

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Gazettes & Publications Unit
Parliament Library, Building
Room No. PB-025
Block 'G'

(Vol. XXXII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price Rs 50.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

G.C. Malhotra
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

Dr. P.K. Sandhu
Joint Secretary

Sharda Prasad
Principal Chief Editor

Kiran Sahni
Chief Editor

Parmesh Kumar Sharma
Senior Editor

Sarita Nagpal
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. XXXII, Twelfth Session, 2003/1924 (Saka)]

No. 12, Tuesday, March 04, 2003/Phalgun 13, 1924 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
OBITUARY REFERENCE	1-2
SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS	
(i) Re: Alleged irregularities in utilization of MPLAD Funds and Reported Directive by the Chief Minister of UP to contribute to the Party Fund from it ...	2-8
(ii) Re: Increase in prices of fertilizer and diesel causing hardship to farmers in the country ...	306-310
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 181, 182 and 184	9-39
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 183 and 185 to 200 ...	39-82
Unstarred Question Nos. 1894-2058	82-297
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	297-302
COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN	
Statement	302
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY	
Thirty-second to Thirty-seventh Reports	302-303
MOTION RE: FORTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	304
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	
(i) Need to solve drinking water problem in Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand Prof. Dukha Bhagat	318
(ii) Need to provide compensation to the farmers whose crops have been affected due to drought particularly in southern part of Haryana Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha Yadav	320
(iii) Need to release funds from Central Road Fund for proper maintenance of Lumbini-Duddhi State highway in U.P. Shri Chinmayanand Swami	320

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

(iv)	Need to provide employment and compensation to the dependents of deceased employees of E.C.L. and B.C.C.L. of Central Coal Fields Limited Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey ...	321
(v)	Need to expeditiously implement National Malaria Eradication Programme in Keonjhar district, Orissa Shri Ananta Nayak ...	322
(vi)	Need to withdraw eviction drive against farmers living in Udupi and adjoining forest areas of Kodagu, Karnataka Shri Vinay Kumar Sorake	324
(vii)	Need to withdraw the move to issue notices to the depositors of cooperative sector banks by Income-Tax Department to furnish details of their deposits in Kerala Shri S. Ajaya Kumar	325
(viii)	Need to release additional quantity of rice to Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work Programme with a view to generate more employment to drought affected people of the State Shri A. Brahmanaiah	326
(ix)	Need to re-start drilling operation work in Bundelkhand region of U.P. with a view to find out under ground water there Shri Ram Sajivan	326-327

RAILWAY BUDGET, 2003-2004

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT – (RAILWAYS), 2003-2004

DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT – (RAILWAYS), 2002-2003

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS – (RAILWAYS), 2000-2001

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi	341
Shri Prahlad Singh Patel...	358
Shri Moinul Hassan	373
Shri Kalava Srinivasulu ...	380
Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay	384
Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh ...	385
Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja	390

SUBJECT**COLUMNS**

Shri Dayabhai Vallabhbhai Patel	391
Shri Uttamrao Dhikale	393
Shrimati Shyama Singh ...	395
Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav ...	403
Shri Ram Sajivan	408
Shri A. Krishnaswamy	413
Shri K.H. Muniyappa	418
Shri Prabhunath Singh	425
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	430
Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey ...	434
Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab ...	437
Shri Ramdas Athawale	442-446

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March, 4 2003/Phalguna 13, 1924 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleague, Shri J.M. Biswas.

Shri J.M. Biswas was a Member of Fourth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1970 representing Bankura Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

Shri Biswas was a member of Public Accounts Committee during 1970.

Shri Biswas was the founder of "All Bengal Refugees Council of Action", which worked relentlessly for proper rehabilitation of the East Bengal refugees.

Shri Biswas who was a well-known trade unionist, did yeomen's services for the cause of the working class. He served in different trade union organisation in various capacities. He founded the J.P. Institute of Trade Union Education and Research at Garden Reach, Kolkata with the objective of imparting education to the trade union workers. He also served as the educator of International Transport Workers' Federation, London for Asia Pacific Region.

Shri Biswas was the Vice-President of All India Railwaymen's Federation, New Delhi. He also served as the President of South Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

A person with a spiritual bent of mind, Shri Biswas was a member of the Divine Life Society founded by Swamy Shivanand (Rishikesh) and was also the President of West Bengal Divine Life Society.

Shri J.M. Biswas passed away on 30 January, 2003 at Kolkata, West Bengal at the age of 77.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolence to the bereaved family.

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

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.04 hrs.

(I) Re: Alleged Irregularities in Utilization of MPLAD Funds and Reported Directive by the Chief Minister of U.P. to Contribute to the Party Fund from It

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to make it clear to the House that I have received two Adjournment Motion notices from Shri Ramjilal Suman, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya. For suspension of Question Hour also, I have received notices from Shri Ramjilal Suman, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and Shri Raghuraj Singh Sakya. Now, I would request Kunwar Akhilesh Singh to speak only to the extent why Question Hour be suspended. Others may take their seats please.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the ruling party and its allies are increasingly promoting the corrupt practices ever since they assumed power at the Centre. Not only the entire country but the entire world is aware about the Tehlka episode. Similarly the Chief Minister of U.P. Mayawati. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, please resume your seat. He is on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no point of order during Zero Hour. It is a very serious issue. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Mayawati. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats, he is on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

My point of order is that Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh had proposed during the meeting convened by you that hon. Members would give in writing the allegations of corruption, they seek to level against a person who is not a Member of the August House besides making available all the relevant documents and the latter would be forwarded to the concerned hon. Minister subject to your satisfaction. Shri Shivraj V. Patil had also endorsed the same and you had also stated that the allegations against a person, not a Member of the House, should not be levelled. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have given an opportunity to Kunwar Akhilesh Singh to express his views. You please resume your seat.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister has stated that every M.P. gets a cut from MPLADS funds. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIDUZAMMA (Muzzaffarnagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has levelled allegations against all the M.Ps. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, It is totally baseless...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir you have given Akhilesh Kumariji the permission to speak. So why Rashid Alviji is repeatedly interrupting him. If Rashid Alviji wants to make submission he should also be given time later on ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Kunwar Akhilesh Singh to speak because he has given me a notice for suspension of the Question Hour. He is only arguing to the extent as to why he wants the Question Hour to be suspended.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : He is not arguing to that extent. He is talking about U.P. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask Kunwar Akhilesh Singh to speak as to why the Question Hour should be suspended.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not suspended the Question Hour and not allowed another discussion. Let him speak first.

[Translation]

Akhileshji, you may continue with your submission. First, let me listen his point of view.

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Sir, I don't have any objection. My only submission is that you please also give me time to speak after he concludes. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rashid Alvi, you are a very decent Member. Please sit down. *[Translation]* There is no need to create pandemonium in the House.

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, State matters can not be raised here so, how can this matter be raised here. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has asked the MP's to contribute two lakhs rupees each. The Samjwadi Party of U.P. ...*(Interruptions)* It should be investigated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seat.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to Kaul and Shakdhar, Privilege Motion can be

accepted even without receiving formal notice. The MP's have been asked to contribute Rs. two lakh each from MPLADS funds. It is a matter pertaining to privileges of MPs. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad ji, your notice is before me. I am also going to permit you. So, why are you interrupting when I intend to permit you to speak. It is not good. Please resume your seat. Firstly let me listen to Akhileshji. Afterwards I will allow all those hon. Members to speak whose Notices are with me and whose names I have taken.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has levelled allegations against MPs that they get a commission of 5 to 10 percent and sometimes even 50 percent under the MPLADS. This way she has alleged that the MPs are swindling a large amount of funds under MPLADS. She also further directed the MPs to deposit Rs. two lakh each in the party fund.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not a matter of disregard and privileges of MPs alone but also of promoting corruption. This way the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh is openly encouraging corruption and also making contemptuous remarks against the MPs. The loot is being promoted in the MPLAD fund. ...*(Interruptions)* I want that the Government of India should order a probe by CBI ...*(Interruptions)* The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh is neck deep into corruption...*(Interruptions)* These things are also affecting the elections in U.P. ...*(Interruptions)* The DM, the SP of Barabanki were transferred after the victory of MLA of our party there. They have won the Gauriganj seat through corrupt practices. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to say that today the corruption has assumed serious dimensions in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* I demand that the matter be investigated by CBI. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, you resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am giving you only one minute and not more than one minute.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The blot on the reputation of MP's be removed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh ji, you please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is contemptuous. It cannot be tolerated. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir yesterday it was discussed in the House that the Government should roll back the prices of fertilizers and the diesel. It is an important issue before us. The question raised by Shri Akhileshji before you is extremely serious and this is related to the prestige and the dignity of the MPs. Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra and Alviji are saying that it is a State subject but it is not so ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I didn't say so.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh convened a meeting of the MPs and MLAs and asked that each MLA and MP should contribute one lakh and Rs. two lakh respectively to the party fund. ...*(Interruptions)* You should read what is written here ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, you resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Our party had met the Governor of U.P. and has presented them complete evidence including CD's and videotape. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is certainly a matter of corruption. Through you, I would like to submit that the anarchy and loot has been prevailing in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a subject, you must resume your seat.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious subject, Government should reply about it ...*(Interruptions)* It is a clear case of corruption.

SHRI SAIDUZAMMA : Sir, it is an effort to disrespect the MP's...*(Interruptions)* It is not the subject of a party ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have got your notice for suspension of the Question Hour. I have examined it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvanshji, I have seen your notice and you have said what you wanted to. I would give you the permission to speak on this subject during the Zero Hour. *[English]* I have only permitted those who had given the notice.

I am not accepting the notice to suspend the Question Hour.

[Translation]

I will give you the permission during the Zero Hour and you can speak them.

[English]

Now I have to go to the Question Hour. Let us go to the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

11.14 hrs.

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not fair.

[English]

Do not come to the Well of the House.

[Translation]

You resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to continue with the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You know that the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh is in session. The Member of your party can raise the question there.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. It is not a good thing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I go to the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, nothing is audible.

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, I am giving you the permission to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Akhilesh Singh, please go back to your seat.

[Translation]

Your behaviour is very indigent. You all resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh is in the session, you raise this question there.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour will be completed.

[English]

Question No. 181 – Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

(Interruptions)

11.16 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Participation of Women In Education

*181. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement 'National Policy in regard to ensuring more participation of women in the field of education';

(b) if so, the time by which this is likely to be implemented;

(c) the main features of the policy;

(d) the criteria adopted for selecting universities for providing grants under the said policy; and

(e) the names of universities being considered or finally identified for the purpose of grants?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) The Policy of the Government for empowerment and development of women lays emphasis on removal of women's illiteracy and obstacles inhibiting their access to, and retention in elementary education, women's participation in vocational, technical and professional education at different levels coupled with the policy of non-discrimination to eliminate sex stereotyping in vocational and professional courses, promoting women's studies as a part of various courses, and encouraging educational institutions to take up active programmes to further women's development, and to promote women's participation in non traditional occupations as well as in existing and emerging technologies.

In pursuance of this policy, the Government have launched many programmes for the education and empowerment of women, as given below:-

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) : This programme, aims at universalisation of elementary education, with special focus on girls and other disadvantaged groups. In addition, the mid-day meal scheme, has also improved girls enrolment and retention in primary schools.

The proposed scheme of **Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya of residential schools for girls** would also support universalisation of elementary education for girls.

Mahila Samakhya : This is a women's education and empowerment project, being implemented in about 9000 villages. The programme strategy is to mobilize and organize women in the collectives called 'Sanghas' and through education make them aware of their rights.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also implementing schemes of residential schools for scheduled caste girls in areas of very low literacy as well as award of scholarships to SC/ST students with special emphasis on girls.

As a result of the measures taken by the Government, the literacy rate of women has gone up from 39.3% in 1991 to 54.16% in 2001. In fact, the increase in female literacy of 14.8 percentage points outpaced that for male literacy of 11.7 percentage points. Similarly, the gender gap in male female literacy has also narrowed from 24.84 percentage points in 1991 to 21.70 percentage points in 2001. There has been a similar narrowing of the rural-urban literacy gap among women. This level was 33.43 percentage points in 1991 and now measures 26.41 percentage points in 2001.

Despite the increase in population, for the first time, the absolute number of illiterates has shown a decline, from 328 million in 1991 to 296 million. The female literacy rate has gone up from 50% in 1997 (as per the NSSO Survey) to 54.16% in census 2001.

UGC Schemes for women education

— Setting up of Centres and Cells by UGC for Women studies

- A scheme of Technology courses for women in women universities for under-graduate courses in Engineering and Technology,
- Part-time Research Associateships for women
- Special Scheme for construction of Women's Hostels.
- Financial Assistance to women's colleges (50 years old) for purchase of books, journals and equipment.
- Day care centres setup in 17 universities.

The women's enrolment in Universities / Colleges is currently 39.84%. Besides, there are 5 exclusive Women's Universities and 1578 women's colleges, of which 219 were opened during the last 3 years.

The education of women and girls continues to be an area of major emphasis area in **IGNOU programmes and projects**.

The Department of Science and Technology's Women Scientists Scheme, which has been recently launched, is aimed at providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists for pursuing research, with or without break in their career, in frontier areas of science and engineering, society related scientific problems and also for training for S and T based self-employment. There is another scheme of National Women Bio-Scientist's award, which was started by the Department of Bio-Technology in 1999. 5 awards were given to women under this scheme last year.

Scheme of strengthening of boarding and hostel facilities for girl students of secondary and higher secondary schools. Under this scheme financial assistance is given for strengthening of Boarding and Hostel facilities for girls studying from classes VI to XII. Preference is given to educationally backward districts, particularly to those inhabited by SCs/STs.

Community/Polytechnics for women. The scheme of Community polytechnics for women aims at bringing community and rural development through science and technology applications and through skill oriented non-formal training.

Under the Women's Vocational Training Programme, institutionalized skill training is offered to women in basic, advanced and post advanced skills. There are 323 Women Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) affiliated to the Directorate General of Employment and Training. A provision for 25% of seats for women in General ITIs has also been recommended by Director General of Employment and Training.

In addition to the schemes mentioned above, the Government is in the process of formulating a scheme, for ensuring greater participation of women in higher education. The components of the scheme are being finalized.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information laid on Table by the hon'ble Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Akhilesh ji it is not good on your part. It is not appropriate. Akhilesh ji, go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, this is not the proper way to behave in the House. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Murlī Manohar Joshi ji, please give a brief reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : A statement has been laid on the table of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 182

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir my question has not been completed ...*(Interruptions)*

11.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey came and stood near the Table.)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey, will you please go back to your seat?

(Interruptions)

11.18 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey went back to his seat.)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You should ask him to reply. He is listening. Question and its Answer has been recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, just a minute.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want. Please raise the demand for discussion in Zero Hour. I understand this is a question of the dignity of the House. I am ready to help you. You should first resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, I am ready to help you, but please go and speak from there, do not speak from here.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats, please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am speaking at the moment.

11.20 hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members went back to his seats.)

(Interruptions) .

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : This is a very serious matter. (Interruptions). It is a question of dignity of the House. No other matter can be more serious than this. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with the Members of the Samajwadi Party that the issue is of a serious nature. It is reported in the Press also.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, mine is also a very serious matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am speaking so, please listen.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, nothing can be proved by creating uproar. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I want to resolve the issue. I am here to resolve the issue. I have asked Kunwar Akhilesh Singh what is his exact demand. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh wants an inquiry into the matter. Whether the inquiry is to be given or not is to be decided by the Government. As a Speaker, it is my duty to conduct the business of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, we understand it properly. Shri Ramji Lal Suman, you have also raised this issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Sir, I also want to speak. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rashid Alvi, you have also raised the issue. I think, the issue can be discussed. You can raise the same issue in the 'Zero Hour'. You can make your demands. I have absolutely no objection. I am there to help you to resolve the issue. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, you will understand that the issue cannot be raised in the manner

in which you are trying to put it before the House. The best way to resolve the issue is to speak whatever you want to speak on the issue during the 'Zero Hour'. I would like to know from the Government, in the meantime, whether they want to make a statement on this issue. But you must give me some time and the other business of the House must be continued. This is my only request to you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rashid Alvi, as you have rightly said that you want to speak, I am going to permit you also to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak. If I am not allowed, I too will do the same. *(Interruptions)* There are MPs of my party also. If permission is not granted, we too will come to Well. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will definitely give you permission to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : We should also be permitted to express our point of view. *(Interruptions)*. Nothing can be proven by creating uproar over here. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, I hope you will cooperate. Let the business of the House continue. Please sit down. All Members should occupy their seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a threat. It is a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you permission to express your views, but at present I can not give you permission to speak on Adjournment Motion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has already expressed his views. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak at appropriate time, till then let the other business of the House be conducted.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a disrespect to all the Members...*(Interruptions)*. It has never happened. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Other Members should sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are exploiting the down trodden. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted only Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh. So, whatever he says will go on the record and rest will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, I want to quote a few lines from the Kaul and Shakhder Book. It is about the procedure for dealing with question of privilege. ...*(Interruptions)* I quote:

"... where the matter is of immediate nature and there is no time for a notice being given, the Speaker has permitted a Member to raise the question of privilege without previous notice in writing.

[Translation]

Sir, in a situation where there is no time to give notice, as per the rule the Speaker, is authorised to give permission to Members for expressing their views. This is an extraordinary situation. The statement of Chief Minister of UP has been published in the newspaper. She herself had been the Member of this House. In regard to MPLAD, it has been said that even the honest MPs take 5 lakh rupees from it, and he ought to give one lakh rupees from this amount to her. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not Recorded.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir the persons speaking in this manner are those under whose administration corruption prevail...*(Interruptions)* It can be understood if anybody else speaks, but he is pointing out. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, MPLAD should be scrapped...*(Interruptions)* MPLAD should be finished. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : MPLAD should be scrapped ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have given permission to Shri Dasmunsi. He will speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I also gave a notice for suspending the Question Hour. But the subject that has been taken up is another subject that came up. This subject, which has been raised by hon. Member, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh is not merely on any issue of Party or any Government. It is an attempt to tarnish the entire image of Parliament and Members of Parliament including you. Sir, as a Member of Parliament you also do your duty in your constituency. Therefore, the matter is not a lighter one to accuse a person or a Government or to take an advantage. It is an institutional honour which is at stake and, therefore, I think, you have given a direction to the Government to make a statement during the 'Zero Hour' or to find out whether there will be an inquiry or not.

Sir, I feel that you should give more cognisance to the matter. It is not linked only to the Government part; but the

authority, the honour and the dignity of the Members of Parliament is linked with it. Therefore, in that spirit, you should take cognisance of the matter.

I gave a notice for suspension of Question Hour that the Cabinet, in its collective responsibility, is accountable to the House and not individually. The Budget presented by the Cabinet is a collective decision of the Cabinet. Immediately after the presentation of the Budget, the hon. Minister of Agriculture has publicly reacted on the hike of diesel and fertiliser prices. The President of the BJP is staging drama day in and day out and playing with the farmers. Therefore, we submit that during the 'Zero Hour', the Government should make their position clear on their collective responsibility; or else the entire roll back should be done today. Or else, the Congress Party will not compromise at least on this issue. I would like to know as to what their reaction is. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise your issue during the 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER : You are all aware that...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Pandiyan, please sit down.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, as Chairman of the MPLADS Committee I am trying to..

MR. SPEAKER : No. As Chairman of the MPLADS Committee also, I am going to permit you during the 'Zero Hour' and not now. Please sit down. Only those Members who had given notices were allowed to speak.

I have not suspended the Question Hour. I would like to go to the Question Hour.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, please allow me for a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have assured hon. Member Kunwar Akhilesh Singh that I am going to take up this matter personally because the allegations which have been brought to the notice of the House are from the newspapers. They have to be seen.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. In 'Zero Hour' you can raise it. I am sorry. Shri Pandian, please sit down.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, as Chairman of the MPLADS Committee I want to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : No; let us go to the Question Hour now. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply of hon'ble Minister. With reference to starred question no.181 I would like to put a supplementary question. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister through you that by what time the scheme, which is being prepared with a view to ensure more participation of women in higher education...*(Interruptions)* will be finalised and also to what extent the admission and retention of girls in the primary schools of Bihar and Jharkhand have increased under Education for all programme and also through mid-day meal scheme. I would also like to know about the project for women's education and empowerment under Mahila Samakhya ...*(Interruptions)* which is being implemented in 9000 villages of the country. With reference to the number of such villages particularly in Bihar and Jharkhand where the project is being implemented and also the name of the places where University Grants Commission has set up centres and cells for women's studies...*(Interruptions)* and also the number of day monitoring centres set up in 17 universities across the country and also separately in Bihar and Jharkhand State. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, as Chairman of the MPLADS Committee. I want to help the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : My request to you is to please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, I want to help the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I would allow you only after the question is over.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, as Chairman of the MPLADS Committee I want to help the Chair. I would like to speak for one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. I will not allow you. I will permit you only during the 'Zero Hour' and not now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nobody is allowed. I am sorry.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, I want to speak one line.

MR. SPEAKER : Not one line also; please sit down. You have not given any notice.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : I want to help the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : You can help me during the 'Zero Hour' and not now. Please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, we come under the control of the hon. Speaker. Our Committee functions. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, permit me for one minute.

MR. SPEAKER : Let this Question be over.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Joshi ji, Uttar Pradesh is reaping what you have sown. ...*(Interruptions)* Please be quiet for a couple of minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURALI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have made it clear in the reply that the policy of the Government is to ensure women's participation and it is a continuing process. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, you said that you would call me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have not called you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pandian, I have told you repeatedly that let this Question be over, I will give you a chance. Can you not wait for five minutes? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, please give me one minute to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you a chance after this Question is over.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Government are making continuous efforts to provide vocational and technical education at various levels...*(Interruptions)* Women's centres have been set up at 21 places. I have the list with me and women study centres are located at 13-14 places. ...*(Interruptions)* I have that list, too. As per the information provided by the University Grants Commission, Bihar does not figure in the list...*(Interruptions)* The number of villages in Bihar and Jharkhand separately having such centres will be sent later to the hon'ble Member, as I do not have that with me. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have another supplementary ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Only matters relating to question will go on record. Other things will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the census of 2001, the literacy rate of men was 75.85 while it was 54.16 percent in women. Thus there is gap of 21.70 percentage points...*(Interruptions)* Union Government have issued instructions to all the Ministries and State Governments for taking time bound action on

National policy on the rights of women and they have been told that strict action would be taken against those not able to meet the prescribed targets...*(Interruptions)*. I would like to know whether Department of Women and Child Welfare have reviewed the implementation of national policy and taken or propose to take any action against those showing laxity in implementing projects relating to women's upliftment? If so, the details thereof in the context of Bihar and Jharkhand...*(Interruptions)* On the one hand they are talking of improving the level of education and on the other hand the schools there are being closed down ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Whichever schools have been closed, has been done by the State Governments so...*(Interruptions)* State Governments are responsible for that. The Union Government neither runs any school nor closes it down...*(Interruptions)*. As far as the running, opening or closing down of schools is concerned, it is basically the responsibility of State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Central School is being closed down in my place and hon'ble Minister says that it is the responsibility of the State Government. Government of India intends to improve the quality of education...*(Interruptions)*. But no details in this regard have been given. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that the Union Government should take appropriate action with regard to those schools which are being closed down. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, please call me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to call you. Wait for few minutes. What is there? I will call you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, as Chairman of MPLADS Committee ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call you during the 'Zero Hour'. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am ready to plead your case provided you co-operate with me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what we discussed day before yesterday...*(Interruptions)* As Chairman of MPLADS Committee, I would like to say only one line. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We can take action only when we are provided the information about the schools being closed down. We do not close them down...*(Interruptions)*. If any Kendriya Vidyalaya is being closed down, please give information about that ...*(Interruptions)*. Many of the schools are closed down because the project, under which they were being run, is terminated and so the schools are also closed down ...*(Interruptions)*. Please give me specific information about the school which is being closed down. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I would allow you when this question is over. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Sir, please give me one minute. I would like to say as Chairman of MPLADS Committee. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Shyama Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The whole House desires that the Question Hour should continue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Every Member wants. Let the Question Hour be completed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Shyama Singh.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Sir, this is a very important Question. In India, the biggest problem that besets the country today is the population problem. Having

come from a State like Bihar where the population is ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the consensus among Members seems to be in favour of termination of MPLADS. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh is encouraging corruption and bribes are being taken in the scheme ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down. Let Shrimati Shyama Singh ask her question.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : You please instruct the hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to present the views of the Government on this matter.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have already that you would allow this issue to be raised in the Zero Hour. Therefore, please ask him to sit down.

This is a very important Question.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : I just wanted to put it on record ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Parliamentary Affairs Minister has heard the sentiments of the Members of the House. The allegations are of very serious nature. I know that you have to collect the information from the State Government because the issue mainly pertains to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. During the 'Zero Hour', when the Members will raise this issue, by that time, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister may try to get the information on this issue. Whatever information you have, you can give it during the 'Zero Hour' and not now.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : There are so many allegations against the MPLADS. Till they are inquired into, this scheme should be stopped.

MR. SPEAKER : We can discuss it during the 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, I am going to permit you during the 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : MPLADS should be reconsidered ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We will discuss this issue later. Now you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We will take it up during the discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have tolerated the Members for a long time, and it is enough now.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, look at the fate of the women in the country.

This is a very important and serious Question, which needs to have an extensive debate. However, I will come straight to the point. The hon. Minister has shown us a lot of statistics for the last three years about the development and growth of our primary education. Population being one of the major problems in this country eating into the vitals of our system, I would request, through you, the hon. Minister whether he has taken any cognizance of the fact that the education of women and children in the age group of 0-4 and 4-16 is virtually negligible in the State of Bihar, and parts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, which is responsible more for the growth of the population. Having said this, is it possible for the Minister to take into account, at least, 33 per cent reservation for recruiting women teachers who can be much more serious about their work in schools and also would be able to change the mindset of the girl child in their education?

[Trnanslation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, so far as Bihar is concerned, time and again the Central Government have

been requesting the Government of Bihar to pay equal attention to women education and primary education. But the problem is that we get proposals from them quite belatedly. Many a time we have to prepare projects ourselves. Time and again requests have to be made to the Chief Minister, Members of Parliament and even ex-Chief Minister for cooperating with us and send the proposal expeditiously. Hon. Member also hails from Bihar. I would request her also to encourage the people over there. 50 percent seats are reserved for women, especially rural women and there is no question of 33 percent.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : I just wanted, through you, hon. Speaker, Sir, to point out to the hon. Minister that the project called 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' has just not been able to take off anywhere on the ground level in the last three years. He can make his own nodal agencies monitor and find out whether the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' reached the ground level or not. This is an important question.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, what the hon. Member is telling is totally untrue. Education for all programme has been very well implemented in many a States. ...*(Interruptions)*. Let me speak. *(English)* Money has gone. The State Governments are responsible for it. If your State Government does not do it, what can I do about it? *[Translation]* The Government have allocated funds, have sent officers and have appointed nodal agencies. In some of the States, 'Education for All' programme has reached every village. She may come along, I shall show her. Please do not just shoot in the air. Do not bring politics in it. The issue of education in the country is very important, please cooperate in it.

[English]

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to ask a question.

There are certain fields of education such as education for crippled, handicapped, deaf and dumb children. According to experience in the field, it has been

found that women teachers do better in educating small children. Is the Government of India thinking of opening certain schools and colleges to promote teaching of women who would, in turn, be able to teach crippled, handicapped, deaf and dumb children?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As far as the issue of teaching disabled is concerned, the Government have prepared a plan for it as it is directly related to women education. Every information such as location of school meant for them etc., will be furnished to you.

[English]

Development of Viral Medicines and Vaccines

*182. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department have made any success in the research and development of anti retro viral medicines and vaccines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the follow-up action taken regarding ongoing research projects in this regard;

(d) whether any alliance or understanding with any UN Agency of Pharmaceuticals Research Institute has been reached;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any such research activity with Indian Medicines has been undertaken; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (g) A statement with regard to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *182 to be answered on 04.03.2003 is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Department of Biotechnology is supporting research under the National Jai Vigyan Science and Technology Mission on "Development of New Generation Vaccines" which includes candidate vaccines for HIV-I clade 'C', the strain prevalent in the country. DNA and recombinant vaccine as prime boost strategy has yielded encouraging results in small experimental animals and these are under evaluation in the non-human primates. The ongoing research projects are regularly monitored by experts; wherever necessary, mid course corrections are also carried out. The National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune under the Indian Council of Medical Research is engaged in R and D and clinical trials of anti-retroviral drugs for HIV.

Currently, two leading Indian drug companies, namely, Cipla, Mumbai, and Ranbaxy, New Delhi are manufacturing generic version of several anti-retroviral drugs i.e., Zidovudine, Lamivudine, Nevirapine, Stavudine, Didanosine, Efavirenz, Saquinavir, Indihavir, Ritonavir and Nelfinavir. Cipla has been able to bring the cost of triple drug cocktail from US \$ 10,000 -15000 (INR 5.0 lacks to 7.5 lacs) per annum per patient to US\$ 350 (INR 17,500) per annum per patient by making the generic version. The Government has also exempted these drugs from excise duty to make them more accessible and affordable. Some drugs namely, Ritonavir, Saquinavir, Zalcitabine have been exempted from custom duty as well.

(d) and (e) The National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and the Indian Council of Medical Research, both under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have entered into a tri-partite partnership with International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, USA to develop a Vaccine using ix genes representing relevant antigens of the Indian HIV strain. These genes have been inserted into a Modified Vaccinia-Ankara. The prototype vaccine is poised for pre-clinical toxicity studies. Another proposal for HIV/AIDS vaccine development for clade 'C' in collaboration with Emory Vaccine Centre, USA is under active consideration of the INDO-US Vaccine Action Programme of the Department of Biotechnology.

(f) and (g) A number of national institutions have undertaken research in alternative systems of medicine.

namely, ayurveda, siddha and homeopathy in order to screen ancient and traditional compounds for their anti-HIV properties. The Government of Tamil Nadu has created a Siddha Research Unit in Madras Medical College, which was extended to the Government Hospital of Thoracic Medicine in 1993. In a Double blind random Placebo Controlled Study, several hundreds of patients with HIV/AIDS were treated with Siddha drugs namely RASAGANDHI MEZHUGU, AMUKKARA SURANAM and NELLIKAI LEHIYAM. Improvements were noted both clinically and in CD-4 count. Two Plant. extracts viz. PS-01 and PS-02 have shown inhibitory effects on HIV-I reverse transcriptase under *in vitro* conditions. Similarly, two proteins from placenta extracts of first trimester have shown anti-HIV activity against HIV field isolates. The National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Mumbai has also developed microbicides in research mode and two of them are undergoing clinical trials.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question has two parts, one is regarding Vaccine and second is regarding 'Anti-retro drugs'. First of all I would like to thank two Indian Pharmaceutical firms who have done a wonderful job. Hon. Minister has stated in the reply that yearly Rs. 15 lakhs are spent on it. But wonderful job done by these pharma companies have reduced it to Rs. seventeen-and-a-half thousand. I would like to congratulate them and would like to know more from hon. Minister about anti-viral medicines alongwith their status and utility. As he has stated that it contains CD-4 count (B). I would like to know how much it costs annually? Would the Government like to help any pharma company for conducting further research and making it affordable?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It is very important question and I am happy to inform you that our Sidha Medicines have proved quite useful. A society named, Aids Control Society has been established in Tamil Nadu which is actively engaged in exploring methods of its use and how Indian drugs can be more helpful in curing it. The Society has conducted pilot study and tested these medicines on certain patients. The results have been encouraging and therefore, we can go ahead with them. All the suspected cases related to HIV positive were tested. Further it was found positive in two Elisa tests. Second time

diagnosis was confirmed. It was confirmed from Western blot test also. Subsequently, further study was conducted in MGR Medicine University, Tamil Nadu. Rasgandhi, Meghugu, Amukara, Suranam and Nellikai Lehiyam medicines were also used. It has been observed that these are clinically beneficial also and helpful in controlling CD-4 count.

[English]

Sidha drugs in combination with drugs with opportunistic infections have also been used.

[Translation]

It has been observed that these have been beneficial to the patients and have improved their condition. Similarly, NCCS, another organisation took following initiative in flora and fauna-

[English]

Anti HIV Activity in marine biology of Indian coast-line and also in plants and trees of medicinal importance in western region. Preliminary data indicates presence of anti-HIV activity i some of these marine samples.

[Translation]

Since research work is carried out in it these days therefore, the Government provide annual grant of Rs. 10 crore to the organisations engaged in the field of biotechnology for carrying out research work. Vaccine and other medicines are covered under it.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Indian Pharmaceuticals Association and several Research institutes have requested hon. Finance Minister that the amount spent on research work, especially HIV Vaccine should be provided income-tax relief on weightage basis or assistance be provided to them for carrying out research in the field of vaccines. As he has stated that research carried out in India has been encouraging. What is the status of medicines which are used on animals on small experimental basis? I would like to know within how many years it will be developed?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As far as facilities are concerned, some of the clinical equipments are already provided duty relief. hon. Finance Minister has told that he

wants to give some more relief in this regard. It can be considered at appropriate time. At present, we provide an assistance of Rs. 150 per Rs. 100 spent by them. In addition, excise duty has been withdrawn from ten medicines. Three medicines are imported, Custom duty in respect of those medicines also has been withdrawn. Moreover, our Government provide assistance constantly for carrying out in-house research.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, Hon. Minister has not told anything regarding vaccine.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, please provide written information to him regarding Vaccine.

Terrorist Organisations

+

*184. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of terrorist organisations, working in various part of the country;

(b) the names of the organisations out of the aforesaid terrorist organisations being operated from across the border;

(c) the number of Non-Indian members of each of these organisations in country; and

(d) the success achieved in neutralising their activities?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) A list of organisations engaged in terrorist activities in various parts of the country is enclosed as annexure. Most of these organizations are having bases/

links in other countries. Some of these organisations have a sizeable number of foreign mercenaries as their members.

(d) In order to tackle the menace of terrorism, the Central Government has adopted a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management and coastal security, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, neutralising plans of ISI by well coordinated intelligence based operations and modernization and up-gradation of State Police and Central Security Forces. Besides, Diplomatic initiatives have also been taken to combat trans-border crime and terrorism.

As a result of the coordinated action by the Central/ State security agencies; a number of Pak backed terrorist/ espionage modules have been detected/neutralised in various parts of the country.

Annexure

List of Organisations

1. Babbar Khalsa International.
2. Khalistan Commando Force.
3. Khalistan Zindabad Force
4. International Sikh Youth Federation.
5. Lashkar-E-Taiba/Pasban-E-Ahle Hadis.
6. Jaish-E-Mohammed/Tahrik-E-Furqan.
7. Harkat-UI-Mujahideen/Harkat-UI-Ansarh/Harkat-UI-Jehad-E-Eslami
8. Hizb-UI-Mujahideen/Hizb-UI-Mujahideen Pir Panjal Regiment.
9. Al-Umar-Mujahideen.
10. Jammu and Kashmir Islamic Front
11. United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA).
12. National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB).
13. Peoples's Liberation Army (PLA)
14. United National Liberation Front (UNLF).

15. People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK)
16. Kanleipak Communist Party (KCP)
17. Kanlei Yaol Kanbalup (KYKL).
18. Manipur People's Liberation Front (MPLF).
19. All Tripura Tiger Force.
20. National Liberation Front of Tripura.
21. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE).
22. Students Islamic Movement of India
23. Deendar Anjuman.
24. Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)-People's War, all its Formations and Front Organisations.
25. Moist Communist Centre (MCC), All its Formations and Front Organizations.
26. Al Badr.
27. Jamiat-Ul-Mujahideen.
28. Al-Qaida.
29. Dukhtaran-E-Millat (DEM).
30. Tamil Nadu Liberation Army (TNLA).
31. Tamil National Retrieval Troops (TNRT).
32. Akhil Bharat Nepali Ekta Samaj (ABNES).
33. Revolutionary People's Front (RPF) in Manipur.
34. Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC).
35. Achik National Volunteer Council (ANVC) In Meghalaya.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister in his reply has clearly stated that there are 35 terrorist organisations in our country. He has also accepted the fact about the presence of foreign mercenaries and the foreign assistance to them. Through you I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the terrorist organisations

which are operating in India on the basis of community, caste, region and Naxalims. I would also like to know whether these community based, caste based, region based and naxal based terrorist organisations have local support alongwith the areas where they are getting this support. The action taken by the Government to check the support being provided to these terrorist organisations and whether the Government have any effective scheme to check it. The part (b) of my question of whether these organisations are getting financial assistance from foreign countries, if so the names of such terrorist organisations?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a process to ascertain whether any organisation is a terrorist organisation or not. The intelligence bureaus of State and Central Government observe the activities of these organisations. It is on account of the presence of these organisations that the fundamental elements like sovereignty, unity, independence of our constitution are in danger. They get financial assistance from foreign countries and through violence operate terrorist activities in our country and kill innocent people. On the basis of their activities these organisations are declared terrorists organisation.

We take action as per the recommendations of the State Government.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not at all satisfied with the reply of hon'ble Minister regarding my first supplementary question. I seek your protection in this regard. Whether any of these 35 organisation have any inclination towards, communalism, casteism Naxalism and regionalism and whether the local people have sympathy for them. If so the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation. The hon'ble Minister has not replied in this regard while I want reply.

