.

#### Survey of Water Resources

\*102. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey on all India basis for augmenting and harnessing the water resources in the country, especially in Western Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the survey is likely to be conducted.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

Water resources assessment which is an important input for augmenting and harnessing the water resources is a continuing process. Central Water Commission under the MOWR has established about 570 key hydrological observation stations including 245 sediment observation stations. According to the survey being carried out at these hydrological stations, Central Water Commission has assessed the average annual flow in the river systems of the country as 1869 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). The Central Ground Water Board under Ministry of Water Resources has carried out survey and exploration of ground water at

about 15,000 sites in various parts of the country, including Western part of Rajasthan. Based on these surveys, the annual replenishable ground water potential in the country has been assessed as 432 BCM.

Irrigation being a state subject, survey and investigations, planning, execution and management of water resources projects to harness the water resources within the States are undertaken by the State Governments according to their own priorities and from their plan resources.

In order to augment the water resources of the country, National Water Development Agency, established by the Government of India in 1982, has carried out water balance and pre-feasibility studies of the National Perspective Plan which envisages inter-linkages among various Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins. The names of all the proposed 31 inter-basin transfer linkages are given in the Annexure Yamuna-Rajasthan link and Rajasthan-Sabarmati link of the Himalayan component are planned to augment the water resources in Western Rajasthan. The feasibility reports of these links based on ground surveys are expected to be completed by 2008 A.D.

#### Annexure

*List of proposed water transfer links for which pre-feasibility reports have been prepared by NWDA*

#### Peninsular Rivers Development Component

1. Mahanadi (Manibhadra)-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link
2. Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijaawada) link
3. Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Pulichintala) link
4. Par-Tapi-Narmada link
5. Ken-Betwa link
6. Kalisindh--Chambal link
7. Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link
8. Godavari (Inchampali)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link
9. Damanganga-Tansa link
10. Bedti-Varda link
11. Netravati-Hemavati Link
12. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link
13. Krishna (Srisailam)-Pennar (Podattur) link
14. Krishna (Almatti)-Pennar link

15. Pennar (Prodattur)-Cauvery (Upper Anicut) link\*\*
16. Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (lower Anicut) link\*\*
17. Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai (Gundar) link

[\*\* These two links have been combined into one link, renamed as "Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) Link"]

#### Himalayan Rivers Development Component

1. Kosi-Mechi link
2. Kosi-Ghaghra link
3. Gandak-Ganga link
4. Ghaghra-Yamuna link
5. Sarda-Yamuna link
6. Yamuna-Rajasthan link
7. Rajasthan-Sabarmati link
8. Chunar-Sone Barrage link
9. Sone Dam-Southern Tributaries of Ganga link
10. Brahmaputra-Ganga link (Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga)
11. Farakka-Sunderbans link
12. Ganga-Damodar-Sunemarekha link
13. Subemarekha-Mehanadi link
14. Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link.

*Note* : Prefeasibility studies for all above links completed.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, water resources in the country has a direct bearing on the emergence of modern India. In the last five decades, the water resources have been developed. In spite of that, there is a decline in the availability of water. During 1955, the water availability *per capita* per year was 5200 per cubic meter. But by the year 2000, it has come down to 2000. This decline is more prevalent in the desert and arid zones. I would like to give the example of Rajasthan. The water supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is only through underground water. The water table is going down. There is no river there. There is no perennial source of water.

In reply to my question, the Minister has replied that for Rajasthan, they have planned two linkages. One is Yamuna-Rajasthan link and the other is Rajasthan-Sabarmati link. These surveys would be completed by the year 2008. Once the survey is completed, the work would be completed in 30 to 40 years. So, in 50 year time from

today, the Yamuna water would be taken to the desert. Every year there is drought. In the early fifties, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in his vision started the Indira Gandhi *Nahar*.

MR. SPEAKER : You ask your supplementary.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : This was funded by the Central Government also. But unfortunately, they have stopped its funding for the last three years. The Rajasthan Government also has got very meagre allocation. They cannot do it on their own. A lot of schemes have been prepared.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your supplementary ? This is not a debate.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Therefore, water supply to Jaisalmer, Jalore, Barmer, Nagor and Jodhpur is from there. This linkage would take 40 to 50 years. So, will the Government fund the Indira Gandhi *Nahar Pariyojana* which is also a national project and also fund those water supply schemes which are costing Rs. 200 crore, Rs. 900 crore, and Rs. 1200 crore. It is not possible for Rajasthan Government to do it on their own. Will the Government do that ?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : The hon. Member has asked about the fate of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project. It is a fact that this has been under construction since long. I may inform the House that till date the Government of India, under Border Area Development Programme has funded Rs. 556.86 crore. Similarly, under AIDP, the Government of India has funded Rs. 160 crore already.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : For the last three years you have not funded this project. My question was why you have stopped it.

MR. SPEAKER : You have asked a question and you are not allowing the Minister to reply. It is not a debate. It seems you do not want any answer from the Minister.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : It is not at all a fact that we have stopped the funding. If I may give the information here, under AIBP (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme) for the Indira Gandhi Canal Project, in 1997-98 we have provided Rs. 36 crore; in 1998-99 we have funded Rs. 74 crore; in 1999-2000 we have funded Rs. 50 crore. It is true that in the year 2000-01 no CLA, that is, Central Loan Assistance, has been approved for this project due to lack of providing matching share of expenditure by the State Government during 1999-2000. As you know, under AIDP, CLA is sanctioned whenever the State Government provides its share in the proportion of 2:1. Unless the State Government provides the matching

share, it will be difficult for the Central Government to provide funds.

I have already mentioned that over the years we have spent a lot of money. This project has been revised three times. Originally the project was started in the year 1957. After every revision the time and cost over-runs have taken place. Therefore, this project could not be completed so far. However, the Central Government is trying its best to help the State Governments for completion of this project.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : He has not given answer to my question as to why the Central Government has stopped funding this project for the last three years.

MR. SPEAKER : You are not asking a proper supplementary; that is why he is also evading the answer.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : It may be because Congress Government is there in the State. First of all he should answer as to why he has stopped funding the project.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : We have not at all stopped the funding but for the States inability to provide its share under the AIBP Scheme.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : My second supplementary question is, because of very limited ground water availability in that area, between drinking water and irrigation, you are giving the first priority to irrigation. I would like to know whether you will do a survey and find out if a dark zone can be created. You have already made some dark zones where you have stopped irrigation and preserved some water for drinking purposes.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : As I have stated earlier, we have not stopped funding this project. We are trying our best to do whatever is possible under the constitutional arrangement. Till date we have provided Rs. 710 crore for the completion of this project in different funding schemes. But, over a period time, the cost and time over-runs have taken place and revisions have also taken place. As a result, this particular project could not be completed so far. According to the arrangement made under the AIBP, unless the State Government comes forward to provide their share of money, it will be difficult on the part of the Central Government to release funds.

I entirely agree with the concern of the hon. Member and we will do our best to provide funds to help completion of this project with co-operation of the State Government.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : My question about the dark zone has not been answered.



MR. SPEAKER : Now Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy will ask a supplementary.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, I asked you to put a supplementary question and not to confront with other hon. Members.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, we are talking about harnessing of water resources in our country. . . .  
*(Interruptions)* The Question relates to harnessing of water resources in our country. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan is in the grip of famine for the last three years. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, it is astonishing to learn that the river systems of the country have 1869 Billion Cubic Meters of water flowing in the country and there is a possibility of replenishing about 432 Billion Cubic Meters from ground water. In spite of all this, we see drought in this country. This is not part of the Question but I would just like to say that irrigation being a State subject, this has to be monitored. . . .*(Interruptions)*

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, my second supplementary has not been answered. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have asked your second supplementary and he has replied also.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do not disturb the Question Hour.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary has not been answered. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The hon. Member has the right to know the information and when the Minister does not give a proper reply, he needs your protection, Sir. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Dasmunsi, the hon. Minister has given the reply. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, water harnessing is a State subject. I would like the hon. Minister to reply that since water management is a State subject. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I have asked the other hon. Member to put his supplementary.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the construction of Indira Gandhi Canal should be probed.

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ?

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, please take your seat. What is this ? Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rudy, please ask your supplementary. Already half-an-hour of the Question Hour is over.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, I am the most disciplined person. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Rawat, this is too much.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, since water management is a State subject. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you to please take your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, no help is coming from the Central Government. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Central Government is regularly sending assistance but the State Government is not being able to utilise it. . . .*(Interruptions)*

---

\*Not recorded

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat. Hon. Member, this is not proper.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rudy, are you going to ask your supplementary or not ?

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, I am asking my supplementary now. Since water management is a State subject, would the hon. Minister like to elucidate as to how do the States of Bihar and U.P., located on the borders of Nepal from where rivers are flowing into our country from the Himalayan ranges, need to harness their river water (a) to prevent floods. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. I am appealing to you. This is not the way to raise your clarifications. You are disturbing the Question Hour.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If you want any clarifications, you may meet the Minister, not this way. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Since water management is a State subject. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, this is not the proper way to reply to questions while sitting in your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, I am putting my supplementary for the fourth time and no one is listening to me. . . .*(Interruptions)* Water management is a State subject and when we are talking of harnessing water, will the hon. Minister elucidate as to how the States of UP and Bihar, located on the borders of Nepal from where several rivers are flowing into our country through the Himalayan ranges, need to harness water (a) to prevent floods; (b) to see that water discharge is regulated in those areas; and (c) to see that negotiations are held at international level, especially with Nepal, in the interest of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar ?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : As regards the floods in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, especially in the rivers which have international boundaries, talks are going on with the Government of Nepal. At different times our officials had visited Nepal and had discussions with the officials of Nepal. Still these discussions are going on. I think, Sir, soon something will emerge, as a result of which we can

take some measures to check the floods in the rivers of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dasmunsi, I called Shri Basu Deb Acharia to ask the question.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dasmunsi, I will give hour Member a chance to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not proper. You are obstructing the House every time.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not being heard. Hon. Minister has not replied to our question. To protest against this discriminatory policy we are walking out of the House.

11.37 hrs.

*At this stage, Dr. Girija Vyas and Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram Choudhary left the House.*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, every year some districts of North Bengal, particularly Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar, are damaged due to flood in the rivers flowing from Bhutan. There was a proposal to have a Joint Indo-Bhutan Water Commission. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the reaction of the Government of India in regard to the proposal for setting up the Joint Water Commission between Bhutan and India.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Talks are going on with the Government of Bhutan at the official level to have co-operation so that the problem of flood due to water flowing to the downstream areas could be controlled. The talks are going on. I think it would be certainly fruitful for both the country's benefit.

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : There is a famous Saraswati river-bed which is lying in Rajasthan. Is the Ministry doing any exploration there ? The satellite pictures are showing the Saraswati river which is supposed to be underground. The satellite pictures are now showing that the Saraswati River Valley began somewhere in the

Himalayas about sixty kilometres from the Manasarovar Lake. It went down to Haryana and Rajasthan and from Kutch it went into the Arabian sea. This river bed is now coming in all satellite pictures. It is called the Saraswati Valley River bed. Is the Ministry doing any discovery there? They say that a lot of underground water exists there. It is going through Western Rajasthan.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : This has been detected through satellite imageries recently. Further studies are going on. Since the studies are at the initial stages, further studies are required. My Ministry is doing exactly that.

**Introduction of Bill to Regulate the use of Ground Water**

+

\*103. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government feels the urgency to regulate the use of ground water;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce a Bill for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to States Governments to bring legislation to regulate the use of ground water; and

(e) if so, the State which have passed such legislation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

The Union Government recognises the urgency to regulate the use of ground water. However, water being a State subject, suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development has to be enacted by the States/Union Territories. Therefore, the Union Government has circulated a "Model Bill to Regulate and Control the Development of Ground Water and matters connected therewith" to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. So far, States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have enacted legislation to regulate the use of ground water.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate that the Government is taking the water crisis seriously. The ground water level in the country is going down day by day and so 50 percent people of the country are not getting drinking water. I want to know from the hon. Minister the present ground water level as well as the schemes of the Government aimed at raising the ground water level. I also want to know about the assistance provided to the State Governments under these schemes.

*[English]*

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : The depletion of ground water is really a problem for the country as a whole. Regular studies are being made. From time to time, we have interaction with the State Governments, particularly in the areas where the dark and grey areas are being found out. So, to stop the depletion of ground water table we have circulated a Model Bill to the different State Governments. Some of the State Governments have enacted legislation on how to control and how to stop the ground water depletion. There are still some State Governments in the Indian Union which have not yet enacted the laws. However, we are pursuing them. We are also trying to see that this legislation is enacted by the State Governments soon. As a result the depletion can be arrested so that in future no problems, of this kind arise or else it will be very alarming for us and country as a whole.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked about the assistance given by the Central Government to the State Governments.

*[English]*

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Wherever depletion of the ground water table has taken place, we have come forward with a pilot scheme to help the different State Governments which have submitted their schemes. We have funded and also extended all helps to them. We have budgeted an amount of Rs. 25 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The amount of Rs. 25 crore is almost going to be utilised soon. After this pilot scheme proved successful, we would certainly extend further assistance in the Tenth Five Year Plan.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Union Government have formulated a model policy to regulate ground water tapping and associated works. It has been sent to the State Governments. Under that, what

instructions have been given to State Governments and whether they agree with those ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think it has already been answered by the hon. Minister.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Yes, Sir. I would submit that all the State Governments have appreciated our effort. Some of the State Governments, as I have stated earlier, have enacted laws in their States. Some of the State Governments are coming forward to do this. Unless all the State Governments enact these laws, the depletion of ground water cannot be arrested. So, we are pursuing the matter with the State Governments because the State Governments are mainly concerned with the implementation of the scheme.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Hon. Speaker, Sir, during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's period, ground water resource was tapped to the benefit of the *dalits*, OBCs and the small land holders by giving financial assistance from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. Further, electric pump sets and diesel pump sets were also provided to them. Subsequently, ten million wells in the name of *Jeevan Dhara* were also funded by the Union Government. I would like to know whether the scheme exists or not; whether any study was made on the success of this project and also whether any provision is made in the Model Bill on that experience of development.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I think this question is not related to my Ministry because we do not provide funds for the small farmers and the marginal farmers for installation of pump sets in their fields. So, I think, this pertains to the Ministry of Rural Development.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM : What are the steps taken by the Department to improve the ground water level in the dark areas ?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I have replied to the hon. Member's query earlier that the Model Bill has been circulated. I have named the States which have already enacted this legislation. I can inform the House about it.

The States, which have enacted this legislation are Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. By means of enacting this legislation, the Government can declare some areas as 'dark', which means exploitation of ground water is more than 85 per cent of the availability and also declare some areas as 'grey', which means exploitation of ground water is more than 65 per cent of the availability. In the year 1997, the

Central Ground Water Authority has been constituted and at the Central level, the Central Government has also declared some areas as 'dark' and 'grey'. So, in those areas, no pump sets or deep tubewells can be put up in order to prevent further depletion of ground water.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently in the mountain district of Idukki in Kerala, the ground water was found boiling and then, all of a sudden, ground water started disappearing from tubewells ? Is the Government aware of this ? If not, the Government should make an inquiry as to what actually has happened with regard to ground water there.

Then, two days before, after heavy rains, we found red rainwater in a number of places and people are in panic. They even suspect that it has some relation with the volcano that is seen in Italy. The people are panic-stricken. So, please make an inquiry first about the disappearance of ground water and secondly about the red rain water that is seen there. . . . (Interruptions) It has appeared in newspapers. The ground water is disappearing because the wells are dry. Then, there is the phenomenon of red water. We are very much concerned about drinking water. So, the Government should make an inquiry into these things, because the Ministry of Water Resources is also the monitoring agency even though it is a State subject. So, I request the hon. Minister to send a team of experts to ascertain about the availability of ground water and also to find out the reasons for red rain water seen after heavy rains.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, first you have to answer the question regarding red water and then you can answer about ground water.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, as far as red water is concerned, I will certainly need time to get information from the State Government, because at present I have no information about the availability of red water.

Regarding the enactment of legislation, I have to share this piece of information with the House that the States which have enacted the law in this regard are Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, and the States which have enacted the legislation, but referred to the Centre for assent are West Bengal, Punjab, Karnataka and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. These States and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep have referred the legislation to the Central Government for assent and other States, as I have stated already, have enacted the law.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to over-utilisation of ground water in the State of Punjab, out of

117 blocks, 90 have gone dark. The State of Punjab is the foodgrain bowl of our country. This supplementary relates to the previous question, but that also comes under the hon. Minister, Due to lack of irrigation facilities, we had utilised ground water more in our State. So, will the Government take any special steps with respect to the State of Punjab in this regard?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, it is a fact that 90 blocks in the State of Punjab have been declared as 'dark'. We have already conveyed our concern to the State of Punjab.

Due to over-exploitation, this phenomenon has taken place. The State Government of Punjab has come forward with a Bill to regulate the whole scheme of over-exploitation. I think, after the enactment of this legislation, the whole problem in Punjab will be solved.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Hon. Minister, Sir, there is an alternative available. The alternative available is that lakhs of cusecs of water from the Ravi are going waste to Pakistan. Will the Government take any steps to stop that water from going waste? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You are obstructing other Members.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is very important for some of the States of our country and we will have to address it seriously. A good solution of the problem will prove beneficial to a number of States. The problem is concerning several States such as Rajasthan. In the absence of a better water management strategy, the people of Rajasthan every year suffer from famine and much damage is caused. I want to know from the hon. Minister about the funds given by the Union Government to the State Governments for the water management schemes of rivers such as Banas, Chambal and Morel. . . . *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister reply.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, about a specific project, the House is well aware of the fact that investigation, planning and execution of a project are mainly the concern of the State Government. The hon. Member has mentioned here about some projects. I have no information with me.

MR. SPEAKER : You can supply it later on.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I can supply it to her later on. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Q.No. 104. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have gone to the next question. Please take your seat.

**Match Fixing**

+  
\*104. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the draft Code of Conduct for Cricketers submitted by the Board for Control of Cricket in India (BCCI) has been approved by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any such code of conduct for National Sports Federations sportspersons and others in order to curb the match fixing activities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government for eliminating the match fixing in the country?

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) A copy of the "Regulations for Players, Team Officials, Managers, Umpires and Administrators" issued by the Board of Control for Cricket in India was received in the Ministry on 25th August, 2000. However, Government approval was neither sought nor given.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of reply to part (b), does not arise.

(d) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has already submitted its Report on Match Fixing and Related Malpractices and is further investigating the matter. The report was sent to BCCI for taking appropriate action against the indicted players. The Government had also issued Show Cause Notices to Mohd. Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja and Manoj Prabhakar for withdrawal of Arjuna Award conferred on these players. Mohd. Azharuddin has

challenged the ban order imposed by BCCI in the Civil Court, Hyderabad and Ajay Jadeja has challenged the ban order imposed by BCCI and the show cause notice issued to him for withdrawal of Arjuna Award in the High Court of Delhi. Both the petitions are pending before the Hon'ble Courts.

The Ministry of Law has been requested to study the provisions of the Gambling Acts of various States to evolve model amendments for consideration of States so as to deal with the incidence of match fixing and other malpractices effectively.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is a country of 100 crore population but in competition with other countries of the world, we do not even figure in the medals tally, leave apart the winning of gold medal. On the question about the code of conduct for sportspersons and other people associated with games, the Government replies that regulations have been circulated by the B.C.C.I. It has not been approved nor any approval was sought. I want to know from the Government why there is no code of conduct for sportspersons and people associated with sports and about the time the Government needs to formulate the code of conduct as well as implement the same? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : A code of conduct for hon. Members is also important.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes; I think, a code of conduct for the Members is also more important than for the sportspersons.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a question about the code of conduct for sports associations. I would like to take this opportunity to submit to the House that if a code of conduct for sports associations is ever laid down it should be such that we are able to implement the same and there should also be some penalties prescribed in the rules for its violation. This is the difficulty and a resolve it we have had periodic consultations. For this purpose, a meeting of Ministers of Sports of all the States was convened on 3rd March. In the meeting, we had placed a draft code of conduct, which was approved by all the Ministers present unanimously. We want to give this code of conduct a legal shape, but the hitch is that sports being a state subject, only the States have the power to make laws on the subject. This is the problem before us. On the one hand, the States allow us

to formulate a code of conduct but when the Centre wants to give it a legal shape, the problem arises, since the subject is not on the concurrent list. I take this opportunity to plead with the House that when this issue was raised during winter session then an hon. Member, of a major opposition party who has also been an ex-Minister of sports, that is, Shrimati Margaret Alva, had assured the cooperation of her party. . . .(Interruptions) All this is there on the record.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It comes within the jurisdiction of the State. You want to usurp it from them.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I want to state that Deputy Leader of Opposition, Shri Madhavrao Scindia is giving assurance to us that the Congress ruled States will support our code of conduct for Sports. However, when we try to give it a legal shape and put it in the concurrent list, they do not support us. It weakens our position.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, before that you can ascertain how much money has been spent on sports? Even 0.5 percent of our Budget is not spent on sports and they are thinking of taking up all the powers.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : The question of hon. Member has two parts. We have had lot of consultations regarding code of conduct and the consultations are still on in my Department. But when it is violated. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You had promised to give preference to the villages. You also hail from the rural areas. If you will give preference to the villagers, the problem of code of conduct will be automatically eliminated. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, you have to reply to Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh's reply only.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Code of conduct is under consideration. To make its violation a cognisable offence, we have to put the subject in the concurrent list. For this to happen, we need the support of all parties. Otherwise there is no point. Unless it is given some legal shape, we will not be able to do anything in case of its violation. That is why it is under consideration. We already have received

the cooperation and suggestions of sports Ministers of various States regarding the code of conduct. But I request for cooperation in bringing it on the concurrent list so that various problems associated with sports are removed.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a reply full of ifs and buts is not a good men – I had asked a specific question regarding the time of formulation and implementation of the code of conduct, but it has not been replied. The Government helps various sports associations through formulation of guidelines. I want to know the names of sports associations violating guidelines and whether the Government is still giving them assistance. I also want to know the names of the Chairpersons of those associations. The Government is initiating the sports environment by politicising the issue.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Shri Laloo Yadav has also become a chairperson. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : That is why I am asking. . . .(Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I am giving a clear reply of the question of Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

12.00 hrs.

And that is we are considering to introduce a code of conduct and to implement it strictly only when all the parties extend their cooperation to put the subject on the concurrent list. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Government wants to usage the power of States. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Shri Basu Deb Acharia has supported me. . . .(Interruptions) Regarding his supplementary question, I want to state that at present the list is not with me but I will make that list available to the House and the hon. Member at the earliest. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Cellular Telephones

\*105. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to introduction more cellular telephones in rural and semi-urban areas of the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The Government have granted licences for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS), for Metro City Service Areas and Telecom Circle Service Areas, to private operators as well as to the public sector operators, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), as per details given in the enclosed Statement. Further process has been started for inducting one more private operator of CMTS in most of the Service Areas, for which bids have been received. After the introduction of additional operator, there will be three private operators and one Government Operator in most of the Service Areas in the country.

The terms and conditions of the Licences, inter-alia, provide that atleast 10% of the District Headquarters will be covered in the first year and 50% of the District Headquarters will be covered within three years of effective date of License. The licensees have also been permitted to cover any other town in a District in lieu of the District Headquarters. The choice of District Headquarters/towns to be covered and further expansion beyond 50% District Headquarters/towns lies with the Licensee companies depending on their business decision. There is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas as per the licences granted. With multiple operators in each Service Area, it is expected that all the Licensees will cover more and more areas including semi-urban and rural areas.

BSNL has been given CMTS licence covering the entire country except for Delhi and Mumbai Metro City Service areas. It has proposed to cover all the District Headquarters, important Pilgrimage Centres, Major Highways and Railways Routes throughout the country wherever permitted. Rural and semi-urban areas falling within the signal coverage shall also get the benefit of Cellular Mobile Services.

**Statement***List of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Providers*

Sl. No.	Service Area (Metro City/ Telecom Circle)	Name of Operator
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	Bharti Cellular Ltd. Sterling Cellular Ltd. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
2.	Mumbai	BPL Mobile Communication Ltd. Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
3.	Kolkata	Spice Cell Ltd. Usha Maartin Telekom Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
4.	Chennai	RPG Cellular Services Ltd. Skycell Communications (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Tata Cellular Ltd. Bharti Mobile Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
6.	Assam	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
7.	Bihar	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.* Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
8.	Gujarat	Fascel Ltd. Biral AT and T Communications Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
9.	Haryana	Escotel Mobile Communication (P) Ltd. Aircel Digilink India Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Bharti Telenet Ltd. Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
11.	Karnataka	Bharti Mobile Ltd. Spice Communications Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
12.	Kerala	Escotel Mobile Communications (P) Ltd. BPL Cellular Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	BPL Cellular Ltd. Birla AT and T Communications Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
14.	Madhya Pradesh	RPG Cellcom Ltd. Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
15.	N.E.	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Hexacom India Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
16.	Orissa	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.* Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
17.	Punjab	Spice Communications Ltd. Bharti Mobile Ltd.* Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
18.	Rajasthan	Aircel Digilink India Ltd. Hexacom India Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
19.	Tamilnadu	BPL Cellular Ltd. Aircel Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
20.	UP(W)	Escotel Mobile Communications Ltd. Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
21.	UP(E)	Aircel Digilink India Ltd. Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
22.	West Bengal	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

**Legend :** \*These licences stand terminated for default in payment of licence fee dues.

**Note :** Expansion or fresh start of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service is not permitted at present by Private Operators as well as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in Jammu and Kashmir, North East and Assam Telecom Circles on security considerations.

**CDMA-WLL Operators Policy**

\*106. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of the revised National Telecom Policy, 1999;



(b) whether the Government are empowered to allot any telecom operations, especially Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) operations without tender to any private party simply on first come first served basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Department of Telecommunications is under any mandatory obligation to accept the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The National Telecom Policy (1994) was replaced in 1999 by New Telecom Policy (NTP-99) which has not been revised so far.

NTP-99 provides for induction of new service providers based on the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). Accordingly, recommendations of TRAI were sought in this regard. Based on the recommendations of TRAI, Government announced unrestricted entry for the provision of Basic Telephone Service. Therefore, the question of tendering did not arise.

The recommendations of TRAI provide, inter-alia, use of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) as an access technology including usage of hand-held sets by the subscribers within the Short Distance Charging Area. The total quantum of spectrum to be allocated for this purpose is in accordance with the recommendations of TRAI. Actual allocation of spectrum will be made in stages linked to performance for which prescribed fee will be charged.

With the amendment of TRAI Act in 2000, it has now become mandatory to seek the recommendations of TRAI in respect of matters specified in sub-clause (i) and (ii) of Clause (a) of Sub-section (1) of Section 11 of TRAI Act. The recommendations of TRAI in such cases follow a transparent and extensive consultation process. In this case also, a detailed consultation paper was circulated and Open House Discussion were held in the four metros. While it is not mandatory to accept the recommendations, it has been the practice in such cases to accept most of the recommendations, particularly those, which are perceived to be in the interest of consumers.

[Translation]

#### National Youth Policy

\*107. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :  
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new National Youth Policy for the development of youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the same is likely to be formulated and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) and (b) The Government are already having a National Youth Policy which was formulated in 1988. In the light of the changes that have taken place and the experience gained, the Ministry have formulated a draft of the New National Youth Policy in which it has been proposed to lower the defining age of youth from 15-35 years to 13-35 years. The thrust areas of the Draft National Youth Policy-2001 are :-

- (i) Youth Empowerment;
- (ii) Gender Justice;
- (iii) Inter-Sectoral Approach; and
- (iv) Information and Research Network.

The Policy recognizes the following sectors as the key sectors of concern for youth :-

- (i) Education;
  - (ii) Training and Employment;
  - (iii) Health;
  - (iv) Environment;
  - (v) Sports and Recreation;
  - (vi) Art and Culture;
  - (vii) Science and Technology; and
  - (viii) Civics and Citizenship.
- (c) Question does not arise.

(d) The draft of the New National Youth Policy-2001 is ready to be taken to the Cabinet for approval.

[English]

#### Optic Fibre Cables

\*108. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to lay Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the laying of said expensive OFC is relevant in the time of cellular telephone technology ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total length of 1,26,000 Route Kilometres of Optical fibre cable (OFC) is planned to be laid during 2001-2002. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Cellular telephone technology is used to provide mobile connection to individual subscribers from exchange whereas optical fibre cable is used for providing backbone network and for interconnecting the various telephone exchanges or for providing telecom services to bulk consumer for providing broadband access. The area of application of these two is different and they do not generally substitute each other.

#### Statement

*Commissioning Target for OFC for the year 2001-2002.*

Sl.No.	Telecom Project/Circle	OFC (RKMS)
1	2	3
1.	Eastern Telecom Project	3500
2.	Northern Telecom Project	6650
3.	Southern Telecom Project	6650
4.	Western Telecom Project	6600
5.	North East Task Force	364
6.	Andhra Pradesh	7000
7.	Andaman and Nicobar	84
8.	Assam	500
9.	Bihar	7000
10.	Jharkhand	4000
11.	Gujarat	9050
12.	Haryana	1550
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1700
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	650
15.	Karnataka	6100
16.	Kerala	1100
17.	Madhya Pradesh	8700
18.	Chhattisgarh	3855

1	2	3
19.	Maharashtra	10175
20.	North East-I	325
21.	North East-II	175
22.	Orissa	3500
23.	Punjab	3522
24.	Rajasthan	9100
25.	Tamil Nadu	2700
26.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	12000
27.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	2300
28.	Uttranchal	1100
29.	West Bengal	5000
30.	Chennai TD	760
31.	Kolkata TD	300
Total		126000

#### Medical Facilities on National Highways

\*109. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has provided any special funds to States for providing mobile medical facilities on the National Highways during the last two years;

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

(c) the total amount allocated to Karnataka State for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) In 1999-2000, eleven States including Karnataka were provided financial assistance of Rs. 25.00 lakhs each for purchase of one crane and one ambulance under the National Highway Patrolling Scheme. The scope of the scheme was amended in 2000-2001. Instead of cash, 41 ambulances have been provided to various Non Government Organisations (NGOs) and State Transport Undertakings (STUs). The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation has been provided with two number of ambulances in 2000-2001. Details of assistance provided to various States/NGOs during the last two years are indicated in the enclosed Statements I and II respectively.

**Statement-I**

*Details of Assistance Provided during the year 1999-2000 under National Highways Patrolling Scheme*

(Amount in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Amount
1.	Karnataka	25.00
2.	Himachal Pradesh	25.00
3.	Gujarat	25.00
4.	Haryana	25.00
5.	Assam	25.00
6.	West Bengal	25.00
7.	Uttar Pradesh	25.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	25.00
9.	Mizoram	25.00
10.	Tamil Nadu	25.00
11.	Rajasthan	25.00

**Statement-II**

*Details of Assistance Provided during the year 2000-2001 under National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme*

**State Transport Corporation/Undertakings**

Sl. No.	Name of the STU	No. of Ambulances
1	2	3
1.	Tripura Road Tpt. Corpn. Tripura West	1
2.	Assam State Tpt. Corpn. Assam	1
3.	Nagaland State Transport Nagaland	1
4.	J&K State Road Tpt. Corpn. Jammu and Kashmir	1
5.	Meghalaya Tpt. Corpn. Meghalaya	1
6.	Himachal Road Tpt. Corpn. Himachal Pradesh	1

**Urban (City) Undertakings**

7.	Calcutta STC West Bengal	2
8.	Metropolitan Tpt. Corpn. (Chennai Div. I) Ltd., Tamil Nadu	1

1	2	3
9.	Bangalore Metropolitan Tpt. Corpn. Ltd., Karnataka	2
10.	Delhi Transport Corpn. New Delhi	2
11.	Thane Municipal Tpt. Undertaking, Maharashtra	1
12.	Chandigarh Tpt. Undertaking Chandigarh	1
13.	Metropolitan Tpt. Corpn. (Chennai Div-II) Ltd.,	1
<b>Mofussil Undertakings</b>		
14.	Pepsu Road Tpt Corpn. Patiyya Punjab	1
15.	Orissa State Road Tpt. Corpn. Orissa	1
16.	State Express Tpt. Corpn. (Tamilnadu Division-I) Ltd. Tamil Nadu	1
17.	Tamil Nadu State Tpt. Corpn. (Kumbakonam Div-II) Tamil Nadu	1
18.	North Bengal SRTC Cooch Bihar	1
19.	Tamilnadu S.T.C. (Coimbatore Div.I) Ltd. Tamil Nadu	1
20.	Tamil Nadu S.T.C. (Villupuram Div.I) Ltd. Tamil Nadu	1
21.	Kerala SRTC	1
22.	South Bengal State Tpt. Corpn.	1
23.	Maharashtra SRTC	1
24.	Metropolitan Transport Corporation Ltd., Chennai (Division I and II)	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>28</b>

**Non Government Organisations**

1.	M/s. Lok Many Medical Foundation, Chinchwad, Pune	2
2.	M/s. Automobile Association of Southern India, AASI Centre, Tamil Nadu	2
3.	M/s. Karunodaya Seva Sansthan, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh	2
4.	M/s. Zoram Drivers Union, Bawngkawn, Aizwal, Mizoram	1
5.	M/s. Manipur Truck Owners Welfare Association, Imphal, Manipur	1
6.	Association for Welfare of Backward Classes in Sikkim, South Sikkim	1

1	2	3
7	M/s. Rural Youth Coordination Centre, Bihar	1
8.	Institute of Road Traffic Education, New Delhi	1
9.	M/s Highway Users Centre' (I) Ltd. Mumbai transferred to Police Department, Maharashtra Govt.	1
Total		13

#### **Charging of Damages from Boeing Leasing Company**

\*110. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines propose to seek damages from M/s. GIAL boeing – leasing company on account of failure to deliver aircraft as per the lease contract;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total revenue lost by the Indian Airlines and the penalty imposed on M/s. GIAL in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its 50th meeting held on 20th December 1999 had approved in principle induction of aircraft capacity on lease for winter of 2000-01 to cater to passenger traffic. A global tender was floated in March, 2000 for dry lease of 4 aircraft (A-320/B-737 – 300/400) for induction from November 2000, for a period of 3 years.

The tender bids were opened on 17th July, 2000. Seven proposals were received out of which 3 offers were for Boeing 737-200 and 4 offers were for A-320 aircraft. The three offers for Boeing 737 aircraft were from the following parties :-

(i) Paragon, (ii) GECAS, (iii) GIA International Limited

DGCA regulations provide that pressurized aircraft of more than 15 years age cannot be imported under lease arrangements. Paragon had offered four aircraft which were more than 15 years of age and therefore, did not meet the DGCA regulations. GECAS offered two aircraft below the age of 15 years. Two aircraft offered by GECAS were same as offered by GIAL. Subsequently, GECAS advised that the two B737-200 aircraft proposed by them for lease to Indian Airlines were not available as these aircraft had already been signed up for lease elsewhere.

GIAL was thus the only eligible party meeting the tender requirements and DGCA regulations.

GIAL was, therefore, invited for discussions with the Lease Committee of Indian Airlines. Detailed discussions were held with GIAL in August 2000. GIAL confirmed that all technical requirements/mandatory modifications as required by DGCA would be complied with during 'C' check to be carried out before delivery of each aircraft.

The Board of Indian Airlines in its 54th meeting held on 18th September, 2000 approved dry lease of five Boeing 737-200 aircraft from GIAL for a period of three years from November, 2000 onwards and also approved the issuance of Letter of Intent to the party.

A Letter of Intent was executed between Indian Airlines and GIAL for lease of five Boeing 737 aircraft on 21st September, 2000. The Letter of Intent provided delivery of first aircraft by 25th November, 2000 and thereafter delivery of one aircraft every 14 days.

Lease Agreements duly vetted by the Legal Advisors were signed between Indian Airlines and GIAL in New Delhi on 15th of December, 2000. The Lease Agreement provided the following delivery schedule :

22nd December, 2000	–	First aircraft
29th December, 2000	–	Second aircraft
10th January, 2001	–	Third aircraft
22nd January, 2001	–	Fourth aircraft
31st January, 2001	–	Fifth aircraft

In order to ensure compliance of terms of Lease Agreement particularly with regard to timely delivery of aircraft, the Lease Agreements provide for the following :

- (i) Lessor shall pay to lessee, as liquidated damages, the amount of USD 8,500 for each day following expected delivery date until either aircraft is delivered to lessee or lessee exercise its option to terminate its obligation to lease the aircraft.
- (ii) The first aircraft to be delivered as on 22nd December, 2000 with a grace period of 7 days. On 29th December, 2000, Indian Airlines could choose to cancel lease contract for all aircraft.
- (iii) Latest delivery date i.e. 7th February, 2001 on which date Indian Airlines could choose to cancel lease contract for remaining undelivered aircraft.

Despite continuous follow-up, no aircraft was delivered by GIAL by the back stop date of 7th February, 2001. Indian Airlines then took up the matter with GIAL through its Legal Advisors. Efforts of Indian Airlines continued with GIAL who

provided a revised delivery schedule during the month of March, 2001.

In view of the continuous deferment of the delivery schedule, Indian Airlines decided to call GIAL team to India to discuss the issue regarding delivery of the aircraft.

GIAL team finally came to India on 27th April 2001. The discussions continued till 17th May, 2001 but when no results were forthcoming it was decided by Indian Airlines that in view of GIAL's inability to deliver the aircraft, the best course of action would be to terminate the Lease Agreements. The Lease Agreements were finally terminated on 21st May, 2001.

Indian Airlines is taking necessary steps in consultation with the Legal Advisors regarding the due claim against the party, in accordance with the provisions of the Lease Agreements, for non-delivery of leased aircraft.

*[Translation]*

#### **Illegal Telecom Network**

\*111. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :  
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether illegal telecom network is being run in many parts of the country particularly in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected by Vigilance Department during the last three months and as on date;

(c) the losses suffered by the Government as a result thereof;

(d) the number of employees found involved therein; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such malpractices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) During the last three months, 3 cases in Mumbai and 9 cases in other parts of the country pertaining to routing of illegal incoming international calls bypassing international gateways of VSNL have been detected. The loss in these cases would be on account of VSNL/BSNL/MTNL having been deprived of the revenue share which would have accrued to them, had the calls been routed through the gateways of VSNL. The national loss suffered in 7 of these cases, is estimated to be around Rs. 20.68 crores and in the remaining cases such loss

could not be assessed. Since the private persons are involved in these illegal activities, help of CBI/Police is taken for investigations and appropriate action in the matter. Involvement of employees, if any, will be known after the completion of investigation by CBI/Police. Government is constantly reviewing and taking corrective measures to stop such misuse. The steps taken include :-

- (i) Dedicated CBI cells have been created in the 4 metros exclusively for detecting and checking telecom related frauds.
- (ii) Instructions have been issued a field units for making surprise check for detecting the misuse of the International Private Leased Circuits.
- (iii) Premises having Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) antenna and bulk telephone connections are kept under special watch.
- (iv) Instructions have been issued to all field units to inspect Internet Service Providers (ISP) set up for keeping a check on passing of voice calls illegally.
- (v) Surveillance is also being done for detecting such illegal networks.
- (vi) A close coordination between service provider and investigating agencies is maintained to book the offenders.

#### **Cases In Consumer Courts**

\*112. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases in which the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) have been found guilty by the Consumer Courts as on June 30, 2001;

(b) the total amount of fine imposed on them; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide better service to the consumers and thus reduce the number of cases ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) While as on 30/6/2001, there was no case of adverse judgement of the consumer courts against VSNL, during the period 1.4.1999 to 30.6.2001, there were 521 cases of adverse judgement of the consumer courts against MTNL.

The amount of fine imposed on MTNL adds up to Rs. 15.59 lakhs. In respect of 92 cases, appeals have been

preferred before the State Commission which are pending adjudication.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. has taken the following steps to provide better service and thus reduce the number of consumer grievances :-

- (i) With a view to redressing the grievances of subscribers on priority, Area General Managers meet public without appointment on every Friday and try to settle their grievances.
- (ii) Permanent Lok Adalat is functioning to settle the disputes of customers.
- (iii) A Quick Restoration Service (QRS) has been introduced for immediate restoration of telephones after payment has been made by the customer.
- (iv) Following steps are being taken to improve the reliability of the network and for redressal of customer grievances.
  - Opening of more number of switching nodes viz. Remote Switching Units (RSUs) and Digital Line Carriers (DLCs).
  - Deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL).
  - Replacement of paper core cable in a time bound manner.
  - Rehabilitation of external plant network.
  - Introduction of Call Centres for redressal of customer grievances.

[English]

#### MAIL Delivery System

\*113. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mail delivery system of postal department has been affected badly due to use of electronic communication and hike in postal tariff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the postal system is facing challenges on many counts;

(d) if so, whether revenue deficit in department of posts which has been steadily increasing over the year, has not shown any downward trend; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps being considered by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) Use of electronic communication has not substantially affected the postal services in the country. In fact, the total mail traffic in the country is progressively increasing over the years as can be seen from the table below :

(In Crores)

Category of Mail	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Registered and Un-registered articles	1574.92	1576.64	1578.15

However, alternative modes of communication in the form of e-mail and the charging of telephone calls within a radius of 200 kms. at the rate of local calls have an effect on the growth of postal traffic. The hike in postal tariff being effective from 1.6.2001, its impact on the growth of traffic is yet to be seen.

The total revenue receipts including the recoveries are increasing every year and the percentage of increase ranges from 5% in 1996-97 to 21% in 1999-2000. The percentage of increase in the working expenses during the same period also ranges between 4.6% in 1996-97 and 21% in 1999-2000. The growth in deficit of the Department of Posts is mainly due to high establishment expenditure and lower postal tariffs fixed for the services rendered by the department.

The department is making all possible efforts to contain the deficit. The field units are instructed from time to time to restrict the expenditure on ceiling items like office expenses, overtime allowance, travelling expenditure and medical expenditure. Efforts are also made to generate additional revenue through steps like plugging the leakage of revenue, introduction of new technology and introduction of value added services like Money Transfer via Satellite, Greeting Post, Speed Post – Passport Service, Data Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post, International Money Transfer Service and Distribution of Mutual Fund through Post Offices.

#### Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

\*114. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central grants for rehabilitation of bonded labour have been released to State Governments for the year 2001-2002;

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

(c) the total number of bonded labour yet to be rehabilitated as of today; and

(d) the details of the action-plan to rehabilitate them fully ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded labourers, during the year 2001-2002, Central assistance has not been released to the State Government as under :

Name of the State	Central Assistance released (Rs. In lakhs)
Tamil Nadu	38.40
Karnataka	54.00
Uttar Pradesh	25.00
Rajasthan	10.00

The State Governments have so far reported identification of 2,82,090 bonded labourers, out of which 2,60,669 freed bonded labourers have been rehabilitated up to 31.5.2001. However, it has not been possible to rehabilitate 20,509 bonded labourers due to their migratory nature. The remaining 912 bonded labourers are being rehabilitated.

The Ministry of Labour has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme since May, 1978 to assist the State Governments/Union Territories in the task of rehabilitation of bonded labourers. There is a provision for extending rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 20,000/-per freed bonded labour under the Scheme. There is also provision for funding activities relating to the survey of bonded labourers, evaluatory studies and awareness generation.

The State Governments have been advised to integrate/dovetail the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes namely, Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub Plan etc., with the above mentioned centrally sponsored scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers.

#### **Dolphine Mobile Telephone Service**

\*115. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is getting good response from the people

for its Dolphin Mobile/Cellular services in Delhi and Mumbai;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the MTNL is not able to complete with the private cellular operators;

(d) if so, the extent of losses suffered by MTNL as on date; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the MTNL to improve the Dolphine Mobile/Cellular services in both the cities ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Dolphin Mobile Service of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has started getting encouraging response.

(c) and (d) MTNL is progressively gaining market share inspite of being and third operator. The project has been conceived with a break even in the second year of operation and a pay back period of 6 years of operation. These are expected to be achieved.

(e) Improvement in Cellular services is a continuous process through Network optimisation. Following steps are being taken in this regard :-

- I. Adjoining towns viz. Faridabad, Gurgaon, Noida, Ghaziabad (in Delhi) and Kalyan, Navi Mumbai (in Mumbai) are also being covered.
- II. Adequate number of franchisees are being engaged to market the service.
- III. Roaming facilities are being extended to all the places within the country as well as abroad.
- IV. Prepaid service is proposed to be started soon.

#### **New Zoological Parks**

\*116. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any concrete action plan for the all round improvement of environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to establish new zoological parks/bird sanctuaries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of

Environment and Forests have evolved policies, programmes and action plans for preservation, conservation and improvement of environment and forests, which include the following :

- National Forest Policy, 1998, National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992 and Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992;
- Programmes related to Afforestation and Joint Forest Management;
- Strengthening of infrastructure for pollution control;
- Environmental Impact Assessment for developmental projects;
- Providing financial assistance to Common Effluent Treatment Plants for clusters of small scale industries;
- National action programmes drawn and financial assistance provided for cleaning of major rivers;

(c) and (d) As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, no new zoological parks can be established for the time being. The powers to notify new bird sanctuaries vest with the State Governments.

[Translation]

**Postal Services Collaboration with Foreign Companies**

\*117. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :  
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Posts propose to initiate services like sale of Greeting Cards, Courier services in collaboration with foreign companies, money transfer scheme and sending of flowers on auspicious occasions to increase its revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which these services are likely to be made operational; and

(d) the revenue expected to be generated therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The Department of Posts has already introduction Speed Post, Greeting Post and a scheme of sending of flowers on auspicious occasions

through Post Office. The Department of Posts and Western Union Financial Services, have entered into a collaboration for instantaneous remittance of money from 185 countries to India through selected Post Offices. This service, which was introduced on 19.4.2001, is designed in particular to fulfil the needs of dependent families of non-resident Indians (NRIs) in India, foreign tourists and students from abroad. None of the services other than the money transfer scheme is in collaboration with foreign companies. A revenue of Rs. 28 lakhs is expected to be generated in the first year.

[English]

**Raising of Funds under NHDP**

\*118. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

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

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has decided to raise Rs. 3,600 crore from market borrowings to part finance the Rs. 58,000 crore National Highways Development Project (NHDP) during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the latest position of the work undertaken by the national highways Authority of India so far;

(c) the total amount required for completing the project;

(d) whether the work on this project is going on according to the plan;

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

(f) the time by which the golden quadrilateral is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir. We have already raised Rs. 656 crores and during the year 2001-02, Rs. 2944 crores are planned to be raised.

(b) and (c) As on 30.06.2001, 99 contracts awarded by NHAI are in progress on NHDP. The total value of these contract is Rs. 11,328 crore. Total cost of NHDP and other projects is Rs. 58,000 crore.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Out of 99 contracts awarded by NHAI, 55 contracts are on Golden Quadrilateral (value Rs. 8907



crore), 36 contracts on North-South and East-West corridors (value Rs. 1868 crore) and 8 contracts are for other projects (value Rs. 553 crores).

(f) Golden Quadrilateral is targeted for completion by December 2003.

[Translation]

### **Agricultural Labour**

\*119. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a social security scheme for the welfare of agricultural labour and labour in unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, separately;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented indicating their places, district/State-wise;

(d) the amount earmarked/allocated for the implementation of the said scheme; and

(e) the extent to which the agricultural labour and unorganised labour are likely to be benefited therefrom, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (e) Government has launched on 1st July, 2001, 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001' for agricultural workers in the unorganized sector. The main provisions of social security under the Scheme are as under :

- (a) Life-cum-accident insurance,
- (b) Money back, and
- (c) Pension and superannuation benefits.

Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 years to 50 years are eligible under the scheme. The insured worker will contribute Re. 1/- per day, or Rs. 365/- per year, and the Government of India will contribute Re. 2/- per day, or Rs. 730/- per year from the Social Security Fund. The benefits under this Scheme include provisions for lump sum payment on death, accident and in the event of disability as well as superannuation benefits.

A detailed action plan is being prepared to implement the scheme. As soon as the action plan is ready, the agricultural workers will start getting social security benefits.

The contribution of the Government has been ensured from the Social Security Fund under the Scheme.

The Scheme will be implemented in 50 districts during the first phase giving representation to all the States.

[English]

### **Privatisation of Postal Services**

\*120. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Postal Department has strongly opposed the Expenditure Reforms Commission's recommendation to privatise the department;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review the aspect of privatising of postal services;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons, therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir. Expenditure Reforms Commission has not recommended privatisation of the Department.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

### **Study on Ground Water**

1057. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any financial assistance to Bihar University for conducting research on ground water;

(b) if so, the time by which the said assistance is likely to be provided; and

(c) the extent to which Bihar is likely to be benefited therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal for providing any financial assistance to Bihar University for conducting research on ground water. However, the Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" in various parts of the country. A proposal for artificial recharge of ground water

in Patna University has been taken up by the Central Ground water Board under this scheme. The scheme aims at improving water level and availability of ground water in the area.

[English]

**Implementation of Recommendations  
of Central Zoo Authority**

1058. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the zoos located in different States are not following the recommendations made by the Central Zoo Authority in wake of deaths of tigers during the last years in Nandankanan; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to ask the State Zoo Authorities for strictly implementation of the recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) As per 'Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992' there are 51 norms and standards which are required to be complied by the zoos. The Central Zoo Authority is pursuing zoos to come upto the required standards in a time bound manner. Whenever, a zoo is found to be not complying major conditions and norms which directly effect the health and longevity of the animals, the matter is taken up at the level of Minister (Environment and Forests) who is chairman of the Central Zoo Authority, with the State Governments. If the concerned State Government does not respond, Central Zoo Authority can withdraw recognition of the zoo.

[Translation]

**Scheme for Agricultural Labourers**

1059. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme approved for agricultural labourers in Pandharpur region of Maharashtra during the last three years and till date, year-wise;

(b) the extent to which the agricultural labourers have been benefited by the schemes;

(c) the details of the agricultural labourers belonging to Schedules Castes/Scheduled Tribes who have not been benefited by such till date;

(d) the amount allocated during the said period, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to take steps to cover SCs/STs who have not been benefited; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) There is no specific scheme approved by the Government for the agricultural labourers in Pandharpur region of Maharashtra during last three years.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

**Telephone Connections in Jharkhand**

1060. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Jharkhand as on February 28, 2001, district-wise; and

(b) the time by which waiting list are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Jharkhand as on February 28, 2001 was 20660 and the district wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Out of 20660 waiting list, 8400 has already been cleared and the rest is expected to be cleared by December, 2001.

**Statement**

*Details of district wise waiting list of Jharkhand  
Telecom Circle as on 28.2.2001*

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Waiting list as on 28.2.2001
1	2	3
1.	Palamu	568
2.	Garhwa	99
3.	Latehar	121
4.	Giridih	677
5.	Chatra	168
6.	Koderma	172
7.	Hazaribag	2531

1	2	3
8.	Dhanbad	1227
9.	Bokaro	865
10.	Ranchi	1769
11.	Gumla	215
12.	Lohargadda	121
13.	Simdega	64
14.	Deoghar	1918
15.	Dumka	823
16.	Godda	824
17.	Jamtara	161
18.	Pakur	91
19.	Sahibganj	507
20.	Singhbhum (East)	7135
21.	Singhbhum (West)	604
<b>Total</b>		<b>20660</b>

**Preservation of Skins and Bones  
of Tigers**

1061. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bones and skins of tigers are useful for medicinal purpose;

(b) if so, whether bones and skins of dead tigers are being burnt;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to preserve the bones and skins of tigers particularly the white ones ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Traditional system of medicine recognises the medicinal value of tiger parts and bones. The use of tiger parts for medicinal purposes is not prevalent in this country but such use is quite common in Chinese pharmacopoeia. Government has decided the entire carcass of the tiger should be burnt in the presence of responsible officer to safeguard against pilferage of tiger bones for commercial purposes.

(d) Government of India do not propose to preserve the tiger bones and skins whether white or otherwise because such a practice would tempt people to indulge

in tiger poaching in a bigger way. However, the State Governments may give tiger skins to museums and educational institutes for research and education purposes.

**Telephone Connections**

1062. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received from Rajasthan for telephone connections under discretionary quota as on date, district-wise;

(b) the number of connections provided at present, district-wise;

(c) the number of applications lying pending, district-wise;

(d) the reasons for delay; and

(e) the time by which remaining applications are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) As per the Statement enclosed.

(d) The connections could not be provided against pending sanctions due to the following reasons :

(i) Areas being technically non-feasible; and

(ii) Non-completion of formalities by applicants.

(e) The remaining connections will be provided progressively before the end of the financial year.

**Statement**

*Status of MP's Discretionary Quota in Rajasthan*

As on 27.07.2001

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of Applications Received	Number of Connections Provided	Number of Applications Pending
1	2	3	4	6
1.	Ajmer	64	63	1
2.	Alwar	81	5	76
3.	Banswara and	10	5	5
4.	Dungarpur			
5.	Barmer	12	—	12
6.	Bharatpur and	138	111	27
7.	Dholpur			

1	2	3	4	6
8. Bhilwara		—	—	—
9. Bikaner		16	15	1
10. Bundi		12	12	—
11. Chittorgarh		70	50	20
12. Churu		48	46	2
13. Jaisalmer		4	3	1
14. Jaipur and Dausa		35	13	22
15.				
16. Jhalawar		1	—	1
17. Jhunjhunu		67	28	39
18. Jodhpur		43	11	32
19. Kota and		12	11	1
20. Baran				
21. Nagpur		42	20	22
22. Pali		78	36	42
23. Sawaimadhopur and		44	31	13
24. Karauli				
25. Sikar		98	51	47
26. Sirohi and		12	8	4
27. Jalore				
28. Sriganganagar and		91	59	32
29. Hanumangarh				
30. Tonk		16	14	2
31. Udaipur and		33	30	3
32. Rajsamand				
Total		1027	622	405

[English]

#### Afforestation Around Lakes

1063. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to undertake afforestation drive around some major lakes in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these lakes, location – wise; and

(c) the fund allocation made to the respective States for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to undertake afforestation drive around major lakes in the country;

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Expansion and Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

1064. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion and modernisation of telephone exchanges in West Bengal during 2001-2002;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in Uluberia sub-division of Howrah district in West Bengal;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be set up ?

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

(b) All telephone exchanges in West Bengal have been made electronic type. The plans for expansions of telephone exchanges in West Bengal in the year 2001-2002, district wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The steps taken in this regard are given below.

(i) Renting of buildings for new exchanges and advance action for getting electric power are being processed.

(ii) Procurement of switching and transmission equipments are under process.

(iii) Procurement of subscribers cable and OFC cable are under process.

(iv) Installations are in progress in different sites.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) One new exchange at Kulgachhia is proposed to be setup in Uluberia sub-division during the last quarter of the current financial year 2001-02.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	District	SSA	Proposed telephone exchanges Capacity expansions in lines
1.	Asansol	Asansol	56500
2.	Bankura	Bankura	10500
3.	Murshidabad	Berhampore	22000
4.	Howrah	Calcutta	4500
5.	Hooghly	Calcutta	31500
6.	24 Parganas (North)	Calcutta	16000
7.	24 Parganas (South)	Calcutta	7000
8.	Cooch Bihar	Cooch Bihar	12500
9.	Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri	14000
10.	Midnapur	Kharagpur	43000
11.	Nadia	Krishnagar	29000
12.	Malda	Malda	15500
13.	Purulia	Purulia	11000
14.	Dinajpur (North)	Raigunj	11500
15.	Dinajpur (South)	Raigunj	7500
16.	Darjeeling	Siliguri	22000
17.	Birbhum	Suri	14200
18.	Kolkata	Kolkata	170000
Total			498200

**Local Call Facility**

1065. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide local call facility between Mumbai and Dahanu;

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

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to provide local call facility at 180 seconds pulse rate between Mumbai and Dahanu.

However, direct dialing on Code "95" at 30 seconds pulse rate is available between Mumbai and Dahanu.

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

(c) Local call facility at 180 seconds pulse rate without "0" is provided between :-

(i) Two short distance charging areas (SDCAs) which are adjacent.

(ii) When the radial distance between the two short distance charging centres (SDCAs) of two SDCAs falling in the same or adjacent long distance distance charging areas (SDCAs) is upto 50 Kms.

(iii) When the radial distance between two long distance charging centres (LDCCs) of two non adjacent LDCAs is upto 50 Kms.

Dahanu forms part of Dahanu SDCA of Kalyan LDCA. While Mumbai is another independent SDCA/LDCA. Both the LDCAs are adjacent. Since Dahanu is neither adjacent to Mumbai SDCA nor the radial distance between their SDCC is upto 50 Km. Local call facility at 180 seconds pulse rate between Mumbai and Dahanu has not been provided.