Regarding my second supplementary question I would like to submit that I come from Bihar. ISI activities along Indo-Nepal border have increased. As far my information is concerned the danger of transaction of fake currency on large scale and Maoist activities has increased there during the last three years. I hail from Sitamarahi district of Bihar. There Maoists frequently loot police camps and take away arms. Recently last week they looted a police

camp. Whether the hon'ble Minister is aware about it? Whether the danger of ISI and Maoist activities has increased along Nepal border in North Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask question in brief. You have asked a lengthy question. Please do not ask lengthy question.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : What action plan has been formulated by the Government to check it and steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have reply to the question of the hon'ble Member regarding tackling the danger of terrorism. He has asked as to where is base of the 35 organisations? For your information I would like to submit that out of the 35 organisations, 32 organisations have been notified under the POTA and the rest three organisation come under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. In order to tackle the menace of terrorism the Government by formulating a well planned scheme with the coordination of State Governments have adopted multi-pronged approach. As a result, Border management system has been devised in the country. As he has said that there are several factors of the ISI activities. Border management and coastal security are the part of the multi-pronged approach, adopted by the Government in this regard. We have strengthen our intelligence machinery. The intelligence agencies of the Central Government and the special branches of the State Governments keep watch on the activities of these organisation. The coordination is established between both these agencies...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is danger from Maoists in North Bihar. The Police station in my area was looted by the Maoists of Nepal. One house at Dosia in Shivhar districts was attacked. I have asked about ISI activities.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was also submitting the same thing that we take action on the basis of information that is supplied by the State intelligence agencies. We have taken action against many such organisation and on the basis of that several organisations have been banned by way of notifying them. We have banned those organisations because their activities within the country are against the interest and sovereignty of the

country. We are taking action on the basis of it. We have also organised two conferences of the Chief Ministers and the Director General of Police. The State Governments have been informed in regard to these two conferences. Whatever information we get, we share it with the State Governments. On the basis of that informations the State Governments ensure the security of their border by way of strengthening laws and order situation in the State.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware that West Bengal is the gateway of North-East. It is also the gateway of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. I want to ask the hon. Minister that in West Bengal, what action the Government is taking to curb terrorism, especially, the cross-border terrorism. Even we have seen that sometimes they have said that they are going to deport 165 Bangladeshis from the Bangladesh border - the Zero Point on the border. But, that is not the question. They are now Indian citizens. No, I am not saying about all.

During the last 25 years' Marxist rule in my State, more than one crore people have come from different parts of the international borders, especially, from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Bhutan. This time their names are excluded from voters' list, by the Election Commission. Their figure is 70 lakhs. The C and AG Report also says that in West Bengal 66 lakhs false ration cards are also there. So many have become Indian citizen. I am talking only about few 181.

Forged ration cards are also there. What is the Government going to do? Sometimes, he is just giving the information that they are going to give some money to the State Government for modernisation of police force etc. But it is nothing. Shall I tell you one thing? In North Bengal, foreign currency is in circulation. It is a serious matter. Because of circulation of foreign currency, parallel Indian economy is going on there. Whatever is happening in North Bihar that is also serious. It is a serious matter. It is not enough if you are sending back some 150-200 people. Infiltration specially cross border terrorism is a serious matter.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : It is right time to withdraw your support!

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not a petty matter; it is a serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb her.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : My request to the State Government is this. What action the Government is going to take? Please do not trust the State Government only because they are doing State politics; they are indulging in it and they are encouraging all these things. When you are sending people back, it does not mean that all Bangladeshis are terrorists.

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to your question.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Indian citizens are Indian citizens and they are totally out of question. But regarding the infiltrators, they are ISI agents and are involved in Al Qaeda activities also. Now, they are having information centres also.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mamta ji you please complete your question.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Insurgency problem is there in Bengal, Bihar, Tripura or the whole of North Eastern region. So, what is the action plan of the Government? May I know whether the Government is going to send an important senior administrative team, from RBI and other agencies, to curb parallel economy and terrorism?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you please reply.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with hon'ble Mamta ji that the people from the across border are supporting terrorist activities in the country. However, the present question is concerned with the terrorist activities. As far the question of infiltration is concerned, the discussion has been held in the House on this issue.

I would like to inform the House that today the incidents of across border infiltration are occurring on large scale along the border of West Bengal, Tripura and several other frontier States. As I have submitted that it is the bounden duty of the State Governments that they should check the terrorist activities. Whatever assistance the State Governments are required from the Central Government or if intelligent agencies gather any information ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

We share the intelligence information with the State Governments and then the State Governments have to take action as per the law and order situation in the State.

[Translation]

I would like to submit that we have provided assistance to the State Government in this way. This includes the modernisation of the security forces of the Central Government and the State Government. The funds have also been provided to the State Government of West Bengal. Now it is the responsibility of the West Bengal Government. Besides, the State Governments which get funds and intelligence report from the intelligence agencies should seriously consider this issue and take follow up action there on. We have provided Rs. 60.475 crore to West Bengal in the year 2000-01 for the modernisations of police force. A sum of Rs. 56.50 crore has been given in 2001-2002 for this purpose. It is the responsibility of the State Government to utilise the Central Government's assistance and make efforts to check such activities along with maintaining law and order situation. The Central Government provide all types of assistance that is required.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has submitted that 32 organisations have been declared terrorist organisation under the POTA and three organisations have been put under the organisations involved in unlawful activities. He has also submitted that the efforts are being made to bring those organisations under its ambit which are active against the interest of the country. Whether the hon'ble Minister is aware that a few days back tridents and spears were distributed in Kanpur

and several other parts of the country and arms training was provided. It is the act of violation of POTA and it is certainly the act of Bajrang Dal...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

It is totally in violation of the provisions of POTA. I want an answer from the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

12.00 hrs.

You are violating the provisions of POTA...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I am ready to answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The Minister should reply as to whether the *Bajrang Dal* has violated the basic principles of POTA by distributing Arms and *Bhallas* at a public place. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon'ble Minister has replied the question.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Fee Hike in Professional Colleges

*183. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent Supreme Court pronouncement has allowed the professional colleges to fix the fee for higher education;

(b) if so, whether this decision will result in unchecked fee hikes in the professional colleges and affect the economically backward sections adversely;

(c) if so, whether the Government have evolved any mechanism to check the arbitrary fee hikes in order

to protect the interests of the disadvantaged sections; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) "The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgement dated 31st October, 2002 in the *T.M.A. Pai Foundation and Others Versus State of Karnataka and Others Case* has *inter-alia* pronounced that, in professional un-aided institutions, a rational fee structure should be adopted by the Management, which would not be entitled to charge a capitation fee. Appropriate machinery can be devised by the State or University to ensure that no capitation fee is charged and that there is no profiteering, though institutions may be permitted to accumulate a reasonable surplus for furtherance of education.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court also observed that, a certain percentage of the seats can be reserved for admission by the Management out of those students who have passed the common entrance test held by itself or by the State/ University and have applied to the college concerned for admission, while the rest of the seats may be filled up on the basis of counselling by the State agency. This will incidentally take care of poorer and backward sections of the society.

The process of consultation with the State / UT Government and other stakeholders for evolving mechanism for implementation of the Judgment is in progress, both at the Ministry and the AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) level. The Ministry has also set up a Committee to look into the implications of the Judgment and in the light of its recommendations, interest of the poor and meritorious students would be protected.

AICTE, in fulfilment of its statutory obligations under the AICTE Act, 1987 which empowers them to fix norms and guidelines for charging tuition fee and other fees and also to take all necessary steps to prevent commercialisation of Technical Education, is contemplating to bring out Regulations to facilitate the States / UTs to formulate appropriate fee structures".

[Translation]

Grants for Education to Backward States

*185. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to provide hundred percent grant for education to the backward States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have implemented any scheme in this regard since the year 1999-2000 so that these States could achieve the targets of complete literacy by the end of the year 2005;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) the progress achieved by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) Though there is no scheme of 100% grant to backward States for their educational development, there are a few Centrally Sponsored Schemes under which 100% grants are released to State Government/Union Territories.

The Programme of Total Literacy Campaign (TLC)/ Post Literacy Programme (PLP)/Continuing Education Programme (CEP) of the National Literacy Mission is being implemented in 587 Districts. The Government has also launched a programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for providing free and compulsory quality education of 8 years to all children of the age group of 6-14 in the country. Approvals were given under SSA in 2000-2001 for Rs. 76 crore, in 2001 – 2002 for Rs. 1106 crore, and for pre-project and annual plans in 2002-2003, approvals have been given for Rs. 5441 crore including the Districts Primary Education Programme (DPEP) component covering primary education for 576 districts in the country.

Districts/Blocks in various States have been identified as educationally backward, at different times, based on specific criteria. These districts/blocks are given priority when formulating and implementing programmes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mahila Samakhya and Programmes for educationally backward minorities.

The Schemes for the Educationally Backward Minorities and Mahila Samakhya are 100% grant schemes. In the Tenth Plan period, the National Programme for Girls' Education at the Elementary Level under SSA and the Kasturba Swatantrata Vidyalaya scheme of girls' residential schools are proposed to be operationalized in these districts/blocks. Besides, it is also proposed to extend the Mahila Samakhya programme to cover these backward districts.

[English]

Higher Education

*186. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to reform Higher education in the country;

(b) if so, whether any directives have been issued by the Union Government to the States in this regard; and

(c) the grants-in-aid- provided to the States to upgrade the higher education during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Reforms in higher education are carried out as a continuous process. The objective of this process is to achieve a profound transformation of higher education in order that it becomes an effective promoter of sustainable human development commensurate with the specific requirements of the country and, at the same time, improve its relevance with closer links with the world of work and achieve quality in its teaching, research and business and community extension functions to meet the challenges of

21st century. To fulfill its constitutional responsibility for maintaining the standards in higher education, necessary regulations, directions and circulars, etc., relating to reform process, are issued by the Central Government/UGC from time to time.

A major thrust is being given to improve the quality of education and research in the institutions of higher learning. 82 Universities and 233 colleges/ institutions have been accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council. UGC has identified five Universities as the "University with potential for excellence". Twelve universities have been identified under the scheme of "Centres for Excellence". The Commission has decided to launch a scheme to identify 100 colleges throughout the country as "Colleges with potential for excellence". Model curricula in core subjects have been circulated to all the Universities in the country with an advice to update their Curricula in a time bound manner. The premier research institutions like ICSSR are providing fellowships and other support to research in social sciences.

Recent initiatives taken to strengthen the technical education system include decision to introduce Credit-based system in the technical education, conversion of Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) into the National Institutes of Technology (NITs), introduction of All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE), launching of a fully dedicated technical education channel, launching of a special programme to improve quality of technical education, participation of private initiatives, development of technologies in emerging areas and their transfer to user

agencies through technology development missions, transfer of techno-economic advances in technical education and appropriate technologies to rural people through expansion of Community Polytechnics and improving the productivity of the informal sector of the economy.

State Universities are established under State Acts and their maintenance expenditure is met by the State Governments. Similarly, the responsibility of meeting the maintenance expenditure of colleges of State Universities rests with the agencies concerned with establishment and running of such colleges.

The Central Government has provided a total financial assistance of Rs.1725.85 crore (to the extent of 80% of the additional expenditure for the period from 1.1.96 to 31.3.2000) to the 23 State Governments who have adopted the Government of India's Scheme of revision of pay scales of university and college teachers. Statement-I showing the details of the financial assistance provided to States in this regard is enclosed. Similarly, for teachers in the technical education system at degree level, a sum of Rs. 77.78 Crores (Approx.) was released to 15 State Governments list enclosed as statement.

The Central Government does not directly provide the funds to the State Universities. However, the UGC provides plan grants to all eligible Central, State and Deemed to be Universities and affiliated colleges under its plan schemes as per the prescribed norms and subject to the availability of resources.

Statement-I

Release of grant to State Governments under the Scheme of Revision of Pay Scales of University and College Teachers

(Rupees in crores)

Sl. No.	State	I Amount Released in 1998-99	II Amount Released in 1999-2000	III Amount Released in 2000-2001	IV Amount Released in 2001-02	V Total Amount Released so far
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	80.00	50.00	2.73	132.73

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	1.83	—	1.83
3.	Assam	—	—	42.50	25.00	67.50
4.	Bihar*	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	7.50	—	7.50
6.	Gujarat	—	45.00	30.00	—	75.00
7.	Haryana	—	—	61.23	—	61.23
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	6.00	6.01	12.01
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	25.04	—	25.04
10.	Karnataka	—	80.00	54.93	—	134.93
11.	Kerala	—	79.15	53.85	—	133.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	70.00	—	15.77	85.77
13.	Maharashtra	—	159.00	102.94	2.73	264.67
14.	Manipur	—	5.00	7.92	—	12.92
15.	Meghalaya	—	3.80	2.58	—	6.38
16.	Mizoram	—	2.98	0.64	—	3.62
17.	Nagaland*	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	—	—	68.19	—	68.19
19.	Punjab	—	40.00	30.17	—	70.17
20.	Rajasthan	—	50.00	23.42	—	73.42
21.	Sikkim	—	—	0.52	—	0.52
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	100.00	78.55	—	178.55
23.	Tripura	—	8.00	3.60	—	11.60
24.	Uttar Pradesh	74.88	16.00	61.84	—	152.72
25.	West Bengal	100.00	—	46.55	—	146.55
Total		174.88	738.93	759.80	52.24	1725.85

*Note: The required information has not yet been received from these States.

Statement-II*Grants Released to the States Under the Scheme of Revision of Pay Scales of Teachers of Degree Level Technical Institutions*

(Amount in Rupees)

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount Sanctioned			Total
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	08,250	4,21,08,250
2.	Assam	50,00,000	90,00,000	37,96,434	1,77,96,434
3.	Gujarat	2,49,00,000	—	5,06,08,529	7,55,08,529
4.	Haryana	—	70,00,000	26,00,391	96,00,391
5.	Karnataka	10,00,000	—	11,06,89,160	11,16,89,160
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2,00,00,000	4,00,00,000	1,66,47,506	7,66,47,506
7.	Maharashtra	3,25,00,000	3,25,00,000	1,41,71,380	7,91,71,380
8.	Punjab	—	—	2,36,17,027	2,36,17,027
9.	Rajasthan	1,25,00,000	80,00,000	35,21,725	2,40,21,725
10.	Tamil Nadu	2,00,00,000	7,35,00,000	3,17,12,354	12,52,12,354
11.	Tripura	15,00,000	15,00,000	5,26,106	35,26,106
12.	Uttar Pradesh	3,00,00,000	1,15,00,000	38,33,326	4,53,33,326
13.	West Bengal	65,00,000	1,70,00,000	61,13,946	2,96,13,946
14.	Kerala	—	—	9,11,26,480	9,11,26,480
15.	Orissa	—	—	2,27,78,870	2,27,78,870
Total		15,39,00,000	20,00,00,000	42,38,51,484	77,77,51,484

**Foreign Assistance for Improving Environment
in Urban Slum Localities**

*187. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects being implemented for improving environment in the urban slum localities at present in the country with foreign assistance and since when these projects are being implemented;

(b) the names of the projects where the physical work is yet to be started; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equal distribution of the foreign assistance received for the purpose throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The details of the projects being implemented for improving environment in the urban slums are given at statement enclosed.

(b) Presently there is no such project.

States/UTs and gives its recommendations to the Department of Economic Affairs for taking up the matter with the concerned donor agency. However, finally it depends upon the concerned donor agency to select/ approve the project proposals according to their policies and priorities.

(c) As and when, the Government of India, receives any proposal from the foreign donor agency offering assistance, it is circulated among the States/UTs seeking project proposals to avail the assistance. This Ministry examines various project proposals received from the

Statement

The Details of the Slum Improvement Projects being Implemented with the Foreign Assistance

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency	Duration of the Project	Approved cost of the Projects (Rs. in crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh Urban Services for the Poor	Department for International Cooperation (DFID) - UK	3.6.1999 to 31.5.2006	745.39 Crore
2.	Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction Project	-do-	1.4.1998 to 31.3.2003	70.76 Crore
3.	Cuttack Urban Services Improvements Project *	-do-	1.4.1998 to 31.3.2002	67.91 Crore
4.	Kolkata Slum Improvements Project (Phase IC)*	-do-	1.4.1998 to 30.9.2002	12.10 Crore
5.	Nagpur Slum Improvements Project (Phase-II)**	German Government	1.7.1999 to 30.6.2003	**

* Completion Report of the project is yet to be submitted by the State Government.

** Under this Project technical Assistance is being provided.

[English]

Watershed Development Projects

*188. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :
SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had sponsored an

evaluation study on watershed development projects in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh by the Agricultural Finance Corporations;

(b) if so, the details and the findings of the study;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to sanction more such projects, and if so, details thereof; State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any requests from the State Government for external assistance under the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Ministry of Rural development (MoRD) entrusted a quick evaluation study of its watershed programmes in the country including Andhra Pradesh to Agricultural Finance Corporation in 1999-2000. These programmes are the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP). The main findings of the study were as follows:

- (i) There was an overall increase in productivity of major crops where watershed programmes were implemented.
- (ii) The average annual income of households increased significantly.
- (iii) There was overall increase in irrigation coverage and reduction in soil erosion.
- (iv) Community assets such as Nala banks stabilization gullies stabilization with vegetative hedges, percolation tanks and nurseries were created under the programme.
- (v) Employment to the tune of about 6.47 lakh Mandays was generated in the programme areas, which helped in improving the socio-economic conditions of rural poor.

(d) Projects under DPAP/DDP/IWDP are sanctioned within the overall budgetary allocation to the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) keeping in view the requirements of funds for on-going projects (sanctioned in previous years), the extent of wastelands in the State, the progress and utilisation of funds in on-going projects, incidence of poverty, backwardness and other related factors. New Projects for development of 6.68 lakh ha. at a total cost of about Rs. 400.00 crores, spread over a period of five years, have been sanctioned under the three programmes for various Districts of Andhra Pradesh from 1.4.2000 to 31.1.2003. The number of projects sanctioned State-wise from 1.4.2000 to 31.1.2003 is given in the enclosed statement I to III.

(e) and (f) The Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) has received three proposals from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for seeking external assistance. The projects are:

- (i) Watershed Programme for Dutch Assistance
- (ii) AP Groundwater Borewell Irrigation Scheme (APWELL Project) for Dutch Assistance
- (iii) Project Proposal for Technical Cooperation Component of Watershed Project for German Assistance.

Ministry has supported the proposals and recommended them to Department of Economic Affairs for pursuing with donor agencies.

Statement-I

No. of Projects Sanctioned under IWDP Programme during the Period 1.4.2000 to 31.1.2003

Sl.No.	State	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		Total	
		Total No. of Projects	Total Area (in lakh ha.)	Total No. of Projects	Total Area (in lakh ha.)	Total No. of Projects	Total Area (in lakh ha.)	Total No. of Projects	Total Area (in lakh ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	0.87	10	0.59	2	0.12	19	1.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. Bihar		—	—	1	0.08	—	—	1	0.08
3. Arunachal Pradesh		—	—	1	0.08	—	—	1	0.08
4. Assam		11	1.07	10	0.58	5	0.31	26	1.96
5. Chhattisgarh		4	0.46	6	0.42	—	—	10	0.88
6. Gujarat		6	0.73	6	0.38	—	—	12	1.11
7. Haryana		1	0.09	3	0.22	—	—	4	0.31
8. Himachal Pradesh		8	0.97	7	0.47	—	—	15	1.44
9. Jammu and Kashmir		—	—	4	0.31	—	—	4	0.31
10. Jharkhand		2	0.12	1	0.08	—	—	3	0.18
11. Karnataka		—	—	8	0.55	1	0.06	9	0.61
12. Kerala		2	0.19	—	—	—	—	2	0.19
13. Maharashtra		7	0.84	4	0.27	—	—	11	1.11
14. Madhya Pradesh		9	1.01	10	0.61	1	0.08	20	1.70
15. Manipur		—	—	1	0.08	—	—	1	0.08
16. Meghalaya		5	0.24	—	—	—	—	5	0.24
17. Mizoram		7	0.75	5	0.38	—	—	12	1.13
18. Nagaland		5	0.62	5	0.41	—	—	10	1.03
19. Orissa		6	0.47	9	0.59	—	—	15	1.06
20. Punjab		—	—	3	0.1	—	—	3	0.14
21. Rajasthan		9	0.98	7	0.42	—	—	16	1.40
22. Sikkim		1	0.11	2	0.12	—	—	3	0.23
23. Tamil Nadu		9	0.81	4	0.23	—	—	13	1.04
24. Tripura		—	—	4	0.19	—	—	4	0.19
25. Uttar Pradesh		3	0.25	7	0.41	—	—	10	0.66
26. Uttranchal		4	0.46	6	0.33	4	0.22	14	1.01
27. West Bengal				1	0.05			1	0.05
Grand Total		106	11.03	125	7.98	13	0.80	244	19.81

Statement-II

*Number of Projects Sanctioned Under DPAP
during the Period from 1.4.2000 to 31.1.2003*

Sl. State No.	No. of projects sanctioned			
	00-01	01-02	02-03	Total
1. Andhra Pradesh	314	166	291	771
2. Bihar	28	46	60	134
3. Chhattisgarh	197	106	116	419
4. Gujarat	329	110	241	680
5. Himachal Pradesh	77	40	50	167
6. Jammu and Kashmir	132	44	66	242
7. Jharkhand	200	173	164	537
8. Karnataka	266	245	221	732
9. Madhya Pradesh	657	238	265	1160
10. Maharashtra	578	296	300	1174
11. Orissa	111	221	160	492
12. Rajasthan	271	96	113	480
13. Tamil Nadu		61	144	205
14. Uttar Pradesh	93	92	158	343
15. Uttranchal	58	90	97	245
16. West Bengal	60	28	32	120
Total	3371	2052	2478	7901

Note : A project under DPAP generally covers an area of 500 hectares.

Statement-III

*Number of Projects Sanctioned Under DDP
during the Period from 1.4.2000
to 31.1.2003*

Sl. No.	State	00-01	01-02	02-03	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60	80	110	250

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Gujarat	400	304	277	981
3.	Haryana	144	100	121	365
4.	Himachal Pradesh	75	95	73	243
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	73	111	77	261
6.	Karnataka	226	160	165	551
7.	Rajasthan	681#	509\$	779^	1969
Total		1659	1359	1602	4620

Note : A project under DDP generally covers an area of 500 ha.

Includes 293 special projects for sand dune stabilization, shelterbelt plantations etc. during 2000-2001.

\$ Includes 264 special projects for sand dune stabilization, shelterbelt plantations etc. during 2001-02.

^ Includes 362 special projects for sand dune stabilization, shelterbelt plantations etc. during 2002-03.

[Translation]

Children suffering from Malnutrition

*189. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated National Action Plan to protect women and children suffering from malnutrition and health problems in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to address the problem of malnutrition by the Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of women and children suffering from malnutrition in each State and factors responsible for the same;

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

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (f) The Government adopted the National Nutrition Policy in 1993 for alleviating the multi-faceted problem of malnutrition. The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, attributable to, inter alia, lack of adequate nutrition, food security, sanitation and safe drinking water, health and family welfare and poverty alleviation. A National Plan of Action on Nutrition was formulated in 1995 to provide guidelines for introducing nutritional components in policies and programmes having a bearing on nutrition.

The steps taken to address the problem of malnutrition, inter alia, include

- Continued implementation of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the world's largest community-based intervention for holistic development of children in 0-6 years age group and pregnant and lactating mothers.
- Nutrition Component of Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), to improve the nutritional status of children in 0-3 years age group;
- Pilot project in 51 districts, to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating mothers;
- Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme;
- National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme;
- National Prophylaxis Programme against Blindness due to Vitamin-A;
- National Nutritional Anaemia Control Programme;
- National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education;

- Targeted Public Distribution System; Poverty Alleviation Programmes; and
- Nutrition Education Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board.

Various surveys have been conducted, which, inter alia, include the National Family Health Surveys (NFHS)-1 (1992-93) and 2 (1998-99). details of State-wise prevalence of malnutrition, as reflected by Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) in women and underweight in children (0-3 years), as per NFHS-2, are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise percentage of women and children suffering from Malnutrition as per NFHS-2 (1998-99)

Sl. No.	State	Women* (CED)	Underweight Children (0-3 years of age)	
			Moderate and Severe	Severe
1	2	3	4	5
	India	35.8	47.0	18.0
1.	Delhi	12.0	34.7	10.1
2.	Haryana	25.9	34.6	10.1
3.	Himachal Pradesh	29.7	43.6	12.1
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	26.4	34.5	8.3
5.	Punjab	16.9	28.7	8.8
6.	Rajasthan	36.1	50.6	20.8
7.	Madhya Pradesh	38.2	55.1	24.3
8.	Uttar Pradesh	35.8	51.7	21.9
9.	Bihar	39.3	54.4	25.5
10.	Orissa	48.0	54.4	20.7
11.	West Bengal	43.7	48.7	16.3
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.7	24.3	7.8

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Assam	27.1	36.0	13.3
14.	Manipur	18.8	27.5	5.3
15.	Meghalaya	25.8	37.9	11.3
16.	Mizoram	2.6	27.7	5.0
17.	Nagaland	18.4	24.1	7.4
18.	Sikkim	11.2	20.6	4.2
19.	Goa	27.1	28.6	4.7
20.	Gujarat	37.0	45.1	16.2
21.	Maharashtra	39.7	49.6	17.6
22.	Andhra Pradesh	37.4	37.7	10.3
23.	Karnataka	38.8	43.9	16.5
24.	Kerala	18.7	26.9	4.7
25.	Tamil Nadu	29.0	36.7	10.3

* Excludes women who were pregnant and women with a birth in the preceding two months.

- **Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) :** CED is usually indicated by a Body Mass Index (BMI) of less than 18.5. The BMI is defined as weight in Kilograms divided by the height in metres squared (Kg/m²).
- **Moderate and Severe :** Children who are more than two standard deviation below the reference median on any of indices are considered to be undernourished.
- **Severe :** Children who fall more than three standard deviation below the reference median are considered to be severely undernourished.

[English]

Setting up of New Petro-Chemical Companies

*190. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken final decision to set up three new petro-chemical companies jointly with the multi-national companies;

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

(c) the details of States that have shown their interest to set up such companies; and

(d) the extent to which the public sector units are likely to be involved in these joint ventures?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) No, Sir. No such decision has been taken.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Operation Black Board Scheme

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

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

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in the utilization of funds released under the Operation Blackboard Scheme to States and UTs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the guidelines issued by the Union Government for utilization of funds released under the scheme; and

(d) the names of States and UTs that have not utilised the funds allocated under the scheme during the last two years and current year so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, funds were provided to States and Union Territory Administrations for procurement of Teaching Learning Equipment (TLE) for primary schools and upper primary schools. Funds were also provided for payment of salaries for all new posts created of additional teachers for single teacher primary

schools, third teacher in primary schools where enrolment exceeded 100 and additional teacher in upper primary schools for the Plan period. Provision for construction of school building was made under the programmes of rural development on a sharing basis.

Funds for teachers' salary were fully utilized by all States/UTs. However, the pace of utilization of funds released for TLE was slower. States were given sufficient flexibility to decide the items to be procured as per local conditions and were also encouraged to decentralize the procurement process. The scheme was also regularly monitored and reviewed at the State and Centre level. This

facilitated in improving the utilization position of funds released under OB in several States.

Funds under the scheme of Operation Blackboard were released to States/UTs on the basis of the proposals received from them. The details of amount released during 2000-01 and 2001-02 and utilized by States /UTs is given in the enclosed statement.

The scheme of Operation Blackboard has been subsumed in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) from 2002-2003 Hence, during the current financial year, funds are being released to States/UTs only for the residual payments of salary of teachers upto February, 2002.

Statement

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Opening balance on 1.4.2000	Funds released during 2000-01 and 2001-02	Total amount (3+4)	Funds utilized	Unspent balance as on 31.1.2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3526.36	13319.60	16845.96	16845.96	0.000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	54.46	219.98	274.44	274.44	0.00
3.	Assam	2692.99	3829.04	6522.03	3829.04	2692.99
4.	Bihar	5147.33	0.00	5147.33	0.67	5146.66
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	*1052.50
6.	Goa	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
7.	Gujarat	1132.58	0.000	1132.58	1104.10	28.48
8.	Haryana	481.60	0.000	481.60	481.60	0.000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	372.15	0.000	372.15	235.42	136.73
11.	Jharkhand	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
12.	Karnataka	4566.54	25896.62	30463.16	30369.27	93.89
13.	Kerala	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4866.82	15610.50	20477.32	20437.32	40.00
15.	Maharashtra	2305.21	0.00	2305.21	2213.33	91.88
16.	Manipur	180.20	0.00	180.20	0.000	180.20
17.	Meghalaya	72.00	0.000	72.00	67.20	4.80
18.	Mizoram	0.000	237.41	237.41	237.41	0.000
19.	Nagaland	29.00	0.000	29.00	29.00	0.000
20.	Orissa	5955.66	1060.92	7016.58	7016.58	0.00
21.	Punjab	468.66	3319.11	3787.77	3787.49	0.28
22.	Rajasthan	1885.42	3701.16	5586.58	5202.37	384.21
23.	Sikkim	12.15	0.000	12.15	11.59	0.56
24.	Tamil Nadu	1261.14	3168.90	4430.04	4209.04	221.00
25.	Tripura	26.87	549.75	576.62	576.62	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.000	15159.25	15159.25	15159.25	0.00
27.	Uttaranchal	0.000	2566.34	2566.34	2566.34	0.000
28.	West Bengal	1806.87	4740.74	6547.61	6298.31	249.30
29.	A and N Islands	18.00	0.000	18.00	0.000	18.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	18.50	0.000	18.50	0.000	18.50
32.	Daman and Diu	1.76	0.000	1.76	0.000	1.76
33.	Delhi	53.99	0.000	53.99	0.000	53.99
34.	Lakshadweep	0.02	0.000	0.02	0.02	0.000
35.	Pondicherry	0.35	74.39	74.74	74.39	0.35
Total		36936.63	93453.71	130390.34	121026.76	10416.08

* Government of Madhya Pradesh has transferred Rs. 1052.50 lakhs to Government of Chhattisgarh.

Subsidy dues of Fertilizer Industry

(a) the total amount due as subsidy to fertilizer industry by the end of year 2002, company-wise;

*192. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(b) the reasons for accumulation of dues;

(c) the effect of this on the performance of fertilizer industry; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to pay the dues for improving upon the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) The total outstanding dues as on 31.12.2002 for 19 urea manufacturing companies/Cooperative Societies namely Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd., Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd., Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd., Gujarat State Fertilizers Corporation Ltd., Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative, Indo Gulf Fertilizers Ltd., Krishak Bharti Cooperative, Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd., National Fertilizers Ltd., Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., Oswal Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., Sriram Fertilizers Corporation Ltd., Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation Ltd., Tata Chemicals Ltd. and Zuari Industries Limited, is Rs. 1432 crore approximately. Some of the technical parameters as also the impact of escalation/ de-escalation are under verification/updation to arrive at the exact amount payable to the urea units. Likewise, the outstanding recoveries as on 31.12.2002 from urea units due to implementation of policy parameters for 7th and 8th pricing period has been estimated by Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee to be Rs. 424 crore.

(b) to (d) An amount of Rs. 6499.00 crore has been allocated under Budget Estimates for the year 2002-03. An additional amount of Rs. 1000 crore has been provided on supplementary demands. The arrears of payments are mainly on account of implementation of the policy parameters for 7th and 8th pricing periods covering the period from 1.7.1997 to 31.3.2003, which were approved by the Government on 16.5.2002. Based on parameters approved for 7th and 8th pricing periods, unit-wise payments and recoveries have been estimated. The balance outstanding dues of urea companies would be accommodated by making provision in the Budget.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Scientific Research

*193. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether expenditure on scientific research has been increased in the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure made under this head during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 State-wise;

(d) the number of proposals for financial assistance sent by State Governments for various science and technology schemes alongwith the details thereof, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(e) the funds released for various schemes of Science and Technology during the current financial years, State-wise; and

(f) the number of applications for patents received by the Government every year during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The expenditure on scientific research has increased from Rs. 8913.81 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 12901.54 crores in 1998-99 and is estimated at Rs. 20679.06 crore in 2001-02.

(c) As per the latest available official statistics the annual growth rate of R and D expenditure of States is 14.7% for the period 1994-95 to 1998-99. The State-wise R and D expenditure for 1998-99 is annexed as statement-I. The total R and D expenditure in States for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-02 is estimated at Rs. 1554.72 crores and Rs. 1820.49 crores respectively.

(d) and (e) A statement showing the number of proposals for financial assistance sent by State Governments for various science and technology schemes alongwith the details (State-wise, scheme-wise) and the funds released is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(f) The number of applications for patents received

by the Government is 8503 and 10592 during 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively.

Statement-I

*Expenditure on Research and Development
by State Governments*

(Rs. Lakhs)

State/UTs	Research and Development Expenditure
1	2
State	1998-99
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	8136.91
Arunachal Pradesh	28.48
Assam	465.98
Bihar*	4668.98
Chandigarh	0.00
Delhi	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00
Daman and Diu	0.00
Goa	0.00
Gujarat	14733.00
Haryana	6329.35
Himachal Pradesh	3858.81
Jammu and Kashmir	1994.52

1	2
Karnataka	6333.80
Kerala	6515.96
Lakshadweep	0.00
Madhya Pradesh*	5134.39
Maharashtra	12916.94
Manipur	0.00
Meghalaya	18.05
Mizoram	0.00
Nagaland	0.00
Orissa	2824.64
Pondhicherry	0.00
Punjab	6319.27
Rajasthan	2006.35
Sikkim	0.00
Tamil Nadu	8072.29
Tripura	10.53
Uttar Pradesh*	9772.98
West Bengal	2512.44
Total	102653.67

Source : Data collected and compiled by DST.

Note : *Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh includes Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal respectively.

Statement-II

*Proposals for Financial Assistance sent by State Governments and funds
released State-wise and Scheme-wise*

Schemes	Seismicity Programme		Biotech Parks/Incubators		State S&T Council	
	No. of Proposals	Funds Released (2002-03) (In Rupees)	No. of Proposals	Funds Released (2002-03) (In Rupees)	No. of Proposals	Funds Released (2002-03) (In Rupees)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tamil Nadu	1	5,00,000	1 ^f	●	0	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kerala	1	⊙	1	⊙	0	NA
Andhra Pradesh	0	NA	1	⊙	0	NA
Uttar Pradesh	0	NA	1	⊙	0	NA
Karnataka	0	NA	1	⊙	3	0.00*
Maharashtra	0	NA	1	⊙	0	NA
Himachal Pradesh	0	NA	1	⊙	0	NA

⊙ At different stages of processing.

*Proposals were not found fit for support under the scheme.

NA – Not Applicable.

[English]

Assistance by HUDCO for Bio-Fuel Projects

*194. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, has been doing research on the bio-fuel;

(b) if so, whether HUDCO has agreed in principle to back projects undertaken by the Indian Institute of Science to Promote the bio-fuel;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Indian Institute of Science has submitted any project in this regard to HUDCO for assistance;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the HUDCO thereon and assistance provided for the purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) There is no proposal for assistance by

Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) for research by Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in the field of bio-fuel.

Construction of Houses under Rural Housing and Habitat Development

*195. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Rural Housing and Habitat Policy was announced in 1998 to provide 13 lakh houses in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of houses constructed in the rural areas under the scheme so far, State-wise;

(c) whether any review of the policy has been undertaken;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) The National Housing and Habitat Policy was announced in 1998 to provide annually 13 lakh additional houses in rural areas of the country.

The State-wise number of houses constructed under the Indira Awaas Yojana, the flagship programme of rural

housing and other Rural Housing Schemes of the Ministry since 1998 till date is given in the enclosed statement during the period 1998-99 to 2001-2002, 10.73 lakh and 6.13 lakh houses were also constructed through financing from Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) and National Housing Bank (NHB) respectively.

The review of the policy can be undertaken when Census 2001 figures regarding rural housing shortage are available.

Statement

State wise number of houses constructed under the Indira Awaas Yojana and other Rural Housing Schemes of Ministry since 1998-99 up to February 2003

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	House Constructed
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	425931
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14824
3.	Assam	186192
4.	Bihar	730349
5.	Chhattisgarh*	44887
6.	Goa	1643
7.	Gujarat	116451
8.	Haryana	49410
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16742
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	25783
11.	Jharkhand*	123815
12.	Karnataka	190256
13.	Kerala	92678
14.	Madhya Pradesh	336109
15.	Maharashtra	324456

1	2	3
16.	Manipur	4332
17.	Meghalaya	11157
18.	Mizoram	6497
19.	Nagaland	26085
20.	Orissa	741445
21.	Punjab	22933
22.	Rajasthan	163661
23.	Sikkim	5505
24.	Tamil Nadu	257416
25.	Tripura	38038
26.	Uttar Pradesh	747596
27.	Uttaranchal *	31494
28.	West Bengal	319558
29.	A and N Islands	1111
30.	D and N Haveli	260
31.	Daman and Diu	70
32.	Lakshadweep	116
33.	Pondicherry	1654
Total		5058454

*Newly created States.

Royalty on Coal

*196. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the steps being taken by the Government in the direction of creating consensus with regard to on going dispute between the Centre and the States on coal royalty;

(b) the time by which the issue is likely to be solved by the Government;

(c) whether the Government are taking steps for immediate payment of pending royalty on coal and lignite in view of the financial hardships being faced by the States; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) and (b) Coal producing States had been requesting for enhancement in royalty rates on coal as the last enhancement was done in 1994. Consequently, the Central Government enhanced the rates of royalty on coal with effect from 16.8.2002. As per law the next enhancement in royalty rates can only be done after 3 years i.e.. after 15.8.2005.

(b) and (d) Royalty payments by the subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) and the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) are being made regularly. However, there were small outstanding amounts in case of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), subsidiaries of CIL, as on 31.12.2002, which shall be paid in due course.

Internet Facility to Colleges and Universities

*197. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has decided to provide "free and unlimited" Internet facility to around 5000 colleges and universities across the country;

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

(c) the extent to which this will meet the need for enhancing virtual academic infrastructure in the colleges and universities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University

Grants Commission (UGC), it is proposed to assist the universities and colleges, which are eligible to receive Central assistance under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956, to get internet facility during the X Plan Period.

Internet connectivity is expected to provide support to teachers for lectures, access to journals and database, support for research and peer to peer connectivity across the country and the world.