[Translation]

**Irrigation Projects of Bihar**

1066. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of irrigation projects of Bihar implemented/being implemented with foreign assistance;

(b) the amount received from foreign countries during the last two years for each project; and

(c) the details of work undertaken so far during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Presently no externally aided irrigation project is under implementation in the State of Bihar. The details of externally aided irrigation projects implemented in the past in Bihar are given below :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Funding Agency	Assistance utilized*	Implementation period
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sone Irrigation Project	World Bank	15.00	1962-67

1	2	3	4	5
2. Subarnrekha Irrigation Project	World Bank	127.00	1983-89	
3. Bihar Public Tube well project	World Bank	21.29	1986-94	

\*In Million US\$

[English]

#### Reduction in Custom Duty

1067.DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had reduced the custom duty on import of major parts and components required for manufacture of switching and transmission equipments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government vide Custom Notification No. 44/2001 dated 26th April, 2001 reduced the basic custom duty from 15% to 5% on the parts (other than the populated PCBs) for manufacture of switching and transmission equipment. The basic customs duty on the populated PCBs for manufacture of switching and transmission equipment remains at 15%.

#### Increase in Wage Ceiling for EPF

1068.SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have raised the wage ceiling from Rs. 5000 to 6000 a month for coverage under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, Employees Pension Scheme and the Employees Deposit-linked Insurance Scheme with effect from June 1, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of employees that are likely to be benefited under the above schemes by enlarging scope of coverage ?

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

(b) The wage ceiling for coverage has been raised from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 6500/- per month under the

Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 with effect from 1.6.2001.

(c) As the wage ceiling was raised with effect from 1.6.2001, it is too early to assess the number of employees likely to be benefited.

[Translation]

#### Scheme to Recharge Water Level

1069.SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme to recharge the ground water level has been received from Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objectives of the scheme;

(d) whether the said scheme is likely to be implemented in other States also;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to mobilise additional financial resources of implement the scheme; and

(f) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) and (b) Some proposals for recharge to ground water viz. Chowgaon area of Bagput district; Bhujal Bhawan, Lucknow; University Campus, Lucknow, Jal Nigam Colony, Indira Nagar, Lucknow and Aligarh city have been received from Uttar Pradesh out of which the proposal of Chowgaon area has been completed and proposals of Bhujal Bhawan, Lucknow, University Campus, Lucknow and Jal Nigam Colony, Indira Nagar, Lucknow are under implementation.

(c) to (f) The Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources is implementing on pilot basis a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 crore for the scheme during the IX Five Year Plan. Artificial recharge of ground water and rain water harvesting are integral parts of this scheme. The main objective of the scheme is to develop technologies to improve ground water level and availability of ground water in an area. This scheme is under implementation in various other States of the country also. State-wise details of the proposals approved under the scheme are given in enclosed Statement. The approved proposals are expected to be implemented within 1-2 years.

**Statement***State-wise details of Proposals Approved concerning Ground Water Recharge Schemes*

Sl. No.	State	Schemes (Nos.)	Approved cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Status
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	54.55	Under implementation
2.	Assam	1	56.69	Under implementation
3.	Bihar	4	18.69	Under implementation
4.	Delhi	14	86.43	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
5.	Gujarat	3	18.95	Under implementation
6.	Haryana	8	139.12	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6	81.65	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	190.19	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
9.	Jharkhand	6	28.04	Under implementation
10.	Karnataka	1	13.75	Under implementation
11.	Kerala	9	67.62	Five schemes are at final stage of completion and rest are under implementation
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5	53.85	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
13.	Maharashtra	3	76.63	Under implementation
14.	Meghalaya	1	28.00	Under implementation
15.	Mizoram	1	28.00	Under implementation
16.	Nagaland	1	70.00	Under implementation
17.	Orissa	2	437.40	Under implementation
18.	Punjab	15	251.49	Six schemes completed and rest are under implementation
19.	Rajasthan	13	84.27	One scheme is completed and rest are under implementation
20.	Tamil Nadu	8	198.98	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5	37.21	Under implementation
22.	Uttaranchal	1	2.00	Under implementation
23.	West Bengal	8	167.82	Under implementation

*[English]***Violation of Rules Regarding Cutting of Trees**

1070. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have noticed any violation of rules framed for cutting the trees by Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra in Ramtek range

under Nagpur district during the last three years and current year, till-date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Information is being collected from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Irrigation Projects in Karnataka**

1071. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Karnataka Government has approached HUDCO for loan to complete irrigation projects in the State;
- (b) if so, the total amount HUDCO has agreed to provide;
- (c) the irrigation projects that are likely to be undertaken; and
- (d) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Indian Telephone Industries**

1072. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) had applied to the Government to write off the loan of Rs. 13.5 crore in 1999;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have turned down the request of ITI;
- (c) if so, the total outstanding loan at present with the ITI including interest thereof;
- (d) whether the Government propose to declare a moratorium to prevent further accrual of interest on the loan;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken to write off the loan of ITI ?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The total outstanding loan as on 31.3.2001 is Rs. 13.55 crores and interest default is Rs. 14.42 crores.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) The Company is continuously making profit from the year 1997-98.

- (f) Does not arise.

**Research Work on Eco-System of Western Ghat**

1073. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to conduct research work on the Eco-system of Western Ghats;
- (b) if so, the number of studies conducted so far in this regard;
- (c) whether any report has been submitted by the study team;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Government is already engaged in research promotion activities on the Ecosystem of Western Ghats by sponsoring a number of research studies under different schemes to various universities/institutions in the areas such as bio-diversity conservation, ethno-biology, carrying capacity and environmental impact assessment, reclamation of mined areas, pollution abatement etc.

- (c) No specific study team has been constituted for the purpose.
- (d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Medical Facilities for Beedi Workers**

1074. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is shortage of doctors, para-medical staff and dispensaries in various States to look after beedi workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Though there is no shortage of para-medical staff and the Hospitals/Dispensaries run under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, however, there is a shortage of 41 medical officers in these 197 dispensaries and 4 Hospitals. As majority of these



Dispensaries are located in far-flung and remote areas, sometimes medical officers are reluctant to join their assignment in those areas, therefore, some posts remain vacant.

(c) To fill up the vacant posts of medical officers, efforts have also been made to appoint medical officers on contract basis.

#### **Use of Prohibited Drugs by Indian Cricket Players**

1075. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the allegation of taking of prohibited drugs by the Indian cricket players;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been ordered in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) There are some unconfirmed press reports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per international norms, such tests are conducted as per rules/specifications of the concerned international Sports Federations/Associations/Boards and action against the players found positive in the test is required to be taken by the concerned National Federation.

#### **Cellular Telephone**

1076. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the duration of licence period given to cellular telephone operators in Delhi and Mumbai;

(b) the date on which the licence becomes operational and the contract comes for renewal for the cellular telephone companies in both the cities;

(c) whether any irrevocable clause in the respective contracts has been signed by these companies with the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the public has been commercially exploited by the cellular companies engaged in the country; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to review agreements in public interests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The period of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Licence is 20 years from the effective date of licence unless revoked earlier for any reasons. The effective dates of Delhi and Mumbai CMTS Licences are given in the enclosed Statement. The Licensor may extend the period of licence, if requested during 19th year from the effective date for a period of 10 years at a time on mutually agreed terms and conditions. These Licences shall be due for renewal before expiry of 20 years period from the effective dates unless otherwise revoked earlier.

(c) and (d) The Licence Agreement signed between Licensee and Licensor stipulates detailed terms and condition which are mutually agreed. The Licensor reserves the right to modify at any time the terms and conditions of the licence if in the opinion of the licensor it is necessary or expedient to do so in the interest of general public or for the proper conduct of telegraphs or on security consideration.

(e) The Cellular Operations are bound to provide the service within the ceiling tariff as prescribed by telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) from time to time. Alternate tariff plans should also meet reporting requirement to TRAI as prescribed in Telecommunication Tariff Order-1999.

(f) The Licence Agreement for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service provides the right to the Government as to modify the terms and conditions of the licence in public interest.

#### **Statement**

##### *Effective date of Licenses*

S. No.	Service Area	Name of Service Provider	Effective date of Licence
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi Metro City	- Bharti Cellular Ltd.	29.11.1994

1	2	3	4
2. Delhi Metro City	Sterling Cellular Ltd.	30.11.1994	
3. Delhi Metro City	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	15.9.1999	
4. Mumbai Metro City	BPL Communication Limited	30.11.1994	
5. Mumbai Metro City	Hutchison Max Telecom Limited	29.11.1994	
6. Mumbai Metro City	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	15.9.1999	

#### Working of Civil Aviation Training Centres

1077. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of declaration of National Civil Aviation Policy, working of civil aviation training centres has been affected adversely;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in declaration of the said policy;

(c) whether the trainees are deprived of the modern techniques as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether training centres are also facing acute shortage of aeroplanes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The draft Civil Aviation Policy is being finalised in consultation with various Ministries and Departments etc.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Integrated Transport Policy for Indian Airlines

1078. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to have an integrated transport policy for the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the broad feature of the proposed policy; and

(c) the additional facilities that are proposed to be extended to the passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

#### Flood Control in Arunachal Pradesh

1079. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Arunachal Floods; India ignored China's warning" appearing in the Assam Tribune June 12, 2001;

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

(c) whether Chinese experts had already warned about the impending devastating floods in Arunachal Pradesh;

(d) if so, whether the preventive steps could not be taken to avert the loss of human life and property;

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

(f) whether the Government have sent any expert team of China for proper co-ordination between the two countries to control flood menace;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(h) the steps the Government propose to take in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Arunachal Pradesh experienced flash floods during 11th – 12th June, 2000 in Siang (Brahmaputra) river. Nearly, 10,000 people are reported to be affected due to this floods. As per information available this unprecedented flash flood was not due to rainfall in the Indian position i.e. Arunachal Pradesh catchment of Brahmaputra river but due to failure or breach of blockade in the upstream portion of Brahmaputra river in Tibet.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) to (h) Following the floods in the Siang/ Brahmaputra river in Arunachal Pradesh in June, 2000, the matter was raised by External Affairs Minister with the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr. Tang Jiaxuan, during his visit to India on July 21-22, 2000. External Affairs Minister told the Chinese Foreign Minister that floods in the Brahmaputra river upstream in Tibet (China) was leading to devastation and loss of life and property in India, the lower riparian State. He proposed that India and China could engage in a dialogue to examine ways in which human suffering could be reduced on the Indian side in event of such natural disasters. The Chinese Foreign Minister said that he fully understood our concerns.

The Ministry of External Affairs vigorously pursued the matter. The Chinese side agreed to have a discussion with India on this matter.

An Indian delegation from the Ministry of Water Resources visited Beijing on June 8, 2001 for discussions. The Indian side stressed the need for hydrological data on both the Brahmaputra and the Sutaj on a year round basis to reduce the human suffering on our side in the event of natural disasters. The Chinese side proposed provision of rainfall, water level and discharge data on the Brahmaputra during the flood season. Modalities are to be discussed in the next round of talks.

#### **International Airport at Shamshabad**

1080. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2063 dated 12.03.2001 and state :

- (a) the present status of the proposed International Airport at Shamshabad near Hyderabad;
- (b) whether any time schedule has been worked-out for the completion of the project;
- (c) if so, the details therefor; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Government has accorded "in principle" approval for construction of a greenfield international airport at Shamshabad near Hyderabad under Joint Venture with private sector participation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is now in the process of finalising the selection of Joint Venture Private partner and requisite details for implementation of the project. The

proposal being at preliminary stage, no specific time frame can be given, at present.

#### **Early Clearance to Pending Projects of Maharashtra**

1081. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

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

(a) whether representatives of Maharashtra Government and several other public representatives met him recently and urged for early clearance to the pending proposals of Maharashtra relating to especially irrigation and other water problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such pending proposals; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be given environmental clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Meetings have been held with the State Chief Minister, Members of the Parliament and the State Government officials to discuss pending issues with the Ministry, including clearance of irrigation projects under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Of 372 proposals received from Maharashtra from 1998 to June 2001 for forestry clearance, 211 have been approved, 40 rejected on merit, 6 returned/withdrawn by the State Government, 47 under active consideration of the Ministry and 68 are pending for want of essential information from the State Government. As regards to irrigation projects, 12 proposals are under active consideration of the Ministry and 20 proposals are pending with the Maharashtra Government for want of essential details. A list of these 32 proposals is enclosed as Statement. Only one proposal namely Sulwade Lift Irrigation Scheme in district Dhule is pending for environmental clearance, in which essential details sought are still awaited.

The Ministry is committed to clear all such proposals, which are complete in all respects within 90 days. In case of incomplete proposals, no decision can be taken on these proposals till wanting details sought from the State Government/project authority has been received. As such no time limit can be fixed for clearance of these projects.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of Proposal	Area	Status
1.	Kosari MIT, Gadchiroli	102.558	Under process
2.	Yengalkheda MIT, Gadchiroli	109.48	Under process
3.	Bhagpur lift irrigation, Jalgaon	279.00	Under process
4.	Sh. Padmalaya II pump storage scheme, Jalgaon	58.00	Under process
5.	Upadgad MIT, Bhandara	5.60	Under process
6.	Ghat Prabha Medium Project, Sindhu Durg	12.00	Under process
7.	Kandwan MIP, Kolhapur	8.45	Under process
8.	Constn. of Minor Irrigation Tank, Nasik	7.84	Under process
9.	Navegaon PT, Nagpur	18.75	Under process
10.	Ghatkarwadi MIT, Kolhapur	19.16	Under process
11.	Supersal New MIT, Bhandara	7.69	Under process
12.	Ijoli MIT, Kolhapur	5.46	Under process
13.	Saleheti MIT, Bhandara	61.54	Essential details sought on 1.5.01
14.	Nawatola minor irrigation project, Bhandara	79.13	Essential details sought on 1.5.01
15.	Gunjawani Irrigation Project, Pune	50.08	Essential details sought on 29.9.00
16.	Domihara River project in Thane distt.	37.46	Essential details sought on 1.5.01
17.	Bhimalkasa minor IT, Bhandara	116.03	Essential details sought on 18.01.01
18.	Human river project, Chandrapur	2895.0	Processed from forestry angle. Proposal for environmental clearance awaited
19.	Feeder Channel at Tadala, Chandrapur	0.74	Essential details sought on 11.1.2000
20.	Const. of Kolhapur type Bandhara of Khairkuti, Dhule	0.94	Essential details sought on 16.12.99
21.	Const. of Kolhapur type Bandhara of Sangvi, Dhule	0.97	Essential details sought on 16.12.99
22.	Constn. of P.T. at Mhasdi-2, Dhule	2.50	Essential details sought on 8.11.2000
23.	Const. of Kolhapur Type Bandhara, Chandrapur	4.99	Essential details sought on 19.11.00
24.	Constn. of Warkari-tola MI Tank, Bhandara	3.77	Essential details sought on 23.1.2001
25.	Constn. of Nandora MI Tank, Nagpur	2.20	Essential details sought on 13.3.2001
26.	Const. of Kolhapur Type Bandhara, Chandrapur	1.72	Essential details sought on 11.4.2001
27.	Mangazari MIT, Bhandara	9.92	Essential details sought on 19.9.2000
28.	Sangadi MIT, Bhandara	8.26	Essential details sought on 21.11.00
29.	Jambhali MIT, Bhandara	16.50	Essential details sought on 28.11.00
30.	Mahadev Dondwada PT, Dhule	8.06	Essential details sought on 25.1.2001
31.	Jambhali Tank, Bhandara	19.30	Essential details sought on 19.3.2001
32.	Tembhu Lift Irri. Tank, Sangli and Satara	7.051	Essential details sought on 19.3.2001

*[Translation]***Inter-State Water Disputes**

1082. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Northern States to resolve the water disputes among them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) In the recent past, the respective Hon'ble Union Ministers of Water Resources invited the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan for a meeting proposed to be held initially on 2.2.2000 and subsequently on 11.09.2000 and 27.6.2001, to discuss the Inter-State water related issues in an endeavour to arrive at an amicable settlement. Though the meetings could not be held so far due to various reasons, the Ministry of Water Resources is continuing with its efforts to convene the meeting early.

*[English]***Agriculture Labour Welfare Fund Scheme**

1083. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister, while speaking at the 37th Indian Labour Conference in New Delhi on May 18, 2001, had announced that a Rs. 150 crore welfare fund scheme for agricultural labourers would begin from July, 2001;

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

(c) whether the said scheme has since been put into operation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) The Government has launched the 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana - 2001' for agricultural workers from 1st July 2001. Under the aegis of the Ministry of Labour, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will implement the Scheme. The following provisions of social security have been made under the Scheme :-

(a) Life-cum-accident insurance,

(b) Money back, and

(c) Pension and Superannuation benefits.

Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 years to 50 years are eligible under the Scheme. The worker will contribute Rs. 1/- per day or Rs. 365/- per year and the Government of India will pay Rs. 2/- per day or Rs. 730/- per year per beneficiary from the Social Security Fund under the Scheme. The benefits include lump sum payments on death/death due to accident and also in case of permanent/partial disability. The workers will also get the benefit of pension per month on surviving upto the age of 60 years along with a lump sum payment to the family on death, the amounts depending on the age of entry to this Scheme.

Initially, the Scheme will be implemented in 50 districts. Keeping in view the performance of the Scheme during the first phase and the availability funds, the Scheme will be extended to more districts thereafter. The process of identification of districts has been initiated.

**River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project**

1084. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project is meeting the required criteria for inclusion of the same in the list of project exempted from payment of import duty;

(b) whether Gujarat Government has proposed to include this project in the said list; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be included ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat does not qualify for being accorded the status of deemed mega power project and exemption from payment of import duty on the Turbo Generator Sets. The Government of Gujarat had submitted a proposal to the Union Government for according status of mega power project and exemption from payment of import duty on Turbo Generator sets for the project, as a special case. Government of Gujarat has to supply certain information called for and confirm their adherence to the conditions of the revised mega policy applicable to the public sector mega power projects.

**Sale of Child Labour**

1085. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :  
 SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
 SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether an organised racket involving sale of children of factories in various parts of the country particularly in Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has been unearthed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to convene a Labour Ministers' Conference to discuss this issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check this menace in Delhi and other parts of the country?

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

**Indus Water Treaty**

1086. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no clause in the Indus water treaty between India and Pakistan-1960 in regard to perennial flow of water in Indus River System;

(b) if so, the measures taken with Pakistan to remove this lacuna and to revive dry and dying water source in this vast catchment covering Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether most of the devastating floods of North India originate from Nepal Himalayas;

(e) if so, the measures contemplated by India with Nepal Government to take up reforestation and erosion control of Nepal Himalayas in an International agreement with that country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) The Indus Waters Treaty does not contain a clause in regard to the perennial flow of water in the Indus River System.

(b) and (c) India is the upper riparian and the waters of the Indus system of rivers as specified in the Treaty are also available to it and therefore the question of taking up the issue of perennial flow of water in the Indus system of rivers with Pakistan does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. Rivers flowing from Nepal cause heavy floods in certain parts of North India particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar.

(e) and (f) Two major River Valley Projects namely Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on River Mahakali (Sarda in India) and Sapta Kosi High Dam and Sun Kosi Projects on River Kosi are under discussions between the Government of India and His Majesty Government of Nepal. As regards Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project, the preparation of Joint Detailed Project Report (DPR) is in progress. The issue of preparation of such a report for Sapta Kosi and Sun - Kosi Projects on river Kosi is also under discussions between the two Governments. These DPRs when prepared will have Environmental Impact Assessment studies which will take care of catchment area treatment inter alia including reforestation and erosion control measures.

**Development of Airports in Andhra Pradesh**

1087. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for the development of airports in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) the details of works taken up so far airport-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure speedy development of the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The total amount earmarked for the development of airports in Andhra Pradesh during 2001-2002 is Rs. 21.11 crores.

(b) At Hyderabad airport, construction of New International Terminal Building and modification/expansion of existing domestic Terminal Building, installation of four Aerobridges was completed in 1999. Profile correction of

runway and associated pavements was done during March, 2001. Work for extension of Apron and construction of new link taxi track and Isolation Bay have been taken up which is likely to be completed in March, 2002. Also, detailed Engineering planning has been completed for strengthening and extension of existing runway to 10,600 ft. At Rajamundry airport, work for strengthening of runway, construction of a new apron and link taxiway and boundary wall have been taken up which is likely to be completed in March, 2002. At Vijayawada airport the existing runway has been strengthened and a new apron constructed with linked taxiway. The work was completed by July, 1999. At Visakhapatnam airport, it has been proposed to construct a new runway of dimension 10,000 ft. x 150 ft. There are also proposals for construction of new apron, link taxiway etc., installation of Navigational aids and Ground Lighting facilities, provision of boundary wall, perimeter road, sub-fire station, approach road etc. and construction of a new Integrated Terminal Building to handle domestic as well as international passengers. The project is at preliminary stage.

(c) Development of airports is a continuous process and is being taken up keeping in view the demand and availability of resources.

#### **Resentment of NALCO'S Employees**

1088. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is serious resentment amount the employees of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) relating to their pay structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to cultivate better understanding among the workers and the management ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c) The NALCO Management and unions of the non-executive employees have not yet reached agreement on the revision of workers' wages. The wage settlement negotiations between the Management and Unions are on, and approximately ten rounds of meetings have so far taken place.

#### **Implementation of Recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission in ESIC**

1089. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission have been implemented in Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Pay Committee/Body has been constituted in ESIC to review the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission; and

(d) if so, the time by which the report of the said Pay Committee is likely to be submitted and implemented ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Pay Committee constituted by the ESIC has since submitted its report. One of the recommendations of the Committee for continuation of the facility of leave encashment of 15 days per year in addition to leave encashment of 240 days at the time of retirement has been accepted.

Keeping in view the provisions of the ESI Act, 1948 and also the benefits already extended to employees of ESIC on the basis of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission, it has not been found feasible to accept the rest of the recommendations of the Pay Committee so far.

#### **Conversion of NH-42 between Banarpal Chhak to Angul Town**

1090. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a persistent demand from Orissa for converting the NH-42 between Banarpal Chhak to Angul town into four lane;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to facilitate carrying of goods and services of NALCO, MCL, NTPC, FCI, IAPL to Cuttack on NH-5 and Sambalpur on NH-6; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No proposal has so far been received from the Government of Orissa.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Introduction of International Flights**

1091. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some new international flights are proposed to be introduced from various airports in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Operation of International flights from different airport is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand as part of ongoing process. Since November, 1999 different foreign airlines have been granted access to Bangalore, Hyderabad, Amritsar, Cochin, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Varanasi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai. However, actual operations are left to their commercial judgement. Some of these airlines have already commenced their operations. Besides Air India and Indian Airlines have also introduced some new flights and have plans to introduce more international services from Mumbai, Cochin, Calicut and Hyderabad after acquiring additional aircraft on dry lease.

[Translation]

#### **Foreign Assistance for Highways**

1092. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign assistance received for important/development of transport and highways from January 1, 2001 to June 30, 2001;

(b) the amount to be provided to Maharashtra out of the said amount and the Highways and modes of transport on which the amount is likely to be spent;

(c) whether the assistance received prior to January 1, 2001 has been utilised so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) One loan from World Bank has been approved for US/\$ 589 million for improvement of National Highways to four lane standards in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and

Jharkhand falling on the Golden Quadrilateral component of National Highway Development Programme. No portion of this loan is to be used for Maharashtra or any other State.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Implementation of Irrigation Projects in Gujarat**

1093. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the irrigation projects being implemented with foreign assistance in Gujarat at present;

(b) the names of Foreign Agencies funding these projects;

(c) the progress made in completion of these projects;

(d) the details of the remaining proposed foreign aided irrigation projects of Gujarat pending clearance alongwith the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) At present, "Installation of Hydroplus Fusegates System on eight ungated schemes" with French assistance of FF (French Francs) 34.74 million is under implementation in Gujarat. Works on six schemes has been completed. Works on installing of fusegates in remaining two schemes is in progress. An amount of FF 31.70 million has so far been disbursed under the project till 31st May, 2001.

In addition, under the World Bank aided "Hydrology Project", wherein Gujarat is one of the participating States, a cumulative disbursement of Rs. 31.28 crores has been made upto 31st March, 2001.

(d) and (e) The status of the project proposals received from Government of Gujarat for external assistance is given in the enclosed Statement. Clearance of project depends upon the State Government complying with the guidelines of the donor agencies and the Government of India.



**Statement**

*Details and Status of the Project Proposals received from State Government of Gujarat for external assistance is as under :-*

(Rs. In crores)

Sl No.	Name of the project	Amount of assistance sought	Present status
1.	Augmentation of Surface water recharge in over exploited Aquifers	359.58	Proposal sent to Department of Economic Affairs for Japanese assistance on 20.7.2000 and subsequently re-submitted for Dutch assistance on 5.2.2001
2.	Gujarat Irrigation and Salinity Prevention Project	276.70	Proposal examined in the Ministry and comments sent to State Government for compliance on 30.5.2000
3.	Gujarat Water Resources Consolidation project	724.02	Department of Economic Affairs has posed the proposal to World Bank on 2.5.2000
4.	Gujarat Salinity Prevention project	1160.63	Department of Economic Affairs has posed the proposal to World Bank on 14.6.2000.
5.	Minor Irrigation Programme through Farmer's participation in Gujarat	31.0	Proposal posed for Dutch assistance on 30.8.95 Department of Economic Affairs has again been requested on 14.3.2001 to approach Dutch authorities for re-consideration of proposal.

*[Translation]***Pension Scheme for Agricultural Labour**

1094. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :  
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started an insurance and pension scheme for agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of workers estimated to be covered under the scheme;

(d) the number of phases in which the said scheme is likely to be implemented;

(e) the names of the districts where the said scheme is likely to be implemented in the first phase and the criteria adopted for the selection of these districts; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be implemented all over the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (f) The Government has launched the 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001' for agricultural workers from 1st July, 2001. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will implement the Scheme under the aegis of the Ministry of Labour. The following provisions of social security have been made under the Scheme;

(a) Life-cum-accident insurance.

(b) Money back, and

(c) Pension and Superannuation benefits.

Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 years to 50 years are eligible to be covered under the Scheme. The worker will contribute Rs. 1/- per day or Rs. 365/- per year and the Government of India will pay Rs. 2/- per day or Rs. 730/- per year per beneficiary from the Social Security Fund under the Scheme. The benefits include lump sum payments on death/death due to accident and also in case of permanent/partial disability. The workers will also get the benefit of pension per month on surviving upto the age of 60 years along with a lump sum payment to the family

on death, the amounts depending on the age of entry to this Scheme.

Initially, the Scheme will be implemented in 50 Districts of the country. At least one District will be taken from each State. Keeping in view the performance of the Scheme during the first phase and the availability of funds, the Scheme will be extended to more Districts thereafter. The process of identification of Districts has been initiated.

[English]

#### Internet through LAN

1095. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any clear-cut guidelines are issued/ being issued to Cable Operators to remove the ambiguity of operation and licensing for Internet through LAN; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) As per Internet Service Provider (ISP) policy, access to Internet through authorised cable operator is permitted without additional licensing subject to applicable cable laws. Many ISPs are providing access to Internet through cable.

[Translation]

#### Share of Rajasthan in Ganga River

1096. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has claimed its share in the Ganga River;

(b) if so, since when the claim was made;

(c) whether the Central Water Commission has submitted its report in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which Rajasthan is likely to get its share of water ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rajasthan submitted a proposal in 1984 for diverting 1133 cumec of Ganga water ex- Hardwar and 566 cumec of Ganga water ex- Bijnor for 100 days during Monsoon.

(c) to (e) The study conducted by Central Water Commission to explore the possibilities to divert flood waters of Ganga near Hardwar and Bijnore for use in Rajasthan revealed that sufficient water was not available in Ganga near these two places for more than 20-30 days in a year for diversion to Rajasthan.

[English]

#### National River Water GRID

1097. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to enact National River Grid by Linking Inter-State rivers;

(b) if so, the estimated cost is likely to be involved; and

(c) the action taken for its implementation to prevent misuse of water resources ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for the optimum utilisation of water resources. The Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies of the National Perspective Plan. NWDA has completed water balance and prefeasibility studies of all the link proposals. Detailed feasibility reports based on survey and investigation for 5 links have so far been completed. Tentative estimated cost (at 1995-96 price level) of the proposed identified links of National Perspective Plan is put at Rs. 3,30,000 crore. Implementation of such water transfer link proposals would depend on various factors like consensus among the basin States regarding the proposed transfer, preparation of detailed project reports and availability of funds etc.

#### Projects for Improvement of Environment

1098. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects undertaken for the improvement of environment particularly in Gujarat during the last three years as well as current year, till-date, State-wise;

(b) the extent of success achieved so far in each of the projects; and

(c) the details of other such projects to be undertaken in the country during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan. State-wise ?

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

[Translation]

#### Employment in Agriculture Sector

1099. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :  
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agriculture sector provides maximum employment in the country;

(b) if so, the assessment of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the creation of job opportunity in this sector has come down during the last three years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the percentage of agricultural workers against the total workers in the country; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase employment growth rate in agriculture sector during the said period and during the year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 ?

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

(b) to (e) 60% of the total workers were engaged in agriculture during 1999-2000 as against 65% during 1993-1994 as per the survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Shift of workers from agriculture to non-agricultural sector is essential and desired for a better quality of employment.

(f) The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

#### Smuggling of Wildlife

1100. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the value of skins of wildlife which were burnt on "Wildlife Protection Day" this year;

(b) whether animals are being smuggled from West Bengal to Bangladesh in planned manner;

(c) if so, the number of smugglers caught red handed/killed for smuggling activities in or out of the country alongwith the number and category of wildlife recovered from them during the last three years and current years, till-date;

(d) the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken to check such activities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have informed that the skins of wild animals, as per detail given in the enclosed Statement, were burnt by them. Since trade of wildlife is not allowed in the country the monetary value cannot be assessed.

(b) to (d) As informed by the State Government of West Bengal two cases of smuggling of wildlife have been detected during the last three years. The details are as follows :

(i) On 14.1.98, 879 pieces of live and 134 pieces of dead turtle along with a truck were seized at Kalyani Police Station. Three smugglers were arrested.

(ii) On 7.1.2001, 115 nos of water monitor lizard were seized. Two smugglers were arrested.

Cases have been filed in the High Court against the accused persons.

(e) The Steps taken to check the illegal trade of wild animals are :

#### (1) Steps taken at the State level

(i) Legal protection has been provided a wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committee have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

- (iii) The Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the four Southern States hold periodical meetings for border area protection and to deal with the problems of poaching and illegal trade.
- (iv) Regular Task Force consisting of Police and Forests Officials has been set up to deal with poachers and smugglers.
- (v) Anti poaching camps has been established at sensitive places in Southern Indian States.
- (vi) The State of Karnataka have set up a Special Forest Cell in the police department consisting 300 personals and headed by an Inspector General of Police to deal with forest offences.
- (vii) The Forest protection staff has provided immunity against arrest in case they open fire on the poachers and smugglers.

**(2) Steps taken at National level**

- (i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.
- (iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.
- (iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment and Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife

- (v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.
- (vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.
- (vii) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

**(3) Steps taken at International level**

- (i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- (ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and an MOU has been signed with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
- (iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

**Statement**

*Details of wild animal skins burnt*

Name of State	No. of Skins burnt	Date	Remarks
Andhra Pradesh	94	10.3.2001	
Maharashtra	6	5.6.2001	World Environment Day

**Delay in Delivery of Mail**

1101. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any machinery through which delay in delivery of mail can be detected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have detected such cases during the last three years;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (e) the action taken against the guilty officials ?

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

(b) to (e) The Department monitors the delivery efficiency of mail through various mechanisms like All India Live Mail Surveys, posting of Trail Cards and Test Letters and surprise checks by supervisory and inspecting officers. On the findings of these surveys and checks, remedial action is taken whenever delay in delivery of mail is noticed.

During the surveys it was found that the delivery efficiency of mail in the country is generally satisfactory. However, there are instances of delay to mail due to various reasons which are beyond the control of the Department such as late running/cancellation of mail carrying planes, trains and buses, off-loading of mail by airlines, sudden and unexpected increase in volume of mail, natural calamities, civil disturbances such as bandhs. Sometimes, mail is also delayed due to human failure. Guilty officials are punished for their negligence.

#### **Employment Exchanges**

1102. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of employment exchanges in the country, State-wise;  
 (b) the number of computerized employment exchanges out of them, State-wise;  
 (c) whether the Government propose to convert the scheme for computerizing all the employment exchanges into a centrally sponsored scheme in the Ninth Five Year Plan;  
 (d) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to improve the entire working of employment exchanges in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) State-wise number of employment exchanges and the number of employment exchanges computerized under the centrally sponsored scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Central Government does not have any centrally sponsored scheme in the Ninth Five Year Plan for computerization of employment exchanges.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Employment Exchanges are under the administrative and financial control of the State Government. Modernisation of the employment exchanges in order to make them proactive to the labour market needs, collection of labour market information, career counselling, vocational guidance etc. are being encouraged by the Central Government considering the employment situation prevailing in the organized sector.

#### **Statement**

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Employment Exchanges	Number of Employment Exchanges computerized under centrally sponsored scheme
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	—
3.	Assam	53	2
4.	Bihar	34	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	—
6.	Delhi	14	5
7.	Goa	1	1
8.	Gujarat	43	13
9.	Haryana	61	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	15	3
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	—
12.	Jharkhand	34	—
13.	Karnataka	40	3
14.	Kerala	82	2
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58	9
16.	Maharashtra	46	6
17.	Manipur	11	1
18.	Meghalaya	10	—
19.	Mizoram	3	—
20.	Nagaland	7	—

1	2	3	4
21. Orissa		40	3
22. Punjab		47	2
23. Rajasthan		40	1
24. Sikkim*			—
25. Tamil Nadu		37	10
26. Tripura		5	—
27. Uttaranchal		20	—
28. Uttar Pradesh		83	24
29. West Bengla		75	3
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1		1
31. Chandigarh		2	1
32. D and N Haveli		1	—
33. Daman and Diu		2	—
34. Lakshadweep		1	—
35. Pondicherry		1	1
Total		937	117

Note : \*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

[English]

#### Public Call Offices

1103. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public call offices functioning in the country at present;

(b) the number out of them laying closed as on date;

(c) whether a large number of such PCOs are struggling hard for survival due to introduction of new type of multi-media kiosks; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation ?

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

[Translation]

#### Dolphin Mobile Telephone Service

1104. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :  
SHRI BHIM DAHAL :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
DR. V. SAROJA :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA :  
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reduced the monthly rent and call rates between Delhi and Mumbai for its Dolphin Mobile Telephone Service;

(b) if so, the details thereto;

(c) the extent of tariff reduced with comparison to other private cellular/mobile telephone operators in Delhi and Mumbai;

(d) the reaction of the private cellular/mobile operators thereto;

(e) whether there is any proposal to reduced the call rates and monthly rent on other routes;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be reduced;

(g) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has proposed to extend Dolphina Service to adjoining cities also;

(h) if so, the details thereof; city-wise;

(i) whether cellular telephone subscribers can made local calls upto 200 kms;

(j) if so, the details thereof;

(k) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has criticized the said decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The monthly rent and call charges have been reduced but

the STD charge between Delhi and Mumbai remain the same.

(b) The details are as follows :

	Package A	Package B
Rental (Rs.)	250.00	375.00
Outgoing/30 Sec (Rs.)	1.00	0.70
Incoming/30 Sec. (Rs.)	0.75	0.70
Pulse rate : 30 Sec.		

(c) Comparative Statement of tariff is given below :

*Tariff Plan*

*Comparative Statement of various Cell Operators*

	MTNL (Dolphin) Package A	AIRTEL Dream (TALKNOW) Plan	ESSAR Talk now
Rental (Rs.)	250.00	295.00	295.00
Outgoing Call/30 Sec. (Rs.)	1.00	1.15	1.15
Incoming Call/30 Sec. (Rs.)	0.75	1.15	1.15

  

	Package B	Sweet 99	Talk Easy
Rental (Rs.)	375.00	395.00	395.00
Outgoing Call/30 Sec (Rs.)	0.70	0.99	0.99
Incoming Call/30 Sec. (Rs.)	0.70	0.99	0.99

(d) No perceptible reaction of Private Operators noticed.

(e) No Sir, not at the moment.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), Delhi is in process of extending dolphin services to adjoining town of Noida, Ghaziabad, Faridabad and Gurgaon, whereas in MTNL Mumbai, Kalyan has also been included in MTNL's jurisdiction for providing cellular service.

(i) No, Sir.

(j) Does not arise.

(k) and (l) The TRAI has given the determination for extending the Concessional local call facility given by BSNL to its customers to the private operators also. BSNL has appealed against this determination of TRAI before the

Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). TDSAT has granted the stay to the TRAI determination.

[English]

**Telephone Facility**

1105. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA :  
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Chikkaballapur and Bellary regions which are without telephone facility at present;

(b) the number of villages in these regions where said facility is proposed to be provided during 2001-2002;

(c) the time by which remaining villages are likely to be covered;

(d) whether the Government propose to replace Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) technology by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology in these regions;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) All villages in Chikkaballapur and Bellary regions have already been provided with village public telephones.

(d) to (f) BSNL has planned to install Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system in Chikkaballapur with a capacity of 500 lines. WLL equipment is likely to be delivered by November, 2001. MARR based telephones are planned to be replaced by WLL based telephones progressively.

[Translation]

**Construction of Bridges**

1106. SHRI SUBODH ROY :  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :

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

(a) the amount being spent by the Government for the construction of bridges alongwith the construction of National Highway-80;

(b) whether the bridges constructed in the year 2000 on the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are proposed to be reconstructed;

(c) if so, the amount sanctioned for this proposal; and

(d) the time-limit that has been fixed for the construction of bridges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD). B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Works amounting to Rs. 18.28 crores have been sanctioned for development of National Highway No. 80 including the construction of one Pontoon bridge amounting to Rs. 1.49 crores so far.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Project Tigers

1107. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the States where "Project Tigers" have been set up;

(b) the allocation made to each "Project Tigers" during each of the last three years and current year;

(c) whether any review has been made in regard to the achievements of its objectives; and

(d) if so, the success achieved by each such project tigers during the last three years and current year, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Steering Committee of Project Tiger set up under the Chairmanship of Minister of Environment and Forests has been reviewing the progress of implementation of Project Tiger Scheme from time to time. The estimated Tiger population for all the tiger reserves have shown stability in the habitat and rise in population. The population of Tigers in Tiger Reserves are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### Statement-I

##### *Name of the Tiger Reserves in Tiger Range States with year of creation and Area*

Sl. No.	Year of creation	Name of Tiger Reserve	State	Total area (In Sq. Kms.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	1973-74	Bandipur	Karnataka	866
	1999-2000	Nagarhole-(extension)		643
2.	1973-74	Corbett	Uttar Pradesh	1316
3.	1973-74	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	1945
4.	1973-74	Manas	Assam	2840
5.	1973-74	Melghat	Maharashtra	1677
6.	1973-74	Palamau	Bihar	1026
7.	1973-74	Ranthambhore	Rajasthan	1334
8.	1973-74	Similipal	Orissa	2750
9.	1973-74	Sunderbans	West Bengal	2585
10.	1978-79	Periyar	Kerala	777
11.	1978-79	Sariska	Rajasthan	866
12.	1982-83	Buxa	West Bengal	759



1	2	3	4	5
13.	1982-83	Indravati	Madhya Pradesh	2799
14.	1982-83	Nagarjunsagar	Andhra Pradesh	3568
15.	1982-83	Namdapha	Andhra Pradesh	1985
16.	1987-88	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	811
	1999-2000	Katerniaghat-(extension)		551
17.	1988 -89	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	800
18.	1989- 90	Valmiki	Bihar	840
19.	1992-93	Pench	Madhya Pradesh	758
20.	1993 -94	Tadoba-Andheri	Maharashtra	620
21.	1993-94	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	1162
22.	1994-95	Panna	Madhya Pradesh	542
23.	1994-95	Dampha	Mizoram	500
24.	1998-99	Bhadra	Karnataka	492
25.	1998-99	Pench	Maharashtra	257
26.	1999-2000	Pakhui-Nameri	Arunachal Pradesh-Assam	1206
27.	1999-2000	Bori, Satpura, Panchmari	Madhya Pradesh	1486
			Total	37761

**Statement-II**

*Release of Funds to Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger Scheme during 1998-99 to 2001-2002*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 As on 20.7.01*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bandhavgarh	22.29	37.025	33.607	111.52
2.	Bandipur	67.34	91.37	96.70	135.25
3.	Bhadra	2.00	75.709	96.66	62.184
4.	Buxa	58.895	56.37	53.18	79.50
5.	Corbett	137.88	162.95	99.215	182.26
6.	Dampa	9.65	21.43	27.58	27.71
7.	Dudhwa	61.87	71.28	82.44	under process
8.	Indravati	37.54	46.205	15.00	under process
9.	Kalakad Mundanthurai	32.50	58.78	60.315	under process
10.	Kanha	113.85	164.895	222.15	258.20
11.	Manas	35.00	87.29	89.00	135.30

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Melghat		68.28	52.00	62.93	114.58
13. Nagarjunasagar		18.01	29.036	45.00	under process
14. Namdapha		47.68	30.590	32.607	85.725
15. Nameri		0.00	0.00	67.10	17.50
16. Palamau		84.55	78.912	86.662	146.97
17. Panna		26.935	42.235	35.00	76.20
18. Pench (MP)		24.51	41.80	97.59	under process
19. Pench (Mah)		17.15	43.80	59.241	109.68
20. Periyar		39.19	43.665	50.00	under process
21. Ranthambhore		88.265	110.635	122.325	231.30
22. Sariska		384.00	111.94	177.380	under process
23. Satpura		0.00	0.00	30.22	under process
24. Similipal		67.65	84.95	83.31	146.17
25. Sunderban		121.09	80.77	45.00	98.10
26. Tadoba-Andheri		25.31	38.95	45.76	57.11
27. Valmiki		69.44	87.04	0.415	123.59
<b>Total</b>		<b>1660.875</b>	<b>1749.627</b>	<b>1916.387</b>	<b>2198.849</b>

\*Sanctioned amount

**Statement-III***Population of Tigers in the Tiger Reserves  
as reported by the States*

S. No.	Name of Reserve	1993	1995	1997
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bandipur (Karnataka)	66	74	75
2.	Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	123	128	138
3.	Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	100	97	114
4.	Manas (Assam)	81	94	125
5.	Melghat (Maharashtra)	72	71	73
6.	Palamau (Bihar)	44	47	44
7.	Ranthombore (Rajasthan)	36	38	32
8.	Similipal (Orissa)	95	97	98
9.	Sunderbans (West Bengal)	251	242	263
10.	Periyar (Kerala)	30	39	40
11.	Sariska (Rajasthan)	24	25	24

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Buxa (West Bengal)	29	31	32
13.	Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	18	15	15
14.	Nagarjunasagar (Andhra Pradesh)	44	34	39
15.	Namdapha (Arunachal Pradesh)	47	52	57
16.	Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	94	98	104
17.	Kalakad (Tamil Nadu)	17	16	28
18.	Valmiki (Bihar)	49	N.R.	53
19.	Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	39	27	29
20.	Tadoba (Maharashtra)	34	36	42
21.	Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh)	41	46	46
22.	Panna (Madhya Pradesh)	25	22	22
23.	Dampaha (Mizoram)	7	4	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>1366</b>	<b>1333</b>	<b>1498</b>

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Pench (Maharashtra)	-	10 (1994)	N.R.
25.	Bhadra (Karnataka)	-	-	34
26.	Pakui-Nameri			
27.	Bori-Satpura-Panchmerhi (Madhya Pradesh)	Tiger Reserves formed during 1999-2000		

N.R. - Not reported by the State

#### **Operative and Inoperative Airports**

1108. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Airports that are operative and inoperative;

(b) whether there is any proposal/plan to utilise the inoperative Airports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The names of operative airports in the country are Agartala, Agatti, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Aurangabad, Bhavnagar, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Calicut, Chennai, Coimbatore, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Dehradun, Delhi, Kangra, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Jaipur, Jabalpur, Kolkata, Kullu-Manali, Keshod, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Porbandar, Raipur, Rajkot, Ranchi, Trichy, Tirupati, Vadodara, Varanasi, Behala, Belgaum, Juhu, Safdarjung, Hubli, Kandla, Kanpur, Kota, Ludhiana, North Lakhimpur, Pantnagar, Pondicherry, Salem, Shillong, Trivandrum, Tuticorin, Vijayawada, Rajahmundry. The operative Civil Enclaves are Agra, Bagdogra, Bangalore, Bhuj, Chandigarh, Goa, Gwalior, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Jorhat, Leh, Port Blair, Pune, Silchar, Srinagar, Tejpur, and Visakhapatnam.

The names of inoperative airports are Aizwal, Akola, Balurghat, Bilaspur, Chakulia, Coachbehar, Cuddappah, Deesa, Donakunda, Gaya, Hassan, Hadapsar, Jhansi, Jharsuguda, Jogbani, Kailashahar, Kamalpur, Khandawa, Khowai, Lalitpur, Malda, Muzaffarpur, Mysore, Nadirgul, Panna, Passighat, Raxaul, Rupsi, Satna, Shella, Sholapur and Warrangal. The inoperative Civil Enclaves are Allahabad, Along, Bikaner, Daporizo, Gorakhpur, Jaisalmer, Kanpur (Chakeri), Tezu and Zero.

Apart from the above, the airports at Lengpui, Kohlapur, Surat, Diu belonging to the respective State Governments, Puttaparty of Sri Sai Baba Trust and Cochin

owned by Cochin International Airport Limited are also operative.

(b) and (c) Airlines are free to operate from/to any airport in the country depending upon traffic potential and availability of aircraft. Airports Authority of India have requested the State Governments to take over the non-operational airports for developing these for civil aviation activities. Only airports at Sholapur and Kolhapur have been leased out to the State Government of Maharashtra. No other State Government has responded positively to such proposal.

#### **Air Bay Bridge at Trivandrum Airport**

1109. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :  
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposals for constructing air bay bridge at Trivandrum International Airports;

(b) if so, the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the construction of the said air bay bridge ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Various alternatives for providing aerobridge at International Terminal Building at Thiruvananthapuram Airport have been formulated and their feasibility studies are being carried out. Moreover, State Government of Kerala through Thiruvananthapuram Airport Development Society (TRIADS) propose to take up the project for construction of a new international terminal on Chakkai Canal side of the Trivandrum International Airport. The proposal includes provision of aerobridge in the Terminal. Since a final decision has not been taken in the matter, no time frame can be given at this stage.

#### **VRS of Air India and Indian Airlines**

1110. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines staff have some criteria for opting VRS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pilots and Engineer seeking VRS have also sought benefit for them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Since both Air India and Indian Airlines are going ahead for disinvestment, Government has felt offering of VRS at this stage to the employees of Air India and Indian Airlines is likely to depress the financial bids of prospective bidders. Government has, therefore, decided that this should be left as a Business policy option for the reconstituted Board of Directors of Air India and Indian Airlines, after the on going disinvestment process is completed. In view of this, there is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government for introduction of VRS in Air India and Indian Airlines.

#### **Rise in Illegal Trade of Wildlife**

1111. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Trade in animal skins rising in capital" as reported in the "Times of India" dated May 28, 2001;

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

(c) whether there has been steep rise in this trade since 1994-95 to till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal trade ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The news item captioned 'Trade in animal skins rising in capital' published in the 'Times of India' on 28.5.2001 mentions that the National Capital is being used by the smugglers for illegal transactions and deals of wildlife and its derivatives. The report states that due to constant vigil along Indo-Nepal border the smugglers have started operating from cities such as Delhi. It has also mentioned that there is an increase in leopard poaching as a substitute for tiger, which is getting rare.

The contention of the news item is confirmed by the investigations made by enforcement agencies. Delhi is a preferred transit point for smuggled wildlife goods because of better chances of deals with foreign buyers going unnoticed.

(c) and (d) There has been an increase in the number of seizures made during recent years. Spurt in the number

of seizures cannot be attributed to the increase in poaching alone. Involvement of specialized enforcement agencies like Central Bureau of Investigation, Customs Department, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Special Task Force of the Uttar Pradesh Govt. has also contributed to the number of seizure cases.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to check the illegal trade are :

#### **(1) Steps taken at the State level :**

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(iii) The Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the four Southern States hold periodical meetings for border area protection and to deal with the problems of poaching and illegal trade.

(iv) Regular Task Force consisting of Police and Forests Officials has been set up to deal with poachers and smugglers.

(v) Anti poaching camps has been established at sensitive places in Southern Indian States.

(vi) The State of Karnataka have set up a Special Forest Cell in the police department consisting 300 personals and headed by an Inspector General of Police to deal with forest offences.

(vii) The Forest protection staff has been provided immunity against arrest in case they open fire on the poachers and smugglers.

#### **(2) Steps taken at National level**

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

- (iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.
- (iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment and Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.
- (vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.
- (vii) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (3) Steps taken at International level**
- (i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- (ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and an MOU has been signed with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
- (iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

#### **Strikes and Lockouts**

1112. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of stikes and lockouts which took place in Gujarat since January, 2000, till date;
- (b) the extent of loss suffered by the employees. Union and State Government, public and owners in each cases, separately;
- (c) the number of mandays lost by Industry and value of production loss;
- (d) the steps taken to avoid such strikes and lockouts;
- (e) the number of workers and employees detained for criminal activities during strikes period; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government against them ?

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

[Translation]

#### **Construction of Sports Complex in Bihar**

1113. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Government of Bihar for construction of sports complex to promote sports in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to provide central assistance to the State Government for construction of these sports complexes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Bihar have submitted a revised proposal on 11.6.2001 for construction of a State Level Sports Complex at Kankarbagh, Patna with estimated cost of Rs. 20.00 crores.

(c) to (e) This project, submitted earlier on 26.12.95 with estimated cost of Rs. 6.73 crore, was approved with admissible central assistance of Rs. 1.86 crore. Central assistance of Rs. 19.29 lakh was also released on 31.3.99. However, Government of Bihar has not utilised this financial assistance so far and has also not refunded the

unutilised grant released for three other sports projects. Accordingly, Government of Bihar has been asked on 23.7.2001 to first refund the unutilised grant and also to submit utilisation certificate/progress report of the State Level Sports Complex, Patna before the revised proposal is considered.

[English]

#### **Inordinate Delay in Super Highways**

1114. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on super highways under the Prime Minister's scheme has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the financing of the construction of these highways is based predominantly on foreign funds inflow;

(d) if so, whether the Enron controversy has affected the attitude of the donors to speedily release the necessary funds for the construction of these highways; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to complete the work on such highways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The National Highways Development Project comprising the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) (connecting the four metros Delhi-Mumbai-Kolkata-Chennai) and North-South and East-West Corridors (Connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari and Porbander to Silchar) is under implementation as per schedule, and no major delay is anticipated in implementing this project. In fact the completion date of the GQ has been preponed from December, 2004 to December, 2003.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Committee on Erosion**

1115. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether high level expert committee set up to study the erosion problem in the critical reaches of Ganges has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The High Level Expert Committee (HLEC) to study erosion problems in critical reaches of Ganga between Buxar and Mokama has submitted its report.

(b) The Committee in its findings has identified the critical areas/sites and suggested a number of short term and long term measures to tackle the problem of erosion caused by river Ganga between Buxar and Mokama. The Committee has stressed upto taking up the morphological studies and hydraulic model studies to know, more precisely, the erosion behaviour of the river and various factors responsible for it. The Committee has further emphasized on people's participation in the flood control and anti erosion works, maintenance of embankments and meeting flood emergencies.

(c) The report has been sent to the concerned State Governments for necessary follow up action on the various recommendations of the Committee.

{Translation}

#### **Foreign Direct Investment in Telecom Sector**

1116. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Direct investment (FDI) in Telecom Sector has gone up;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the number of FDI proposals approved and implemented by the Government during August 1991 to October, 2000; and

(d) the extent to which this inflow of FDI have helped in developing the telecom sector and Telecommunications facilities in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of Foreign Direct Inflow (FDI) in

telecom sector is given in the enclosed Statement. In the first four months of year 2001, the FDI inflow is Rs. 534.6 crores which is higher than the total FDI received in the year 1999 and 2000.

(c) 680 FDI proposals have been approved for the telecom sector during August 1991 to October, 2000. The company who takes the FDI approval is responsible for its implementation. The details of the FDI proposals implemented are not maintained centrally.

(d) Most of the private telecom companies providing Basic, Cellular, VSAT, Internet etc. services have implemented their projects in association with foreign partners who have brought in certain amount of FDI. These private telecom operators have set up their network for providing telecom services in various areas including villages and rural areas covered under geographical areas provided under respective licenses. As reported by Private Basic Telephone operators 547 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided by June 2001.

#### Statement

*Actual Inflow of FDI in Telecom Sector from  
August, 91 to April, 2001*

*(Year Wise)*

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	FDI INFLOW
1993	2.1
1994	14.0
1995	206.7
1996	764.8
1997	1245.2
1998	1775.6
1999	212.7
2000	288.6
2001 (till April, 2001)	534.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>5044.3</b>

*[English]*

#### Purchasing of Small Aircraft for Indian Airlines

1117. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to purchase small aircraft for the Indian Airlines instead of taking the aircraft on lease basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating inter-alia the number of aircraft likely to be purchased;

(c) the financial implications as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which these aircraft are likely to be purchased ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, Alliance Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines, have issued a global tender on 1st July, 2001 for dry lease-in of six ATR 42-500 aircraft. The last date for receipt of tender is 31st July, 2001.

*[Translation]*

#### Telephone Advisory Committee

1118. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms laid down for constituting of Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC);

(b) whether TAC has been constituted in Bihar and Gujarat;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said TACs are likely to be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Nominations to various TACs are made in the prescribed categories by Hon'ble Minister of Communications after considering all the representations and recommendations received from Hon'ble MPs, MLAs, Union Ministers, VIPs, field offices and others.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. At present, 20 (Twenty) Telecom/ Telephone Advisory Committee (TACs) are functioning in Bihar and 18 (Eighteen) TACs are functioning in Gujarat. District-wise details of the TACs in Bihar and Gujarat are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement-II****Statement-I***Bihar*

Sl. No.	Name of TAC	Chairman of TAC	Number of existing members*	Tenure of TAC
1.	BIHAR (CIRCLE)	CGM	103	31.12.2002
2.	Darbhanga	GM	87	31.01.2002
3.	Gaya	GM	48	31.05.2003
4.	Muzaffarpur	GM	106	31.01.2002
5.	Patna (Central)	PGM	95	31.01.2002
6.	Motihari	TDM	74	31.05.2003
7.	Katihar	TDM	61	31.05.2003
8.	Bhagalpur	TDM	28	31.05.2003
9.	Chapra	TDM	60	31.01.2002
10.	Munger	TDM	86	31.01.2002
11.	Saharsa	TDM	69	31.01.2002
12.	Arrah	TDM	52	30.11.2001
13.	Hazipur	TDM	131	31.01.2002
14.	Sasaram	TDM	63	31.05.2002
15.	Khagaria	TDM	65	31.01.2002
16.	Samastipur	TDM	95	31.01.2002
17.	Patna (East)	PGM	96	31.01.2002
18.	Madhubani	GM	72	31.01.2002 (Darbhanga)
19.	Siwan	TDM (Chapra)	89	31.01.2002
20.	Kishanganj	TDM (Katihar)	16	31.05.2003

\* Excluding Hon'ble MPs who are also members of one or the other TAC as per their constituency/option.

**LEGENDS**

CGM	Chief General Manager
PGM	Principal General Manager
GM	General Manager
TDM	Telecom District Manager

*Gujarat*

Sl. No.	Name of TAC	Chairman of TAC	Number of existing members*	Tenure of TAC
1.	GUJARAT (CIRCLE TAC)	CGM	19	30.04.2003
2.	Ahmedabad	PGM	70	30.04.2003
3.	Banaskantha-PLNPUR	GM	15	30.11.2001
4.	Bharuch	GM	11	31.05.2003
5.	Bhavnagar	GM	23	31.05.2003
6.	Jamnagar	GM	14	31.07.2002
7.	Junagarh	GM	26	31.07.2002
8.	Khed (Nadiad)	GM	04	31.04.2003
9.	Kutch - Bhuj	GM	11	31.07.2002
10.	Mehsana	GM	25	31.05.2003
11.	Panchmahal (Godhra)	GM	18	31.12.2002
12.	Rajkot	GM	53	31.03.2003
13.	Sabarkantha (HMT Nagar)	GM	14	31.07.2002
14.	Surat	GM	25	31.05.2003
15.	Surendernagar	GM	06	31.07.2002
16.	Vadodara	GM	46	31.05.2003
17.	Valsad (Bulsad)	GM	27	28.02.2003
18.	AMRELI	GM	29	30.04.2003

\* Excluding Hon'ble MPs who are also members of one or the other TAC as per their constituency/option.