Additional Central/External Assistance for Rural Development

*198. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from the State Governments seeking additional assistance from the Centre, World Bank or any other external agency for various rural development schemes during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of the proposals cleared so far, State-wise;

(d) the assistance provided by the World Bank and other financial institutions for implementing the rural development programmes during the said period;

(e) the funds allocated/released to various States during each year and the expenditure actually incurred by each State, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the reimbursement of external assistance spent by each State Government?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (f) The Ministry of Rural Development has received 40 proposals from States seeking assistance from the World Bank and other External Agencies. Out of these projects, 29 proposals were

received under Rural Water Supply Programme, 9 under Watershed Programmes and the remaining 11 proposals are for undertaking various rural development activities. The State-wise details of these proposals are given in the enclosed statement-I

During the last three years, the External Agencies provided assistance to the tune of Rs. 67.37 crores for rural development projects, the details of which are given below:

(Rs. In crores)		
Project/State	Amount of Grant/Cost of Project	Cumulative withdrawal/ Money released
District Poverty Initiative Project, Andhra Pradesh	72.480	11.156
Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihood Projects	320	42.46
District Poverty Initiative Project, Madhya Pradesh	84.200	4.678
Western Orissa Rural Livelihood Projects	230	4.87
District Poverty Initiative Project, Rajasthan	75.000	4.206

3. A proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat recently for reconstruction of 60,456 houses as against 45,137 houses proposed earlier.
4. The additional funds released to the States, year-wise, under various programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development during the last three years is given at enclosed statement II to IV.
5. The reimbursement claims of the States are processed by the Ministry of Finance for ensuring quick re-imburement from the External Agencies.

Statement-I

S. No.	State	No. of Proposals received	No of Projects funded / cleared / recommended to Department of Economic Affairs
1	2	3	4
I. Rural Water Supply Programme			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	1
2.	Gujarat	6	5
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1
4.	Karnataka	2	1
5.	Kerala	1	—
6.	Lakshadweep	1	—
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1	—
8.	Maharashtra	4	3
9.	Nagaland	1	—
10.	Punjab	1	—
11.	Tamil Nadu	2	—
12.	Tripura	1	—
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1	—
14.	Uttaranchal	1	—
15.	West Bengal	2	—
	Total	29	11
II. Poverty Alleviation and other rural development activities			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1
4.	Rajasthan	1	1

1	2	3	4
5.	Karnataka	1	—
6.	Tamil Nadu	1	—
7.	Uttar Pradesh	1	—
8.	West Bengal	2	—
9.	Uttaranchal	1	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—
	Total	11	3

III. Watershed Programmes

1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	4
2.	Haryana	1	1
3.	Kerala	1	1
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2
5.	Orissa	1	1
	Total	9	9
	Grant Total	49	23

Statement-II*Additional Funds*

(Rs. in Lakh)

State	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh		406.15	
Chhattisgarh			966.67
Gujarat		1300.00	
Haryana		548.63	700.00
Jammu and Kashmir		1491.21	300.00
Karnataka		603.30	
Madhya Pradesh			1347.56

1	2	3	4
Mizoram			100.00
Orissa	3117.04	3333.53	966.68
Punjab			1333.66
Sikkim		200.00	
Tamil Nadu		1500.00	
Uttar Pradesh			367.63
Total	3117.04	9382.82	6082.2

Statement-III*Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana-II***Additional Funds**

(Rs. in Lakh)

State	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	—	138.91
Arunachal Pradesh	29.20	42.40
Bihar	6691.30	418.16
Chhattisgarh	—	114.62
Goa	43.72	—
Gujarat	316.07	—
Haryana	494.50	596.52
Himachal Pradesh	186.33	—
Jammu and Kashmir	232.77	266.56
Jharkhand	—	578.37
Karnataka	831.72	—
Kerala	233.80	—
Madhya Pradesh	1346.80	—
Maharashtra	2902.89	308.09

1	2	3
Mizoram	—	70.36
Nagaland	—	123.69
Orissa	3767.70	—
Punjab	135.76	—
Rajasthan	1543.91	—
Sikkim	—	77.90
Tamil Nadu	60.45	1195.10
Tripura	—	448.17
Uttar Pradesh	5656.62	1257.26
Uttaranchal	—	84.39
West Bengal	3132.64	—
Total	27606.18	5720.50

No additional funds, over and above allocation, were given during 2000-01

Statement-IV

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana

(Rs. in Lakh)

State	Additional Funds	
	1999-2000	2000-01
Haryana	406.82	—
Orissa	108.77	—
Tamil Nadu	1500.02	—
Tripura	58.04	103.88
Total	2073.65	103.88

No additional funds, over and above allocation, were given during 2001-02

Suicide Attacks by Militants

*199. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are devising new strategies to tackle the situation of frequent incidents of attacks by suicidal terrorist groups;

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

(c) whether his Ministry have pointed out that attacks were taking place despite the security arrangements;

(d) if so, whether financial help and other assistance has been provided to the States where such attacks by such terrorists still continue in a large scale; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The various aspects including the strategies and modus operandi adopted by the Islamic terrorist groups in different suicidal attacks in the country have been studied by the Central Government and the States have been advised to review the security arrangements to prevent possible suicidal attacks in the future and minimize the damage in the event of actual attacks. The States have also been advised to organize suitable training programmes for their Police and intelligence officials engaged in protection of vulnerable targets.

(c) to (e) In order to assist the States to undertake effective steps to counter terrorism, the Central Government has set up new mechanisms for synergizing and coordinating the intelligence efforts of the Central agencies and the State Police Forces in the field of counter terrorism.

The State Governments are regularly sensitized to the emerging threats in the internal security scenario. Besides, the Central Government provides financial assistance for modernizing the State Police Forces. Central Para Military Forces are deployed as and when required by the States.

Implementation of Recommendation made by Justice Verma Committee

*200. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Justice Verma Committee recommended to make human rights and duties a compulsory subject in schools and at the higher education level;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the report and taken steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have circulated the report to the Ministries of Union Government and State Governments for follow up action; and

(e) if so, the efforts made by State Governments and Union Government Ministries to implement the recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The Justice Verma Committee has recommended that there is need for a fundamental transformation in the direction and approach to curricula for teaching Fundamental Duties in schools and teacher education institutions. The Committee has also made recommendations for incorporating Fundamental Duties in the courses/ programmes for higher and professional education. The Government has examined the Report and initiatives already taken in this regard are as follows:-

- Preamble and Article 51A of the Constitution is being printed in NCERT publications.
- The New Curricular Framework brought out by the NCERT highlights the need for teaching Human Rights and Duties to students at all levels.
- UGC has decided that Human Rights Education Scheme of University Grants Commission be renamed as "Human Rights and Duties Education."
- Curriculum Development Committee has been constituted by UGC to prepare model curriculum in various courses in Human Rights and Duties Education.

— UGC has identified 29 Universities and 3 colleges for inclusion of Post-Graduate Degree/ Diploma/ Certificate Courses on Human Rights and Duties Education.

— Modules of Fundamental Rights and National Values have been made available to Teacher Education Institutions.

— The Report has been circulated to all Ministries of the Central Government and all State Governments for follow-up action. Most of the Ministries have accepted the recommendations and have started implementation also.

De-Registration of Suppliers in Kendriya Bhandar

1894. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has de-registered its suppliers on the ground that those suppliers have been de-registered by the Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the reasons for not de-registering all such suppliers who were de-registered by the Super Bazar;

(c) the details thereof and the steps taken to de-register them as well;

(d) whether the management has shown partiality in the matter and in some cases the supplies have ever been suspended without affording any reasonable opportunity to them; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken against the officials responsible therefor and to rectify the mistakes committed by authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS. (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (e) Kendriya Bhandar does not deregister a supplier merely because

Super Bazar has deregistered him. Case of each such supplier is examined on merit. Only when the reason for deregistration of the supplier by Super Bazar is also a matter of concern for the Kendriya Bhandar, is business with the supplier suspended.

[Translation]

Survey Conducted by NASCOM

1895. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to survey conducted by National Association of Software Services Companies (NASCOM) by the year 2008, 22 lakh software professionals will be needed and unemployed persons will get good opportunity of employment in software sector;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to set up vocational training centres to cater the demand of employment generated in such a large number in this sector; and

(d) if so, the number and locations of training centres proposed to be set up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to NASCOM survey, 22 lakh IT professionals will be required by the year 2008 to achieve a total IT production of US \$ 87b, which includes exports of US\$50b. For IT software and services 1.1 m professionals will be required (.46m for IT services exports, .52m for domestic market, and .14 for products and technology services). The remaining 1.1 m professionals are required for IT-enabled services (ITES)

(c) Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UTs on submission of their computer education programme. The proposed revised scheme of Vocationalisation of

Education also include the courses relating to Information Technology. Intake in programmes for Information Technology both at the diploma and degree level in Engineering has been increased.

(d) The institutions are selected as per the norms of the scheme.

[English]

Use of Fly-Ash Bricks/Blocks/Tiles

1896. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to modify the existing rules so as to make it compulsory for all agencies engaged in the construction of buildings to use fly ash bricks or blocks or tiles;

(b) if so, the existing rules about the use of fly ash in such activities;

(c) whether the Government have finalised the revised rules for infrastructure development activities including construction, laying of roads and reclamation within a specified areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amendments made in the 1999 notification to this effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (e) The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest, issued a notification dated 14th September, 1999 envisaging use of fly-ash, bottom-ash or pond-ash in the manufacture of bricks and other construction activities, within a radius of 50 kms from coal or lignite based thermal power plants. A copy of the relevant notification dated 14.9.1999 is give in the enclosed statement-I.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest have now published the draft notification dated 5th November, 2002

for amending their notification of 14.9.1999 referred to above. In this notification, it is proposed to substitute the words 50 kms by 100 kms.

The draft notification has been published inviting public objections and suggestions. A copy of this notification is enclosed in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Ministry of Environment and Forests

Notification dated 14th September, 1999

S.O. 763 (E) – Whereas a draft notification containing certain directions was published, as required by sub-rule (3) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 under the notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests number S.O. 453 (E) dated 22nd May, 1998 inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of the period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Gazette of India containing the said notification are made available to the public;

And, whereas, copies of the said Gazette were made available to the public on the same date;

And, whereas, the objections and suggestions received from the public in respect of the said draft notification have been duly considered by the Central Government;

Whereas it is necessary to protect the environment, conserve top soil and prevent the dumping and disposal of fly ash discharged from coal or lignite based thermal power plants on land;

And, whereas, there is a need for restricting the excavation of top soil for manufacture of bricks and promoting the utilisation of fly ash in the manufacture of building materials and in construction activity within a specified radius of fifty kilometres from coal or lignite based thermal power plants;

And, whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature, Delhi vide its order dated 25th August, 1999 in CWP No. 2145/99 Centre for Public Interest Litigation, Delhi v/s

Union of India directed that the Central Government to publish the final notification in respect of fly ash on or before 26th October, 1999;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), read with clause (v) of sub-section (2) of section 3 and section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986); and in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court, Delhi stated above, the Central Government hereby issues the following directions which shall come into force on the date of the publication of this notification, namely:—

1. Use of fly ash, bottom ash or pond ash in the manufacture of bricks and other construction activities:—

(1) No person shall within a radius of fifty kilometers from coal or lignite based thermal power plants, manufacture clay bricks or tiles or blocks for use in construction activities without mixing atleast 25 per cent of ash (fly ash, bottom ash or pond ash) with soil on weight to weight basis;

(2) The authority for ensuring the use of specified quantity of ash as per para (1) above shall be the concerned Regional Officer of the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee as the case may be. In case of non-compliance, the said authority, in addition to cancellation of consent order issued to establish the brick kiln, shall move the district administration for cancellation of mining lease. The cancellation of mining lease shall be decided after due hearing. To enable the said authority to verify the actual use of ash, the thermal power plant shall maintain month-wise records of ash made available to each brick kiln.

(3) In case of non-availability of ash from thermal power plant in sufficient quantities as certified by the said power plant, the stipulation under para (1) shall be suitably modified (waived/relaxed) by the concerned State/Union Territory Government.

- (4) Each coal or lignite based thermal power plant shall constitute a dispute settlement committee which shall include the General Manager of the thermal power plant and a representative of all India Brick and Tile Manufacture's Federation (AIBTMF). Such a committee shall ensure unhindered loading and transport of ash without any undue loss of time. Any unresolved dispute shall be dealt with by a State/Union Territory level committee to be set up by State/Union Territory Government comprising Member Secretary of the State Pollution Control Board/ Pollution Control Committee, representatives of Ministry of Power in the State/Union Territory Government and a representative of AIBTMF.

2. Utilisation of ash by Thermal Power Plants:-

All coal or lignite based thermal power plants shall utilise the ash generated in the power plants as follows:-

- (1) Every coal or lignite based thermal power plant shall make available ash, for at least ten years from the date of publication of this notification, without any payment or any other consideration, for the purpose of manufacturing ash-based products such as cement, concrete blocks, bricks, panels or any other material or for construction of roads, embankments, dams, dykes or for any other construction activity.
- (2) Every coal or lignite based thermal power plant commissioned subject to environmental clearance conditions stipulating the submission of an action plan for full utilisation of fly ash shall, within a period of nine years from the publication of this notification, phase out the dumping and disposal of fly ash on land in accordance with the plan. Such an action plan shall provide for thirty per cent of the fly ash utilisation, within three years from the publication of this notification with further increase in utilisation by atleast ten per cent points every year progressively for the next six years to enable utilisation of the entire fly ash generated

in the power plant atleast by the end of ninth year. Progress in this regard shall be reviewed after five years.

- (3) Every coal or lignite based thermal power plant not covered by para (2) above shall, within a period of fifteen years from the date of publication of this notification, phase out the utilisation of fly ash in accordance with an action plan to be drawn up by the power plants. Such action plan shall provide for twenty per cent of fly ash utilisation within three years from the date of publication of this notification, with further increase in utilisation every year progressively for the next twelve years to enable utilisation of the entire fly ash generated in the power plant.
- (4) All action plans prepared by coal or lignite based thermal power plants in accordance with sub-para (2) and (3) of para 2 of this notification, shall be submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board, concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee and concerned regional office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests within a period of six months from the date of publication of this notification.
- (5) The Central and State Government Agencies, the State Electricity Boards, the National Thermal Power Corporation and the management of the thermal power plants shall facilitate in making available land, electricity and water for manufacturing activities and provide access to the ash lifting area for promoting and setting up of ash-based production units in the proximity of the area where ash is generated by the power plant.
- (6) Annual implementation report providing information about the compliance of provisions in this notification shall be submitted by the 30th day of April every year to the Central Pollution Control Board, concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and

Forests by the coal or lignite based thermal power plants.

3. Specifications for use of ash-based products:-

- (1) Manufacture of ash-based products such as cement, concrete blocks, bricks, panels or any other material or the use of ash in construction activity such as in road laying, embankments or use as landfill to reclaim low lying areas including back filling in abandoned mines or pitheads or for any other use shall be carried out in accordance with specifications and guidelines laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indian Road Congress, Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi, Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council New Delhi, Central Public Works Department, State Public Works Departments and other Central and State Government agencies.
- (2) The Central Public Works Department, Public Works Departments in the State/Union Territory Governments, Development Authorities, Housing Boards, National Highway Authority of India and other construction agencies including those in the private sector shall also prescribe the use of ash and ash-based products in their respective schedules of specifications and construction applications, including appropriate standards and codes of practice, within a period of four months from the publication of this notification.
- (3) All local authorities shall specify in their respective building bye-laws and regulations the use of ash and ash-based products and construction techniques in building materials, roads, embankments or for any other use within a period of four months from the date of publication of this notification.

(f. No. 16-2/95-HSMD)

V. RAJAGOPALAN, Jt. Secy.

Statement-II

Ministry of Environment and Forests

Notification dated 5th November, 2002

S.O. 1164(E). – The following draft of a notification to amend the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests number S.O. 763 (E) dated the 14th September, 1999, relating to restriction of excavation of top soil for manufacture of bricks and promoting the utilization of fly ash in the manufacture of building materials and in construction activity within a specified radius of coal or lignite based-thermal power plants which the Central Government proposes to issue, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), read with clause (v) of sub-section (2) of section 3 and clause (e) of sub-section (2) of section 6 of the environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) is hereby published, as required under sub-rule (3) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby; and notice is hereby given that the said draft notification will be taken into consideration by the Central Government on or after the expiry of sixty days from the date on which copies of the Gazette containing this notification are made available to the public.

Any person interested in filing any objection or suggestion on the proposed draft amendment may do so in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003, within the said period of sixty days.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS

1. In the said notification, in the preamble, for the words "fifty kilometers" the words "one hundred kilometres" shall be substituted.
2. In the said notification, in paragraph 1:-
 - (a) In sub-paragraph (1), for the words "fifty kilometers" the words "one hundred kilometres" shall be substituted;
 - (b) after sub-paragraph (1), the following sub-paragraphs shall be inserted, namely:-

"(1 A) Every construction agency engaged in the construction of buildings within a radius of one hundred kilometers from a coal or lignite based thermal power plant shall use fly ash bricks or blocks or tiles or clay fly ash bricks or cement fly ash bricks or blocks or a combination or aggregate of them in such construction as per the following minimum percentage (by volume) of the total bricks, blocks and tiles, as the case may be, used in each construction project namely:-

- (i) 25 per cent by 31st March, 2003;
- (ii) 50 per cent by 31st December, 2003;
- (iii) 75 per cent by 31st December, 2004; and
- (iv) 100 per cent by 31st December, 2005.

(1. B) The provisions of sub-paragraph (1 A) shall be applicable to all construction agencies such as Housing Boards and those in the private sector builders of apartments, hotels, resorts and cottages and the like. It shall be the responsibility of the construction agencies either undertaking the construction or approving the design or both to ensure compliance of the provisions of sub-paragraph (1 A) and to submit such returns and compliance reports to the State Government.;"

(c) In sub-paragraph (2), for the words, brackets and figure "as per para (1) above" the words, brackets and figure "as per sub-paragraph (1)" shall be substituted;

(d) after sub-paragraph (2), the following sub-paragraph shall be inserted, namely:-\

"(2A) The concerned State Government shall be the enforcing and monitoring authority for ensuring compliance of the provisions of sub-paragraph (1A).;"

(e) in sub-paragraph (3), for the words, brackets and figure "under para (1)" the words, brackets

and figure "under sub-paragraph (1)" shall be substituted;

(f) after sub-paragraph (3), the following sub-paragraphs shall be inserted, namely:-

"(3A) A decision on the application for manufacture of fly ash bricks/block/tiles and similar other fly ash based products shall be taken- within thirty days from the date of receipt of the application by the competent authority. A decision on consent to establish the brick kiln shall be taken by the Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control committee, as the case may be, within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of application.

(3B) In case of non-compliance of the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 1, the competent authority in addition to cancellation of consent order issued to establish the brick kiln, shall move the district administration for cancellation of the mining lease.

(3C) All authorities sanctioning or renewing any land, soil or clay mining lease shall not grant such lease or extension of lease or renewal to clay brick, block or tile manufacturing unit within a radius of one hundred kilometres of the coal or lignite based thermal power plant in cases where the manufacturer does not mix a minimum of 25 per cent by weight of fly ash or pond ash in the manufacture of bricks or blocks or tiles. The cancellation of mining lease shall be decided by the district administration after due hearing. To enable the competent authority to verify the actual use of ash, the thermal power plant shall maintain month-wise records of ash made available to each brick kiln.

(3D) It shall be sufficient compliance of this notification if within twelve months from the 1st day of April, 2003, manufacturers of clay bricks, blocks and tiles located within a radius of 50 to 100 kilometres of a coal or lignite based thermal power plant comply with the provisions of sub-paragraphs (1) and (2)".

- (g) after sub-paragraph (4), the following sub-paragraphs shall be inserted namely:-
- "(5) No agency, person or organization shall, within a radius of 100 kilometres of a thermal power plant undertake construction or approve design for construction of roads or flyover embankments in contravention of the guidelines/specifications issued by the Indian Road Congress (IRC) as contained in IRC specification No. SP: 58 of 2001. Any deviation from this direction can only be agreed to on technical reasons if the same is approved by Chief Engineer (Design) or Engineer-in-Chief of the concerned agency or organization or on production of a certificate of "Pond ash not available" from the thermal power plants(s) (TPPs) located within 100 kilometres of the site of construction. This certificate shall be provided by the TPP within two working days from the date of making a request for ash.
- (6) Soil required for top or side covers of embankments of roads or flyovers shall be excavated from the embankment site and if it is not possible to do so, only the minimum quantity of soil required for the purpose shall be excavated from soil borrow area, and this soil borrow area shall be filled up with pond ash with proper compaction as required for structural fill. This would be done as an integral part of embankment project within the time schedule of the project.
- (7) No agency, person or organization shall within a radius of 100 kilometres of a coal or lignite based thermal power plant allow reclamation of low-lying areas with any material other than pond ash. They shall also ensure that such reclamation is done in accordance with the by-laws, regulations and specifications laid down by the authorities mentioned in sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 3."
3. In the said notification, in paragraph 2, in sub-paragraph (1), after the words "products such as cement, concrete blocks, bricks, panels" the words "or a combination thereof" shall be inserted.
4. In the said notification, after paragraph 2, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:-
- "2A. Utilization of fly ash for reclamation of sea:-
- (1) Subject to the rules made under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, reclamation of sea shall be permissible method of utilization of fly ash."
5. In the said notification, after sub paragraph (2), paragraph 3, the following paragraphs shall be inserted, namely
- "(3) All agencies including the Central Public Works Department and State Government agencies concerned with utilization of fly ash for construction purposes shall, within three months from the.....2002 (date of commencement of the amending notification will be filled in here at the appropriate time),-
- (a) make provisions for the use of fly ash and fly ash based bricks, blocks or tiles or aggregates of them in the schedule of approved materials and rates.
- (4) All agencies undertaking construction of roads or fly over bridges including Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH), National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Central Public Works Department (CPWD), State Public Works Departments and other State Government Agencies, shall, within three months from the2002 (date of commencement of the amending notification will be filled in here at the appropriate time),-
- (a) make provisions in their tender documents, schedules of approved materials and rates as well as technical documents, including those relating to soil borrow area or pit as per sub-paragraph (7) of paragraph 1; and
- (b) make necessary specifications/guidelines for road or fly over embankments that are not covered by the specifications laid down by the Indian Road Congress (IRC)."

6. The existing sub paragraph (3) of Paragraph 3 shall be renumbered as (5).

(F, No, 16-2/95-HSMD)

DR. V. RAJAGOPALAN, Joint. Secy.

Footnote.- The principal notification was published in the Gazette of India, Part II. Section 3, sub-section (ii) vide S.O. 763 (E) dated 14.9.1999.

Purchase of Digital PTS Unit

1897.SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Digital PTS unit alongwith Processor for Dark room costing Rs. 16 lakhs was purchased in 1988 which was installed in Faridabad Press in August, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the said machine had been purchased from a tainted Co. in the records of CBI;

(c) if so, the name of the company and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether capacity as per Manufacturer Booklet is 3.37 Crores lines per year and capacity of Laser Printer is 0.19 crores pages per year;

(e) if so, whether CAG in its observation has directed to fix the responsibility of the officers who had purchased the machine which was of old and obsolete technology;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Press authorities failed to furnish the capacity utilisation in percentage before the CAG Investigating team; and

(h) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the official responsible for the said purchase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The machine purchased in 1988 through DGS and D was manufactured by M/s Itek Graphix Corp. Weltham Massachusetts – a USA based company. M/s J. Mahabir and Co. was the Indian Agent of the manufacturer. No information about the firm being a tainted company in CBI records was available with the Directorate of Printing.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) A Special Investigation Team Audit had observed that the matter of purchase of machine of old and obsolete technology need be investigated and responsibility fixed therefor. In April, 2001, audit was apprised by Directorate of Printing that these machines have become old and obsolete. The Audit had only repeated this observation of Directorate of Printing in its report. These machines are electronic/computerized equipment. The depreciation of such equipment is much faster and technology becomes old and obsolete in short period. The Audit has been apprised about this on 7.8.2001 and no further comments have so far been received from the Audit.

(g) and (h) In Government of India Presses assessed capacity is being fixed and capacity utilization being checked only in respect of main printing machines and not for auxiliary machines. Since the machines referred to are auxiliary machines, information about capacity utilization could not be provided to the Audit Team. Production data was, however forwarded to the Audit on 7.8.2001. No further comments have so far beer received from the Audit.

[Translation]

Kutch Development Board

1898.SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any detailed proposal to the Union Government for setting up of the Kutch Development Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon alongwith present position thereof; and

(d) the time by which this board is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D SWAMI) : (a) to (d) The proposal for setting up of a separate Development Board for Kutch was discussed with the State Government consequent upon which it was agreed that the State Government would review the matter after studying the working of the Development Boards in Maharashtra by sending a team of officers. The State Government has not yet reverted to the Government of India in the matter.

[English]

Bio-technology Companies in India

1899.SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agriculture bio-technology and pharma biotech companies in India;

(b) the number of such companies conducting commercial research on agriculture; and

(c) the likely expansion programme of bio-tech drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Alternative Sites to Slum Dwellers Settled in Delhi

1900.SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hon'ble High Court of Delhi has directed that the slum dwellers settled in Delhi till December 31, 1990 only be provided with alternative sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment about the number of slum dwellers residing in Delhi after the above date;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to file a review petition in the Supreme Court in view of the large number of people living in slums and the problem that could crop up as a result of their removal from these slums; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (f) The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in an order dated 29.11.2002 passed in CWP Nos. 4441/1994 and 2112/2002 titled as Okhla Factory Owners' Association Vs. GNCTD and Others and Wazirpur Barton Nirmata Sangh Vs. Union of India and Others has set aside the present policy of Government of providing alternative sites to the slum/jhuggi dwellers in Delhi. The Union Government has filed a Special Leave Petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the said order of Delhi High Court. The matter is subjudice.

Slum and JJ Department (MCD) has reported that as per assessment made by it in March, 1994, there were about 1080 jhuggi clusters in Delhi. No assessment/survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of slum dwellers after 31st January, 1990.

Utilisation of Foreign Assistance Under DPEP

1901.SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL ;
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any instruction for the utilisation of foreign aid properly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the UNICEF and other foreign funding agencies have raised objection regarding the misutilisation of funds by some State Governments; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) In District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) external assistance is utilized by the State Implementing Societies (SISs) on the basis of project parameters approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee prior to the commencement of the project and funds are approved during each project year through appraised Annual Work Plan and Budget presented by the implementing societies. The Ministry has been continuously advising and has also issued instructions to all the State Implementing Societies of the project reiterating the need for adhering to the project parameters/norms for incurring expenditure on various components and for proper utilization of the funds released for the purpose. As per available information, neither UNICEF nor any other external funding agencies have raised any objection regarding misutilisations of funds under DPEP.

Workers in Coal Companies

1902. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers in different coal companies during each of the last three years till date, company-wise;

(b) the number of workers-engaged in manual and on mechanical jobs separately in different coal companies during the said period; and

(c) the quantity of coal produced manually and mechanically, separately, during this period?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) Number of workers other than supervisory staff in different coal companies of Coal India Limited during each of last three years and till date is given below:-

Company	Year			
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 Up to 01.01.03
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	122497	117025	104823	105083
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	108466	102399	96956	93619
Central Coalfields Ltd.	73237	70374	67574	66294
Western Coalfields Ltd.	72481	70083	67145	65185
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	86376	85308	83243	81539
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	19692	19338	18949	18362
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	14068	14014	14070	13937

(b) Number of piece rated workers engaged in manual job in different coal companies during last three years and till date is as follows:-

Company	Year			
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 Up to 01.01.03
1	2	3	4	5
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	35191	32698	30283	28485

1	2	3	4	5
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	30436	28425	27367	26682
Central Coalfields Ltd.	17857	17159	15809	15421
Western Coalfields Ltd.	11703	9998	8732	7730
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	9837	8788	8026	7492
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	2450	2307	2127	1703
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	—	—	—	—

Number of skilled workers (Mechanical/Technical) in different coal companies during last three years and till date is as follows:-

Company	Year			
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 Up to 01.01.03
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	28376	27109	31503	34875
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	35169	33330	31381	30083
Central Coalfields Ltd.	20153	19710	19412	18835
Western Coalfields Ltd.	29274	29940	30328	30807
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	28498	28928	29448	29452
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	6579	6579	6647	6416
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	7912	8152	8216	8085

(c) The quantity of coal produced manually and Mechanically in CIL during the last three years are as under:-

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Upto December, 02 Production)
Manual Production (L.TE) Convention, at Bord and Pillar and others	284.71	249.58	223.40	146.43
Mechanised Production (L.TE)				
Under Ground	238.53	255.96	268.95	205.71
Open Cast	2082.59	2175.85	2304.22	1704.97
Total	2321.12	2431.81	2573.17	1910.68
Overall (L.TE)	2605.83	2681.39	2796.57	2057.11

**Physical Verification of Stocks
in Kendriya Bhandar**

1903.SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 3683 dated 12.12.01 and state :

- (a) whether the system has since been reviewed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether the inquiry officer appointed earlier to enquire a case had stated existence of many shortcomings in the system;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the shortage and excess of stocks were found in the physical verification;
- (e) whether any action has been taken against the employees concerned and amount of shortages recovered;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) The Inquiry Officer appointed earlier has pointed out certain shortcomings in the stock maintenance system. In order to effectively guard against discrepancies in stock accounts, action has already been initiated to computerize the maintenance of stock items of Stationery Division.

(d) to (g) On 30.9.2002, physical verification of stores was conducted in the grocery consumer stores in Delhi. The number of cases of shortages and excess detected are indicated in the Statement. Recovery of net shortage is being made from the pay of the concerned employees alongwith interest in monthly instalments.

Statement

Number of Stores having Shortage/Excess of Stock

Details	Number
1	2
1. Net Shortages	45
2. Net excess	18

1	2
3. No shortage/excess	-
Total	63

Students Opting for Hindi and Sanskrit

1904.SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of students opting for Hindi and Sanskrit has declined after Senior Secondary;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of students who opted for Hindi and Sanskrit in first year of degree courses during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken to encourage Hindi and Sanskrit languages in higher education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) No data regarding the students applying for admission in various courses in various universities of the country is centrally maintained. Universities are autonomous bodies and run various programmes as per the demand. As informed by UGC, several universities in the country are offering courses in Hindi and Sanskrit also.

**Appointment in Andaman and Nicobar
Administration**

1905.SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of ad-hoc and contract appointments made by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration in different categories during the last three years;
- (b) whether any regular appointments have also been made during this period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, category-wise; and

(d) the total number of posts in different categories in various Departments lying vacant for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The total number of ad-hoc and contract appointments made by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration in different categories during the last three years is as mentioned below:

Group A	34
Group B	89
Group C	570
Group D	117

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The number of appointments made on regular basis during the last three years are as follows:

Group A	10
Group B	11
Group C	1036
Group D	313

(d) The total number of posts of various categories lying vacant in different departments of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration for the last three years is indicated below:

Group A	90
Group B	94
Group C	764
Group D	308

Construction of Crematorium

1906. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has

failed to construct a building for an electric crematorium at Green Park, Delhi even after years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the crematorium is likely to be constructed; and

(c) the number of crematoriums planned to be constructed elsewhere in Delhi keeping the shortage of wood and to protect the forests being denuded for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Use of Guest Houses for Criminal Activities in Delhi

1907. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the militants and other criminals use many guest houses in Delhi as their hideouts;

(b) whether many of these guest houses are illegal;

(c) if so, the action taken against the illegal guest houses; and

(d) the steps taken to check their activities in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) In some isolated instances, militants or other criminals were arrested by Delhi Police from Hotels/Guest Houses.

(b) Some of these Guest Houses were found to be operating in Delhi without valid licenses.

(c) The Guest Houses/Hotels found running without valid licenses are challaned in accordance with the provisions of the Delhi Police Act, 1978.

(d) The steps taken by Delhi Police to check their activities include regular inspection of suspect Guest Houses and Hotels; Collection of intelligence about illegal activities being performed from these Guest Houses; and strict watch on the Guest Houses earlier used by criminals/militants.

Financial Assistance to Andhra Pradesh by Britain

1908. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Britain provided financial assistance of Pound 94.4 million for Andhra Pradesh urban Services improvement project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount so far released out of the sanctioned financial assistance;

(d) whether the project is due for completion in 2006 and is going as per schedule;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) There is agreement with Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom, for an amount of Pounds 94.4 million for Andhra Pradesh Urban Services Improvement Projects.

(b) The purpose of the Project is that the poor in existing 32 Class-I towns of Andhra Pradesh benefit from improved access to more appropriate and sustainable services. It is estimated that 2.2 million slum dwellers will benefit.

(c) An amount of Pounds 2.896 million has been disbursed till 31.1.2003.

(d) to (f) As per the agreement, the project is due for completion in 2006. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed the delay in the start of the project and late

finalization of Municipal Action Plan for Poverty Reduction (MAPP) guidelines as the reasons for delay in its implementation.

Non-Payment of Taxes on Central Government Assets and Properties

1909. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems being faced by the local bodies arising out of non-payment of taxes on Central Government Assets and Properties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the building plans of the Central Government establishments are not submitted to the local bodies for sanction; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) As per Article 285(1) of the Constitution, the properties of the Union Shall, save in so far as Parliament may by law, otherwise provide, be exempt from all taxes imposed by a State or by any authority within a State. However, such properties are subject to payment of service charges to Urban Local Bodies for the services rendered by the latter to former. This ranges from 33-1/3% to 75% of the tax payable in respect of private properties. In view of this, Central Government properties are paying the service charges as per the prevalent instructions.

(c) and (d) Plans of all building constructed by Central Public Works Department (CPWD) are submitted to local bodies for obtaining their approval wherever such approval is essentially required.

ICICI Knowledge Parks and Bio-Tech Parks

1910. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received from different State Governments for the establishment of ICICI Knowledge Parks and the Bio-tech Parks in the country, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Central Government with regard to these proposals;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to delegate the power to State Governments for issuing clearance/ sanctions for establishment of these parks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA') : (a) and (b) Sir, so far the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, has received formal proposals for financial assistance from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala for establishing biotechnology development and incubator centres tissue culture hardening facilities, centralized pilot facilities etc., in the Biotech Parks established by the State Governments and from Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), University of Mumbai, Mumbai, Maharashtra, for establishing biotech fermentation and down stream facilities at its campus. No proposals were received from any of the State Governments for financial assistance for establishment of ICICI Knowledge Parks. The DBT has constituted an "Expert Committee" to examine, evaluate and recommend for financial/ logistical support to the proposals received from various States and other organizations.

(c) to (e) At present, there is no such proposal to delegate the powers to State Governments as a number of Ministries and departments are involved in biosafety and other aspects for clearance of biotech products. However, the Andhra Pradesh Government had requested the Central Government to delegate powers to issue clearances/ sanctions under various laws and regulations to the management of ICICI Knowledge Park and Biotech Park to facilitate setting up of various ventures. The Government of India has conveyed to the Andhra Pradesh Government

that it would extend all possible assistance in procedural clearances and approvals for the establishment of ventures in the Biotech Park. A Single Window application processing system is functioning in the DBT for facilitating regulatory clearances.

Improvement of Slums

1911. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of project proposals received from the various States and particularly from the Government of Karnataka for improvement of slums and for provision of basic services in towns and cities during the last three years till date, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total financial assistance demanded/ requested by these State Governments, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of proposals cleared by the Union Government and financial assistance released during the said period, year-wise, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(d) the reasons for pendency of other such proposals; and

(e) the time likely to be taken to clear the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Vacation of Government Accommodation

1912. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether prescribed time limit for vacating type-I and II quarters is only seven days whereas it takes about 15-20 days for getting vacation report for the purpose of

getting no-objection certificate from DESU/ Delhi Vidyut Board, N.D.M.C. and Central Public Works Department while vacating Government accommodation and the allottees have to suffer both ways;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose/consider to extend the prescribed limit in view of the problems being faced by allottees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) No, Sir. As per provisions of SR-317-B-12 under the Allotment of Government Residence (General Pool in Delhi) Rules, 1963 an officer, who is in occupation of a residence, is allotted another residence and he occupies new residence, allotment of former residence shall be deemed to be cancelled from the date of occupation of the new residence. After the date of occupation of the new accommodation the allottee may retain the former residence for a period of 15 days for shifting to the new accommodation. If the former residence is not vacated within 15 days, the officer shall be liable to pay damages from 16th day from the date of occupation of the new residence. These provisions have been made in the allotment rules w.e.f. 23.6.2001.

(b) and (c) Since the existing provisions have been made in the recent past and the period of 15 days is sufficient to enable the allottee to shift to the new residence and to vacate the previous accommodation, there is no proposal to extend the prescribed limit of 15 days.

Continuing Education Scheme

1913. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from State Governments for approval under the continuing education scheme, State-wise, particularly from Bihar;

(b) the number of projects approved, State-wise;

(c) the amount released for the said purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to accord approval to the remaining project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) State-wise details are enclosed.

(d) Continuing Education Projects are approved after settlement of accounts in respect of grants released earlier, subject to availability of funds.

Statement

(Rupees in Lakh)

S. No.	Name of the State	Total number of proposals received from SLMAs upto 26.2.2003	Total number of proposals approved upto 26.2.2003*	Total amount released upto 26.2.2003*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21	21	3165.9
2.	Bihar	5	2	490.22
3.	Chandigarh	1	1	171.25
4.	Chhatisgarh	1	1	161.73
5.	Gujarat	27	18	3540.93
6.	Haryana	1	1	74.1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	300.55
8.	Jharkhand	2	2	134.75
9.	Karnataka	28	23	4212.89
10.	Kerala	14	14	2049.05
11.	Madhya Pradesh	45	19	3632.82
12.	Mizoram	8	8	317.46
13.	Maharashtra	25	16	2363.54
14.	Orissa	3	3	627.17
15.	Pondicherry	4	4	50.18

1	2	3	4	5
16. Punjab		1	1	129.21
17. Rajasthan		32	19	3974.31
18. Tamil Nadu		27	20	2822.77
19. Tripura		4	4	490.56
20. Uttar Pradesh		22	12	1125.33
21. Uttaranchal		2	2	237.1
22. West Bengal		13	9	3910.34
23. Assam		—	—	20.00
24. Manipur		—	—	7.50
25. Meghalaya		—	—	15.00
Total		287	201	34024.69

*Including grants released to State Literacy Mission Authorities (SLMAs).