**LEGENDS**

CCM	Chief General Manager
PGM	Principal General Manager
GM	General Manager
TDM	Telecom District Manager
	Telephone Exchanges

1119. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :



(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra as on date;

(b) the number out of them lying out of order for the last one month; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make them functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 209 number of telephone exchanges are functioning in Jalgaon District of Maharashtra as on 30.6.2001

(b) Nil.

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

[English]

#### **Deforestation in Tribal Areas of Orissa**

1120. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to control and prevent massive deforestation in Koraput and Rayagada districts of Orissa, during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : The forest cover of the Country is monitored biennially by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), a Government of India Organisation. As per the latest 'State of Forest Report (1999)' of FSI, published in the year 2000, there has been no change in the forest cover of Koraput as compared to the 1997 assessment. So far as Rayagada is concerned, compared to the 1997 assessment, there has been a slight decline of only 1 sq.km of forest cover in the 1999 assessment.

The Central and State Government have launched afforestation and development programmes in Orissa to cover more land under the forest/tree cover. The Central Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 442.27 lakhs and Rs. 987.32 lakhs for afforestation works and Rs. 118.40 lakhs and Rs. 38.87 lakhs for forest fire prevention and control to the Government of Orissa, during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively. The Central Government has requested the State Government to involve the local forest dwellers in the protection conservation and regeneration of forests. Guidelines on Joint Forest Management have been issued to the State Government in February, 2000 for protecting the forests through involvement of local people. Guidelines for protecting the forest wealth from fires has also been issued by the Central Government in June 2000.

#### **Integrated Communication Policy**

1121. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to evolve an Integrated Communication Policy addressing all the telecom services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) To provide an integrated approach in the communications sector, it is proposed to prepare a new comprehensive statute to replace the Indian Telegraph Act 1885, keeping in view the rapid convergence of telecom, computers, television and electronics. The draft Bill, which is still under finalisation, inter alia envisages the establishment of a single autonomous statutory body to be known as the Communications Commission of India to regulate the carriage and content of communications (including telecommunications, broadcasting and multimedia). According to the present provisions of the draft Bill, the Commission would inter alia be empowered to issue licences or registrations, determine licence and registration fees, tariffs and rates for services, allot spectrum, facilitate competition, protect consumer interests, etc.

[Translation]

#### **Bansagar Inter-State Irrigation Project**

1122. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of work completed in regard to construction of canals under Bansagar Inter-State Irrigation Project in Madhya Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The Bansagar canal system in Madhya Pradesh is being constructed by Government of Madhya Pradesh to utilize its share of water in Bansagar dam and the progress of work, as reported, under this project is as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of Canal	Item of Work	Progress
1	2	3	4
1.	Shihawal Canal	Earth Work Masonry	81% completed 32% completed 6% completed
2.	Purwa Canal	Earth Work	34% completed
3.	Keoti Canal	Earth Work	21% completed

1	2	3	4
4.	Right Bank Canal		Construction work in initial reaches in progress
5.	Bhitari Canal		Work yet to be taken up
6.	Theonthar Lift Canal		Work yet to be taken up
7.	Gurh Mauganj Lift Canal		Work yet to be taken up

(b) The estimated cost of the project at 1991 price level is Rs. 344.66 crores and an expenditure of Rs. 118.29 crores has been incurred up to 10/2000. The cost of balance works as on 10/2000 is stated to be about Rs. 226 crores at 1991 price level. The cost of balance works at current price level would be about Rs. 500 crores. The completion of the project is linked to provision of adequate funds by the State Government.

[English]

#### Externally Aided Irrigation Projects

1123. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total investments involved in each of the externally aided water resources projects in the country;

(b) whether the foreign aid has been fully utilised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/ proposed to be taken to utilise the funds completely ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) At present 20 externally aided water resources projects are under implementation in the country. The details of total investment involved in each of the project and status of utilization of external assistance are indicated in the enclosed statement.

Water being a State subject, water resources projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. External assistance is transferred to the State Governments of India in the form of Additional Central Assistance i.e. 70% loan and 30% grant in case of general States and 90% grant and 10% loan in case of special category States. The State Governments incur the expenditure from their plan funds in the first instance and subsequently receive reimbursement through Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. Some of the projects are lagging behind schedule due to inadequate allocation in the State's plan. Other reasons of under utilization are delay in land acquisition, environmental issues and other administrative reasons.

The progress of externally aided projects is monitored by the Government of India, donor agencies and concerned State Governments. The implementing agencies are impressed upon at the apex level to accelerate the project implementation for utilization of assistance to the full extent.

#### Statement

S. No.	State	Name of the Project	Donor Agency	Date of signing of agreement/ completion	Total Cost of the project (Rs.Crores)	Amount of Assistance Million	Utilization on 31.5.2001 Million	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) AP-III Irrigation Project	World Bank	03.06.1997 31.01.2003	203.956	US\$ 325.00	US\$ 113.966	Ongoing
		(ii) Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation Component)	World Bank	03.01.1999 31.3.2004	1115.085	US\$ 170.00	US\$ 53.200	Ongoing
		(iii) Modernization of KC Canal Project	JBIC Japan	25.01.1996 26.3.2003	1033.74	Yen 16049.00	Yen 3276.470	Ongoing
		(iv) APWELL Irrigation Project	Netherlands	14.11.1994 14.11.2002	73.00	NLG 26.847	NLG 12.282	Ongoing

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Gujarat	(v) Hydroplus Fusegate System	France	10.12.1998 31.12.2001	40.28	FF 34.74	FF 31.700	Ongoing
3.	Haryana	(vi) Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	World Bank	06.04.1994 31.12.2001	1432.998	US\$ 209.700	US\$ 185.492	Ongoing
4.	Kerala	(vii) Community Irrigation Project	Netherlands	15.12.1993 30.6.2000	16.32	NLG 2.328	NLG 2.149	Extension of the project pending with donor agency
		(viii) Kerala Minor Irrigation Project	EEC	21.05.1992 31.12.2001	60.00	ECU 11.80	ECU 3.390 M	Ongoing
5.	Maharashtra	(ix) Maharashtra Minor Irrigation Project	Kfw-Germany	31.12.1998 31.12.2006	115.79	DM 45.00	DM 0.467	Ongoing
		(x) Saline Land Reclamation Project-II	EEC	11.7.1995 31.12.2005	79.02	ECU 15.5	ECU 0.00	Ongoing
6.	Madhya Pradesh	(xi) Rajghat Canal Project	JBIC Japan	25.02.1997 31.03.2002	523.41	Yen 13222.00	Yen 3108.700	Ongoing
7.	Manipur	(xii) Ground Water Exploration Project	France	23.11.1998 31.12.2001	2.94	FF 4.53	FF 4.621	Ongoing
8.	Orissa	(xiii) Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	World Bank	05.01.1996 30.09.2002	1395.29	US\$ 290.90	US\$ 154.596	Ongoing
		(xiv) Rengali Irrigation Project	JBIC Japan	12.12.1997 05.02.2003	510.90	Yen 7760.00	Yen 3065.30	Ongoing
		(xv) Lift Irrigation Project	Kfw Germany	19.02.1993 31.12.2000	119.55	DM 50.00	DM 40.57	Ongoing
		(xvi) Orissa Minor Irrigation Project	EEC	03.07.1995 31.12.2004	50.80	ECU 10.70	ECU 1.108	Ongoing
9.	Pondicherry	(xvii) Modernisation of Tank Irrigation System	EEC	21.02.1997 31.12.2004	32.84	ECU 6.65	ECU 0.72	Ongoing
10.	Rajasthan	(xviii) Sidhmukh and Nahar Irrigation Project	EEC	07.06.1993 31.12.2001	186.00	ECU 45.00	ECU 34.229	Ongoing
11.	Tamil Nadu	(xix) Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	World Bank	22.09.1995 31.03.2002	905.00	US\$ 282.90	US\$ 125.831	Ongoing
12.	Multi-State	(xx) Hydrology Project	World Bank	22.09.1995 31.03.2002	600.08	US\$ 122.4	US\$ 58.120	Ongoing

[Translation]

**Widening/Expansion/Repair of National Highways in Gujarat**

1124. SHRIMANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Highways in Gujarat in respect of which widening/expansion and repair work has been started since February 1997 and continuing till date;

(b) the time by which the above work in respect of the rest of the National Highways passing through Gujarat is likely to be started; and

(c) the amount estimated to be spent on these works and the amount actually spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) There is no National Highway in Gujarat in respect of which widening/expansion and repair work has been started since February 1997 and continuing till date;

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

**International Airport at Port Blair**

1125. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up an International Airport at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands the place of tourist attraction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave at Port Blair airport. AAI has recently constructed a new terminal building to cater for 400 passengers at the cost of 19.83 crores. The work for extension of runway to 11,000 feet by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is in progress and is likely to be completed by March, 2002. These facilities are considered adequate to cater to the traffic demand expected.

[Translation]

**Telephone Connections**

1126. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Delhi and Mumbai are making publicity of providing telephone connection within 7 days;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that O.B. issued for shifting/installation of telephones continue to lie in Delhi for 15 to 30 days; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken against the persons responsible for violating instructions of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) MTNL, Delhi is committed to provide telephone connection within 7 days in certain areas for a limited period of time.

(c) In all the technically feasible areas the shifting/installations are generally carried out within the prescribed limit of 15 days. It takes longer time in technically non feasible areas.

(d) Departmental action is taken against the persons found responsible for deliberate delay in provisioning/shifting of telephones.

**Shortage of Cable**

1127. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of Cable and SDPE pipe etc. in laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in the country;

(b) if so, the details of demand and supply in each State as on date; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to fulfil the requirement ?

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

(b) State-wise demand/allotment of optical fibre cable and HDPE pipe is given in Statement-I and supply status is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(c) Procurement of Optical Fibre Cable through tender is under process for the year 2001-2002. For procurement of HDPE Pipe, orders are placed on suppliers at DGS&D rate contracts by the Telecom Circles.

**Statement-I**

*Demand/Allotment of Optical Fibre Cable and HDPE Pipe for the Year 2002-2002*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	OFC (in Km.)	HDPE. Pipe (in Km.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6500	2879
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	130	150
3.	Assam	643	372
4.	Bihar	4224	4924
5.	Jharkhand	1275	1172
6.	Gujarat	7000	12459
7.	Haryana	1651	1250
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1835	2100
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	900	668
10.	Karnataka	6990	7342
11.	Kerala	1600	1600
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8588	11283
13.	Chhatisgarh	3360	3360
14.	Maharashtra, Goa	11500	12974
15.	North East-I (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura)	555	733
16.	North East-II (Arunachal, Manipur and Nagaland)	295	225
17.	Orissa	3050	3040
18.	Punjab	4186	4197
19.	Rajasthan	9750	12886
20.	Tamil Nadu	4000	700
21.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	12400	13799
22.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	1990	2220
23.	Uttranchal	1150	950
24.	West Bengal, Sikkim	4800	1657
25.	Chennai TD	700	350
26.	Kolkata TD	694	350
<b>Total</b>		<b>99766</b>	<b>103640</b>

*# In addition to above, following allotment was given to Project Circles for inter-state/circle long distance network :*

Eastern Telecom Projects	3500	4000
Northern Telecom Project	5000	8000
Western Telecom Project	5820	7500
Southern Telecom Project	7000	8500
NE Task Force	364	364

**Statement-II**

*Supply Status of Optical Fibre Cable and HDPE Pipe for the Year 2001-2002*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	OFC (in Km.)	HDPE. Pipe (in Km.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	975	2800
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0
3.	Assam	0	236
4.	Bihar	700	305
5.	Jharkhand	0	702
6.	Gujarat	8196	5809
7.	Haryana	350	231
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
10.	Karnataka	1355	2995
11.	Kerala	0	454
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0	4007
13.	Chattisgarh	0	0
14.	Maharashtra, Goa	1124	279
15.	North East-I (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura)	0	487
16.	North East-II (Arunachal, Manipur and Nagaland)	0	0
17.	Orissa	100	1047
18.	Punjab	200	376

1	2	3	4
19. Rajasthan		0	3952
20. Tamil Nadu		300	894
21. Uttar Pradesh (E)		3250	4420
22. Uttar Pradesh (W)		0	0
23. Uttranachal		0	0
24. West Bengal, Sikkim		200	0
25. Chennai TD		0	0
26. Kolkata TD		0	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>16750</b>	<b>31776</b>

# In addition to above, following supply was made to Project Circles for inter-state/circle long distance network :

Eastern Telecom Projects	0	2751
Northern Telecom Project	0	5886
Western Telecom Project	500	1249
Southern Telecom Project	274	2056
NE Task Force	0	0

#### **Dilapidated Condition of National Highways**

1128. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the dilapidated condition of National Highways in the country particularly in Rajasthan;

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

(c) the total expenditure incurred during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether tourists are not attracted to visit the States as a result thereof;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to issue 'Road Package' in the country particularly in Rajasthan for this purpose;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL

(RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The National Highways in the country including those in Rajasthan are generally being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources except sections of National Highways affected by recent rains/floods and few sections of newly declared National Highways which may be needing some attention.

(c) The total expenditure incurred during the last three years, State-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

#### *Expenditure on Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways*

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UTs	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8094.01	10377.58	16652.42
2.	Assam	3800.32	5837.96	8626.76
3.	Bihar	6575.57	15232.67	11900.44
4.	Chandigarh	116.22	192.23	167.32
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	1357.05
6.	Delhi	1435.36	689.23	337.67
7.	Goa	1789.62	2718.83	2700.12
8.	Gujarat	9798.78	12449.89	11234.37
9.	Haryana	7873.52	4730.66	6847.24
10.	Himachal Pr.	4756.01	5931.16	7240.35
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.66	24.90	135.01
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	1960.59
13.	Karnataka	6345.87	13499.17	13076.16
14.	Kerala	10666.26	13209.01	7476.94
15.	Madhya Pradesh	11095.54	8486.68	14356.15
16.	Maharashtra	16046.41	20022.25	16977.06
17.	Manipur	1193.58	1479.50	1222.93
18.	Meghalaya	1531.53	2187.45	2437.89
19.	Mizoram	0.00	821.31	1747.93

1	2	3	4	5
20. Nagaland		593.77	1907.80	1847.69
21. Orissa		11911.75	10145.55	10540.93
22. Pondicherry		104.36	433.54	269.85
23. Punjab		9089.93	1657.78	4114.56
24. Rajasthan		7657.70	11195.06	12713.36
25. Tamil Nadu		7222.60	18906.00	14836.40
26. Tripura		0.00	24.00	0.00
27. Uttar Pradesh		16729.39	20290.67	21078.15
28. Uttranchal		0.00	0.00	533.07
29. West Bengal		11124.23	10255.94	11376.65

**Cleaning of Ganga between  
Kanpur and Allahabad**

1129. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the river Ganga has become highly polluted between Kanpur and Allahabad;

(b) if, so, the steps taken by the Government to clean the same;

(c) the amount of money spent on cleaning the Ganga river between Kanpur and Allahabad along with the details of heads under which the money has been spent;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities being committed in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The stretch of river Ganga between Kanpur and Allahabad is polluted due to discharge of municipal sewage and industrial wastewater into the river. The Government is implementing Ganga Action Plan in various towns, including Kanpur and Allahabad for prevention of pollution of river Ganga. The works taken up under the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) include interception, diversion and treatment of wastewater flowing into the river, low cost sanitation, crematoria, river front facilities and other related works. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the environmental laws. While works of GAP Phase-I in both the towns are already complete, works under GAP Phase-II are under implementation.

(c) The details of money spent head-wise till June, 2001 for pollution abatement of river Ganga at Kanpur and Allahabad is as follows :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Town	Sewerage schemes	Sewage Treatment Plant	Low Cost Sanitation	Crematoria	River Front Facilities	Others	Total
<b>Ganga Action Plan Phase-I</b>							
Kanpur	1326.23	5182.23	257.88	77.22	—	353.98	7197.54
Allahabad	800.22	1670.62	174.21	47.11	209.91	120.27	3022.34
<b>Ganga Action Plan Phase-II</b>							
Kanpur	1220.14	151.26	147.59	—	—	779.77	2298.76
Allahabad	491.96	—	—	—	—	—	491.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>3838.55</b>	<b>7004.11</b>	<b>579.68</b>	<b>124.33</b>	<b>209.91</b>	<b>1254.02</b>	<b>13010.60</b>

(d) Government have not received any complaint regarding irregularity in the implementation of Ganga Action Plan.

(e) Does not arise.

**Bhaisajhal Water Reservoir Project  
of Chhattisgarh**

1130. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded its approval to construct Bhaisajhal Water Reservoir Project in Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the said project is likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) and (b) No proposal of Bhaishajhal Water Reservoir Project has been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. However, Arpa Project near Bhaishajhal in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh was approved by the Planning Commission in 1979 for Rs. 32.13 crore. The modified revised estimate costing Rs. 265.71 crore was received in Central Water Commission in September 1992. The same was examined and comments for compliance were sent to the State Government. The State Government is yet to submit modified report to Central Water Commission.

(c) Clearance of projects depends inter-alia upon the promptness of compliance of the observations of various central appraising agencies by the State Governments.

[English]

#### Revision of Pension

1131. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Pensioner' Union, Kerala has submitted a memorandum to the Union Government regarding revision of pension and some other demands of the pensioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) The Association had demanded that the pensioner be paid either half the amount of the salary or Rs. 2500/- at the time of retirement, periodic DA increase based on the cost of living indices as applied in the case of industrial workers, the total service put in be the pensioner as well as the last salary drawn by taken into consideration for fixation of pensionary benefits, one month's pension be paid as medical allowance every year and payment of festival allowance.

Minimum pension depends on solvency of the fund and actuarial calculation. Any increase in the minimum pension is linked with annual valuation of the Pension Fund results.

Pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is not linked with dearness allowance based on cost of living index. However, there is a provision in the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 for annual valuation of the Employees Pension Fund. In the last 3 evaluations for the period 16.11.1995 to 15.11.1996, 16.11.1996 to 31.3.1998

and 1.4.98 to 31.3.1999 relief have been granted at the rate of 4%, 5.5% and 4% respectively.

The total membership period under Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 as well as Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are considered for the eligibility period for pensionary benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. The amount of pension is the aggregate of pension calculated on account of past service and the pensionable service.

There is no provision in the Employees' Pension Scheme to grant festival allowance and medical allowance.

#### Telephone Connections in Villages

1132. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target schedule of providing telephone connections to all the villages in the country has suffered a set back;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken to achieve the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Government is committed to provide telephone facility in all the villages of the country by 2002. Total 410,422 out of 607,491 villages have already been provided with telephone facility upto 30.6.2001. VPT target of BSNL for the current year is 143,255. The balance VPTs are to be provided by the Private basic service providers.

To achieve this target, Wireless in local Loop (WLL) system is being inducted on a large scale into the rural network. Orders have been issued for procurement of 600 K lines of WLL system for the current financial year. Supply of equipment has already commenced.

#### Instrument Landing System Category-III

1133. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian pilots are not trained for operating Instrument Landing System (ILS) Category-III.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing aircraft are also not equipped to land under Category-III.

(d) the quantum of money spent on installing ILS Category-III;



(e) the details of airports which do not have ILS Category-II; and

(f) the steps taken to impart training to our pilots to land under Category-III and to upgrade aircrafts accordingly ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) At present, pilots of Air India, Indian Airlines and Jet Airways have been approved for Instrument Landing System (ILS) Category-II operations to/from IGI Airport, Delhi. Approval for ILS Cat. III operations will be granted after the pilots complete necessary training and acquire experience as stipulated by the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(c) Airbus A-300 B.2/B.4 aircraft operated by Indian Airlines, Boeing 737-200 aircraft operated by Alliance Air, Boeing 737-400/700/800 aircraft operated by Sahara India Airlines and Boeing 747-200/300 and Airbus 300 aircraft operated by Air India are not approved for ILS Cat. III operations.

(d) An amount of Rs. 50 crores approx. has been spent in installation and operationalisation of ILS Cat. III A system at IGI Airport, Delhi. It also includes recarpeting of the runway.

(e) None of the airports are equipped with ILS Category-II. at present.

(f) Steps are taken by the airlines in training their pilots and to upgrade their aircraft as per the requirements laid down by the DGCA. The new aircraft are generally equipped to land under Cat-III ILS.

[Translation]

**Inclusion of Kabbaddi/Kho-Kho  
in Olympic**

1134. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are making any efforts to get Indian sports like-Kabbadi and Kho-Kho included in the coming Olympic; and

*The details of wild animals given and received as diplomatic gift by Government of India during last 3 years are as below :-*

Sl. No.	Year of approval	Name of the Dignitary who presented Diplomatic Gift	Name of the Donor Zoo	Animal Given (Male:Female)	Recipient Zoo and Country
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	1998-1999	President of India	Nandankanan Zoo, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	Elephant (0:1)	Lzmir Zoo, Turkey

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Diplomatic Gifts of Precious and  
Endangered Wildlife**

1135. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

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

(a) whether giving of diplomatic gifts of precious and endangered wildlife to other countries has been on the rise.

(b) if so, the number of such gifts given to other countries and also received from them during the last three years indicating the names of protected/endangered animals and countries;

(c) the rationale behind such a policy/practice; and

(d) the steps proposed to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) India has from time to time been giving diplomatic gifts to wild animals to foreign countries as goodwill gesture. The main purpose of such gifts is bringing education and awareness about the wild animals of India among the people of recipient country. International Union for Conservation of Nature also recognises the inevitability of such gifts and has issued detailed guidelines on the subject which are strictly adhered to. Gifting wild animals does not affect the conservation of the species as no animal is captured from the wild for the purpose of diplomatic gift. Even rescued animals from wild, received in zoos are treated as invaluable genetic resources and not allowed for export/gift. Captive animals of rare category are also not given as diplomatic gift.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	1999-2000	Defence Minister, Govt. of India Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati National Zoological Park	Elephant (0:1) Peafowls (2:2)	Uneo Zoo, Japan National Zoo, Dhaka
3.	2000-2001	Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India	M.C. Zoological Park, Chhatbir, Punjab	Bengal Tiger (1:1)	Tripoli Zoo, Libya

Sl. No.	Year of approval	Name of the Foreign Zoo/ Foreign Dignitary	Animals Given	Name of the Recipient Indian Zoo
1.	1998-99	President of Zimbabwe	African Elephant (1:1)	Delhi Zoo

### Production of Aluminium at NALCO

1136. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the installed capacity of production of Aluminium of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO);

(b) the extent of capacity utilised during the last three years;

(c) the target of production of aluminium fixed and achieved by NALCO during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken by NALCO to increase its production and export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c) The installed capacity, capacity utilization, target of production fixed and achieved of aluminium of NALCO during the last three years are as under :-

(figures in Metric Tonnes)

Year	Installed capacity	Target	Production (utilisation capacity)
1998-99	2,30,000	2,18,000	1,46,206 (63.56%)
1999-2000	2,30,000	2,18,000	2,12,663 (92.46%)
2000-2001	2,30,000	2,18,000	2,30,516 (100.22%)

(d) In order to increase its production and export, NALCO is presently implementing its expansion programme which will increase its metal production capacity from 2,30,000 to 3,45,000 Metric Tonnes. The project is to be completed by May, 2002. The export of Aluminium has increased in the year 2000-2001 to 1,18,869 MT from 95,185 MT in the year 1999-2000.

### Direct Telephone Facility

1137. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the recent policy direct telephone link facilities are now being provided to the cities within the range of 200 Kms.

(b) if so, whether the said facility is available between Kosi-Mathura and Agra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As per policy Direct Dailing facility without "0" has been introduced upto 200 Kms for intra circle calls and calls between Delhi SDCA and SDCAs located in NCR.

(b) Yes, Sir. Direct Dailing facility without "0" is available between Kosi-Mathura and Agra.

(c) The details are as under :-

	For Calls	Dailing Procedure
(i)	From Kosi to Agra	95 + Area of code of Agra + Subscriber No.
(ii)	From Mathura to Agra	-Do-
(iii)	From Agra to Kosi	95 + Area code of Kosi + Subscriber No.
(iv)	From Agra to Mathura	95 + Area code of Mathura + Subscriber No.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

### Manufacturing of Cricket Bats

1138. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kashmir Willow is one of the most demanded wood in manufacturing of Cricket bats;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote the manufacture of International quality of bats in Kashmir;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to actualize this potential in collaboration with the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Recovery of Outstanding Dues

1139. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that rental fees and non-billing licence fees are not being recovered by Secondary Switching Areas (SSAs) of Telecommunication circles;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to light during the last three years;

(c) the losses suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to recover the outstanding fees from EPABX/PAX/PCO/ISD/STD subscribers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. In some Circles rental in a few cases was not recovered. Licence fee is recovered by DOT Hqrs., but the SSAs.

(b) Details are given below :

No. of cases in MTNL	874
No. of cases in BSNL	6333
Total	7207

(c) The amount in the above cases was :

MTNL	Rs. 48,39,831
BSNL	Rs. 7.10 Crores

However, the whole amount is likely to be recovered. As such, there is no actual loss to the Government.

(d) The following steps have been initiated in this regard :

(i) The Telephones of defaulters are promptly disconnected and the other telephones of the party are also identified for disconnection to ensure recovery of outstanding dues, wherever required.

(ii) Targets are fixed twice a year for all field units to liquidated outstandings and performance monitored against the same.

(iii) Good incentives have recently been declared for staff for the early recovery of outstandings.

(iv) High Power Committees and liquidation boards have been set up in the field for early liquidation of arrears.

(v) The collection efficiency of each Circle is monitored by the Corporate Office of BSNL/MTNL every month.

### Diversion of National Highway-2

1140. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 4 laning work on National Highway-2 at Panagarh in West Bengal has been diverted to bypass the original one;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the additional expenditure incurred therein;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations against the said diversion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(b) The existing route through Panagarh Bazar is congested and 4-laning with service road long the existing alignment would have involved acquisition of land and structures. As the title of the properties was difficult to verify, this would have invited litigation and delay. The cost of constructing the bypass is Rs. 45 crore.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Representations were received that the widening be done through the Bazar area. In one case suggestion was made to construct a bypass through DVC/ Government Lands if widening was not possible through the Bazar area.

(c) It has been decided to bypass the congested Panagarh Bazar to facilitate traffic flow as 4-laning with service road through Bazar area is not possible

#### **Expansion of Runway of Tirupati, Vijayawada Airports**

1141. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) has acquired additional land for the expansion of runway for operation of big aircraft at Tirupati and Vijayawada airports in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target date fixed for the completion of works at these airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Government of Andhra Pradesh has handed over approximately 69 acres of land at Vijayawada and 58 acres of land at Tirupati to Airports Authority of India.

(c) At Tirupati airport, the work of extension of runway from 6000 ft. to 7500 ft. has already been completed. At Vijayawada airport, the existing runway has been strengthened and a new apron constructed with linked taxiway for operation of B-737 class of aircraft.

#### **Fast Track Highways as Part of NHDP**

1142. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted any proposal relating to a fast track highway from Parassala (South Border) to Thalapady (North Gorden) as part of National Highways Development Project (NHDP); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) State Government of Kerala has been making request for inclusion of the said stretch in NHDP.

(b) It has not been possible to accede to the State Government's request to include the proposed National Highways as the route for NHDP was already finalised keeping in view a number of factors such as areas and population to be served, traffic on the routes, optimum length of construction etc. Moreover, a length of 160 Km. of Salem—Cochin Spur passing through the State of Kerala is already included in NHDP.

#### **Silchore—Saurashtra Express Highway Project**

1143. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the Silchore—Saurashtra Express Highway project;

(b) whether the project was suffered due to non-availability of funds;

(c) if so, whether the Government have allocated some funds for speedier completion of the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) A total length of 106 Km. has been taken up on the Silchore—Porbandar East-West Corridor in the States of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Assam, of which a length of 10 Km. in Gujarat has been completed. The balance sections have to be taken up in a phased manner.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### **Thalassery Mahe By-Pass**

1144. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of Thalassery Mahe By-pass land acquisition; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The length of the proposed Thalassery Mahe By-pass is about 18.03 Km. The land acquisition has been taken up in phases. The land acquisition is complete in 7.14 Km. and in progress in 2.602 Km.

[Translation]

**Grant for Uttaranchal from C.R.F.**

1145. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide grants to Uttaranchal from Central Road Fund for improving the condition of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the State Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 11.02 crores was allotted to the State Government of Uttaranchal from Central Road Fund (CRF) for works on State roads during the year 2000-2001 out of which an amount of Rs. 3.67 crore has already been released. Further funds will be released on receipt of the utilisation certificate.

(c) The scheme will augment the financial resources of the State Government for improvement of State roads.

**Pending Irrigation Projects**

1146. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Maharashtra and other States during the last three years;

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

(c) the time since when the proposals are lying pending with Union Government;

(d) the reasons for delay in giving clearance to these proposals; and

(e) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The Central Water Commission has received 35 proposals from various States including Maharashtra, related to major irrigation projects for techno-economic appraisal during the last three years. The State-wise/year-wise details of these projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) Clearance of project depends inter-alia upon the promptness of compliance of the observations of various central appraising agencies by the State Governments.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of Projects	Name of State	Date of Receipt	Category
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Vamsadhara Phase-I of Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	11/99	B
2.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	11/2000	A
3.	Kalwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	11/2000	A
4.	Punpun Barrage	Bihar	5/2000	A
5.	Upper Mahananda Irrigation Scheme	Bihar	5/2001	A
6.	Rewari Irrigation Scheme Stage-II	Haryana	5/99	C
7.	Kanhar Reservoir Project	Jharkhand	11/98	A
8.	North Keol Reservoir	Jharkhand	5/99	A
9.	Konar Irrigation	Jharkhand	7/99	B
10.	Singatalur (Huligudda) Lift Irrigation Scheme	Karnataka	7/98	A
11.	Halon Irrigation Project	Madhya Pradesh	1/2000	A
12.	Madhya Pradesh WRC Project	Madhya Pradesh	1/2000	C
13.	Tarali	Maharashtra	7/98	C

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Uramodi	Maharashtra	11/98	C
15.	Niradeoghar	Maharashtra	1/86 2/99	C
16.	Bhama Askhed	Maharashtra	3/99	C
17.	Sinakolegaon	Maharashtra	10/99	C
18.	Dhom Balkwadi Tunnel Project	Maharashtra	3/2000	C
19.	Temghar Multipurpose Project	Maharashtra	8/2000	C
20.	Upper Indravati Extension Project – ERM	Orissa	9/98	B
21.	Upper Kolab Extension Project	Orissa	9/98	B
22.	Improvement to Taladanda Canal and Distributory No. 12 with its system – ERM	Orissa	9/99	A
23.	Improvement of Sason Canal System on Hirakud Distribution System – ERM	Orissa	1/2000	B
24.	Drainage Dev. Phase-I under Mahanadi Delta Stage I and II	Orissa	2/2000	A
25.	Anandpur Barrage Project	Orissa	1/2001	B
26.	Kandi Canal Extension from Hoshiarpur to Balachaur-ERM	Punjab	9/98	B
27.	Raising Lining of Bhakara Main Canal ERM	Punjab	6/99	B
28.	Shahpurkhandi Dam Project (Ravi Project Unit V)	Punjab	2/2000	A
29.	Sri Dashmesh Irrigation Project	Punjab	2/2001	A
30.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project-ERM	Rajasthan	1/2001	B
31.	Indira Lift Irrigation Project	Rajasthan	11/2001	C
32.	Modernisation of Agra (Canal-ERM)	Uttar Pradesh	8/98	B
33.	Kanhar Irrigation	Uttar Pradesh	6/99	A
34.	Eastern Yamuna (Hathnikund) Link Channel)	Uttar Pradesh	9/99	B
35.	Kachnoda Dam	Uttar Pradesh	11/2000	A

A = Under Correspondence

B = Accepted by TAC subject to observations

C = Sent back to State Government

*English]*

**Cellular Telephone Service**

1147. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cities in Andhra Pradesh where cellular/mobile telephone service based on C-DoT Technology provided as on date;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide mobile services in 84 towns of the State by March 2002; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Nil.

(b) Yes, Sir. It is expected that the network will roll out progressively in the last quarter of 2001-02.

(c) Tenders for wider introduction of cellular services including Andhra Pradesh; invited in January – 2001, are presently under evaluation.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of Telegraph Services in Jharkhand**

1148. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any initiatives for modernisation of telegraph services in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any budget allocation has been made during the current year for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) Telegraph services have been modernised in Jharkhand to some extent. Ports have been provided in telegraph offices from the network of Microprocessor based Store and Forward Message Switching (SFMS) Systems, for quick transmission of telegrams.

(c) and (d) No separate budget allocations have been made. However, the demands for such programmes are met in the developmental funds allotted for Telex and Telegraph works in the year.

(e) Modernisation is an ongoing process and it is being done on need basis.

[English]

#### **Rise in Ground Water Level at Jodhpur**

1149. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the sudden rise in ground water level at Jodhpur and its adjoining areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the rise in the ground water level at Jodhpur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, the Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Jodhpur, the Central Ground Water Board and the Ground Water Department of Rajasthan Government have taken up study to find out reasons for rise in the water table in the city.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government to take steps to remedy the situation.

#### **Assistance for Construction of Sports Premises in Karnataka**

1050. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for financial assistance for construction of Hockey, Basketball, Tennis Courts and Swimming Pool by Socio-Economic and Cultural Association, Bijapur in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the proposal;

(c) if not the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which this proposal is likely to be considered and funds released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As the proposal was not submitted through the State Government, the Association was advised on 12.6.2001 to send us the proposal accordingly for one project at a time, in order of priority. The revised proposal has not yet been received.

[Translation]

#### **Infrastructural Facilities in Bihar**

1151. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide infrastructure for the development of communications and to promote distance education in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes Sir, there is a proposal to provide infrastructure for the development of telecommunications in Bihar by BSNL which could also be used for promoting distance education.

(b) The details to provide infrastructure for the development of telecommunications are as under please.

(i) Opening of 110 nos. of new small rural exchanges.

(ii) Expansion of the capacity of the existing exchanges by 140800 lines.

(iii) Providing 170000 new telephone connections.

(iv) Providing reliable media and upgrading the media by laying additional 4000 Route Km. of Optical Fibre Cable.

(v) Providing WLL facilities to all the 21159 uncovered villages for opening new VPTs, replacing faulty MARR VPTs and providing telephone lines to needy persons.

(vi) Opening of Internet Nodes at district H/Q and Internet Dhabas at block head quarters.

(vii) Providing mobile telephone services in Bihar.

[English]

#### **Outstanding Dues**

1152.DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain companies which have defaulted to pay licence fees have been allowed to bid for further cellular licence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Sir, there is no restriction at the stage of bidding for further cellular licence by a defaulting company. However, successful bidder company shall furnish, before signing the licence agreement, "No Dues Certificate" from Department

of Telecommunications in respect of all payments arising out of any licence granted under Section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (including Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933) to the successful bidder company or any promoter/partner or associate/sister concern thereof.

#### **National Highways Development Projects**

1153.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are facing problems in timely completion of National Highways development projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have introduced a bonus and penalty clause in contracts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for inclusion of such clause in the contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) For bonus an amount equivalent to 1% of contract value per month of early completion becomes payable to contractor subject to a maximum of 6%. For delay in completion, an amount equivalent to 1/2000 of the contract value becomes recoverable from contractors for each day of delay, (i.e. about 1.5% per month) subject to a maximum of 10% of contract value.

(e) The bonus and penalty clauses have been included in the contracts to ensure completion of the projects well in time.

#### **Misuse of Special Facilities**

1154.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some companies are misusing special facilities like DID PABX network which is meant for limited use in high rise building in many cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether any inquiry committee was set up by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in this regard;



(d) if so, the names of cities where such misuse was found; and

(e) the action taken/being taken against those companies and to prevent such tendencies in future ?

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

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Performance of Indian Airlines**

1155. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the performance of Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Airlines has been able to make up its losses during last three years;

(c) if so, whether any prospective plan has been formulated for the better performance of Indian Airlines during 2001-2002;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which Indian Airlines is expected to come out of red ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The following measures have been taken to further improve the performance of Indian Airlines :-

- \* Adoption of a policy of flexible fares on its domestic network w.e.f. 25th May, 2001. Under the Flexi-fares, fixation of fares will be based on seasonality, competition, timing of flight and other demand and supply variables. This is expected to improve revenue earnings of the Company due to higher capacity utilization and better yields.
- \* Strict Budgetary Control with all the major items of expenditure are subject to cost benefit analysis, operational and commercial expediency, financial sanctions etc.
- \* Better Fleet Utilisation; Improvement in the productivity of Pilots, Aircraft Engineers, Minimizing the ground turn round time, Night flight on certain domestic sectors, Increased International operations, Better scheduling of

aircraft and route planning, Capacity deployment alignment with market requirements etc.

- \* Improvement in the quality of product; Improvement in On-time performance, general improvement and upgradation of services to the users etc.

- \* Marketing initiatives; Code sharing with the foreign airlines, High level of participation in Computerised Reservation System, Various promotional schemes including corporate incentives etc.

- \* Cost control measures, Control of overtime, casual labour, hotel/travel expenditure, crew lay over expenditure, freeze on recruitment, unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons, Fuel monitoring and tankering; control on aircraft maintenance, Reduction in publicity and sales promotional expenditure, Review of uneconomic flights, Inventory management, Outsourcing of services to the extent feasible etc.

(b) The Company had earned profit during the financial years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 as indicated below :

Year	Net profit (Before Tax) (Rs. crores)
1997-98	47.27
1998-99	14.17
1999-2000	51.42

The Revenue and Expenditure Budget of the Company for the year 2000-01 prepared and approved in December, 1999, projected a net profit of Rs. 28.75 crores at the then prevailing input prices. Subsequent to the Budget approval in December 1999, there was steep rise in ATF prices and other input costs, which brought an additional financial burden of over Rs. 300 crores on the Company. As a result, the Revised Estimates (RE) for the year 2000-01 reflect a loss of Rs. 177.25 crores. The Annual Accounts for the year are presently under audit.

Had the above cost escalations not taken place, the Company would have ended the financial year 2000-01 with a profit higher than the budgeted profit of Rs. 28.75 crores.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The perspective plan formulated by Indian Airlines for the year 2001-2002 includes product upgrades like enhanced facilities to the passengers in the existing computerized check-in system and various marketing initiatives such as holiday packages, Complimentary

Drop facility for Executive Class passengers, Call centres etc.

(e) The flexi-fares policy adopted by the Company coupled with various other measures, would enable it to further improve performance and profitability. In the first two months of the current financial year i.e. April and May, 2001, the Company has made a net loss of Rs. 32.70 crores as against the budgeted net loss of Rs. 35.09 crores.

#### **Private Basic Telephone Operators**

1156. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether private Basic Telephone Operators are submitting their claims to the Government;

(b) if so, the names of the companies which have submitted such claims;

(c) whether these companies may siphon off the funds meant for rural telephones; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) None of the Private Basic Telephone Operators have so far submitted any claims to the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Awards to Youths**

1157. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given awards to some youth for their outstanding activities every year;

(b) if so, the details of the awards given to such youths during 2000-2001, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the facts that many youths are awarded such award without being recommended by their respective State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for avoiding the recommendations of the State Governments in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Youth Awards is given for demonstrably excellent youth work in different fields of development activities and social service.

One Youth award is also given to a voluntary youth organisation engaged in various National development programmes, every year.

(b) The requisite details of the awards given to such youth and voluntary organisations during 2000-2001, State-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) Ordinarily, and as provided in the Code of Procedure, nominations for the National Youth Awards are considered after these are recommended by a District Level Committee headed by the District Collector and by a State Level Committee headed by the Chairman of the State Youth Board/Secretary in-charge of Youth Affairs. However, the Code of Procedure for the Awards also provides that the Selection Committee at different levels may, at their discretion, consider, on merits, individuals or youth organisations not recommended by any body but considered suitable by the Selection Committee.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise details of 51 National Youth Awardees for the year 2000-2001*

S. Nos.	Name of the States/UTs	Names and addresses of National Youth Awardees
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Shri Nanduri Ramesh, S.S., VPO Manchili, Atili Mandal, West Godavri District, A.P.
2.		Shri S. Venugopal, H.No. 5-5-55, Lashkar Bazar, Hanamkonda, Dist. Warangal, A.P.
3.		Ms. Bhanumathi Panday, 22-1-6, Matham Street, Veerabhadram, Rajamundry, East Godavari, Dist. A.P.
4.		Shri G. Rajkumar, H.No. 4-7-78, Makret Road, Kumarpally, Warangal, A.P.
5.		Shri. B. Gangadhara, C/o YMCA, P.O. Beluguppa, Dist. Anantpur, A.P.
6.	Assam	Shri. Pragjyoti Gogoi, V.P.O. Hathigarh, Dist. Dhemaji, Assam
7.	Bihar	Shri Jaiprakash Meheta, V.P.O. Phulwariya, Via Domchanch, Dist. Koderma, Bihar.

1	2	3	1	2	3
8.	Gujarat	Shri Ghanshyam Patel, PO Ambapur, Dist. Gandhinagar, Gujarat.	22.		Shri Hanumant Kishore Shukla, Pawar Kothi, Near GR Medical Collage, Lashkar, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
9.		Md. Ashraf Patel, Baluji-namuvada, Near Panam Dam, Tal-Shahera, Dist. Panchmahal, Gujarat.	23.		Shri Vibhansu Joshi, F-4-4/, Professor Colony, Bhopal MP.
10.	Haryana	Shri Inderjeet 281-A, Sham Nagar, Karnal, Haryana.	24.		Shri Hanmant Rao Prabhakar, Room No. 20, Old Hostel, RAK College of Agriculture, Dist. Sehore, M.P.
11.		Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Vill. Tajakpur, PO. Fansra, Dist. Yamuna Nagar, Haryana.	25.	Maharashtra	Shri Subhash Dalvi, Flat No. 2, 3rd Floor, Nehru Road, Vile Parle (East), Mumbai, Mah.
12.		Shri Shail Sing, C/o Shri Hira Singh, H. No. 854, Sector-10, Faridabad, Haryana.	26.		Shri Masood Ishrat Mirza, C/o Ishrat Aziz Mirza, Post Kali Mahagaon, Dist Yavatmal, Mah.
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	Shri Shakti Kumar, Chata Gujran, PO. Haloamarh, Dt. Jammu.	27.		Shri Shahid Sharif, 1140, Mohd. Ali Road, Mominpura, Nagpur, Mah.
14.		Shri Khemraj Shrama, VPO Sarna, Tehsil Samba, Dt. Jammu Tawi.	28.		Ms. Parmila M. Sikhare, Elaviya Bldg. 1st Flr. Manmala Tank Road, Mahim, Mumbai, Mah.
15.	Karnataka	Sri Naganagowda C. Patil, Pithru Presane N, 39/1, Fort Dharwad, Karnataka.	29.		Shri Amar K. Dinkar, Govt. Quarter, Chapmanwadi Dist. Yavatmal, Mah.
16.		Dr. Prabhuling A. Biradar, HUDCO MIG II, Janawada Road, Bidar, Karnataka.	30.	Manipur	Shri T. Damlian Yaiphei, Phetaiching Yairipok, Sadar Hills, Manipur
17.		Shri Nabisab, C/o Sh. Mehaboob Cushion Works, Gangawati Road, Sidanur Dist. Raichur, Karnataka.	31.		Ms. Memamacha Devi, Langthaballep Mayai Leikai, Imphal, Manipur
18.		Shri Javed Jamedar, Plot No.588, Keerthi Nagar, Opp: KEB, Dist. Bijapur, Karnataka	32.	Orissa	Shri Arun Kr. Satpathy, PO. Chatrapur, Dist. Ganjam, Orissa.
19.	Kerala	Shri Brahma Nayakam M, TC 26/792(1), Awasthy, No. 74, Chempaka, Thiruvanthapuram, Kerala.	33.		Shri Durga Prasad Tripathy, PO Tulsipur, Via. Brahmakundi, P.S. Nimpara, Dist. Puri, Orissa.
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Ms. Manju Agarwal, Govind Bhavan, VPO, Khajuri Sadak, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.	34.		Shri Naseem Ahmed Shah Ansari, Anasara, P.O. Dhanitri, Via-Konark, Dist. Puri, Orissa.
21.		Shri Mahendra Kumar Dixit, VPO. Tejgarh, The Tendukhera, Dist. Damoh, Madhya Pradesh.	35.		Shri Sanjib Kr. Joshi, Vill. Ramasagarpara, PO. Bhawanipatna, Dist. Kalahandi, Orissa.

1	2	3
36. Punjab		Shri Dayal Dass, VPO Tungwali, Dist. Bhatinda, Punjab.
37. Rajasthan		Shri Vijay Kumar Dabla, C/o. Shri Mala Ram, Pilani Road, VPO. Chirawa, Dist. Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
38.		Ms. Jyoti Sharma, 63/H, Block, Near Nehru Park, Sriganganagar, Raj.
39. Tamil Nadu		Dr. T. Somasundaram, TN Rural Dev. Centre, 101, Jawan's Bldg., West Vally Street, Madurai, TN.
40.		Shri K. Vijayaragavan, 1/1168, Vivekananda Street, Pandian Nagar Virudhunagar, TN.
41. Tripura		Ms. Moumita Bhatta, HGB Road, Melarmath, PO. Agartala, Tripura.
42.		Shri Ratan Acharjee, Chandrapur, Jantala, PO. Reshambagan, Agartala.
43. Uttar Pradesh		Ms. Sapna Saxena, C/O Shri Ramesh Bihari Lal Saxena, 178, NP House No. 6. Ward No. 2, Adarsh Nagar Colony, Roza Junction, Shahjahanpur, U.P.
44.		Shri Omprakash Rajput, Vill. Lokabali (Dharamshala), PO. Kalalkheria, Dist. Agra, U.P.
45. West Bengal		Ms. Sulochana Koley, C/O Shri Joydeb Koley, VPO. Shipati, Dist. Burdwan (Rural), WB.
46.		Shri Joydeb Kahar, Vill. Dirha Deria, PO. Gopalpur, PS. Haroa, Dist. North 24 Parganas, WB.
47. Chandigarh (UT)		Shri Harinder Pal Singh, H. No. 3178, Sector-23-D, Chandigarh.
48. Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)		Shri Prashant P. Barde, Type-IV, Qrt. No. 25, Behind Power House, Zanda Chowk, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Silvassa.
49. NCT of Delhi		Ms. Rajabala, C/O Shri Ramesh Chand, H. No. 3723, Kucha Mohatter Khan, Mori Gate, Delhi.

1	2	3
<b>II-Voluntary Organisations</b>		
1. Andhra Pradesh		Vishista Gramodaya Swayam Sadhana Parishad, G. Anakapalle (V), Thotada Post, Munagapaka Mandal, Dt. Vishakhapatnam, A.P.
2. Orissa		Indira Social Welfare organisation, Kunjakanta, Chandia Sahi, Dhenkanal, Orissa.

#### EPF Offices

1158. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of subscribers in the various P.F. and EPF offices in the country at present;

(b) the total amount collected in each of these offices, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to open more EPF offices in the country;

(d) whether the Government propose to start Sub-Regional EPF office at Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The total no. of subscribers of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation as on 31.3.2001 was 2,59,65,502.

(b) Regionwise details of the total amount collected during the year 2000-2001 in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is enclosed as Statement.

(c) to (e) The proposals for opening of Sub-Regional Office, Sub-Accounts Office and Service Center are examined on the basis of prescribed norms. The proposal to open Sub-Regional Office at Hosur in Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu was found not feasible as it did not fulfil the prescribed norms.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	State/Region	Amount collected (In Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	713.38

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	202.01
3.	Delhi	746.81
4.	Gujarat	762.59
5.	Himachal Pradesh	349.85
6.	Haryana	63.50
7.	Karnataka	917.07
8.	Kerala	417.16
9.	Maharashtra	412.83
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2573.21
11.	N.E. Region	72.85
12.	Orissa	164.83
13.	Punjab	453.61
14.	Rajasthan	328.43
15.	Tamil Nadu	1260.55
16.	Uttar Pradesh	587.85
17.	West Bengal	624.93

**Degradation of Forests in North  
East States**

1159. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on June 5, 2001, the World Environment Day, the Government have taken any stock of the degradation of forests in Assam and other States in the North-East;

(b) if so, the extent of forests destroyed or denuded in the region during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for reforestation and augmentation of these forests indicating the details of the schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No such review was taken on June 5, 2001. However, Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987. As per the latest assessment of forest cover change in forest cover in various North-Eastern States during the period 1996 to 1998 is as under :

States	Change in forest cover (in sq.km)
Arunachal Pradesh	+245
Assam	-136
Manipur	-34
Meghalaya	-24
Mizoram	-437
Nagaland	-57
Tripura	+199
<b>Total</b>	<b>-278</b>

(c) Various steps taken to improve forest cover in the country are :

- (i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State/UT Governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.
- (ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.
- (iii) Guidelines issued to all States/UT Governments to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.
- (iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands.
- (v) A net work of protected areas has been established.
- (vi) Ministry has prepared a National Forestry Action Plan to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through improvement in investment for conservation and development of forest resources.
- (vii) Following Centrally Sponsored Schemes for reforestation are being implemented in the country including North-Eastern States by the Ministry :
  - (a) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme.
  - (b) Area Oriented Fuel wood and Fodder Project Scheme.
  - (c) Non-timber Forest Produce Scheme.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orissa	13	2,537	5	350	8	498	-	-
Punjab	1	1,425	51	8,202	1	22	1	91
Rajasthan	1	350	5	269	4	348	-	-
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tamilnadu	7	94	2	630	3	737	-	-
Tripura	42	742	18	139	7	104	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	38	5,190	13	559	31	6,356	-	-
West Bengal	-	-	10	463	5	426	-	-
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chandigarh	-	-	3	75	-	-	-	-
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	2	607	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pondicherry	21	510	5	91	17	256	1	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>13,386</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>15707</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>11,796</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>809</b>

A = Number of Units Closed

B = Number of Workers Affected

- = Nil

= Not Available

(P) = Provisional

Source : Labour Bureau, Shimla

#### Internet Fraud

1161.COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI has detected an Internet Fraud as reported in the Times of India dated March 3, 2001;

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

(c) the losses suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty companies and officials involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) An

Internet Fraud as reported in the Times of India dated March 3, 2001 was detected by the Vigilance Wing of DOT, CBI, MTNL, VSNL, Wireless Monitoring Organisation in a join raid conducted on 9.2.2001.

(b) One class 'A' ISP Licensee was indulging in receiving incoming international voice calls through Internet and distributing the same himself and also in association with another company with the help of bulk telephone lines and unauthorized equipments, by passing the Gateways of VSNL.

(c) The estimated notional loss suffered by the Government is approximately Rs. 3 crores.

(d) Equipments were seized and illegal operations were stopped immediately. ISP Licence has been terminated. Involvement of officials is being investigated by CBI.

[Translation]

**Withdrawal from PF Accounts**

1162. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce an ambitious scheme to remove the difficulties in the way of withdrawal of money from the Provident Fund Account;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) A modernisation programme namely 'Reinventing Employees Provident Fund-India' has been launched by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation. It involves re-engineering of the existing work process, re-tooling of accounting system and setting up of an information technology/computer enabled system through networking of all offices of Employees Provident Fund Organisation. It envisages providing all services to every member from any EPF location on a real-time basis. This modernisation programme will enable the subscriber to access his account balance and file his claim from any of the Offices of the EPFO as against the present system which limits him to only one office where he is registered and to reduce the time between receipt of claim to issue of a cheque to 2-3 days as against the present stipulated time of 30 days.

(c) The first phase of the modernization programme involving setting up of pilot centers in six locations covering all four zones, is proposed to be made operational in a time span of 24 months. After stabilization of six pilot centers the redesigned system is proposed to be replicated all over the country in a phased manner.

[English]

**Taking of 50 Seater Aircraft on lease  
by Indian Airlines**

1163. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been asked to consider leasing of 50 seater aircraft for increasing the connectivity to smaller towns and tourist destinations;

(b) if so, the sectors on which the proposed 50 seater aircraft are intended to be operated;

(c) whether the Government have received any other proposal to operate flights to Salem; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government on the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Alliance Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines, have issued a global tender on 1st July, 2001 for dry lease-in of six ATR 42-500 aircraft. The last date for receipt of tender is 31st July, 2001. These aircraft are to be considered for deployment on the existing B 737/A-320 destinations in the North East as well as in the rest of the country in order to enhance connectivity and frequencies to smaller towns and tourist destinations on commercial considerations.

(c) and (d) Indian Airlines shall position 50 seater aircraft at Kolkata and Delhi due to maintenance and operational requirements. Of these, one aircraft each proposed to be positioned at Guwahati subsequently. Indian Airlines does not propose to airlink Salem at this stage since no 50 seater aircraft is proposed to be placed at Chennai. However, other scheduled airline operators are free to operate on any route/ places depending on their own commercial judgement subject to compliance with the route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.

**Communication Commission of India**

1164. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Communication Commission of India (CCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main functions of the said Commission;

(c) whether there is any proposal to appoint current chairperson and members of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to the similar position in the proposed CCI;

(d) if so, whether any Ministry has opposed the said proposal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the New Telecom Policy-99, it is proposed to prepare a new comprehensive statute to replace the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 keeping in view the rapid convergence of telecom, computers, television and electronics. The matter formed a specific term of reference



of the Group on Telecom and IT Convergence set up under the chairmanship of Finance Minister. The Group appointed a Sub-Group under the chairmanship of eminent jurist Shri Fali S. Nariman, MP for the preparation of the draft of the above said Bill, which inter alia envisages the establishment of a single autonomous statutory body to be known as the Communications Commission of India to promote, facilitate and develop in an orderly manner the carriage and content of communications (including telecommunications, broadcasting and multimedia), empowered to issue licences or registrations, determine licence and registration fees, tariffs and rates for services, allot spectrum, facilitate competition, protect consumer interests, etc. Several issues, including whether or not there should be transient provision for the current Chairperson and Members of TRAI, have been discussed. The draft Bill is however still under finalisation, and the report of the Group on Telecom and IT Convergence in this regard is awaited.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (a) to (c) above.

#### **National Reconstruction Crops Scheme**

1165. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 2079 given on March 12, 2001 regarding National Reconstruction Project and state :

(a) whether the Government have overcome the difficulties faced in the implementation of National Reconstruction Crops Scheme launched on June 30, 1999;

(b) if so, the amount released for implementation of the scheme;

(c) the details of the Project Officers appointed in each State; and

(d) the scheme formulated for the selection of volunteers under the scheme and appointed in each State so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 3.61 crores has been released to NYKS so far.

(c) and (d) The criteria prescribed under the NRC Scheme for the selection and appointment of Project Officers and Volunteers was followed. State-wise details of the Project Officers and Volunteers appointed in each State is enclosed as Statement.