[English]

Compensation to the Families of Kargil Martyrs

1914. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the States raised the funds to pay compensation for welfare of the families of Kargil Martyrs;

(b) the number of soldiers or their dependents paid compensation and the amount of compensation paid, State-wise;

(c) whether this fund is utilised to pay compensation to any soldiers families who became martyrs while protecting the border of India irrespective of whether they belonging to Army, BSF or any other security forces;

(d) whether the whole or part of the fund was deposited into co-operative banks;

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

(f) whether any such co-operative bank has defaulted;

(g) if so, the details of amount involved in such banks; and

(h) the time by which compensation is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pending Cases of Corruption against Employees of BCCL

1915. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of corruption cases against the employees of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. pending in the C.B.I and its special courts;

(b) the number of corruption cases against the employees pending in the vigilance Department of the B.C.C.L.

(c) the nature of these corruption cases;

(d) whether the employees accused of corruption are working in sensitive departments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) The number of corruption cases pending as on 31.12.2002, at the CBI, against the employees of BCCL is as under:-

Cases under investigation – 17

Cases in the Special Courts of CBI-97.

(b) The number of corruption cases pending in the Vigilance department of BCCL against the employees is as under:-

Cases under investigation – 36

Cases under regular departmental action – 30.

(c) The allegations in these cases relate to the following matters:-

- (i) demand and acceptance of illegal gratification.
- (ii) acquisition of property disproportionate to the known source of income.
- (iii) malpractices in coal sale.
- (iv) irregularities in sand and coal transportation.
- (v) malpractices in purchase.
- (vi) irregularities in civil construction and other contractual works.

(d) and (e) There is a policy for regular transfer of officers occupying sensitive posts. The employees found guilty of corruption are immediately removed from sensitive posts.

[English]

Right of Children

1916.DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a report on the impact of globalization on the Indian Children brought out by NGO Haq centre for child's rights has made some observation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pressure from the World Bank has forced the Government to reduce the span of elementary education from eight to five years;

(d) if so, whether the Government has taken note of observations of the report of the committee and taken steps to rectify, the situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is a compilation of essays on various issues affecting children's life in India today, such as, Legal Regime, Health, Education, The Young Child, The Disabled Child, The Girl, Child, Juvenile Justice, etc.

(c) to (e) It is absolutely incorrect to say that under pressure from the World Bank the span of elementary education has been reduced from 8 to 5 years. On the contrary the 86th constitutional Amendment Act, 2002, provides that free and compulsory education is a fundamental right for all children in the age group of 6-14 years.

Revision of Wealth of India (CSIR)

1917.SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts during the last three years to revive the revision work of Wealth of India raw material series, an encyclopedic publication of NISCAIR (CSIR);

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA') : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. NISCAIR has brought out three Supplements of the The Wealth of India Raw Materials Series, in the last three years. They include the Volume 1 (A-Ci), Volume 2 (Ci-Cy) and Volume 3 (D-I).

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Educational Qualification for Teachers

1918.SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Council for Teachers Education propose to make educational qualification mandatory for teachers of D. Ed. college;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not issuing orders to Maharashtra State to prove pay-scales to such teachers as per their educational qualifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has prescribed educational qualification for teachers in their Notification issued on 13.11.02. For the post of Lecturer, the Notification prescribes good academic record with M.Ed./M.A. preferably with specialisation in Elementary Education or good academic record with Master's Degree having 55 per cent marks in relevant school subject and Bachelor of Elementary Education or B.Ed. and with five years teaching experience. For Principal/Head, in addition to the academic and professional qualification prescribed for Lecturer, atleast 5 year experience of teaching in Elementary Teacher Education Institutions is stipulated. For other academic staff qualification shall be as prescribed by the concerned State Government.

(c) As per NCTE regulations, the academic and other staff (including part-time staff) of elementary teacher training institutions are required to be paid such salary as may be prescribed by the State Government from time to time.

[English]

Monitoring Cells for Land Records

1919.SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of States where the monitoring cells have been set up to monitor the land records in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether some State Governments especially the State Government of Karnataka have forwarded a proposal to the Central Government for sanction of a monitoring cell in October, 2001;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith financial assistance demanded by each State; and

(d) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) : (a) No monitoring cells have been set up in any State to monitor the land records in the country.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal for release of Rs. 32.00 lakh for a monitoring cell during October, 2001. However, as there is no provision in the existing Guidelines of the Scheme of Computerisation of Land Records to provide financial assistance to State Governments for setting up monitoring cells, the proposal was not considered.

JRF/ SRF and RA Fellowships

1920.SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Science and Technology being the nodal Ministry have increased their fellowships with effect from 1st April, 2002 whereas CSIR has given effect to the same from 1st August 2002 to their research fellows;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has enhanced the fellowships and grants being awarded to scientists working on centrally sponsored R and D projects with effect from 01.04.2002. CSIR being an autonomous registered society implements the policy changes as per the direction of the Governing Body. The Governing Body of CSIR, keeping in view the additional financial implications, decided to give currency to the enhanced fellowship with effect from 01.08.2002.

Fellowships to Research Fellows

1921.SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Research Fellows have not been paid their fellowship by several institutions for the last five to six months on the plea of non receipt of grant from council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) if so, the number of Research Fellows, particularly of the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences for whom the grant has not been released by the CSIR and the reasons thereof; and

(c) the date by which the grant is likely to be released to the institutions for paying the fellowships to the Research fellows of CSIR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Grants had not been released to twenty Research Fellows? Associates of Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow because their Progress Reports/Claim Bills/Accounts Statements/Utilization Certificates were not received by CSIR. On 05.2.2003, the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences had submitted the Accounts Statements and Utilization Certificates in respect of 10 Research Fellows, the payment for them was released on 25.02.2003 against their claim bills. For the remaining Research Fellows the payment will be released as and when the Progress Reports/Claim Bills/Accounts Statements/Utilization Certificates are received.

Meeting of Empowered Committee on PMGSY

1922. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the empowered committee on the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the discussion held in the meeting.

(c) whether some of the projects submitted by the State Governments under the Yojana are still pending with the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor

(e) the time by which these are likely to be cleared; and

(f) the number of projects submitted by the State Governments under the scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposals for the year 2003-04 pertaining to Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Mizoram were considered and recommended for clearance on 17.2.2003.

(c) to (f) The Empowered Committee considers project proposals complete in all respects. All project proposals received upto 17.2.2003 have been considered by the Empowered Committee. The State Governments have been requested to forward project proposals based on the Core Network expeditiously after their detailed estimates have been scrutinised by the State Technical Agencies. Only one additional proposal of Rajasthan has been received, on 25.2.2003.

Fertilizer Plant in Orissa

1923. SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have privatized a fertilizer plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any clause in the agreement under which the Government may have to return 150 crores to the company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has divested 74% of its equity in Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. in favour of the strategic buyer, M/s. Zuari Maroc Phosphates Private Ltd.

(c) and (d) The sale agreement includes a post-closing adjustment clause under which the strategic buyer has submitted a claim of Rs. 151.55 crore.

Resentment amongst Bureaucrats

1924. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is lot of resentment amongst the Bureaucrats because of the policies being pursued in certain States with regard to their frequent reshuffling;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have sought the intervention of the Prime Minister in the matter;

(d) if so, whether the Prime Minister held any meeting with the Chief Ministers of States to discuss the matter and to lay down norms for transfer/suspension of senior officers; and

(e) if not, whether the Prime Minister intends to hold such a meeting to resolve the tangle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) No instance has come to the notice of this Department. Rule 7 of the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules, 1954 provides that all appointments to cadre posts shall be made in the case of State Cadre by the State Government concerned.

(c) No reference has been brought to the notice of this Department.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Kendriya Vidyalayas

1925. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to divide the existing Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan into four separate bodies in view of the existing managements inability to properly supervise schools in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to set up some Regional Supervisory Centres in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of plan to improve supervision and standards at the Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Navodaya Vidyalayas

1926. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the fleeing of some students of Navodaya Vidyalaya in the country particularly in Punjab;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon and steps initiated to arrest the decline in the working of these prestigious schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Detailed inquiries into the

incidents of fleeing of students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas were conducted. The results of inquiries indicated that the causes of fleeing of students were mainly attributable to problems relating to water and electricity, punishment by teachers and their insistence on hard work by the students. In all these cases the issues were sorted out by counselling the students and extending the facilities to the extent possible. In certain cases where the staff was found to be negligent action was taken against them.

[Translation]

Reservation for SCs/STs

1927. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued office orders during 2002 to 2001 in regard to give reservation again to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in jobs for filling up vacancies as well as the posts lying vacant over above fifty percent restoring other reservation facilities by removing ban on reservation;

(b) if so, the Institutions and Departments to whom the order was issued in this regard;

(c) the names of the Departments and Institutions by which appointments of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were made in pursuance of these orders by December, 2002;

(d) number of posts category-wise on which the appointments were made;

(e) the vacant posts of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes as on December 31, 2002, department-wise; and

(f) the time by which the above posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS. (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Instructions were issued in the year 2000 that the reserved vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which remain

unfilled in earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and will not be considered alongwith the reserved vacancies of the current year for determining the ceiling of 50% reservation on total number of vacancies. Instructions were also issued the same year restoring the relaxations/concessions of lower qualifying marks, lesser standards of evaluation in matters of reservation in promotion for candidates belonging Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) instructions were issued to all Ministries/ Departments etc. with the request to bring these to the notice of all attached/subordinate offices and autonomous bodies/public sector undertakings under their control.

(c) These instructions are followed by all Ministries/ Departments and institutions under the Government of India.

(d) and (e) Information is not centrally maintained.

(f) It is not possible to fix a time limit for filling up the posts in as much as some posts may remain vacant for non-availability of suitable candidates etc.

Infiltration Bid by China

1928. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether China is infiltrating Tibetans, Nepaleese and Chinese as spies into Indian Territory as reported in *Rashtriya Sahara*, dated December 11, 2002;

(b) If so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Chinese troops keep on wandering into the Indian Territory;

(d) if so, the number of such spies apprehended during the last one year alongwith the material seized and information gathered therefrom; and

(e) the action taken by the Government so far to keep a watch on such activities and check their recurrence permanently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Nothing specific come to Government's notice in this regard.

(c) and (d) Sporadic incidents of intrusion across perceived LAC have been reported in parts of areas of Eastern, Western and Middle Sectors.

(e) Indo-China Border is manned by ITBP and a continuous watch and surveillance is kept on the border. Joint patrolling by ITBP and army is also done to keep a check on the situation.

[English]

Disinvestment of Mines

1929. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some mines especially Zinc, Aluminium are proposed to be disinvested with a throw away prices ignoring the reserve prices of the mines in Orissa; and

(b) If so, the details of the facts and the reasons therefor alongwith the sale price thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) No, Sir. Mineral concessions are granted under the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Transfer of lease by the lessee after the prior approval of Central or State Government (as may be relevant) can be done under Rule 37 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 provided that the lessee shall not charge or accept from the transferee any premium in addition to the sum spent by him in obtaining the lease and for conducting mining operations on the leased area.

(b) In view of the above, does not arise.

[Translation]

Grants to NGO's

1930. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds allocated to Voluntary Organisations for running hostels for the girl students of certain Government High Schools in the State of Bihar and Jharkhand during the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) whether certain cases have come to the notice of the Government wherein these organisations have received financial assistance from the Union Government on the basis of production of fake documents;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government propose to make physical verification of the hostels being run for the girl students with the funds released by the Union Government in these States;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) No State-wise or district-wise allocation of funds has been made under the scheme of Strengthening boarding and hostel facilities for girl students. However, funds are released to eligible Voluntary Organisations whose proposals are received in this Department with recommendations of State Government including Bihar and Jharkhand. After release of first instalment, inspection report is obtained from District Magistrate and then subsequent instalment of grant is released. In addition to this, officers of the Ministry also visit various organisations from time to time. No case of release of grant on the basis of fake documents has come to the notice of this Ministry.

Border Dispute

1931. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI :
SHRI BHERULAL MEENA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the on going Border dispute between Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal as reported in 'Dainik Jagran' dated January 8, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Himachal Pradesh has been claiming an area of around eighty acres of territory of Uttaranchal as its own as a result of the unresolved border dispute between the two States;

(d) if so, whether as a result thereof the State Government has been incurring losses worth crores of rupees, while the villages are facing the problem of double taxation; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to resolve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Uttaranchal have reported that the dispute relates to six places of Chakrata Tehsil of Dehradun District namely, Pandranu, Saranjungle, Kathangad:Silasukhadda, Patalajungle, Pasidhar and Loklang Pillar, adjoining Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh.

(c) and (d) No specific information about the reported claim over 80 acres of territory of Uttaranchal by Himachal Pradesh is available with the Central Government.

(e) Neither of the State Governments has approached the Central Government to resolve their boundary dispute. It is essentially for the State Governments concerned to amicably settle their differences through discussions and mutual accommodation.

[English]

Setting Up of Lab for Endangered Species

1932.DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad has recently sent a proposal to the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) for the setting up of a lab in which genetic material of the endangered species is to be preserved for posterity;

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

(c) whether India have the capability to clone animals;

(d) if so, number of samples of species preserved for cloning;

(e) whether CZA is maintaining record of the animals who have become extinct;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any research has been conducted on artificial insemination in endangered species; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for establishment of a Laboratory for conservation of endangered species was sent by CCMB, Hyderabad to CZA and Department of Biotechnology. Government has agreed to fund it.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. CCMB, a laboratory of CSIR, has developed expertise to clone animals. No samples have been preserved as yet.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (h) Yes Sir. The said research is being conducted at CCMB and Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad. A technique for artificial insemination has been standardized for lions, tigers, leopards and deers.

Flood Affected States

1933.SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several States have been adversely affected due to rain/flood during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the Districts of each State adversely affected due to flood;

(c) whether central teams have visited these areas;

(d) if so, the details of loss of lives, crops, cattle and property in each State according to the report of this team; and

(e) the financial assistance given by the Government to each State for relief and rehabilitation works during the said period, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide relief in the wake of floods. It is only in the event of floods/calamities of a severe nature that the State Governments seek assistance of the Central Government. As such the district wise information for floods

in each State is not maintained by this Ministry.

(c) to (e) As per the present scheme of financing relief, which is based on the recommendations of the 11th Finance Commission, the States have ready availability of funds under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to which the Central Government contributes 75%. Where the calamity is of a severe nature, additional assistance is made available from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) after taking into consideration the memorandum of the State Government, the report of the Central Team, the recommendations of the inter-Ministerial Group and the norms of expenditure, in case the adequate funds are not available with the States concerned under the Calamity Relief Fund. A statement showing assistance sought by the States in the wake of floods/heavy rains and the funds allocated under CRF and released from NCCF during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 is in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Assistance sought by the States in wake of floods/heavy rains and funds released from NCCF during the years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought by State Government	Assistance released from NCCF	Allocation under CRF
1	2	3	4	5	6
2000-01					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Flood	777.71	10.00+	198.06
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flash floods	139.10	2.00	12.02
3.	Bihar	Rains/Floods	975.87	29.67	66.96
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Flash Floods	1730.89	8.29	43.49
5.	Karnataka	Heavy rains/Floods	435.83	●●	74.57
6.	Meghalaya	Cyclonic winds	22.13	1.00	3.94
7.	West Bengal	Rains/Floods	1486.70	103.25	101.10

1	2	3	4	5	6
2001-02					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rains/Floods	278.26	20.44	207.96
2.	Bihar	Floods	735.45	@@	70.31
3.	Chhattisgarh	Floods	158.25	23.94	28.84
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Flash/Floods	83.33	42.50	45.66
5.	Kerala	Floods	551.76	@@	70.61
6.	Orissa	Floods	1530.88	100.00	114.94
2002-03					
1.	Assam	Floods	484.19	@@	111.89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Floods	134.63	12.78#	13.25
3.	Bihar	Floods	874.71	@@	73.82
4.	Kerala	Floods	146.32	@@#	74.14
5.	Maharashtra	Floods	153.56	@@	173.32
6.	Manipur	Floods	337.45	7.07#	3.16
7.	Orissa	Floods-2001		16.41\$	120.69\$

+ Released during the year 2001-02.

@@: As adequate funds under CRF were available, no assistance approved from NCCF.

In addition to the funds from NCCF, assistance of Rs. 7.50 crore to Arunachal Pradesh and Rs. 0.34 crore to Manipur would be provided from ARWSP under their scheme; and Rs. 0.65 crore to Kerala would be provided from IAY scheme.

\$ For payment of bill of Air lifting during the floods of 2001.

Bio-Fertilizer Units in the Country

1934. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation has eight bio-fertilizer manufacturing units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government have closed down two of its units in Durgapur and Siliguri

organic fertilizer and train the peasantry for its application and the use of improved technology as well; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Bio-fertilizer plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation are located at Durgapur, Sindri, Barauni, Namrup, Bhopal, Gwalior, cuttack and Siliguri.

(c) and (d) The Government have decided to close down the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation including the Bio-fertilizer plants at Durgapur and Siliguri as the same were not found to be techno-economically viable.

National Disaster Management Agency

1935. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a National Disaster Management Agency to deal with all types of natural and man-made disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the Department to be involved with the agency;

(d) whether any comprehensive guidelines on disaster management have been circulated to all the State Governments;

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

(f) whether the Government propose to set up DMA at State level; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in the Ministry of Home Affairs has been initiated. The NDMA will, inter-alia, be responsible for coordinating/mandating Government's policies for disaster reduction/mitigation; ensuring adequate preparedness at all levels; coordinating response to a disaster when it strikes and post disaster relief and rehabilitation.

(c) Ministries/Departments of Health, Water Resources, Agriculture, Atomic Energy, Environment and Forests, Railways, Defence, Science and Technology, Chemicals and Indian Meteorological Department are proposed to be represented on the NDMA.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The guidelines circulated to the State Governments, inter-alia, recommend creation of a separate Department/Authority for Disaster Management,

setting up of specialized composite search and rescue teams, up-gradation of fire services as all-hazard response units, establishment of composite control rooms, drawing up of State Level Disaster Management Roadmap/Framework and District specific disaster management plans, incorporating disaster management aspects in plan projects/development schemes, ensuring adherence to BIS codes for buildings in States falling under seismic zones IV and V, maintaining an on-line inventory of resources available for disaster management, creation of awareness and training for Government functionaries and inclusion of basic disaster related material in the text books for students of classes 8th, 9th and 10th.

(f) and (g) The State Governments have been advised to consider setting up a Disaster Management Authority (DMA) under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary at State Level for coordinated action towards mitigation and preparedness for disasters as also for coordinated response when a disaster strikes.

Licensing Requirement to Sell Fertilizers

1936. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision regarding dispensing with the licensing requirement for dealers presently working under the fertilizer control has been taken;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under Clause 7 of the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985, it was mandatory for every dealer to obtain the Certificate of Registration for carrying on the business of selling of fertiliser as whole-sale or retail dealer. The Government of India has amended Clause 7 of the Fertiliser Control Order on 16.1.2003 dispensing with the requirement of 'Certificate of Registration' and replaced with the 'Memorandum of Intimation'.

Arms and Ammunitions with Delhi Police

1937. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Malkhanas' of Delhi Police are overflowing with the scaled arms and ammunitions including RDX;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety of these arms and ammunitions;

(d) whether any policy or rules have been laid down by the Government for the disposal of destroying the confiscated weapons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The 'malkhanas' are guarded on round-the-clock basis.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The State Government and Union Territory Administrations have been advised to centrally destroy such seized fire-arms and ammunition as are obsolete or unserviceable and maintain a register in the prescribed format for this purpose. The proportion in which the serviceable fire-arms of non-prohibited category shall be allotted to various categories of eligible persons has also been prescribed.

New Pharma Policy

1938. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bangalore High Court has strongly rejected the new pharma policy;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to defend its position against the Bangalore High Court order; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (d) A Public Interest Litigation in Karnataka High Court has resulted in an order dated 12.11.2002 which stops the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Government have filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Karnataka High Court.

[Translation]

Misutilization of Parking Sites

1939. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether several parking sites of N.D.M.C. and M.C.D are using misutilized, thereby rendering these local bodies unable to fully utilize their property and mobilize financial resources therefrom;

(b) if so, the details of such sites identified by the Government alongwith the losses suffered on this count; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Closure of Mines

1940. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any coal mine under the Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. has been closed down; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) No, Sir.

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

Change of Coal Linkage

1941. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for change of coal linkage of Royalaseema Thermal Power Project Stage-II from Mahanadi Coalfields, Talcher to Singareni Collieries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision thereon and issued any directions to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission to this effect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A request from Energy Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh for change of coal linkage of Rayalaseema Thermal Power Project Stage-II from Mahanadi Coalfields, Talcher to Singareni Collieries had been received in the Ministry of Coal in August, 2002. The issue was deliberated in the meeting of the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) held on 6.1.2003. Committee agreed to transfer linkage of coal to the TPP from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) to Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). Decision of SLC (LT) has been communicated to M/s. Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh on 4.2.2003.

Rural Development Projects

1942. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Rural Development Projects completed and running behind schedule in the country especially in Rajasthan as on date;

(b) whether the cost of these projects running behind schedule has escalated;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore, project-wise;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any study in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) The Ministry of Rural Development sanctions projects under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Sector Reforms Projects, the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Total Sanitation campaign (TSC). These projects are sanctioned and implemented for a period ranging from 3 to 7 years.

The numbers of projects sanctioned, completed and lagging behind in Rajasthan are as under: -

Name of the Scheme	No. of Projects		
	Sanctioned	Completed	Lagging behind
1. SGSY	10 (since 2000-01)	Under Progress	0
2. DPAP	182 (since 1995-96)	163	19
3. DDP	841	841	0
4. IWDP	436 (since 1995-96)	2	2
5. TSC	9 (since 1999-2000)	0	0

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Rural Development does not provide for cost escalation in these projects.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Property Tax Bill

1943. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Delhi has urged the Union Government to accord clearance to the new unit area method of assessing property tax in Delhi;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the time by which clearance is likely to be accorded to the Delhi Property Tax Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalayas

1944. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

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

(a) the number and names of districts in Jharkhand, Rajasthan and West Bengal where Navodaya Vidyalaya are functioning/approved for opening or pending for approval;

(b) the reasons for delay in according the approval; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) The details of the districts in the States of Rajasthan, West Bengal and Jharkhand where the JNVs

have been approved/functioning is enclosed herewith. The proposals for sanctioning JNVs at Simdega District in Jharkhand and Burdwan District in West Bengal are pending.

While the proposal for approval of the Vidyalaya in Burdwan District in West Bengal is under process, the proposal for Simdega District in Jharkhand is pending on account of further clarification/information required from the State Government.

Statement

The Districts in States of Rajasthan, Jharkhand and West Bengal where JNVS are Approved/Functioning

S. No.	Rajasthan	Jharkhand	West Bengal
1	2	3	4
1.	Ajmer	1) Bokaro	1) Darjeeling
2.	Alwar	2) Chatra	2) 24 North Parganas
3.	Banswara	3) Deogarh	3) Murishdabad
4.	Baran	4) Dumka	
5.	Badmer	5) Garhwa	
6.	Bharatpur	6) Giridih	
7.	Bhilwara	7) Godda	
8.	Bikaner	8) Gumla	
9.	Bundi	9) Hazaribagh	
10.	Chitoorgarh	10) Lohardaga	
11.	Churu	11) Latehar	
12.	Dausa	12) Ranchi	
13.	Dhaulpur	13) Sahebganj	
14.	Ganganagar	14) Sarai Kela Kharsawa	

1	2	3	4
15.	Jaipur	15) Kodarma	
16.	Jaisalmer	16) East Singhbhum	
17.	Jalore	17) Dhanbad	
18.	Jhalawar	18) Jamtara	
19.	Jhunjunu	19) Pakur	
20.	Jodhpur	20) Palamu	
21.	Kota	21) West Singhbhum	
22.	Nagare		
23.	Pali		
24.	Rajsamand		
25.	Sikar		
26.	Sirohi		
27.	Sawai Madhopur		
28.	Tonk		
29.	Udaipur		
30.	Dungarpur		
31.	Hanumangarh		
32.	Karauli		

[English]

**Appointment to Dependents on
Compassionate Grounds**

1945. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints with regard to the employment to dependents on compassionate grounds and violation of National Coal Wage Agreement by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the last three years and the current year;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :
(a) and (b) As reported by Coal India Limited, the main grievances pertain to delay in the settlement of cases of employment. The number of cases which are pending as on 1.1.2003 subsidiary-wise due to various reasons at different stages are furnished below:-

ECL	—	1544
BCCL	—	140
CCL	—	205
WCL	—	348
SECL	—	10
NCL	—	07
MCL	—	34
NEC	—	164
CMPDI	—	15
Total		<u>2467</u>

The major reasons of delay in clearance of these cases are due to:

1. Receipt of incomplete application.
2. Variation in the name, age, relation etc.
3. Claim by more than one dependent.
4. Non-appearance of the dependent before the committee on fixed date.
5. Belated claims.
6. Cases sub-judice in various courts.
7. Persuasion to female dependents to accept monetary compensation.
8. In ECL due to financial crunch the Board of

Directors in 1998 had taken a decision to freeze employment. However, after discussion with Central Trade Unions consensus has been arrived to release employment in a phased manner as per requirement.

The subsidiary companies are however taking appropriate action to deal with the these cases.

(c) In case of ECL, a decision has been taken in consultation with the unions to release employment in a phased manner. Further the Ministry is also monitoring pendency of cases of compassionate appointment on a monthly basis and all subsidiary companies have been instructed to expedite settlement of cases.

Development of Small Cities and Towns

1946. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have assessed the need for the development of small cities and towns to avoid the problem of over-crowding in big cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the problems being faced in the process of development of small cities and towns;

(c) whether the Union Government have documented the problems of over-crowding in metropolitan cities and the migration of people from villages to cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and also the population of 100 over-crowded cities and towns in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir,

The prominent problems of the small cities and towns are:-

- (i) Poor urban infrastructure – Physical, economic and social;
- (ii) Poor financial base of the urban local bodies as a result of low collection of tax and non-tax revenues.

- (iii) Inadequate technical manpower to conceive and implement urban development schemes, etc.

In order to tackle the issues related to the above mentioned problems and to reduce the crowding of big cities, the Government felt the necessity for orderly development of small and medium towns and accordingly the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Scheme has been initiated in the Sixth Five Year Plan (1979-80) and is continuing till date. The main objectives of the scheme are:

- (i) Improving infrastructural facilities in Small and Medium Towns;
- (ii) Decentralising economic growth and development of employment opportunities.
- (iii) Promoting dispersed urbanization;
- (iv) Integrating spatial and social-economic planning;
- (v) Improving overall financial position of local bodies in the small and medium towns.

The scheme is applicable to the towns upto 5 lakhs population as per 1991 Census.

Another Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Infrastructural Development in five Mega Cities was initiated during 1993-94 with the main objective of providing funds for sustained investment in urban infrastructure through direct and indirect cost recovery measures. The scheme was essentially meant to take care of infrastructure development of the Mega Cities keeping in view the problems in these cities due to massive migration from rural areas and small towns all over the country.

Infrastructure assistance through IDSMT and Mega City Schemes aims at overcoming the Worst features of neglect of urban requirements, taking care of un-met needs in water supply, sanitation, solid waste management, urban transport and the development of new extensions like residential colonies and satellite towns to relieve congestion.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Greater Autonomy to Research and
Development Institutions**

1947. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are considering to give greater autonomy to Research and Development institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to enhance the spending on Research and Development activities during the Tenth Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that the present spending on Research and Development activities is so far below than the countries smaller than India; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) and (b) Autonomous R and D institutions working in the areas of S and T have greater autonomy both in financial and administrative matters.

(c) and (d) The Government have allocated enhanced grants for R and D in the 10th Plan which is approximately double the allocation made for the Ninth Plan. Besides, need based special grants are also provided to modernize the facilities and infrastructure in S and T institutes.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. In India, spending on R and D activities is more than that of many other smaller developing countries.

Setting Up of Navodaya Colleges

1948. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government propose to set up Navodaya College also on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalaya in the country;

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

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Patent Laws

1949. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :
DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether lack of Indian Patent Laws costs multinational drug companies adversely;

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

(c) its impact on investment on research for new drug discovery;

(d) the total number of patented drugs particularly life-saving drugs in the country; and

(e) the rate of increase in prices of patented drugs during pre and post WTO regime in India and its effect on nation's health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) The factors affecting the performance of the individual multinational drug companies are not monitored by the Government of India.

(d) and (e) The Indian Patent Act, 1970 does not have a provision for product patents for pharmaceuticals.

**Use of FM Radio by Educational
Institutions**

1950. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI RAM PHASAD SINGH :

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

(a) whether it is proposed to allow use of FM band radio called 'Radio Revolution' by all the educational institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) The Government has decided to grant Community Broadcasting licenses to well established educational institutions/ organizations recognized by the Central Government or the State Government. These will include the Universities, Institutes of Technology/ Management and residential schools. A public notice, inviting applications from the eligible educational institutions for grant of licenses for setting up Community Radio Stations, has been issued, which has appeared in various daily newspapers, in the first fortnight of February, 2003.

Testing of Pollution of Vehicles in Delhi

1951. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether all vehicles including Non-polluting vehicles (Euro-II) are to be tested for pollution every three months in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of tests carried during the last one year in Delhi;

(d) whether it is correct that many of the vehicles were not tested in time and escaped the tests due to Traffic police negligence;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard and also for strict implementation of the rules;

(f) whether the Government propose to reduce the fees for testing and exempt Euro-II compliance vehicles therefrom; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND

PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Every motor vehicle, on the expiry of a period of one year from the date of its registration, is required to have valid "Pollution Under Control" certificate as per Rule 115(7) of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 read with Rule 99(1) of Delhi Motor Vehicle Rules, 1993.

(c) During the year 2002, 32,85,183 such tests were carried out in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(d) Despite regular penal action against vehicles for not carrying "Pollution Under Control" certificates, some vehicle owners do tend to evade carrying out the requisite test in their vehicles.

(e) The steps taken include regular penal action against the defaulting vehicles and launching of public awareness campaign from time to time to educate people about statutory provisions as well as the health hazards caused by vehicular pollution.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Post Reserved for SCs/STs

1952. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some post of various categories reserved for SCs and STs are lying vacant in various departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees working in said departments and undertakings have been given promotions and new recruitment have been made there during last three years;

(d) if so, the details of fresh recruitments made during said period and current year, till date, year-wise and category-wise;

(e) whether the prescribed rules were complied with in recruitment and promotion of SCs and STs;

(f) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(g) the remedial measure taken in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Scientists are promoted under the Flexible Complementing Scheme, which is not vacancy based.

(d) The number of appointments made in the Department group-wise during the last three years and current year is given below:

Group-wise	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	2003-up to 26.02.2003
Group A	1	1	-	-
Group B Non-Gazetted	-	-	-	-
Group C	1 (SC)	2 (1 SC)	-	-
Group D	-	1 (OBC)	1 (OBC)	-
Total	2	4	1	Nil

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

[English]

Production of Coal

1953. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal production has recorded a slump during the last year because of the recent discoveries of natural gas causing low demand for the coal from power and industrial sector;

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

(c) whether Indian coal is low in sulphur content but high in non-combustible matter resulting in accumulation of bye-product fly ash;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have considered the setting up of beneficiation plants at pitheads to make it more competitive vis-a-vis natural gas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production of coal in the country has increased from 313.70 million tonnes in 2000-01 to 327.79 million tonnes in 2001-02.

(c) and (d) The Indian coal, due to its "drift origin" is, in general, having high non combustible matter resulting in generation of ash. The ash content in Indian coal varies widely from around 10% to 50%. However, Indian coal is having low sulphur content, generally less than 0.5% except tertiary Assam coal.

(e) and (f) The setting up of new non coking coal beneficiation plants at pit-head is required mainly on environment consideration. Presently CIL is operating six washeries for beneficiation of non coking coal namely Dugda, Lodna, Kargali, Gidi, Piparwar and Blna. Government encourages washing of high ash coal by private washeries.

1984 Riots Cases

1954. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the persons booked for 1984 riots cases have been acquitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith details of pending cases;

(c) whether the compensation to all the victims of 1984 riots has been paid; and

(d) if not, the details in this regard alongwith their present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The present status of 373 cases in which charge-sheets were filed in connection with 1984 riots is as follows:

Sr. No.	Status	Number of Cases
1.	Acquittal	321
2.	Conviction	29
3.	Discharged	08
4.	Consigned to Record Room	07
5.	Pending trial	08

(c) and (d) While the due compensation has been paid in 2292 cases, there are 155 cases which have not been settled for various reasons like the case being under litigation, non-submission of relevant documents, dispute about the claim, etc.

CBSE

1955. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has allowed the examinees to answer lesser questions in science/maths and Physics;

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

(c) whether the students are being given choice to select questions for answer;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Examination Reform is a continuous process. After discussion in different forums and in the committee of courses of these subjects, the design of question papers in class X Science, class XII Mathematics and Physics were revised as per the details given below:-

Subject	Total no. of Questions till 2002	Total no. of Questions in 2003
Science - X	33	30
Maths - XII	30	26
Physics - XII	30	27

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Internal choices have been provided in 5 questions of Science in class X and 5 questions each of Mathematics and Science in class XII.

(e) Question does not arise.

Cases of DDA Pending in Courts

1956. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cases related to Delhi Development Authority are pending in the Courts;

(b) if so, the total number of cases pending in courts as on date; and

(c) the number of cases out of these pending for five years or more than that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that approximate number of cases pending before various courts as on date is 11,373 out of which 5028 cases are pending for five years or more than that.

International Youth Conference on Terrorism

1957. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two day International Youth Conference on terrorism has been organised in the Capital recently;

(b) if so, the details of the agenda discussed therein;

(c) the leaders of foreign countries participated in the conference; and

(d) the action plan to tackle the menace of terrorism approved in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

Delegates from 42 countries participated in the Conference held on February 10-11, 2003 at New Delhi to express serious concern over growing terrorism all over the world.

(d) The Conference unanimously resolved to establish a permanent secretariat of the proposed World Council of Youth against terrorism at New Delhi, India, to undertake/launch comprehensive youth awareness programme throughout the world by organizing seminars, symposiums, and Conferences at regional, national and International levels and to persuade World Governments to enact suitable legislations against terrorism for protection of human rights and start mass educational awareness programmes to prevent indoctrination of young men, women and children in terrorism.

[Translation]

Sector Reforms Projects

1958. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts in each State where Drinking Water Schemes in Sector Reforms Project have been approved and implemented during 1999 to Feb. 2003;

(b) whether the State Governments are carrying out publicity of these projects through NGOs or other Government agencies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the NGOs/agencies have been selected for the publicity of this work in these districts;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the time by which these are likely to be selected;

(g) whether these NGOs/Agencies have been approved by the Government; and

(h) if so, the details thereof along with allocation of fund for the publicity of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) The number of the districts in each State where Drinking Water Schemes in Sector Reforms Project have been

approved and implemented during 1999 to Feb 2003 is enclosed.

(b) to (h) Sector Reform Projects are implemented by the communities, based on the principle of decentralised, demand-driven approaches. The implementing agencies themselves decide the number and extent of involvement of NGOs in the implementation of the projects, depending upon the type of schemes, availability of resources etc. The State Governments and the District Water and Sanitation Mission can themselves decide on the NGO to be involved in the implementation process. As per the guidelines Government of India have been approving upto 3 NGOs to District Water and Sanitation Mission, powers for above have since been delegated to the States. Funds are not specifically allocated for publicity purposes. However, the upper limit of expenditure on Information Education and Communication and Human Resource Development has been fixed at 10%.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the State
1	2	3

Projects sanctioned during 1999-2000

1.	Lohit	Arunachal Pradesh
2.	West Siang	Arunahal Pradesh
3.	Jorhat	Assam
4.	Kamrup	Assam
5.	Sonitpur	Assam
6.	Vaishali	Bihar
7.	Mehsana	Gujarat
8.	Rajkot	Gujarat
9.	Surat	Gujarat
10.	Karnal	Haryana
11.	Yamuna Nagar	Haryana
12.	Sirmour	Himachal Pradesh

1	2	3
13. Srinagar		Jammu and Kashmir
14. Udhampur		Jammu and Kashmir
15. Dhanbad		Jharkhand
16. Bellary		Karnataka
17. Mangalore		Karnataka
18. Mysore		Karnataka
19. Kasaragod		Kerala
20. Gwalior		Madhya Pradesh
21. Sehore		Madhya Pradesh
22. Amravati		Maharashtra
23. Dhule		Maharashtra
24. Nanded		Maharashtra
25. Raigad		Maharashtra
26. Serchhip		Mizoram
27. Dimapur		Nagaland
28. Bhatinda		Punjab
29. Moga		Punjab
30. Alwar		Rajasthan
31. Jaipur		Rajasthan
32. Sikkar		Rajasthan
33. Sikkim South		Sikkim
34. Sikkim West		Sikkim
35. Coimbatore		Tamil Nadu
36. Cuddalore		Tamil Nadu
37. Vellore		Tamil Nadu
38. West Tripura		Tripura
39. Chandauli		Uttar Pradesh
40. Lucknow		Uttar Pradesh
41. Mirzapur		Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3
42. Sonebhadra		Uttar Pradesh
Projects sanctioned during 2000-01		
1. Chittoor		Andhra Pradesh
2. Khammam		Andhra Pradesh
3. Nalgonda		Andhra Pradesh
4. Prakasam		Andhra Pradesh
5. Kollam		Kerala
6. Hoshangabad		Madhya Pradesh
7. Narsinghpur		Madhya Pradesh
8. Raisen		Madhya Pradesh
9. Balasore		Orissa
10. Sudergarh		Orissa
11. Muktsar		Punjab
12. Perambalur		Tamil Nadu
13. Agra		Uttar Pradesh
14. Midnapur		West Bengal
15. N. 24 Parganas		West Bengal
Projects sanctioned during 2001-2002		
1. Nellore		Andhra Pradesh
2. Durg		Chhattisgarh
3. Ri-Bhoi		Meghalaya
4. Ganjam		Orissa
5. Rajsamand		Rajasthan
6. Haridwar		Uttaranchal
Projects sanctioned during 2002-2003		
1. Guntur		Andhra Pradesh
2. East Godavari		Andhra Pradesh
3. Kancheepuram		Tamil Nadu
4. Virudhunagar		Tamil Nadu

[English]

Equipment for Police Force

1959.DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested for assistance for equipping its police force with Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs) to check extremist activity; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a proposal for procurement of an Unmanned Air Vehicle for surveillance of the Naxalite infested areas in the State in June, 1998. It was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Defence and the Border Security Force and not found useful for the purpose for which it was proposed to be acquired. The State Government was accordingly informed in April, 1999.

Talks with Militant Organisations

1960.DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the militant organisations with whom Government is engaged in dialogue after signing of ceasefire agreement;

(b) the demands placed by NSCN, UPDS, DHD before the Government, organisation-wise;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to create an Autonomous State as per Article 244(A) for the Hill Districts of Assam as a solution to the demand raised in this region;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in respect to the demand of an Autonomous State for Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills of Assam; and

(e) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Although the Government has entered into ceasefire with National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM) faction (NSCN-IM), National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang faction), Dima Halam Daogha (DHD), and United Peoples' Democratic Solidarity (UPDS), dialogue is being held with NSCN(IM) only. During the peace talks held in the month of January 2003 between the representatives of the

Government of India and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM), the NSCN (IM) raised among other issues, their demands relating to the distinct identity of the Nagas and their stand on unification of Naga areas. There was an agreement to continue the formal talks until a lasting settlement is reached. Both sides re-affirmed the need for a peaceful, violence-free environment.

(c) At present, there is no proposal for creation of Autonomous State within State of Assam under the Article 244(A) of the Constitution of India.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Water Quality affected Villages

1961.COL.(RETD) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL :
SHRI AMBAREESHA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to identify the water quality affected villages in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such villages at present State-wise;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred for providing drinking water to these villages;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate 100% funds for drinking water schemes for such villages and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Water quality survey was made initially during 1991-94. The same was reviewed and revised by the States during 1998-99. Accordingly, as on 1.4.1999 the total number of water quality affected habitations stood at 217111.

In December 1999 State Governments were again advised to carry out fresh survey of quality affected habitation. This survey is still in progress in some of the States. As per information received till date, details are given in statement.

(c) Not available.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

Statement

Status of Quality affected Habitations as on 1.4.1999 (Previous) and based on Water Quality Survey (Current)

S. State No.	Fluoride		Salinity		Iron		Arsenic		Nitrate		Total		Remarks	
	Pre	Cur	Pre	Cur	Pre	Cur	Pre	Cur	Pre	Cur	Pre	Cur		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Tamil Nadu	1835	3555	5219	3420	1000	2532	—	—	4000	6933	12054	16440	Overall increase-power pump source less polluted than hand pumps
2.	Rajasthan	16560	22021	14412	19249	—	103	—	—	—	3862	30972	45235	Overall increase
3.	Gujarat	2826	2383	1048	1739	—	—	—	—	762	603	4636	4725	Overall increase Nearly 70% of earlier identified problem villages already covered.
4.	West Bengal	52	369	—	809	—	18647	3133	4243	—	—	3185	24068	Overall increase
5.	U.T. of Pondicherry	14	6	5	6	17	17	—	—	—	—	36	29	Overall increase
6.	NCT Delhi	—	5	—	19	—	1	—	—	—	23	—	48	
7.	Himachal Pradesh													
8.	Goa													According to State no quality Problem taken as fully covered
9.	Arunachal Pradesh													
10.	Uttaranchal													
11.	U.T. of Lakshadweep	0	0	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	Effectively tackled no quality problem taken as fully covered

Changing of Management Structure of Universities

1962. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make changes in the management structure of the Universities for higher GDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the recommendations made by Gnanam Committee and Sonam Committee in the management of Universities;

(d) if so, the details of main recommendations; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) The X Five Year Plan proposals for the higher education development, *inter alia*, focus upon various changes which are desirable in the management structure of the universities. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Soneri Committee had accepted some of the recommendations of the Gnanam Committee in this regard. A brief of some of the important recommendations is enclosed as statement. These recommendations were conveyed to all the universities for necessary action.

Statement

Recommendations of the Gnanam Committee which were accepted by the Soneri Committee inter alia include

— In deciding the Management pattern of Universities, it should be recognized that the academic administration is very different from that in vogue in the Governmental or in the Corporate system and it should be based on the principle of participation, decentralization, autonomy and accountability.

- The Managerial patterns of a University System must necessarily have an inbuilt flexibility adapt itself quickly to the changing needs of the country and the region it serves and to carry out innovations and experiments. Any effort, therefore, to bring the structures of all universities within the framework of a single pattern of university Act will prove to be an impediment in this process. Legislations therefore, should, while laying down the broad pattern of university management, leave the details to be framed by each university through Statutes and ordinances.
- Due to statutory and financial restrictions the present system of university administration is non-conductive to achieve the goals of excellence. The University System, therefore, calls for all-round restructuring to make the constituents of the system more autonomous.
- The Department of a University being its basic operational units, should be enable to function with freedom and wider academic, administrative and financial powers.
- The move initiated towards granting academic autonomy to colleges should be further accelerated and the objective of making all colleges autonomous should be realized within a specific time frame.
- Accountability should be maintained at all levels. Accountability of the teachers through the Heads of Departments/Dean/Directors should be to the Vice-Chancellor and the various university bodies. The university through the Vice-Chancellor should be accountable to the society. Every one in the university community should realize that autonomy and academic freedom do not free them from being accountable.
- Research Scientists and Scholars (Science and humanities/social sciences) from the National Laboratories/Institutes be nominated on the

bodies/authorities of the universities, particularly on the Academic Councils. Planning Boards, Faculties, Boards of Studies, and the Boards of Research and Extension.

- Computers have been used in the Universities since long for examination processing. However, they can also be effectively used in other administrative sectors of activities like finances, budget, staff rosters, pay-roles, library services and Estate Management.

Plan for Protection/Preservation of India Gate

1963. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any detailed plan for the protection/preservation of the unprotected India Gate at Delhi where names of valient soldiers are inscribed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The India Gate is being maintained by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and adequate care is being taken for its protection and preservation in a manner befitting the status of structure.

Vacancies in NHRC

1964. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set a time limit for the appointment of Member in the NHRC in its full strength consequent on retirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Members of the National Human Rights Commission are appointed as per Section 4 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 (PHR Act, 1993). At present, there is only one vacancy of Member in the National Human Rights Commission. The vacancy will be filled up in accordance with the provisions laid down in the PHR Act, 1993.

Technology to Recycle Steel Refuse

1965. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop a new technology to recycle/use the refuse generated in the process of making steel, as reported in the Hindi daily 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated February 11, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the manner in which this technology is likely to put to the maximum use; and

(d) the time by which this technology is likely to use for commercial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Setting Up of Rescue Team

1966. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that hundreds of people die every year due to non-availability of well equipped Search and Rescue Team in the country to handle the relief work during Natural Disaster/Manmade Disasters;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to raise such Rescue Team to undertake relief work as and when required in any part of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a Search and Rescue Team consisting of Fire Brigade Personnel, Medical Personnel, Engineers etc. to undertake the relief work during floods, cyclone, earthquake, etc.;

(e) if so, the name of the other States sent such proposals to Union Government; and

(f) the status of such proposals as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Home Affairs have earmarked six Companies each of CISF and ITBP as Specialized Rapid Response Units for search and rescue and emergency response in the wake of disasters. In addition, four CISF Companies have also been earmarked for Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) disasters. The specialized training process has started.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Home Affairs, inter-alia, advised the State Governments to consider setting up specialized composite search and rescue teams comprising one Company of the State Armed Police trained and equipped to carry out specialized search and rescue, one mobile engineering unit with necessary equipment and one medical assistance team. The State Governments have also been advised that teams may be trained together so as to function as a unit under the overall charge or a designated officer. The steps taken by the State Governments will be reviewed in the Conference of Relief Commissioners of the State Governments in March, 2003.

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States

1967. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Centrally Sponsored Rural

Development Schemes have been transferred to the State plan;

(b) if so, since when the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor, Scheme-wise;

(c) whether the State Governments have been given the powers to decide on the priority and implementation of the schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Based on Zero-based budgeting exercise undertaken by the Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Planning Commission, the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) comprising the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS), along with the Annapurna Scheme, have been transferred to the State Plan from the year, 2002-03. The Funds have been released by the Ministry of Finance as Additional Central Assistance to the State Plan and the States/UTs have requisite flexibility in the choice and implementation of the Schemes.

[Translation]

Violation of Traffic Rules

1968. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Government has requested to Union Government for increasing the fine ten times from the existing one on violation of traffic rules by the auto rickshaw drivers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to amend Motor Vehicle Act while considering this request;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (d) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi had forwarded a proposal to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in its application to Delhi by, inter alia, providing for enhancement of penalties under the said Act. That Government has, however, been advised to re-examine the matter as there is, inter alia, already a proposal under the consideration of the Central Government for amendment of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to enhance some of the penalties under the Act.

[English]

Solar Powered Traffic Signals

1969. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage all State Governments to use solar energy to operate traffic lights;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith funds allocated to the State Governments for the purpose;

(c) whether any proposals have come from some State Governments on this subject; and

(d) if so, the details of the status of these proposals, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) No specific instruction has been issued by the Central Government to the States in this regard. However, under the non-plan scheme of modernization of State Police forces which the Ministry of Home Affairs operate on a 50:50 cost sharing basis, fund is allocated, inter alia, for traffic control equipment also. During 2002-03, two State Governments, namely Karnataka and Bihar have projected their requirements for solar powered traffic signal lights amounting to Rs. 45.00 lakh and Rs. 210.00 lakh respectively. The plan for Karnataka for modernization of their Police force for 2002-03 has been approved for

Rs. 160.01 crore including of solar powered traffic signals and Central share of Rs. 75.00 crore released to the State which includes Rs. 38,93,938.00 placed at the disposal of Directorate of Co-ordination (Police Wireless) for implementation of the POLNET Project in the State. The plan of Bihar has been received recently.

Mass Rapid Transit System for Bangalore

1970. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mass Rapid Transits System for the populous Bangalore City has not been fully undertaken;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which a final decision regarding undertaking of Metro Rail or ELRTS is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Draft Project Report (DPR) for medium—heavy rail based urban transportation system for Bangalore is under preparation and a decision in the matter can be taken only after the DPR becomes available.

Amendment in Criminal Law

1971. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 4395 on 17.12.2002 regarding the amendment in the criminal laws and state:

(a) whether any time schedule has been fixed for the committee set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. (Justice) V.S. Malimath former Chief Justice of Kerala and Karnataka High Courts to consider measures to revamp criminal justice system of the country; and

(b) if so, the time by which the recommendations of the committee are likely to be received by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) The term of the Committee set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Dr. (Justice) V.S. Malimath, former Chief Justice of Kerala and Karnataka High Courts, to consider measures to revamp criminal justice system of the country has been extended upto 31st March, 2003. The Committee has been asked to submit its report by that date.

[Translation]

Nangal Fertilizers Ltd.

1972. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 2578 acres of land out of the total land acquired by Nangal Fertilizers Ltd. Nangal, district Hoshiarpur, Punjab in the year 1957-58 is still in surplus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to return the same to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. National Fertilizers Ltd. does not have any surplus land measuring 2578 acres at Nangal. In 1957-58, 3690 acres of land was acquired by the State Government, for construction and implementation of Fertilizer Plant at Nangal. Out of this, 2578 acres of land had been utilized for construction of factory, township and other allied services. The remaining 1112 acres of land, rendered surplus to the requirement of NFL, was returned to the original land owners with the approval of the Board of Directors of the company as well as the State Government of Punjab in the year 1965-66.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Handpump/Pipe Water for Supply of Drinking Water

1973. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have introduced the Hand pump and pipe water scheme to supply drinking water in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of villages covered under the scheme especially in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Government have received any financial aid from the World Bank in this regard during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government are satisfied with its performance and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL):

(a) Water Supply is a State subject. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State in this regard by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers to sanction individual water supply schemes have been delegated to the States. Various States have introduced hand pumps and piped water supply schemes in the rural drinking water supply sector.

(b) Statement-I showing the number of rural habitations covered with drinking water supply during the 9th Five Year Plan is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Details of the financial aid received from the World Bank in the rural water supply sector during the last 3 years is enclosed in the Statement-II enclosed.

(e) The World Bank projects are at various stages of implementation. The Government is generally satisfied with the progress of these projects.

Statement-I*Coverage of Rural Habitations during Ninth Plan
Under Rural Water Supply**(as per information received from States
upto 14.2.2003)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total during 9th Plan Habitations Covered		
		NC	PC	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	380	14577	14957
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	534	486	1020
3.	Assam	6702	6789	13491
4.	Bihar	4527	16247	20774
5.	Chhattisgarh	1208	9599	10807
6.	Goa	30	51	81
7.	Gujarat	1626	4776	6402
8.	Haryana	105	3123	3228
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4508	4210	8718
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1354	1270	2624
11.	Jharkhand	268	106	374
12.	Karnataka	2101	31826	33927
13.	Kerala	365	1692	2057
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14728	46159	60887
15.	Maharashtra	4831	25910	30741
16.	Manipur	378	556	934
17.	Meghalaya	933	1122	2055
18.	Mizoram	54	939	993
19.	Nagaland	115	187	302

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Orissa	10835	10819	21654
21.	Punjab	1179	926	2105
22.	Rajasthan	11245	27046	38291
23.	Sikkim	0	641	641
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	32287	32287
25.	Tripura	889	2631	3520
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2939	81669	84608
27.	Uttaranchal	238	530	768
28.	West Bengal	932	29133	30065
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	81	81
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	36	212	248
31.	Daman and Diu	0	4	4
32.	Delhi	0	62	62
33.	Lakshadweep	0	21	21
34.	Pondicherry	0	47	47
Total		73040	355734	428774

Statement-II*Details of Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Projects funded by the World Bank under implementation in the States :*

- (i) The UP Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project costing US \$ 71.0 million, with World Bank assistance of US \$ 52.4 million (revised) is under implementation in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal. The project implementation started in August 1996 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of May, 2003.
- (ii) A World Bank assisted "Kerala Rural Water

Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project" is under implementation in Kerala, commencing from January, 2001, with an approved cost of US \$ 89.8 million. The project is expected to be completed by the year 2007.

- (iii) A World Bank assisted "Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project" has been launched on 11th February, 2002 in Karnataka State for implementation. The project is likely to cost US \$ 193.44 million. The project is expected to be completed by 2007.

IAS Officers in Kendriya Bhandar

1974. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 1381 dated 27.11.2002 and state :

- (a) whether the information has since been collected.
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report in the news-item under reference that the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has on its strength more IAS officers than it needs is not factually correct. The rapidly increasing population of the National Capital Territory has made it imperative to strengthen and expand the infrastructural facilities in Delhi and have the developmental activities executed through senior officers in larger numbers.

Facilities for Teachers

1975. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the new National Policy on Education

has accorded highest place of honour to the teacher for their contribution in nation building;

(b) if so, whether the conditions of their services in Government schools including salaries, allowances and perks still fall far too short of their responsibility;

(c) whether the health services, support and security given to them is comparatively much less than those accorded to other Government employees, under Central Government Health Scheme;

(d) if so, whether similar (CGHS) and State Government Health facilities are proposed to be extended to them;

(e) if so, the present health security provided to teachers; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the same and bring them at par with other Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (f) The role of Teachers has been well recognised in the National Policy on Education, 1986, as modified in 1992. As large number of schools are under State Governments and local bodies, the service conditions of Teachers (including their salary and other perquisites) are decided by the respective State Governments and local bodies. However, National Fund for Teacher Welfare under the Chairmanship of Minister for Human Resource Development extends support for basic amenities for teachers and provides assistance to teachers in indigent circumstances.

Regularisation of Encroachment in Andaman and Nicobar

1976. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accepted the proposal for regularisation of all pre-1961 encroachments in Andaman and Nicobar Islands without any ceiling and without any premium; and

(b) if so, the total number of persons likely to be benefited by the total area of the land involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The proposal received from the Andaman and Nicobar Administration for regularization of the excess area of land in possession of various individuals and organizations in Port Blair Municipal area as per 1961 survey is under consideration of the Government.

Revamping Vocational Courses

1977. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Board of Secondary Education propose to revamp the vocational courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to make the courses more in tune with the needs of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Board of Secondary Education has decided to drop unpopular courses from the Vocational stream.

(c) The CBSE is considering to introduce new courses which are relevant in the modern, industrial and economic context.

Export of Spurious Drugs

1978. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious drugs are being exported from India to African Countries and recently a consignment ready to be exported to African Countries has been detected and caught near Mumbai in Ambarnath;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Ministries of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Health and Family Welfare and Commerce and

Industry are doing any coordination and joint action in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government to check such Exports.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (e) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Inter University Centres

1979. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-University centres in frontline disciplines have been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be achieved by these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has set up as many as 6 Inter University Centres (IUCs), out of which the following 3 IUCs are singularly devoted for frontline disciplines :

IUCs	Objective
Nuclear Science Centre, New Delhi	Nuclear Science oriented research
Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune	State-of-the-art instrumentation for research in astronomy
Inter University Consortium for Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) facilities, Indore	Research based on higher education in the area of utilization of reactors and other accelerators.

Grant of Citizenship

1980. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for solving issues related to the citizenship of individuals, having Pakistan citizenship and settled at Malappuram district of Kerala alongwith their family during early period of free india;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether any inquiry has been initiated by district Collector of Malappuram on denial of ration card to the family members of individuals, who are citizens of India by birth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Auditing of Manpower in BCCL

1981. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the auditing of man-power in Bharat Coking Coal Limited during the last three years till 15th February, 2003, year-wise;

(b) whether the work relating to auditing of man-power has been completed;

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the said auditing is being done through some agency;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the auditing is also being done by the in-experience students of the college indirectly;

(g) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(h) the outcome of the auditing of manpower so far?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) As informed by Coal India Limited (CIL), no expenditure was incurred in Bharat Coking Coal Limited on audit of manpower in the last three years till February, 2003. The departmental executives undertake audit of manpower.

(b) No, Madam. It is under progress.

(c) It is continuous process and is done at regular intervals.

(d) No, Madam. As given in reply to part (a), audit of manpower is undertaken by the departmental executives.

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

(f) No, Madam.

(g) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (f) above.

(h) As informed by CIL, as a result of auditing, Company had updated statutory and other records and improved system of manpower reporting was adopted.

Delhi Police

1982. SHARI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any recommendation to take action against ten Assistance Commissioners of Police working with the Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the date on which this recommendation was received by the Government;

(c) the details of allegations levelled against these Assistant Commissioners of police;

(d) the details of the officers against whom the action has been taken so far and the action taken thereon;

(e) whether such police commissioners are still working with the Delhi Police; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Ni, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Indian Language

1983. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer given to USQ No. 4659 on 19.12.2000 and state :

(a) the reasons for making available three fonts in Hindi for wide use in public domain whereas only one font has been made available in other Indian languages alongwith the details in regard to all the three fonts in Hindi;

(b) whether the Government would recognize only one font of Hindi of the national level so that the people working in Hindi may get uniformity everywhere; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has done so in the initial stages. However, it is desirable to have more and more fonts in public domain to promote e-content creation in Indian Languages. Three fonts of Hindi are DV-TT Yogesh, DV-TT Ganesh and DV-TT Surekh.

(b) and (c) ISCII (Indian Script Code for Information Interchange) is the standard for internal storage. This ensures uniformity, whereas there may be a variety of fonts.

Action against Guilty Officials

1984. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of guilty officials indicating IAS/IPS removed/dismissed after inquiry of CVC and CBI during the last three years as on date;

(b) the number of guilty officials not yet removed/dismissed despite the CVC/CBI enquiry;

(c) the reasons for their non-removal/dismissal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Two officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and one officer of the Indian Police Service (IPS) have been dismissed from service during the last three years.

(b) to (d) CBI, after investigation, recommends departmental proceedings or criminal prosecution depending on the evidence adduced during investigation. On conclusion of the departmental proceedings, penalties as provided under the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969 including dismissal/removal are imposed by the concerned Disciplinary Authority after consultation with Central Vigilance Commission and the Union Public Service Commission.

Delhi Metro Rail Project

1985. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the labourers working under Delhi Metro Rail Project are being exploited due to under payment of their dues as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated January 21, 2003;

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

(c) the number labourers and hours for which they are engaged for work at present and the remuneration being paid to them under the DMR Project; and

(d) the persons responsible for exploitation of labourers and the action taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The news report states that labourers engaged for construction of Delhi Metro are not being paid minimum wages, are being made to work upto 10 hours per day instead of 8 hours and that facilities such as First Aid do not exist at work sites.

Labour Inspectors from the office of Regional Labour Commissioner carry out surprise inspections to check the wages being paid to labourers, their working hours and availability of facilities such as First Aid at work sites. No complaint in regard to any of these items has so far been received by DMRC from the Labour Inspectors.

(c) Implementation of Delhi Metro Project is being

done through the agency of contractors and DMRC itself has not engaged any labourers for this purpose.

Number of labourers engaged by contractors at present is 9319.

The labourers work in shifts of eight hours per day for which minimum daily wages being paid to them by the contractors are as fixed by the Delhi Government.

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

Expansion of NALCO

1986. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expansion of NALCO was undertaken in the recent past;

(b) if so, when and the amount incurred thereon;

(c) the extent to which it augmented the production capacity of the company;

(d) whether a new expansion programme has also been drawn up for NALCO; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the capacity expansion projects of NALCO are given below :

Projects	Capacity after Expansion	Completion Status	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
Bauxite Mines	24 lakh MTY to 48 lakh MTY	Completed in December, 1999	80
Alumina Refinery	8.0 lakh MTY to 15.75 lakh MTY	Completed in December, 2001	1335

1	2	3	4
Aluminium Smelter	2.3 lakh MTY to 3.45 lakh MTY	Mechanical completion achieved in January 2003	1875.75 (upto 31.1.03)
7th unit of CPP	720 MW to 840 MW	Completed in December, 2002	
8th unit of CPP	840 MW to 960 MW	Completion expected in December, 2003	294.04 (upto 31.1.03)

(d) and (e) NALCO's proposal for 2nd phase expansion has not yet been approved by the Government in view of the impending disinvestment of the company.

[English]

Prices of Essential Drugs

1987. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL ;
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR ;
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to amend the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to amend the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

Condition of Sub-ways in Delhi

1988. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of the sub-ways in Delhi is horrible and unsafe particularly for the girls and women;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the condition of sub-ways both from the safety and cleanliness point of view;

(c) the number of sub-ways not in use alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount spent on these sub-ways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Nexus of CIL Officials with Mafia

1989. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that several Coal India Limited officials are having deep nexus with Coal Mafia and causing losses to coal mines;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any secret investigations have been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and plans envisaged to break such nexus and to award punishment to officials involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) to (d) There is no information as on date about any such deep nexus of officials of Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies with the mafias causing losses to Coal Mines. As such, the question of conducting any secret investigation does not arise. However, whenever reports of any irregularities are received, the Government and the coal companies take necessary corrective measures.

Private Security Agency

1990. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the private security agencies are mushrooming in the country especially in the metro cities in name of providing protection and security to the people;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such private agencies functioning in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any guidelines to verify bonafides of their owners and employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that private security agencies have been operating in the country including in the metro cities. However, no data is maintained of such agencies by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) A bill has been moved in the Rajya Sabha to regulate private security agencies.

Liberalized Pension Scheme for Retired Employee

1991. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the petition committee of Lok Sabha in their first report submitted to the Lok Sabha in 16th March, 2002 in response to a petition from a retired officer of the Coal India Limited recommended that the said employees should be given option to switch over to liberalized pension scheme;

(b) whether it is also fact that the Lok Sabha Petition Committee in their report to the Lok Sabha submitted on 26th August, 2002 after consideration of action taken report of the Government further recommended that in terms of Presidential order dated 16.8.1965 the erstwhile employees of Coal Production and Development Commissioner (CPDC) should not be deprived of facility of liberalized pension scheme and other related benefits after they transfer to NCDC and then to CIL; and

(c) if so, the action the Government propose to take for implementation of the said recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This Ministry had consulted Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, which is the administrative Ministry for implementation of the Pension Scheme for the Government servants. Recommendations of the Committee were examined in Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare and in view of the extant rules/guidelines, that Department arrived at the conclusion that it was not possible to implement recommendations of Lok Sabha Petition Committee. A detailed response on the observations/recommendations made by the Committee on Petitions has already been sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat with the approval of Minister of Coal and Mines.

**Diversion of Funds under Rural
Development Scheme**

1992. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and CBI have reports of diversion and siphoning of crores of rupees by the Uttar Pradesh Government officials meant for Rural Development Scheme as mentioned in *Hindustan Times* dated 03 February, 2003;

(b) if so, the details and the facts in this regard;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the guilty officials; and

(d) steps being taken to check recurrence of such cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been alleged that three Senior Officers were running two voluntary organizations under the names of Gram Vikas Sansthan and Palas, through their wives and relatives, which were allocated funds out of Central Grants received from Integrated Wastelands Development Programme, to the tune of Rs. 20 crores. Allegations of embezzlement and financial irregularities have been made.

(c) The Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to notify the consent of the State Government to undertake investigation in the matter.

(d) The Minister of Rural Development has been taking steps to strengthen monitoring and has also reconstituted Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State and District levels.

PMGSY Road Project in Bihar

1993. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Project is much behind the schedules and in some segments has always come to a standstill in Bihar as reported in Indian Express dated February 6, 2003;

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

(c) the details of the segments where the construction work is behind schedule and has come to a standstill;

(d) the details of impediments in the completion of the road project; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for timely completion of the road project in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) The news item titled 'PM's road project under siege by Naxalites' appearing in Indian Express dated February 6, 2003 does not relate to the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Most Backward Districts

1994. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have analysed the causes and consequences of backwardness of most backward districts in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to root out backwardness of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) A Committee (headed by Dr. E.A.S. Sarma, the then Principal Advisor, Planning Commission) was constituted in 1997 to, inter-alia, identify the 100 most backward and poorest districts in the country. The broad parameters adopted by the Committee to analyze the causes of backwardness, included indicators of deprivation (poverty ratio) and social and economic infrastructure. The Committee identified 100 most backward and poorest districts in the country. A State-wise list of these districts is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing programmes pertaining, inter-alia to poverty alleviation, employment generation, infrastructure development, watershed development, social security and land reforms, with a view to improve the quality of life in the rural areas and assist people below the poverty line. These programmes are being closely monitored and are being evaluated from time to time. The allocation driven programmes, having specific targets, are also being implemented in amongst other, these 100 most backward and poorest districts.

As per information received from Planning Commission, the Development and Reform Facility (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana) has been initiated in the Tenth Plan in order to help in the development of backward areas through schemes which will address the problems of low agricultural productivity, unemployment and fill critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure.

Statement

List of Most Backward and Poorest Districts as identified by the Sarma Committee

S.No.	Name of Districts
1	2
Bihar and Jharkhand	
1.	Nalanda

1	2
2.	Bhojpur
3.	Ranchi
4.	Aurangabad
5.	Jehanabad
6.	Gaya
7.	Nawada
8.	Saran
9.	Siwan
10.	Gopalganj
11.	Pashim Champaran
12.	Purba Champaran
13.	Sitamarhi
14.	Muzaffarpur
15.	Vaishali
16.	Begusarai
17.	Samastipur
18.	Darbhanga
19.	Madhubani
20.	Saharsa
21.	Madhepura
22.	Purnea
23.	Katihar
24.	Khagaria
25.	Munger

1	2	1	2
26.	Bhagalpur	45.	Panna
27.	Godda	46.	Sagar
28.	Sahibganj	47.	Damoh
29.	Dumka	48.	Khargone
30.	Deogarh	49.	Khandwa
31.	Giridih	50.	Vidisha
32.	Hazaribagh	51.	Sheore
33.	Palamau	52.	Raisen
34.	Lohardagga	53.	Betul
35.	Gumla	54.	Hoshangabad
36.	Pachim Singhbhum	55.	Narsimhapur
37.	Araria	56.	Mandla
38.	Kishanganj	57.	Chhindwara
	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	58.	Seoni
39.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	59.	Balaghat
	Haryana	60.	Rajnandgaon
40.	Kaithal	61.	Surguja
	Himachal Pradesh		Maharashtra
41.	Hamirpur	62.	Aurangabad
	Karnataka	63.	Jalna
42.	Bidar	64.	Parbhani
	Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh	65.	Beed
43.	Tikamgarh	66.	Nanded
44.	Chhatarpur	67.	Osmanabad

1	2
68.	Latur
69.	Buldana
70.	Gdadchiroli
71.	Yavatmal
	Orissa
72.	Phulbani
73.	Kalahandi
74.	Koraput
75.	Keonjhar
	Rajaasthan
76.	Dungarpur
77.	Banswara
	Sikkim
78.	West Sikkim
79.	South Sikkim
	Uttar Pradesh and Uttranchal
80.	Sitapur
81.	Hardoi
82.	Unnao
83.	Rae Bareli
84.	Jalaun
85.	Lalitpur

1	2
86.	Hamirpur
87.	Banda
88.	Fatehpur
89.	Pratapgarh
90.	Bahraich
91.	Barabanki
92.	Sidharthnagar
93.	Maharajganj
94.	Jhansi
95.	Mau
96.	Kanpur Dehat
	West Bangal
97.	Cooch Behar
98.	Jalpaiguri
99.	Maldah
100.	Darjeeling

**Conversion of Loan Component
into Grants**

1995. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kamataka has requested the Union Government to convert the loan component into 100% grant under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns scheme; and

(b) if so, the reaction fo the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One of the suggestions forwarded by the Government of Karnataka to the Government of India for consideration pertained to conversion of loan component into 100% grant under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Scheme. As per the IDSMT guidelines, conversion of loan into grant is not permissible.

**Setting up of Phosphorous
Based Industries**

1996. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to relax the norms for setting up of phosphorous plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the performance of the existing plants in the country, State-wise;

(c) the total quantity and value of phosphorous products produced and sold in last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that the export and import of phosphorous products has hit a low in the recent years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHATTRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) There is no licensing restriction for the establishment of phosphorous plants in the country.

(c) to (e) There are numerous compounds of phosphorous produced, imported and exported in the country. No analysis of export-import data relating to these compounds has been undertaken by the Government.

[Translation]

National Social Assistance Programme

1997. SHRI KAILASH MEGHAWAL :
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programmes and schemes implemented by the Government under National Social Assistance Programme during the last three years alongwith the funds allocated and agencies involved, State-wise; and

(b) the number of beneficiaries under the Programme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) The Ministry of Rural Development had been administering the National Social Assistance Programme which comprised the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) until the Scheme was transferred to the State Plan from the financial year 2002-03. Under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), the Central assistance was being made available to the States/UTs for payment of a monthly pension of Rs. 75/- to the destitutes aged 65 years and above. Under National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS), the Central assistance of Rs. 10,000 was provided for the households below the poverty line on the death of the primary breadwinner in the bereaved family. The funds allocated for these Schemes during the last three years and the agencies involved, State-wise, are given in the Statement-I.

(b) The number of beneficiaries reported by the States/UTs during the last three years is given in the statement-II.

Statement-I

*Agencies involved and the funds allocated to the States/UTs
during the years 1999-2000 to 2001-02.*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	District Level Agencies	National Old Age Pension Scheme			National Family Benefit Scheme		
			1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	DRDA	4361.76	4361.76	3917.63	3035.50	3035.52	2391.35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	DRDA	57.12	181.26	181.26	22.88	67.78	54.82
3.	Assam	DLC	826.98	2624.34	2624.34	646.36	1552.78	1473.14
4.	Bihar	DRDA	6877.24	5144.85	4620.99	1700.02	1234.38	972.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	Zila Panchayat		1243.22	1116.63		1053.35	829.83
6.	Goa	DRDA	27.94	27.94	25.10	12.22	12.22	9.63
7.	Gujarat	DLC	561.60	561.60	504.42	158.76	158.75	125.07
8.	Haryana	DRDA	535.80	535.80	481.24	54.21	54.21	42.71
9.	Himachal Pradesh	DRDA	236.55	236.55	212.46	30.72	30.72	24.20
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	DLC	317.26	317.26	284.96	57.38	57.38	45.20
11.	Jharkhand	DRDA		1732.39	1555.99		465.63	366.82
12.	Karnataka	DLC	2959.63	2959.63	2658.27	649.22	649.22	511.49
13.	Kerala	DLC	1396.31	1396.31	1254.13	382.10	382.10	301.02
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Zila Panchayat	4585.46	3342.24	3001.92	3957.46	2904.11	2287.84
15.	Maharashtra	DLC	4158.51	4158.51	3735.07	1014.01	1026.73	808.86
16.	Manipur	DLC	103.06	327.06	327.06	28.60	65.00	61.66
17.	Meghalaya	DRDA	111.13	352.67	352.67	34.32	72.22	68.52
18.	Mizoram	DLC	37.44	98.51	98.51	11.44	21.67	20.58
19.	Nagaland	DLC	80.71	256.13	256.13	17.16	36.11	34.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
20. Orissa	DLC		3120.62	3682.21	3307.28	1346.69	1346.69	1060.92
21. Punjab	DLC		386.79	386.79	347.41	134.16	134.16	105.69
22. Rajasthan	Zila Parishad		1474.54	1474.54	1324.40	468.16	468.16	368.81
23. Sikkim	DLC		29.80	94.57	94.57	5.72	21.67	20.56
24. Tamil Nadu	DLC		3276.00	3276.00	2942.43	1904.76	1904.76	1500.56
25. Tripura	DLC		178.19	565.46	565.46	72.54	122.78	116.48
26. Uttar Pradesh	DLC		8264.83	7861.76	7061.24	3021.90	2775.42	2186.46
27. Uttaranchal	DLC			403.07	362.03		246.48	194.18
28. West Bengal	DRDA		3312.50	3312.50	2975.21	975.73	975.73	768.68
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	UT Administration		17.38	17.38	15.61	2.86	2.86	2.25
30. Chandigarh	Social Welfare Department		13.66	13.66	12.27	2.86	2.86	2.25
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	UT Administration		11.80	11.80	10.60	2.86	2.86	2.25
32. Daman and Diu	UT Administration		2.48	2.48	2.23	2.86	2.86	2.25
33. NCT Delhi	Social Welfare Department		249.58	249.58	224.17	31.46	31.46	24.78
34. Lakshadweep	UT Administration		1.86	1.86	1.67	2.86	2.86	2.25
35. Pondicherry	UT Administration		49.05	49.05	44.06	2.86	2.86	2.25
Total			47623.58	51260.75	46499.42	19790.64	20914.36	16790.05

DLC : District Level Committee on NSAP.

DRDA : District Rural Development Agency.

Statement-II

*Number of Beneficiaries reported by the States/UTs
during the years 1999-2000 to 2001-02*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	National Old Age Pension Scheme			National Family Benefit Scheme		
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	466000	466001	466000	30418	31477	25849
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2347	1205	2480	35	105	55
3.	Assam	85052	262719	287573	5036	7357	14181
4.	Bihar	741195	509938	639086	21538	13725	10272
5.	Chhattisgarh		146519	140576		9448	8391
6.	Goa	2195	2122	3270	260	193	57
7.	Gujarat	63862	68108	62755	2540	2315	2040
8.	Haryana	33201	35993	50372	461	568	787
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15176	25250	23291	451	307	546
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	31291	33620	16413	555	389	207
11.	Jharkhand		175437	151990		2664	3233
12.	Karnataka	228309	258402	183265	4602	5643	1449
13.	Kerala	119507	114698	141165	4701	3389	2907
14.	Madhya Pradesh	586400	429490	442484	37766	31465	22314
15.	Maharashtra	330948	319144	397366	16884	11073	2589
16.	Manipur	5836	25972	27354	103	307	7731
17.	Meghalaya	9102	18743	32685	202	527	673
18.	Mizoram	4094	10523	10523	73	194	170
19.	Nagaland	5917	18045	8106	70	310	235
20.	Orissa	330272	384174	492366	16858	16073	9644

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21. Punjab		32859	40283	45265	407	1451	966
22. Rajasthan		451325	148815	101460	4747	3698	2408
23. Sikkim		2400	10104	10104	0	125	23
24. Tamil Nadu		398791	339481	314362	18591	16876	14209
25. Tripura		15507	57912	60227	631	916	1033
26. Uttar Pradesh		940539	841340	944758	38768	25640	23066
27. Uttaranchal			50097	45002		6932	812
28. West Bengal		350810	352016	331224	9886	9756	6553
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	14	0	0	0	0
30. Chandigarh		1763	2532	2714	40	29	23
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		252	895	0	0	20	9
32. Daman and Diu		262	229	241	3	7	1
33. NCT Delhi		24156	0	0	156	40	0
34. Lakshdweep		0	23	41	2	0	12
35. Pondicherry		1500	4179	4180	27	0	44
Total		5280868	5154023	5438698	215811	203019	162489

[English]

(d) if so, the reasons and consequences thereof?