#### **Statement**

*Number of NRC Project Officers and Volunteers  
Appointed in each State (District-wise)*

S. No.	State	Name of NRC Distt.	No. of Pos appointed	No. of volunteers Selected/ appointed
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari	1	100
2.		Hyderabad	1	100
3.		Karimnagar	1	100
4.		Vishakhapatnam	1	100
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	Tezu (Lohit)	1	100
6.	Assam	Cachar	1	100
7.		Guwahati (Kamrup)	1	100
8.		Nagaon	1	100
9.	Bihar	Gumla	1	100
10.		Jahanabad	1	100
11.		Kishnaganj	1	100
12.		Nalanda	1	100
13.		Nawada	1	100
14.		Patna	1	100
15.		Sitamarhi	1	100
16.	Chattisgarh	Kanker	1	112
17.		Sarguja	1	100
18.	Delhi	Alipur	1	100
19.		Mehrauli	1	100
20.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar	1	100
21.		Sirmour	Vacant	100
22.		Una	1	100
23.	Haryana	Narnaul	1	100
24.	Jammu and Kashmir	Leh	1	100
25.		Udhampur/Srinagar	1	104
26.	Jharkhand	Dumka	1	100

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
27.		Hazaribagh	1	100	60.		Jhalawar	1	100
28.	Karnataka	Bidar	1	100	61.		Sikkar	1	100
29.		Bijapur	1	100	62.	Sikkim	Gangtok	1	100
30.		Shimoga	1	95	63.	Tamilnadu	Chennai	1	100
31.	Kerala	Kasargod	1	100	64.		Kancheepuram	1	100
32.		Wayand	1	100	65.		Kanyakumari	1	100
33.	M.P.	Bhopal	1	100	66.		Ramanathapuram	1	100
34.		Chattarpur	1	115	67.		Trichirapalli	1	100
35.		Gwalior	1	102	68.	Tripura	Dharamnagar	1	100
36.		Jabalpur	1	104	69.	U.P.	Banda	1	100
37.		Jhabua	1	100	70.		Kanpur	1	100
38.		Seoni	1	100	71.		Lalitpur	1	100
39.		Shahdol	1	100	72.		Lucknow	1	100
40.		Tikamgarh	1	100	73.		Mathura	1	100
41.	Maharashtra	Beed	1	100	74.		Meerut	1	100
42.		Gadchiroli	1	100	75.		Pilibhit	1	100
43.		Jalna	1	100	76.	Uttranchal	Tehri Garhwal	1	100
44.		Mumbai	1	100	77.	West Bengal	Bankura	1	Selection process deferred till further orders of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
45.		Sindhudurg	1	100	78.		Kolkotta	1	-do-
46.	Manipur	Bishenpur	1	100	79.		Malda	1	-do-
47.	Meghalaya	West Garo Hills	1	100	80.		South Dinajpur (N)	1	-do-
48.	Mizoram	Lunglei	1	100	<b>CDMA-WLL Bid</b>				
49.	Nagaland	Kohima	1	100	1166.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :				
50.	Orissa	Bolangir	1	100	(a) the date on which the first come first served policy of accommodating CDMA-WLL bid was announced;				
51.		Kalahandi	1	100	(b) whether before the announcement of such a policy, it was approved by the Cabinet;				
52.		Khurda	1	100	(c) if so, whether there was a criteria not to accommodate the non-performers of the past in the bid; and				
53.		Koraput	1	100					
54.		Mayurbhunj	1	100					
55.		Nuapada	1	100					
56.		Phulbani	1	100					
57.	Punjab	Gurdaspur	Vacant	Selection yet to be finalised					
58.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur	1	100					
59.		Jaipur	1	100					

(d) the criteria to determine a non performing company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India sought in pursuance of New Telecom Policy 99 (NTP 99), the guidelines for grant of licence for basic service operations were announced on 25th January, 2001. Procedure for spectrum allocation, as announced on 23rd March 2001, was formulated as contemplated in NTP 99 in a rational manner for ensuring transparency, efficiency, effectiveness and optionalisation in spectrum utilization. Thus, allocation of spectrum has been specifically linked with performance obligations required to be fulfilled by the licensees in a phased manner as stipulated in the licence agreement.

(c) and (d) Additional Performance Bank Guarantee and Deed of Guarantee has been asked for fulfilling the Rollout Obligations apart from No Dues Certificate in respect of payment arising out of any licence granted earlier to the applicant company or promoters/partners thereof or associate/sister concerns.

#### **Telephone Facility in Orissa**

1167. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :  
SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to connect all the villages of Orissa with telephone by 2002;

(b) if so, the number of villages where telephone facility based on MARR technology has been provided as on date, district-wise;

(c) the number of existing telephones lying out of order;

(d) whether the Government propose to replace the said technology;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have provided satellite telephones in different block headquarters of the State after the Cyclone;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided ?

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

(b) Total 11,863 villages have been provided with telephone facility based on MARR technology as on date. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Out of these 8,153 MARR based telephone are out of order as on date mainly due to the devastation caused by super cyclone and recent floods. Prior to super cyclone 3470 MARR based telephones were faulty.

(d) and (e) BSNL has planned to replace MARR based telephones by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) systems in phased manner beginning this year.

(f) to (h) No, Sir. All block headquarters in the State are provided with telecom facility on conventional technology.

#### **Statement**

##### *District-wise details of Telephone Facility based on MARR Technology in Orissa*

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	MARR VPTs Provided
1	2	3
1.	Angul	482
2.	Balasore	620
3.	Bargarh	540
4.	Bhadrak	342
5.	Bolangir	621
6.	Boudh	197
7.	Cuttack	345
8.	Deogarh	154
9.	Dhenkanal	203
10.	Gajapati	88
11.	Ganjam	855
12.	Jagatsinghpur	200
13.	Jajpur	226
14.	Jharsuguda	151
15.	Kalahandi	463
16.	Kandhamal (Phulbani)	62
17.	Kendrapara	398
18.	Keonjhar	548
19.	Khurda	444

1	2	3
20.	Koraput	705
21.	Malkangiri	244
22.	Mayurbhanj	974
23.	Nowrangpur	438
24.	Nayagarh	185
25.	Naupada	230
26.	Puri	483
27.	Rayagada	470
28.	Sambalpur	451
29.	Sonepur	173
30.	Sundergarh	571
Total		11863

#### National Zoological Park at Delhi

1168. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the water supply and sewage disposal network of the National Zoological Park, Delhi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken to maintain a healthy, hygienic and natural environment in the Delhi Zoo ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Central Government has already made arrangements for supply of filtered drinking water to the zoo animals. Necessary infrastructure including laying of separate pipelines and construction of overhead tank for the purpose has also been provided.

As far as improving of drainage of sewage water is concerned, the natural flow of sewage water through nalah to Yamuna river has been blocked by the development works implemented by Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Northern Railway and Indraprastha Thermal Power Plant. Since restoration of drainage involves several agencies, no time frame for implementing the scheme of restoration of drainage can be given.

(c) The following steps have been taken to maintain a healthy, hygienic and natural environment in the Delhi Zoo.

- i. The quarantine ward has been upgraded.
- ii. The water supply to the enclosure has been augmented.
- iii. The crawl facilities in animal enclosures have been upgraded.
- iv. The feline animal houses have been renovated.
- v. Large number of trees has been planted.

[Translation]

#### Computerisation of Post Offices

1169. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to computerise several post offices in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to provide the said facility in the post offices located in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) The Department of Posts proposes to computerise various types of activities in Head Post Offices in the country which interalia include installation of Multipurpose Counter Machines for the front office (post office counters). The other branches of post office like the accounts branch, treasury branch etc. are also proposed to be computerised. These computers shall be linked together as a Local Area Network using a central server.

The post offices that are proposed to be covered for computerisation in the current financial year are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During the current year the Department of Posts plans to computerise the counter transactions and Savings Bank transactions in the following post offices in Gujarat :

- (i) Bharuch
- (ii) Nadiad
- (iii) Palanpur
- (iv) Patan

- (v) Porbandar  
 (vi) Revdi Bazar  
 (vii) Surat  
 (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

**Statement**

*List of Post Offices to be computerised during the current financial year 2001-2002*

State	Post Office
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
2. Andhra Pradesh	Gudur
3. Andhra Pradesh	Karim Nagr
4. Andhra Pradesh	Nandyal
5. Andhra Pradesh	R.C. Puram
6. Andhra Pradesh	Samalkot
7. Andhra Pradesh	Tenali
8. Bihar	Buxar
9. Bihar	Daltonganj
10. Bihar	Gopalganj
11. Bihar	Hazaribagh
12. Bihar	Leheriasarai
13. Bihar	Ramgarh Cantt.
14. Bihar	Samastipur
15. Chattisgarh	Raigarh
16. Chattisgarh	Durg
17. Delhi	Narayana
18. Delhi	Tilak Nagar
19. Gujarat	Nadiad
20. Gujarat	Surat
21. Gujarat	Ravdibazar
22. Gujarat	Palanpur
23. Gujarat	Patan
24. Gujarat	Bharuch
25. Gujarat	Porbandar

1	2
26. Himachal Pradesh	Chamba
27. Himachal Pradesh	Palampur
28. Himachal Pradesh	Hamirpur
29. Himachal Pradesh	Una
30. Himachal Pradesh	Shimla GPO
31. Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
32. Jammu and Kashmir	Baramulla
33. Jammu and Kashmir	Rajouri
34. Jharkhand	Chaibasa
35. Jharkhand	Lohardaga
36. Karnataka	Bidar
37. Karnataka	Channapatna
38. Karnataka	Devengere
39. Karnataka	Gulbarga
40. Karnataka	Mandya
41. Karnataka	Raichur
42. Karnataka	Rajajinagar, Bangalore
43. Kerala	Pathanamthitta
44. Kerala	Neyadinkara
45. Kerala	Kottayam
46. Kerala	Trichur
47. Kerala	Pallakad
48. Kerala	Tellecherry
49. Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa
50. Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam
51. Madhya Pradesh	Sagar Cantt.
52. Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha
53. Maharashtra	Kalyan City
54. Maharashtra	Ichalkaranji
55. Maharashtra	Nagpur City
56. Maharashtra	Nasik Rd.
57. Maharashtra	Shivaji Nagar, Pune
58. North East	Kohima

1	2
59. North East	Imphal
60. North East	Dharamnagar
61. Orissa	Aska
62. Orissa	Jagatsinghpur
63. Orissa	Jharsuguda
64. Orissa	Nayagarh
65. Orissa	Jajpur
66. Punjab	Jagroan
67. Punjab	Rajpura
68. Rajasthan	Jaipur GPO
69. Rajasthan	Shastri Nagar, Jaipur
70. Rajasthan	Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur
71. Rajasthan	Ajmer
72. Rajasthan	Udaipur
73. Tamil Nadu	Tambaram
74. Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore
75. Tamil Nadu	Kanchipuram
76. Tamil Nadu	Pudukottai
77. Tamil Nadu	Sivakasi
78. Tamil Nadu	St. Thoms Mount
79. Tamil Nadu	Tirupur
80. Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh
81. Uttar Pradesh	Deoria
82. Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur
83. Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Cantt.
84. Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow Chowk
85. Uttar Pradesh	Mathura
86. Uttar Pradesh	Moradabad
87. Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi
88. Uttaranchal	Almora
89. Uttaranchal	Nanital
90. Uttaranchal	Pilibhit
91. Uttaranchal	Rampur

1	2
92. West Bengal	Asansol
93. West Bengal	Barabazar
94. West Bengal	Barrackpur
95. West Bengal	Durgapur
96. West Bengal	Jalpaiguri
97. West Bengal	Malda

#### Telecom Facilities

1170. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges set up in the country during the last three years and till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have taken any measures to provide regular and effective telephone services and smooth functioning of said exchanges in the country especially in Jharkhand and Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 8370 number of telephone exchanges have been set up in the country during the last three years and 148 telephone exchanges have been set up from 1.4.2001 to 30.6.2001. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following measures are taken to provide regular and effective telephone services and smooth running of the exchanges in the country including Jharkhand and Bihar.

1. Provision of reliable transmission media to exchanges.
2. Provision of generator set to take care of long duration of power break down.
3. Replacement of Analogue exchanges by Digital exchanges.
4. Rehabilitation/up gradation of external plant.
5. Introduction of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology in phased manner.

**Statement***Number of Telephone Exchanges set up during the last 3 years and 1.4.01 to 30.6.01*

S.No.	States	Number of Telephone Exchanges set up during				2001-2002 (1.4.01 to 30.6.01)
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	Total	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	83	358	367	808	17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	8	5	26	nil
3.	Assam	52	54	61	167	10
4.	Bihar	43	100	272	415	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	10	45	54	109	1
6.	Delhi	14	15	9	38	nil
7.	Goa	6	17	20	43	1
8.	Gujarat	72	122	453	647	8
9.	Haryana	63	51	68	182	7
10.	Himachal Pradesh	36	64	69	169	4
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	18	27	15	60	nil
12.	Jharkhand	10	39	51	100	2
13.	Karnataka	68	115	144	327	15
14.	Kerala	37	79	69	185	3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41	97	101	239	4
16.	Maharashtra	253	428	954	1635	24
17.	Manipur	3	1	1	5	nil
18.	Meghalaya	9	7	13	29	nil
19.	Mizoram	5	4	12	21	nil
20.	Nagaland	2	7	5	14	nil
21.	Orissa	38	71	133	242	2
22.	Punjab	92	106	94	292	17
23.	Rajasthan	153	181	103	437	nil
24.	Sikkim	9	3	3	15	2
25.	Tamil Nadu	126	109	195	430	13
26.	Tripura	5	5	3	13	nil
27.	Uttar Pradesh	295	401	486	1182	5
28.	Uttaranchal	23	23	35	81	1
29.	West Bengal	139	110	210	459	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1718</b>	<b>2647</b>	<b>4005</b>	<b>8370</b>	<b>148</b>

[English]

**Rengali Irrigation Project in Orissa**

1171. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide assistance to the Government of Orissa for implementation of Rengali multipurpose irrigation project;

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Union Government and its agencies during the last three years; and

(c) the present status of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) and (b) Union Government has been providing the Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to Right Canal System of Rengali Multipurpose project since the inception of AIBP in 1996-97. Total CLA of Rs. 112.30 crores has been released for this project during the last three years (1998-2001).

(c) The Rengali Irrigation Project is under construction. The Barrage has been completed and the left main canal as well as branch canal have been completed upto 68.50 Km. The Right main canal has been completed in all respects upto 17 Km. and has been excavated upto 79 Km. The potential as reported to have been created upto March 2000 is 1.90 thousand ha.

**Downsizing in Indian Airlines and Air India**

1172. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India have undertaken a massive downsizing exercise by abolishing various top level posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has adversely affected the process of disinvestment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Air India management has not undertaken any exercise for abolishing top level posts. However, management of Indian Airlines had constituted a Committee to examine the requirement of top level posts. The recommendations of the Committee were approved by the Board and accordingly the sanctioned strength of Directors and General Managers is being reduced.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Workshops on Environment**

1173. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on Environment Education and Training and Forestry Research, Environmental Information System programmes, Seminar/Symposia/Workshops etc. during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and proposed for 2001-2002, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to organise Seminar/Symposia/Workshops on Environment in Bihar during 2001-02; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There is no State wise budget allocation for Environment Education and Training, Forestry Research, Environmental Information System and Seminar/Symposia/Workshops Schemes. The year wise expenditure incurred on these schemes is as follows :-

Sl. No.	Scheme	Expenditure incurred in Rs.			Budget allocation for the year 2001-2002
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	
1.	Environment Education and Training	3,18,13,949	3,51,74,241	4,52,00,321	8,03,00,000
2.	Forestry Education, Training and Research etc.	10,07,747	7,84,926	7,32,820	7,09,755
3.	Seminar/Symposia/Workshops	27,68,757	43,28,906	22,46,644	25,00,000
4.	Environment Information System	1,79,00,000	1,83,56,000	1,86,78,000	1,51,10,000



(b) and (c) Under the scheme of Seminar/Symposia/ Workshops, the Ministry of Environment and Forests provides financial assistance to Universities, R and D institutions and NGOs etc. for organising any such event on environment. Any proposal from Bihar State meeting the prescribed guidelines will be considered on merit.

**Maintenance of Accounts in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited**

1174. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (C and AG) has criticised the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) for not maintaining proper accounts as reported in the Economic Times dated June 13, 2001;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the period ended 31st March 2000 under section 619(4) of the Companies Act, 1956 has only commented with regard to certain accounting practices followed by MTNL and also on the report of the Auditors which is customary as per the requirements of the Companies Act.

(b) The facts as well as replies furnished by the Management are enclosed as Statement.

(c) Since the matter has been placed before the Board of Directors, AGM and the Parliament no further reaction is needed from the Government as corrective steps have already been taken by the Company.

**Statement**

MTNL was established in the year 1986 by transferring the assets of Delhi and Mumbai Telephones. MTNL has been following the Government/Department of Telecommunications procedure in respect of accounting of fixed assets which is in variance with the accounting standards prescribed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. However, the Company has already taken action for the verification of the fixed assets. Keeping in view the volume and size of the fixed assets, the Board of Directors of the Company have decided to have physical verification done over a period of three years by rotation. For year 2000-2001, the land and buildings of the Company have been physically verified. The auditors also have accepted the practice adopted by the Company.

2. For the reconciliation between DoT and MTNL, a core group has been formed with officers from both DoT and MTNL and the reconciliation work is in progress.

3. Advance Telephone income of Rs. 62.10 million has since been adjusted to income from services in March 2001.

4. Expenditure on Millennium gifts, employees remuneration and benefit amounts to Rs. 17.77 million has since been booked in the accounts of MTNL in June, 2001.

5. Excess provision for property tax made in the accounts of MTNL for 1999-2000 was adjusted in August 2000.

6 (i) As on 31.3.2001 the demand of Rs. 553.00 crores was raised by the IT Department for the assessment years 1995-96 to 1998-99 which is under dispute and the amount has been shown under contingent liability in the accounts.

(ii) Balance sheet abstract and Company's General Business Profile was depicted in the Printed Annual Report 1999-2000.

(iii) A writ petition was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the same was admitted. The date of hearing was fixed on 17.1.2001. The case has been decided in favour of the Company. Since the case was sub-judice, no provision has been made in the accounts.

7 (i) Correct figure of unsanctioned expenditure included in the fixed assets was Rs. 2554.88 million.

(ii) Task Force has been created for review of old cases of WIP from 1986-87 to 1999-2000 and accordingly action for capitalization/write off will be taken.

(iii) Necessary reconciliation of Provident Fund account has since been done and amount due has been paid to Provident Fund Trust.

8. This is on going process and steps are being taken to reconcile the metered calls with calls taken in accounts records.

**Development of Mumbai Airport**

1175. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan for the development of Mumbai Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land for the rehabilitation of slum dwellers has been re-allocated;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount sanctioned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the local body for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Installation of three additional aerobridges for passengers facilitation at domestic passenger terminal and augmentation of Export and Import Cargo facility, construction of fully modernised Export Cargo terminal III A and Import Cargo terminal Phase-II at International Cargo terminal of Mumbai airport have been proposed.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. No land has been re-allocated for rehabilitation of slum dwellers. Part of the slum dwellers who encroached airport land are being rehabilitated through Shivsahi Punarvasan Prakalp Ltd. (SPPL), a Government of Maharashtra company and Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA), a department of Government of Maharashtra under Tripartite Agreement between SPPL, SRA and Airports Authority of India (AAI). SPPL is constructing multi-storied tenements on Government land earmarked by the State Government of Maharashtra for rehabilitation. AAI has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 30 crores for rehabilitation of slum dwellers from the airport land which is required for operational purposes at Mumbai airport.

#### Employment Opportunities

1176. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers in the North-Eastern States West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, separately;

(b) the steps being taken to provide them jobs;

(c) whether any of these States has objected to the grant of work-permit to Bangladeshis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges as on 31.12.1998 and the number of educated among them in North-Eastern States, West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh

and Delhi are given in the enclosed Statement. Distribution of these job-seekers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers are not maintained.

(b) The planning for employment generation is a part of the five-year Plans. The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to productive employment which will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterized by higher rates of employment and underemployment.

Government is also implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major poverty alleviation programmes, which provide employment in the rural areas, are Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samriddhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban areas, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is in operation since 1.12.97, which also seeks to provide gainful employment to the poor. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a central Plan Scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.

(c) and (d) As per the Revised Visa Agreement signed between India and Bangladesh in May 2001 the nationals of one country issued work permits by the designated authorities of the other may be issued with multiple entry visas on a year to year basis. Further, none of the State Governments have objected to the grant of work permits to Bangladeshis.

#### Statement

States	As on December, 1998 (in thousand)	
	Educated L.R.	Total L.R.
1	2	3
Bihar	2482.8	3310.0
Maharashtra	3044.2	4103.1
Delhi	869.0	1128.2
Uttar Pradesh	2007.9	2638.5
West Bengal	3350.0	5724.7
<b>North-Eastern States</b>		
Arunachal Pradesh	3.1	13.7
Assam	932.5	1489.3
Manipur	218.8	334.7
Meghalaya	18.9	33.4

1	2	3
Mizoram	34.3	74.2
Nagaland	19.2	27.7
Tripura	109.5	246.3
Sikkim	No employment exchange is functioning in this State.	

[Translation]

#### Disinvestment of Air India

1177. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :  
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :  
SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the profits made by the Air India during the last year, as also during the first three months of the current financial year; and

(b) whether the Government propose to allow foreign bidders for disinvestment in the Air India alongwith reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) During the year 2000-01, the net loss of Air India is estimated at Rs. 52.00 crore. During the quarter April-June 2001, Air India has made a net profit of approximately Rs. 2.5 crore.

(b) Foreign bidders have been allowed to participate as part of a consortium, subject to the condition that the foreign holding in case of the strategic partner shall not exceed 26% of the total equity of Air India Limited.

[English]

#### Construction of Port Road

1178. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has entered into a joint venture with Visakhapatnam Port Trust for construction of Port Road;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in construction of this road; and

(d) the time by which the port road is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to develop the road falling within the jurisdiction of Visakhapatnam Port Trust from NH-5 to Port to 4-lane standards. Project Preparation through technical consultants is in advanced stage. Modalities for implementation of the project through a Special Purpose Company and financing arrangements are being worked out. Construction work is likely to be completed by 2004.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of Telephone Exchanges

1179. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is facing difficulties in the acquisition of land for setting up of telephone exchanges in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tackle such situation ?

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

(b) The cases for acquisition of land for setting up of Telephone Exchanges are taken up by the Telecom. circles at a high level with the State Governments. Regular meetings are held at appropriate level to arrange land for the Department at reasonable rates and suitable location on priority basis.

#### Accident in Mines

1180. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents took place in different mines and the persons died during the last three years, mine-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of compensation paid to the affected persons during the said period;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against the guilty officials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The number of accidents which took place in different mines and the number of persons who died during the last three years, is as follows :-

Year	No. of fatal accident		No. of persons who died	
	Coal	Non-coal	Coal	Non-coal
1998	128	156	146	65
1999	127	61	139	72
2000	119	50	146	54

(b) The amount of compensation is paid to the injured or families of the deceased under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Employees State Insurance Corporation Act, 1948, the implementation of which falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government.

(c) and (d) Action taken against persons held responsible for fatal accidents in Coal Mines/Non Coal Mines is given below :-

Type of action	A. Action taken by D.G.M.S.	1998	1999	2000
1.	Suspension/Cancellation of certificate	0	1	0
2.	Warnings issued	25	99	1
3.	Prosecution Launched	155	133	104
4.	Misadventur - No action	7	13	8
5.	Other Action Taken	12	9	0
<b>B. Action Taken by Management</b>				
1.	Suspended	73	66	36
2.	Debarred from promotion	3	8	2
3.	Demoted	3	2	4
4.	Transferred	2	1	1
5.	Increment withheld	17	21	13
6.	Service Terminated	14	15	11
7.	Warned by Management	47	42	10
8.	Disciplinary	6	4	2
9.	Deceased No Action	51	44	50

[English]

#### Gifts of Tigers by Zoo Authorities

1181. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "no beastly tales at Chhat Bir, here tigers are simply gifted away" appearing in the Indian Express dated April 24, 2001;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such practices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news item published in the Indian Express dated 24.4.2001 under the caption, "No beastly tales at Chhat Bir, here tigers are simply gifted away" has criticised the gift of two tigers to Libya from Chhat Bir Zoo. In support of his contention he has quoted that tiger population in the country, number of death of tigers both within captivity and outside captivity. A pair of tiger has been gifted to Libya on the request of Ministry of External Affairs. Government of India has been giving such gifts from time to time as good will gesture and for education and awareness about Indian wildlife outside India. Since the tigers gifted are of captive origin, the gift has no impact on population of tigers in wild. Further, the number of tigers in the zoo was beyond its carrying capacity and the zoo was willing to make the tigers available for the gift. Since the success in introduction of captive bred Large Cats in wild is yet to be achieved, the value of captive bred tigers as gene pool is also limited.

[Translation]

#### Assessment on Requirement of Water

1182. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to requirement of water in various sectors;

(b) if so, the estimated requirement of water in the agricultural, industrial and domestic sectors, separately;

(c) the quantum of water available to these sectors at present; and

(d) the scheme formulated by the Government to make available more water to these sectors in near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The estimated requirements of water in various sectors is as under :-

Sector	(In Billion Cubic Metre/Year)	
	Present (2000 A.D.)	Year 2025 A.D.
Irrigation (Agriculture)	541	910
Domestic (including livestock)	42	73
Industries	8	23
Energy	2	15
Other uses	41	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>1093</b>

(c) Present water utilisation is estimated at 605 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) out of which for irrigation (agriculture) is 501 BCM, for domestic 30 BCM, for industries 20 BCM, for energy 20 BCM and for other uses is 34 BCM.

(d) Water being State subject, water resources development projects are planned, executed and financed by the State Government in accordance with their own priorities and from their own resources. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams in the country. Besides, projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75, BCM are under construction and for 132 BCM are under planning. Government of India has been extending financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme since 1996-97 to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing projects at the earliest. As a long term measure, a National Perspective Plan has been formulated for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular and Himalayan river systems for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. The multipurpose water resources projects meet the demands of domestic/irrigation/industries etc. All the new multipurpose and irrigation projects are planned to have specific provision of drinking water supply, both for urban and rural areas, as one of the components of the project, wherever there is no alternative source of drinking water. Government of India supplements the efforts of States by

providing financial assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Prime Minister's Gramodyog Yojana (PMGY) – Rural Drinking Water Component.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies.

#### **Reduction in Fares by Indian Airlines**

1183. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has reduced its fares;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of routes on which it has been reduced and the impact of it on the other airlines;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines has been incurring heavy losses during the last three years and the current year;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Indian Airlines to reduce the administrative expenditure and to make the airlines profitable ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Effective 28th June, 2001 Indian Airlines has reduced the fares on the following 5 sectors, of which on 3 sectors the fares were reduced to a level lower than that prevailing prior to 25th May, 2001 i.e. the date of introduction of flexi fares;

Ahmedabad-Bangalore; Mumbai-Bangalore, Mumbai-Chennai, Mumbai-Kolkata, Mumbai-Goa.

As per information with Indian Airlines, other airlines have also adjusted their fares downwards.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Company had earned profit during the financial years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 as indicated below :

Year	Net profit (Before Tax) (Rs. crores)
1997-98	47.27
1998-99	14.17
1999-2000	51.42

The Revenue and Expenditure Budget of the Company for the year 2000-01 prepared and approved in December, 1999, projected a net profit of Rs. 28.75 crores at the then prevailing input prices. Subsequent to the Budget approval in December 1999, there was steep rise in ATF prices and other input costs, which brought an additional financial burden of over Rs. 200 crores on the Company. As a result, the Revised Estimates (RE) for the year 2000-01 reflect a loss of Rs. 177.25 crores. The Annual Accounts for the year are presently under audit.

Had the above cost escalations not taken place, the Company would have ended the financial year 2000-01 with a profit higher than the budgeted profit of Rs. 28.75 crores.

During April, 2001, for which the Financial Results are available, the Company has made a net loss of Rs. 17.75 crores as against the budgeted loss of Rs. 26.30 crores.

(e) The Company has adopted the policy of flexible fares on its domestic network w.e.f. 25th May, 2001. Under the Flexi-fares, fixation of fares will be based on seasonality, competition, timing of flight and other demand and supply variables. Thus, the flexi-fare regime is expected to improve revenue earnings of the Company due to higher capacity utilisation and better yields.

Besides the flexi-fare, the Company has taken various steps to improve its financial and operating performance which, inter alia, include the following :-

- (i) Strict Budgetary Control with all the major items of expenditure are subject to cost benefit analysis, operational and commercial expediency, financial sanctions etc.
- (ii) Better Fleet Utilisation; improvement in the productivity of Pilots, Aircraft Engineers, Minimising the ground turn round time, Night flights on certain domestic sectors, Increased international operations, better scheduling of aircraft and route planning, Capacity deployment in alignment with market requirements etc.
- (iii) Improvement in the quality of product; Improvement in On-time performance, general improvement and upgradation of services to the users etc.

(iv) Marketing initiatives; Code sharing with the foreign airlines, High level of participation in Computerised Reservation System. Various promotional schemes including corporate incentives etc.

(v) Flexible Fares; Fixation of fares on seasonality, competition, timing of flight and other demand and supply variables.

(vi) Cost control measures; Control of overtime, Casual labour, hotel/travel expenditure, crew lay over expenditure, Freeze on recruitment unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons, Fuel monitoring and tankering, control on aircraft maintenance, Reduction in publicity and sales promotional expenditure, Review of uneconomic flights Inventory management, Outsourcing of services to the extent feasible etc.

#### Number of Airports

1184. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of airports in the country at present, location-wise;
- (b) the number of airports out of them lying closed, location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating to operate small passenger aeroplanes from these airports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Airports Authority of India owns and manages 94 airports and 28 civil enclaves in the country. It also manages the airports at Lengpui in Mizoram and Tura in Meghalaya belonging to the State Governments. Cochin International Airport is managed by the Cochin International Airport Limited. The number of airports State-wise are 8 airports each in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra, 7 each in Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, 5 each in Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, 4 in Tripura, 3 each in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan, 2 each in Chattisgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab and Uttaranchal and 1 each in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep. There are 4 civil enclaves each in Arunachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, 3 each in Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan, 2 in Gujarat and 1 each in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar and Chandigarh.

(b) Of the above, 33 airports and 10 civil enclaves are non-operational. These are 5 airports each in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, 4 in Andhar Pradest., 3 each in Maharashtra, Tripura and West Bengal, 2 each in Assam and Karnataka, 1 each in Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Mizoram, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The Civil Enclaves are 4 in Arunachal Pradesh, 3 in Uttar Pradesh 2 in Rajasthan and 1 in Kerala. These airports are not totally closed. A basic minimum maintenance is carried out so that these airports can be made operational at a short notice as and when chartered or non-scheduled flights are operated.

(c) to (e) Airlines are free to operate to/from any airport taking into account their commercial considerations and depending upon the traffic potential and the availability of aircraft.

[English]

#### **Privatisation of Airports**

1185. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to lease out airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata to private parties on longterm basis;

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

(c) whether the valuation of these airports has since been done;

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

(e) whether a decision has also been taken about the commercial utilisation of vacant land at these airports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long term lease. At present, the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for this exercise. The main reasons for this exercise are to bring the standard of services at par with international standards; to improve management culture,

efficiency and overall productivity; to unlock the potential for economic benefits arising out of well-managed airports and to attract private investment required for achieving the above objectives.

(c) and (d) The valuation of these airports is part of the leasing process. However, valuation for the purpose of leasing is linked to detailed terms and conditions of the concession agreement which is part of a detailed process based on which final selection of lessee is to be decided.

(e) and (f) The commercial utilisation of vacant land, has been envisaged in the lease process, subject to restrictions for land use and after it is ensured that such land would not be required for aeronautical purposes.

#### **National Environmental Action Plan**

1186. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a National Environmental Action Plan;

(b) if so, the priority areas identified under this Action Plan; and

(c) the details of steps taken to implement the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a Committee for the formulation of a National Environment Action Plan. The Committee is yet to submit the said final Action Plan to the Government.

#### **Irrigation Projects in Madhya Pradesh**

1187. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the number of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the specific plan period in which these projects were started;

(c) the target date fixed for their completion; and

(d) the progress of each project along with their estimated cost, the amount spent on each project and assistance released so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) The details of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***Financial and Physical details of ongoing Major and Medium Projects***Madhya Pradesh**

(Amount in Rs. crore)

S. No.	Project Name	Started in Plan	Financial Details					Physical Details		
			Estimated cost		Cumulative Expenditure upto end of VIII Plan		Spillover cost in IX Plan	CLA under AIBP released upto 3/2001	Ultimate Potential (thousand ha.)	Target for completion (IX Plan or Beyond)
			Original	Latest	Amt	%				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Major Projects (spilled over from VIII Plan to IX Plan)</b>										
1.	Bhander Canal	I	2.04	27.79	6.89	24.79%	20.90		44.50	IX
2.	Barna	II	5.55	34.26	27.95	81.58%	6.31		60.50	IX
3.	Kolar	IV	139.14	195.00	165.48	84.86%	29.52		60.90	IX
4.	Sindh Ph.I	IV	4.95	56.43	41.86	74.18%	14.57	4.500	53.00	IX
5.	Bansagar (IS) Unit-I	V	91.31	936.00	346.22	36.99%	589.78	160.250	0.00	Beyond IX
6.	Bansagar (IS) Unit-II	V	344.66	344.66	130.19	37.77%	214.47		249.00	Beyond IX
7.	Bariarpur LBC	V	18.40	204.43	51.53	25.21%	152.90	5.000	43.80	Beyond IX
8.	Rajghat (IS) Unit-I	V	61.61	150.30	89.33	59.43%	60.97	27.803	0.00	IX
9.	Rajghat (IS) Unit-II	V	309.21	523.41	101.52	19.40%	421.89		121.45	Beyond IX
10.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (Bargi) (NVDA)	V	566.34	759.00	397.41	52.36%	361.59		219.80	Beyond IX
11.	Upper Wainganga	V	50.60	249.72	161.67	64.74%	88.05	41.330	105.30	IX
12.	Urmil (IS)	V	6.41	22.01	16.39	74.47%	5.62	1.000	7.70	IX
13.	Bawanthadi (IS) Unit-I	VI	74.06	95.28	23.63	24.80%	71.65		0.00	Beyond IX
14.	Bawanthadi (IS) Unit-II	VI	52.75	52.75			52.75		29.40	Beyond IX
15.	Indira Sagar (NVDA)	VI	752.16	1574.00	229.73	14.60%	1344.27	246.000	169.00	Beyond IX
16.	Jobat (NVDA)	VI	30.75	67.23	26.57	39.52%	40.66		12.50	Beyond IX
17.	Mahan	VI	39.00	155.10	33.49	21.59%	121.61		19.04	Beyond IX
18.	Mahi	VI	61.52	192.85	42.51	22.04%	150.34	2.170	26.40	Beyond IX
19.	Man (NVDA)	VI	44.10	96.13	62.21	64.71%	33.92		17.70	Beyond IX
20.	Sindh Ph.II	VI	510.94	607.67	108.95	17.93%	498.72	12.100	162.00	Beyond IX
21.	Thanwar	AP 78-80	24.38	27.22	22.66	83.25%	4.56		18.20	IX
22.	Bargi Div. (NVDA)	VIII	1101.23	1554.50	19.62	1.26%	1534.88		376.51	Beyond IX
23.	Omkareshwar (NVDA)	VIII	350.00	755.00	5.49	0.73%	749.51		283.32	Beyond IX
24.	Pench Diversion	VIII	91.60	184.04	6.15	3.34%	177.89		96.52	Beyond IX
<b>Total</b>			<b>8864.780</b>	<b>2117.450</b>			<b>6747.330</b>	<b>500.153</b>	<b>2176.540</b>	



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Medium Projects (spilled over from VIII Plan to IX Plan)</b>										
1.	Banjar	V	2.09	11.72	6.72	57.34%	5.00	1.000	2.40	IX
2.	Makroda	V	1.81	18.00	8.34	46.33%	9.66		10.50	IX
3.	Matiyari	V	4.89	71.83	54.67	76.11%	17.16		13.70	IX
4.	Bah	VI	19.38	54.30	3.48	6.41%	50.82		13.60	Beyond IX
5.	Bandia Nalla	VI	1.80	20.00	12.43	62.15%	7.57		2.50	IX
6.	Dejla-Dewada	VI	16.43	60.00	53.05	88-42%	6.95		12.20	IX
7.	Kunwari Lift	VI	1.03	5.31	0.27	5.08%	5.04		3.90	Beyond IX
8.	Lakhundar	VI	4.27	50.00	31.12	62.24%	18.88		8.30	IX
9.	Mahuar	VI		47.32	4.35	9.19%	42.97		13.80	Beyond IX
10.	Sagar	VI	10.68	31.99	1.17	3.66%	30.82		12.50	Beyond IX
11.	Budhna	AP 78-80	2.00	32.54	30.64	94.16%	1.90		3.20	IX
12.	Bundala	AP 78-80	2.18	19.83	14.82	74.74%	5.01		4.50	IX
13.	Chandora	AP 78-80	2.92	19.93	15.34	76.97%	4.59		3.80	IX
14.	Choral	AP 78-80	3.96	44.00	41.44	94.18%	2.56		5.00	IX
15.	Dholawad	AP 78-80	4.64	26.60	20.04	75.34%	6.56		6.50	IX
16.	Dudhi	AP 78-80	2.86	31.00	15.90	51.29%	15.10		3.70	IX
17.	Gomukh	AP 78-80	3.51	45.50	32.99	72.51%	12.51		8.10	IX
18.	Kaliasote	AP 78-80	7.84	69.52	54.35	78.18%	15.17		4.50	IX
19.	Rampur Kurd	AP 78-80	1.51	27.00	19.24	71.26%	7.76		3.10	IX
20.	Tiller	AP 78-80	5.77	46.11	40.65	88.16%	5.46		9.90	IX
21.	Gopad Lift	VII		17.24	9.74	56.50%	7.50		5.70	Beyond IX
22.	Barchhar	VIII		20.87	13.87	66.46%	7.00		2.40	Beyond IX
<b>Total</b>				<b>770.61</b>	<b>484.62</b>		<b>285-99</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>153.80</b>	

[Translation]

**Construction of Building and Fly Over at IGIA**

1188.DR. ASHOK PATEL :  
SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to construct a new building and flyover at Indira Gandhi International Airport to remove the problems faced by air passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost thereof;

(d) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started and completed; and

(e) the plan of the Government to expand the other airports in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has planned to merge the extension of visitors lounge of International Terminal Building at departure level with main terminal and construction of fly over at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi. AAI Board has approved

the above work with an estimated cost of Rs. 24.99 crores in May, 2001. The construction work is likely to be started by February, 2002 and is to be completed by July, 2004.

(e) AAI has taken up/planned works such as strengthening and extension of runway, construction/expansion of terminal building, technical block cum tower, apron, Civil Enclave etc. at Kangra, Jaipur, Jammu, Leh, Lucknow, Pathankot, Varanasi, Bhuvaneshwar, Gaya, Bhuj, Jabalpur, Porbandar, Rajamundry, Agartala, Dimapur, Lilabari and Imphal airports.

[English]

#### **Feeder Canal Projects in Andhra Pradesh**

1189. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that two feeder canal projects have been taken up by Andhra Pradesh Government in Ananthapur Taluk;

(b) if so, whether the projects are likely to affect water flow into Honnagondana halli tank, the lingadehalli tank and tanks in Sira Taluk in the State;

(c) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has objected to the projects; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Karnataka have drawn the attention of the Union Government regarding the construction of two feeder canals by the Government of Andhra Pradesh namely, (i) Feeder Channel from Sidagappanakatte to P. Byadagere tank; (ii) Feeder Channel to divert water from the catchment upstream of Reddihally tank in North-Pennar Basin in Karnataka to a local halla of Rolla Tank in Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Karnataka has apprehended that flows to the Honnagondanahalli tank will be reduced on account of the first feeder canal and cause irreparable loss to the farmers of Reddihally tank in Karnataka due to the second feeder canal. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that the work on Feeder Channel from Sidagappanakatte to P. Byadagere tank has been stopped.

(d) The Central Water Commission has convened an inter-State meeting of representative of Government of Karnataka and Government of Andhra Pradesh on 30th July 2001 to discuss all such reported diversion works.

#### **Running Cost of Indian Airlines**

1190. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the latest increase in the fuel prices has appreciably increased the running cost of the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, whether this increase in fuel cost has resulted in losses to the airlines; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove these losses and to improve the financial health of the Indian Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Revenue and Expenditure Budget of the Company for the year 2000-01 prepared and approved in December 1999, projected a net profit of Rs. 28.75 crores. assuming no material change in capacity, input prices and fares.

Subsequent to the approval of the Budget in December 1999, there was steep rise in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) price by 18.4% effective 23rd March, 2000 followed by another increase of 25% effective 30th September, 2000. The increase in ATF price put additional burden of over Rs. 225 crores per annum on the Company. This coupled with other increases in input costs such as Landing and Route Navigational charges, Sales Tax on ATF, Security expenditure, Insurance premium, Rate of foreign exchange etc. escalated the cost of operation by over Rs. 300 crores for 2000-01

Despite these increases in cost, the Company had been able to contain the loss as figure of Rs. 177.25 crores as per the Revised Budget Estimates for 2000-01.

(c) The following steps have been taken to contain these losses and to improve the financial health of Indian Airlines :

(i) The ATF prices in India have been deregulated by the Government from April, 2001. This has brought reduction in ATF rates and consequently, savings are expected in the ATF cost.

(ii) The Company has recently embarked upon the policy of flexible fares on its domestic network w.e.f. 25th May, 2001. The flexi-fares are expected to improve revenue earnings of the Company by way of higher capacity utilisation and better yields.

(iii) Indian Airlines has taken various other steps to improve its financial and operating performance which inter-alia, include the following :-

- Strict Budgetary Control with all the major items of expenditure are subject to cost benefit analysis, operational and commercial expediency, financial sanctions etc.
- Better Fleet Utilisation; Improvement in the productivity of Pilots, Aircraft Engineers, Minimizing the ground turn round time, Night flight on certain domestic sectors, Increased International operations, Better scheduling of aircraft and route planning, Capacity deployment in alignment with market requirements etc.
- Improvement in the quality of product; Improvement in On-time performance, general improvement and upgradation of services to the users etc.
- Marketing initiatives; Code sharing with the foreign airlines, High level of participation in Computerised Reservation System, Various promotional schemes including corporate incentives etc.
- Cost control measures, Control of overtime, casual labour, hotel/travel expenditure, crew lay over expenditure, Freeze on recruitment unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons, Fuel monitoring and tankering, control on aircraft maintenance, Reduction in publicity and sales promotional expenditure, Review of uneconomic flights. Inventory

management, Outsourcing of services to the extent feasible etc.

#### **Inclusion of Rivers under NRCP**

1191. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal/projects from different States particularly Kerala in regard to several rivers falling under their domain for inclusion in National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) during the last three years and current year, till date;

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

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government on each such proposal/project ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) A number of proposals have been received from different States including Kerala for inclusion in National River Conservation Plan during the last three years. The State-wise details of such proposals with their current status are enclosed as Statement. Most of the proposals received from the State Governments contained only an outline of the project. Following the decision in the National River Conservation Authority (NRCA) meeting held on 13th March, 2001, the State Governments concerned have been asked to submit detailed project reports of all such proposal with firm cost estimates as per the latest guidelines of Government.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise List of Proposals received from State Governments for Inclusion under National River Conservation Plan*

S.No.	Name of the Project	State	Estimated cost (Rs. crore)	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chennai City Rivers Conservation Project	Tamil Nadu	491.52	Approved in September, 2000
2.	7 towns along Cauvery, Vennar, Vaigai and Tambrabarani	Tamil Nadu	575.30	Approved in January, 2001
3.	Yamuna Action Plan-Extended Phase	Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi	220.60	Approved in May, 2001
4.	2 towns along West Bein (a tributary of Satluj)	Punjab	14.97	Approved in July, 2001
5.	Pamba river	Kerala	155.00	Funds being released to the State Government for preparation of Pre-Feasibility Report

1	2	3	4	5
6	Chaliyar river	Kerala	271.00	Report received is not as per Ministry's guidelines. State Government asked to submit Detailed Project Report.
7.	11 towns along Beas river	Himachal Pradesh	78.41	Received outline proposal only. State Government asked to submit Detailed Project Report.
8.	Khuakhai and Daya rivers at Bhubneshwar	Orissa	392.00	-do-
9.	15 towns along Yamuna	Haryana	72.50	-do-
10.	Ghaggar river	Haryana	345.35	-do-
11.	Amritsar town along river Ravi	Punjab	394.00	-do-
12.	Sonepur town along Ganga and Gandak	Bihar	0.90	-do-
13.	Hyderabad town along Musi river	Andhra Pradesh	295.00	-do-
14.	Wai town along Krishna river	Maharashtra	10.00	-do-
15.	2 towns along Kali Nadi	Uttar Pradesh	26.19	-do-
16.	20 towns along Krishna, Cauvery, Kali and Netravathi	Karnataka	Amount not given in proposal	-do-

*[Translation]***Additional Cess on Petrol and Diesel**

1192. SHRI C.N. SINGH :  
 SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :  
 SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
 SHRI VIJAY GOEL :  
 SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHI :

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

(a) whether the Government have been considering to levy additional cess on petrol and diesel to mop up nearly 1800 crore more annually;

(b) if so, whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has urged the Government of shortfall of funds beyond 2003;

(c) if so, the total funds collected by the Government on the levying of additional cess on petrol and diesel during the last three years; and

(d) the details of utilisation of these funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The available funds from

the existing cess is of the order of approximately Rs. 6,000 crore per annum out of which about Rs. 2,000 crore is for National Highways, which is not sufficient to fully meet the NHDP requirements. Therefore, various options for raising additional resources for NHDP are being explored.

(c) and (d) No additional cess has been levied. However, from the existing cess sums of Rs. 1,900 crore, Rs. 2,010 crore and Rs. 2,100 crore have been provided for National Highways during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively and utilised/are being utilised primarily for National Highway Development Project.

**Inclusion of Sports Events in Afro-Asian Games**

1193. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL :  
 SHRI SAHIB SINGH :  
 SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of sports events included for the Afro-Asian games to be held in Delhi;

(b) whether wrestling and Kabaddi has been included in the said games; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Following eight events have been included in the Afro-Asian Games to be held in Delhi :-

(1) Athletics (M&W), (2) Boxing (M), (3) Football (M), (4) Hockey (M&W), (5) Shooting (M&W), (6) Swimming (M&W), (7) Tennis (M&W) (8) Weightlifting (M&W).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The disciplines for the Games have been decided by the two Continental Councils, i.e. Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).

#### **Preparation of Afro-Asian Games**

1194. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem regarding preparation for Afro-Asian games appearing in the *Rashtriya Sahara* dated June 2, 2001;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for timely completion of the preparations for the said games ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item pertains to apprehended delay in completion of the upgradation of infrastructure for the First Afro Asian Games which may put a question mark on hosting of International tournaments by India in future.

(c) The Government has initiated the process of upgradation of infrastructure at various venues.

Government of India has provided Rs. 15.00 crores to SAI for this purpose during the last financial year and a budget provision of Rs. 15.00 crores has been made for the current financial year.

In addition to the SAI stadia facilities, Shivaji Stadium, Ambedkar Stadium and Chhatrsal Stadium are also being

upgraded. R.K. Khanna Stadium is being renovated by its management for which Govt. of India has approved an expenditure of Rs. 100.50 lakhs.

For overseeing the upgradation of above facilities a Steering Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister. A Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of LG of Delhi to coordinate all agencies responsible for upgradation of infrastructure and beautification of the city of Delhi has also been formed.

For the smooth conduct of the Games, a First Afro Asian Games, 2001 Organizing Committee has been constituted. This Committee is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Committees have been constituted to look after the day-to-day activities pertaining to the conduct of the Games.

The overall preparations for the Games are proceeding on schedule.

#### **Training to Bihar International Players**

1195. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is significant contribution of the players of Bihar in national and international level sports especially in the field of Football and Hockey;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the training of the talented players of Bihar; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to promote sports in Bihar, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has established in 2000-01 two Special Area Games Centres at Kishanganj and Muzzafarpur in the disciplines of Football, Athletics, Kabaddi, and Volleyball and a SAI Training Centre at Patna in the disciplines of Football, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Table Tennis and Badminton.

Apart from above an Army Boys Sports Company Centre at Danapur also trains sub-junior level sports persons in the disciplines of Football and Hockey.

These Centres are having various sports facilities and expert coaches to impart scientific training to produce national and international level players from the State.

(c) Does not arise.

**Availability of Water Resources**

1196.DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have estimated available water resources in each State in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated per-capita availability of water, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :  
(a) to (c) Availability of water is assessed river basin-wise. As per the assessment of Central Water Commission in 1993, the average annual flow in the river-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM, out of which 1122 BCM is utilisable comprising of about 690 BCM as surface water and 432 BCM as replenishable ground water.

River basin-wise water availability and the estimated per capita availability of water is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***River Basinwise Water Availability and Per Capita Availability*

Sl. No.	River Basin	Average Annual Surface Water Availability (Billion Cubic Metre)	Per Capita Water availability in the year 2000 (Cubic Metre)
1	2	3	4
1.	Indus	73.31	1482
2.	Ganga-Brahmaputra Barak		
	a. Ganga	525.02	1239
	b. Brahmaputra and Barak	585.6	14057
3.	Godavari	110.54	1734
4.	Krishna	78.12	1088
5.	Cauvery	21.36	619
6.	Pennar	6.32	550
	East Flowing Rivers		
7.	a. Between Mahanadi and Pennar	22.52	808

1	2	3	4
8.	b. Between Pennar and Kanyakumari	16.46	311
9.	Mahanadi	66.88	2131
10.	Brahmani and Baltarni	28.48	2463
11.	Subarnrekha	12.37	1118
12.	Sabarmati	3.81	307
13.	Mahi	11.02	888
14.	West Flowing Rivers of Kutchh, Saurashtra including Luni	15.1	579
15.	Narmada	45.64	2628
16.	Tapi	14.88	853
	West Flowing Rivers		
17.	a. Tapi to Tadri	87.41	2870
18.	b. Tadri to Kanyakumari	113.53	2950
19.	Area of Inland Drainage in Rajasthan Desert	Neg.	-
20.	Minor Rivers Basins Draining into Bangladesh and Myanmar	31.00	12500
Total		1869.35	1869

Note : Totals may not tally due to rounding off.

**Projects for Civil Aviation in Gujarat**

1197.SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects sanctioned for development of civil aviation in Gujarat during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the names of the projects in respect of which construction work has since commenced and whether the progress of the works is as per the scheduled programme; and

(c) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken towards completion of these projects in time ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The following airport development projects have been sanctioned in Gujarat during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the progress of work is as indicated below :-

AHMEDABAD – The extension and strengthening of runway from 9000 ft. to 11500 ft. and strengthening of apron, taxi-track and allied works have been completed as per schedule. For construction of new domestic departure terminal building the detailed engineering planning is in progress. Work is being awarded for construction of fire station, Motor Transport Pool and Workshop. The work relating to construction of parallel taxiway isolation bay etc. is in progress as per schedule.

BHAVNAGAR – For construction of new fire station and boundary wall; work is being awarded.

BHUJ – The construction of terminal building, apron and taxiway; work is in progress. Completion of work is delayed due to earthquake in Gujarat.

PORBANDAR – The construction of terminal building, apron and link taxiway; the work is in progress. But progress is delayed due to dispute with the consultant for providing drawings. The matter is being sorted out and work is expected to restart next month. For construction of operational wall, work is being awarded.

VADODARA – The work relating to construction of fire station and control tower cum technical block have been completed as per schedule.

RAJKOT – Strengthening of runway and associated works have been completed as per scheduled.

JAMNAGAR – Widening of taxi-track, strengthening of apron and shoulders works have been completed as per schedule.

### Cleaning of Rivers

1198. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :  
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :

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

(a) the total amount spent for making Godavari, Cauvery and Krishna rivers pollution free during the last five years and current year, till date, river-wise;

(b) whether several factories are still polluting these rivers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the desired results have not been achieved even after installation of treatment plants particularly under Godavari Action Plan;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to make them pollution free ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The total amount released to the concerned implementing agencies for making Godavari, Cauvery and Krishna rivers pollution free during the last five years and current year, till date, river-wise is given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Rivers	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	Total
1.	Tamil Nadu	Cauvery	105.98	85.62	0.00	90.00	649.57	2896.00	3827.17
2.	Karnataka	Cauvery	79.72	115.00	0.00	90.00	435.65	309.00	1029.37
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Godavari	163.81	210.00	200.00	0.00	677.89	0.00	1251.70
4.	Maharashtra	Krishna Godavari	140.01	12.79	100.00	0.00	233.00	1199.80	1685.60
Total			489.52	423.41	300.00	180.00	1996.11	4404.80	7793.84

(b) and (c) There are 82 factories in Tamilnadu and one in Karnataka polluting Cauvery, 2 in Karnataka Polluting Krishna and 10 in Maharashtra polluting Godavari.

(d) and (e) The treatment plants are under implementation under these Action Plans. The desired results can be expected only after the projects are completed.

(f) In order to make these rivers pollution free, these have been included under the National River Conservation Plan and pollution abatement works of the following categories are being implemented along the polluted stretches of these rivers :

- (i) Interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river and divert it for treatment.
- (ii) Sewage treatment plants for treating the diverted sewage.
- (iii) Low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks.
- (iv) Electric and improved wood based crematoria to conserve wood and prevent the pollution of rivers.
- (v) River front development works such as improvement of bathing ghats etc.
- (vi) Other miscellaneous works.

#### **Standard of Sports in States**

1199. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the standard of sports is not upto the mark in some of the States including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government at the Central level to improve the standard of sports in the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The participation of sportspersons in competitive sports may differ from State to State. Certain sports disciplines are more popular in some States than the others, as a result of which there is more participation and competition leading to an overall higher standard in the particular disciplines. For instance, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi have high standard in Wrestling; Manipur and Andhra Pradesh in Women's Weight Lifting; Kerala, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in Athletics. As regards Uttar Pradesh, it has high standard in the disciplines of Hockey, Athletics and Wrestling.

(c) Government of India implements the following schemes to improve the standard of sports :

- (i) Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools;

- (ii) Rural Sports Programme;
- (iii) Sports Scholarship scheme;
- (iv) Sports Festival for Women;
- (v) Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure;
- (vi) Grants for Promotion of Sports in Colleges and Universities;
- (vii) Grant for Installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces;
- (viii) National Welfare Fund for Sports Persons;
- (ix) Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sports Persons;
- (x) Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches;
- (xi) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award;
- (xii) Arjuna Award;
- (xiii) Dronacharya Award;
- (xiv) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy.

Apart from these, Sports Authority of India (SAI) also runs the following schemes :

- (i) National Sports Talent Contest;
- (ii) Army Boys Sports Company;
- (iii) Special Area Games;
- (iv) SAI Training Centers;
- (v) Centers of Excellence.
- (vi) National Coaching Scheme.

#### **Internet Node**

1200. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide separate internet node in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The Internet Node is already existing in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh.

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



**Pollution on Sea Shores/Beaches**

1201. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :  
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing level of pollution along the sea shores/beaches/coast of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the Central Government to check pollution of beaches and coastal waters include :

- i. Issuing of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which prohibits setting up of industries, processes and operations in Coastal Regulation Zone and regulates discharge of effluents and municipal sewage into the coastal waters.
- ii. Enacting of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which lays down standards for discharge of effluents.
- iii. Setting up of the National Coastal Zone Management Authority and the Coastal Zone Management Authorities of Coastal States and Union Territories under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for enforcement of the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 and to take necessary action against the violators.
- iv. Enacting of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, which regulates discharge of effluents.
- v. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued notices to all the Coastal State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control Committees of Union Territories to regulate discharge of untreated sewage/effluents.
- vi. Setting up of the Aquaculture Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate aquaculture activities in coastal areas.
- vii. Funding of schemes for setting up of sewage treatment plants in some coastal towns of West Bengal.

[English]

**Restoration of Indo-Pak Cricket Test**

1202. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to restore the Indo-Pak test cricket matches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also considering to restore hockey matches between two countries in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) After taking all the relevant factors into consideration, the Government has come to the view that circumstances prevailing at present are not fully conducive for Indian cricket team to play bilateral matches against Pakistan. There is, however, generally no objection to playing against Pakistan in multilateral matches at regular venues.

(c) and (d) Presently, Government has not received any proposal for hockey matches with Pakistan from the concerned National Sports Federation. The Government will take a decision on receipt of the proposal in this regard.

**Growth and Exploitation of Medicinal Plants**

1203. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any systematic assessment of the medicinal plant resources in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the medicinal plants, location-wise;

(c) the details of the different types of trees identified as fast vanishing due to extensive deforestation process in the country;

(d) the number and category of medicinal/commercial value trees planted particularly in Orissa and Tamil Nadu during the last three years and till-date, State-wise;

(e) whether there is a need to give due protection for proper growth and exploitation of each kind of medicinal plants in various States; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) In a recent study sponsored by Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore listed seven thousand two hundred fifty two plant species which are used in the country for their medicinal properties. The Botanical Survey of India has also undertaken assessment of the plant resources of the country and it has prepared a Red Data Book listing the threatened and endangered species of plants including medicinal plants. The Red Data Book prepared by the Botanical Survey of India lists twenty nine medicinal plants which are threatened/endangered.

(c) Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country biannually since 1987. As per the latest assessment for 1996-98 forest cover of the country has marginally increased from 19.27 to 19.39%.

(d) to (f) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants is being implemented throughout the country. It is an on-going scheme which provides 100% financial assistance to the State Governments for conservation, development and increasing production of non-timber forest produce including medicinal plants. The scheme is confined mainly to degraded forest areas. Under this scheme, plantation of Medicinal Plants is also a component.