Stagnation in ITBP

1998. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the civilian Ministerial staff in Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) is facing stagnation because of lack of promotional avenues;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to rectify the situation;

(c) whether the combatisation is still in existence in ITBP; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) . (a) to (d) In the interest of better discipline and control, an order to combatise certain civilian cadres in the Central Para Military Forces was issued by the Government in 1989, which is still in vogue. In cumbents of the civilian posts were given option to opt for combatisation within a period of three months. Those who did not opt for combatisation would continue in the civilian posts until superannuation.

Further recruitments in the resultant vacancies is to be made only in the combatised ranks.

Policy for Hawkers

199^a. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a task force was set up by the Centre to look into the problems of street vendors to regulate their activities as well as improve their working conditions;

(b) if so, whether the task force has submitted its recommendations to the Union Government;

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the task force and the decision taken by the Union Government to rehabilitate the street vendors to earn their livelihood;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted about the number of street vendors in the urban areas, particularly the four metropolitan cities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the Union Government are likely to prepare a national policy for hawkers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Task Force have submitted the draft National Policy on Street Vendors to the Government and the same is being examined.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Draft National Policy on Street Vendors has been prepared and is being examined by the Government.

Functioning of Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata

2000. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received various requests from the Government of India Stationery Office Mazdoor Union, Kolkata, for allowing full-fledged functioning of Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata and its three other depots at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of MPs wrote to him/Prime Minister/Ministry by forwarding such requests of the said Union during 1.1.2001 and 31.12.2002; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken on the demands of the Union till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 18 letters have been received from 7 M.Ps, direct or through Prime Minister's Office during the period in question. Reply has been sent to 15 letters and remaining 3 letters are under process.

(d) The demands of the union which relate to full-fledged functioning of Government of India Stationery Office are linked with the Work Study Report vis-a-vis recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission. A final Decision on the demands would be taken after implementation of the Work Study Report.

Allotment of Plots by DDA

2001. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government Department/Under-taking/Statutory Organization which has been allotted plots of office purpose at reserved and or concessional rates

by Delhi Development Authority, with registered perpetual leased deed/unregistered is entitled for allotment of second plot at reserved/concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details of requests for such allotments made/pending indicating date of application, date of allotment and name(s) of the organisation(s) with terms and conditions of allotment alongwith reasons for any out of turn allotment during the last three years;

(c) Whether the allotments have been made, seniority-wise;

(d) if not, whether the DDA has initiated any action against the officers concerned for lapses negligence;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which the DDA is likely to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (g) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that the allotment to Government Department/Undertaking/Statutory Organisation is made in accordance with the provisions of Delhi Development Authority (Disposal of Developed Nazul Land) Rules, 1981, on the basis of the requirement

projected by such bodies from time to time and subject to the availability of land. There is no bar on allotment of additional/second plot to such organization/undertaking under the said Nazul Rules. The allotment of land to such organizations is a continuous process in which applications received from time to time are disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Nazul Rules and subject to availability of land. Each case is dealt separately and the question of out of turn allotment is not applicable. In view of this there is no lapse on part of any official.

Productivity Rate and Average Cost of Production of Coal

2002. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the productivity rate and average cost of production of coal of each of the open cast and underground mines in the country during the last three years till date, year-wise; and

(b) the estimated coal reserves in both these mines and in each of the closed mines as on December, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) The company-wise details of productivity in open cast and underground mines in the country for the last three years and till date is as under :

(in tonnes)

Company	Open Cast Mines				Under Ground Mines			
	Apr- Dec, 02	01-02	00-01	99-00	Apr- Dec, 02	01-02	00-01	99-00
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ECL	4.18	4.92	4.52	3.48	0.46	0.48	0.47	0.45
BCCL	2.34	2.70	2.76	2.49	0.54	0.49	0.51	0.52
CCL	3.69	3.23	3.14	3.06	0.45	0.44	0.42	0.40
NCL	10.11	10.39	10.46	9.29	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
WCL	4.00	4.18	3.99	4.07	0.90	0.85	0.82	0.78
SECL	12.33	10.03	9.95	9.31	0.91	0.96	0.93	0.93
MCL	18.74	17.32	15.72	15.81	0.88	0.77	0.73	0.71
NEC	6.77	3.79	3.52	2.84	0.16	0.28	0.31	0.28
CIL	6.29	6.08	5.92	5.46	0.66	0.64	0.63	0.61
SCCL	7.44	6.74	7.36	4.42	0.84	0.85	0.79	0.75
BSMDCL	6.61	8.23	13.32	21.00	0	0	0	0
DVC	NA	2.88	4.10	3.20	0	0	0	0
IISCO	NA	4.09	3.60	3.16	NA	0.48	0.43	0.61
JKML	0	0	0	0	NA	0.11	0.14	NA
BECML	25.91	20.16	19.10	22.00	0	0	0	0
JSPL	NA	9.72	13.41	14.67	0	0	0	0
TISCO	10.70	10.53	10.26	10.23	0.80	0.77	0.69	0.64

The average cost of production of coal in underground and open cast mines in Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for the last three years and till date is as under :

(Rs./tonne)

Year	CIL		SCCL	
	Open cast	Underground	Open cast	Underground
1999-00	356.80	1289.79	488.16	1163.54
2000-01	377.96	1454.78	542.32	1351.80
2001-02	381.97	1499.47	545.39	1309.41
2002-03*	404.62	1595.42	493.21	1317.73

*CIL—upto Sept, 02 and SCCL—upto Dec, 02

(b) The total coal reserves in the country as on 1.1.2003 are 240.748 billion tonnes, out of which 90.085 billion tonnes are proven reserves, 112.613 billion tonnes are indicated reserves and 38.050 billion tonnes are

inferred reserves.

Left out coal reserves in the working seams of the mines closed due to reasons other than exhaustion is

estimated to be around 80 million tonnes in CIL. Mine-wise details with left out reserves in million tonnes shown in brackets are as follows :

1. Krishnanagar (.04)
2. Seetalpur (12)
3. Shankarpur (6)
4. Girmint (3.6)
5. Mahabir (5.6)
6. Kankartala (6)
7. Shampur A (0.96)
8. Ena (19)
9. Tasra (2.05)
10. Bhurundia (0.19)
11. Dharamaband (0.5)
12. Kujama (5.84)
13. Gaslitand (0.25)
14. Kenduadih (2.76)
15. Teturia (0.7)
16. Victoria (3.1)
17. Domnara (8.37)
18. Rungta (2.1)

[Translation]

**Allotment of Government Accommodation
on Security Considerations**

2003. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided

Government accommodation to certain people on security considerations;

(b) if so, the names of such persons as on date;

(c) the norms laid down for allotting Government accommodation on security considerations;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed these norms;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the basis of the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION
(SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (1) Smt. Priyanka Gandhi Vadhea

(2) Sh. M.S. Bitta

(3) Sh. K.P.S. Gill

(4) Sh. Ashwini Kumar

(c) to (e) In pursuance of the Supreme Court Judgement in the PIL CWP No. 585/94, norms were framed for allotment of Government accommodation, not more than Type-VI allotment on payment of Market Rent/Special Licence fee on security considerations to Z+Security protectees. Every such allotment should be made with the approval of Cabinet Committee on Accommodation on Ministry of Home Affairs' recommendations. These norms were reviewed and revised guidelines issued on 27.12.2000 restricting such allotments only to Special Protection Group protectees on payment of Market rate of Licence fee. The earlier condition for surrender of the own house by the protectees was dropped. An exception was made in the cases of S/Sh. M.S. Bitta and K.P.S. Gill who are not Special Protection Group protectees.

(f) In the case of S/Sh. Bitta and Gill, Ministry of Home Affairs have reviewed the Security coverage and

recommended further extension. In respect of Smt. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Sh. Ashwini Kumar also extension of retention is allowed from time to time in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[English]

Ban on Mining on Asbestos

2004. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mining of Asbestos is presently banned in the country on health grounds;

(b) if so, whether many countries have lifted similar bans after recent research reports that Asbestos did not affect the health of the miners;

(c) if so, whether the Asbestos mine holders especially from the State of Rajasthan have requested the Government to lift the ban in order to create more employment opportunities;

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

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) (a) Grant of fresh mining leases and renewal of existing mining leases for asbestos are presently banned in India on health grounds.

(b) No, the Central Government are not aware of some countries having lifted ban on asbestos mining.

(c) to (e) Asbestos mines owners of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have represented before the Central Government to allow grant of fresh/renewal of asbestos mining leases in the country. Government have not lifted ban on grant of fresh/renewal of mining leases for asbestos in the country.

Losses suffered by Chemical and Fertilizers Units due to Power Failures

2005. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chemical and Fertilizers units suffer heavy losses due to power failure/crisis in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the total loss suffered by these units due to power failure;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that diesel generators are not able to meet the demands of the fertilizers units;

(f) if so, the facts thereof;

(g) whether the Government propose to install high power generators to meet the power failures in these units;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (d) In so far as units in the public sector are concerned, Chemical Units are not incurring losses due to power failure/crisis.

In respect of Fertilizer Units, six Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are incurring annual losses. The losses are due to a variety of reasons, including power failure. The losses suffered by these PSUs during the last three years are given in the Statement enclosed.

(e) to (i) The Chemicals and Fertilizer Public Sector units have either diesel generation sets or captive power plants of varying capacities depending upon their needs to safeguard against interruption of power supply.

Statement

List of Fertilizer PSUs which have incurred losses

(Rs. Crore)

Name of the PSU	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	-39.80	-151.95	0.57
Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.	23.96	-141.03	-259.43 Disinvested** w.e.f. 28.02.02
Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	6.33@	-29.76	-66.10
Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd.	-70.18	-108.30	-114.20
Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	-854.99	-951.36	-1104.11
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.	-564.23	-767.72	-799.66
Projects, Development and India Ltd.	-19.88	-32.66	-36.66

**From 4/01 to 9/02 (18 months)

@From Oct. '99 to March, 2000 (6 months)

Student-Teacher Ratio in Technical Institutions and Engineering Colleges

2006. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council of Technical Education has specified any students-teacher ratio for the under-graduate course in technical institutions and engineering colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the engineering colleges and institutions are blatantly violating such guidelines; and

(d) if so, the action initiated by the AICTE to ensure that such recognised colleges maintain the student-teacher ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per information furnished by All India Council for Technical Education

(AICTE), the teacher-students ratio for under-graduate degree level technical institution in Engineering and Technology is 1:15.

(c) and (d) It has come to the notice of AICTE that certain institutions are not able to fulfil the requirement of Teacher-student ratio mainly due to shortage of teachers. Based on reports of the Expert Committees, AICTE initially serves notice on the defaulting institution. If any institute still fails to fulfil the requirement, AICTE either puts such institute under 'No Admission' category or reduce its "Approved Intake". In cases where serious deficiencies are noticed, AICTE initiates action for withdrawal of approval to such Institutions.

[Translation]

Transfer of Employees to Chhattisgarh

2007. SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints of discontentment have been received due to sending officers/employees to Chhattisgarh State after the division of Madhya Pradesh State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) The Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Madhya Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2000 has issued final allocation orders allocating State service personnel to the successor States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Representations have been received, including from State service personnel who did not get an opportunity earlier to represent in terms of the Tentative Final Allocation List. Government is seized of the matter in respect of such persons.

[English]

Swadhar Scheme

2008. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of women who got benefit through Swadhar Yojana Scheme;

(b) the amount of funds allocated for this scheme during the budget of 2002-2003; and

(c) the number of Swadhar Schemes sanctioned in the country for NGOs during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : (a) Around 3000 women have been benefited through Swadhar scheme so far.

(b) Rs. 10 crore have been allocated for Swadhar Scheme in 2002-2003.

(c) 12 projects have been sanctioned during 2002-2003 so far.

Problems faced by Pesticide Industry

2009. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that pesticide industry has been facing problems regarding delay in securing registration from central insecticides board, environmental clearance, and high incidence of excise duty and sales tax;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) Representations in this regard have been received from the Pesticide Industry Associations. Government has set up an Inter-Ministerial Group of Officers to go into various issues concerning the pesticide industry. This group also includes the representatives of the pesticide industry and meets regularly to discuss various problems faced by the pesticide industry.

Amendment to Human Rights Act

2010. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Justice Ahemadi former Chief Justice of India has recommended amendments in the working of NHRC by modifying the Human Rights Act 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the recommendations of justice A.M. Ahmedi Committee, the National Human Rights Commission has suggested certain amendments to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The Government has initiated action in the matter.

[Translation]

Retirement Age

2011. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to bring down the retirement age for Central Government employees from 60 years to 58 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The Fifth Central Pay Commission, in its report, had recommended for increase in the age of retirement of the Central Government employees from 58 to 60 years. The Government after taking into account this recommendation and all other relevant factors decided to accept the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission and raised the age of retirement of the employees of the Central Government vide order dated 13.5.98.

[English]

Engineering Books

2012. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to make available engineering books at the cheaper rates as

reported in the Hindi daily "Rashtriya Sahara" dated February 11, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have provided any financial assistance to the Professors of IITs for the purpose;

(d) if so, the quantum of assistance given and the manner in which the assistance has been given; and

(e) the time by which these books are likely to be made available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to formulate a scheme which will ensure supply of quality engineering text books at reasonable prices for students. No financial assistance has been provided so far for this purpose.

Efforts to save Banans from Extinction

2013. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bananas, may face extinction within 10 years on account of pests and diseases; and

(b) if so, the genetic engineering efforts proposed to save bananas from going extinct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) and (b) As per the report in an international journal, New Scientist (January, 2003), a leading researcher has stated that Bananas could be wiped out by two diseases, namely, Panama disease and Black Sigatoka, that have struck Africa, South America and Asia. However the reports by American Phytopathological Society (APS) and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) state that banana is not on the verge of extinction since it is unlikely that these diseases will prove fatal.

These diseases can be controlled through use of fungicides and pesticides. In addition, use of germplasm of greater genetic diversity for plantation and developing genetically engineered disease resistant plants will also help in tackling this problem. Studies on genetic engineering and genomics are underway in many research laboratories in India and abroad.

So far, there is no risk of extinction of Banana in India because bananas are cultivated under polyclonal system, whereas it is grown as monoclonal system in Latin America and Caribbean countries. India harbours a wide range of banana varieties; some of which constitute a valuable gene pool which can be used to develop resistance to major pests and diseases for use in developing improved varieties.

Funding through Tax Free Municipal Bonds

2014. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any requests for funding through tax free Municipal Bonds to give impetus to housing activities in Municipal and Urban Areas;

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

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Central Government has inserted a new clause (vii) to Section 10(15) of the income Tax Act, 1961 vide the Finance Act, 2000, whereby interest income from Bonds issued by local authorities are exempted from income tax. As per the guidelines circulated for issue of Tax Free Municipal bonds by the local Government/authorities, funding of housing activities is not one of the areas meant for use of funds raised through these bonds.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Unemployment in Orissa

2015. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing unemployment in the scheduled districts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate employment in these districts;

(d) the schemes launched by the Government to provide employment in these districts; and

(e) the extent to which these schemes have been able to generate employment in these districts of the State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) District-wise estimates on employment and unemployment are not available.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development, through the State Government, is implementing wage employment programme—Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)—and Self Employment Programme—Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in all districts of Orissa.

(e) The physical achievements under these programmes during 1999-2000, 2000-2001, and 2001-2002 in the districts of Balasore, Boudh, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur and Sundergarh, having scheduled areas, are given below.

Year	No. of Swarozgar is assisted under SGSY	Wage employment generated (lakh mandays)
1999-2000	26071	87.44
2000-2001	32313	90.44
2001-2002	23691	150-20

Meeting of NIC

2016. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not convened the meeting of the National Integration Council since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a need to restructure the NIC and to convene its meeting; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A proposal to reconstitute the National Integration Council is under consideration of the Government.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Complexes in Urban Areas for Artisans

2017. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct complexes in urban areas to enable artisans of the rural areas to promote their products on the lines of Delhi Haat in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and other steps being taken in this regard;

(d) whether the artisans of rural areas are being provided marketing facilities in the urban areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Textiles have reported that Urban Haats are being set up at various metropolitan/tourist spots where rural artisans put up shops on 15 days on rotation basis. The details are given in the Statement I and II.

(d) to (f) These Haats are basically meant for providing marketing opportunities to rural artisans in urban areas. The details are given in Statement I and II.

Statement-I*Setting up of Urban Haats*

With a view to providing a permanent marketing outlets to the artisans community from rural as well urban areas, a new plan scheme titled "setting up of Urban Haats" was launched in the year 1999-2000. The scheme envisages setting up of Urban Haats on the pattern of the successful experiment of Dilli Haat, New Delhi. During the 9th Plan period 18 such Haats were approved by Planning Commission at commercially important and tourist oriented locations in the country and the target fully achieved. Urban Haats at places Jammu (J and K), Karnal (Haryana), Bhubneshwar (Orissa) and Tirupathi (Andhra Pradesh) have become operational and the marketing events are being organized. The Calendar of events for participation of artisans through out the country in these Haats have been drawn and circulated. The artisans have started participating in these Haats. The remaining Urban Haats are at different stage of completion. These Haats will benefit more than 36 thousand artisans annually.

During the 10th Five Year Plan, 20 more Urban Haats are proposed to be set up in different parts of the country out of which 6 Urban Haats at Lucknow (UP), Surat and Bhuj (Gujarat), Hazaribagh (Jharkhand), Patiala (Punjab) and Varanasi (UP) has been sanctioned/approved. The scheme allows for allotment of built up stalls to artisans on fortnightly rotation basis and at nominal rentals. In the Haats artisans get opportunity for direct sale of their products to the consumers without involving any middlemen.

By establishing one Urban Haat, the Government ensures direct fortnightly market facilities to approximately 2000 artisans in one year. Selling of products directly to the consumer is important to eliminate the role of middlemen who usually grab the major portion of profits in the

handicrafts/handlooms sector. Not only this the customers/tourists of these Haats will also get a cultural ambience in the heart of the cities. They will also enjoy erthenic food of different States in addition to getting handicrafts/handlooms items at reasonable rates.

Statement-II

Statwise Location of Urban Haats upto February 2003

Region	State	No. of Urban Haat Sanctioned	Locations
1	2	3	4
Northern Region	Haryana	1	Uchana
	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
	Jammu and Kashmir	2	Jammu, Srinagar
	Punjab	1	Patiala
	Rajasthan	2	Jodhpur, Jaipur
Central Region	Uttar Pradesh	4	Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Varanasi
	Uttaranchal	1	Dehradun
Eastern Region	West Bengal	1	Kolkata
	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar
	Bihar	—	—
	Jharkhand	2	Ranchi, Hazaribagh
	Sikkim	—	—
Southern Region	Andhra Pradesh	1	Tirupati
	Tamilnadu	—	—
	Kerala	1	Trivandrum
	Pondicharry	—	—
	A and N Island	—	—
	Karnataka	—	—

1	2	3	4
Western Region	Gujarat	3	Gandhi Nagar, Surat, Bhuj
	Maharashtra	-	-
	Goa	-	-
	Madhya Pradesh	-	Bhopal
	Chhatisgarh	1	Raipur
North Eastern Region	Assam	1	Guwahati
	Meghalaya	-	-
	Manipur	-	-
	Mizoram	-	-
	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
	Nagaland	-	-
	Tripura	1	Agartala

[English]

**World Bank Loans for
Primary Education**

2018. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments had sought loan from World Bank for the development of primary education;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in respect of Maharashtra;

(c) whether the schemes have been cleared by the Ministry and forwarded to the Ministry of Finance for onward transmission to the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) IDA Credit in the form of soft loan amounting to US\$ 1317.74 million (approx. 5137 crores) has already been tied up with the World Bank for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP). 213 districts of 16 States namely, Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Rajasthan are covered under the programme. 85% of the project cost is met by the Government of India which is resourced through external assistance and is released as grant to the concerned project States. The remaining 15% is contributed by the concerned State Governments. The approved project cost in respect of the various States covered under the World Bank assisted DPEP programme is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement*Statement showing project cost of States implementing DPEP with World Bank Assistance*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Project Cost
1.	Andhra Pradesh	716.05
2.	Assam	318.61
3.	Bihar	435.35
4.	Chhatisgarh	79.99
5.	Haryana	267.06
6.	Himachal Pradesh	129.28
7.	Jharkhand	215.81
8.	Karnataka	494.96
9.	Kerala	189.47
10.	Madhya Pradesh	381.10
11.	Maharashtra	428.90
12.	Orissa	230.12
13.	Rajasthan	783.57
14.	Tamil Nadu	274.69
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1434.20
16.	Uttaranchal	85.86
Total		6465.02

Allotment of Houses in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2019. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether during 1995 the then Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands announced to allot 10,000 housesites to the homeless persons;

(b) if so, whether all processes have been completed; and

(c) the period of their pendency, the reasons for not making allotment till date and the time by when these allotments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, this announcement was made in 1994.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the announcement made, the proclamations for allotment of house-sites were duly issued by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration during 1994. However, it has not been found possible to make allotments for various reasons including the non-availability of sufficient land to meet the total requirement and the terms and conditions under which the allotments were proposed to be made being at variance with those laid down under the A and N Islands Land Revenue and Land Reforms Regulation, 1966 under which the proclamations for allotment of house-sites were issued.

[Translation]

Demand of Land for Re-Establishment of Eleven Thousand Industries

2020. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of NCT of Delhi has demanded land from the Union Government for re-establishment of eleven thousand industries; and

(b) if so, the details and the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that they have received a request from the Government of NCT of Delhi for setting

up of new industrial areas to relocate industries from residential/non-conforming areas. However, the number of industries to be relocated has not been specified by the Government of NCT of Delhi.

(b) DDA has reported that as per Master Plan of Delhi (MPD)-2001, 1533 hectares of land has been proposed for establishment of new industrial areas in the urban extension, out of which 778 hectares of land has already been identified and developed by the Delhi Small Industries Development Corporation (DSIDC) at Bawana.

[English]

Low Cost Loans for Universities

2021. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend low cost loans for various universities through the UGC to meet their immediate requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that universities are facing a severe financial crunch; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the low cost loans would help universities to establish better facilities for the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, there is, at present, no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Amount Spent on Community Development in BCCL

2022. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the community development in the Bharat Coking Coal Limited from 2001 to 15th February, 2003;

(b) the areas where the said amount was utilised alongwith the works carried out with it;

(c) the norms followed for selection of these works;

(d) whether any bungling has come to notice in the community development works; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) As reported by CIL, the amount spent by Bharat Coking Coal Limited on Community Development works during the period from 2001-02 to 15th February, 2003 is Rs. 25.96 Lakhs.

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

(c) The proposals received for community development works are first considered at area level by the welfare committee. The proposal is then forwarded to subsidiary Head Quarters and considered by welfare sub-committee comprising management and union representatives of central trade unions. Based on the recommendations of welfare sub-committee duly accepted by the competent authority, fund is allocated by head quarter.

(d) No, Sir.

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

Statement

Details of work done under community development programme in BCCL in the financial year 2001-2002

Sl.No.	Name or Work	Amount Spent (Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Construction of Cycle Shed at Bansthali High School	55,000.00
2.	Renovation of Durga Mandap at Sendra	87,928.44

1	2	3
3.	Development work at Shio Mandir at Sendra	1,07,660.88
4.	Making Shed for Ambedkar Statue at Gausalamore	12,500.00
5.	Construction of one room for LP School at Bastacolla Colliery	23,500.00
6.	Constuction of Ghat at Sulunga Pond and Tisra	25,800.00
7.	Repair of Boundary wall of workers club	9,000.00
8.	Construction of Chhath Ghat at Machuban	49,000.00
9.	Repair and Maintenance works near Jealgora	7,000.00
10.	Re-construction of Challa at Patel Nagar Colony	29,187.00
11.	Roof repair of Co-centre cum-challa near Dusadh Patti at Inchandlea Colony	7,212.12
12.	Repair of Community Centre at Inchandlea Colony	13,544.22
13.	Deepening and repair of well at Tasara village	24,979.86
14.	Renovation of well at mines rescue, Dhanbad	25,500.00
15.	Annual Maintenance of Miners statue Shramik Chowk and Lighting Arrangement	11,498.33
16.	Maintenance of Golf Ground at Dhanbad	10,852.77
17.	Provisions of one Traffic Police Post and Two Police Traffic sign Boards	15,565.18
18.	Digging of pond near Koyla Nagar Hospital at Koyla Nagar, Dhanbad	32,524.82
19.	Provision of Green Globe and Fencing near Children Park at Koyla Nagar	32,524.82
20.	Repair and Strengthening of Road from NH-32 to DPS at Kramik Nagar.	7,80,505.48
21.	Construction of one hall for Bansthali High School at Tilaiya	3,25,129.65
22.	Construction of one science laboratory room for Adarsh Madhyamik Niketan at D Block, Bhuli	1,73,926.34
23.	Renovation of Chhath Talab near Koyla Nagar Hospital	1,75,859.00
24.	Construction of two room for ISL school, Saraidhella	59,514.31
25.	R/M. of community shed at Karmik Nagar	1,177.02

1	2	3
26.	Provision of Gate and Steps in Children Park at Koyla Nagar	2,091.51
27.	Construction of Boundary Wall for Bansthali High School at Tilaiya	8,978.30
28.	Provision of Grill and Collapsible Gate for Bansthali High School at Tilaiya	921.00
29.	S/F of Pipeline and Pump at Refugee market Purana Bazar	434.67
	Sub-Total:	21,64,683.50
30.	Amount spent during 2002-03 up to 15th Feb	4,31,400.00
	Total	25,96,083.50

[English]

Fee Structure of Colleges and Universities

2023. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI A. NARENDRA :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

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

(a) whether the university Grants Commission has decided to increase the annual fees and other charges under different heads from next academic session for pursuing higher studies at the colleges and university level as reported in 'Dainik Hindustan' dated February 1, 2003;

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

(c) the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether the Expenditure Reform Committee of the Ministry of Finance has recommended increase in the present fee structure of Universities and other educational institutions;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have accepted the recommendation; and

(g) if so, the details of increase likely to be effected viz-a-viz the present fee scale being charged in the university and other institutions thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (g) The Expenditure Reform Commission in its 9th Report has recommended, inter-alia, that fees in Higher Educational Institutions need to be revised to meaningful levels so as to have a co-relation to the cost of education in such institutions. It, however, has also recommended that a portion of the additional realization from such increase in fee be used for extending free-ships to students from poor families, besides granting scholarships to meritorious students. The Government has since accepted the recommendation and the suitably advised the university Grants Commission (UGC). The UGC has so far, not issued any specific instructions in this regard.

Setting Up of IIT in Kerala

2024. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IITs functioning in the country at present particularly in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the components of Prime Minister's Kumarakan package of December, 2000 was Central Government support for the setting up of an institution of excellence in higher education sector;

(c) if so, whether any steps have been taken by the Government to set up an IIT in Kerala with reference to PM's package;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) Seven IITs are functioning in the country at Delhi, Kanpur, Guwahati, Mumbai, Kharagpur, Chennai and Roorkee. At present there is no IIT in Kerala. Government of India's endeavour has been to extend the benefit of quality technical education as provided in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to as many students in the country as possible. Since opening of new IITs requires huge investments, presently the Government of India is not considering opening of any new IIT in the country. Alternatively, cost-effective options such as increase in intake in existing IITs and upgradation of Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) as National Institutes of Technology have been facilitated.

Registration of Suppliers in Kendriya Bhandar

2025. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether suppliers are not being registered for supply of pulses, rice and other grocery items while the same are being registered in the Consumer Masala and Stationery units;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when were the suppliers registered last in the supply of pulses, rice masalas, consumer and grocery and stationery items;

(c) the steps taken to enroll new suppliers particularly millers of pulses and rice;

(d) whether a nexus is operating between certain pulses and rice suppliers and the employees of the Kendriya Bhandar;

(e) the number of applications are pending for registration as on date and from when;

(f) whether some of the elected directors on the Board of Directors have complained in writing of the poor quality and high rates of pulses being sold in the Kendriya Bhandar; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) Suppliers are registered for supply of items from time to time. A supplier was last registered for Grocery items on 16.11.2002, for Consumer items on 03.09.2002 and for stationery items on 10.12.2002. New suppliers are registered keeping in view the requirement of the Society on merit basis.

(d) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(e) Registration of suppliers pertaining to Stationery Division against three advertisements has not been finalized. Requests for registration are also otherwise received from time to time but no data in respect of such applications are maintained.

(f) and (g) Some of the Elected Directors had complained about quality and rates of pulses being sold in the Kendriya Bhandar. As a follow up measure, a meeting of suppliers of pulses and Senior Officers of Kendriya Bhandar was held in which it was decided to make efforts to further improve the quality of pulses. The rates in Kendriya Bhandar have been compared with rates prevailing in other organizations like NAFED, Apna Bazar, Sabka Bazar and NCCF etc. and were found to be competitive.

[Translation]

Revision of Urea Secondary Freight Rate

2026. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the secondary freight rate of urea; and

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Secondary freight rates for urea have been revised for the 7th and 8th pricing periods w.e.f. 1.7.1997.

Dowry Prohibition Act 1961

2027. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of killing of young girls for the sake of dowry have not declined in the country despite implementing the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and such incidents take place veryday in one or the other State;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that some sanctions of the said Act are anomalous;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to make any amendment in the act and procedures related to the dowry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per the data compiled by the National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, the incidents of dowry deaths reported in the country during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 are as follows :

Year	Number of dowry death cases reported
2000	6995
2001*	6553
2002*	5928

(upto available months)

*figures are provisional

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Areas Under NCR Zone

2028. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of areas which falls under National Capital Region Zone in and around Delhi;

(b) whether the Union Government have been actively considering to bring more areas under NCR Zone;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of representations received by the Government in this regard and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) The National Capital Region covers the following areas :

NCR Sub Regions	Area in Sq. kms.
1	2
National Capital Territory of Delhi	1,483
Haryana Sub-region comprising Faridabad, Gurgaon, Rohtak, Sonapat, Panipat, Jhajjar and Rewari districts	13,413

1	2
Uttar Pradesh sub-region comprising Bulandshahr, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Gautambudh Nagar and Baghpat districts	10,853
Rajasthan Sub-region comprising tehsils of Alwar, Behror, Ramgarh, Mandawar, Kishangarh Bas, Tijara and Kotakasim of district Alwar	4,493
Total	30,242

(b) to (d) Representations mentioned below have been received for inclusion of different areas in National Capital Region.

- (i) Shri Ganga Ram Kohli, ex-MP (Lok Sabha) representation for inclusion of three tehsils of Bharatpur District.
- (ii) Smt. Sheela Gautam, MP (Lok Sabha) representations for inclusion of Aligarh District.
- (iii) Col. Narayan Singh Janu, Chairman, Alwar District Petroleum Dealers Association representation for inclusion of remaining tehsils of Alwar District.
- (v) Shri Vishvendra Singh, MP (Lok Sabha) representation for inclusion of remaining tehsils of Alwar District.

Action on representations are taken by the Government based on the recommendation of the National Capital Region Planning Board.

Changing the Name of Railway Stations

2029. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the proposals pending/under consideration for changing the names of railway stations; and

(b) the time by which decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) and (b) 24 proposals for changing the names of railway stations have been received in the Government of India. The concerned State Governments and other authorities have been asked to examine the proposals keeping in view the guidelines issued by the Government of India regarding renaming of villages, towns, railway stations, etc. so as to ensure that the proposals satisfy the prescribed criteria. The time taken for a decision on these cases depends on when the inputs are received from the concerned State Governments and other authorities.

Funding to Terrorist

2030. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received the study conducted by the Defence Studies and Analyses in regard to funding of money to organization and terrorists groups for antinational movement;

(b) if so, the details of the facts mentioned in the report;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government on the basis of the reports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to stop the funding of such money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The study report deals with various aspects of funding to organizations and groups engaged in anti-national and terrorist activities.

(c) to (e) In order to deal with the situation government has adopted a multi pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management and coastal security to prevent smuggling, circulation of fake currency notes and drug trafficking the main sources for terrorist funding. The intelligence machinery has also been galvanized to

neutralise the plans of ISI which is reported to be involved in financing terrorism in our country.

Besides, diplomatic initiatives have also been taken to combat trans-border crime and terrorism including terrorist funding.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 and the Money Laundering Act, 2002 have been enacted to deal with terrorist funding.

Ash Content in Indian Coal

2031. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited is planning to bring down the average annyual ash content of Indian Coal as reported in the 'Statesman' dated February 3, 2003;

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

(c) the extent to which the users would be benefited by this highly improved quality coal;

(d) whether the availability fo high improved quality coal would have any impact on import of coal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) and (b) The statement of Chairman, CIL published in "The Statesman", dated the 3rd February, 2003, in fact pertains to use of non-coking coal of less than 34% ash in certain Thermal Power Plant to adhere to the stipulation of Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF).

The Government of India (vide notification of MoEF) has made it mandatory to use coal of ash content not exceeding 34% in any thermal power plant (TPP) located beyond 1000 kms. from pithead or located in urban area or sensitive area or critically polluted area. To satisfy this stipulation, coal supply matrix for TPPs coming under purview of MoEF's notification has been drawn up and is under operation. However, this is an interim arrangement. In the long run coal has to be beneficiated to meet the MoEF stipulation. Presently, six washeries are in operation

in CIL for beneficiation of non-coking coal, namely—Dugda I (1.0 Mty capacity—a part is in operation on trial basis), Lodna (0.48 Mty capacity), Kargali (2.72 Mty capacity), Gidi (2.5 Mty capacity), Piparwar (6.5 Mty capacity) and Bina (4.5 Mty capacity). Coal India is not contemplating setting up of more non-coking coal washeries on its own because of fund constraints. Coal washeries are to be set up either through Built-Own-Operate (BOO) basis or by the consumers after entering into an agreement.

CIL has taken action to set up the following coal washeries under BOO scheme for supply of washed coal to thermal power stations :

- (i) Kalinga, MCL (8.0 Mty capacity)
- (ii) Ananta Bharatpur, MCL (5.2 Mty capacity)
- (iii) Dipka, SECL (6.0 Mty capacity)

Formal agreement to set up the above washeries are yet to be signed and negotiations with the consumers are in progress.

In Addition, the following measures are adopted by CIL at the pit level to reduce ash content of indigenous coal :

- Adherence to envisaged mining sequence during extraction fo coal seams.
- Application of selective mining techniques including deployment of Surface Miners for removal of dirt bands.
- Picking of extraneous materials in Coal Handling Plants.
- Keeping O.B. Benches sufficiently advanced from the coal benches etc.

(c) The following benefits will accrue to the power plants for using low ash coal of consistent quality :

- (i) Saving in the transportation cost of coal.
- (ii) Reduction in primary crushing cost.
- (iii) Improvement in plant load factor.
- (iv) Improvement in thermal efficiency.
- (v) Reduction in operation and maintenance cost.

- (vi) Decrease in auxiliary fuel consumption.
- (vii) Reduced land and water requirement for ash disposal.
- (viii) Reduction in capital investment (for new plants).
- (ix) Reduction in emission of green house gases.

(d) and (e) Coal imports are under Open General Licence (OGL). Import of coal and coke is being resorted to by the consumers due to non-availability/inadequate availability of required quality and quantity indigenously, for blending with indigenous coal, cost considerations including commercial terms etc. With setting up of beneficiation plants, availability of good quality coal indigenously will improve and this is likely to reduce the import of non-coking coal. With the existing import duty, the import of non-coking coal is projected to decline to 3.30 million tones at the end of X plan (2006-07) from the current level (2001-02) of 9.57 million tones.

Prices of Indian Drug Products in the Overseas

2032. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Indian Drug products in the overseas market are significantly less than the ones prevailing in the country;
- (b) if so, the key bulk drugs exported and the comparative prices of the same fetched in the overseas market and the ones in the domestic market;
- (c) the foreign exchange earned by the Government on account of export of those drug products during the last two years; and
- (d) the steps being taken to secure better overseas market for the Indian drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) The export prices of Indian drugs are generally higher than the ones prevailing in India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the reply to part(a) as above.

(d) Several export promotion schemes like, Market Development Assistance to enable the exporters to take part in international exhibitions/shows, Advance Licence, DEPB, Reimbursement of 50% of registration charges for the exporters etc. have been introduced to secure better overseas market.

KVS

2033. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any complaints about the working of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Complaints on various issues including those relating to admissions, transfers, financial aspects and other personnel matters in respect of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are received. KVS being an autonomous body, these complaints are sent to them for taking necessary action by the appropriate authorities.

Production by Private Sector in Coal Mines

2034. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some private sector coal mines have not started production even after obtaining the Government's permission five to seven years ago;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or ~~proposed to be~~ taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) to (c) List of captive mining blocks which stand allotted as on 28.11.2001 is in the enclose statement. Out of 27 blocks allotted, production has started in four blocks only.

Completion of procedural formalities like obtaining of mining lease from the State Government and forestry/environmental clearance from MOEF and complying with other statutory requirements take time for development of the coal mine blocks allotted to the parties. Some end-use plants have been delayed and as a result the captive mining has also been delayed.

Status of development of these blocks is reviewed periodically by the Screening Committee functioning in the Ministry of Coal and wherever necessary, developers of the captive mining blocks allotted are advised to take necessary steps for development of the blocks in synchronization with development of end-use plants.

Statement

Details of captive mining blocks which stand allotted as on 28.11.2001

Sl. No.	Name of the party	Date of allotment	Block allocated	End Use
1	2	3	4	5
1.	#M/s RPG Industries/CESC Ltd.	10.08.1993	Sarisatolli	Power Generaton
2.	M/s Kalinga Power	10.08.1993	Utkal-A	Power Generation
3.	M/s INDALCO	25.02.1994	Talabira-I	Power Generation
4.	#M/s WBSEB	14.07.1995	Tara (East)	Power Generation
5.	M/s SAIL	26.02.1996	Tasra	Steel Production
6.	#M/s WBPDC	17.04.1996	Tara (West)	Power Generation
7.	M/s Talcher Mining Pvt. Ltd/VPL	02.02.1996	Utkal-B1	Power Generation
8.	M/s BLA Industries	21.06.1996	Gotitoria (East)	Power Generation
9.	M/s BLA Industries	21.06.1996	Gotitoria (West)	Power Generation
10.	#M/s Jindal Strips Ltd.	20.06.1996	Gare-Palma-IV/1	Sponge Iron Production
11.	M/s Monnet Ispat	21.06.1996	Gare-Palma-IV/5	Soonge Iron Production
12.	M/s Lloyds Metals	9.12.1997 29.5.1998	TakliJena-Bellora (Noth)	Sponge Iron Production
13.	M/s Central Collieries	29.5.1998	Takli-Jena Bellora (South)	Power Generation-cum- washery
14.	M/s Jindal Power Ltd.	01.7.1998	Gare-Plama-IV/2	Power Generation
15.	M/s Jindal Power Ltd	01.7.1998	Gare-Palma-IV/3	Power Generation
16.	M/s Utkal Coal Ltd. (formerly ICCL)	29.5.1998	Utkal-C	Power Generation
17.	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	16.8.1999	Gare-Palma-IV/4	Sponge Iron Production
18.	M/s Monnet Ispat	16.8.1999	Utkal-B2	Sponge Iron Production

1	2	3	4	5
19.	M/s Garuda Clays Ltd.	25.4.2000	West of Umaria (Provisional)	Cement Production
20.	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	25.4.2000	Choritand-Tiliya (Provisional)	Steel Production/ Captive Power Plant
21.	M/s Jayaswal Neco Ltd.	25.4.2000	Jogeshwar (Provisional)	Steel Production/ Captive Power Plant
22.	M/s Prakash Industries Ltd.	25.4.2000	Chotia (Provisional)	Sponge Iron Production
23.	M/s Raipur Alloys and Steel Ltd.	25.4.2000	Gare-Palma-IV/7	Sponge Iron Production/ Captive Power Plant
24.	M/s B.S. Ispat	25.4.2000	Marki-Mangli	Sponge Iron Production
25.	M/s Orissa Mining Corpn. Ltd.	10.7.2001	Utkal-D	Power Generation
26.	M/s Punjab State Electricity Board	9/10.7.2001	Pachwara Central	Power Generation
27.	M/s. GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Ltd.	28.11.2001	Tokisud North	Power Generation

#Production started

Security Threat to Cricket Team

2035. SHRI Y. V. RAO : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Cricket players are under security threat particularly from the Pakistani Terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure security of cricket team?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) After reports of threat to some Indian Cricket players adequate security has been provided to them.

National Awards

2036. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the awards like Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padamshri and other State awards have been returned by the recipients during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons given by each recipient;

(c) whether it is a fact that Baba Amte has threatened to return the Padamshri Award recently; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the removal of grievances cited by him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Smt. M.K. Binodini Devi, who was decorated with 'Padma Shri' in 1976, returned the decoration (including the Sanad and the Medal) on 3rd August, 2001 in protest against what she described as the integrity of Manipur having been put at risk without the consent of, or consultation with, the people of Manipur.

In his letter dated the 13th July, 2001, Shri Ratan Thiyam, who was decorated with 'Padma Shri' in 1989, stated that he was 'relinquishing' the honour as a protest against the emerging political developments and deteriorating conditions of life in Manipur. However, Shri Thiyam has not returned the Sanad or the Medal, yet.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Pharma MNCs

2037. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware that Pharma MNCs are misusing the exemption from price control meant for SSI units by transferring their scheduled formulations to SSI units;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the role of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority in checking such misuse of exemption entitlements by the front-companies of MNCs operating as SSI units;
- (d) whether the Government propose to consider repeal of registration granted to such SSIs operating as front-companies of the MNCs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (e) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) read with notification No. SO 134(E) dated 2.3.1995, the Small Scale Industries units are exempted from seeking price approvals for non ceiling packs of Scheduled formulations from the Government/National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). This exemption, however, is available to SSI units subject to fulfilment of certain conditions specified in the above mentioned notification. On the basis of available information, appropriate action is taken by NPPA for the violation of the provisions of DPCO, 1995 issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. It is an ongoing process.

[Translation]

Allocation of Funds to Districts of Uttar Pradesh

2038. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the scheme-wise details of the funds allocated to the districts of Uttar Pradesh under various Rural Development Schemes during each of the last three years;
- (b) the details of funds allocated/utilized by Non-Government Organizations in the State, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry of the workings of these NGOs in the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the achievement made therein in the State;
- (e) whether the cases of misappropriation of funds noticed by the government in the State; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the NGOs found involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) The Ministry of Rural Development implemented the major schemes namely, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)/Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in the districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years. While funds are allocated State-wise for ARWSP and CRSP, release of funds under Watershed Development Programmes are project based. Scheme-wise details of funds allocated to the districts under SGSY, JGSY, EAS and IAY, in respect of Uttar Pradesh, during each of the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given in the Statement.

- (b) to (f) The information is being collected.

Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	JGSY		SGSY		EAS		IAY					
		Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation				
		Central	Central	Central	Central	Central	Central	Central	Central				
		99-00	2000-01	2001-2002	2000-01	2001-2002	2000-01	2001-2002	2000-01	2001-2002			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Uttar Kashi	734.58		80.05							68.10		
2.	Agra	346.04	402.55	457.62	374.67	132.60	76.72	474.56	303.70	457.43	269.67	269.67	272.79
3.	Aligarh	356.47	340.09	386.61	292.16	103.71	60.01	400.93	256.58	386.80	262.42	262.42	265.47
4.	Allahabad	591.32	849.68	965.91	528.94	517.21	299.26	1001.66	641.03	968.67	327.24	327.24	331.03
5.	Almora	813.87		163.02				353.13			73.92		
6.	Ambedkarnagar	434.68	464.26	527.77	269.97	339.46	196.26	547.31	350.26	528.06	167.90	167.90	169.84
7.	Azamgarh	637.52	967.38	1099.72	597.55	364.05	210.64	1140.43	729.83	1103.21	414.03	414.03	418.83
8.	Bageshwar	0.00		58.54				96.31			21.34		
9.	Bagpat	0.00	138.89	157.89	93.51	20.76	12.01	163.74	104.80	158.08	47.92	47.92	48.48
10.	Bahraich	354.31	410.36	466.50	246.88	521.30	301.62	483.76	309.59	467.52	969.13	969.13	980.36
11.	Ballia	822.97	566.53	644.03	381.88	352.67	204.06	667.87	427.41	645.78	698.45	698.45	706.55
12.	Balrampur	258.23	310.16	352.59	207.63	173.33	100.29	365.63	233.99	353.16	91.14	91.14	92.20
13.	Banda	295.03	272.84	310.17	209.21	191.97	111.07	321.64	205.84	309.44	129.88	129.88	131.38
14.	Barabanki	608.96	807.50	917.97	421.99	490.55	283.83	951.94	609.21	921.58	597.12	597.12	604.05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15. Bareilly	298.10	375.35	426.70	334.56	272.06	157.41	442.49	283.18	427.16	218.36	218.36	218.36	220.89
16. Basti	500.53	544.85	619.39	334.32	308.49	178.50	642.32	411.06	622.24	369.10	369.10	369.10	373.38
17. Bhadoi (Sant R.Ngr.)	796.72	289.23	328.79	161.44	87.04	50.36	340.96	301.96		95.45	95.45	95.45	96.55
18. Bijnor	351.83	400.25	455.01	330.96	204.25	118.18	471.85	312.71	457.43	369.46	369.46	369.46	373.74
19. Badaun	410.35	488.87	555.75	374.45	289.69	167.62	576.32	368.82	558.33	272.99	272.99	272.99	276.15
20. Bulandshahr	352.84	414.49	471.19	389.92	80.15	46.37	488.64	128.63	470.88	349.36	349.36	349.36	353.40
21. Chamoli	751.44			108.08	212.21		199.99			44.47			
22. Champavat	0.00			34.53			77.40			10.52			
23. Chandauli	514.77	307.81	349.91	269.52	122.78	362.86	232.21	349.80	126.36	126.36	126.36	126.36	127.83
24. Dehradun	273.73			139.70			209.53			161.50			
25. Deona	347.99	482.87	548.92	364.14	254.40	147.19	569.24	364.29	551.61	1917.22	1917.22	1917.22	1939.44
26. Etah	526.44	413.18	469.71	334.54	183.47	106.16	487.09	311.72	470.88	226.02	226.02	226.02	228.64
27. Etawah	459.70	238.08	270.65	180.50	171.77	99.39	280.66	179.61	272.44	241.41	241.41	242.41	244.21
28. Faizabad	375.94	360.43	409.74	309.65	329.64	190.73	424.90	271.92	410.34	183.69	183.69	183.69	185.82
29. Farukhabad	371.44	321.35	365.31	214.58	172.67	99.91	378.83	242.44	366.62	266.16	266.16	266.16	269.24
30. Fatehpur	481.39	549.12	624.25	206.51	270.56	156.54	647.35	414.28	625.60	290.08	290.08	290.08	293.44
31. Firozabad	258.65	264.543	300.72	347.76	68.54	39.66	311.84	199.56	302.71	257.28	257.28	257.28	260.26
32. P. Grahwal	754.16						252.52						

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
33. Gautambudh Nagar	165.54	115.51	131.32	96.42	40.36	23.35	136.18	87.15	131.17	50.22	50.22	234.55	234.55	50.81
34. Ghaziabad	207.47	206.99	235.30	202.47	37.18	21.51	244.02	156.16	235.44	234.55	234.55	234.55	234.55	237.27
35. Ghazipur	904.14	627.11	712.90	402.70	394.18	288.07	739.28	473.10	716.41	283.16	283.16	283.16	283.16	286.44
36. Gonda	352.93	551.39	626.82	359.87	411.65	238.18	650.02	415.99	503.96	622.26	622.26	622.26	622.26	629.48
37. Gorakhpur	501.82	864.23	982.46	515.94	387.42	224.16	1018.82	652.00	985.49	489.75	489.75	489.75	489.75	495.42
38. Hamirpur	303.05	203.52	231.36	168.16	148.32	20.16	239.92	153.54	357.08	81.96	81.96	81.96	81.96	82.91
39. Hardoi	718.71	827.59	940.80	532.30	648.56	375.25	975.63	624.36	941.77	488.28	488.28	488.28	488.28	493.94
40. Hardwar	180.78		149.11				220.23			252.62				
41. Jalaun	371.98	269.86	306.78	224.66	177.85	102.90	318.14	203.60	306.07	124.68	124.68	124.68	124.68	126.12
42. Jaunpur	629.68	890.04	1011.80	470.64	407.67	235.88	1049.26	671.49	1015.76	329.36	329.36	329.36	329.36	333.18
43. Jhansi	388.59	273.53	310.95	231.18	131.84	76.28	322.46	206.36	312.80	130.21	130.21	130.21	130.21	131.72
44. Jyotiva Phoole Nagar	170.05	182.89	207.91	167.94	95.04	54.99	215.61	137.98	208.53	88.25	88.25	88.25	88.25	89.28
45. Kannauj	0.00	249.93	284.13	185.66	129.06	74.67	294.65	188.56	285.89	84.98	84.98	84.98	84.98	85.96
46. Kanpur Dehat	520.03	372.21	248.14	302.92	338.29	195.73	438.79	164.66	423.79	257.90	257.90	257.90	257.89	260.88
47. Kanpur Nagar	249.05	70.70	255.37	282.52	221.42	128.11	83.34	169.49	80.72	310.77	310.77	310.77	310.77	314.37
48. Kaushambi	400.21	339.87	386.37	287.90	273.58	158.29	400.67	256.42	386.80	174.32	174.32	174.32	174.32	176.34
49. Kheri	504.06	608.46	691.70	424.24	595.04	344.29	717.30	459.05	692.87	1218.30	1218.30	1218.30	1218.30	1232.42
50. Lalitpur	389.89	201.85	229.47	109.86	101.43	58.69	237.96	152.29	228.71	91.34	91.34	91.34	91.34	92.40

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51. Lucknow			527.43	456.69	519.17	306.06	247.05	142.94	538.38	344.54	521.33	314.21	314.21	317.85
52. Mahamaya Nagar (Hathras)			313.37	245.91	279.55	206.06	66.35	38.39	289.90	185.53	279.17	123.69	123.69	125.12
53. Mahareiganj			318.00	430.56	489.46	325.79	198.33	114.75	507.57	324.83	491.06	422.48	422.48	427.38
54. Mahoba			271.00	138.51	157.45	103.14	64.79	37.49	163.28	104.49	158.08	58.80	58.79	59.47
55. Mainpuri			250.07	261.56	297.34	209.64	226.69	131.16	308.34	197.33	299.35	163.28	163.28	165.18
56. Mathura			252.79	241.63	274.69	207.18	78.35	45.33	284.85	182.30	275.80	216.44	216.44	218.95
57. Mau			340.72	363.61	413.36	250.01	217.48	125.83	428.66	274.33	413.70	180.83	180.83	182.93
58. Meerut			313.28	277.80	315.81	325.79	35.67	20.64	327.49	209.59	316.16	282.03	282.03	285.30
59. Mirzapur			809.47	519.99	591.13	333.42	389.20	225.19	613.02	392.30	591.97	260.56	260.56	263.58
60. Moradabad			284.11	313.54	356.43	304.73	135.70	78.52	369.63	236.55	356.53	242.60	242.60	245.41
61. Muzaffarnagar			268.84	346.07	393.41	356.06	103.01	59.60	407.97	261.09	393.52	230.42	230.42	233.09
62. Nainital			118.39			137.22		87.06				1286.43		
63. Oraiya			0.00	208.30	236.80	190.58	190.20		612.12	157.16	238.80	109.61	109.61	110.88
64. P. Garhwal						170.19						97.38		
65. Padrauna (Kushinagr.)			373.01	519.24	590.27	341.49	498.34	590.27	391.74	391.74	591.97	157.28	157.28	159.11
66. Pilibhit			187.91	186.39	211.88	178.04	188.34	108.97	219.73	140.62	211.90	729.48	729.48	737.94
67. Pithoragarh			779.51	718.62	816.93	140.58			154.80			64.04		
68. Pratapgarrh			552.43			424.24	471.42	272.76	847.17	542.16	820.68	218.90	218.90	221.44

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
69. Rae Bareli	696.35	842.22	957.44	502.48	586.20	339.17	992.90	635.42	958.58	356.10	356.09	360.22		
70. Rampur	209.35	208.20	236.69	154.72	130.57	75.55	245.44	157.07	238.80	196.93	196.93	199.21		
71. Rudraprayag	0.00			28.71			44.44			7.65				
72. S. Kabir Nagar	0.00	288.19	327.62	328.48	247.27	327.62	339.74	217.42	329.62	96.36	96.36	97.48		
73. S.M. Nagar (Chitrakut)	229.53	170.50	193.83	198.43	126.84	193.83				65.15	65.15	65.91		
74. Saharanpur	344.09	414.04	470.69		163.18	470.69	488.15	312.40	470.88	297.37	297.37	300.81		
75. Shahajahanpur	272.82	336.48	382.51	290.14	341.42	382.51	396.66	253.85	383.43	332.52	332.52	336.38		
76. Shravasti	252.50	239.38	272.13	195.97	228.80	171.13	282.20	180.60	272.44	80.03	80.03	80.96		
77. Siddharthnagar	322.24	477.35	542.65	257.63	264.40	542.65	562.73	360.13	544.88	230.65	230.65	233.32		
78. Sitapur	738.38	951.67	1081.86	562.36	635.82	1081.86	1121.91	717.99	1086.39	616.22	616.22	623.36		
79. Sonbhadra	835.61	670.31	762.02	222.20	415.48	762.02	790.22	505.74	763.50	246.70	246.70	249.56		
80. Sultanpur	609.64	801.57	911.22	542.40	545.68	911.22	944.96	604.74	914.87	308.43	308.43	312.00		
81. Tehri Garhwal	750.66			128.26			286.40			42.28				
82. Udhamasinghnagar	191.24			122.65			198.18			87.07				
83. Unnao	652.27	765.63	870.37	432.52	556.05	870.37	902.59	577.62	874.50	443.54	144.02	448.69		
84. Varanasi	495.22	273.60	311.03	245.97	159.50	311.03	322.54	206.41	312.80	148.96	148.96	150.69		
Total	33598.16	29503.89	33540.13	22298.83	18163.57	14588.57	36515.01	22040.75	33109.77	23565.00	21049.15	21595.12		

[English]

Reservation Policy

2039. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have strictly followed the reservation policy in providing jobs in the Government Departments and Autonomous institutions as well as attached offices like Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries, Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited and other PSU's coming under his Ministry in as far as the Gazetted jobs or Class-I and Class-II employment are concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years till date category-wise, institution-wise and PSU-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons, therefor;

(d) the number of existing vacancies and the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in the

Government Sector and Public Sectors, category-wise;

(e) whether the Government finds it difficult to fill up the reserved posts (Class I and Class II in both Government Sector and Public Sector) designated for the persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBC; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of recruitment may be seen in Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The Question does not arise.

(d) The detailed information may be seen in the Statement-II enclosed.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Name of the Organisation	Year	Class	Recruitments made			
			SC	ST	OBC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ministry of Coal	2000	I	-	-	-	-
		II	-	-	-	-
	2001	I	-	-	-	-
		II	-	-	1	1
	2002	I	-	-	-	-
		II	-	-	1	1
2003	I	-	-	-	-	
	II	-	-	-	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NLC	2000	I	-	-	-	-
		II	-	-	-	-
	2001	I	-	-	-	-
		II	-	-	-	-
	2002	I	-	-	-	-
		II	5	43	10	58
	2003	I	1	-	-	1
		II	1	1	-	2
CMPFO	The recruitment process and panel prepared thereof was rejected. The organization has been asked to restructure the entire cadre strength and the same is underway.					
CIL	CIL does not have any Class I and II employees. There are Executives and Management Trainees. No fresh recruitment was made during this period for Executives. For Management Trainees, due to restraint orders of Hon'ble High Court from making any appointment, no fresh recruitment was made.					

Statement-II

Name of Organisation	SC	ST	OBC	Total	Steps taken to fill up the vacant posts
Ministry of Coal	-	-	1	1	The vacancy will be filled up on receipt of nomination from Department of Personnel and Training
CMPFo				27	The posts will be filled up after the cadre restructuring which is currently underway.
CIL	247	157	82	486	Some of these vacancies will be filled up by promotion and the same is an ongoing process. Action to fill up the vacancies by Direct recruitment for Management Trainees and Medical Officers, through outside recruitment, could not be taken up due to restraint order of the Hon'ble High Court.
NLC	12	5	-	17	These are backlog vacancies and are likely to be filled up shortly.

Conversion of IITs into Universities

2040. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to convert IITs into Universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Alumni of IITs are ready to finance such a conversion; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Government of India at present, is not considering any proposal to convert IITs into universities.

[Translation]

Wagon Loading System

2041. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) the details about the existing wagon loading system in various ancillary units of Coal India Limited;
- (b) whether the said system is useful in view of the existing requirements;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether several coal handling plants of ancillary

units of Coal India Limited are not functioning since their construction; and

- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and the quantum of loss suffered plant-wise and ancillary unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) Multiple means of wagon loading are in operation in subsidiaries of CIL depending largely on infrastructure available with the subsidiaries, types of wagons being supplied by railways and type of coal to be consigned. Subsidiary-wise types of wagon loading system are as under :

Subsidiary	Means of Loading		
	Manual	Payloader	Coal Handling plants
ECL	Manual	Payloader	Coal Handling plants
BCCL	Manual	Payloader	Coal Handling Plants
CCL	Manual	Payloader	Coal Handling Plants
NCL	-	-	Coal Handling plants
WCL	-	Payloader	Coal Handling Plants
SECL	-	Payloader	Coal Handling Plants
MCL	-	Payloader	Coal Handling Plants
NEC	Manual	-	-

(b) and (c) System developed on the basis of requirements are found to be useful. However, system of manual loading in most of the cases is found to be more expensive as well as time consuming and the same is being phased out gradually to the extent possible.

Subsidiary-wise details of sidings and means of wagon loading for these sidings are given below :

Subsidiary	No. of Sidings	Means of Wagon Loading			
		Manual	Payloader	CHP/SILO	Mixed
1	2	3	4	5	6
ECL	33	2	18	5	8 (Manual and Mech)
BCCL	47	5	28	14	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
CCL	24	1	10	12	1 (Manual/Mech)
NCL	8	-	-	8	-
WCL	21	-	13	5	3 Mech/CHP
SECL	29	-	10	18	1 (Mech/CHP)
MCL	18	-	15	3	-
NEC	2	2	-	-	-

(d) and (e) The following coal handling plants of the subsidiaries of CIL remained unutilized/not worked since their commissioning :

Subsidiary	Coal handling plant	Main reasons
BCCL	Katri CHP	Due to closure of siding
	Bera CHP	Closure of linked OCP
	Nichitpur CHP	Closure of OCP
SECL	Small plant at Pali	Non-operation of own wagons of Sanjay Gandhi TPS of MPSEB

The expenditure for these coal handling plants were :

BCCL : Katri CHP	-	Rs. 95.53 lakhs
Bera CHP	-	Rs. 145.11 lakhs
Nichitpur CHP.	-	Rs. 99.00 lakhs
SECL : Small CHP at Pali	-	Rs. 336 lakhs

There are seven other major CHPs awarded from 1981 to 1987 in ECL which could not be completed due to litigation/obstruction by villagers on environmental issue/change of scope. These are :

Sl. No.	Name of CHP	Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Demomain	505.00

1	2	3
2.	Ratibati	344.21
3.	Satgram	19.60
4.	Jhanjra	24.91
5.	Mugma	435.82
6.	J.K. Nagar	328.37
7.	Bankola	754.41
Total		2412.32

In the case of BCCL, the following CHPs could not be completed and commissioned :

Expenditure incurred		
Goluckdih CHP	-	Rs. 94.63 lakhs
Kusunda CHP	-	Rs. 71.05 lakhs

Further, two major Coal Handling Plants (CHPs) of Chinakuri and Amritnagar and 2 mini CHPs of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) are not in operation at present due to change of scope/economic consideration. Coal from these CHPs is diverted and despatched through other CHPs maintaining the overall despatch of coal.

In Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), four more CHPs viz Keshalpur, Tetulmari, North Amlabad and Katras

worked after commissioning but are not in operation now. Their plant and machineries have since been shifted to other areas for gainful re-utilisation. The CHP at Jhunkunder is temporarily not functioning as the linked mine is closed. Out of 32 mini CHPs in BCCL, one each CHP at Kustore Area and Bhowara Area is temporarily idle as coal is being directly transported to connected washeries due to technological reasons.

[English]

National Urban Transport Development Fund

2042. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tenth Plan has suggested setting up of a national urban transport development fund with an initial corpus of Rs. 3,000 crore;

(b) if so, whether an equal amount is to be raised through taxes and cesses taking the total amount available to Rs. 6,000 crore;

(c) if so, the primary aim of this fund;

(d) whether the plan document calls for city-wise specific projects for rail-based urban transport systems together with funds requirement; and

(e) if so, the extent to which this suggestion has been accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) 10th Plan document has suggested setting up of a National Urban Transport Development Fund (NUTDF) with a seed money allocation of Rs. 3000 crore and raising of an equal amount through taxes/cesses taking the total amount available to Rs. 6000 crore.

(c) This fund would be the prime mover for making Urban Rail Based Transport System a reality in cities.

(d) and (e) 10th Plan document has suggested that city-wise specific projects for Rail Based Urban Transport System together with funds requirement for them need to be identified. This suggestion needs to be examined in consultation with the State Governments as Urban Transport is the primary responsibility of the State Governments.

Staff in DMRC

2043. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total financial liability of the Government on account of the payment of salaries and other benefits to the officers and employees working under Delhi Metro Rail Corporation per year;

(b) whether the officers and the staff in DMRC enjoy the same salary and other benefits as are admissible to the Railway and Central Government employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Rs. 6.97 crores for the year 2001-2002.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There are two categories of officers/staff in DMRC (i) officers and staff on deputation from Railways/Central Government, and (ii) Officers and staff directly recruited by DMRC. While the officers/staff on deputation from Railways/Central Government draw pay scales as are admissible to equivalent officers/staff in railways/Central Government the directly recruited officers/staff draw pay scales as are admissible to equivalent officers/staff in public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). With regard to other benefit drawn by officers/staff of DMRC, these are the same as admissible to officers/staff of PSUs.

Plantation Work under SGSY

2044. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modify rural employment schemes like Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) to cover plantation works under the scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (c) Under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) each block may identify about 10 Key activities based on the local resources, aptitude as well as skill of the people and the market potential. The key activities are to be selected by the District SGSY Committee on the recommendation of the Block Level SGSY Committee in consultation with the Panchayat Samiti (Block Panchayat), Sarpanches, groups of rural poor, Banks, Line Departments etc. Therefore if plantation activities are identified as key activity, these could be financed under the Scheme with Subsidy and Bank credit. Besides, plantation activities linked with self employment are also considered under the SGSY Special Project.

**Starvation/Poverty due to
Drought in A.P.**

2045. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to drought in Andhra Pradesh, starvation and poverty are ruling roost in rural areas and the agricultural workers are not getting any work for earnings and are starving;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation in the State;

(d) whether the Government propose to sanction schemes for construction of rural roads, digging of tanks and water works for workers under rural development programmes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) :

(a) No such report has been received in the Ministry of Rural Development.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Rural Development sanctions rural roads, under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), after examining proposals received from the States. Digging of tanks and water related works are allowed under rural development schemes, for which the works do not need the approval of the Ministry.

Police Nexus

2046. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item regarding nexus between officials and police appearing in the *Dainik Jagaran* of October 16, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the matters reported therein;

(c) the action taken by the Government on each of the matters reported in the news;

(d) whether the Government have made any investigation into the matter and identified the police officials who are conniving with the fake drug manufacturers; and

(e) if so, the action taken against such officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The allegation contained in the news-item that the illegal manufacturing of spurious drugs is flourishing in Delhi due to connivance of Police and other officials is not factually correct. During the last two calendar years, Delhi Police registered 12 cases of manufacture/sale of spurious drugs in connectin with which spurious drugs valued at Rs. 1.80 crores were seized and 33 persons arrested. Teh investigation of none of these cases revealed any connivance on the part of police officials.

[Translation]

Kendriya Vidyalayas

2047. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to completely ban the sale of fast food and cold drinks in the canteens of all the Kendriya Vidyalayas, universities, the colleges and other institutions being run by the Centre as per the recommendation made in the research study report of the AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Anti-Corruption Cases against Civil Services Officers

2048. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue of granting permission to C.B.I. for filling cases in court under the anti-corruption law against officers of Civil Services, is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of such cases pending in the country as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) As per the provisions contained in Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, no court shall take cognizance of an offence committed by a public servant under the said Act unless prior sanction is given by the Government or the authority competent to remove the public servant from office. In view of the aforesaid provisions in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) seeks sanction of prosecution of civil servants involved in corruption cases. The CBI has informed that as on 31.12.2002, cases of 87 officials belonging to the Central Government and of 5 officials working under State Governments were pending for sanction.

[English]

Reservation Policy

2049. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have strictly followed the reservation policy in providing jobs in the Government Departments and Autonomous institutions as well as attached offices like HUDCO, Construction Corporation of India Ltd., and other PSUs coming under his Ministry in as far as the Gazetted jobs or Class-I and Class-II employments are concerred;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, Department/PSU-wise and category-wise;

(c) the number of existing vacancies and the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in the Government sector and public sectors;

(d) whether the Government finds it difficult to fill up the reserved posts of Class-I and Class-II in both

Government sector and public sector designated for the persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

NASSCOM

2050. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has signed an agreement with National Association of Software Services Company (NASSCOM) to develop education material;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the said agreement is likely to help the universities;

(d) whether it is a fact that U.G.C. will invest Rs. 150 crore under the agreement with NASSCOM over five years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC plans to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) and other apex organisations to develop education material. The UGC envisages to develop e-course ware and place on the mirror site of UGC for the benefit of prospective learners.

(d) and (e) No decision on amount of investment has yet been taken by the UGC.

Shifting of People from Endangered Areas of BCCL

2051. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people are not being shifted from most endangered areas of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. under the Social Mitigation Schemes of BCCL; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) and (b) Demonstration scheme of shifting of people from most endangered areas of BCCL under sub-head 'Social Mitigation' of EMSC envisages shifting of 1500 BCCL people and 3100 non-BCCL people. The scheme is scheduled to be completed on 31.3.2006

For shifting of BCCL people, construction of 344 houses were taken up by BCCL. 32 people have already been shifted. Construction of another 252 houses have been completed but certain development work are yet to be done. Construction of balance 60 houses is in progress.

For Non-BCCL people State Government is to implement construction of houses. State Government has constituted a committee in August 2001 to look into the problems of rehabilitation of non-BCCL people. Rehabilitation site has been finalized at Belgoria Mouza on non-coal bearing area. Also a fresh survey of most endangered areas has been done in January 2002.

[Translation]

Losses to DDA

2052. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the higher officials of Delhi Development Authority have caused losses to DDA under the Mega Project as reported in the Jansatta dated December 11, 2002;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible for scam in the mega project of DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The news items appeared in the 'Jansatta', dated December 11, 2002 reports the complaint of DDA Builders' Association levelling allegations of financial irregularities in the award of Mega Housing Projects on Turn Key Basis by DDA.

The Delhi Development Authority has reported that it has awarded the work for construction of 9000 Lower Income Group (LIG) flats on Turn Key Basis to the pre-qualified construction agencies. These works have been awarded @ Rs. 7,190/- (Rs. Seven thousand one hundred and ninety) per sqm. of the plinth area of dwelling unit. The average cost of construction of LIG flats during last year was Rs. 5,400/- (Rs. Five thousand four hundred) per sqm. of the plinth area. The earlier cost, however, did not include certain items, which have been included in the projects awarded on Turn Key Basis and for which no extra payment is to be made. These are :

- (i) Construction of the boundary wall around the housing pocket, a community hall, security hut, shopping centre.
- (ii) The preparation of Architectural and Structural designs design of services and getting them approved from the Civic Agencies like MCD, DJB and DVB, maintenance of houses and services for a period of three years.
- (iii) The filling of one meter depth, dual piping system for water supply, rain water harvesting, construction of electric sub-station and providing/ laying High Tension and Low Tension lines and transfer of the services to the respective Civic Agencies.

(c) The Vigilance Department of DDA has taken up examination of the allegations made by the DDA Builders'

Association regarding the Turn Key Projects. Further action would depend upon the outcome of the investigation.

[English]

States Defaultign in Loan Payments

2053. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether 21 States are in HUDCO's defaulter list;
- (b) if so, the details of the lending to these States and the period for which the dues have been outstanding against them;
- (c) whether assessment of non-realisation of loans from the States on the operations of HUDCO has been made;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether alarming situation has been highlighted and communicated to the State Urban Development and Housing Ministers by the Centre;
- (f) if so, the extent to which the States have agreed to repay the loan; and
- (g) the steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) State-wise details of defaulting states for the quarter ending 31st December, 2002 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (g) Yes, Sir. HUDCO regularly reviews the default status with the concerned State Governments as also with the defaulting agencies. HUDCO has constituted special Core Groups to recover the default amount by having detailed interaction with the agencies and concerned State Governments. The concerted efforts have reduced the defaults from Rs. 1890 crore as on 31.3.2002 to Rs. 1545 crore for the quarter ending 31.12.2002.

Statement*State-wise Default Position in respect of Government Agencies for the Quarter Ending 31.12.2002*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Amount Outstanding	Amount in Default
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	183410	10416
2.	A and N Islands	245	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	81	56
4.	Assam	50590	16547
5.	Bihar	7198	3995
6.	Chhattisgarh	6190	827
7.	Goa	5753	7
8.	Gujarat	125688	9580
9.	Haryana	19086	70
10.	Himachal Pradesh	26897	372
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5417	1982
12.	Jharkhand	168	10
13.	Karnataka	261319	12105
14.	Kerala	192775	34733
15.	Madhya Pradesh	27826	5742
16.	Maharashtra	136591	15566
17.	Manipur	18096	12550
18.	Meghalaya	12614	1665
19.	Mizoram	4005	1687
20.	Nagaland	9286	5

1	2	3	4
21.	Orissa	150089	8728
22.	Pondicherry	9	0
23.	Punjab	36310	2352
24.	Rajasthan	43921	1657
25.	Tamil Nadu	289415	4152
26.	Tripura	637	113
27.	Uttaranchal	555	0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	48283	6144
29.	West Bengal	151409	3478
Total		1813843	154539

Task Force to Check ISI/Terrorists

2054. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI SHASHI KUMAR :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Governments have set up anti-terrorist special cells/task force to check the activities of ISI/terrorist organisations in the country.

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

(c) whether the Government propose to give any uniform directions to the States in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the details of assistance provided to States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) All States

except J and K have agreed to initiate action to strengthen local capabilities and set up Special Task Forces with the trained personnel and state of the art weaponry to effectively counter the incidents of terrorism.

(c) to (e) On the recommendations of Group of Ministers, Central Government has decided and requested the State Governments to constitute Inter State Intelligence Support Teams (ISISTs) in different States to deal with specific problems connected with terrorism and its related issues. The ISISTs will be given suitable training by IB to upgrade their operational capabilities to deal with terrorism effectively.

The Central Government provides financial assistance for modernization of State Police Forces. Security Related Expenditures are also reimbursed to the State Governments under the SRE Scheme.

Special Projects under SGSY

2055. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL

DEVELOPMENT be please to state :

(a) whether the Government have received proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana especially in the field of water conservation and agriculture;

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

(c) the financial assistance likely to be provided, project-wise; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (d) Special projects under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) have been received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh since inception of the SGSY. Out of total 54 projects, 13 special projects have been approved as per details given at Statement-I. The details/Status of remaining 41 projects is given at Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of approved Special Projects under SGSY for Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-03.

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Special Project	Period in which Project Sanctioned	Share of Project cost for the Ministry	Total released amount
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Setting up to Technology and Training Development Centres in all Districts of Andhra Pradesh	1999-2000	1125.00	1068.800
2.	Setting up of Permanent Marketing Centres in all Districts of Andhra Pradesh	1999-2000	975.000	926.300
3.	Economic Generation through Coir Production by Women SHGs in East Godavari Dist.	1999-2000	1081.500	1034.550

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Poverty Alleviation through use of Improved Agricultural Technology (Expansion of Israel Technology of Agri.) Special Project under SGSY for Chittoor Distt. (A.P.)	1999-2000	1125.000	1068.750
5.	Special Project under SGSY for Action Plan to create Technologically Qualified Global Workers in Rangareddy, Medak, Nalgonda and Warangal Districts of Andhra Pradesh	2001-2002	599.410	239.760
6.	Special Project for Economic Assistance to 6275 IAY (Innovative) Houses Swarozgaris in Madaksira Block, Anantpur Districts of Andhra Pradesh.	2001-2002	465.750	186.300
7.	Special Project for Development of Marine Fisheries in Srkakulam District of Andhra Pradesh.	2001-2002	654.750	261.900
8.	Special project under SGSY for Gollapalem Lift Irrigation Scheme on Aleru Drain in Inkollu Mandal of Prakasham district of Andhra Pradesh.	2001-2002	295.000	88.500
9.	Special Project for Economic generation through Fashion Designing and garment manufacturing by women SHGs in E. Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.	2001-2002	900-000	360-000
10.	Special project on Employment Generation in rural areas of Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh.	2002-2003	900.900	360.360
11.	Special project under SGSY to provide assistance to SHGs Women Federation MACTs in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh.	2002-2003	213.000	82.800
12.	Special Project on income Generation to SHGs through imparting skill in Textiles processing andd garment manufacturing, Vishakhapatnam distt. of A.P.	2002-2003	182.67	Approved.
13.	Special Project for development of Tribal jewelry handicrafts cluster in Nalgonda district.	2002-2003	36.30	Approved.

Statement-II

List of Special Projects under SGSY received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh

Sl.No.	Project Details	Status
1	2	3
2000-2001		
1.	Project on lift irrigation scheme for Mahaboob Nagar district of A.P.	Rejected

1	2	3
2.	Action Research Project for Integrated Village Development in Nellore District	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
3.	Special Projects for Nellore Distt. on : (i) Revolving fund to SHG (ii) Strengthening of mutually aided Coop. societies (iii) Development of Wasteland through JES scheme (iv) Schemes proposed under Fisheries, sector (v) Rehabilitation of shepherd families (vi) Buffalos heifer calf rearing scheme (vii) Infrastructure Dev. For Animal Husbandry activities (viii) Infrastructure support to handloom weavers (ix) To stabilize the existing structure for further extension in sericulture	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
4.	Special project report on Coir of Srikakulam distt. (A.P.)	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
5.	Special project under SGSY for Poverty Alleviation programme through use of improved agricultural technologies for Mahaboobnagar, Anantapur and Vizianagaram districts.	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
6.	Project proposal under SGSY for Poverty Alleviation through adoption of DPAP Irrigation and advancement of productive activities in farmer's fields in Khamam distt.	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
7.	Special Project on Infrastructure regarding LIS and Ground Water Scheme of Nellore distt.	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
8.	SRT Rural Institute school of Rural marketing and Management, Distt. Nalgonda.	Rejected.
9.	Project Report for better Infrastructure Facilities for Fisheries in Krishna Distt.	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
2001-2002		
10.	Special Project on Revolving funds to Self Help Groups under SGSY in 22 districts.	Rejected.