In Orissa and Tamil Nadu, the scheme is being implemented wherein Mixed Plantation of Trees having minor forest produce and medicinal values are taken up. Details of the last three years upto the present are as follows :-

Name of State	Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)	Achievement (area in ha)
1	2	3	4
Orissa	1998-1999	102.88	1750
	1999-2000	77.06	1850
	2000-2001	132.20	1125
	2001-2002	41.37 (as on date)	1200 (target)

	1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu	1998-1999		33.00	45
		1999-2000	0.00	250
		2000-2001	34.75	250
		2001-2002	19.00 (as on date)	250 (target)

During 2000-2001, Medicinal Plants have been declared as one of the Thrust Areas by the Ministry in which projects solely for plantation of Medicinal Plants have been invited and sanctioned under this scheme. Till date 18 such projects with an outlay of Rs. 8.55 crores have been sanctioned for treating an area of 5,285 ha during the remaining two years of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

The Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy is implementing a Scheme "Central Scheme for Development and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants" for setting up of Medicinal Plants Gardens for cultivation of identified medicinal plants used in Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy. These gardens are to serve as Centres for demonstration, education and creation of awareness etc. about the importance of medicinal plants.

[Translation]

#### Conversion of Mumbai-Nasik Road

1204. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal regarding converting of National Highway No.3 into four lanes from Mumbai to Nasik; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The State Government has forwarded a proposal for engaging consultant to carry out feasibility study for converting into four lanes, Gonde-Nasik-Pimpalgaon Section of National Highway No. 3 and bids for this purpose have been invited by them. Gonde-Nasik stretch is between Thane (Mumbai) and Nasik.

[English]

#### Leasing of Bauxite Mines to Private Sector in Orissa

1205. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have leased out some bauxite mines in Orissa to Private Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the terms and conditions on which those bauxite mines have been leased out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c)

Mineral Concessions are granted by the State Governments concerned as per the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder.

As per information furnished by the State Government of Orissa, 7 mining leases (ML) for bauxite have been granted to private parties as per details given below :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Lessee	Area in Hects.	Location	Date of execution of ML
1.	M/s Orissa Industries Ltd.	102.996	Kusumdihi (Sundargarh Distt.)	1.8.77 (20 years). Renewal of ML applied on 25.6.96
2.	M/s. Orissa Industries Ltd.	106.138	Tantra (Sundargarh Distt.)	8.11.82 (20 years)
3.	Shri U.C. Mishra	43.067	Kamarda (Sundargarh Distt.)	26.2.85 (20 years)
4.	Shri S.N. Mohanty	333.275	Jaladihi (Sundargarh Distt.)	20.1.87 (20 years)
5.	M/s. Rungta Sons (P) Ltd.	147.100	San-Indupur (Sundargarh Distt.)	6.9.85 (20 years)
6.	M/s. Bonai Industries Co.	52.176	Kusumdihi (Sundargarh Distt.)	14.1.81 (20 years)
7.	M/s. Utkal Alumina International Ltd. (Transferred by OMC Ltd. on 10.11.2000)	1388.74	Bapnalimali (Rayagada Distt.)	17.2.98 (30 years)

These 7 mining leases have been given as per the general terms and conditions as laid down in the model form for mining lease as prescribed in Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. In addition a special condition has been imposed in respect of M/s. Utkal Alumina International Ltd. for captive use of the mineral in their proposed Alumina project in Rayagada district.

#### **Purchase of Instrument at Higher Rate**

1206. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry against telecommunication officials for purchasing instruments at higher rates;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof and the number of officials arrested;
- (c) the losses suffered as a result thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officials ?

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

#### **More Flights on Hyderabad-Delhi Sector**

1207. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any plan to increase the number of flights on Hyderabad-Delhi Sector as the present flights on this sector are inadequate; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines, at present, operates two services per day on the sector Delhi-Hyderabad. According to Indian Airlines, the present capacity is considered to be adequate to cater to the traffic demand on the sector. Besides, Jet Airways also operates a daily flight on this sector. In addition, it proposes to add one more flight on this sector w.e.f. 5th September, 2001.

[Translation]

#### **Cases of M.T.N.L.**

1208. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the cases relating to the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited filed in the office of

Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) w.e.f. March 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001;

(b) the details of the Unions who have filed the said cases;

(c) the action taken on each case so far;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for the early disposal of the cases; and

(e) the time by which these cases are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) According to available information, eight disputes were raised before the RLC(C), New Delhi and four disputes were raised before RLC(C), Mumbai during the period 1.3.2000 to 30.6.2001 relating to the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited. The disputes were raised on issues relating to unfair labour practice, wage agreement and strike notice on charter of demands. A Statement giving relevant details of the cases along with action taken is enclosed.

#### Statement

S. No.	Management	Union	Action taken
1.	MTNL (Delhi)	Bahujan Trade Union of MTNL	Disposed off on 30.4.2001 with an amicable understanding between the parties.
2.	MTNL (Delhi)	Bahujan Trade Union of MTNL	Disposed off on 30.4.2001 with an amicable understanding between the parties.
3.	MTNL (Delhi)	MTNL Staff Union	Amicable settlement between the parties on 21.7.2000
4.	MTNL (Delhi)	MTNL Staff Union	Amicable settlement between the parties on 18.7.2000
5.	MTNL (Delhi)	Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Karamchari Sangh	Amicable settlement between the parties on 16.12.2000
6.	MTNL (Delhi)	Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Karamchari Sangh	Conciliations proceedings fixed on 19.7.2001
7.	MTNL (Delhi)	MTNL Staff Union	Disposed off on 14.5.2001 with an amicable understanding between the parties.
8.	MTNL (Delhi)	MTNL Staff Union	Disposed off in April, 2001 with an amicable understanding between the parties.
9.	MTNL (Mumbai)	MTNL Kamgar Sangh	Held detailed discussion with the management and the matter was adjourned to further discussion by mutual consent of the parties for final disposal.
10.	MTNL (Mumbai)	Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Employees Union	Held detailed discussion with the management and the matter was adjourned to further discussion by mutual consent of the parties for final disposal.
11.	MTNL (Mumbai)	MTNL Karamchari Front.	The matter was settled after reaching an understanding between the parties.
12.	MTNL (Mumbai)	MTNL Kamgar Sangh	Held detailed discussion with the management and the matter was adjourned to further discussion by mutual consent of the parties for final disposal.

*[English]***Inadequate Telecom Facilities**

1209. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is inadequate telephone and telecommunication facilities in rural and Kandi areas of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in far-flung areas of district Rajouri and Poonch;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to launch a special drive to provide said facilities in these areas; and

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

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) For the year 2001-2002, following targets have been fixed for Rajouri and Poonch districts :-

Sl. No.	Parameter	Target
1.	Addition in telephone exchanges capacity	6392 lines
2.	Provision of net Direct Exchange Lines (DELs)	3500 Nos.
3.	Provision of Village Public Tele-phones (VPTs)	78 Nos.
4.	OFC connectivity	13 exchanges
5.	Microwave system	3 exchanges
6.	MCPC V-SATs	12 Nos.

In addition to above, Internet Nodes are also planned at District Headquarters of Rajouri and Poonch during 2001-2002.

**Cancellation of Flights from Trivandrum Airport**

1210. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flights being operated by Air India from Trivandrum to Gulf countries that have been cancelled after the commissioning of the Nedumbassery Airport;

(b) whether the Government propose to direct the Air India to reroute those flights through Trivandrum International Airport;

(c) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Consequent to commissioning of the Nedumbassery Airport, 8 flights operating ex/via Thiruvananthapuram were cancelled and re-routed to operate via Kochi instead of Thiruvananthapuram by Air India.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. There are commercial decisions of the Airlines. Air India, however, continues to operate direct flights between Thiruvananthapuram and Abu Dhabi, Dammam, Dubai, Kuwait, Muscat and Riyadh. Besides, these flights with transfer connection over Mumbai are available to/from Bahrain, Bangkok, Hongkong, London, New York, Osaka, Singapore and Tokyo.

**Assistance for construction of Indoor Stadium in Karnataka**

1211. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal for financial assistance for construction of Indoor Stadium at Venkatappa Physical Trust, Chikkaballapur Kokar in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have not considered the proposal;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(e) the time by which this proposal is likely to be considered and funds released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Karnataka forwarded the proposal from the Trust on 2.6.99 for construction of Indoor Stadium at K.V. College of Physical Education under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure.

(c) to (e) The proposal was not considered as financial assistance is not admissible to colleges under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure. The State Government/Trust were advised to reformulate the proposal under the Scheme for Promotion of Sports in Universities and Colleges. The revised proposal has not yet been received.

[Translation]

#### **Direct Flight from Delhi to Patna**

1212. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start direct flights from Delhi to Patna; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) At present, there is no such proposal, under consideration of Indian Airlines to start direct flights from Delhi to Patna. Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are, however, operating services between Delhi and Patna via Ranchi/Lucknow. Airline Operators are, however, free to operate on any sector subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines and commercial viability.

[English]

#### **Telephone Exchanges In A.P.**

1213. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges working on optical fibre media in Andhra Pradesh at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to modernise transmission links to some exchanges by optical fibre;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of such telephone exchanges modernised during the last three years; and

(e) the number of exchanges likely to be modernised on UHF/Microwave and Satellite Media ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 1997 Exchanges on Optical Fibre media and 621 exchanges on Microwave media are working in Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle as on 30.6.2001.

(b) Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle has plans to provide reliable media viz. Optical Fibre Cable, Microwave

etc. to all exchanges by March, 2002 subject to availability of resources.

(c) 73 remaining exchanges not having reliable media will be connected on Optical Fibre Cable during this year. Out of this 63 will be connected on Optical Fibre Cable.

(d) 1940 exchanges were connected by reliable media during last three years in Andhra Pradesh. Telecom Circle.

(e) 10 out of the remaining 73 exchanges presently on non-reliable media will provided reliable media on Microwave during this year.

#### **Long Distance Telephone**

1214. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any study on the potential income proposed to be earned if the rights to long distance telephone are auctioned for a certain period of time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the revenue to be earned as a result thereof ?

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

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

#### **ESI Coverage for Agricultural Workers**

1215. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement pension scheme for agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some ESIC hospitals are under utilised due to lack of ESIC memberships; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The Government has launched 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana - 2001' for agricultural workers from 1st July, 2001. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, the Life Insurance Corporation of the India (LIC) will implement the Scheme. The following provisions of social security have been made under the Scheme :

- (a) Life-cum-accident insurance.
- (b) Money back, and
- (c) Pension and Superannuation benefits.

Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 years to 50 year are eligible for coverage under the Scheme. The worker will contribute Rs. 1/- per day, or Rs. 365/- per year, and the Government will pay Rs. 2/- per day, or Rs. 730/- per year, per beneficiary from the Social Security Fund. Initially the Scheme will be implemented in 50 Districts.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In order to increase the membership of the ESI Scheme, a phased programme for implementation of the scheme in new areas is prepared every year in consultation with the State Governments so that the infrastructure created may be put to full use. An intensive survey has been undertaken in already implemented areas to identify factories and establishments which are coverable under the scheme, but not yet covered. Infrastructure is being modernized/improved under Action Plans so that the insured persons use the existing hospitals.

#### **Mining Activities in Tamil Nadu**

1216. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the mining activities going on in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the total income generated by the State Government annually from different mining activities; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the granite quarrying in the Tamil Nadu State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per information maintained by Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines, the principal minerals produced in the State of Tamil Nadu are lignite, natural gas, petroleum (crude), bauxite, ballclay, dunite, felspar, fireclay, garnet (abrasive), graphite, gypsum, laterite, lime kankar, limestone, magnesite, mica, quartz, silica and steatite and vermiculite. The total value of mineral production in the State of Tamil Nadu excluding atomic minerals sand minor minerals (as defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957) in 1999-2000 was provisionally estimated at Rs. 1,182 crores.

(c) Granite is a minor mineral. The State Governments including Tamil Nadu have framed their own Minor Mineral

Concession Rules (MMCR) for regulating the grant of mineral concessions for minor minerals including granite under Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957. The Central Government has also framed the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 in exercise of powers conferred by Section 18 of the MMDR Act for conservation and systematic development and scientific mining to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe an uniform framework with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

[Translation]

#### **Ban on Manufacturing and use of Polythene**

1217. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any requests from some State Governments for imposing complete ban on the use and manufacturing of polythene;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the Government are likely to take a final decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Requests from individuals and organisations have been received for, inter-alia, making it mandatory for manufacturers to collect and recycle plastic containers and imposing a complete ban on the use and manufacturing of polythene bags.

In order to examine various environmental issues related to indiscriminate littering of plastic wastes with particular reference to disposal, and to examine various regulations on plastic wastes disposal brought out by Central and State Governments and suggest appropriate measures for collection, segregation, treatment and disposal of plastic wastes, a Committee on Plastic Wastes Disposal has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the chairmanship of Shri Ranganath Misra former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and presently Member of Parliament.

[English]

#### **Repair of National Highway-44**

1218. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the National Highway-44 connecting the North-Eastern region of the country has been in a bad shape;

(b) if so, the portion of the National Highway that required urgent attention and repairs; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to repair the above National Highway urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Highway No. 44 connecting the North-Eastern Region of the country is in traffic worthy condition. However, a small stretch near Sonapur is prone to landslides during monsoons requiring urgent attention and repairs.

(c) Necessary repairs and remedial measures such as, stabilization of slopes, deployment of dedicated plants and adequate manpower resources for clearance of slide, have been taken to keep the road open to traffic. Border Roads Organization is also exploring the possibility of realigning the stretch as a permanent solution to the landslide problem at Sonapur.

#### **World Bank Aided Environmental Projects**

1219. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

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

(a) the details of environmental projects being run with World Bank assistance in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total amount received from the World Bank for the purpose, project-wise;

(c) whether progress of some of these projects has been very slow,

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

(e) whether the World Bank has expressed deep concern over it; and

(f) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Union Government to speed up the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (f) The progress in respect of all the projects has not been as per the original schedule. This is largely due to involvement of several agencies, including State Governments, autonomous bodies etc. in the implementation process. Some of the projects, being implemented for the first time without any previous experience, had faced start-up problems. There is an established system of regular review of the projects funded by the World Bank in conjunction with the recipient Government and the implementing agencies. They share the concern of the Government of India on the slow progress of some of the projects.

In order to speed up the projects, the Government of India has strengthened the monitoring mechanism and is making all efforts to ensure adherence to physical and financial schedules through close interaction with State Governments/Implementing Agencies.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Project and duration	Implementing Agencies	States	Amount sanctioned by World Bank
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Environmental Management Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project (May 1997-June 2003)	Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, Department of Ocean Development, Govt. of India and Gujarat Department of Forests and Environment	Gujarat	US \$ 29.66 million
2.	Forestry Research Education and Extension Project (FREEP) (September 1994-December 2001)	Ministry of Environment and Forests, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) and the State Forest Departments of Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	US \$ 47 million



1	2	3	4	5
3. India Eco-development Project (December 1996-June 2002)	Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India and the State Forest Departments of Jharkhand, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan	Jharkhand, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	US \$ 28 million	
4. Industrial Pollution Prevention Project (March 1995-March 2002)	Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India and the State Forest Departments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh	US \$ 23 million	
5. Kerala Forestry Project (1998-2002)	Government of Kerala	Kerala	US \$ 39 million	
6. U.P. Forestry Project (1998-2002)	Govt. of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	US \$ 52 million	

*[Translation]***Creation of Industrial Tribunal**

1220. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to constitute more Central Industrial Tribunal and Labour Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has informed the Delhi High Court in May, 2001 about it;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the latest position of the proposal;

(e) whether the condition of labour courts in the country is deplorable particularly in Delhi as large number of cases are still pending therein;

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

(g) whether the post of presiding officers in most of the courts and tribunals are not being filled up since long time;

(h) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(i) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the working of labour courts ?

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

(b) New CGIT-cum-Labour Courts in Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Ernakulam and additional benches in Delhi and Chandigarh.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Delhi High Court was informed about the setting up of an additional bench of CGIT-cum-Labour Court in New Delhi in June, 2001 in a writ petition filed in the High Court, Delhi by Shri Ajay Bhatnagar.

(d) The Standing Finance Committee has approved the proposal and action has already been initiated to obtain the approval of the various competent authorities regarding technical aspects, e.g. creation of post of Presiding Officer etc.

(e) The overall pendency position in the CGIT-cum-Labour Courts situated all over the country while not deplorable is not satisfactory either. The pendency position of the cases in the CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Delhi is given in the enclosed Statement.

(f) A statement is enclosed.

(g) and (h) No, Sir. The posts of Presiding Officers are lying vacant in four CGIT-cum-Labour Courts only. Action to fill in two of them has already been completed while the same in the other two is at an advanced stage.

(i) (1) The need to reduce pendency of Industrial Dispute cases in the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts is impressed upon the Presiding Officers by

taking up the matter with them from time to time.

- (2) Expeditious steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts of Presiding Officers in the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities.
- (3) A meeting of all Presiding Officers was held on 24th and 25th May, 2001 in which the need to improve the working of labour courts was emphasised.
- (4) Departmental manual of procedure for use of Presiding Officers of CGIT-cum-Labour Courts has been finalised. It is expected that this manual would be useful for the Presiding Officers to dispose of cases quickly.

#### Statement

*The number of cases pending as on 31.5.2001*

Name of the CGIT-cum-Labour Court	Cases pending as on 31.5.2001
Asansol	430
Bangalore	494
Calcutta	214 @
Chandigarh	1886
Dhanbad-I	1599
Dhanbad-II	1476
Jabalpur	1375
Kanpur	590
Mumbai-I	215
Mumbai-II	308
New Delhi	1082
Jaipur	110
Nagpur	286 #
Lucknow	261
Chennai	563
Hyderabad	8
Bhubaneswar	405
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,302</b>

@ as on 31.3.2001

# as on 30.4.2001

[English]

#### Setting up of ESI Hospitals

1221. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees of State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has decided to upgrade the existing ESI hospitals into model hospitals;

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

(c) whether the ESIC has decided to privatise three of its hospitals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The Employees State Insurance Corporation has proposed to upgrade 15 ESI hospitals into model hospitals. The details are being worked out in consultation with the State Governments.

(c) and (d) The ESI Corporation has decided to run two ESI Hospitals situated in Bibvewadi (Pune) and Kolhapur in the State of Maharashtra with participation of private parties. The Corporation has called for proposals for 'Expression of Interest' by way of open advertisement in newspapers to finalise the modalities for running these hospitals.

#### Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan

1222. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some new telephone exchanges and upgrade existing exchanges in the Country particularly Rajasthan during 2001-2002;

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

(c) whether the Government have assessed the requirement of cable, pipe instruments for upgradation of existing telephone exchanges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount allocated for the purpose during the said period State-wise ?

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

(b) It is planned to add 68,30,000 Direct Exchange lines in all BSNL Circles including Rajasthan during 2001-

2002 to set up new exchanges and upgrade of existing exchanges. Circle-wise Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The factor of upgradation of existing exchanges included in the expansion of the particular year where equivalent cable, pipes instruments etc. as per standards are allotted to different circles.

(e) An amount of Rs. 12261.12 Crores (Budget Estimate provision) is allocated for setting up of new telephone exchanges and upgrading the existing telephone exchanges in BSNL circles during 2001-2002. Circle-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*Direct Exchange Lines Planned and Funds allocation for 2001-2002*

Name of the Circle	DELs Target	BE 2001-2002 Provision (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3
Andman and Nicobar	10000	22.17
Andhra Pradesh	530000	1251.94
Assam	100000	179.87
Bihar	170000	299.53
Jharkhand	82000	152.19
Gujarat	650000	1057.58
Haryana	245500	384.48
Himachal Pradesh	90000	172.77
Jammu and Kashmir	80000	142.09
Karnataka	500000	839.94
Kerala	718000	1365.9
Madhya Pradesh	155000	317.42
Chattisgarh	40000	90.94
Maharashtra	750000	1072.94
North East-I	32000	97.23
North East-II	21500	62.49
Orissa	135000	194.49
Punjab	460000	672.57
Rajasthan	300000	466.79

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	396000	981.96
Uttar Pradesh East	325000	766.45
Uttar Pradesh West	300000	437.9
Uttaranchal	75000	138.45
West Bengal	300000	481.38
Kolkatta	165000	380.12
Chennai	200000	231.53
Total	6830000	12261.12

#### Domestic Services by VSNL

1223. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) propose to start domestic services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the areas of operation identified for the purpose;

(c) the time by which the said services are likely to be introduced; and

(d) the total kilometres of route of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) proposed to be laid by the VSNL, State-wise ?

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

(b) VSNL have planned to introduce the National Long Distance (NLD) services in limited cities.

(c) The service is likely to start within the current financial year.

(d) As on date, VSNL do not propose to lay its own Optical Fibre Cable.

#### Satellite Money Order/Speed Post Facility

1224. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the towns/cities-in various States where Satellite Money Order/Speed Post facility is available at present;

- (b) the time taken in delivery of speed post articles;
- (c) whether the Government propose to cover more towns/cities during the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As on date Seventy-seven (77) Satellite Money Order stations as per the enclosed Statement-I are functioning in the country. In addition, one thousand three hundred and fifty (1,350) post offices are linked to these satellite stations through telephone lines for transmission of money orders. The list of one hundred and twenty (120) stations where speed post facility is available is enclosed as Statement-II.

(b) Delivery norms are fixed taking into account the fastest transport available to link the stations. Delivery of Speed post articles takes place the next working day in major towns linked by daily flights, whereas at other stations, delivery is effected on the third day or fourth day depending on the connectivity of flights/train schedule etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government proposes to install Satellite Money Order stations in Seventy four (74) more cities during the current year. The list of new satellite stations is enclosed as Statement-III. An additional Four hundred (400) post offices would be linked to the Satellite stations as Extended Satellite Money Order stations through telephone line during the current year. The expansion of Speed Post facility to other towns and cities will be considered after assessing the market potential, anticipated revenue and the connectivity of transport network.

#### Statement-I

##### *List of VSAT Stations State-wise*

Sl.No.	State	Office
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupathy
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakapatnam
6.	APS	1CBPO
7.	APS	2CBPO
8.	Assam	Dibrugarh

1	2	3
9.	Assam	Guwahati
10.	Assam	Silchar
11.	Assam	Tezpur
12.	Bihar	Darbhanga
13.	Bihar	Gaya
14.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur
15.	Bihar	Patna
16.	Bihar	Purnea
17.	Chattisgarh	Jabalpur
18.	Chattisgarh	Raipur
19.	Delhi	Ashok Vihar
20.	Delhi	New Delhi
21.	Goa	Panaji
22.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
23.	Gujarat	Rajkot
24.	Gujarat	Surat
25.	Gujarat	Vadodara
26.	Haryana	Ambala
27.	Haryana	Rohtak
28.	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamsala
29.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
30.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
31.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
32.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
33.	Karnataka	Bangalore
34.	Karnataka	Gulbarga
35.	Karnataka	Hubli
36.	Karnataka	Mangalore
37.	Karnataka	Mysore
38.	Kerala	Calicut
39.	Kerala	Ernakulam
40.	Kerala	Kavratti
41.	Kerala	Trivandrum
42.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal

1	2	3
43.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior
44.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
45.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
46.	Maharashtra	Dadar
47.	Maharashtra	Mumbai
48.	Maharashtra	Nagpur
49.	Maharashtra	Pune
50.	North East	Agartala
51.	North East	Aizawl
52.	North East	Kohima
53.	North East	Shillong
54.	Orissa	Berhampur
55.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar
56.	Orissa	Sambalpur
57.	Punjab	Jalandhar
58.	Punjab	Ludhiana City
59.	Rajasthan	Ajmer
60.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
61.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur
62.	Rajasthan	Udaipur
63.	Tamilnadu	Chennai
64.	Tamilnadu	Coimbatore
65.	Tamilnadu	Madurai
66.	Tamilnadu	Trichy
67.	Uttaranchal	Sahranpur
68.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
69.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
70.	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
71.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur
72.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
73.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi
74.	West Bengal	Asansol
75.	West Bengal	Calcutta
76.	West Bengal	Port Blair
77.	West Bengal	Siliguri

**Statement-II***List of Speed Post Centres State-wise*

Sl.No.	State	National Speed Post Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
2.		Hyderabad
3.		Kurnool
4.		Tirupati
5.		Vijaywada
6.		Visakhapatnam
7.	Assam	Dibrugarh
8.		Guwahati
9.		Jorhat
10.		Silchar
11.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur
12.		Patna
13.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad
14.		Jamshedpur
15.		Ranchi
16.	Delhi	New Delhi
17.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
18.		Rajkot
19.		Surat
20.		Vadodara
21.	Haryana	Ambala
22.		Faridabad
23.		Gurgaon
24.		Karnal
25.		Kurukshetra
26.		Panipat
27.	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala
28.		Hamirpur
29.		Mandi
30.		Shimla
31.		Solan

1	2	3
32.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
33.		Srinagar
34.	Karnataka	Bangalore
35.		Belgaum
36.		Bellary
37.		Davangere
38.		Dharwad
39.		Gulbarga
40.		Hubli
41.		Mangalore
42.		Mysore
43.		Raichur
44.		Udupi
45.	Kerala	Alwaye
46.		Calicut
47.		Cochin
48.		Kottayam
49.		Quilon
50.		Tiruvalla
51.		Trichur
52.		Trivandrum
53.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
54.		Gwalior
55.		Indore
56.		Ujjain
57.	Chattisgarh	Jabalpur
58.		Raipur
59.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
60.		Mumbai
61.		Nagpur
62.		Nasik
63.		Pune
64.		Thane
65.	Goa	Panaji
66.	Manipur	Imphal

1	2	3
67.	Meghalaya	Shillong
68.	Mizoram	Aizwal
69.	Nagaland	Kohima
70.	Tripura	Agartala
71.	Orissa	Berhampur
72.		Bhubaneshwar
73.		Cuttack
74.		Rourkela
75.		Sambalpur
76.	Punjab	Amritsar
77.		Chandigarh
78.		Jalandhar
79.		Ludhiana
80.		Pathankot
81.		Patiala
82.		Phagwara
83.	Rajasthan	Ajmer
84.		Jaipur
85.		Jodhpur
86.		Udaipur
87.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
88.		Coimbatore
89.		Cuddalore
90.		Hosur
91.		Kanchipuram
92.		Karur
93.		Madurai
94.		Nagercoil
95.		Pondicherry
96.		Salem
97.		Trupur
98.		Trichy
99.		Tuticorin
100.		Vellore
101.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra

1	2	3
102.		Allahabad
103.		Bareilly
104.		Ghaziabad
105.		Gorakhpur
106.		Kanpur
107.		Lucknow
108.		Meerut
109.		Moradabad
110.		Noida
111.		Saharanpur
112.		Varanasi
113.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun
114.	West Bengal	Howrah
115.		Kharagpur
116.		Kolkata
117.		Siliguri
118.	Sikkim	Gangtok
119.	Army Postal Service	56 APO
120.		99 APO

**Statement-III***Satellite Stations to be installed in 2001*

Sl.No.	State	Office
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Hanamkonda
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Nandyal
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Nizamabad
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajamundri
9.	Andhra Pradesh	Srikakulam
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Vizhianagaram
11.	Assam	Dhubri

1	2	3
12.	Assam	Jorhat
13.	Assam	Karimganj
14.	Assam	Nagaon
15.	Assam	Tinsukia
16.	Bihar	Bhagalpur
17.	Bihar	Samastipur
18.	Bihar	Siwan
19.	Chattisgarh	Bilaspur
20.	Delhi	Parliament Street
21.	Gujarat	Anand
22.	Gujarat	Bhavnagar
23.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
24.	Gujarat	Jamnagar
25.	Gujarat	Mahesana
26.	Gujarat	Nadiad
27.	Gujarat	Navasari
28.	Haryana	Faridabad
29.	Haryana	Gurgaon
30.	Haryana	Hissar
31.	Haryana	Karnal
32.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
33.	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
34.	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur
35.	Karnataka	Belgaum
36.	Karnataka	Devangere
37.	Karnataka	Hassan
38.	Karnataka	Bijapur
39.	Karnataka	Shimoga
40.	Kerala	Kozhikode
41.	Kerala	Kollam
42.	Kerala	Kottayam
43.	Kerala	Palakad
44.	Kerala	Thrissur
45.	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain

1	2	3
46.	Maharashtra	Nashik
47.	Maharashtra	Ratnagiri
48.	Manipur	Imphal
49.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
50.	Orissa	Cuttack
51.	Orissa	Rourkela
52.	Punjab	Amritsar
53.	Punjab	Bhatinda
54.	Punjab	Chandigarh
55.	Punjab	Patiala
56.	Rajasthan	Kota
57.	Tamilnadu	Erode
58.	Tamilnadu	Pondicherry
59.	Tamilnadu	Salem
60.	Tamilnadu	Tirunelveli
61.	Tamilnadu	Udagamandalam
62.	Tamilnadu	Virudhunagar
63.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh
64.	Uttar Pradesh	Azamgarh
65.	Uttar Pradesh	Ballia
66.	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
68.	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda
69.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur
70.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi
71.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut Cantt
72.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun
73.	West Bengal	Gangtok
74.	West Bengal	Howrah

#### Licence Fee

1225. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the present rate of licence fee at respective frequencies per Mhz. And to CDMA-WLL operators in the Mobile Cellular operations;

(b) whether the Government are suffering at the hands of CDMA-WLL operators vis-a-vis GSM-Cellular operators in terms of revenue realisation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Licence Fee is being charged @ 12%, 10% and 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue for Category A, B and C Service Areas respectively from Basic Telephone Service as well as Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Operators. Spectrum is being charged @ 2% of Annual Gross Revenue earned from subscribers utilizing spectrum in access systems subject to technical feasibility and admissibility under the terms and conditions of their respective Licence Agreements.

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

[Translation]

#### Telephone Facility

1226. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the existing rules for laying of underground cable;

(b) whether the underground cable is being laid less than one feet deep in some districts of Jharkhand State;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether several telephone exchanges are out of order in the State particularly Giddi telephone exchange for one month; and

(f) if so, the time by which these are likely to be made functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As per the existing rules the underground cable are to be normally laid at a depth of one meter.

(b) No, Sir.

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

(e) and (f) There is no such report of failure of the Giddi Telephone Exchange for one month However, there are some problems in some of the telephone exchanges



of Jharkhand Telecom Circle due to the following reasons as per the details given in the enclosed statement.

- (i) Exchanges connected on unreliable media.
- (ii) Failure of small exchanges primarily due to lightning.
- (iii) Prolonged commercial electric supply failure.
- (iv) Extremist activities.

#### Statement

#### 1. Hazaribagh SSA :

The following four Exchanges under the Hazaribagh SSA are working on unreliable media on over head alignment :-

- (a) Badam
- (b) Keredari
- (c) Arkhango
- (d) Barkatha

All these Exchanges are planned to be connected on reliable OFC by March, 2002 subject to availability of equipments.

#### 2. Daltonganj SSA :

Pandu :- Exchanges has been burnt by extremist on 16.2.01 and they are disturbing the process of installation and restoration process.

#### 3. Dhanbad SSA :

- (a) Bermo : Due to heavy storm, the antenna of UHF media was disoriented. Due to this the exchange worked without media for 5 days from 12.5.2001 to 16.5.2001. Now it is working alright.
- (b) Nawadih : Electric power is not available there. Media is on over head alignment. The work is in progress to link the exchange on OFC which is likely to be completed within three months after receiving the equipments.
- (c) Tupkadih : Due to absence of media the exchange is non-functional. To revive the exchange on OFC media, work in progress and likely to be completed within a month.
- (d) Bhandaridah : Media is non-functional since 18.6.2001 due to major fault in the UHF system. The exchange will be restored within 15 days time.

[English]

#### Telephone Dues

1227. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of telephone subscribers of Gaya telecom circle in Bihar who are yet to pay pending dues to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

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

(c) the steps taken by the BSNL to recover the said dues from the defaulter subscribers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) About 1/5th of total subscribers of Gaya Telephone District in Bihar had yet to pay pending dues to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited as on 30.6.2001.

(b) The details as on 30.6.2001, are given below :-

Name of District	Number of subscribers	Amount in lakh of rupees
Jehanabad	1464	133
Aurangabad	1610	140
Nawada	1631	141
Gaya	3319	267
<b>Total</b>	<b>8024</b>	<b>681</b> (say 6.8 crores)

(c) The steps taken by BSNL to recover the dues include the following :-

- (i) Targets for liquidation of outstandings are set by the Corporate office and performance of field units monitored against them.
- (ii) Incentive is paid to staff for early recovery of outstandings.
- (iii) High Power Committees and liquidation Boards have been set up in the circles for early liquidation of outstandings.
- (iv) Collection efficiency of Circles is monitored by BSNL Headquarter each month.
- (v) The units are persuaded to apply correct tariffs, issue bills promptly and disconnect telephones

of defaulters for non-payment as per prescribed procedure.

**Incoming Calls on Cellular/  
Mobile Telephones**

1228. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to make incoming calls free on cellular mobile telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Under the present tariff regime for Cellular services, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has no proposal to make incoming calls free on cellular mobile telephones.

**VRS in Air India and Indian Airlines**

1229. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines have prepared a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have approved this VRS for both of the Airlines;

(d) if so, the amount likely to be involved in it;

(e) the total number of employees in Air India and Indian Airlines who have sought to avail this scheme; and

(f) the number of employees likely to be given VRS, Airline-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) Since both Air India and Indian Airlines are going ahead for disinvestment, Government has felt offering of VRS at this stage is likely to depress the financial bids of prospective bidders. Government has, therefore, decided that this should be left as a Business policy option for the reconstituted Board of Directors of Air India and Indian Airlines, after the on going disinvestment process is completed. In view of this, there is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government for introduction of the VRS in Air India and Indian Airlines.

**Match Fixing**

1230. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Judicial Co-operation unit has confirmed their country's assistance in providing information about the match fixing allegations against South African Former Cricket Captain;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has helped in the match fixing investigations;

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

(d) if so, the time by which the recommendations of the inquiring committee are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Cellular Handsets**

1231. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of cellular handsets in the country at present;

(b) whether entire requirement of such handsets is presently met by import;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to create infrastructure for manufacture of such sets indigenously;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The total monthly requirement of cellular handsets in the country at present is estimated about 1.50,000 to 2,00,000 hand sets per month.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Manufacture of telecom equipment has been opened up for private sector participation with Foreign Direct Investment permitted upto 100% on automatic basis. The Government has announced several incentives to encourage manufacturing in India. However, the market forces decide setting up of such units, including manufacture of cellular handsets, volumes for deciding

economic viable capacities depending upon the technology, indigenous base of components etc.

#### **Development Plan of NH-47**

1232. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the development plan of the national highway No. 47 in Kerala;

(b) the reasons for the inordinate delay in completing the four lane projects in the State;

(c) whether there is any new plan to make four lane in NH-47; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and works are taken up in phases depending upon the inter-se priority of works and availability of funds. At present, development works to the tune of Rs. 40.77 Crore are in progress on NH-47. Besides, four laning of the portion of NH-47 from Cochin to Kerala-Tamil Nadu border forming part of Cochin-Salem spur of North-South Corridor is included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) and Port Connectivity Programme.

(b) The sanctioned project for four laning of Chertalai to Aluva (excluding 10 Kms.) section of NH-47 has been substantially completed except approaches to ROB at Kalamassery. The delay in completion of the approaches is due to the site problems.

(c) and (d) The programme for four laning of NH-47 in the State of Kerala is as under :-

(i) The section from Km.358.3 to 345.382-the project preparation is in progress.

(ii) The section from Aluva (Km.332.6) to Angamaly (Km.316) -the work has been awarded.

(iii) Remaining section from Angamaly to Kerala/Tamil Nadu border of Cochin-Salem spur will be taken up in phases.

#### **International Cargo Hubs**

1233. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop international cargo hubs in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the required facilities at these airports are available;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the required facilities are likely to be provided at these airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) As per 'Open Sky' policy for cargo from India, any airline is free to operate cargo flights from airports where Customs/Immigration facilities are available.

(c) to (e) The following facilities are available at the four metro airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata which are meeting the requirements :- International air cargo terminal, housing all regulatory/facilitating agencies under one roof, Exclusive storage, processing and examination area for Import, Export and TP Cargo, Cargo apron for freighters, X-Ray scanning Machine, Hazardous cargo shed, Strong room, Cold Storage, Weigh bridge/ Weighing Scales, Computerised on line processing of documents and billing (ICMS), Restaurant/Canteen, Vehicle parking, Bank, Exclusive public waiting lounge and Public announcement system (PA System), Exclusive Un-accompanied Baggage unit are available at Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai, Diplomatic Mail Enclosure and State of the Art Centres for Perishable cargo is available at Delhi and Chennai. Live animal shed is available at Mumbai and Delhi. Mechanized unit load break-up/make-up, storage/retrival system (ETV) and CCTV and Surveillance Cameras are available at Delhi only. Post office is available at Mumbai only. Bonded Trucking facilities at Chennai only.

#### **Disbanding of State Pollution Control Boards**

1234. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to disband the State Pollution Control Boards;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to set up unified Central Authority to implement pollution laws more effectively; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
(SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.  
(c) No, Sir.  
(d) Does not arise.

#### Electronic Telephone Exchanges

1235. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up electronic telephone exchanges in each State of North Eastern Region including Sikkim during 2001-2002;

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

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

- (b) The details are given in the enclosed statement.  
(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Statement

*New Electronic Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in North Eastern Region during 2001-2002*

S.No.	State	Name of the Stations
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Gorchuk Christian Basti Kahilpara Hatigarh Bejra Singra Muktapur Demou Nagarbera Domdoma Sonal Road Rangpur Karimganj Ganirgram

1	2	3
		Rajatilla Suprakandi Lezai Ushapur Kharkhati Jorhat Engg-College Joysagar Mudoigaon Gowalgaon Nemuguri Bongaon Gomariguri Jojoli South-Bongaigaon Dhamdhama Rampur Satrusal Dolgoma Nilpur (Biswanath Charali) Khelmati Khanamukh Subansiri Dimakuchi Phuloguri Rajagaon Kharikhana Tempring Kaki-I Itanagar Nahariagarm Doimukh Old Ziro Yachuli Basar Deomali Rupa
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	

1	2	3
		Yiangkiang
		Changlang
		Khonsa
3.	Meghalaya-	Mawpun
		Mawlong
4.	Mizoram	Aizawal UHF 2nd RSU
		Aizawal Satellite
5.	Tripura	Agartala DTO
		G.B. Bazar
		Kolejtilla
6.	Manipur	Manipur University
		Leimakhong
		Langing
		Tadubi
		Andro
		Maram
		Nungba
		Saiku
7.	Nagaland	Tobu
		Noklok
		Longleng
		Bhandari
		Ghatashi
		Wakheho
		Nihokho
		Atoizu
8.	Sikkim	Makha
		Majhitar
		Yaksham
		Sichey

### **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited**

1236. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has taken any step to expand its market share and

also to increase subscribers during the current Financial Year;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose during the said period; and

(c) the other areas in which the BSNL proposed to pay more attention during this Financial Year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is planned to add 68,30,000 Direct Exchange Lines in all BSNL circles during current financial year to expand its market share and also to increase subscribers.

(b) An amount of Rs. 16574.00 Crores have been earmarked for the purpose during 2001-2002.

(c) It is proposed to provide and expand Intelligent Network (IN), Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN), Cellular Mobile Telephone system (CMTS), Internet Services during current financial year.

### **Employment Generation**

1237. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with employment exchange at the end of Eighth Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the achievements made in providing employment during the Eighth and Ninth Plans, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) State-wise number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live registers of employment exchanges as on 31.3.97 is given in the enclosed statement. The placements made by employment exchanges during April 1992-March 1997 (eighth plan period) and from April 1997-April 2001 was of the order of 11.35 lakh and 8.87 lakh respectively.

### **Statement**

S.	State/Union Territory	Number of job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 31.3.1997 (in thousands)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2886.7

1	2	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.0
3.	Assam	1419.9
4.	Bihar	3488.7
5.	Goa	103.0
6.	Gujarat	927.6
7.	Haryana	772.8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	646.7
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	167.1
10.	Karnataka	1793.1
11.	Kerala	3291.4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2274.4
13.	Maharashtra	3801.1
14.	Manipur	298.9
15.	Meghalaya	28.4
16.	Mizoram	56.4
17.	Nagaland	20.7
18.	Orissa	943.2
19.	Punjab	548.7
20.	Rajasthan	879.2
21.	Sikkim*	
22.	Tamil Nadu	3648.3
23.	Tripura	205.9
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2500.3
25.	West Bengal	5519.3
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23.2
27.	Chandigarh	137.8
28.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	5.1
29.	Delhi	1088.1
30.	Daman and Diu	5.2
31.	Lakshadweep	9.0
32.	Pondicherry	133.8
<b>All India</b>		<b>37631.2</b>

Note : \*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State. Total may not tally due to rounding off.

### Grants to Non-Government Organisations to Promote National Integration

1238. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :  
SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have been given grants to promote National Integration during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of such NGOs alongwith the grants given to them during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the 'Water Sports' are being encouraged by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Government provides financial assistance to the recognized Federations which are related to water sports for holding National and International Championships in India. The assistance is also provided to these federations for participation in International Championships abroad, training of players, Coaching camps and foreign coaches.

### Investment in Air India

1239. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether NRI/OCB investment in Air India is being classified as foreign investment while in case of Indian Airlines it is being treated as domestic investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons and circumstances under which different treatment is being given to NRI/OCB investment in the case of the two Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

### Privatisation of MTNL

1240. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatize Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to the Government and the common people as a result thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Development of National Highways in Newly Created States**

1241. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :  
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any action plan for development of National Highways especially in the Newly created States i.e. Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Annual Plan 2001-2002 for development of National Highways in all the States including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal has already been finalized. Annual Plan 2001-2002 for development of National Highways in the newly created States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal contains the following provisions :

State	Plan Provision
Chhattisgarh	Rs. 84.45 crore
Jharkhand	Rs. 71.05 crore
Uttaranchal	Rs. 98.88 crore

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Issue of LOI to Telecom Companies**

1242. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :  
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telecom companies to whom Letters of Intent (LOI) issued in various circles to provide basic telephone service have started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these companies are likely to start functioning ?

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

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

(c) Out of the 76 Letters of Intent (LOIs) issued so far to the private companies for provision of Basic Telephone Service under the Guidelines dated 25.1.2001, Licence Agreements were signed against 16 LOIs only on 20th July, 2001.

(d) The LOI holding companies shall be able to start provision of services only after signing the Licence Agreements. Rollout obligations stipulate setting up of Points of Presence in 15% of Short Distance Charging Areas (typically Tehsils) within two year of signing the licence agreements.

*[Translation]*

#### **Telephone Connections in Rural Areas**

1243. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed for providing telephone connections in rural areas;

(b) whether the Government proposed to provide free telephone connections to those living below the poverty line; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Telephone connections in rural areas are being provided to all those who submit a request for telephone with applicable registration fee provided he has not been barred specifically under Telephone Rules. The telephone is provided if technically feasible as and when his turn matures.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

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

**MTNL Cellular Telephone Service**

1244.DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cellular telephone subscribers in Delhi and Mumbai at present registered with the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) cellular service;

(b) whether the MTNL has fixed any target of such subscribers in Delhi and Mumbai before functioning its service;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the extent of the said target achieved so far; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the MTNL to encourage faster growth of cellular service in both the cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of Cellular Telephone subscribers registered with Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) at present is 10,418 in Delhi and 10,529 in Mumbai.

(b) and (c) Cellular Network of one lakh lines each at Delhi and Mumbai have been set up to provide Cellular phones on demand.

(d) The following steps are underway for encouraging faster growth of Cellular Services :

- (I) Improving coverage in Metros of Delhi and Mumbai by adding more Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) and Radio Frequency (RF) optimization.
- (II) Providing service in adjacent towns of Gurgaon, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Noida expeditiously following issue of licence to MTNL on 11.01.2001 by Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- (III) Introduction of roaming to other parts of country in states in addition to the existing one between Mumbai and Delhi.
- (IV) Introduction of pre-paid (Cash Card) service in Delhi and Mumbai.
- (V) Introduction of competitive tariff.
- (VI) Aggressive marketing.
- (VII) Introduction of Introductory discount.

[English]

**Elephant Project**

1245. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have launched Elephant Project in the recent past to save endangered species and sanctioned about Rs. 5 crore to each State Government under the same;

(b) if so, whether the project has been grounded due to non-cooperation of various State Governments;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation; and

(d) the details of other projects launched to save endangered species alongwith progress made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Project Elephant was launched in February 1992 specifically to protect elephant and its habitat. Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 46.68 crore has been given so far under this Project to 18 States Governments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Other schemes launched by Government of India for providing financial assistance to State Governments for protection of endangered species and the financial progress made so far during the 9th Five Year Plan are as follows :

Sl. No.	Scheme	Financial Progress (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Project Tiger	68.10
2.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	70.01
3.	Central Zoo Authority	32.44
4.	Ecodevelopment in and around Protected Areas	40.57
5.	Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development	11.96
		223.08

**Construction of Trivandrum NH-47  
By-Pass**

1246. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :



- (a) whether the construction work of Trivandrum Bypass on NH-47 is going on as per schedule;
- (b) if so, the present status thereof;
- (c) the details of the allocation made and utilised so far; and
- (d) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Construction of Trivandrum bypass of about 44.53 kms. length has been taken up in two phases. In Phase-I the work has been completed in about 19.5 km. out of the total length of 22.63 Km. The progress of work is behind the schedule. For Phase-II, land acquisition is in progress in 3.271 Km. out of the total length of about 21.9 Km.

(c) Allocation for National Highway works are made State-wise and not National Highway wise. The upto date expenditure on this bypass is about Rs. 44.81 Crore.

(d) The Phase-I of the bypass is targetted to be completed by December, 2002. In Phase-II of the bypass the work of land acquisition has been taken up in part length. Therefore, it is too early to indicate the date of completion of Phase-II.

#### **Rural Telephone Corporation**

1247. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a proposal to form a Rural Telecom Corporation to cater the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve, extend and cope up with low level of maintenance in telecom services in rural areas and reduce STD call charges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(d) Maintenance efforts have been stepped up to provide better telephone services in rural areas by setting up task forces in the circles. Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) systems are planned to be deployed on a large scale in rural areas for providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs)

and telephone connections. Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) based VPTs are proposed to be replaced by WLL telephones in a phased manner starting from the current year. STD charges are reviewed regularly on the basis of recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

[Translation]

#### **Reduction in Number of Leaves**

1248. SHRI JAI PRAKESH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received memoranda from various labour organisations in regard to reducing the number of leaves in the Government and Public Sector Undertakings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As per information available, no memoranda from various labour organizations in regard to reducing the number of leaves in the Government and Public Sector Undertakings has been received in the Ministry of Labour.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Telecom Facilities**

1249. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :  
SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the present status of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) laid down/being laid down in Hyderabad district;
- (b) the funds allocated for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up post office and adequate telecom facilities at Hyderabad Airport;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of STD/ISD/PCO booths functioning in the Airport at present; and
- (f) the number of new booths proposed to be opened during 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Total 1872 Rkms Optical Fibre Cable is laid till date in Hyderabad District of which 555 Rkms is in urban area and 1317 Rkms

is in rural areas. There is further plan to lay 804 Rkms. of optical fibre cable during current year.

(b) Funds are being made available as per requirement.

(c) Post office and adequate telecom facility are already provided at Hyderabad airport.

(d) and (e) Two numbers of non-delivery sub post offices are functioning at Hyderabad Airport with working hours from 0600 hrs. to 1400 hrs. and 1300 hrs. to 2100 hrs. At international airport STD/ISD, Video telephone (Drushya), Telex, and 197 directory enquiry facility is available. Six PCO booths with STD/ISD are also functioning.

(f) Three STD/ISD PCO booths and one telecom centre is proposed at NTR domestic departure terminal during 2001-2002 for which permission from airport authority is awaited.

#### **Stretches of Coastlines in Various States**

1250. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposal received by the Government for coastal protection works at vulnerable stretches of coastline in their respective States for inclusion in the consolidated National Coastal Protection Project particularly from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the total cost involved in these proposals;

(c) whether these proposals have been returned to concerned State Government for compliance;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government monitors these proposals; and

(e) if so, the present status of these proposals and the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) A total of ten proposals have been received from maritime States/UTs, from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and UT of Pondicherry for inclusion in the consolidated National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP). Government of Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands were also requested to submit their proposals for inclusion in the consolidated NCPP, and the same are still awaited. A revised proposal estimated to cost Rs. 43.00 crores, was received from the Government of

Andhra Pradesh in August 2000 which was examined and comments were sent to State Government of Andhra Pradesh, in September, 2000 for further modification of the proposals.

(b) The total cost involved in the consolidated NCPP on the basis of the latest proposals received from the State Governments/UT is given below :

State/UT	Cost of the Proposal (Rs. Crore)
1. Andhra Pradesh	43.000
2. Goa	55.000
3. Gujarat	62.673
4. Karnataka	176.207
5. Kerala	267.470
6. Maharashtra	238.500
7. Orissa	505.730
8. Tamil Nadu	169.390
9. West Bengal	257.650
10. UT of Pondicherry	25.500
Total cost of consolidated NCPP	1801.120

(c) Yes, Sir. The revised proposals received from Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, UT of Pondicherry and West Bengal were examined and comments sent to State Govts/UT for compliance. The revised proposals received recently from the Govt. of Karnataka, Orissa and Tamil Nadu are under examination.

(d) All the maritime States/UTs are being pursued regularly to submit their final proposals by incorporating the comments offered by Central Water Commission (CWC). However, if the NCPP is approved and funded, the project will be monitored by CWC during implementation stage.

(e) As already mentioned, the consolidated NCPP is under preparation. Since finalization of these consolidated NCPP proposal is dependent on the receipt of final proposals from all the maritime States/UTs, therefore, it is difficult to give exact time frame for finalization of consolidated NCPP. However, in order to prepare consolidated NCPP at the earliest, State Governments are being pursued to submit their NCPP proposals complete in all respects at the earliest so that consolidated proposal can be finalized and submitted for TAC clearance at the earliest.

**Share of Rajasthan in Bhakra and  
Pong Dam**

1251.COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan had paid its share of expenditure on constructions of Bhakra and Pong Dam to Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) to get its share of water;

(b) if so, the extent of water which was proposed to be released to Rajasthan after completion of the dams;

(c) whether short supply to Rajasthan is due to non-filling of these dams to capacity;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to instruct BBMB to revoke its 1990 decision and fill the dams to their capacity to facilitate water supply to Rajasthan according to its share; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) According to the Government of Rajasthan, its share of expenditure towards construction of Bhakra and Pong Dams has been paid to the Bhakra Beas Management Board. However, Rajasthan's share of Sutlej, Ravi and Beas waters is not linked to the payment made by them for the construction of these dams.

(b) The releases are being made by the Bhakra Beas Management Board in accordance with the decisions arrived at in the monthly meetings of its Technical Committee, in which Rajasthan is also represented, keeping in view the indents for water from the partner States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and water availability in the dams, in accordance with an ad hoc interim arrangement decided in a Board meeting in December, 1982.

(c) Government of Rajasthan have informed that the non-filling of the dams is one of the reasons for the short supply in the current year.

(d) and (e) Rajasthan has already taken up the matter with the Bhakra Beas Management Board for discussing such a proposal in its meeting.

**Allocation for National Highways**

1252.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :

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

(a) the allocation made to States for modernization, maintenance and expansion of National Highways in the country during the Ninth Plan till date, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the amount released and actually utilized by each State till date; and

(c) the progress of work done on National Highways so far during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Statements-I to V indicating the allocation and actual expenditure for development, maintenance and repairs of National Highways in the country during Ninth Plan year-wise and State-wise are enclosed.

(c) The physical achievements on National Highways so far during Ninth Plan are as under :

1.	Widening to two lanes	=	1366 kms
2.	Widening to four lanes	=	342 kms
3.	Strengthening weak 2 lanes	=	2824 kms
4.	Bypasses	=	9 Nos
5.	Major Bridges	=	67 "
6.	Minor Bridges including ROBs	=	252 "
7.	Improvement of riding Quality	=	about 9000 Kms.

**Statement-I**

*Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1997-98*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/ UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5957.19	5200.16	3898.00	3507.24

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Assam	1860.80	1388.24	1162.55	1215.98
3.	Bihar	1952.00	2094.54	3410.77	3410.77
4.	Chandigarh	30.00	29.20	71.00	42.93
5.	Delhi	800.00	858.21	330.20	264.80
6.	Goa	971.56	1003.02	450.39	430.34
7.	Gujarat	4322.42	4916.93	3756.96	3835.81
8.	Haryana	10040.00	10191.24	772.34	845.19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1700.00	1664.94	2034.32	2034.32
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.00	25.50	87.40	8.00
11.	Karnataka	4236.78	4085.64	3002.90	3059.13
12.	Kerala	8042.48	8182.48	2268.11	2702.97
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4657.06	4215.68	3313.78	3313.78
14.	Maharashtra	8062.43	8062.43	5157.68	5157.68
15.	Manipur	702.19	670.06	277.03	277.21
16.	Meghalaya	979.50	900.51	584.54	512.72
17.	Nagaland	100.00	134.77	37.11	42.22
18.	Orissa	6475.20	6417.39	2522.00	2537.05
19.	Pondicherry	70.00	15.38	29.96	13.58
20.	Punjab	5378.88	4977.53	1357.75	1400.13
21.	Rajasthan	4315.83	4521.80	3641.71	3536.19
22.	Tamil Nadu	2567.92	1948.93	2981.37	2525.58
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12535.27	11899.20	4949.19	4703.98
24.	West Bengal	7335.00	7641.88	3264.94	3832.06

**Statement-II**

*Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1998-99*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4879.82	4273.04	4568.40	4069.47
2.	Assam	2661.10	1517.99	2815.51	2282.33
3.	Bihar	3417.35	3238.60	3336.97	3336.97

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Chandigarh	82.00	70.82	48.04	45.40
5.	Delhi	1400.00	1225.54	210.00	209.82
6.	Goa	1100.00	1172.54	617.08	617.08
7.	Gujarat	6628.54	9332.70	3296.94	3296.94
8.	Haryana	7588.50	6913.18	1239.42	1040.32
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	2500.00	2256.01	2256.01
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	100.00	6.15	129.65	4.51
11.	Karnataka	3709.01	3772.04	3111.75	3065.34
12.	Kerala	7080.16	8820.63	2090.63	2090.63
13.	Madhya Pradesh	8247.73	7932.47	3945.04	3787.80
14.	Maharashtra	11382.63	11659.74	4957.67	4957.67
15.	Manipur	700.30	828.29	365.59	365.59
16.	Meghalaya	1060.50	911.03	625.80	620.50
17.	Nagaland	200.00	210.87	382.90	382.90
18.	Orissa	9726.82	8711.02	2761.15	2760.77
19.	Pondicherry	100.81	86.30	64.18	18.06
20.	Punjab	7148.88	7672.10	1538.81	1440.83
21.	Rajasthan	4605.81	4620.18	3718.19	3642.29
22.	Tamil Nadu	3921.37	3652.38	3740.00	3597.85
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12649.35	10722.86	6128.44	6071.00
24.	West Bengal	10150.94	8394.40	2757.83	2757.83

**Statement-III***Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1999-2000*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5707.87	3736.51	6897.26	5067.65
2.	Assam	4239.32	2769.61	5420.00	3068.35
3.	Bihar	6117.52	5950.16	11907.64	9059.08
4.	Chandigarh	100.00	73.93	141.50	118.30
5.	Delhi	700.00	422.13	139.84	133.27

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Goa	1700.00	1670.19	1426.69	1048.64
7.	Gujarat	8851.90	8683.39	3820.17	3660.72
8.	Haryana	10000.00	9046.65	2011.70	1544.73
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4000.00	3502.72	2726.24	2428.44
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	100.00	0.91	302.36	23.99
11.	Karnatak	6113.84	6846.09	8445.04	6815.98
12.	Kerala	12837.07	10808.59	5309.00	4769.37
13.	Madhya Pradesh	12334.80	11546.69	6573.14	6038.04
14.	Maharashtra	17808.08	16662.16	8648.63	8528.70
15.	Manipur	1014.15	894.90	876.08	584.60
16.	Meghalaya	1785.28	1372.61	1305.89	814.84
17.	Mizoram	300.00	282.90	780.00	538.41
18.	Nagaland	800.00	886.17	924.63	1021.63
19.	Orissa	9228.02	9198.19	5638.24	4713.20
20.	Pondicherry	319.46	281.27	269.00	152.27
21.	Punjab	5300.10	4233.38	1635.80	468.77
22.	Rajasthan	5214.02	4311.94	7820.00	6336.13
23.	Tamil Nadu	6754.08	5348.20	13479.66	12160.40
24.	Tripura	50.00	0.00	24.00	24.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	12647.45	11776.30	10179.49	10118.81
26.	West Bengal	8818.02	8072.55	6260.00	4756.96

**Statement-IV**

*Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 2000-2001*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11188.26	10781.93	5413.75	5097.60
2.	Assam	5253.64	4877.01	4778.92	3749.75
3.	Bihar	6927.56	6014.41	6448.55	4945.92
4.	Chandigarh	144.00	139.57	44.54	27.75
5.	Chhattisgarh	1227.80	472.08	1180.00	884.97

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Delhi	483.00	0.00	82.00	82.00
7.	Goa	2300.00	2138.45	605.53	561.67
8.	Gujarat	9099.97	8675.49	2457.79	2182.89
9.	Haryana	10100.00	9290.11	1953.49	1466.93
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4415.00	3889.36	3351.53	3350.99
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	250.00	51.59	284.42	83.42
12.	Jharkhand	2200.00	1188.78	960.84	771.81
13.	Karnataka	8104.00	7451.90	4683.83	4583.98
14.	Kerala	8978.03	4390.91	3340.03	3340.03
15.	Madhya Pradesh	13472.11	12649.59	8634.19	8034.34
16.	Maharashtra	21236.20	19631.80	4295.00	4295.00
17.	Manipur	851.31	535.31	824.49	687.62
18.	Meghalaya	1708.34	1562.73	1016.71	875.16
19.	Mizoram	1000.00	994.52	981.43	753.41
20.	Nagaland	1500.00	1489.52	361.25	358.17
21.	Orissa	10046.89	8388.97	4776.99	4047.26
22.	Pondicherry	200.00	146.65	182.10	123.20
23.	Punjab	5365.00	3817.01	2085.62	1537.32
24.	Rajasthan	8720.00	8403.34	4104.10	3878.02
25.	Tamil Nadu	10342.21	8256.09	5380.57	4896.25
26.	Uttar Pradesh	14949.76	13938.82	6076.50	5579.02
27.	Uttanchal	199.35	123.88	459.30	409.19
28.	West Bengal	12800.00	10824.28	5374.80	2295.26

**Statement-V***Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 2001-2002*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/ UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9000.00	1500.00	1881.54	684.29
2.	Assam	7000.00	67.62	1737.68	201.32
3.	Bihar	5500.00	417.00	2482.50	440.44

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Chandigarh	150.00	25.00	23.00	7.72
5.	Chhattisgarh	3000.00	500.00	1068.49	357.32
6.	Delhi	1000.00	NA	51.00	NA
7.	Goa	2000.00	333.00	172.50	62.62
8.	Gujarat	8500.00	NA	1316.12	115.39
9.	Haryana	7300.00	1550.00	780.28	272.98
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4700.00	783.00	673.76	224.95
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	400.00	NA	32.42	5.67
12.	Jharkhand	2500.00	NA	997.00	387.75
13.	Karnataka	7510.00	1251.67	1695.00	588.43
14.	Kerala	7510.00	1251.67	910.83	359.24
15.	Madhya Pradesh	9600.00	713.67	2846.93	269.57
16.	Maharashtra	14300.00	1898.00	1989.00	666.49
17.	Manipur	1800.00	NA	407.55	49.01
18.	Meghalaya	2500.00	417.00	516.15	181.32
19.	Mizoram	1800.00	NA	230.53	44.92
20.	Nagaland	1600.00	NA	98.55	18.48
21.	Orissa	7900.00	1175.40	1980.00	609.96
22.	Pondicherry	200.00	23.82	42.79	12.02
23.	Punjab	5400.00	45.96	1157.50	102.20
24.	Rajasthan	10010.00	1668.67	2600.05	1005.04
25.	Tamil Nadu	9500.00	36.52	2092.15	255.96
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13600.00	748.26	2935.02	313.41
27.	Uttanchal	2000.00	NA	669.36	136.83
28.	West Bengal	11208.00	1966.00	2014.46	980.37

\*\*Expenditure upto May, 2001.

NA – Not available

**Four Laning of Bangalore–Hosur–  
Thoppur Portion of NH-7**

1253. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA :  
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

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

(a) whether the work pertaining to four laning of  
Bangalore–Hosur–Thoppur portion of National Highway  
No. 7 has been started;

(b) if so, the progress of work done as on date; and

(c) the expected time by which the work on the said  
National Highway is likely to be completed ?



THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)

B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) The position is indicated below.

S.No.	Section	Status
(i)	Bangalore–Hathipalli section (km. 0.0 to km. 33.0.15) in Karnataka	Already four laned
(ii)	Hathipalli–Hosur section (km. 33.015 to km. 48.6) in Tamil Nadu.	In progress. Physical progress–about 35%. Target date of completion–December 2001.
(iii)	Hosur–Krishnagiri section (km. 48.6 to km. 94) in Tamil Nadu.	Under implementation – just started. Target date of completion – May, 2004.
(iv)	Krishnagiri–Thoppur section (km. 94 to km. 156)	Work yet to be taken up.
(v)	Thoppurghat section No. (km. 156 to km. 163.40)	Under implementation. Physical progress– about 30%. Target date of completion– December 2001.

#### CDMA – WLL Operation

1254. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has objected to TRAI's recommendation in favour of CDMA–WLL operation without licence to realization at the available rate of per Mhz at the initial stage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Department of Telecommunications, while referring back some of the recommendations for grant of Basic Telephone Service licences, including issue of wireless in Local Loop (WLL) access technology, had only asked TRAI to consider suggestions for making suitable recommendations in respect of additional entry fee for allocation of WLL frequency. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India did not recommend any additional entry fee for this purpose which was accepted by the Government.

#### Irrigation Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1255. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD :  
SHRI R.S. PATIL :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up projects

namely–Pulichintala Diversion, Telugu Ganga Canal, Srisailam Left and Right Bank Canal and Bhima Lift Irrigation Canal in violation of the Bachawat Tribunal award; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Srisailam Right Bank Canal was accorded investment clearance by Planning Commission in 1981. Pulichintala and Bhima Lift were accepted by the Advisory Committee in 1996 subject to certain conditions which are yet to be complied with by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, these two projects have so far not been accorded the investment clearance by the Planning Commission. Telugu Ganga and Srisailam Left Bank Canal have not been approved by the Union Government. Irrigation being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/ schemes including flood control and drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

[Translation]

#### Irregularities in laying of Optical Fibre

1256. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities committed in laying of optical fibre cable in Bihar and Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons found involved therein during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officials ?

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

(b) and (c), One complaint alleging irregularities in laying of Optical Fibre Cable at less depth in Bhagalpur-Munger-Lakshmisarai Optical Fibre Cable route was received during the last two years. After investigation, the allegation was not substantiated. Therefore, the involvement of persons does not arise.

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

[English]

#### **Grants-in-Aid BGML**

1257. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made a provision of Rs. 83.62 crore in budgetary estimate for 2001-2002 as grants in aid to the Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML);

(b) if so, whether this aid is likely to be utilized for the help of those employees who have opted for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the save of terminal benefits only;

(c) if so, the number of employees of BGML who have opted for VRS; and

(d) the amount that has been paid or likely to be paid to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Govt. has been announcing Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) from time to time. The last VSS was opened on 10.12.2000 for one month. The VSS stood extended upto 28.2.2001 in terms of order of High Court of Karnataka and the budget provision was made in anticipation of VSS from the employees. BGML stands closed with effect from 1.3.2001 under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 in terms of Ministry of Labour, Government of India order dated 29.1.2001. Therefore the question of re-introducing VRS/VSS does not arise. However, the question of winding up/closure of BGML is sub-judice before Division Bench of Karnataka.

#### **Report on Deforestation**

1258. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether deforestation has been accelerating for the past few years in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the report entitled 'taking a standing cultivating a new relationship with the world's forests'; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to implement the suggestions made in the report ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir. Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987. Forest cover of the country has declined from 19.49% to 19.27% in the period from 1981-83 to 1993-1995. However, forest cover of the country has marginally increased to 19.39% in the period from 1996-1998.

(b) So far no such report has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Impact of Deferment of National Civil Aviation Policy**

1259. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Policy on Civil Aviation is being deferred continuously;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has posed an obstruction to the functioning of various flying clubs in the country;

(d) whether due to shortage of aeroplanes in these clubs trainees are being deprived of modern techniques; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The draft Civil Aviation Policy is being finalised in consultation with various Ministries and Departments etc.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

**BSNL Agreement with Basic  
Telecom Operators**

1260. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to review the interconnection agreement/signed with the basic telecom operators with a view to increase its revenues;

(b) if so, whether any talks have been held with the basic telephone operators in the matter; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the basic telephone operators thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has proposed to review the interconnection agreement signed with the Basic Operators to revise the revenue sharing arrangement in a way which is fair, just and equitable to all the operators.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Basic Service Operators were not agreeable to the revised revenue sharing proposal put forth by the BSNL and also have not come up with any alternative proposal. They have taken up the matter with Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).

[Translation]

**Assistance for Upgradation of National  
Highways in States**

1261. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received representations from some States like Bihar and Jharkhand for providing sufficient financial assistance or in kind for upgradation of the national highways in order to strengthen road infrastructural facilities in these States;

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

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The maintenance and upgradation

of National Highways is done totally from Central funds. Hence question of providing financial "assistance" does not arise.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

**Report of World Commission on Dams**

1262. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :  
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of world commission on dams;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have rejected the said report;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are implementing any other scheme in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. The findings of the report of the World Commission on Dams (WCD) are given in the enclosed Statement. These findings of the WCD are based on a limited knowledge base conveniently ignoring the all round development brought about by projects like Bhakra Dam, Nagarjunsagar Dam, Tungabhadra Dam etc. in the project areas. It has ignored the contribution made by such multipurpose projects in ushering in the 'green revolution' in the country and making India self sufficient in foodgrains and meeting fifteen percent of the total energy needs of the country through hydropower, which is the cheapest and most sustainable source.

Keeping in view the socio economic ethos of the country, Government of India has already framed and adopted a National Water Policy, which provide guidelines for the various facets of Water Resources Development. The guidelines for development suggested by World Commission in Dams in their final report are utopian in nature and are incompatible with our national development imperatives. To ensure continued self-sufficiency in foodgrain production and also to meet the energy and drinking water needs of our growing population, India proposes to continue with its programme of dam construction to create another 200 billion cubic metres of

storage in the next 25 years. Both water resources development as well as efficient management of existing resources are equally important. Keeping this in view, major, medium and minor irrigation projects including sustainable groundwater exploitation alongwith rainwater harvesting using indigenous techniques are all integrated in the planning approach, besides the extra emphasis given to water management. In view of this, Ministry of Water Resources has conveyed to the WCD that their recommendations and guidelines are not acceptable to Government of India.

### Statement

#### *Findings of the Report of the World Commission on Dams*

- Large dams display a high degree of variability in delivering predicted water and electricity services – and related social benefits – with a considerable portion falling short of physical and economic targets, while others continue generating benefits after 30 to 40 years.
- Large dams have demonstrated a marked tendency towards schedule delays and significant cost overruns.
- Large dams designed to deliver irrigation services have typically fallen short of physical targets, did not recover their costs and have been less profitable in economic terms than expected.
- Large hydropower dams tend to perform closer to, but still below, targets for power generation, generally meet their financial targets but demonstrate variable economic performance relative to targets, with a number of notable under and over performers.
- Large dams generally have a range of extensive impacts on rivers, watersheds and aquatic ecosystems – these impacts are more negative than positive and, in many cases, have led to irreversible loss of species and ecosystems.
- Efforts to date to counter the ecosystem impacts of large dams have met with limited success owing to the lack of attention to anticipating and avoiding impacts, the poor quality and uncertainty of predictions, the difficulty of coping with all impacts, and the only partial implementation and success of mitigation measures.
- Pervasive and systematic failure to assess the range of potential negative impacts and implement adequate mitigation, resettlement and development programmes for the displaced, and the failure to account for the consequences of large dams for downstream livelihoods have led to the impoverishment and suffering of

millions, giving rise to growing opposition to dams by affected communities worldwide.

Since the environmental and social costs of large dams have been poorly accounted for in economic terms, the true profitability of these schemes remains elusive.

### Modernisation of Telecommunications Network

1263. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise telecommunications network in Bhubaneshwar district in Orissa during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocated to the purposes ?

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

(b) The modernisation Plan of Telecommunication network of Bhubaneshwar during 2001-2002 is given below :

(i) It is planned to increase the Switching capacity of different exchanges by around 30000 lines.

(ii) Introduction of WLL system.

(iii) Introduction of Cellular Mobile telephone service.

(iv) Provision of two nos. of synchronous digital hierarchy (SDH) rings to provide high bandwidth.

(v) More nos. of remote switching units are planned to improve the fault rate.

(c) The total fund allotted under capital works for the year 2001-2002 is Rs. 29,48,93,000/-.

### Modernisation of Bhopal Airport

1264. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion and modernisation of Bhopal airport;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the amount earmarked therefor; and

(d) the amount spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Following steps have been taken for modernisation and expansion of airport at Bhopal during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (i) Terminal Building was expanded and modified to cater to 300 passenger at a cost of Rs. 4.48 Crores (ii) strengthening of runway and provision of shoulders at a cost of Rs. 5.51 Crores.

(iii) State Government of Madhya Pradesh has been requested to acquire 24 acres of land for extension of runway from 6700 ft. to 7500 ft.

(iv) Construction of boundary wall at a cost of Rs. 286.87 lakhs is likely to be completed by October, 2001.

(c) and (d) Out of amount of Rs. 202.46 lakhs earmarked for the above works during last three years, an amount of Rs. 186.33 lakhs has been spent.

[Translation]

#### Telephone Connections

1265. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have taken a decision to do away with the practice of charging registration fee for booking of telephones;

(b) if so, whether the BSNL propose to increase the telephone rent and pulse rate by cancelling of such fee; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) A decision has been taken in BSNL that no registration fee be charged from the customers in areas where telephone is available 'On Demand'.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

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

[English]

#### Air India's General Sales Agents in London

1266. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India has been indicated by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) for a series of

bad decisions of its officials regarding dealings with its general sales agents (GSAs) and consolidators;

(b) if so, the reasons for not cancelling the agreement with London based Welcome Travels Agents;

(c) the loss suffered by the Air India by virtue of the bad decision; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against the guilty officials ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The C&AG has adversely commented on the enhanced payment of PLI to the former General Sales Agent of Air India in UK for the period 1987-2000. The C&AG has assessed the undue advantage to GSA to the tune of Rs. 57.02 crores due to the acts of omission and commission of the officials of Air India. The GSA contract of M/s. Welcome Travel in the UK has since been terminated w.e.f. 9th July, 2000.

(d) Investigations have prima facie revealed involvement of four officials of Air India. Two officers were placed under suspension by their respective competent authorities by order dt. 22.5.2001 pending enquiry and disciplinary action is contemplated. One officer has taken Voluntary Retirement effective March, 1999 and the other official has also retired on 31st October, 2000. His post-retirement dues/benefits have been withheld by Air India in view of the enquiry. A detailed report was sent to CVC on 23.5.2001. The CVC have also been requested on 12.6.2001 for first stage advice. A reference in this regard was also made to Central Bureau of investigation on 22.5.2001 who have registered a Preliminary Enquiry on 7th June, 2001.

[Translation]

#### Air Service for Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)

1267. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce air-service for Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have any scheme in regard to widening the airstrip of Bilaspur-Chakrabhata and introduce any passenger air service there from in order to facilitate the passengers of Bilaspur and Korba cities;

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Vayudoot was earlier operating Dornier services to Bilaspur. The service which had commenced on 17th January, 1988 was withdrawn in September, 1990. Indian Airlines has, however no plans to start air services for Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) at present due to non-availability of suitable aircraft in its fleet. Airline Operators are, however, free to operate on any sector subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines and commercial viability.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. Airports Authority of India have no scheme to widen the airstrip at Bilaspur-Chakrabhata as no airline operator has projected the requirement to operate scheduled passenger flights through Bilaspur.

[English]

#### Employment Growth Rate

1268. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :  
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :  
 SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the agenda papers of the 37th Indian Labour Conference held in May 19, 2001 the annual employment growth rate has fallen to one percent;

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

(c) the details of steps taken by the Government to arrest the decline in employment in PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) As per the survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 the annual average growth rate of employment during the period 1994-2000 was of the order of 1% and this was indicated in the agenda papers of 37th Indian Labour Conference.

(c) Lack of upgradation of technologies due to financial constraints, production being non-competitive price-wise and quality-wise, compulsion to run non-profitable industries in the private sector influenced maintenance of employment level and creation of new jobs in the public sector. Due to increased competition and the need to right size, there is a limited scope for employment creation in the public sector.

[Translation]

#### Pace of providing Employment

1269. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
 SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pace of providing employment in the country is slow;

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether workers have been affected due to the Globalisation;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) As per the survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the average annual growth rate of employment during the period 1994-2000 in the country was of the order of 0.98% as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) approach.

(c) to (e) Due to Globalisation and Economic liberalisation some employment opportunities in the order type of enterprises might have been reduced due to declining efficiency, but at the same time new employment opportunities are created in a number of new areas such as Information Technologies, Tourism, Financial Services, etc.

[English]

#### Development of Link Road in Guntur

1270. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to link the National Highway system in Guntur district with the State highways for better traffic flow;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been arrived at to create link roads between the State highway system and the roads of the National Highway Authority of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which such link roads are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Ministry is concerned mainly with the development and maintenance of National Highways in the Country. Providing links to the National Highway system is the responsibility of the State Government.

#### **Forest Cover in Hilly and Rural Areas**

1271. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have earmarked any zones as far as the forest cover is concerned in the country;

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

(c) the measures taken by the Government to improve the forest cover in the country particularly in the hilly/rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Forest cover of the country has increased by 3896 sq. km i.e., from 6,33,397 sq. km to 6,37,293 sq. km in the period from 1996 to 1998. During this period, a net increase of 600 sq. km of forest cover has been registered in the hill districts of the country. State-wise details of the forest cover as per the State of Forest Report, 1999 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Various measures taken to improve forest cover in the country are :

(i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State/UT Governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.

(ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.

(iii) Guidelines issued to all State/UT Governments to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.

(iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands.

(v) A net work of protected areas has been established.

(vi) Ministry has prepared a National Forestry Action Plan to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through improvement in investment for conservation and development of forest resources.

#### **Statement**

*Forest cover in States/UTs as per State of Forest Report 1999*

State/UT	Forest cover	
	Area in sq. km.	Forest cover percentage of geographical area
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	44,229	16.08
Arunachal Pradesh	68,847	82.21
Assam	23,688	33.20
Bihar	26,474	15.23
Goa	1,251	33.79
Gujarat	12,965	6.61
Haryana	964	2.18
Himachal Pradesh	13,082	23.50
Jammu and Kashmir	20,441	9.20
Karnataka	32,467	16.93
Kerala	10,323	26.56
Madhya Pradesh	131,830	29.73
Maharashtra	46,672	15.17
Manipur	17,384	77.86
Meghalaya	15,633	69.7
Mizoram	18,338	86.99
Nagaland	14,164	85.43
Orissa	47,033	30.2
Punjab	1,412	2.80
Rajasthan	13,871	4.05
Sikkim	3,118	43.94
Tamil Nadu	17,078	13.13
Tripura	5,745	54.79
Uttar Pradesh	34,016	11.55

1	2	3
West Bengal	8,362	9.42
A and N Islands	7,606	92.21
Chandigarh	7	6.14
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	202	41.14
Daman and Diu	3	2.68
Delhi	88	5.93
Lakshdweep	Negligible	
Pondicherry	Negligible	
Total	637,293	19.39

[Translation]

#### **New Telephone Exchanges**

1272. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has recently announced to set up 78 new telephone exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) propose to set up telephone exchanges during 2001-2002;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which such telephone exchanges are likely to be set up ?

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

(b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. has planned to open 25,35 and 18 New Telephone Exchanges respectively during the years 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. had planned to set up two international gateway switches, one each at Hyderabad and Bangalore. These switches will be of the latest technology based on Internet Protocol and will cater to the growing international traffic from these cities. The number of international circuits planned at each location is 2900.

(e) The proposed MTNL Telephone Exchanges will be set up by 2003-2004 progressively as stated above. The

VSNL international gateway switches will be set up by mid 2002.

[English]

#### **Amendment of Labour Laws**

1273. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Labour Conference was held in the month of May 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Government have been warned against privatisation and amendment of labour laws and removal of quantity restrictions;

(c) if so, the other recommendations made by the conference;

(d) whether the Government have considered the recommendations made by the conference; and

(e) if so, the extent to which Government have agreed to implement the said recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The 37th Session of the Indian Labour Conference was held on 18-19 May, 2001.

(b) The issues relating to privatisation and amendment of labour laws were discussed along with other issues in the Conference.

(c) The other recommendations/conclusions were related to provision of social security and need for consultation with social partners for Labour policy formulation.

(d) and (e) The recommendations/conclusions of the Conference are considered by the Govt. at the time of formulating policy on the concerned subject.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of National Highways in Tribal Areas**

1274. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from State Governments particularly from Gujarat for construction of National Highways in tribal areas during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;



- (c) the present status of these proposals;
- (d) the amount allocated to these proposals/projects during the said period, year-wise; and
- (e) The time by which pending/under consideration proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Some sections of National Highways in various States including Gujarat are passing through tribal areas. Proposals for improvement/development of National Highways are received based on condition of National Highways, traffic needs, provision in Annual Plan, budgetary allocations etc. irrespective of whether the National Highway passes through tribal or non-tribal areas.

- (b) to (e) Does not arise.

**Compensation Paid to Victims of  
Air Accidents**

1275. SHRI RAJO SINGH :  
SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA :  
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :  
SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount of compensation paid by the Air India and Indian Airlines to the victims of air accidents during the last three years;
- (b) the details of loss of life and extent of loss suffered by these airlines due to the damage caused to their planes in each accident;
- (c) the details of the recommendations of the Enquiry Commissions accepted and implemented;
- (d) the amount of insurance paid to these airlines and the amount still outstanding against the insurance companies; and
- (e) the details of the number of cases pending as on June 30, 2001 before the tribunals and consumer courts and inconvenience caused to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

**Villages Public Telephone**

1276. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the

number and names of States which are likely to be fully covered with Village Public Telephone (VPTs) by August 15, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : Five States, namely, Andaman and Nicobar, Haryana, Punjab, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have already been fully covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs). VPTs earmarked for BSNL for other four States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have also been provided remaining villages in these four States are to be covered by Private Fixed Service Providers. No other State is likely to be fully covered with VPTs by August 15, 2001.

**SC/ST Working in PSU**

1277. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of employees, belonging to SCs/STs working in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under his Ministry with break-up thereof, grade-wise and public sector undertaking-wise;
- (b) whether some casual employees are also working in the PSUs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, PSU-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken to regularise their services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) The grade-wise details of SC/ST employees working in the five Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Mines are given in the enclosed Statement.

- (b) Yes, Sir. Some of the PSUs employ casual workers depending upon the immediate requirements.
- (c) The details of casual workers in the five PSUs under the administrative control of the Ministry of Mines are indicated below :-

Name of the PSU	No. of casual workers
Hindustan Copper Limited	100 (approximate)
Bharat Gold Mines Limited	Nil
National Aluminium Company Limited	Nil
Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited	196
Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	Nil

(d) The casual workers are appointed in the PSUs for purely casual nature of work. The PSUs have no plan to regularise the services of casual employees who are engaged temporarily for immediate requirements.

#### Statement

*Grade-wise details of SC/ST Employees in the Five Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) Under the Administrative Control of the Ministry of Mines*

Name of the PSU	Group/ Grade	No. of SC employees	No. of ST employees
Hindustan Copper Ltd.	A	75	25
	B	51	18
	C	1231	1359
	D	361	311
Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	A	21	04
	B	06	Nil
	C	686	17
	D	1010	22
National Aluminium Company Ltd.	A	160	64
	B	318	234
	C	584	802
	D	41	93
Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.	A	54	20
	B	06	03
	C	292	148
	D	46	20
Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	A	93	21
	B	97	33
	C	1246	1070
	D	262	212

#### Protection of Wildlife Sanctuaries

1278. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Wildlife Preservation Departments are ill equipped to conduct raids or to protect the various wildlife sanctuaries;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BĀĀLU) : (a) and (b) Protection and

conservation of wildlife is the responsibility of the State Governments. Ban on recruitment of forestry and wildlife personnel has adversely affected the protection efforts both within and outside the protected areas. Lack of effective communication network, inadequate mobility and sophisticated arms further compound the situation. There is also need for upgrading skill in intelligence gathering, investigation and prosecution of cases.

(c) The steps taken by the Government in this regard are :

- (i) Hon'ble Prime Minister has written to the Chief Ministers of all the States expressing concern on the increased poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. He has requested the Chief Ministers to fill up the vacant posts, provide adequate training, develop effective mechanism for intelligence gathering and to set up designated Courts for trying wildlife offences.
- (ii) Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for development and protection of protected areas under various schemes.
- (iii) The Wildlife Institute of India provides training to the field officers in wildlife management.
- (iv) The State Governments have been requested to reorganize their field protection staff into viable formations with greater mobility, sophisticated fire arms and effective communication network.
- (v) Training in intelligence gathering and investigation techniques is organized for the officers of the State forest department by the National Police Academy, Hyderabad.
- (vi) The Central Bureau of investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.
- (vii) The State Governments have been requested to set up Special Coordination Committees both at the State and District level to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

[Translation]

#### Unemployed Persons

1279. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage of unemployed persons which was 1.9 percent in 1993-94 has gone up to 2.2 per cent in 1999-2000;

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

(c) the percentage of unemployed persons in each State in 1999-2000 and increase in the said percentage as compared to 1993-94 ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The state-wise unemployment rate for 1993-94 and 1999-2000 are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

S. No.	State/Union Territory	State-wise unemployment rate*							
		1993-94				1999-2000			
		Rural		Urban		Rural		Urban	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.0	0.5	3.5	4.3	2.1	0.7	4.2	4.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.7	0.3	1.7	7.7	0.9	0.1	1.4	10.0
3.	Assam	6.2	14.3	6.2	28.9	4.7	11.9	9.1	22.3
4.	Bihar	2.3	0.8	7.1	11.2	2.4	0.6	7.6	9.4
5.	Goa	9.0	17.0	8.4	18.2	7.0	18.7	15.3	35.2
6.	Gujarat	1.5	0.5	3.3	6.2	0.8	0.3	2.1	2.6
7.	Haryana	2.4	5.3	2.6	8.0	1.3	0.5	2.7	4.6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.3	0.6	4.1	0.4	3.0	1.8	6.3	11.8
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.3	2.2	6.2	15.2	2.6	7.1	4.7	12.8
10.	Karnataka	1.3	0.6	3.4	7.5	1.0	0.3	3.0	4.7
11.	Kerala	7.2	15.8	7.6	24.4	7.6	19.7	6.9	26.4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.8	0.2	5.7	4.6	0.7	0.2	4.3	1.6
13.	Maharashtra	1.7	0.7	4.6	5.8	2.4	1.1	6.1	7.8
14.	Manipur	1.9	1.1	5.3	4.4	2.4	2.5	7.4	10.3
15.	Meghalaya	0.4	—	1.3	3.2	0.5	0.3	3.4	6.8
16.	Mizoram	1.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	2.1	0.5	4.4	2.6
17.	Nagaland	2.1	—	6.9	7.0	3.0	3.8	9.3	10.8
18.	Orissa	2.6	1.7	7.3	7.8	3.1	1.6	7.2	6.7
19.	Punjab	1.4	7.1	3.3	8.6	2.3	6.2	3.1	3.5
20.	Rajasthan	0.4	0.2	2.0	0.8	0.8	0.2	2.7	3.7
21.	Sikkim	0.6	3.9	1.2	6.7	3.5	2.0	6.7	10.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	2.7	1.3	4.9	8.4	3.0	1.2	3.9	5.8
23.	Tripura	1.5	8.4	6.2	20.1	0.8	4.6	5.5	8.8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1.2	0.4	3.6	1.6	1.3	0.6	4.5	4.6
25.	West Bengal	2.8	4.6	7.7	19.6	3.4	3.8	7.7	11.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5.0	9.4	8.0	20.8	3.3	7.6	3.8	23.9
27.	Chandigarh	2.9	3.1	3.4	23.5	1.0	—	3.9	14.4
28.	D and N Haveli	0.9	1.8	—	—	1.6	—	1.6	—
29.	Daman and Diu	1.7	—	4.9	13.6	1.3	—	1.4	8.3
30.	Delhi	—	—	0.9	6.4	3.9	26.0	3.2	5.3
31.	Lakshadweep	6.8	50.0	16.3	35.7	10.9	52.9	8.2	26.3
32.	Pondicherry	3.5	—	5.7	12.6	4.7	2.6	3.5	6.9
	All India	2.0	1.4	4.5	8.2	2.1	1.5	4.8	7.1

\*As per usual status approach.

Unemployment rate is the percentage of unemployed with reference to Labour Force.

[English]

#### Expansion of ESI Hospitals

1280. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether ESIC plans to expand the ESI hospitals at Indira Nagar, Bangalore and Sanat Nagar in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the cost of additional buildings to be completed at these two hospitals; and

(d) the additional beds that are likely to be available at these two hospitals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### International Flights from Hyderabad by Foreign Airlines

1281. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has started an international flight from Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain other foreign airlines have also shown interest to start flights from Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Air India currently operates direct flights from Hyderabad to Singapore, Dubai and Jeddah.

(c) and (d) Malaysian Airlines and Emirates have already commenced operations to/from Hyderabad. Besides designated airlines of Sri Lanka, Singapore, United Kingdom and Switzerland have also shown interest to operate to/from Hyderabad.

#### Shifting of Industrial Units Around Taj

1282. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recommended the closure of all Industrial units on the eastern side of the Yamuna in Agra;

(b) if so, whether the Industrial units on the eastern side of Yamuna are posing danger to the Taj;

(c) if so, whether any specific time frame has been fixed to shift all the industrial units around Taj;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to save the Taj from pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) submitted a report to Supreme Court in September, 2000 recommending the Agra Municipal Area

to be declared as industry free area, excluding only those industries not employing any energy driven machines. The industries located on the eastern side of the Yamuna in Agra are mainly located in Foundry Nagar and Nunhai. These industrial areas are located in upwind direction of the Taj and may pose air pollution problems to Taj.

According to the directions of the Supreme Court, the industries are required to switch over to natural gas. The matter is sub-judice and various issues including time frame for shifting of industrial units are under consideration of the Supreme Court.

(e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to save the Taj from pollution :-

- (i) A green belt has been developed in five hundred-meter radius of the Taj.
- (ii) No petrol/diesel driven vehicles are allowed to ply within 500 meters radius of the Taj. Only battery operated vehicles are allowed in this area.
- (iii) Industries like brick kilns, foundries etc. that generate air pollution around the Taj using fossile fuels have already been closed.
- (iv) Taj Trapezium Zone [TTZ] covering an area over 10,400 Sq. kms. has been notified, where only non-polluting industries are allowed and other restrictions have been imposed.
- (v) An Authority namely TTZ Pollution [Prevention and Control] Authority has been constituted to monitor the progress of the various projects undertaken under Taj Protection Mission Scheme.
- (vi) A number of Air Quality Monitoring Stations have been set up around the Taj to monitor the ambient air quality around the Taj.
- (vii) Mathura Refinery has taken necessary measures to reduce the emissions of pollutants.

[Translation]

#### **Labour Intensive Areas**

1283. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the labour intensive areas/sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the names of labour intensive areas/sectors and the area-wise percentage of labour earning a livelihood there; and

(c) the percentage of labour employed in the new sectors like information technology, communication and broadcasting and the number of additional labourers likely to get employment by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan in these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Agricultural and allied activities, Food processing, Small scale industries, Services sectors, Travel and Tourism, Information Technology, Housing and Real Estate Development and Construction, Road Transport, Distributive trade, Education and Health services and New emerging services have sufficient potential for quality employment.

(c) Information is maintained according to a broad classification as per National Industrial classification. The National Sample Survey results of 1999-2000 estimates that about 4% of the total workers are engaged in transport, shortage and communication services. The annual average growth rate in this sector during 1994-2000 was of the order of 6.04%. Similar growth rate is likely during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan.

[English]

#### **Match-Fixing Scandal**

1284. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has submitted its report on match-fixing to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of reports submitted to the Government by the CBI on match-fixing so far; and

(d) the action taken by the Government on such reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (d) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has submitted one Report on Match Fixing and Related Malpractices to the Government on 30th October, 2000. CBI had indicted 5 players viz; Mohd. Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Sharma and Nayan Mongia. The report was sent to BCCI for taking appropriate action against the indicted players. BCCI had

finally enforced life ban on Mohd. Azharuddin and 5 years ban on Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar and Ajay Sharma. BCCI had exonerated Nayan Mongia. The Government had also issued Show Cause Notices to Mohd. Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja and Manoj Prabhakar for withdrawal of Arjuna Award conferred on these players. Mohd. Azharuddin has challenged the ban order in the Civil Court, Hyderabad and Ajay Jadeja has challenged the ban order and the show cause notice issued to him for withdrawal of Arjuna Award in the High Court of Delhi. Both the petitions are pending before the Hon'ble Courts.

#### **Protection of Chilka Bird Sanctuary in Orissa**

1285. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

	Rs. in lakhs				
	97-98	98-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Development of National Parks and sanctuaries	7.2	6.9	21.7	23.06 (Revalidated)	11.5 (Revalidated)
Wetlands Conservation Programme	-	-	35.98	55.0	6.84

(b) As informed by the Ministry of Tourism, no excavation and desiltation work is being taken up by ITDC.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Use of Defence Airports**

1286. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :  
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether defence airports in the country are proposed to be used by commercial aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of these airports are located in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have examined the security aspect before taking the decision to allow commercial flights to use defence airports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Defence Airports where schedule

(a) whether the Union Government are planning to take any steps for protecting the biggest bird sanctuary 'Chilka' in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether any excavation and desiltation work is being taken by the Union Government under ITDC; and

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The Government of India provides financial assistance to Orissa for conservation and development of Chilka Bird sanctuary. During the ninth five year plan financial assistance provided for construction of earthen mounds, digging of old creeks, digging of water ponds, purchase of boats, planting of dry branch cuttings, fixing of sand through plantations, erection of watch towers and catchment area treatment island under centrally sponsored schemes is given below :

flights are being operated are : Agra, Bagdogra, Bhuj, Chandigarh, Goa, Gwalior, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Jorhat, Leh, Portblair, Pune, Silchar, Srinagar, Tezpur, Vizag and Jaisalmer.

(c) and (d) Pune airport is located in Maharashtra.

(e) and (f) Defence airports that have been opened for civil operations, have segregated civil aprons and enclaves for independent access except for Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Jaisalmer, Leh and Tezpur. Where civil apron is not segregated, adequate security measures are ensured so that security is not compromised.

12.01 hrs.

#### **STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

#### **CBI Raids on Retired Air Force Officers' Premises**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a joint operation conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Intelligence Bureau and the Indian Air Force Intelligence, some retired Air Force Officers

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

and a few Civilians have, on 26th and 27th July, been arrested for activities detrimental to national interests and relating to defence deals.

Some months back it had come to the knowledge of our Air Force Intelligence that Sergeant K.C. Saini, who was posted as equipment Assistant, D Stores, Air HQs was providing information on defence purchases, in consideration of sums of money. It thereafter got established that Sergeant Saini attempted to recruit another NCO working in a sensitive Directorate of Air HQ, for the same purpose. This NCO, after having been contacted by Sergeant Saini, reported the matter to his superior officer in Air HQ, who promptly informed Air Force Intelligence.

It was then decided to let the matter 'run' and to have this superior officer act as a 'decoy', by posing as a supplier of information, so that the full dimensions of this nefarious activity could be unravelled. At this juncture, Intelligence Bureau was also brought on the scene, and all subsequent meetings of the aforementioned officer with suspects, were monitored jointly, by the IB and Air Force Intelligence. At this stage, Sergeant Saini arranged a meeting of the 'superior officer' with Air Vice Marshal J.S. Kumar, (Retired). This was in May, 2001. During the introductory meeting itself, Air Vice Marshal J.S. Kumar, (Retired), paid Sergeant Saini approximately Rs. 19,000/-. At a subsequent meeting, AVM J.S. Kumar, (Retired), paid the decoy officer a sum of Rs. 50,000/-, with a promise of further "handsome" rewards for passing needed commercial information. Thereafter, AVM Kumar sought specific information in regard to certain projected purchases of the Indian Air Force.

At this juncture the Central Bureau of Investigation's assistance was sought, and a formal FIR lodged with them, the CBI. From this stage onwards, the CBI handled the case along with the IB and our Air Force Intelligence. The operation was then launched on 26th July, 2001. At 1830 hours, on that date, during a meeting arranged earlier between the Retired Air Vice Marshal, Sergeant Saini and the 'decoy superior officer', the CBI apprehended the Air Vice Marshal and the Sergeant. Simultaneously, the CBI also raided the houses of four other retired IAF officers, one civilian employee of the Ministry of Defence, and four civilians.

In the searches so far conducted by the CBI, it has been revealed that the retired Air Vice Marshal was in possession of documents pertaining to defence deals and a large amount of cash, at his residence. Similarly, documents of commercial nature pertaining to defence

deals were also confiscated from the premises of the other retired IAF officers. As of now, seven individuals have been arrested for questioning.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to place on record the appreciation of the Ministry of Defence for the efficiency, co-operative interaction and patient unravelling of this entire matter jointly by our Air Force Intelligence, the Intelligence Bureau and the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Hon. Members would no doubt appreciate that as detailed investigations are currently on, it would not be in public interest to reveal any more details.

*(Interruptions)*

12.06 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 329(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 2001 making certain amendments to the Coastal Regulation Zone so as to impose restrictions for setting up and expansion of industries, operations and processes in the said zone, issued under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3828/2001]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3829/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3830/2001]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : 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 Indian Airlines Limited and its subsidiary Airline Allied Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Airlines Limited and its subsidiary Airline Allied Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Account and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (iii) Review by the Government on the comments of the Auditors and Comptroller and Auditor General on the Accounts of the Indian Airlines Limited and its subsidiary Airline Allied Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3831/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 4 of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 :-

- (i) The Central Motor Vehicles (3rd Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 284(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Central Motor Vehicles (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 286(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (iii) G.S.R. 428(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend the Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment Rules), 1998.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3832/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956 :-

- (i) S.O. 512(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2001 authorising Deputy Collector, Sadar, Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority in respect of the land required for four laning on the stretch from Km 21 to Km 46.25 Sayed Raja and Naubatpur Bypass on National Highway No. 2 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (ii) S.O. 513(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2001 authorising Upper Nagar Magistrate III, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority in respect of the land required for four laning on the stretch from Km 21 to Km 46.25 on National Highway No. 2 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (iii) S.O. 514(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2001 seeking to require for building (four laning) of National Highway No. 8 from km. 271.50 to Km 318.60 between Surat to Manor in the State of Gujarat.
- (iv) S.O. 524(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 2001 seeking to require for public purpose of widening the existing National Highway including construction of bypasses, if any on the National Highway No. 5 in the stretch from km. 61.000 to Km 136.500 (Bhubaneswar-Calcutta Section) in the State of Orissa.
- (v) S.O. 529(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2001 seeking to acquire land for Surat-Manor Tollway Project of four laning of National Highway No. 8 between Surat to Manor in the State of Gujarat.



[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

- (vi) S.O. 530(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2001 regarding expenditure involved in construction of Moradabad Bypass on National Highway No. 24 in the State of U.P. – Tolling rates for collection of Tolls.
- (vii) S.O. 532(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2001 regarding widening of National Highway No. 60 in the stretch from Km. 000 to km. 53.410 (Balasore to Laxmannath Section) in the State of Orissa.
- (viii) S.O. 533(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2001 seeking to acquire land for widening and upgradation of National Highway No. 2 between Agra to Sikandra (Kanpur Dehat).
- (ix) S.O. 534(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2001 seeking to acquire land for public purposes of building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 2 between Baunti and Khaga from Km. 470 to Km. 492 (Delhi–Kanpur Section), and Km. 9 to Km. 38 (Kanpur–Varanasi Section) in Kanpur Nagar District in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 3833/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : I beg to lay on the Table – a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961 :-

- (1) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 188(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2001.
- (2) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 249(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 2001.
- (3) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 375(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 3834/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : I beg to lay on the Table –

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 :-

- (i) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Salaries, Allowances and other Conditions of Service of Chairperson and whole time Members) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 290(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 2001.
- (ii) The Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (Salaries, Allowances and other Conditions of Service of Chairperson and Members) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 291(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 2001, together with a corrigendum thereto (in Hindi version only) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 376(E) dated the 18 May, 2001.
- (iii) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Allowances to parttime Members) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 292(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 3835/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report on Cricket Match Fixing and Related Malpractices (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 3836/2001]

12.09 hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

### Sixth Report

[*Translation*]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on MMTc Limited – Trade in Gold (Import of Gold by MMTc).

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up 'Zero Hour',

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, I gave notice regarding the drought condition in Andhra Pradesh. It is the most important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise after Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna) : Sir, through you, I would like to raise an important matter. In the midnight of 27th July a heinous and awful incident took place in village Sheswan Gaur of district Muradabad. As soon as our Member of Parliament Begum Noor Bano came to know of the incident, she visited the place along with Shri Sujan Singh and Shri Jafran Jaidi. They saw that people belonging minority community had been brutally attacked. 6 persons were killed and women were raped before being killed. One of the women was pregnant. She was first raped and then killed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Last week also this matter was raised.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter. 13 people belonging to minority community were injured and women were raped. . . . (Interruptions) There is one strange thing about the incident that cotton was stuffed in the nose of the people who were killed in the incident. . . . (Interruptions) Obviously, cotton soaked in chloroform was stuffed to make them unconscious and thereafter the women were raped and injured. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I called him. If you want to say, it is after him.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : There is one more thing. A women was raped under a tree and from that place, two days ago a police cap, a shoulder badge and belt has been recovered. It is a very serious matter. Last month 6, 4 and 29 houses belonging to dalits were torched in Fatehpur, Aligarh and Sidarth Nagar respectively. A cabinet Minister's involvement is suspected in these incidents. . . . (Interruptions)

Sir, I would like to submit that there is complete breakdown of law and order in Uttar Pradesh and atrocities are being committed on women. . . . (Interruptions)

12.10 hrs.

*At this stage Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana and some other hon'ble Members came and stood near the table.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record now.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a union subject. We want that hon'ble Home Minister should come out with a Statement regarding the issue raised here. . . . (Interruptions) Sir, atrocities are being committed on women. It is a question of Human rights.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. It is not good.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.11 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very important matter regarding the drought situation. Please allow me to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

---

\*Not recorded.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, please allow us to speak on a very important matter. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up Item no. 9.

14.02 hrs.

FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL\*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964."

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.02½ hrs.

FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT)  
ORDINANCE – LAID

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the reasons for immediate legislation by Food Corporations (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001. . . .(Interruptions)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3837/2001]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when is the Home Minister going to make a Statement on Moradabad incident.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand. In the morning you have wasted the entire time. Again, at 2 o'clock also

you are doing the same thing. I do not understand what type of system you are following.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It happened in the morning also. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Ferozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when will the Statement be made on the incident which took place on 24th ?

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Why are you not giving us the opportunity to speak ? It would be better if you tell us as to when the Hon'ble Home Minister will give the Statement.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singhji, this is not good. You are also doing the same thing. What is this ? In the morning you have wasted the entire time of the House. Again at 2 o'clock you are doing the same thing. I do not understand what system you are following.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, jungle raj is prevailing in the entire Uttar Pradesh. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Sirva Gaur incident of Moradabad, I should be allowed to make a statement. Please allow me. . . .(Interruptions) We must have our say regarding this grave incident. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be at 2 o'clock. Please understand. There is a 'Zero Hour'. You are not allowing the House to function in the 'Zero Hour'. You are disturbing the House. At 2 o'clock you are doing the same thing. I do not understand what type of method I have to follow in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are a senior Member. Please take your seat. This is not good. The hon. Minister is on his legs.

\*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section-2 dated 30.7.2001

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : The Speaker needs protection. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, had I been given the opportunity to speak and proceeding of the House not been interrupted during afternoon when Moradabad issues was taken up, I would have stated then, that the hon'ble Home Minister will make statement in this regard in the House the day after tomorrow. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yerrannaidu, you can raise your issue tomorrow and not today. The 'Zero Hour' matters can be taken up tomorrow.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, after the hon. Minister makes his statement we must be allowed to ask questions and seek clarifications on the same. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, you are a senior Member. You have to assist the Chair and not to disturb the Chair. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will take up Item No. 11.

14.04 hrs.

### LIVE-STOCK IMPORTATION (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Ajit Singh I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Live-stock Importation Act, 1898.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Live-stock Importation Act, 1898."

*The motion was adopted.*

DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.04½ hrs.

### LIVE-STOCK IMPORTATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE – LAID

[English]

DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN : Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Ajit Singh, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the reasons for immediate legislation by the Live-Stock Importation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3838/2001]

14.05 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

#### (i) Need to take urgent steps to check the spread of Malaria in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Malaria epidemic has engulfed various States including Madhya Pradesh. The affect of the disease is much more severe in Forest covered areas and the districts where intensive and regular cultivation of paddy is undertaken. Various district of Madhya Pradesh including Balaghat, Mandla, Dindori, Seoni, Chindwara and Hoshangabad are in the grip of malaria epidemic. Some students of Kendriya Vidyalaya situated in Panchmarhi district of Madhya Pradesh have died due to Malaria. It is a very serious incident. Both the Centre and the State Government should immediately formulate an action plan to check the spread of Malaria in Madhya Pradesh and make efforts to control the number of deaths caused by Malaria.

[English]

#### (ii) Need to formulate a policy for providing benefits to the martyrs of para military forces or of the three wings of the Armed Forces killed in action on the lines of Kargil martyrs

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat) : Sir, the nation is celebrating the Kargil Vijay Divas on 26th July. There can be no denying that the victory in the difficult terrains of Kargil was possible only because of heroic and gallant efforts of our soldiers, especially those who have

[Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan]

laid their lives for the sake of the country. The way the Kargil martyrs were treated after the misadventure deserves a kudo. The whole nation was united and displayed its obeisance to the martyrs. The persons of paramilitary forces and of Army are killed ruthlessly by mercenaries almost daily. The sacrifice of those who were killed in Bangladesh firing or of those who are killed by militants in the Valley is not less than the sacrifices in the Kargil War. There is an urgent need to evolve a policy that a jawan or officer belonging to paramilitary forces or of the three wings of the Armed Forces when killed in action for the sake of the country will be recognised in the same manner as Kargil heroes were treated.

**(iii) Need to restrict trawler fishing beyond seven kilometres of coast in Orissa**

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Orissa has a coastline of about 400 kilometres. Traditional fishing is being undertaken by the fishermen of the coastal areas. Because of illegal trawler fishing along the coast, the fishermen are deprived of getting good catch. The sea is not able to breed large quantities of prawn as a number of mother prawns are brought to the hatcheries. The Orissa Marine Fisheries (Regulation) Act is not adequate to prevent these illegal activities.

Since these are industrial activities on the Coastal Regulation Zone, Government of India may step in by restricting trawler fishing beyond seven kilometres of the Coast. The hatcheries along the coast should be compelled to release a specific quantity of prawns' juveniles into the sea under proper supervision of experts.

**(iv) Need for rural electrification in Godhara Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat**

[Translation]

SHRI BHUPENDRA SINH SOLANKI (Godhara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the power crisis is prevailing in the entire country but there are still some villages in the country which are not electrified even after 50 years of independence. The work of electrification is going on at a snail's pace and it is very difficult to say that by when this work is likely to be complete. As per the official figures 80 thousand villages are yet to be electrified. However, in reality the number would be much more because Government considers a village as electrified even a single bulb lights there. Lack of funds is stated as the reason for the slow progress of electrification work. There are several villages in Godhara Parliamentary constituency of Gujarat whose electrification has not been undertaken even

though the maximum people of these villages belong to scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and other backward classes. Such villages are electrified on priority basis. However, Gujarat Government is not taking up the work of electrification of these villages for the last many years stating lack of funds as the reason.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Power to provide financial assistance for the electrification of these villages in Parliamentary constituency Godhara.

[English]

**(v) Need to reconsider the move to merge/curtail Centrally-sponsored Schemes**

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the reported move to merge/curtail many Centrally-sponsored Schemes under various Ministries for reasons of overlapping.

Many NGOs are functioning in my constituency and are beneficiaries of grants released under such schemes. Mostly, these are under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Women and Child Development, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs. NGOs are doing a good job, whose work is constantly monitored by the sponsoring Ministries. I have observed that there are delays on the part of sponsoring Ministries to release funds in time, putting much strain on the NGOs who have no sources to carry on the work without funds for basic sustenance.

Instead of curtailing such scheme allocations by merger or scrapping, it would be better to ensure better co-ordination among the sponsoring Ministries through an inter-Ministerial nodal committee to ensure that no NGOs receive grants from more than one Ministry for a particular project.

I urge the Central Government to review the proposal and maintain the status quo on the issue.

**(vi) Need for Construction of a Bypass in Lakhisarai District in Bihar under Prime Minister Sadak Yojana**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of Lakhisarai district falling under my Begusarai parliamentary constituency have to face a lot of problems as frequent accidents take place due to non-availability of bypass. If the road from Ramgarh Chowk is connected with the National Highway No. 80 via Ashok Dham under Prime Minister Sadak Yojana, many backward areas of such

villages whose population is more than one thousand would have been benefitted.

Through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this issue and request to construct the said road by bringing it under the Prime Minister Sadak Yojana at the earliest.

[English]

**(vii) Need to amend the Coastal Regulatory Zone Act keeping in view the interests of the people of coastal areas of Kerala**

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargod) : Sir, Coastal Regulatory Zone Act was brought out without considering the large and diversity nature of India. South Indian States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka have strongly demanded amendments in this Act. Coastal areas in India are in different shapes. Some areas have thick population of fishermen and institutions related to fishing industry, plenty of coconut trees. In this area, we can see schools, post and telegraph offices, hospitals, and small industrial units. Some areas are having tourism potential. Lakhs of families of fishermen are living in coastal areas of Kerala. They are engaged in the work, which is capable of earning invaluable foreign exchange. With the effect of this law, these people are in difficulties to construct houses, shops and even a work-shed. The Government appointed Balakrishnan Committee. I think, the recommendations of the Committee have wide recognition.

I request the hon. Minister to make amendments in the Act considering the necessity and feelings of lakhs of people living in large coastal areas of Kerala.

**(viii) Need to advise the Government of Karnataka to release more water of River Krishna to save the standing crops in Andhra Pradesh**

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, the farmers of Andhra Pradesh are facing harrowing times owing to the failure of monsoon this year in Andhra Pradesh. Certain districts are facing unprecedented drought since there is no rainfall for the last one month. Seed-based paddy crops are withering due to lack of water. July and August months are the peak season for agricultural activities, but in view of drought situation, there is no activity for farmers. The water level in the Krishna and other rivers are at so low level that the fields cannot be irrigated through reservoirs. If such situation continues, the farmers cannot raise their crops, and famine will prevail.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to advise the Karnataka Government to release more water of the River

Krishna to save the crops of Andhra Pradesh and come to the rescue of the Andhra Pradesh farmers' plight who are very much agitated due to lack of water from Almatti Dam for Andhra Pradesh.

**(ix) Need to provide Adequate Funds for attending to the problem of Water-Logging in Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency caused by River Baruna**

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the biggest problem caused by Baruna river in my Phulpur Parliamentary constituency district Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. The Baruna river flows from Phulpur to Varanasi via district Bhadohi. Hundreds of villages in the Phulpur constituency remain submerged due to flood in Baruna River and thousands of acres of land remains uncultivated throughout the year as a result thereof. A survey has been conducted of this Baruna river by the District Collector, Allahabad and the report has already been sent to Uttar Pradesh Government. But due to paucity of funds thousands of villagers are helpless to cultivate their land. I had also written to the District Collector of Allahabad to use the funds of my MPLADS. I, therefore, urge the Union Government to provide funds to the State Government for desilting the Baruna river.

[English]

**(x) Need to solve acute drinking water problem in Tamil Nadu**

\*SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur) : Even after 50 years of Independence, the problem of ensuing basic drinking water supply has not been solved in Tamil Nadu like some other places in the country. We hoped that the Ganga-Cauvery link scheme could solve both the irrigation and drinking water needs. The northern districts of Tamil Nadu especially North Arcot and Thiruvannamalai districts and places like Tiruppathur, Narampalli, Vaniyampadi that come under Tiruppathur Lok Sabha constituency faces severe water shortage. Drinking water scarcity is there and every family spends at least Rs. 20 everyday for water. Drought like hardship is on one side. Flood hit situations are on another side. At the same time, river waters flow into the sea as wastage. Drinking water technology mission of successive Union Governments has not met with success. Ground water potential has depleted. Hence, I

\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri D. Venugopal]

urge upon the Union Government to evolve and implement on war footing a rejuvenated National Drinking Water Mission at the earliest.

**(xi) Need to Exempt Compensation received by Farmers against Land Acquisition for any project from Income-Tax**

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per section 194-L, which is added to Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 1961 through Finance Act, 1999, a person whose land was acquired by the Government for the purpose of any projects and is duly compensated will have to pay 10 percent income tax on the total compensation paid to him. In this manner, the Government take back whatever meagre compensation it pays to the farmers. The Government of Maharashtra have drawn the attention of the Union Government through its letter dated 5th May, 2000 and demanded to exempt income tax on the compensation given to them. No action has been taken by the Union Government even after more than one year.

Therefore, through this august House, I request the Government to exempt them from paying income tax on the money given to them as compensation and also bring about an amendment in section 194-L of Income Tax Act for this purpose.

**(xii) Need to provide more Railway Services at Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH (Moradabad) : Sir, India earns two thousand crores rupees of foreign exchange every year through export from Moradabad. But there hardly exists any rail facility by which a merchant can travel back to Moradabad in evening from Delhi same day. Therefore, an inter-city rail service is needed to cater to this need. A direct train from Moradabad to Mumbai is also necessary in order to promote export. Apart from this people of this region will definitely be benefitted if a train via Chandausi is introduced on Delhi-Bareilly section for Chandausi Mandi. These three demands related to railways are such that it will be economically beneficial for the Railway Department, Moradabad-Chandausi region and the nation.

Therefore, through this House, I request the Government to consider all the three above mentioned demands seriously in the interest of public of these regions.

[English]

**14.22 hours**

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY PRESIDENT IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : I beg to move :

“That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 2nd June, 2001 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur.”

Sir, even in the Constituent Assembly, when this particular provision was being made a part of the Commission, there was a very sharp debate as to whether in a federal structure a radical provision of this kind, which empowers the Union Government to suspend a State Assembly and take over the powers of the State, should be there or should not be there. Replying to the debate, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had said, “Considering all aspects of the problem, particularly that we have just become independent, and there is need to ensure that on no account is the unity and integrity of the country threatened, and that the Constitution we have adopted is respected by all, and all States function as required by the Constitution, perhaps a provision of this kind is necessary. But I hope that it will be very sparingly used.” He used the phrase, “I hope it will remain a dead letter”.

Well, that has not happened. This provision has been used quite frequently as a result of which very often some of the political parties have been of the view that this should be repealed. Though, I have also seen the parties which have very strongly and forcefully advocated repeal of this article on occasions themselves face a situation in which they became keen that this be invoked. This has happened again and again. My party and I knew the fact that the principal opposition in this country, which has been in power for a long time at the Centre, both based on actual experience and on the basis of their assessment has been of the view that this is a necessary provision of the Constitution. But we have all agreed that it should be used sparingly. Out Government has been of that view.

Sir, this is the third time that this Government has brought this kind of a motion in this House. The first time when we brought it was in the case of Goa, and there was unanimity with which we adopted it. The second time, there was division in the House when we brought it in the case of Bihar. Now, this is the third time that I am moving this motion, and I hope that this time, it would be adopted unanimously.

In 1983, Shrimati Indira Gandhi thought that it was necessary to examine the entire gamut of the Centre-State Relations. She set up what is known today as the Sarkaria Commission. That Sarkaria Commission had dealt with this particular provision as with all emergency provisions of the Constitution at considerable length. They have held, and I quote :

"Article 356 should be used very sparingly in extreme cases, as a measure of last resort when all available alternatives fail to prevent or rectify a break-down of Constitutional machinery in the State."

And then, it goes on to explain what can be regarded as break-down of Constitutional machinery. I quote again :

"A failure of Constitutional machinery may occur in a number of ways. Factors which contribute to such a situation are diverse and imponderable. It is, therefore, difficult to give an exhaustive catalogue of situations which would fall within the sweep of the phrase, 'the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.' Even so, some instances of what does and what does not constitute a Constitutional failure within the contemplation of this article may be grouped and discussed under following heads. . ."

They have gone elaborately to point out what can be regarded as Constitutional failure, what cannot be, and where invocation of this article would be improper.

Now, the first thing it has given is political crises, and the Sarkaria Commission defines political crises in the following words :

"A Constitutional break-down may be the outcome of a political crises or deadlock. This might occur where a Ministry resigns or is dismissed on loss of its majority support in the Assembly and no alternative Government commanding the confidence of the Assembly can be formed."

Sir, I would submit to this House that the case of Manipur falls squarely within this definition. It is, in fact, a textbook case for justifying the imposition of President's Rule there.

Now, if I were to recount briefly the course of events in Manipur, insofar as this case is concerned, I would say that this present Legislative Assembly of Manipur was constituted on the 1st of March, 2000. After that, there have been several Governments and there has been continuing instability. Party loyalties seemed very fragile. There were defections and there were splits which went on and on.

The last Government which had assumed Office was on the 15th February, 2001. It is remarkable that this Government had the support of 59 Members in a House of 60. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : You started with three. . . .(Interruptions) Those 59 Members who came into being of your party started with there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It was not my party's Government. I am not using this occasion at all to pass any such remarks.

In the other House, I paid respects to that one single Congressman who preferred to remain in the Opposition. I have done it personally also when he met me. Only one Member was there. Even though he was one, I said, I respected him. He met me also. He was the first person to come to me to say that the situation in Manipur is of a nature where the numbers do not matter and that basically any Government comprised from this set of MLAs and from this Assembly would not be able to deal with the situation. He was the first to come to me. I have respected his viewpoint; and I did not dispute it.

Today I am only telling that this was the Government that had the support of 59 MLAs; it formed a Council of Ministers comprising 34 Ministers. That means, it had 34 Ministers from a House of 60 Members. Yet it suddenly lost support. The Governor asked the Chief Minister to seek a vote of confidence of the Assembly. He gave a notice of Confidence Motion. On 21st May 2001, the Motion of Confidence was moved by the Chief Minister, which was defeated with 17 MLAs voting in favour and 39 MLAs voting against. The evening he went to the Governor and tendered his resignation. The Governor asked him to continue until alternative arrangements can be made. From the 21st of May till the 31st of May, for ten days, the Governor exerted hard to see that a Government is formed.

In his report, which has been already circulated to all the hon. Members, he says in paragraph 9 that :

"I have waited patiently all these days, since the 21st of May."

Earlier, he mentions all the names of the MLAs and party leaders who met him. He further mentions what they told him, that they are not in a position to form the Government and told him what should be done in that situation. Thereafter, he writes :

"I have waited patiently all these days, since the 21st of May and given ample time to all the political groups to come up with a credible alternative.



[Shri L.K. Advani]

However, in spite of all my efforts to explore the possibility of the formation of a stable Ministry, no group or party has so far come up with a credible claim for the formation of a stable Ministry. As a committed believer in the value, validity and efficacy of the parliamentary system of democracy, it saddens me to come to the conclusion that the Constitutional machinery in the State has broken down. In view of almost unanimous demand from all the major political parties, I am constrained to recommend President's Rule under Article 356 of the Constitution of India.

Though there is a strong case for the dissolution of the Assembly and ordering of fresh elections, specially in view of the fact that many of the Members have changed sides more than once, in some cases as many as 4-5 time, within a short period of 15 months, I am not recommending it for two reasons."

He gave his own reasons, one of them is that elections cannot be held, etc. So far as our Government is concerned, when it got this recommendation for imposition of President's Rule, we took note of the observation that the Supreme Court had made in its judgement in Bommai case. The Supreme Court had said this and I quote :

"Though the power of dissolving a legislative assembly can be said to be implicit in clause 1 of Article 356, it must be held, having regard to the overall constitutional scheme that the President shall exercise it only after the Proclamation is approved by both the Houses of Parliament under clause 3 and not before. . . ."

"Until such approval, the president can only suspend the Legislative Assembly by suspending the provisions of Constitution relating to the Legislative Assembly under sub-clause (c) of clause 1. The dissolution of Legislative Assembly is not a matter of course, it should be resorted to only where it is found necessary for achieving the purpose of proclamation."

Therefore, the Government decided that at this present point of time, it accepts the Governor's recommendation of invoking article 356 and putting the State under President's Rule but not dissolving the Assembly. The decision in respect of dissolution can be taken after the application of Bommai judgement only, after both the Houses have approved the proclamation.

In the other House when the matter was being discussed, Members pressed that the House should be dissolved. I said that the Government would respect the wishes of the House.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : In the other House did all the Members unanimously press for the dissolution ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Nobody said that the present state should continue. Even those, who finally said 'No' to the Motion, their spokesmen also said that the House should be dissolved and elections held. So, there was unanimity on that.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : But it then differs from the Governor's recommendation.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The Governor had not made a recommendation except to say that elections cannot be held immediately.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : He recommended for suspended animation.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : After the Supreme Court's judgement, that has practically become the general approach.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : How long will it remain under suspended animation ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It cannot be for more than six months. That is the limit. But so far as we are concerned, we propose to do it as early as possible. I may share with you a feeling that the people or the MLAs, who are there and who have not been able to visit their constituencies, have been pleading not to do it immediately. They are asking for time to deal with the very precarious situation there. I have assured the House that there would be no attempt to form any fresh Government. This was the apprehension in the minds of some of the Members. I have assured them that there would be no attempt to form the Government and the House would be dissolved. I would expect the House to give me some kind of flexibility so that the situation there can be dealt with properly. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : If the BJP accepts Samata Party's. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Since the matter was raised in the other House, I had an occasion to say, this was a case where even though my Party people were in a position to form the Government, I told that I would not favour any such thing. Certainly, I could not thrust my opinion on them. But I did advise my Party President that this should not be done. He advised them and they accepted it. . . .(Interruptions) I am speaking either on behalf of the

Government or to some extent on behalf of my Party.  
.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the reply but only the introductory remarks.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not think I have anything more to add.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What is the situation now ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : In the course of my reply, I will tell you. Otherwise, in the last two or three days, after the Prime Minister's meeting with the Chief Ministers of all the Northeastern States, the situation has become more and more normal. Things are becoming more and more normal, though we have to see that every section of the population is satisfied with the situation.

We would also have to see that no injustice is done to anyone so that the peace process that has been initiated in respect of NSCN (INA) or the NSCN(K) in Nagaland continues.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 2nd June, 2001 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur."

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Home Minister while asking the House to give its consent to the imposition of President's Rule, has referred to the speech of our late lamented leader, Dr. Ambedkar, who is the father of the Constitution, in the Constituent Assembly. He also referred to the Sarkaria Commission. Though it is a sad day for me being from North Eastern region, yet I feel happy that at least your Party and you who criticised us for 45 years for imposing the President's Rule here and there for genuine reasons have come to believe today that it needs to be imposed at certain times and on certain occasions. I do agree with you that Manipur is a fit case for that.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Home Minister and the Governor have very interestingly avoided the latest situation in Manipur *vis-a-vis* the political parties. I do agree that it is inconvenient for the hon. Home Minister. Yesterday also we had seen over TV that he is the second man in BJP. Shri Vajpayee was shown being garlanded. Then, there was some gap. After that, he came and he was also garlanded. You just now said that you did not know about your party.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not say this.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What did you say ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I said that I speak on behalf of me and to some extent I speak on behalf of my party.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I wanted to give you a left-handed compliment. It is because you are sitting in Delhi. You said that under no circumstances you would allow a Government there. You did not allow BJP to form a Government there. Do you dispute that ? You did not and I appreciate that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I said that the BJP was, at one point, in a position to form a Government. But I advised them not to do so. But I did not say that I do not represent BJP.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : My point is that being a Home Minister why did you not do that when Shri Radhkrishan Kojam came there ? He became a soldier from Samata Party and came here with so many MLAs from so many parties. Why did you not do that ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is because as the Home Minister I could not prevent Shri Kojam.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You could prevent him. He is your NDA partner.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Sir, this should be very clear that so far as my Party is concerned, in case a member from my Party says that he wants to form a Government in this manner, I can certainly tell my Party President that this is something that I would not advise. But as Home Minister, I could not prevent another Party member who says that he has got the majority. How can I prevent him ? I cannot do that.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : You reply when your turn comes. Let him speak now.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Home Minister I am saying that you could have done your duty as the Home Minister three months before. The Assembly would not have been burnt and the Chief Minister's house would not have been burnt. You say that the Governor has given a report. You tell me in Independent India when has a Governor fled away from his house in an Army helicopter and gone to an Army Camp ? He went away leaving the whole Manipur down into a bay. The Governor's rule means the Central Rule. What is your rule there ? Fifty-five thousand men and women came on the streets to demand

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

that this Government should be banned. What more do you want? You complemented Shri Rishan Keishing. He is a Naga tribal.

But he has proved that discipline has to be maintained. What I am hinting at is that whereas you have said so many good things, you must also say something to condemn those political parties which have created this musical chair like situation in Manipur.

When this drama was going on, the cease-fire decision came suddenly. But the cease-fire created a fiery situation in Manipur. There was no cease-fire at all. It was a burning situation. This august House must know that in spite of all these agitations, there was no ethnic trouble there. For this, credit goes to student organisations like AMSU and AMUCO. Congress, CPI(M) and everybody else gave credit to them because they fought against the Government and not against each other.

Manipur is a State with thirteen districts. There are different ethnic groups like Manipuris, Nagas, Kukis and Manipuri Muslims. Even then there was no trouble whatsoever against each other. They did maintain harmony. I do not know whether the Intelligence Department has shown the Home Minister a picture which appeared in a newspaper depicting each and every bullet inquiry, when firing was done, above waist. I happened to be the Minister of State for Home Affairs for about two and a half years. At that time, instructions were always given to CRPF and BSF that their first duty was to warn people, then fire teargas and then only fire below the waist. But, in this case firing was done to kill people. The Government has to rise to the occasion to take a decision. The State is in a big mess. This has created problem not only in Manipur but has spread all over the north-eastern region.

The day before yesterday we, the MPs belonging to the north-eastern region, met you Mr. Home Minister and congratulated you for the steps that you have taken. But, have you read the newspapers of today and yesterday? These outfits in Nagaland are saying that whatever the Prime Minister or the Home Minister says is not acceptable to them. There is some hidden agenda. Therefore, the Home Minister must tell us today in this House that there is no such hidden agenda as the Sixth Schedule giving autonomy to certain areas in Nagaland. You must know that we have got our Chief Ministers in Nagaland and also in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. They all came here and cooperated with you. Even the CPI(M) Chief Minister of Tripura came and cooperated with you. We would like to know from you who has created the present situation there.

I squarely lay the blame on the NDA partners and others who have encouraged defections. It is good that my good friend Shri Chaoba Singh is a Minister at the Centre today.

I was just going through *The Hindustan Times* in which they had given the latest party position as NCP-2; Congress (I) – 1 (I support Shri Scindia because he has kept at least one); SFPM-2; BJP-26; and Samata Party-13. If you go to the beginning, you will see just the opposite. This sort of a system has been continuing in Manipur as the figure shows that in 29 year there have been 25 Chief Ministers! Can you imagine this kind of a situation in Andhra Pradesh? It cannot happen anywhere else. Therefore, it is not particularly my fault or your fault; it is the fault of the people who are the elected representatives.

Citing the decision of the Supreme Court in the Bommai case you have told us that you will consider the Dissolution; but as per the Supreme Court judgement you cannot do it now.

I agree with it. I do not disagree but I do not agree with you when you say you need about six months time. Just now, you said 'maximum six months'. We want a specific time because the situation has gone to the worse and it cannot go further worse. We want people's representatives to be there. You know that out of 60 MLAs, 48 of them have changed sides minimum five times. That is the track record! Yesterday, I told to one of them, "Every time you come either for this party or that party. Why do people elect you? You are also creating a problem." In Manipur, they like us. They want us to revolt when there is injustice. Speaker is also a party to it.

Whatever be the time, whether it is six months or three months, the hon. Home Minister must have a special package for Manipur. Economy has been shattered for the last 16-17 months. Your Governor gave a report. You gave a report. You did not say that one of the Ministers of the Nipamacha Singh Ministry drew Rs. 8 crore and gave Rs. 6 crore to the underworld. That was one of the main reasons. We know it as we are from the North-East. Mr. Chaoba Singh is here; he knows it. He even went round and told people that this was very bad. This is Government's money. What is your Chief Secretary doing? What was the BJP's stand when *thanas* were attacked and ASLR and AK-47 guns were being taken away? This is the story of Manipur. One of the groups was going out of the *thanas* with all the arms. By mistake, they left out something. The OC called him and said, "You have left one, please like this do not come again. Take this gun also to be on the safe side." This is a country where 100 crore people are living! We have got an elected Government.

We have gone and addressed. You are known as the second Sardar Patel. . . .(Interruptions)

My point is, you have to give a message that under President's rule, we can bring back normalcy where all sorts of people, people of all castes and religions can live in a homogenous way and there is no fighting. In my constituency, people are there. They have all come out. Ladies have come before three months. People are saying that that the situation is bad. But you have to bring normalcy there. For this purpose, my party and even all other parties will give their helping hand to you. We are there to help you. We want peace to come back. We want to know the packages that you are giving. You can do it because you are in charge of the North-Eastern Council also. There is ten per cent surplus for the North-Eastern States. Let us see that it comes from here and goes there.

I want to say something else. But I do not want to mention it because it is not ethical to do so. We should not say anything against a person who is not present in the House. But generally, when you appoint an Advisor to the Governor, you try to take his experience in that area, see whether he has served in the North-East, his track record and how he can convince people to create a good situation. Keeping such things in mind, you should review the appointment of advisors.

I have seen a report that the Governor is going to be changed. I do not want to say anything in favour of him. But immediate transfer of Governor will also send a wrong message. I know him. He has tried his best. He has worked with me when I was in-charge as Minister of State at the Centre. I know that he is not a bad officer. If he is changed immediately, then a wrong message will go and if you change at all, it must be for a better replacement. It cannot be for just one of those political leaders who will go and form a BJP Government there. No, it should not be like that.

Now, I will come to financial irregularities. Mr. Home Minister, I earnestly request you to send a team of officials from the Ministry and see, how the money that is being allotted by the Government of India is being squandered away. A product, which is available for Rs. 20, is being purchased for Rs. 150. This is very unfortunate. The people are suffering, but the money is being wasted. If you want to reshuffle, you must reshuffle the police. You have to think of it and see as to what can be done.

The situation that prevails in Manipur today is not a situation created in one day. We were also there. We know that of all the Governments, the best Government was that

of Shri Rishang Keishing. Shri Dorendra Singh was also Chief Minister for some time. Shri Radhabinod was also a Minister in the Congress Government. All the condemned product had gone to the market and created this situation which is not congenial to have a good atmosphere in Manipur. We need to go to the public. All political parties must go and condemn those people. During our visit, the students said that this sort of people must not take the responsibility to work in such a sensitive State like Manipur, which is just near Burma. The border area in the market for arms and smugglers. It is known to all. Hence, I appeal to you that just giving our assent to President's Rule is not enough. It needs more.

I do not know the system that you follow. Generally, when there is the President's Rule and when the Assembly is kept in suspended animation, a Consultative Committee is appointed. Here, the Governor meets time and again and takes advice. That should be done. Some parties should be represented in it. The MPs from Manipur must also be included in this Consultative Committee, so that the whole matter is not left to the bureaucrats or the Governor. It has paid us rich dividends in Punjab. During Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's tenure, we formed a Committee there and whenever complaints were received, they were redressed. That created a good atmosphere.

With all respect to you and to your Government, I would like to say that when you are in the Government and when you are in NDA, please do not allow your constituents to use the Government machinery to go there and create instability. What has happened today in Manipur is the result of the over ambition of our good friend, Shri George Fernandes. Having been thrown out from the Ministry, he wanted to have a Ministry in his pocket, which he could not. This has led to this situation. I know what you have said in the Ministry, but it was not heard. It should have been heard. We are your Indian fellow brothers. We call the North-Eastern States as seven sisters. Let our seven sisters get co-operation from the Government and from all political parties. And let us see that harmony is preserved in North-Eastern States. Nobody should try to fish in troubled waters. So many people have been killed in Manipur. Our boys, girls, mothers and sisters have come on the streets. We must appreciate their sentiments.

15.00 hrs.

We get memorandum saying that we are being warned. Let peace be coming there. We shall take care of that. When there was an emotional upsurge in Assam, we had seen that nobody cared for bullet; nobody thought of ballot. So, in such a situation, people think of their mother-land. To save their mother-land, they can go to any extent. None

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

of these boys has used any arms against any police officer or anybody. Yes, we do not approve of the burning of the Assembly, burning of the Chief Minister's house; burning of some other officials house or Minister's house; attacking my colleague Shri Th. Chaoba Singh's house. We condemn it. That thing should not have been done. But we want that normalcy must come back. Economic development must take place. We should weed out those corrupt officials from there and give good governance because, Mr. Minister, it will be under your control.

With these words, I convey my thanks with a pinch of salt. Let us believe your assurance that the imposition of President's rule will not be extended beyond six months. After August, the climate in the North-East is always very good. September, October, November and December are good months for doing any good thing. Let us hope that election will be held and the dissolution of Assembly not be made. Let us also hope that peace will come back.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Sir, I rise to support the imposition of President's rule in Manipur. It is actually a classic case of availability of no alternative. The hon. Minister Advani ji has already explained in detail the situation which led to the imposition of President's rule. But I know that not only the political situation was not ripe for the formation of any alternative Government but also there was chaos in the State. Shri Advani did not explain the State of lawlessness in Manipur in those days. But the hon. Governor Shri Ved Marwah had already explained all those aspects. Let me just put it in brief. 40 people died because of underground-related activities. The increased extortion by the underground people created all-round insecurity in Manipur. Three catholic priests were killed for not meeting the demand of the extortionists. The catholic missionary schools had closed down for a few months which had jeopardised the education facilities for about 15000 students. So, the situation is like this. It led actually to the Proclamation of President's rule.

Before me, when Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev was speaking on this subject, he raised one or two points. One point is that the cease-fire has created fire in Manipur. Further, he accused the hon. Home Minister, the NDA Government of creating this situation in Manipur. I am very much confused about what he said. Did he mean to say that the imposition of President's rule has created chaos in Manipur? The creation of lawlessness in Manipur was because of a different reason. The reason is about the proclamation or declaration or extension of ceasefire beyond Manipur. But he said that because there was no

Ministry, that created this problem. He said that the Congress Party would come forward to see that peace prevailed in the North-Eastern States.

Sir, everybody knows that the Chief Ministers of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, who belong to Congress Party, came and met the hon. Home Minister. They said that they stubbornly oppose the extension of the Naga Ceasefire beyond Manipur. But now I have with me here the Resolution issued to everybody by the Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee. This has been distributed probably to most of the hon. Members of Parliament. In this, what has the Congress Party got to say? It says :

"The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee fully supports the recent extension of the Ceasefire on 14th June, 2001 as a major step and prelude towards future peace embracing the entire North Eastern Region. The territorial coverage envisaged in the Ceasefire Agreement is not a new development. The 1964 Ceasefire also extended beyond Nagaland as in the present Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of India and the NSCN (IM). As a political party which functions in accordance with the arrangements enshrined in the 16-Point Agreement of 1960, we stand by Clause 13 of the Agreement which relates to integration of contiguous areas inhabited by the Nagas."

Sir, what does Clause 13 say? It says :

"The other Naga tribes inhabiting the areas contiguous to the present Nagaland should be allowed to join the Nagaland, if they so desire."

15.07 hours

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This is the decision of the Congress Party of the State where a Chief Minister of the Congress Party is in office. If the Congress Party actually wants peace in that region, then how is it that the Chief Ministers belonging to the Congress Party from the North-Eastern region speak in different voices? One is supporting the imposition of the Ceasefire and another is opposing it. Then, how can the Congress Party say that they want peace? This is exactly the reason why Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev did not mention anything about the proposal sent to everybody by the Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : The Resolution of the Executive of the B.J.P. is quite different from the Statement of the Government in the House. Please refer to that also.  
... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, I have full respect for Shrimati Margaret Alva. She is one of the Members of the Panel of Chairmen in the House. I am a junior Member. . . .(Interruptions) For the sake of argument, if I say that we have committed a mistake, is it incumbent upon the Congress Party that because the NDA committed a mistake, they will also commit a similar type of mistake ? Are they going to say this ? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Raghunath Jha, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not interrupt him. You speak when you get your chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, now there are two points of view. One is Naga point of view and another is non-Naga point of view.

Now, if the Naga point of view is that the other Naga tribes inhabiting the areas contiguous to the present Nagaland should be allowed to join Nagaland, then my point is: how are we going to ascertain whether the Nagas inhabiting other contiguous States want to join Nagaland ? Are we going to have a referendum in Manipur ? Are we going to have a referendum in the Naga-inhabited areas of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh or Mizoram ? Is it possible ?

If you see the entire India, you can find that there are certain contiguous areas of Orissa where some Oriya-speaking people are also living, for example, in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. Many Telugu-speaking people are also living in Orissa. That means, there is the 'Parla Khemundi' in the Gajapathi district. The Hindi-speaking people also stay in Orissa. Oriya-speaking people also stay in Jharkhand areas or in Chhattisgarh. Then, what are we going to do ? Are we going to wage a violent agitation that all the Oriya-speaking areas should be in Orissa ? Or are the Hindi-speaking people going to have a violent agitation, with guns in their hands, that all the Hindi-speaking areas should be amalgamated into their States ? It is not possible. So, I appeal to all the Naga brethren who have told that in the Resolution of 1960, there are certain Naga-speaking areas in Myanmar. Are we going to have a fight with Myanmar to bring all those Naga-speaking areas from Myanmar to amalgamate them into Nagaland ? Practically, it is not possible.

On the other hand, I must appeal to the Manipuri brethren that they will have to say with the Naga-speaking people of several districts, like Ukhrul, Taminlang and

Senapathi, for all times to come. Now, this violent situation has created a lot of ill-will among the Naga people who remain in Manipur. It is also a very unfortunate development that that Tankhul Nagas, who are a majority faction in NSCN (Isac-Muivah), are from this area in Manipur. It is one of the most surprising things that the Manipuri areas, contiguous to Nagaland, are the heartland of NSCN movement. The headquarters of the NSCN movement are outside Nagaland. So, this very point will have to be understood by the Manipuris. I have heard that the people of Nagaland are also going on an agitation after the withdrawal of the ceasefire, and they are going to stop traffic on the National Highway leading to Imphal through this Nagaland area. The numbers of these National Highways are '39' and '53'. If this happens, the movement of commodities, goods and fuel to Manipur will also be jeopardised. So, I would appeal to all the Naga people and also to the non-Naga people of the North-East that they would have to see the ground realities. They will have to understand that there is no possibility of extension of any territory of any State.

I was also happy when the ceasefire was extended to other contiguous areas of Nagaland because. I thought, the Government took a very good decision at that time. You cannot have a ceasefire only in Nagaland. The ceasefire in Nagaland does not allow you to fight outside Nagaland also. So, the Government did a very good thing by just extending it to areas beyond Nagaland. But now it is just to respect the sentiments of the people of the North-East and because the other States have combined together the Government has reversed the process. Even the militant outfits like the People's Liberation Army and the National Liberation Front from Manipur, who were earlier supporting the Nagaland militant groups, are also now opposing it.

The ULFA, All Assam Students Union, Assam Jatiyatawadi Yuva Chhatra Parishad, North-East Students Organisation and all Manipur Students Organisation, all the student organisations of the North-Eastern States have combined together and have appealed to the Government of India just to revoke the extension of cease-fire beyond the Nagaland areas.

I think, respecting their sentiments, the Government has done it. But I would appeal to the hon. Home Minister just to give a very stern warning to the Naga militants that their demand for a Greater Nagaland cannot be met and it is not possible.

I would just read out one sentence of an interview of Shri V. Oram, Secretary, NSCN (Issac Muivah). He has been asked, 'how will you react if the truce in Naga areas

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

outside Nagaland is revoked? He said the NSCN(IM) is firm on its demand that the cease-fire should be applicable in all Naga-inhabited areas. If New Delhi revokes the truce, we will resume our battle against India.' So, the feeling of other non-Naga States is that if NSCN(IM) is allowed extension of cease-fire beyond Nagaland, their very intention will be to demand for a Greater Nagaland in future. Sir, you see their intention. They say, 'if we do not get it, we will wage a war against India'. It proves their intention of expansionist ideas. Our Home Minister and our Government should categorically tell them that it is not possible.

Finally, I would just come to my point that the Manipur people will also have to be told that they will have to stay along with Naga people in the places, which are contiguous to Nagaland for all times to come. So, antagonising the Naga people, driving them out of Nagaland, not allowing their students to study in the schools and driving them out to Nagaland should also not be done because this is not in the interest of Manipur for all times to comes.

With these words, I would appeal to all political parties in India not to take a very sectarian view. Specifically, the all-India parties should have a common idea. They should have a common resolution with regard to how they want to deal with the North-East problems, specifically the Naga and Manipur problem. So, if they have a firm resolution of their own, then only the problems will be solved. Otherwise, different types of resolutions in different States will lead to nowhere.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East) : Thank you Sir. My party CPI(M) is always against the imposition of article 356. Only on one occasion, in the year 1992 when this question came after the demolition of Babri Masjid in UP, our party supported the imposition of article 356. But, now the question of imposition of article 356 has come in the case of Manipur and the tenure of Assembly is only one year and three months, whereas three years and nine months are still left.

After the elections, there was no single party or single group to form the Government. The first Government was formed by taking the support or by purchasing the Members from other parties and about four to five or nine Members changed parties. Within these 15 months we have seen two Governments there. In this way, the floor-crossing, split-up of their parties and changing their loyalties, have bound the Government to impose the President's rule there.

As a special case, our Party has no option except to support it.

Sir, after the imposition of the President's Rule, an agreement was reached on the extension of ceasefire between the Union Government and NSCN extremist group. Earlier this ceasefire was limited only to Nagaland territory. This time, it was beyond Nagaland territorial limit. As per the agreement, the Naga people who are residing outside Nagaland have also been included in this ceasefire. After this ceasefire agreement in Bangkok, Manipur was burnt with fire. We, on behalf of Left Front Parties – six Left Front MPs including myself – visited the place on the 7th July. We had seen all the damaged places. We had also seen the cremation places and those who were injured on the 18th June. We met most of them in the Jain Hospital and also in the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences of Manipur. We had seen how much the damage was done there. Almost all the offices of the political parties were burnt down or were damaged or were ransacked. The houses of the political leaders, the houses of ex-Ministers, Speaker, MLAs and all the portfolio holders of many political parties are burnt to ashes. In this connection, our Party is interested to know as to how such damage had taken place. It must be worth crores of rupees. We would like to know as to how many crores of rupees worth property were damaged.

In the 18th June incident, 13 lives were lost. After a few days, one more, who was injured also lost his life. Including this, 14 lives were lost. Up-till now, the Government's stand was just to stop this popular democratic movement. All sections of the people in Manipur came out on streets and observed the popular democratic protest on the extension of this ceasefire. In this way, about 58 persons were injured. We had seen some of them in the hospital. Their legs got amputated and their lives had been spoiled in this way. During our visit, we also called on the hon. Governor. We got the news from him that the Government had declared one lakh of rupees to the family of those who had lost his life and also some amount to the injured persons towards compensation.

The injured persons and the kin of those who had died had refused to accept this amount. The demand of the people of Manipur is that the amount of compensation should be increased from the present amount of Rs. 1 lakh. Some of them are telling in this way that this amount should be more than Rs. 10 lakh. We demand that this compensation should be at least an adequate amount and they should be rehabilitated in a proper way.

During our visit there, we met some of the tribal organisations and some of the non-political organisations. Some organisations there claim themselves as non-political organisations. They repented and told us that during 1992,

there was a clash between two tribes. One is Naga and the other one is Kuki. In this way, 885 lives had gone. The number of Kukis killed by NSCN was 885; the number of Kuki villagers burnt by NSCN was 350; and the number of Kuki people killed by the Indian security forces was 53. But it is a sorry State of affairs that not a single paise was given to those who were injured or killed, those whose houses were burnt and those who are living as refugees in other parts of Manipur and in various other parts as displaced persons. They are not provided with any single money for their rehabilitation. So, our Party demands that those Kukis who were displaced from their homeland and who were killed, also should be compensated and rehabilitated properly.

Now, after the meeting with the North-Eastern States' Chief Ministers, our Prime Minister has announced that this territorial extension will be reviewed and some words like territorial limit, which were entered into the agreement, will be dropped. It is a good move. I hope the people of Manipur stopped their movement and the people of Nagaland also agreed to that. It will depend upon how we, the political parties, will be taking a view.

I am from the State of Tripura. My State is also an extremist-prone area. We are fighting against the National Liberation Front of Tripura and the All Tripura Tiger Force. These groups are active there. The Union Government has declared them as unlawful extremist groups. We are fighting them. But, just as my predecessor, Shri Kharabela Swain has referred here, the attitude of the Congress Party in Nagaland towards NSCN is on one line and the attitude of the Congress Party in other parts of the country is another one. This should not be there. As political parties, our view should be one. We should always be against the terrorist movements. In Tripura, actually in the tribal areas and in areas where these extremists are moving and are very active, the usual development work of the Government cannot be implemented. It is very difficult to implement there.

Government officers and employees who are supposed to implement those schemes are not able to go there. In this way, the tribal people of Tripura, where the areas are extremist-prone, are suffering a lot. In this way, in the entire North-East where the extremist groups are active – sometimes in Mizoram, Assam and other places also – developmental works have suffered. In this way, the economic advancement of the North-East is far behind that of the other parts of the country. I hope, with the wisdom of this House and the wisdom of all political parties, the messages to these extremist groups would go that we are against them.

In India and outside India also, there is no single extremist group that can help any section of people or any section of its own community. Anywhere in the world, they can only damage the nation and stop developmental work. So, from my party, we are supporting this Resolution on imposition of article 356 in Manipur as a special case.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the State of Manipur is under President's Rule and the Assembly is in suspended animation.

. From the beginning, my party has been opposing the imposition of article 356. We have the experience of imposition of article 356 in our State. The TDP was established in the year 1982. After nine months, we came to power. We were convening a TDP legislature party meeting. In the 294-Member House, we were having 159 Members from the TDP. While we were convening a legislature party meeting, we received a letter from the Governor stating that Shri N.T. Rama Rao was dismissed. We were in a majority. We were convening a meeting. The elected representatives were convening a meeting to discuss the people's problems and we received a letter saying that the Government was dismissed. So, we have the experience of imposition of article 356. On that day, we decided that this was a much misused article.

The spirit of the Constitution is different but for political mileage and to destabilise the Opposition at that time, the Governor Ramlal imposed article 356. That is why the TDP has been stating from the beginning, even in the Inter-State Council, that this article should be scrapped. After many meetings, there has been no unanimity. The majority of Chief Ministers have yet to give some options and safeguards. That is why we have now decided to continue having article 356 but very rarely use it only if the situation warrants.

Here, two issues are involved: the ceasefire issue is one and the imposition of article 356 is another. As far as the ceasefire extension is concerned, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, after observing the sentiments of the people of Manipur have withdrawn a particular clause and they are very happy.

As far as imposition of Article 356 is concerned, the case of Manipur is the best example to have a re-look at the anti-defection law. What is the meaning of the Tenth Schedule? Can an hon. Member of Parliament, once elected from a particular party, change parties any number of times? What are we doing? This is the highest body in this country and we are not preventing it. It is a shame on democracy. That is why we have to have a re-look. Once a person is elected from one party, if he wants to change



[Shri K. Yerrannaidu]

to another party, his membership should be cancelled. That is my party's stand. Otherwise, there is no meaning in democracy; there is no meaning in this House even if we are discussing this issue for hours together. That is why, there is political instability occurring in every State.

In this way we can prevent these '*Ayarams and Gayarams*' by giving a ruling under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution. This is a clear-cut case.

Sir, there are two aspects -- political instability and failure of constitutional machinery. These two aspects happened in Manipur. That is why my Party is supporting this Proclamation. There was no political party which showed their strength to form a popular Government there. Even regarding failure of constitutional machinery and the law and order situation, hon. Member Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has explained in detail that 40 people were killed, catholic priests were killed, students are not going to schools, even there were extortions, etc. These are clear-cut examples to impose the President's rule. There is no doubt about that. That is why my Party is supporting this Proclamation by the President of India. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : It is in case of individual changes. What about the situation if there is a group ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : There is no question. What is this individual thing? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, please do not disturb. We are already short of time.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, this is our Party's view. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go no record except Shri Yerrannaidu's speech.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, it is the version of CPI(M). India had these '*Ayarams and Gayarams*'. Once people give a mandate to you on one symbol, you have to stick to it. If one Member of a group of three Members quits under this one-third principle, it is not correct. It is without the interest of the people. That is not correct. We have to have these electoral reforms. Then only democracy will survive and these '*Ayarams and Gayarams*' will be stopped in this country. Otherwise the destability and everything will continue and for such things everybody will

impose article 356. My Party will not agree to it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It cannot be for individual changes. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : In this context, we are agreeing to the imposition of article 356 for the North-Eastern States. Sir, I was the Minister of Rural Development. We wanted to have a re-look on the strengthening of the economy. There is no development at all. Even when Shri H.D. Deve Gowda was the Prime Minister, we had decided to give 10 per cent of the State's exchequer to them. But what has happened in the North-East ? Ninety per cent of the money is going underground. That is the main issue to be resolved in this House. There should be a consensus among all the political parties. Different political parties take political mileage and different voices and different talks are there. That is why the insurgency is increasing in the North-Eastern States. Each political party will have to learn the lessons, after 53 years of our Independence. We have to discuss this thoroughly. One day we have to come to a consensus as to how to build the economy and how to develop the North-East. That is the foremost issue before all of us. That is my Party's opinion. We have to discuss for one or two days on that issue and we have to evolve a consensus.

We have to stop all these things. Thousands and lakhs and even crores of rupees were given to them. How many families are there in the North-Eastern States ? There may be six lakhs or eight lakhs population there. You take the money that we have sent to the North-East since 1952. If you had given that money to each family, then each of those families would have become *crorepatis* by this time. You need not develop anything. Even if you had distributed the total money per family, each family would have got lakhs of rupees. Where is the poverty then ? That is the main issue to achieve here. Then only every problem will be solved and by this discussion no problem will be settled.

That is why my Party's philosophy is, we have to discuss and we have to develop the North-Eastern States. My brother, the hon. Minister here told about the '*Seven Sisters*'. We have to give respect to our '*Seven Sisters*'. For that a consensus is required. We have to adopt a resolution and beyond that resolution no political party will speak and we are in the mainstream of this country.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs have asked the House for a period of six months for the imposition of President's rule in Manipur. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No, no, I have said that at the most this period can be for 6 months and if the House decides then it can be extended upto maximum of one year. At present whatever we decided will be valid only for 6 months. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, will you please stop this running commentary ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We want that more information in regard to the situation prevailing in North-Eastern States particularly in Manipur and Nagaland should have been given so that we could get an opportunity to express our views and give suggestions to solve the problem. I am saying this thing because the explosive condition of Jammu and Kashmir is more or less there in the official agenda. Earlier also I had said this thing and even today I am reiterating that this issue should have been discussed before Agra Summit. The problem of Kashmir is discussed at every level through the media, newspaper and leaders but I would like to say that the situation of North-Eastern States is more serious. Today we accept this thing and this is our opinion. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Manipur shares its border with Burma. Therefore, it is more important from the strategic point of view, defence point of view and from integrity of the country point of view. It is easy to blame Pakistan for all our problems and everybody in the house will readily do so, but we should discuss as to where from AK-47 are coming into North Eastern States and where training is being given. Whether they are not being trained in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. You must give a reply after seriously pondering over it and the Government should also reveal about the measures it contemplates to take alongwith the details of the talks. If the Naga insurgents are being trained in Bangkok from where they have been getting all kinds of arms and ammunition like AK-47, manufactured and supplied by China and also getting assistance from Burma, why is nobody prepared to admit it. It is the question of the unity of the country. We blame I.S.I. for all our maladies whether it is deteriorating condition of country, railway accident, incident of fire, fire in ordnance Depot and if anything happens in university we blame ISI for that also but I would like to say that the main problem is that of North-Eastern States.

I am saying it even today that our army is fully alert and Pakistan would never, rather cannot dare, seize

Kashmir. I am of the opinion that we must pay attention towards Manipur.

As far the President's Rule is concerned it is the outcome of difference between Samata Party and your party. It has been mentioned as well indicated that it is due to differences between Samata Party and Bhartiya Janata Party that President's Rule has been imposed there and owing to this alone, efforts are being made for the extension of President's rule.

Secondly, I would like to say that there is a village Morey in Manipur contiguous to the border Myanmar which is the heavenly door for smuggling. It has become the biggest centre of large scale smuggling of the goods like China made A.K.-47 rifles, other lethal weapons, gold and opium and other precious stones. You will have to pay attention towards it and give reply in this regard, hence you pay attention towards it. National Highway No. 39 is also under the complete control of Naga militants who sometimes block it for as long as one month. People of Manipur have to face difficulty due to it at every level. Public life is disturbed and their belongings are looted. People are deprived of even the much needed things like food and other estates. Dimapur being, the gate of Nagaland, Manipur loses its connectivity even from the point of view of railway routes. Whether it is Nagaland, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura or Manipur, all these are the part of our country. However, the people of these States have gradually started to assume that we do not belong to the mainstream of the country and Delhi is so far away from us.

Presently, Samajwadi Party do not have a strong base in those States, although it is correct that during the era of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, it had a very strong base there. Now some people (Members from there N.E. States) are in the Samata Party led by Shri George Fernandes but the Members of our party proposed that they must continue to visit these States. However, it is to be accepted that George Saheb continued to visit North Eastern States. We could not make frequent visits, but I am stressing on this issue. Irrespective of my party interests I would like that the leaders belonging to all the major political parties including Congress and Bhartiya Janta Party should continue to visit there States, so that the people of these States may not feel themselves isolated from the mainstream of the country and cut off from the capital of the country. The situation of these areas can be improved by the inculcation of this spirit in the minds of the persons living there. The feeling of alienation among the people is the most dangerous thing. The common people in Manipur including the children and women were so agitated

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

that they immediately came out and they also declared that if no decision is taken by 31st then they will form their own Assembly. Then the Prime Minister gave a Statement that he will reconsider the issue of ceasefire. This was not good on his part. If the decision to this effect had been taken on the very same day when the matter was discussed it would have been much better. There was no need to make public announcement to this effect. statement regarding the reconsideration of the issue of ceasefire lead to rise in violence there.

Sir, the public representatives of the State alongwith their speaker have met us. The situation is so terrible and grave that the State continued to burn in this fire for one month. Hence I do not want to waste the time of the House by repeating these things. The State Secretariat building was put on fire Houses of the Chief Minister, the hon. Speaker and MLA's of the Manipur Legislative Assembly were attacked. All those representatives made constant request to the hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs to provide security to them and the representatives of all political parties have been coming to Delhi for the purpose. Why these situation has arisen there. It has arisen because Manipur remained extremely tense. I do not want to repeat, for, Santosh Mohan Debji has said a lot in this regard. I would like to say that approximately one and a half dozen innocent persons were killed. The hon. Home Minister has seen the pictures, I have already seen them. The public representatives have shown the pictures which clearly show that they were shot at with the intention of killing them. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, I would like to once again say what I had said a long time ago that we don't have any objection if you become another Patel, instead we will welcome it but in your regime Police resorted to firing to kill. A twenty year old youth names Parasnath Yadav was killed in Banaras on 26th July. He was protesting against the murder of Phoolan Devi. The Police opened fire on the persons resorting to said blockade. However the hon Minister should order probe into the killings and also ask the Uttar Pradesh Government to clarify in this regard. We are not in favour of opening fire on the innocent and the unarmed persons. Unless people take refuge to armed and violent ways, they should not be shot at. We are not in favour of it. We do agree that firing may be resorted to but only against these who indulge in violence by taking to arms. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : Jeep and Motorcycle were burnt and officers were injured there. . . .(Interruptions)  
Was it appropriate to resist firing even in that situation.  
. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We do not have much time; please do not interrupt him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mishraji has expressed his suppressed feelings. He always comes to the same point. . . .(Interruptions) I am suggesting you that perhaps you might get my point of view and you may achieve the glory and respect of hon. Patelji. I am well acquainted to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. He will not recommend your name for Minister as a reward for speaking like this. I am also well acquainted with your Mishraji, for, you are an old friend of mine. You used to eulogise me during the meetings. You resume your seat and let me speak. Though a representative of the Government goes to Manipur only after of 20 days of violence, various officials and the leaders of the constituent parties of NDA reach Tamilnadu immediately after the incident of the arrest of the former Chief Minister Karunanidhi and the man handling of the Union Minister, for, this incident gives a severe jolt to the Government. I condemned that incident also but alongwith this. I have also opposed the move of discussing a Government elected with two third majority. Doesn't it tantamount to following double standards on the part of the Union Government that no representatives of the Government could visit the State for 20 days the representatives (MLA's) of which were forced to have taken shelter in Delhi for more than a month in order to save their lives and where half a dozen persons succumbed to the police firing and property worth crores of rupees was burnt while on the other hand, the Government representatives reached Tamilnadu within 24 hours. Such double standards should not be adopted. Whether the Government intend to handover Manipur in the hands of bureaucrats and want to resolve the problems of North Eastern States through bureaucracy ? If National Integration Council has not been constituted so far, it must be constituted and leaders of all the political parties should be invited and their suggestions sought in this regard. If the Government had made a timely intervention such a serious situation would have never emerged in Manipur. The loss of property worth billions of rupees and the way the MLA's of the State ran away from their State is not a good sign. I would like to say that the image of the Government is not good in Manipur and Nagaland. The Government should not have remained a mute spectators to all these developments, rather it should have opted to fight out and face the circumstances prevailing there. To reach Tamilnadu within 24 hours and not to reach Manipur

even after 20 days of arson and loss of property in Manipur, certainly points to the biased attitude of the Government and it is wrong. The Government have left the situation of North Eastern States at the mercy of bureaucrats while the matters regarding Jammu and Kashmir are dealt with jointly by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the hon. Prime Minister. We must also take a fair and serious view of the situation in North Eastern States.

As has been said by hon. Sontosh Mohan Devji and I am also of the same opinion that the Government should announce a special package for the North Eastern States. However, it should not merely be an announcement, attention should also be paid towards its implementation, because the Government make announcements but not implement them. Hence besides making announcement for a special package the Government should immediately chalk out and implement time bound programme so that the people of North East may not feel alienated and are fully assured that they have their actual strength in Delhi and that they can get any type of assistance when required. It is my humble suggestion to you.

As far as the question of elections is concerned, the elections can be held when the situation becomes normal either in one, two or three months. There is no need to wait for six months for the elections to take place for the State has witnessed the regime of 24 Chief Ministers from 1972 to till date besides the imposition of President's Rule six times there. and it is going to be imposed for seventh time. There were some of my suggestions and I want to reiterate them. Sontosh Mohan Devji and my friend from Tripura referred to every fact. It is good that they said all the things for, I also wanted to say the same. I have given three-four suggestions to you. The most important thing is that the Government must not give the sole responsibility of tackling the situation to the bureaucrats. It is a very serious issue. You must take it seriously else it will lead to disintegration and separatism in the country which will ultimately threaten the unity of the country. The incidents of utmost devastation have taken place there including the loss of property worth crores of rupees. Such incidents have occurred at other places also. I want that the Union Government should chalk out a special package programme for those North Eastern States and take measures to implement it in a time bound period. With these words I conclude.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, President's Rule was imposed in Manipur. The Union Government has never been inclined towards imposing President's Rule. It has never been the intention of the NDA Government by Bhartiya Janta Party to impose

President's Rule in any State. If we look at the past four years, it becomes evident that it was rare that the need for imposing President's Rule has been felt. Advaniji has told that there were three such occasions. Once it was done in case of Bihar. However, the President's rule could not be imposed there owing to the lack of support to this proposal by the Congress Party in Rajya Sabha. Perhaps even the Congress Party is realising this at present. Had they extended their support, then a State burning in the fire of violence and lawlessness would have been saved from being further ruined. However, we failed in our mission and withdrew the proposal. Now there is a unanimity over the issue of Manipur. All have visually seen and evaluated the prevailing situation and thus extended their support in this regard. However, the imposition of President's rule is always a set back to the democracy. The State Governments of smaller States should be give autonomy. Having a State Government provides strength to the State. However, it did not happen in Manipur. The events of the last three years there can be traced back to two different backwards several political parties made efforts to form Government there by indulging in politics of number game, alliances and permutation and combination but stability could not be restored. Finally, the Union Government had to impose the President's rule there. The Governor submitted his report and the subsequent political analysis of the prevailing situation in Manipur carried on the basis of this report revealed that there was no other alternative except imposition of President's rule there.

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of agreement between the Government and the NSCN group in Nagaland for expending the territorial limits for the Naga people has also resulted in the new spurt of violence in Manipur during the last three to four months originating almost synonymously with the signing of this agreement. This has lead to a topsy turvy situation there. Naga problem has been going in the country for the last fifty years and each Government has tried to resolve this problem in its own way. Narsimha Rao's took the initiative in this regard, made his efforts by signing an agreement with NSCN group in Switzerland and finally Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee held talks with Naga militant groups at Paris but some contentions issues emerged during the talks.

The Naga problem creates a sensational and sentimental situation for it involves those people of our country who feel themselves neglected who have been demanding for a sovereign State but no Government, including the BJP lead NDA Government, can concede this demand. All the Governments including this one have

[Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy]

remained firm in this respect. Naga people are not only spread over various North Eastern States and have been pressing for their demands, they are also living in other parts of the countries wherein they have been continuing their struggle for their autonomy. When it was decided to extend the territorial limits of NSCN (Naga people) and talks were held with Issac Mouiah faction, Manipur became tense consequently firing took place there and the situation became worst. The Union Government had to take the initiative to control that situation. The Government in their full capability signed an informal agreement despite tough and awkward circumstances but that too lead to instability and violence in all the North Eastern States. On the given circumstances this Government once again signed an informal agreement which resulted in the termination of the earlier clause of extension of the territorial limit for naga people. The Government signed an informal agreement for preparing the right atmosphere for the ceasefire. Today we find a new agreement. Some people may not be able to appreciate it, but I feel that the Government have tried to find out a solution to it. The senior Member Shri Santosh Mohan Dev had asked as to what circumstances lead the Government to order for opening fire on the innocent persons and impose President's rule. Though sometimes persons like me prefer to keep quite keeping in view the dignity of Senior MP's like Shri Santosh Mohan Dev but sometimes, we are compelled to discuss the matter.

During the Congress regime, people belonging to a minority were burnt alive and mercilessly killed on the roads of Delhi. Which party was in power at that time! When these people accuse the present Government, they should look at the past. Since incidents took place despite the rule of their Government. Perhaps history will never forgive these people. When you raise one finger towards someone else, three fingers keep on pointing towards you. . . .  
(Interruptions)

That is why such senior persons should think before levelling any allegation. Today, this agreement has been arrived at with a view to resolve the problem of Manipur. We can all notice the feeling of harmony in this, as political situation had deteriorated over there. The Government had made efforts to hold talks with NSCN and I feel that the Government has achieved success to a great extent.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Government for being in favour of the President's rule and creating such a political thought on behalf of the entire House, and thus resolving various issues of the country by creating an atmosphere of harmony and participation. This country would always have a good leadership as also a bright future

if the Government's through to process, policies and intention continue.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladutuari) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the present conflagration in Manipur is no accident. It is the consequence of three separate fires that have been lit over recent months. These have joined together and caused the flames of discontent, to rise not only in Manipur, but all over the most sensitive region of India, the North-East.

These three separate fires relate respectively to (1) the political shenanigans that have been played in that State, (2) the stoking of communal tensions, and (3) the extension of the cease-fire to Manipur, which is now apparently and happily behind us.

I would like to take up each one of these separately. With regard to the political shenanigans, I begin with the results of the Manipur Legislative Assembly elections of February, 2000. A perusal of these results shows that the BJP won in six Assembly segments and these were: Singjemei, Yaiskul, Wanghei, Sekmai, Sugnoo and Ukhrul. A perusal of these results also shows that the Samata Party failed to win a single seat in the February 2000 elections. Yet, we in this suspended Assembly, which is waiting for dissolution, find ourselves in the curious position of the BJP having shot up from six seats to 26 seats and the Samata Party having shot up from zero seat to 13 seats. And so effective has been the combination of these two rising elements in the Manipur firmament that we find that between the two of them, they were at one stage able to have 59 out of the 60 MLAs supporting them. If you play games of this kind, then this is the kind of problem that is going to result.

Sir, I am a very dangerous person to talk to when the name of Shri George Fernandes comes up because it fires me. So, instead of referring to Shri George Fernandes in my own terms, I prefer to say what a journalist has to say.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please refrain yourself from doing it.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, I will not say a word from my side.

I just prefer to take up what Shri Sankarshan Thakur, a well known journalist had to write in *The Indian Express*. Sir, please bear with me while I read this out. He says :

"So, when rumblings struck Manipur's fickle politics again last November, Fernandes grabbed the chance

he had long been waiting for. As Defence Minister, he was quick to latch on to the crisis in the Manipur State Congress Party and use his old links to effect enough defections to bring down the Nipamacha Singh Government. Kojiam, the old Fernandes ally, led the rebels and, with substantial help from New Delhi. . . ."

Sir, I underline this sentence.

"With substantial help from New Delhi, was able to form a Government in the State under the Samata Party nomenclature. Indeed, Fernandes beat his greater ally, the BJP, which too has been keen on securing a foothold in the North-East."

Further, it says :

"As a senior Samata leader put it, 'We may be junior allies in New Delhi, but we are the senior party in Manipur and that has to be recognised.'"

If this is the way in which the NDA partners who constitute the Central Government behave in the most sensitive region of India, the North-East, and that too in the State which is renowned for being the one where Subhash Chandra Bose's Indian National Army first planted the tricolour then, I think, it speaks for itself as to the irresponsibility with which these so-called responsible national parties have been dealing with a very very sensitive part of India.

The game has not ended. *The Hindu* of today, the 30th July 2001 has this to say :

"It is understood that the party's in-charge of the North-East affairs, Mr. Padmanabhacharya, was virtually put down during discussions by the Union Home Minister, Mr. L.K Advani. The Home Minister reportedly charged him with being totally irresponsible and immature in his articulation of the Manipur situation which had portrayed the BJP as trying to get its Government installed in the State by engineering defections."

This is the situation that continues to prevail even at this stage. And, it is when national political parties behave with such utter irresponsibility that we get a situation in this very sensitive part of the country where the first of the three fires has got lit. I now come to the second fire, which is the stoking of communal tension in that area.

I am sorry that in the usual manner of BJP backbenchers, and I wish to bring this to the Chair's attention, speeches are made and then the persons concerned disappear. Neither Shri Kharabela Swain nor Shri Rudy is here. This is not a part of the etiquette or decorum of the house. It happens over and over again.

But whether he is here or not, his words are on record and it is that mindset which he displays of provoking needless communal tension among the different communities that inhabit the State of Manipur. That is at the root of the second fire that has been lit in Manipur.

Sir, I have before me a number of representations made by various organisations in Manipur to the Government of India and to political parties that have visited that State. To give you an idea of how much communal harmony there is prevailing in that State, Sir, I would go so far as to say – and I plead with you to bear with me until I finish to validate the significance of what I am going to say – that the principal secular jewel in our crown is not so much Jammu and Kashmir as the State of Manipur. To that extent, I would request the House to bear a few minutes with me in order to listen to the voice of Manipur which is rarely heard in the House. First, I have a representation from the Lilong United Club Organisation, which for those who are familiar with Manipur, is a leading Muslim minorities organisation in the State. They describe Manipur as :

"Manipur is a mini India in which all communities belonging to the hills and valleys have been living together peacefully for the last two thousand years of more."

And, we have Shri Swain here giving Manipur lectures on how to live in communal harmony. Then Sir, I have a representation from the All Manipur Students' Union and through the people's declaration of 26th June, 2001 which says :

"The people of Manipur realise the imperative need of strengthening the emotional and social bonds of all indigenous people of Manipur even stronger by respecting and protecting each other's economic, social and cultural rights and by realising the shared common destiny as one people with one political aspiration."

I have before me the Manipur Political sufferers Association saying that I quote :

"Manipur is inhabited by more than 30 ethnic groups who have been living together harmoniously for ages. There can hardly be anything but committing communalism to create avoidable mistrust among different communities when all this happens leading to very undesirable and tragic consequences."

Sir, I do not think we need to teach anybody in Manipur what it means to be a secular society. I have here the All Manipur College Teachers Association saying :

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

"Demographically, the hill districts of Manipur are inhabited by different tribes. Since time immemorial, these tribes along with the Meiteis have had cultural, social and economic bond. Many ethnic groups are intermingled in Manipur like a well woven fabric."

Sir, I have the Manipur University Teachers Association saying :

"The extension of the cease-fire will definitely disturb the harmony of the pluralistic, multiethnic, multilingual and multireligious nature of the Manipuri society".

And, finally I would share these words with you from the Lawyer's forum :

"Many non-Nagas are residing in the areas to be covered by the cease-fire. Many groups in Manipur belonging to both the Nagas and Non-Nagas have strongly opposed the extension of the boundary of the cease-fire agreement.

But some people to get political mileage and personal gain are trying hard to strike a wedge between people living in the hills and the valley of Manipur."

But Sir, more powerful than all these voices, I think, is the voice of the gentleman who was elected on the BJP ticket from the constituency of Singjamei, a very distinguished army officer retired Col. H. Bhuban Singh. What I am going to now say, I owe entirely to him. First, he has pointed out that in every marriage of a Meitei girl a *leirum*, namely, a *Tangkhum* Naga shawl is a must as a part of the dowry. That at the *Lai Haraoba* festival, there must be some *Tangkhum* Naga dancers. That there is a ceremony called *Mera Thaomei Thamba* which is the lighting of a lamp high on the bamboo poll supposed to be a light signal between *Tangkhum Nagas* and the *Meiteis* that they are brothers.

This is a State which has been reduced to this dreadful condition of communal disharmony. It is Col. Bhuban Singh who has given me these statistics that I now wish to share with you with immense pride in Manipur as a part of India and India as the country to which I belong. Sir, in Manipur while over two-third of the population belongs to the *Meitei* community and the *Tangkhum Nagas* as they are called, constitute a small minority and the only minority that could be considered even smaller are the Muslims of Manipur, yet out of the 29 years and six months that Manipur has been in existence, the *Meitei* have given Chief Ministers for only nine years and ten months which is less than the number of years a single *Tangkhum*, Shri

Rishang Keishing had just himself been the Chief Minister of Manipur.

Sir, this is a State which began its existence as a State in contemporary times under a Muslim Chief Minister, Md. Alimuddin. He was the first Chief Minister and he was in office from the 20th March, 1972 till the 27th of March, 1973 and again from the 4th of March, 1974 to the 9th of July, 1974. Then, we had a *Tangkhum* Naga Chief Minister, Shri Y. Shaiza whose son is the BJP MLA in the suspended Assembly of Manipur. Shri Shaiza was twice the Chief Minister from the 10th of July, 1974 to the 5th of December, 1974 and again for over two years from the 29th June, 1977 to the 13th of November, 1979. For a period of 10 years and 7 months, they had Shri Rishang Keishing who is a *Tangkhum* Naga.

Sir, this is a State which has two Constituencies for the Lok Sabha. One is the Inner Manipur Lok Sabha Constituency and the other is the Outer Manipur Lok Sabha constituency. Outer Manipur is the one which is located in the hills around the valley and they are primarily inhabited by two sets of tribes – the Naga tribe and the Kukis tribe. Sir, they have had nine MPs so far. Of the nine MPs, five have been *Tangkhum* Nagas and four have been Kukis. The five *Tangkhum* Nagas are Sarvashri Rishang Keishing, Yangmaso Shaiza, R. Suisa, Kolo Kaiho, Meijinglung Kamson. The four Kuki MPs from Outer Manipur have been Shri Paokai Haokip, Shri N. Gouzagin, Shrimati Kimneihing Gangte, and Shri Holkhomang Haokip.

Sir, here is a State which, in the valley, says that it is not necessary for the majority community to rule.

In the hills they say let us share the MPs between the two sets of tribes, that is, the Nagas and the Kukis. And lessons are being taught to them from here about how to live in communal harmony! Has there ever been in the last three decades the degree of communal tension which we have seen in the State in the last one and a half months ?

The problem of the contiguous areas of Nagaland and Manipur is not yesterday's problem. It is a problem that has existed ever since the first agreement of 1960. Through all these years somehow or the other, by ability, by sensitivity and by deep dedication to the principles of secularism we have succeeded almost all the time in maintaining communal harmony inside Manipur. The total deterioration is the consequence of the new Sardar Patel bringing new principles of governance into this sensitive region of the country. I hold the Government of India, as constituted now, as being singularly responsible for setting up the second fire up which has led to this conflagration.

The third contributory flame is the extension of the cease-fire to areas outside Nagaland. There I just would like to go into a little bit of history so that we can put it all into perspective.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kindly be brief.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Please give me the opportunity of presenting my case.

I am going into this history because I do not want to hear the Home Minister tell us later on that it came to them as a surprise that there should have been such a reaction to the 14th June Bangkok agreement. For this, I begin with 27th February 1997 when, as we were just told a few minutes ago, Prime Minister Deve Gowda met with Muivah. In consequence of the discussions from there, we had, on the 21st July 1997, an announcement made to this House by Prime Minister I.K. Gujral that there would be a cease-fire effective from 1st August 1997. Immediately doubts arose as to whether this cease-fire applies only to Nagaland or extends to the contiguous Naga inhabited areas. Because the issue was not properly resolved, there was a mass rally in Imphal at which a resolution was passed, the key phrase of which went as follows :

"The people of Manipur should stand firmly together for safeguarding by all means available with them the existing territorial integrity and boundaries of Manipur State against all odds and take all steps and measures necessary and expedient so as to strengthen the existing inter-community bonds and make ethnic harmony more meaningful and lasting"

This resolution was sent to the Government of India and is there in Shri Advani's files. Then we got the situation where on the 7th August 1997 this resolution was forwarded to the Prime Minister of India – and that too is there on his files – in which it says :

"Five lakh Manipuri people in a mass rally held on 4th August 1997 have urged upon your Government to make an official and categorical Statement on the floor of Parliament that as long as Manipur State remains in the Union of States in India, you are not taking any step whatsoever so as to disturb the territorial integrity of Manipur at any point of time."

It was quite clear that even on the 7th August 1997 there were grave doubts about the geographical extent of the cease-fire.

I am now referring to the Government that got formed in March 1998 when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee took over as the Prime Minister and thereafter had a meeting with

the NSCN (IN) leadership which has been referred to by Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy also. Then there was a statement made by the gentleman whom you had appointed to negotiate the cease-fire and its conditions with the NSCN (IN), Shri Swaraj Kaushal. Because Shri Swaraj Kaushal made some remarks that caused trouble immediately, the All Manipur United Clubs Organisation, AMUCO, which has been spearheading this agitation for years in Manipur wrote you a letter.

This is a letter addressed to Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee on the 13th November, 1998 saying that "the territorial integrity of Manipur cannot be bartered away by any negotiating party including that of the Government of India." They went to say that "it is very unfortunate that one Mr. Swaraj Kaushal, the Emissary appointed by the Government of India and his negotiating party have gone beyond their jurisdiction by hinting at the balkanisation of Manipur."

You were warned in 1997; you were warned in 1998 and then we come to the 23rd September, 2000 when Shri Padmanabhaiah came who had replaced Shri Swaraj Kaushal very possibly because of Manipur's objections to the comments that Shri Kaushal had made. You run such a non-transparent Government that we do not know why you changed Shri Swaraj Kaushal but we are a sufficiently intelligent lot to be able to make intelligent guesses about why you changed him. But they doubled Shri Padmanabhaiah who came in by September, 2000. Sir, I am taking about the situation nearly a year ago. It is said that he started making some comments and AMUCO wrote to the Prime Minister of India that "it was reported in some dailies published in New Delhi and Kolkata that Shri Padmanabhaiah would consider extension of ceasefire between the security forces and NSCN (IM) to Naga inherited areas in parts of Manipur." They went on to say that "the reported statements by Shri Padmanabhaiah has caused an atmosphere of suspicion among different communities of Manipur raising tension in society. The extension of ceasefire to any part of Manipur has become a sensitive issue. The mind of the people has been disturbed by the said statement. One can imagine what could happen if a Government were to take steps towards extension of ceasefire." This was on 23rd September, 2000.

You stand warned by AMUCO that if you do what you eventually did, you are going to get into the kind of trouble which you eventually got into. And what did you do? As far as I can see, the Ministry of Home Affairs went to bed, slept and perhaps it was even worse. You desired to step on the toes of the people. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member's time is up.



SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, I will just continue as long as you will let me and after that, I will just sit down. But there are key questions that are being raised and as the General Secretary of the Congress Party in charge of the North-East, I would plead with you to let me place our case before the Home Minister.

After the 23rd September, a very curious thing happened. On the 28th September, the Prime Minister, instead of convening all the Chief Ministers of the North-Eastern States, for some reason, decided to hold a selective meeting with some Chief Ministers. Those present in that meeting apparently included the Chief Ministers of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Manipur but did not include the Congress Chief Minister of Nagaland. We do not know what happened in that meeting but we have been given to understand and I seek confirmation from the hon. Home Minister that at the 28th September, 2000 meetings, all the four Chief Ministers present warned you against extending the ceasefire beyond Nagaland and told you that if you did so, you would be in trouble. You knew this on the 28th September and on 14th June, 2001, a good nine months later, you were still ready to step on the toes of everybody in the North-East living outside Nagaland.

In January, 2001, there was a move made by the hon. Home Minister to bring President's rule into Manipur because of the situation that had been caused by what Shri Sankarshan Thakur has described as Geroge Fernandes's meddling with bringing down the Nipamacha Singh Government. At that time, a formal approach was made to the Congress Party saying, "Shall we bring in President's rule?" And the Congress Party told the Home Minister that we do not want to carry the can for this. You are the Government; you please check with all the other parties as to whether they wish to see President's rule brought in and then come back to us. The Home Minister never came back to the Congress Party. Instead, games began. We first had the Radhabinod Kojiam Government and then we had everybody defecting in one direction or another and finally, we had the BJP also playing its cards. We had a non-existent Samata Party fighting a non-existent BJP in a House that had not elected any Samata Party members and only a handful of BJP Members.

The consequence of that is that the political class as a whole stands completely condemned in the eyes of the people of Manipur. On 23rd May, once again the AMUCO wrote to the Prime Minister of India – I am saying this because we are now three weeks ahead of the 14th June, Bangkok agreement—stating that "last year when there was a repeated move to extend the cease-fire to Manipur, lakhs

and lakhs of people spontaneously came out on the streets on the 28th September, 2000 for a mass rally to say an unequivocal 'No' to the extension of cease-fire and 'No disturbance' to the unity and integrity of Manipur in any manner." The Manipur State Legislative Assembly resolved four times – first on 24th March, 1995, second on 14th March, 1997, third on 17th December, 1998 and finally on 22nd March, 2001 – to preserve the territorial integrity of Manipur. The Home Ministry knew all this. They knew everything of this. Many Members of this House may not have known this because, after all Manipur is a very remote State and it is a small State and there are many other problems that we have to deal with. But the Home Ministry knew this and knowing this one really finds it inexplicable that they sent Shri Padmanabaiah to negotiate the cease-fire extension which went beyond the boundaries of Nagaland and into contiguous Naga-inhabited areas of no less than three other States.

The consequence is that we have to ask ourselves as to what are the major questions raised by the cease-fire.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, many other hon'ble Members have to speak. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will also get a chance.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, the Manipur International Youth Centre had sent an e-mail message to the Prime Minister raising the following constitutional points.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : MR. Deputy Speaker Sir, he is repeating the same thing every now and then. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Jha, I will give you a chance. Do not disturb like this.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : We are raising very valid points. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please do not disturb.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Aiyar, please conclude.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : These are the crucial questions that the Home Minister has to reply. (a) Without consulting the State Governments and getting their consent, how did you engineer a constitutional coup by signing the Bangkok cease-fire agreement? Which provision of the Constitution empowered you to take over a State subject by taking such a unilateral decision? How do you justify your disturbance of the delicate federal relations even without taking recourse to Article 263 of the Constitution?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, since you are keen quite clearly that I should end what I have to say, let me, in conclusion, say that we still do not know whether the agreement that has allegedly been made to delete those three words is valid or not. Even today's *The Hindu* has a report from a local senior representative of the NSCN (I-M) of Manipur denying that the NSCN (I-M) has accepted the deletion of the three words, 'without territorial limits'. . . *(Interruptions)* I will just finish with one sentence.

Sir, we have no alternative but to accept that there must by President's Rule in Manipur. But we insist that the elections in Manipur must take place within the coming six months' period and not be postponed to beyond that six months' period. It is only with the consent of the people of Manipur that we can restore normalcy in that State. We cannot continue doing it by the awful system started in recent years of patronage being extended to civil servants to undertake jobs which they are not qualified to do. Therefore, we in the Congress Party join the Chief Minister of Assam and the Chief Minister of Nagaland in demanding that Shri Padmanabhaiah's services be terminated forthwith and somebody who knows that area be sent to negotiate.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldana) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the imposition of President's rule under Article 356 of the Constitution in Manipur. On behalf of my Party, the Shiva Sena, I am supporting it. But actually we are in opposition to the imposition of President's rule under Article 356 of the Constitution because our past experience is not good. Being a regional party, we have not got good experience in the past.

Coming to the subject, I would submit that there is no other alternative in Manipur but for the imposition of President's rule under Article 356. We have gone through the Report submitted by the Governor of Manipur. Right

from the first day of the constitution of the Assembly on 1st March, 2000, he has given the day to day report about the development in the Assembly. The UF Government had resigned on 15th February, 2001. Afterwards, there is not any Government ruling there. The Governor has given all the opportunities and made all the efforts to honour democracy. He had given opportunity to form the Government in Manipur. But, unfortunately, he has not succeeded. There was no other alternative. Ultimately, keeping in mind the case law that the Assembly should not be dissolved directly, as stated by our hon. Home Minister, he has asked for the suspension of the Assembly there. After five-and-a-half months, no development has taken place. Nobody could come forward for the formation of the Government in Manipur. That is why, the imposition of President's rule under Article 356 of the Constitution was the only alternative.

Before me, all the speakers from all the parties agreed to the view that there is no alternative but for the imposition of President's rule under Article 356. In this connection, I will have to support one point made by Shri Yerrannaidu that some of the Members in the Assembly belonging to various parties signed the representation regarding formation of the Government not once, twice but four times. It is a serious matter. As Members of Parliament, we have to take a serious note of it. As demanded by everybody here, the Assembly would be dissolved but as early as possible elections should be held in Manipur. I also request the Government that normalcy should be restored and as early as possible elections should be held in the State of Manipur.

16.39 hours

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, with these words, I once again support the Resolution for approving the imposition of President's rule under Article 356 of the Constitution in Manipur.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of AIADMK party I oppose the imposition of the President's Rule in Manipur on the following grounds. In the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution, while participating in the debate, had said that Article 356 of the Constitution should remain as a dead letter. Why to they want to give life to this dead letter? So, to respect the sentiments and words of Dr. Ambedkar, I urge the Home Minister to withdraw this proclamation.

Sir, the imposition of the President's Rule is a vital alternative convenient to the Government at the Centre.

[Shri P.H. Pandiyan]

Different political parties rule different States. Article 356 is a Damocles' Sword hanging over the head of all the Chief Ministers belonging to parties other than the Ruling Party at the Centre, whether it is the BJP or any other party. So, I would say that Article 356 is not in consonance with the spirit of the federal character of the Constitution. There should be independence for the States to govern. The subjects enunciated under the State List are guaranteed to them. The Centre need not and cannot encroach upon the State List, like police, law and order, finance, etc.

So, the proclamation is not in agreement with the spirit of the federal character of the Constitution. The violent incidents had happened in Nagaland and Manipur after the imposition of the President's Rule in Manipur. There are a number of killings and that does not solve the problem. Prior to the imposition of the President's Rule in Manipur, from the month of May, we saw a different type of killings. The Central Government was not able to communicate, was not able to govern, and was not able to send any directive to that Government to take stern steps to curb insurgency there. They were talking to the Naga militants, the NSCN. But at the same time, the Central Government was not able to arrive at a proper understanding with that group. There were differences among that group. The Chief Minister, Shri Zamir, after he met the Prime Minister, had said that he had not come out with any solution to the problem. The proclamation of the President's Rule is not in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution. So, I urge the Home Minister, through you, and the Central Government to do away with Article 356 of the Constitution, at this present juncture.

Sir, I have seen a report in the newspapers – I have not seen that order or anything like that – that the Central Government directly transfers one officer to another State. Where is the provision of the law for doing that? I have been practising law for the last 30 years. There is no provision under any law to do that. So, when there is no constitutional provision, is it a constitutional exercise to transfer a top officer to another place so as to favour the Central Government?

Sir, the Prime Minister has taken oath that he would discharge his duties without fear or favour and would do right to all manner of people in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

You must treat all the States alike. You cannot single out one State to attack it with a particular provision. You cannot differentiate between one State and another while

issuing this type of Proclamation. Where is the guideline? Mr. Home Minister, I have read the last paragraph of the judgement delivered in the Bommai case. Is there any provision under the Constitution when there is a breakdown of law and order? When there are killings in the heart of the city of Delhi, can you impose President's rule on this Government? There is no alternative to the Central Government. If you are not able to discharge your constitutional duties properly, probably, there is no viable alternative under the Constitution. It is the fate of this country. There is no alternative. The people ask you to leave or die. When there is no alternative available to you under the Constitution, why do you impose article 356 on this State alone? You find some alternative under the Constitution. The Assembly can meet once in six months. You adjourn it. Meet again after six months. Why do you want to impose the President's rule?

I am not on this side or that side. As a constitutional Law student, I would say that this provision is an intermediary provision for every Government. The RJD Government had been dismissed and re-installed. Do you want that type of treatment for any other State Government? So, this article 356 is not a constitutional exercise; it is an unconstitutional exercise. The Government should not carry out any unconstitutional exercise of power. The imposition of article 356 at this juncture should not be welcomed by anybody in principle on the question of federal character.

My friend, Shri Yerrannaidu said that they had experienced it in 1980. With 194 MLAs, they were sacked by article 356. There was a hue and cry from all political parties on the question of imposition of article 356. So, Mr. Home Minister, find out a constitutional or unconstitutional solution to get over this crisis. That is why, you put an analogy that the Central Government has no other alternative to govern.

It is a constitutionally elected Government. You enter into an agreement. You have also entered into the WTO. The people are penalised. It is a fate of the country. We cannot do anything. As a Member of Parliament, we were not able to do anything. It is a fate. You have to exercise your mind and brain constitutionally. When you are not exercising your thinking constitutionally, it is a fate of the people of India.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : The ringing of Bell has interrupted the flow of my thoughts. I will finish.

We have been observing the proceedings of Parliament on so many occasions and on so many matters.

It talked of the motion of faith. We had said in the all-party meeting that we were with you. You had not consulted us even on that international issue. After the talks had failed, you consulted us to conduct the post mortem of those talks. So, it is a fate of the country. You must have taken us into confidence before meeting the Pakistani General. I was thinking on that day about the national issues. You convene your NDA meeting. You talk among yourselves. On International issues, consult everybody here. It is an international issue concerning our nation. It is not a party issue. So, in that way, do not think of imposing article 356 on party lines. Do not think of writing or issuing any directive, that is not provided under the Constitution, to any Government. . . .(Interruptions)

Under the Constitution, it is the duty of the Central Government to protect the State. It is their provision and it is the duty of the Central Government to protect the State Government. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : It is their duty not to go against the State Government. I will say, you can have the provisions of article 355. It says that it shall be their duty to protect the State Government and to ensure that the State is having a Government. Nobody has read the provision. They only read the number. What does article 355 mean? It means, it is the duty of the Central Government to protect the State. So, you have to protect every State and you cannot say that you will protect this State and that you will not protect that State. It is their duty. The Central Government is a common man's property, it is common political property and it is not an NDA's property alone. So, while debating on this provision of article 356, it is high time that all the political parties should be taken into confidence before issuing such a proclamation.

They have said that this is a different story and that the position here in Manipur and Nagaland is totally a different question that there were killings, law and order problems, foreigners issue, smugglings; and so many other issues were involved. So, I would appeal to the hon. Home Minister that the President's Rule should not be imposed, hereafter, on any part of India. It should remain as a dead letter as is rightly said by Dr. Ambedkar. If you are paying homage to Dr. Ambedkar, then you must respect his sentiments also.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : Sir, I rise to support the imposition of article 356 in Manipur. The sentiments of Manipur vibrate with West Bengal because of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's performances, which Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar very

categorically raised and paid tribute to him. We fully appreciate that INA Headquarters were there and our national flag was first hoisted in Imphal when India was not freed.

I had the opportunity to accompany Kumari Mamata Banerjee, who was the Guest-in-Chief when the Manipur State Congress Party headed by Nipamacha Singh as the Chief Minister held the first anniversary of their Government. That was a very enthusiastic mood throughout the Manipur State. People of Manipur were in a jovial mood and the first anniversary of their Government was appreciated from all corners. We all participated in that.

Many matters have been mentioned, which I do not want to repeat. What we feel is that let there be President's rule and good governance be restored, at least, for some time. After that only we can proceed for further elections. But so far as North-Eastern States are concerned, insurgency still exists.

I would like to have a reply from the hon. Home Minister. Would you kindly intimate us whether you are going to have a dialogue with those who are now underground? They are United National Liberation Front (UNLF), People's Liberation Army (PLA), PREPAK, KYKA etc. Without consulting the underground forces, as you have initiated dialogue with NSCN(IM), whether any such dialogue is going to be initiated with those who are now totally underground and operating through insurgent operations?

Sir, though ceasefire in Nagaland and the President's Rule in Manipur are two different subjects, still they are related with each other. Though it was a late decision of removing the three words 'without territorial limits', we welcome it. After coming out from the meeting of the Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States, you have very categorically said that the ceasefire would be confined to Nagaland and would not be extended to other North Eastern States. The Government has correctly resolved the issue by deleting the three words 'without territorial limits'. We fully agree with the decision, which has been corrected. Actually, you have assessed the ground reality and you have to go back. Still, a few questions are arising out of it.

We would like to know that after this announcement, whether the Government is going to lose its credibility or being questioned in the estimation of the people's eyes of the North Eastern States; whether NSCN has agreed to the proposal which you have corrected at the second phase. Another very vital question is this. I received one publication from the people of Manipur, where they have published one map mentioning Nagalim, which NSCN

[Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay]

(I-M) is proposing for a sovereign country. When they are proposing Nagalim as a separate sovereign country, we would like to know whether the people of India is taking it in a good sense of having a negotiation with NSCN (I-M).

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has mentioned about the role of Shri Padmanabhaiah. This has also been raised in the meeting by different Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States. After meeting with you, they held the Press Conference also and they said that he had to be withdrawn from the scenario. I think, the Government should be transparent enough and whatever decision the Government is to take in this regard. It should intimate it in the House very categorically. It may or may-not be supported by many political parties. There have been certain comments uttered in the newspapers – whether it is a 'U' turn on the ceasefire extension, and whether this decision takes the Centre back to square one. We still believe that in the greater interest of the North Eastern States the decision taken to delete the three words 'without territorial limits' was a correct one.

I fully appreciate and share the sentiment expressed by Shri Yerrannaidu that so far as anti defection law is concerned, many people take advantage of it. One person is suspended from one political party and he is encouraged for induction in the next Ministry. If these are the thoughts and ideas of any system, then that system cannot run for a long time.

So far as the decision of imposing the President's Rule in Manipur under article 356 is concerned, we had the impression that there was a package for all-round development of the North Eastern States, which the hon. Prime Minister placed on the floor of the House. Due to constraint of funds, the Master Plan, which was proposed to take shape in the North Eastern States, could not be implemented. We received the copies. Many good proposals with different ideas were produced on the floor of the House. There is a sense of feeling of insecurity in the minds of the people of the North Eastern States that they are not getting proper care and they are not being looked after properly. In each and every part of the North Eastern State, insurgency is emerging and they are feeling a sense of insecurity. We feel that the Union Government should take all care. You are doing the spot enquiry and you are going to the areas where trouble is taking place.

17.00 hrs.

We fully appreciate it and we believe that by proper managerial efficiency and with your foresightedness, you should take all the care to see that these problems are

sorted out. Insurgencies in the North-Eastern States are causing heavy damage to our Indian economy also. They should be given the indication that India is a united country and North-Eastern part is not out of it. They should not feel isolated. They are part and parcel of us. The common sentiment is to be reflected from this House that this Parliament, the highest body of this country, stands behind the North-Eastern States of this country. We appreciate the decision for the imposition of article 356 in Manipur.

SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP (Outer Manipur) : Sir, I am a very much affected MP from the North-East, particularly from Manipur. Before coming to the points, I want to raise before you, in this august House, two things. One is, who will bell the cat? This august House can bell the cat. The cat is the Tenth Schedule. The Tenth Schedule is so weak and you blame all the MLAs of Manipur. You can blame all the MLAs of other States also. It is not the only State where this headache of *Ayaram and Gyaram* is there. Now, here, out of three MLAs, if one goes, it is very easy. Tenth Schedule has protected me. Or if out of 30 MLAs, 10 MLAs go, the Tenth Schedule has protected them. . . .(Interruptions) This one part of our Constitution is very bad. It is very good for *Ayarams and Gyarams*. It should be strong. Therefore, I propose to solve this problem in the long term. We must scrap this Tenth Schedule and enact a stronger law. In that case, none of our Parties will be decreased and there will be no *Ayaram and Gyaram*. It will decrease. There will be a stable Government in the whole of India.

The second one is, we blame each other. We blame the present Government. It is particularly the creation of NDA partners, the Samata Party and the BJP. I do not want to name the persons. You allowed the Samata Party to form the Government with one MLA. He died. Then their strength had become 14. You allowed them to form a Government. Then again the BJP increased its strength from six to 26. You should have allowed them to form the Government because you should not be against democratic norms. It should not be. Anyway, you have become undemocratic. You allow one and you do not allow another one. This is very bad. The Constitution should be supreme. When a majority of the MLAs in the House are not allowed to form the Government, are we doing justice to democracy? Before making any effort, we are blaming too much because defection is too easy as far as Tenth Schedule is concerned.

The third thing is regarding a small State with a very few number of MLAs. In Mizoram, it is 40; in Manipur, it is 60; in Meghalaya it is 60 and in Tripura, it is 60. The number is too few. If somebody moves out, then the Government goes. So, in these things, I want you to have

a considered opinion about it, not person to person, not party to party because this will go on unless we stop it. So, the basic responsibility is with us, with the Parliament.

We are very unfortunate; Manipuris are very unfortunate.

On the other side, what is very important is that we have to limit the number of Ministers in the Council of Ministers. It should be ten per cent; it should not be above ten per cent. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs has said that it has become 39. There were 39 Members in the Council of Ministers out of sixty. All of them were Ministers and even then the Government was pulled down because of the weakness of the Tenth Schedule, 'ayaram, gayaram'.

Unfortunate things happened in Manipur. The Government of India and all the parties have helped us to come back to normality. I am very happy that all the parties, including the Opposition parties, have helped Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya and partly Tripura.

My main point is, whether for good or bad reasons, Manipur has received lots of attention outside Parliament these days. However, a proper analysis of its problems is very much lacking. Sweeping conclusions and incorrect focusing of the problems have created confusions and sent wrong signals. So, I want a healing touch.

Manipur merged with India in 1949. Instead of getting development, it suffered due to neglect and discrimination. The Naga insurgency spilled over to Manipur and threatened its territorial integrity. To counter this, Meitei and Kuki insurgents sprang up. They took up arms in self-defence to protect their communities from paying heavy taxes and check other depredations. These led to the declaration of the entire State as a disturbed area, which is continuing since the last 25 years. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, I am from the affected State. Kindly allow me to speak for a few more minutes.

Black laws like the Special Armed Forces Power Act and the Terrorist Act are applied. These laws give power to the security forces to shoot anyone suspected to be an insurgent. It is not possible for the ordinary people to complain. So, they rather suffer than being tortured for complaining. Who knows if the people in Pakistan enjoy more freedom than the people of Manipur!

The imposition of President's rule while the people are reeling under these black laws has now given unfettered powers to bureaucrats and security forces who misuse their powers. I learn that there has been no improvement in the

administration both in terms of efficiency and reducing corruption, during the President's rule. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, you are now allowing me to speak on. So, I will conclude shortly. I have spoken about the weakness of the Tenth Schedule. I want a healing touch. If you suddenly dissolve the Assembly, the bureaucrats would be in control of the State of Manipur. They have shown failure. From day one, they have started showing failure in this part of the North-East. I want the Central Government to send mature politicians, not DGPs and IPS officers who spoil the system completely, because worse to worse politicians are always better because there will be clash between the Meiteis and the Nagas. They have now started blocking National Highways No. 39 and No. 53. On Friday and Saturday, all the district headquarters' offices were closed by our Naga friends. It is going on like this. If you solve one problem, another problem comes up. It goes on and on. So, we have to think about this a hundred times. We have to think again and again and again and again and take the advice of learned and distinguished persons because for the last 45-50 years, the North-East has not got proper attention.

You do not want to know us. I request you to know us properly, know our culture and know our background. You send officers after proper training and do not send hanky-panky officers because they have spoiled it. They have spoiled a lot. The situation there needs a healing touch.

I request that these MLAs, these 'Ayarams and Gayarams' under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution be allowed to work for some time and you see their performance and then you can take further action. The Governor of Manipur has not yet given his report for dissolution of the Assembly. How can the hon. Minister of Home Affairs give a commitment? I request you, through the hon. Speaker, not to give the commitment because it is to be done by the Cabinet and not the House. The House is not going to dissolve it.

I think that is enough.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (Shillong) Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaking on the Resolution to approve the President's rule in Manipur, personally I feel that article 356 should not be used at all. This is my personal view. But we have a situation where the Sarkaria Commission had gone deeply into this question. Even Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had made a statement in the Constituent Assembly that this should not at all be made use of except in a very extreme situation. The Sarkaria Commission has mentioned it as a last resort. Today, in the case of Manipur, I would like to make a

[Shri P.R. Kyndiah]

differentiation between a political crisis and a political deadlock. It is true because of the defections that are taking place in a very unusual way, there has been a deadlock for formation of the Government there. But I want to know whether that deadlock has reached a proportion to become a political crisis. That is the question.

I say this because during the debate in the Manipur Assembly, the former Chief Minister, Shri Nipamacha Singh had made a statement that any Proclamation of President's rule at this stage would look to be a precursor to the cease-fire agreement with the NSCN(IM). He has made a warning in the House. My question today is on the sense of timing of the President's rule. I want to know whether it was right to proclaim the President's rule on the 2nd of June because immediately after that, within days, we witnessed the signing of the Bangkok agreement between NSCN(IM) and the Government of India in which these three words "without territorial limits" have been inserted and this has led to a political outburst or a commotion there.

My question is whether the Government of India had made a special reference – not only to the Governor's report but through their own intelligence agencies – and whether they have foreseen the things that would happen? We have witnessed the failure of intelligence agencies everywhere.

The assessment of the situation was not done in depth. This is what the people are thinking in Manipur. I have been there along with Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and other colleagues, and I could sense that the imposition of the President's rule was only a way in order to bring about the situation in Manipur in which Bangkok Agreement could be signed. It is a political misadventure based on bureaucratic bungling. Now, here is the institution of Parliament where the Home Minister will have to say and convince us that their stand and the timing are correct. There seems to be, to so many people and myself, that the Government of India's priority is not so much to solve the problem of Manipur, but it is to extend the ceasefire. That is why, the question has been raised by my colleague, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar about the activities, about the work done by the emissary. I will not name him since he is not in the House. But I will raise another question.

I would like to know whether the interlocutor has gone beyond his mandate. Our information is that he has gone beyond his mandate. That is why, we on this side of the House want to replacement. Perhaps, the time has come when we may have a team of interlocutor because the classic example of Manipur has shown us one thing that

they cannot solve the problem in isolation. Their focus was so much on Naga ceasefire and they forgot Manipur, they forgot Arunachal Pradesh, they forgot Assam, and my own State Meghalaya and the entire North-East.

Any agreement with the NSCN(IM) has to be with prior consultation and not post-consultation. What is happening in this case is that they have arrived at an agreement at Bangkok and they consult the Chief Ministers afterwards. This is my point. There has to be a clear understanding of the need of prior consultation and not the post-consultation. This is the problem with the North-East. That is why, when we met the Home Minister in Delhi, we had impressed upon him about a few things that needed to be done. I would like to say here that it true that Manipur has had 25 Chief Ministers in the past 29 years, and seven spells of President's rule after becoming a State in 1972. It is true that so far, there is chronic political instability, but at the same time, we have a responsibility also.

Personally, I admire Manipur it is a land of beauty, a land of rich cultural diversity. The classical dance of Manipur is a recognised dance in India. Their drama, their music and their films are acclaimed internationally. The people of Manipur are toppers even in the field of sports and they are ahead of people of so many States. They are very talented people. Socially and politically, we have seen how secular Manipur is. The Muslim population is only about 3.5 percent and yet, they had a Chief Minister. Thangul Nagas are only 15.5 per cent and yet they had a Chief Minister for so many years. Literacy rate is also very high in Manipur. It is a secular mini India.

It is something great. When we talk of political instability, we have to find out where the root-cause is. How do you diagnose the disease? Is it inherent or is it because of extraneous factors? I think, this is the point that the Home Minister will have to reply to us.

My question at this point of time is this. The other day, we met the Home Minister as North-East MPs' Forum. We have an eight-point programme. This programme is cutting across the party lines because we would like that the North-East should be treated on a non-partisan basis, if we have to solve the problems of the North-East. Whatever agreement you arrive at has to be transparent and accountable. That is why, we had impressed upon the Home Minister the other day, when we met him, that peace is the focal object of the entire North-East, and peace can be best achieved through bombardment of economic development and employment. We had missed to solve the problems of the North-East many times at a cost to the country. The problem of the North-East, Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the problem of the educated unemployed, the problem

of the frustrated young men who rush to the recruiting centres of the insurgent outfits. I have a great belief that peace will come to the North-East.

I would like to share a thought with you, Mr. Speaker, and with the Home Minister. We have had ceasefire in Nagaland since 1997. The General Secretary of NSCN came to Nagaland; the President Issack Swe who came to Nagaland are free citizens. The question is why, do we have to go to Bangkok or to Amsterdam? What is this? They are free to come to Kohima, to Calcutta, to Shillong or anywhere they want. Why is this paranoia? Something is wrong there. Our emissary has to go to Bangkok in South-East Asia and then to Europe. I mean, this is not the way, They are our own people. They have come overground. We allowed them. They met the people in Nagaland, in Manipur and yet, we cannot talk to them. We have to send an emissary to Bangkok and Amsterdam. This is not right. I think, it is high time that we review this.

Now, I believe in the words of Mahatma Gandhi : "The past belongs to us, but we do not belong to the past. We belong to the present. We are makers of the future, but we do not belong to the future." I say that let us look at the North-East problem in a larger perspective towards the future. Let us consider North-East to be the land of resources. It has not only minerals. We used to pride ourselves in having tea, oil, and teak and, yet, today, we are impoverished. The partition of India dealt a body blow to the entire economy of the North-East. With partition, we are delinked from India. We are connected by only a small corridor -- the Chicken Neck. It is time that we look at the North-East differently now. It is time that you have to update your intelligence network. It has failed time and again. Even recently, so many *jawans* have been killed because of the failure of the intelligence reports. This time also we have failed in Imphal because we do not know what is on the ground. So, this is very important.

I would end with this that North-East region's economic development must be geared up through creation of infrastructure, communications network, investment, and generation of employment opportunities. Long pending issues of the North-East have been articulated from time to time. Those have to be taken up without any loss of time. We do not want the North-East to be another Kashmir. We have to take action today because time waits for no one.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the proposal moved by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs in the House regarding imposition

of President's Rule in Manipur. First of all I would like to say something to the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the entire House regarding the suggestions made by Shri Yerrannaidu. In this regard, I would say that there is a dire need to make some changes and introduce stringent laws with regard to the anti-defection law situation arising in Manipur or any part of the country. The Xth Schedule may be repealed so that the membership of a member is cancelled on leaving a party and he should get himself elected on the ticket of that very party which he has joined. Such a situation would keep on arising in Manipur as well as in other States of the country if any immediate action is not taken. I wish that a word of full cooperation should be given by the Congress in this House, which is the Chief opposition party. And if we make efforts, this proposal of bringing changes in the Anti-Defection Bill may be moved in the House in the current session itself.

Sir, I really feel surprised and hurt when I listen to the sermons delivered by the progenitors of defection regarding their hatred for anti-defection law now.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : You are the progenitors of defection. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : No, people from that side are responsible for defection. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : You please sit down. I have just started but it is unbecoming to the people who are responsible for creating a good behaviour and conduct in this country. Now please look at yourself in the mirror, introspect yourself, think, over this aspect and assure the people of this country that such things would not happen in future. It is really good that Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was talking about communal harmony. There should always be a feeling of communal harmony amongst the people of this country, but how should it be inculcated? Hon. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was murdered and after that so many brethren of the Sikh community were killed in this city of Delhi, where we have defence forces, high officers and hon. Prime Minister himself. The entire country as well as the world knows about its repercussions, and the person accountable for such happenings said - "the earth trembles when a big tree falls". Today if we really and honestly intend to work for communal harmony, we should initiated serious steps in this direction. Initially who got the lock of Babri Masjid opened. Who raised the issue of Babri Masjid? You are the people who are in the root of all the problems of the country and it is you people who have to resolve them all. . . .(Interruptions) But it is done by the NDA people. . . .(Interruptions) Had you not opened the lock of Babri Masjid, this problem would not have arisen. Today allega-



[Shri Raghunath Jha]

tions would not have been made regarding its demolition. You people got the locks opened, performed pooja, infact you created all the fuss. . . . *(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUNVANSI PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Who got the Masjid demolished ? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Today we are talking about the President's Rule.

Late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was the hon. Prime Minister in 1954-55 and Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the President of the Congress Party. At that time you removed the elected Samajwadi party Government of Pathmathanu Pillai. In that era you people started all this. Out of hundred for ninety times you have been responsible for President's Rule in the country. You did not allow any Government to work properly. You did not let any opposition Government run properly. It was recently told as to how did you dismiss the NTR Government. You could not tolerate any of the opposition Government. You have created instability in the country. Please change your thinking, its bad to say something and do something else. There is a saying in our Bihar – "Chalni haslan soop ke, jekara apne sehtar ko chhed." Meaning thereby 'Chalni' which mean 'sieve' and 'soop' which helps in winnowing the grain. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You were in our cabinet. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Dasmunsi Ji, you first plug this hole. Please don't do so in future. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You were in the cabinet and till today you are repenting it. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : The entire country is witness to what you have done. I therefore, request you not to drop pearls of wisdom for others. Put your views and opinions before the country honestly. Support this Resolution. We support it. I would ask the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to be cautious from these people. They are repeatedly asking to dissolve the assembly. When the atmosphere itself is not healthy and the leaders, workers, MPs, MLAs are not making the right moves, then where is the need to dissolve the Assembly. . . . *(Interruptions)* Why do you want to handover the administration of the country in the hands of the bureaucracy instead of the public. It is a conspiracy of these people. Similarly they formed their Government in Assam on the force of ULFA. They have not done anything. . . . *(Interruptions)* They want to dissolve the Legislative Assembly elected by the people by

supporting the terrorists which still has a tenure of three years and nine months left. Kindly don't dissolve the Legislative Assembly. I support this Resolution.

*(English)*

DR. JAYANT RONGPI (Autonomous District Assam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to accuse the Government of inciting and provoking an unprecedented volatile situation in the North-East.

Peace has become a very rare commodity in the North-East. We have heard about insurgent outfits and militant organisations being responsible for breach of peace in the North-East. But, this is the first time in independent India when the Government itself has been responsible for breach of peace in the North-East.

Hon. Home Minister has said that prior to 2nd June certain developments occurred leading to Constitutional breakdown due to which President's Rule was imposed, and he came before Parliament for its ratification. If there was a Constitutional breakdown before 2nd June, what we have witnessed between 2nd June and 30th July was not just a breakdown of the Constitution, but it was a total disappearance of Constitutional machinery in Manipur. I want to ask the hon. Home Minister as to who he will blame for that.

The hon. Minister has said that they want to restore the rule of law there and that is why they had brought Manipur under the President's Rule. Now, during the President's Rule, the entire Constitution has disappeared. For this, should the Central Government be also dissolved ? What is the solution ?

Sir, we all know about the Agra Summit talks. There have been certain media reports again and again that there was no preparation, no good homework done by the Central Government to meet President Musharraf. But here, I have seen, even in managing the internal affairs of the country while discussing with NSCN(I-M), there was no home work done at all. I think, here a cue has been taken from the External Affairs Minister or the PMO because even the Home Minister has not done any homework while agreeing or not agreeing to the proposal of extending the cease-fire beyond Nagaland. Otherwise, he would have taken the opinion of the Manipur Government, Assam Government as well as the Arunachal Pradesh Government. But he failed to do so.

In the first instance, prior to 2nd June, there was political mismanagement by the NDA. Whatever we have witnessed in Manipur now, is the clear case of mismanagement on the part of the NDA. After the

President's Rule was imposed on 2nd June, there has been mismanagement at the level of the Central Government. I must say that it was a very bad negotiation, whosoever has done it. I do not know. I have no information whether the interlocutor has crossed his mandate or not. But what appears now is very obvious that it was a very bad negotiation, and there was a total lack of preparation on the part of the Central Government while talking to the NSCN (I-M).

Now, there is a 'U' turn. He has said that the three words – "without territorial limits" – are deleted. They have, on record, said that the NSCN (I-M) had also agreed to the deletion of these three words – "without territorial limits". That means, today, the cease-fire will be limited to Nagaland only. But in the newspaper reports, NSCN (I-M) has been quoted to have said that they have not agreed to limitation of cease-fire to Nagaland only. If that be the case, while trying to manage Manipur, they will be creating a volatile situation again in Nagaland.

Secondly, suppose the NSCN(I-M) has also agreed to limit the cease-fire within Nagaland. In that case, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister a very important point. We are all well-versed with the situation of the North-East. The area of operation of the NSCN(I-M) is extended more outside Nagaland. Their area of operation extends beyond Nagaland. Rather, their area of operation is more extended than the actual area of Nagaland. They are operating in the two hilly districts of Assam – Karbi Anglong and North Cocher Hills. They are operating in Tirap and Changlong as also part of Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh. They are also operating in five hilly districts of Manipur. They are also operating in Meghalaya. They are operating in almost eight districts of Assam.

So, by limiting cease-fire to Nagaland, I want to know from the hon. Home Minister that are we given to understand that there will be military operations against the NSCN(I-M) in Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh? I want a categorical answer from him. By limiting the cease-fire in Nagaland means what? Should it be taken that the army operation, military operation and police operation will continue against the NSCN(I-M) in all other parts except Nagaland?

This position should be made clear by the hon. Home Minister. We have to learn a lesson from the Manipur episode. It has exposed the hollowness of our intelligence agency. From 2nd June, there was this President's Rule. They have extended the area of cease-fire on 14th. So, prior to extension of cease-fire, Manipur was under their direct control. The Governor was directly reporting to them. But then, they did not have any clue at all that there would

be such a violent mass response against the 'Cease-fire Extension Agreement'. So, the entire intelligence system has failed.

Secondly, there is this serious matter, concerning not only Manipur, but also the entire country.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : This is for the first time that people have expressed their non-confidence in the Prime Minister and the Home Minister. During this period from 14th July till date, the Prime Minister and the Home Minister were again and again, saying that though cease-fire has been extended, territorial integrity of Manipur would be preserved. That was told both by the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Prime Minister again and again. But unfortunately there were no takers for those statements in Manipur. Nobody believed that. That is a serious lack of confidence in the entire Government by the people of North-East because their words are not trustworthy. They have gone back on their words again and again, and they have not implemented a single accord. That is why, their words are not trustworthy for the people of North-East. Today they may have majority and they may ratify imposition of President's Rule, but they have lost the confidence of the people of North-East. This lesson has to be learnt.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, please conclude. You have already taken ten minutes.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, usually I do not take much time of the House; and I am very precise also. I will not take much time.

Since both the Congress Party and the BJP agreed to ratify imposition of President's Rule, it may be ratified. Maybe, after six months, there will be elections but the situation will not change.

I have very carefully listened to the speech made by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and other Congress leaders. I agree with them on many points. They may make very eloquent speeches, but they cannot hide the very fact that credit or discredit goes to Congress for giving 27 Chief Ministers in 25 years. They cannot shy away from this responsibility.

This lack of faith in the Central Government has not development suddenly, within these one or two years. Congress is also equally responsible for this. Today, of course, I fully agree with what they have said, but then, they also should do some introspection. This is the fact of life. If today BJP is not there, then Congress will be there, on that side. Just because the Congress lost the

[Dr. Jayant Rongpi]

last elections, it is sitting in the Opposition. But that does not give them the moral right to advise them. There should be introspection in the Congress Party also.

In the beginning, there was only one militant organisation in the North-East, that is, Naga Insurgents. But during the last five decades, they have deployed Army; they have brought forward Assam-Manipur Special Armed Forces Act; they have brought forward Assam Disturbed Areas Act, etc. So, during the last five decades, there are five dozen insurgent groups in the North-East. So, the credit or discredit goes to the Congress also.

Sir, I want to conclude my speech now.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that by proclaiming the President's rule, holding elections and this way managing the affairs of the North-East, will not bring peace in this area. Instead, as has been mentioned by a number of speakers before, the Government should tackle the basic issues of unemployment, rapid growth and economic development.

Since the issue of Manipur has come up, I would like to tell those Members who have advocated for the territorial integrity of Manipur, that there are some aberrations in the boundaries of the North-East. North-East is the only part of the country where there are major disputes between the neighbouring States, be it between Assam and Meghalaya, Assam and Nagaland, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh or Assam and Mizoram. So, there is the boundary dispute in almost entire of the North-East. One should not compare the Telugu population of Orissa with the Orissa population of Chattisgarh. The situation in North-East is quite different. The political aspirations of five hills districts of Manipur must be taken into accounts.

I am neither holding brief for any Naga organisation nor I am talking on behalf of the Manipur organisation. But I would like to say that the Parliament must take an impartial view. While supporting the territorial integrity of Manipur, we should not overlook the political aspirations of the tribal people of Kukis or Thangkuls of the Manipur State. The hilly districts of Assam, Karbialong and North Kachchar Hills have a special provision in the form of article 244 (a). . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : With these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has brought a bill in the House seeking approval of the House for imposing President's Rule in Manipur. No doubt, he has made a clever move in this regard. He first got it passed in Rajya Sabha and then introduced it in Lok Sabha for passage. When President's Rule was imposed in Bihar, the proposal was first passed in Lok Sabha and for fear of strong opposition in Rajya Sabha the proposal was withdrawn half way. This time, he acted cautiously and first got the proposal passed in Rajya Sabha. During his clarification before the House, hon'ble Minister stated that defection caused political instability in Manipur and the Government was forced to impose President's rule. I would like to ask the hon'ble Home Minister whether President's rule is the remedy for checking defection. TDP's Yerrannaidu and Samata Party's Raghunath Jha are supporting it. He said that 10th Schedule and 56th Constitutional (Amendment) Bill, dealing with anti-defection, are not enough. Therefore, there is a need to bring a comprehensive Bill to check defection. I don't think their requirement will be fulfilled in this way. You know why I am saying so because as long as they reap benefits of defection, they would not bring a law to check it. The Government did not enact a strict law. Only 6 BJP legislators won election in Manipur, then how suddenly their strength rose to 26. How the party gained this magic number ? Only one legislator of Samata Party won, but that party came to power. Shri Ajit Singh contested elections against NDA and now he has been given a berth in the Cabinet. He joined NDA. Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram, Jai Sri Ram. How long it will keep going ? . . .(Interruptions)

His party is responsible for Members for crossing the floor and they do not dare enacting an anti defection law. They cannot bring a strict law to check defection. They are reaping benefits of defection and it is resulting in "Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram". Earlier TMC was in the NDA, they deserted NDA and again they are making a move to rejoin NDA. Similar is the case with Shri Ajit Singh. He has been elevated to Cabinet. Petrol pumps are being distributed. . . .(Interruptions) I will disclose their secrets because Shri Ajit Singh contested against them and now he is being made a Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasadji, the House is discussing Manipur issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : That's why I say that the party in power is responsible for political defection and they are engineering defection in Manipur. Today there is political instability in Manipur, the problem

of insurgency, poverty, inequality, unrest and killing is prevalent there. Since Manipur is already facing political instability, why are you adding fuel to the flame. It is very painful and the Government say that it has no alternative than to impose President's rule. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are responsible for defection and NDA's constituent Samata and BJP have caused political instability in Manipur and now they are saying that they had no alternative than to impose President's rule. Manipur is facing constitutional crisis hence permission to impose President's rule is sought. How can we give such an approval? Very cleverly, he got it passed in Rajya Sabha and since they are in Majority in Lok Sabha, they look over enthusiastic. They have done a wrong. Yet they look enthusiastic.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, learned, Member like Shri Aiyar etc. spoke at length on the agreement entered in with NSCN after verifying papers. But, Manipur assembly passed a resolution demanding that the agreement should not be extended beyond Nagaland. Manipur Government sent a word of caution time and again, but Chief Minister of Manipur was not taken into confidence. This type of criminal behaviour with Manipur is very dangerous. They have committed a crime. Shots were fired in Manipur, Vidhan sabha was put on fire and the Speaker was hurt. The Government of India and the Home Minister are accused for spreading unrest in Manipur and the whole blame goes to them. The Government acted in a haste. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they want to become innocent after committing hundred sins.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this sort of flattery is destroying the nation. Every nook and corner of the country is burning. Will this flattery help the country develop?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the wrong done by this Government has become a talk of the town. I would like to ask as to what invisible power prevented India and Pakistan from signing an accord. I do not know what prevented these two countries, but they would disclose tomorrow the text of would-have-been Indo-Pak agreement and what prevented its success.

MR. SPEAKER : Agra Summit would be discussed tomorrow and not today.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The agreement being entered into with NSCN. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though Taj Mahal is in Agra, yet they sent Raghuvansh Babu to some other palace.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : These people were flattering. . . .(Interruptions) Let the country go to hell, as long as this Government remains in power, such people will rule the roost. It is not in the interest of the country. Manipur and North-East are sensitive areas which are facing several problems which are unlikely to be solved by the Government. The Government deepens the crisis further, that is why those areas are facing so many problems. Manipur owes a loan of Rs. 1500 crore to the Central Government. 24 lakhs people are unemployed in Manipur. Recently the Police revolted against the Government in Manipur. The financial condition is grim. The Central Government did not provide funds to Manipur Government for implementing Fifth Pay Commission, consequently the State Government had to divert funds meant for development works. The Union Government are responsible for worsening State's economic condition. The State is facing several problems and Central Government have brought a Bill for imposition of President Rule in the State.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now Dr. Rongpi said about shortage of gas over there. He woke up only to see entire Manipur is in flames. From Bangkok he went to Amsterdam and got the truce signed. He was happy that it will be extended to Nagaland also. But, now he is calling it a wrong move. Ramcharit Manas says, "if a snake catches and swallows a mole the snake becomes a leper, but if a snake leaves a mole caught by it, the snake becomes blind". Their condition is also same. The Government extended the cease-fire, it resulted in unrest, the Government took a U-turn and said that it will be limited only to Nagaland Muiwa says they will not relent, the people of Nagaland say that they will not accept it. It resulted in another agitation. Therefore, the hon'ble Home Minister is responsible for creating unrest. By calling Home Minister as Patel, the people are downgrading the Great person Late Shri Patel. It is a bad situation. We have read about Sardar Patelji and tried to know about him from our ancestors. (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, how he is talking. . . .(Interruptions) How they are taking Sardar Patel's name.

[English]

Sir, he should not be allowed to use such words. You should stop him from speaking like this. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Please ask him to resume his seat and be silent.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The Government spread unrest in Manipur. Peace is not going to be easily restored. Even after all this the situation will be bad there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, he has spoken more than the requirement. Please ask him to keep quiet. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : It is a very sensitive issue and peace is unlikely to return to Manipur. As long as such issues are taken so lightly, the problem cannot be solved.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Therefore, I would like to tell all opposition parties that the party in power, the Government and the Home Minister are responsible for creating problems in Manipur. Hence, as long as they are in power, the country will keep facing problems. Thus, I am against imposing President's rule and I can never support it. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Home Minister's reply.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, why are we deprived of placing on views before the House ?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Banatwalla, you may speak next time.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : You want Manipur situation to be repeated again and again so that we will get a chance to speak next time. It is wonderful, Sir!

MR. SPEAKER : You may speak on some other subject and not on Manipur.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the speech of my friend Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was one of the important speeches delivered today criticising the Government. The other criticisms are quite natural in the present situation but I appreciate each and every word whatever was said by Shri Aiyarji about Manipur regarding the Manipuri people and the exceptional communal and social harmony of the State where people live in perfect harmony even though 'Maitaiye' are in majority, the people belonging to Muslim and Naga Community had also been the Chief Minister of the State in the past. In fact, it is due to the nature of Manipur that any one can guess about the reaction and the discontent among the people of the State in the event of any decision of the Government or amending the

agreements, however, we felt that there is no other option except to take what people call 'U turn' and that will be appropriate. There may not be any doubt that the Government have taken 'U turn' with the intention of going by the sentiments of the North Eastern State especially Assam and Arunachal Pradesh towards Manipur. So I would like to say that though his speech was not directly concerned with it, yet I appreciate whatever was said by him in this regard.

Now, I am coming to the fact that the present proposal that is being made has nothing to do with the post cease fire situation and to presume that the proposal to impose president rule there for six month was made to implement cease-fire as has been said by Kindia ji and the people of the State are also saying as there is apprehension in the mind of the people, is completely baseless. The issue of adding three words in the context of cease-fire was discussed with the people of the State on 14 June. It is not true that discussions were not held. The meeting of the Chief Ministers of the year 2000 has been mentioned. It is a fact that the Chief Ministers who had participated in the meeting did not agree to it, but the second sitting was held in March, 2001. It is correct that there is no constitutional obligation for the Central Government to seek consent of the people of the State in question for entering into any agreement. During the Congress regime, several agreements were entered into by the Central Government and the State Governments were never taken into confidence in such matters and they were not even consulted as it is also not essential. I can also mention about that but we are aware that North Eastern States, especially Manipur would be apprehensive about their territorial integrity that the Government may include Naga inhabited areas with them. That is why it has been mentioned in the manifesto of NDA and it has been stated several times by the Government about which Rangpi ji has just now said that the Government step will not affect the territorial integrity in any way. That is why whenever it was demanded to extend to Naga inhabited areas, we did not accede to the demand.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we said that if we agree to extend to the Naga inhabited areas then naturally there will be doubt in the mind of the people of the State that by implication we are accepting the greater Nagaland or Nagalin. So we never used the term 'Naga inhabited'. These three words were suggested and before taking any decision on it, the meeting of the Chief Ministers was called and in the meeting, held in March, the Chief Ministers consented to proceed in this regard and there is no problem. They also said that the Government should initiate talks with all the organisations and militant organisations. That is why, the talks were held on 14 June.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Prime Minister once again called the Chief Ministers to seek their views, all the Chief Ministers except the Chief Minister of Nagaland who differed, however he too along with the other Chief Ministers said that if NSCN (IM) people feel so, these three words should be omitted and the status prior to 14 June should be restored. That is why the hon'ble Prime Minister made announcement that day in this regard. There was delay in making announcement because for incorporating any change in the agreement, it was essential for the Government to talk to NSCN(IM) people as the agreement has been made with the NSCN(IM). So, again the talks were held and after seeking their consent, these three words were removed and the announcement in this regard was made in accordance with their views. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Mr. Minister, you were being wise after the event. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : We have learned something from 50 years of your experiences and it is good and essential to be wiser and there is nothing wrong in it.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Well, this is not an occasion for you to say this.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I would like to say that in view of the situation in Manipur and in rest of the areas, the Government felt that it is essential to take a U turn to solve the problem even if there is criticism. So, we took the U turn. Before taking U turn we talked to NSCN(IM) and after holding talks, we took a U turn. Today, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar asked whether parleys were held with NSCN(IM). I would like to tell him that the talks were held with them regarding the decision to remove these three words and with their consent status quo ante was restored.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, that was not my question. My question was whether their representatives in Manipur have denied after announcement of the decision by the Government that they have accepted the change and also whether Mueiwa Saheb had ever accepted it ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Many things are published in newspapers and magazines, but I am giving the Statement in the House. It would have created problem had we done it without seeking their consent. If there is any delay then the reason behind this is that we felt that the issue should

be discussed with the people of Manipur and the Chief Ministers as the hon'ble Prime Minister had said that we would like to hold talks with the Chief Ministers before making any announcement regarding the review.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we were aware of their stand. Since they had publically expressed their views or had sent their views in writing so we felt that it would be more appropriate if the talks are held with NSCN(IM) before holding parleys with the Chief Minister. It was due to this that there was delay, otherwise there would not have been so much of delay. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, you have also participated in the debate.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : He has yielded the floor to me.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a question to hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs whether there were not two changes between March, 2001 and 14 June, 2001-one in Assam and another in Manipur after he met the Chief Ministers in March, 2001 and whether he talked to the New Chief Minister of Assam and also discussed the matter with the Governor of Manipur.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is correct, the Chief Minister of Assam had mentioned that the elections were going to be held in Assam. Therefore, we must keep an eye if any political changes take place there. But the fact is that when it was discussed in March, the Chief Minister of Assam was not the same while the Chief Minister of Manipur was the same who continued to hold the office. The situation remained the same as there was no change. . . .(Interruptions) I would like to reiterate that at no point of time the people of Manipur or North Eastern States were against the cease fire with NSCN(IM) I agree to the objection raised by the Members regarding the talks with NSCN(IM) in Bangkok and not in India. I honour the sentiment and I would be pleased if the change takes place in the system. However, it will have to be admitted that the decision to talk to them outside the country was not taken by the present Government.

[English]

We inherited something.

[Translation]

and after inheritance, our situation was such that if we would have denied to talk to them outside the country, they would have cancelled the cease fire on that ground. After

[Shri L.K. Advani]

that not only the people of Nagaland but the people of rest of the North Eastern States would have criticised our steps as to why did not we do so. So we have proceeded as per the given situation, and inheritance. However, even today we have indicated in course of the talk with them that it would have been better if the talk is held inside the country and for that matter we have no objection in extending our assurance regarding the immunity that you will not be arrested on account of your previous deeds or sedition. We have no problem in that respect also. I would like to tell that I honour the sentiment of those two three Members in this regard and I will be glad if Shri Muivah comes to India to hold talks with India. However it is fact that it has not happened so far but I hope that in future it will happen. I would like that the peace process proceed further and not only NSCN(IM), rather NSCN(K) and other militant organisations operating in North Eastern States, whosoever are willing to talk, should also be brought to participate in the negotiation. I will be glad.

A few days back the representatives of the Government have also met the Chief Minister of Assam and told him that it would be better if the similar talks are held with ULFA as are presently being held by the Government with BLT. When it was suggested to him, he also appreciated the suggestion that it would be better. We have adopted this approach towards the militants all over the country that if they are willing to lay down their arms and come to the negotiation table, the Government will always be ready for that and this approach is also applicable in the case of North East.

I understand the distress of Shri Rongpi ji. He has rightly said that it was on account of the activities of last fifty years that the present situation has arisen. Many a time, instead of giving due emphasis on the development, we continued to remain involved in political management and sometimes we misused money for the political management that caused heavy loss. I would like that now we should fully concentrate on development as much as possible.

Last year when the hon'ble Prime Minister had visited Shilong to address a conference in North East, he had announced a package amounting to about ten thousand crore rupees that contains a lot of benefits for Manipur also.

It is continuously being monitored and the reports are being received periodically in this regard. The schemes are being officially monitored by the PMO regarding the progress. One day we may discuss the matter in the House, however overall I feel that the President's rule relates to the political situation of the State and the present Government at least have made effort to adopt right approach in the present given political situation of the State. I would not like to go in details as people will point out that it was because of the difference of opinion of BJP and Samata Party. We did what we felt good to do and the outcome of our decision was unanimously accepted by all the political parties. BJP was in position to form the Government but they also approached the Governor and told him that in the present given circumstances,

[English]

Governor's rule or President's rule is the only right approach to resolve the situation.

[Translation]

I would like to tell that we do not intend that any other Government is formed there however, as far the time frame of dissolution is concerned, I would like that it should be done once normalcy is restored in Manipur so that the legislators may go there without any difficulty. Please permit us for that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 2nd June, 2001 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur.

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned till 11 am. tomorrow

18.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 31, 2001/  
Shravana 9, 1923 (Saka).

---

---

© 2001 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha  
(Ninth Edition) and Printed by The Indian Press, G.T. Karnal Road, Delhi-110033.

---

---