1	2	3
11. Improving the productivity of Small and Marginal Farmers through adoption technology in Agriculture and Horticulture in Rangareddy.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
12. (i) Report on Assistance to SHGs fo women		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
(ii) Project for Handloom Weavers		
(iii) Sericulture proposal and Rural Developmet in Nellore		
13. Lift Irrigation Scheme in Prakasham (A.P.)		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
14. Special project for Swarnamukhi River areas of Nellore distt.		Transferred to Planning Commission to consider under their scheme.
15. Project for Irrigation—A.P. Nellore district.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
16. Special project on Sericulture for Chittoor district of A.P.		Rejected.
17. Speical project on Sericulture for Anantapur.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
18. Special project for establishment of Mobile Artificial Insemination Center in Rayalseema, Telangana and Coastal districts of A.P.		Rejected.
19. Re-generation of rural Economy through Credit Linked Enterprises Development Strategy in A.P.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
20. Project Appraisal of Nandigama—I LIS on Muniyeru River in Nandigama Mandal, Krishna district, A.P.		Rejected.
21. Project Appraisal of Nandigama—I LIS on Thalavagu River in Nandigama Mandal, Krishna district, A.P.		Rejected.
22. Special Project for Poverty Alleviation Programme through use of improved agriculture technology in Mahaboobnagar.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
23. Special Project for Poverty Alleviation Programme through use of improved agriculture technology in Anantapur distt.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
24. Special Project for Poverty Alleviation Programme through use of improved agriculture technology in Vizianagaram.		Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.

1	2	3
---	---	---

2002-2003

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 25. EPTRI proposal for sanction of Pilot Project for attaching rural poverty through environment management in 6 villages in A.P. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 26. Project on construction of L.I.S. on Kundu River at Rajuvaripeta, Chapadu mandal of Cuddapah distt. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 27. Economic Empowerment of mothers of Child laborers in Prakashm distt. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 28. Request for Central Assistance for the project in Prakasham district (Development of Marine Fisheries). | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 29. Special project for Dev. of Handloom industry in Prakasam distt. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 30. Special project for Lift Irrigation scheme in Prakasam Distt. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 31. Special project on centre for Rural Technologies and Integrated Trg. programme under SGSY. | | Rejected. |
| 32. RWS—Flood Damages to the Drinking Water supply scheme in Cudapah district of A.P. | | Rejected. |
| 33. Innovative sheep development project for the upliftment of weaker sections in Medak district A.P. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 34. Project Report of Lift Irrigation Scheme on right Bank of Manjeera River Near Esmailkhanpet in Sangareddy (M) in Medak district. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 35. Project proposal for grant-in-aid for Women Employment through APURSDS Dairy project in Nellore and Prakasam district of A.P. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 36. Project Report on Infrastructure development in fisherman villages of East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 37. Project for Irrigation drains—Repair of Koonavaram drain in Seethanagaram Mandal of East Godavari district of A.P. | | Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines. |
| 38. Barahmlingam Tank of Chikkavaram village in Gannavaram Constituency A.P. | | Rejected. |
-

1	2	3
39.	Action Plan for establishment of Infrastructural facilities for the development of coastal fisherman and aquaculture in Krishna district.	Rejected.
40.	Special project for adoption of drip Irrigation and advancement of productive activity in Khammam district of A.P.	Returned to the State Government as the project proposal was not according to the scheme guidelines.
41.	Project Report on Kambali and Woolen Blankets weaving cluster in Mahaboobnagar.	Transferred to M/o Textiles.

Reservation Policy

2056. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have strictly followed the reservation policy in providing jobs in the Government Departments and Autonomous institutions as well as attached offices and other PSUs coming under his Ministry in as far as the Gazetted jobs or Class I and Class II employments are concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, till date category-wise, Autonomous Institution-wise and PSU-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) the number of exiting vacancies and the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in the Government Sector and Public Sector, Category-wise;

(e) whether the Government finds it difficult to fill up the reserved posts (Class I and Class II in both Government Sector and Public Sector) designated for the persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs; and

((f) if so, the reason therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH

RAWAT "BACHDA") : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Elementary Education

2057. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY :

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

(a) whether the Finance Ministry are slashing Rs. 800 crore from its 2003-04 budget estimates meant for universalization of education programme and Mid-Day Meal Scheme as reported in Indian Express dated February 4, 2003;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have sought huge amount of funds for the purpose of some programmes regarding the elementary education;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government to develop a reasonable plan with a good chance of proper implementation for the benefit of illiterate urban and rural population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) Plan allocation to the tune of Rs. 6782.25 crores was projected during 2003-04 for schemes under Elementary Education including the schemes of

Universalization of Elementary Education and Mid-day-Meal against which Rs. 4667.000 crores have been provided. Allocation of more funds has been sought from the Finance Ministry and Planning Commission.

Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the districts prepare the District Elementary Education Plans (DEEP) based on detailed analysis of their requirements projected through habitation level planning with community involvement. These plans are then appraised by a team of experts and then approved by the Project Approval Board. In the year 2002-2003, plans of 592 districts have been approved till 28.2.2003.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2058. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of States are showing lukewarm attitude and have not provided the required data to implement the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as yet;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to assist the States for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Plans of 592 districts in 27 States and 3 UTs have been approved for the year 2002-2003 under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. 2002-2003 being the first full year of implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the States have taken time in preparation of the District Elementary Education Plans. Government of India has pursued with the States for expediting the plan preparation and has also held workshops and seminars to facilitate the process.

12.01 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Corrigendum to

Supplementary Demands for Grants for Expenditure of the Central Government on Railways for 2002-03 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7069/2003]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy of the Coal Mines Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification no. G.S.R. 107(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 2003 under section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7070/2003]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :

- (1) Statement explaining reasons for not laying the Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7071/2003]

- (2) Statement explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, for the year 2001-2002 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7072/2003]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University Grants

Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7073/2003]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Hindi (Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal), Agra, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Hindi (Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal), Agra, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Hindi (Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal), Agra, for the year 2000-2001.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7074/2003]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7075/2003]

- (9) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7076/2003.]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 2001-2002.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7077/2003]

[*Translatoin*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA") : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Science and Technology Policy-2003 (Hindi and English versions)

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7078/2003]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of

the working of the India Institute of Geomagnetism, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7079/2003]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 2001-2002.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7080/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Commission for Women New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Commission for Women New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Action Taken Report (Hindi and English versions) on the recommendations contained in the Annual Report of the National Commission for

Women New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Women New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7081/2003]

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Statement

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the First Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on the Action Taken on First Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women on the subject 'Developmental Schemes for Rural Women'.

12.02½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Thirty-second to Thirty-seventh Reports

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy :

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

1. Thirty-second Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Nuclear Power Generation—Targets and Achievements'.
2. Thirty-third Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Small Hydro Power Programme—An Evaluation'.
3. Thirty-fourth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2002-03) of the Department of Atomic Energy.
4. Thirty-fifth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2002-03) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
5. Thirty-sixth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2002-03) of the Ministry of Power.
6. Thirty-seventh Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2002-03) of the Ministry of Coal.

12.03 hrs.

MOTION RE : FORTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI
SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Sir, I be to move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty Seventh
Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented
to the House on the 3rd March, 2003"

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is :

"That the House do agree with the Forty Seventh
Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented
to the House on the 3rd March, 2003"

The Motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker,
Sir,...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I would give
you opportunity to speak, but I would grant you this
permission, when that particular subject comes up.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have
called me by name...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is on a different subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (Tirunelveli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir,
before you start with the 'Zero Hour'...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj wants to make a statement.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this question had been raised during Question Hour, you had directed me to discuss this with the Government to get the facts and then issue a statement. I had discussed it with the Deputy Prime minister who is also the Minister of Home Affairs. He started collecting information regarding the facts, I wanted to convey that he would require one day time for that. He would give statement in the House tomorrow after collecting full information of the facts...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have a different subject. Let him express his views on his own subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to give a statement in the Rajya Sabha so with your permission, I would like to go.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree to it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : I thank you...*(Interruptions)*. Tomorrow the Government would issue a statement on it...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday we had raised issue on increase in prices of fertilisers and diesel and that it is causing hardships to the farmers of the country...*(Interruptions)*. They are agitated. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) Sir, before Shri Venkaiah Naidu plays to the gallery, the Government should come out with a statement...*(Interruptions)*

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS—*CONTD.*

12.05 hrs.

(II) Re : Increase in prices of fertilisers and diesel causing hardship to farmers in the country

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*. This Government is playing with the lives of farmers...*(Interruptions)*. The farmers of the whole country are agitated over the approach of the Government...*(Interruptions)*. Agriculture is being neglected and this is a very serious matter. So I request that the Government should withdraw the increase in prices of diesel and fertilisers...*(Interruptions)*. The coalition parties and the BJP opines that the increase in prices is not justifiable. So I would like that Government should withdraw it immediately. This is our request...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let discussion on the subject which has been started, be completed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important matter and it is being raised from the very beginning itself. If the price of diesel is increased then the prices of irrigation water goes up. Farmers do not use fertilisers due to hike in the prices of fertilisers due to which our agriculture produce decreases year by year. If the production of food grains is discouraged we would be affected. If a Government frames a policy that since they have good storage of food grains, so less allocation be made to agriculture then it is not good. This policy can affect 75 per cent of the people. This may affect the life of framers and farming community and will also affect those who consume grains. It is going to affect the fodder too which is given to cattle. Government should not be so insensitive. Government should consider all these aspects and help the agriculture sector, farmers, labourers

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

and consumers in a better way. Our party is committed to it and if this is not achieved then we would fight for it in and outside the House and would go to people ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, the Government is playing politics with the farmers. We cannot tolerate this...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Where is the Finance Minister...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, the Minister is not present...*(Interruptions)* Please stop this game, roll back.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramji Lal Suman and Shri Shivraj V. Patil have raised the very important issue of the situation arising out of the increase in prices of fertilizer and diesel in the Budget. This was the issue raised. They have spoken on the issue. During the 'Zero Hour' we have a number of other questions to be tackled. But since they have raised this issue, I would like to know whether the Government would like to react on this or not.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, the Cabinet Ministers are making different statements. We would like to know whether they are collectively responsible or not. They should clarify this aspect...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Should I conclude, that you do not want to take up other 'Zero Hour' notices?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : The Government should respect to it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers are agitated on the statement of the Finance Minister outside the House that Government would not withdraw the increase in the prices of diesel and fertilisers and a result we find so many member eager to speak. So, I urge you that the Finance Minister should issue a statement ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You are aware that the issue of the farmers is going to be discussed in the House. We have already fixed up a date for this in the BAC in the discussion on the farmers issue, you can always speak about it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is going to take decision on it today evening and I would like to request you...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Members have raised the issue of hike in the prices of fertilisers and diesel and I would bring this in the knowledge of Prime Minister and the Member should express his view when there is a discussion in Budget...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Your Minister said publicly...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers have reacted on the statement of the Finance Minister and this would lead to adverse consequences.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The farmers issue is going to be discussed in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hocgly) : Sir, you issue a direction to the Government...(Interruptions). Let them speak out...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the national president of BJP, Shri Sharad Yadav, Shri Ajit Singh, Shri Om Prakash Chautala, all the parties want that the rise in prices of the diesel and fertiliser should be withdrawn because it is giving bad name to the Government in the country. But the BJP is disgracing the Government in the country. In spite of all this Government and Finance Minister is issuing a statement that the price hike in diesel and fertilisers would not be withdrawn...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Is Shri Venkalah Naidu the Prime Minister, or Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is the Prime Minister? Let them make it clear to us. Who is the Prime Minister—Shri Venkaiah Naidu or Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee? On the one hand Shri Venkaiah Naidu says that they have done wrong and on the other hand the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister say that they have done the right thing. Shri Ajit Singh is saying something...(Interruptions) Is this Government making a mockery?... (Interruptions) We cannot accept it... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I am going to another subject. Shri Radhakrishnan please speak.

[Translation]

How can this go in. Shri Radhakrishnan please speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : The prices of diesel and fertilisers have gone up...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let me go to the next subject now. Please sit down.

[Translation]

I will take this matter later. Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, there is a grave situation prevailing in the country... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me do some other business please.

[Translation]

Only the speech of the Member, to whom I have allowed will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Under a recent direction from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the State Governments are...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, you start speaking. I cannot stop them.

(Interruptions)

12.15 hr.s

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table).

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to permit you. You have already made a statement.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I will grant you permission to speak.
Please sit.

(Interruptions)

12.15½ hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

(Interruptions)

12.16 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Kantilal Bhuria and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table.)

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want? Whether you also want permission to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Telecast may be suspended.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If all of you want discussion on this subject, I am ready to give permission for this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You should demand it from the Government, I can direct the Government for the needful.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All of you may please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lakshman Seth.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghunath Jha.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Financial Institutions have made negligible investment in the State of Bihar and the credit deposit is only 24.5 percent in Bihar against the national average of 53.4 percent. After the creation of Jharkhand State this proportion has reduced to less than 20 percent in Bihar. Since most of the industries are located in Jharkhand, the National Financial Institutions have made most of their investment in that sector. If the Bihar would continue to face scarcity of resources, Bihar would not be left with funds for development related work. In short, the prosperous developed area having enough resources has become a separate State of Jharkhand. You might be remembering that the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs had assured the House that Bihar will not be ignored.

Therefore through you, I would like to demand from the Union Government to give comprehensive economic package as an economic aid to the divided State of Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nawal Kishore Rai.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hail from the State of Bihar. Bihar is an Indo-Nepal

border. Border roads on Indo-Nepal border. N.H.-77 from Hazipur-Muzzaffarpur-Sitamarhi to Sonvansa and NH-104 from Chakia-Shivhar-Sitamarhi-Mithamorth-Chorat to Jainagar is in very dilapidated state. The bridges are also in dilapidated condition and nobody can pass through it.

The Government should handover repairing of roads and construction of bridges and culverts to Border Road Organisation so that these are made all season roads otherwise people will stage agitation from March 15.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vinay Kumar Sorake...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ravi Prakash Verma.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Kumarti Mamata Banerjee.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, the Government of India must take precautions to protect the people of the districts of Nadia, Malda and Murshidabad as they are severely affected by the erosion of Ganga...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Farakkha Thermal Power Plant is the pivotal point. It is a matter of shock that only one kilometre of land is left between the Ganga and the Bhagirathi before coming together...*(Interruptions)* If waters of both these rivers get mixed up, then all the districts will be washed away and there will be related problems in other parts also...*(Interruptions)* The Government must take strong steps to save the life and property of the villagers and other surrounding areas...*(Interruptions)* The Government must also take concrete steps to prevent soil erosion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lal Bihari Tiwari.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi) : Sir, there is a rehabilitation colony i.e. Geeta colony in my parliamentary constituency. The people over were rehabilitated there after partition, the Union Government have allotted land to them. Some people have made additional construction due to increase in the size of their family. In this context, Matin, a resident of Hindu Rao who is residing in Taj Enclave had filed a PIL in High Court, the Government did not pursue it properly and 24 houses are being demolished over there.

Through you, Sir, I urge upon the Union Government to save those houses by giving them relaxation on lines of DDA. 15 percent of covered area relaxation is given by DDA...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Adhir Chowdhury.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mahender Singh Pal.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Girija Vyas.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rameshwar Rudy.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bherulal Meena.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

(Interruptions)

[Translaiton]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government in regard to increase in the price of Scorpion vehicle by Mahindra company before the budget.

I have just seen the price list of Shri Durga Automobiles, a dealer of Mahindra Company. A few days back the price of premium colours of Scorpio Turbo 2.6. diesel 2600 CC 2WD, 7, 8, 9 HVAC was 6,06,751 rupees and the distributor was givign rebate on this price.

Now, the revised cost of that vehicle is 6,27,320 rupees and that too without rebate. The Government is trying to benefit the consumers by reducing tax by 8 percent, but Mahindra has arbitrarily increased the price.

Scorpio is being sold in blackmarket whereas consumers are getting this vehicle after three months of booking.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government to make Mahindra company to roll back pre-budget price hike of Scorpio vehicle and blackmarketing of vehicles by dealers of Mahindra should be checked...
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Hannan Mollah.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Haribhai Chaudhary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramjivan Singh.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH (Balua, Bihar) : Sir, the rabi crop maize is widely cultivated in Bihar. The rabi crop maize is the main crop in Begusarai, Khagaria, Samastipur, Muzzafarpur and other districts. This year majority of the farmers have sown the seed named Kargil. It germinated quite well. The growth of plants was also very good but 90 per cent of plants did not have cobs. Not even 10 per cent crop is expected while the average yield of maize last year was 40 quintles per acre. It seems that even the cost price of cultivation is difficult to recover this year. Due to this farmers are distressed.

Hence, I request the Government to send a team of experts to investigate as to what ails these plants. Whether it was due to the substandard quality of seeds or due to some other reason? Who will compensate the farmers?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. I appeal to all of you to go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri P.C. Thomas.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K. Francis George.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri T. Govindan.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dharam Raj Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Since all the 'Zero Hour' notices are over, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1.30 p.m.

12.25 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

13.34 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty four minutes past Thirteen of the clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up Matters under rule 377, Prof. Dukha Bhagat.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh is mired into corruption...*(Interruptions)* Corruption is being encouraged in U.P. ...*(Interruptions)* You told me to speak on it during zero hour...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You were given an opportunity to speak in zero hour. The Government is also maintaining that a statement will be made in this regard. The Home Minister is going to make a statement on it tomorrow. Hence you resume your seat.

13.35. hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to solve drinking water problem in Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand

[Translation]

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT (Lohardaga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 75 percent population of my constituency, Lohardaga are not getting drinking water. Humans as well as the cattle drink from the same pond due to which Adivasis are suffering from several diseases. The Government are trying to make available drinking water to the people and are spending crores of rupees on it. Still Adivasis are forced to consume contaminated water. There is a need to review these schemes and stern action be taken to punish the negligent and guilty officers.

Through the House I would request the Government that the various projects and works undertaken under various drinking water schemes be reviewed so that the objective of making drinking water available to all could be fulfilled.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You were given an opportunity by the Mr. Speaker to express your views in the morning and also asked the Government to make statement which will be made tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You also can express your view point tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Allegations have been levelled against the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. The Government would give its response only after listening to all the views in this regard. The matter is very serious. I want your protection.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam) : We don't have any other option to raise the matter...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not the Zero Hour.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we have to take up the discussion on the Railway Budget. Do not waste the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER Mr. Speaker listened you during Zero Hour and gave the ruling and has also asked the Government to make a statement in this regard. If you want to inquire about it you can do so with the permission of the hon. Speaker tomorrow. This is not Zero Hour.

[English]

I will not allow you.

(Interruptions)

13.38 hrs.

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh came and stood near the Table)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All of you resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record, except matters under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)*

(ii) Need to provide compensation to the farmers whose crops have been affected due to drought particularly in Southern part of Haryana

[Translation]

DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV (Mahendargarh) : Mr. Deputy Sepaker, Sir, the Central assistance has immediately been provided to the farmers reeling under the drought and floods in several States of the country, which is providing a lot of relief to the farmers but the farmers living in Southern part of Haryana, are getting meager assistance in comparison with the farmers living in other parts of the country. Not only that very meager funds have been released as assistance for the district Rewari in Haryana.

Similarly the farmers in those areas are on the verge of starvation in which they entirely depend on monsoon for irrigation and also where no canals or tubewells exist for irrigation and the ground water level is very low. Due to this the farmers have failed to sow any crop. The farmers, who have sown the crop also are not getting any relief.

Hence I would urge upon the Union Government that a Central team be sent to survey the damages suffered by the farmers in various parts of the country especially in Southern Haryana where the farmers have been reeling under the impact of double drought. Union Government is also requested to provide central assistance to them who have not sown their crop due to drought.

(iii) Need to release funds from Central Road Fund for proper maintenance of Lumbini-Duddhi State Highway in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Jaunpur) : Sir, the Lumbini-Duddhi State highway passing through the

famous pilgrim centers and tourist places of Uttar Pradesh bisects my constituency Jaunpur. This State highway is the lifeline of Janpad but it is in a very bad condition and large pits have developed on it. Even the walking has become a difficult job. The State Government has estimated that Rs. 43 crore are required for the renovation of the said highway but on the other hand it has also proposed to declare it as a national highway due to shortage of funds.

Hence, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Road Transport and National Highways to sanction an amount of Rs. 43 crore from the Central Road Fund for the maintenance of the said highway.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It would not add to the decorum of the House. I have given you the permission to raise the matter. The Government has said that it would make a statement in this regard tomorrow.

13.40 hrs.

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh went back to his seat)

(iv) Need to provide employment and compensation to the dependents of deceased employees of ECL and BCCL of Central Coal Fields Limited

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the case of providing employment and compensation to the dependents of the employees of ECL and BCCL of Central Coalfields Limited has been pending for years. Section 28 was inserted to dismiss the employees in this manner which was repeated by the Government. Still the dismissed employees were not reinstated despite the repeating of this clause.

The cases of appointing the dependent of deceased employees are rejected on the flimsy ground of age, relation and anomaly in name etc even though there is a provision of providing job to the daughter, non-in-law also under NCW. Similarly anomalies in names of the uneducated workers and employees are found in service book, CMPF and in other records due to the errors

committed by those writing them down. What is the fault of an uneducated worker in it? The management should provide job to the dependent of the deceased worker by attesting the names. Hence the Government is requested to provide employment and compensation to the dependent of deceased employees as well as to displaced persons within a definite span of time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Ramji Lal Sumanji, I will give you an opportunity to speak after 377.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You raised this issue in the morning. Firstly you raised it during the Question Hour than in Zero Hour. Mr. Speaker gave the ruling that the Government should make the statement in this regard. The Government stated that statement will be made tomorrow. What can we do in between?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not Zero Hour now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You put down the newspaper first. Then only I will proceed.

(v) Need to expeditiously implement National Malaria Eradication Programme in Keonjhar district, Orissa

[English]

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the district of Keonjhar, which I represent, is presently passing through a very difficult period due to the untimely death of people in that district by malaria. According to a Government report, 434 people died in that district due to malaria during the last five years. But the actual figure may cross 1,000. Two to three thousand cases of malaria are detected every year. Out of them, at least about 100 people pass away due to lack of proper treatment. The National Malaria Eradication Programme

[Shri Ananta Nayak]

has been launched in that district since last three decades without desired result.

Unless immediate steps are taken to engage an adequate number of workers in the malaria eradication programme and unless adequate treatment is provided to the people suffering from malaria, the death rate due to this disease will continue to increase.

I request the Government that the programmes related to eradication of malaria be implemented in that district expeditiously and this dreaded disease be eradicated at the earliest. Adequate funds may be allocated exclusively for the tribal populated districts and especially Keonjhar where the death toll is increasing at an alarming rate.

(Interruptions)

13.43 hrs.

[English]

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh came and sat on the floor near the Table)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the matters under Rule 377.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What are you doing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Speaker said in this regard that it is a serious matter and it is not something that can be taken lightly.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Government would make a statement tomorrow after collecting all facts.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please go to your seat.

13.44 hrs.

(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh went back to his seat)

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called hon. Members under the rule 377. Two-Three Members are left to speak then I will listen you.

[English]

(vi) Need to withdraw eviction drive against farmers living in Udupi and adjoining forest areas of Kodagu, Karnataka

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (Udupi) : The Forest Department officials in my State have launched a massive eviction drive in forest settlements in Udupi and adjoining areas of Kodagu for implementing Supreme Court directives, resulting in uprooting of settlements of poor and marginal farmers settled there for long.

These communities are poor and illiterate and do not have such records in their possession although they are living in forest land for generations and they have toiled hard to develop such unproductive terrains as the standing crops of vegetation and plantation would testify. The

agitation by those affected by this eviction drive has taken serious turn in the neighbouring Wynad area of Kerala with tribals violently resisting the police. In my area the agitators have been peaceful yet assertive of their rights to hold on such settlements. By instinct and tradition they follow their vocation without causing any ecological and environmental harm and I urge the Centre to intervene in the matter on humanitarian grounds by calling off the drive till a solution is found for the rehabilitation of such communities.

(vii) Need to withdraw the move to issue notices to the depositors of Cooperative sector Banks by Income-Tax Department to furnish details of their deposits in Kerala

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (Ottapalam) : The cooperative sector in Kerala is well established and is now meeting more than 50 per cent of the demands of lending to the poor agriculturists in the State of Kerala. The cooperative sector is really the backbone of the State's agricultural developmental activities. The main source of money of the sector for lending is the deposits received from various parties.

The Income Tax Act provided certain exemption to the cooperative sector, under Section 80(P), immunity from deduction of tax on the interest received by the depositors under Section 194 of the Income-Tax Act, as a policy for the orderly development of the cooperative sector in the country. Now, due to the notices issued by the Income-Tax Department under Section 133(6) to furnish the details of deposits made by the members, the depositors become reluctant to make deposits in the cooperative sector. This in turn is adversely affecting the lending of loan to agriculturists and growth of the agriculture in the State. Now, due to this a lot of deposits are being withdrawn from the cooperatives.

Most of the primary cooperative agricultural societies are functioning in villages and major part of their deposits comes from the poor villagers. The cooperative banks are providing attractive rate of interest.

I urge upon the Government to withdraw this move.

(viii) Need to release additional quantity of rice to Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work Programme with a view to generate more employment to drought affected people of the State

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH (Machilipatnam) : The burning problem in the State of Andhra Pradesh for some time past has been drought. The entire rural economy in particular being agrarian has been worst hit. Due to adverse impact, the agriculture, livestock and allied sectors are affected and with a view to stem the tide of adverse impact the Government of Andhra Pradesh has formulated a contingency plan and is poised for implementation on war-footing with a view to provide employment to labourers, provision of credit to the farmers, supply of fodder and drinking water in urban area rural areas. Due to the severe drought situation in the State 1041 Mandals out of 1171 were declared as drought affected.

I urge upon the Central Government to release additional quantity of rice under food for work programme to provide employment to agricultural labourers.

(ix) Need to restart drilling operation work in Bundelkhand region of UP with a view to find out underground water there

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda) : Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a need to start drilling operation work in most parts of the district Chitrakut and Banda of the famine stricken Bundelkhand region of U.P. This would facilitate tracing of underground water reservoir at those places which have been declared as having no reservoir of underground water by the U.P. Government. Besides putting a ban on underground drilling, the Central Water Commission working under the Ministry of Water Resources has tried to find the reservoir of underground water in some places in the said districts and has met with success at some of the places and these sites have been handed over to the State Government. The State Government has provided relief to the people by setting

[Shri Ram Sajivan]

up Government tubewells at those places. But the Government of India have stopped drilling operation to trace underground water for the last many years. This is adversely affecting the interests of the farmers. There is a great need to restart this programme and a decision in this regard is essential to be taken at the Prime Minister's level.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now though the item No. 12 has to be taken but before taking it I would listen your submission.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I too have given notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will not give time to both of you. Let Shri Ramji Lal Suman speak on your part.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Sir, he has also given notice and too have given notice. I request you to listen both of us and provide time for the same.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not the Zero Hour. I will listen only one submission.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Speaker had given the ruling in the morning during the Question Hour that the allegations levelled against the Chief Minister of U.P. Mayawati ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, how can the State matter be raised here. If you are listening him you should give an opportunity to us also to express our viewpoint.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Rashid Alvi, I will listen to you also I would give you permission to make submission.

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he has spoken during the Question Hour and Zero Hour also. Hence now give an opportunity to me... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the MLA's of our party had met His excellency the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and had requested him that the madam Chief Minister be immediately dismissed in view of the available evidence with us. We gave him adequate time and concrete evidence in this regard.

Sir, as far the Union Government is concerned, what can it reply us, it is a federal structure... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sumanji, you don't go into the merit of this case and don't extend it. I have only given two minute to you. You immediately conclude.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of India have said that it would apprise the House after receiving the report from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh is herself a party to this case. How can she expected to provide factual information to the Union Government? It is not possible.

Sir, This is the Question related to the prestige and dignity of the MPs. She is demanding Rs. two lakh from every M.P. out of the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme funds. This is not justified in any way. The corruption is at its peak in Uttar Pradesh. Hence I demand that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh be immediately punished and this matter be investigated so that the justice could be done. The Government of Uttar Pradesh will try to shield its sins and misdeeds. We gave adequate time and evidence to the Governor of Uttar Pradesh. He has enough evidences to dismiss the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Through you, I would make a humble submission to the Government that the Chief Minister of U.P. be immediately dismissed.

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak. This subject is

being discussed here since morning. I would like to say that I am the leader and also an M.P. of Bahujan Samajwadi Party. I am ready to resign from Lok Sabha if Samajwadi Party proves what is said against me in the tape...*(Interruptions)* First you listen in what I have to say...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Alviji, has listened to you, now you listen to him also. You don't do so.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Ramji Lal Sumanji, don't level allegations and counter allegations with each other. Everything will be know when the Government makes a Statement tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sumanji, I have given you an opportunity to speak, he is also to be given an opportunity to speak like you.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not waste the time of the House like this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I may also be allowed to speak...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Rashid Alvi.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please allow him to speak.

[Translation]

I have already given you the time to speak. Now please let him speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI : I may also be heard. Sir, by creating uproar in the House, they cannot prove anything. I want to say that if Mayawatiji takes commission, then that commission would have been drawn from my commission also and even from all the MPs. I declare in this House that if it is proved true, I will resign from the Lok Sabha...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the tape produced before the Governor is not fool proof. The fact is that a college is under construction in Etawah in the name of Mulayam Singhji's father. Hon. Chief Minister has received some complaints in this regard. 5-25 lakh rupees have been taken from the MLAs and MPs of Samajwadi Party...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : It is just like the case of a thief threatening the policeman...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, he will make his submission.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Sir, 5-25 lakh rupees have been taken...*(Interruptions)* The record is available in this regard...*(Interruptions)* That tape has been produced before the Governor...*(Interruptions)* If there is any truth in that tape...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Rashid Alvi, please resume your seat now. It is enough.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA (Muzaffarnagar) : Sir, what is being telecast on T.V. Channel today is an insult to the House and the people of the country...(Interruptions) In such a situation when the entire country is viewing it...(Interruptions) Sir, Members have been insulted. Today, corruption is rampant under the patronage of Bhartiya Janata Party through Mayawati...(Interruptions) Bhartiya Janata Party is instrumental in it. Public and all Members of the House should consider it seriously.

Sir, there can be nothing despicable than insulting the Members of Parliament...(Interruptions) It does not pertain to a specific party rather it has hurt the dignity of the house. People of the entire country have been snubbed. CBI inquiry should be instituted in this regard. The way corruption is prevailing in the regime of Mayawat, atrocities are being committed, innocent people are being sent to jails, there cannot be any grave form of injustice other than this. They shall have to bear the brunt of snubbing Parliamentarians.

14.00 hrs.

An inquiry should be conducted in this regard. There cannot be anything more painful than this. Unfortunately, Members of Bhartiya Janata Party are enduring these insults. They are patronising the atrocities being committed to the people there...(Interruptions) Using these words is a contempt of the House. I really feel sorry that none of the Members of Bhartiya Janata Party is opposing it. They are not raising any question against it. This issue should be heard seriously and a CBI inquiry should be conducted in this regard. The House should be apprised of it...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have said that you would give me the opportunity to speak. I have given a notice on this issue...(Interruptions)

14.01 hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh came and sat on the floor near the Table)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What are you doing? I have given you the chance to speak. Sumanji, please ask him. You are the leader of the party.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I humbly request you to give only two minutes time to Shri Akhileshji...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please ask him to resume his seat. You also go back to your seat.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : Please come. Let the House to continue...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please come forward and call him back. How the House will function in such a situation? Your leader has requested you. How many more minutes you require?

14.02 hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh went back to his seat.)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Akhileshji will finish in two minutes only...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Pradhan, what is this going on. Ministers are disturbing the House.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no harm to give two ministers time to Shri Akhileshji but it is not fair if he makes fun of Parliament...(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh came and stood near the Table)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak from your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Akhilesh Singh, please do not waste the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : It is not your domestic affair that you may throw me out of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please resume your seat. Speak from your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The discussion on railway budget is yet to be held. For the second time, I have asked Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni to sit. Why you did like this? I have given you permission.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is inappropriate to blame any one regarding dignity of the House. Suman Ji I committed the mistake to allow him to speak and not you. It is my mistake. Now you please conclude in two minutes.

14.04 hrs.

(At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh went back to his seat.)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : No, now I want five minutes. As the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has levelled an allegation, I will put forth my stand.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Jaunpur) : It is inappropriate that one person highjacks the entire House. We will not hear him. What is this?

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : It is because of him.

He is repeating the same thing in the House... (Interruptions) He has highjacked the House... (Interruptions)

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is becoming nervous... (Interruptions) Now this dominance will not continue any more... (Interruptions) They want to disturb the entire Uttar Pradesh. That is why Mayawati... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will he highjack the House? One Person is disturbing the House... (Interruptions) He has spoken thrice. Will he speak again and again... (Interruptions) What he wants... (Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are highjacking... (Interruptions) they have highjack the mandate... (Interruptions) They have highjack the mandate... (Interruptions) they want to turn Uttar Pradesh into a cremation ground but they cannot succeed without the patronage of Kumari Mayawati... (Interruptions) They want to turn Uttar Pradesh into a graveyard... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, we have to take up discussion on the Railway Budget. I appeal to all of you to keep silence in the House for two minutes. I am permitting Kunwar Akhilesh Singh to speak for two minutes. We have to take up the discussion on the Railway Budget.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you please resume your seat? Let him speak for two minutes.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Ram Sajivan also wants to speak. After him, he will also speak... (Interruptions) If you allow him to speak, then Shri Ram Sajivan should also be given two minutes to speak... (Interruptions) If one gets the chance to speak by mauting pressure in the House, we will also behave in the same manner... (Interruptions) Noting can be achieved in this way... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is inappropriate any your part to speak like this as you have already got the chance to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Shri Ram Sajivan wants to speak for two minutes only...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are a leader of a Party. You can not speak like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, will he mount pressure on the House...*(Interruptions)* Everything which is going on in Uttar Pradesh is under the patronage of BJP...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they have turned Uttar Pradesh into a graveyard and we have tried to rectify the situation there...*(Interruptions)* After this please allow Shri Ram Sajivan to speak...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I oppose the Minister of State. The Minister of State has stated that I have made fun of the House. In the morning, I have given notice for the adjournment motion regarding suspension of Question Hour. Business of the House should be suspended to hold discussion on the Adjournment motion. At that time, hon. Speaker has given ruling from the Chair that my concern would be heard in Zero Hour. When I was not heard during Zero Hour, I requested you under the rules...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Speaker gave the decision during Zero Hour and permitted the Government to deliver a statement in this regard. Hon. Deputy Prime Minister stated that the concerned Minister would come out with a statement in this regard tomorrow. Now whatever you want to speak in this regard, say in two minutes only.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I humbly request you to check the ruling of the Chair from the records...*(Interruptions)* I was going to speak but Shri Vijay Goel levelled an allegation against me, therefore, I will not speak about my subject till I give the clarification in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to request you to check the proceedings held in the morning. I would resign from the Membership of Parliament if the permission given by the hon. Speaker to speak during Zero Hour would not be there. I would tender my resignation just now...*(Interruptions)* Please check the proceedings of the morning. I am serious on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

I want to say that Shri Vijay Goel and his party has made fund of this House. It is they who are doing such things not we. Corrupts are being patronised in the House openly...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak on your subject.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : The capital of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow is also the Parliamentary constituency of hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh had levelled the allegation that in this constituency Members of Parliament take commission under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. She has levelled the same charges against the MLAs also, She said that the honest MLAs and MPs get Rs. 5 lakh and Rs. 10 lakh from Member of Legislative Assembly Local Area Development Fund and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Fund respectively without taking any commission. And the dishonest Members of Parliament...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no such thing. It is a baseless allegation...*(Interruptions)* Such baseless points should not be raised in the House...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my allegations...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

SHRI RASHID ALVI : There is no such allegation. It is totally baseless...(Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Rashid Alvi is trying to hide the corrupt activities of his Chief Minister. I just want to reveal the truth. I humbly want to say...(Interruptions) Either he should speak or I...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda) : They have moved no confidence motion against the Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The motion has been negitivated. Now he has to withdraw the motion. Now, out of frustration, they are levelling allegation...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Akhileshji, I have given you the chance to speak. Please conclude soon.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : For anything you just rise. There is a limit.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Shri Rashid Alvi has levelled an allegation. We can go through the speeches given by Mayawatiji and Alviji during the discussion held on tehelka.com. At that time he and his leader had held the tapes authentic. Now when the tapes against them are produced, they are saying that the tapes are not authentic...(Interruptions). It is a bundle of lies. We want CBI inquiry of the incident. Only then the truth will come into light...(Interruptions). Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has not only tarnished the image of Parliamentarians but she has declared them corrupt also. She has done a disgraceful act of labelling the Members of Parliament as corrupt. She has crossed the limits. Today corruption has become order of the day in Uttar Pradesh. My submission is that if we want to save the democracy, the cross allegations levelled by both sides on each other should be inquired by the CBI. If necessary, a joint Parliamentary Committee should also be constituted to inquire into the whole incident...(Interruptions). Finally I would request that Member of Parliamentary Local Area Development Fund should be discontinued till the investigation are over in this regard. This fund is tarnishing the image of all the Parliamentarians, therefore, this fund should be abolished...(Interruptions). Developmental works should be organised by the Members in the same way as was being done earlier...(Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi to initiate the discussion on the Railway Budget.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have given the floor to Shri Dasmunsi.

14.13 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 2003-2004

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT
(RAILWAYS) 2003-2004,

DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT
(RAILWAYS), 2002-2003

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS
(RAILWAYS), 2002-2001

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeded the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be

granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending the 31st

day of March, 2004, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 16."

Demands for Grants on Accounts (Railways) for 2003-04, submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account submitted to the vote of the House Rs.
1	2	3
1.	Railway Board	11,35,10,000
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	39,04,23,000
3.	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	284,73,33,000
4.	Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works	546,91,08,000
5.	Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power	300,55,52,000
6.	Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	563,98,08,000
7.	Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	306,62,68,000
8.	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment	482,85,30,000
9.	Operating Expenses - Traffic	2204,94,40,000
10.	Operating Expenses - Fuel	1332,95,74,000
11.	Staff Welfare and Amenities	225,69,26,000
12.	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	274,89,62,000
13.	Provident Fund, Pension and Other Retirement Benefits	1091,76,41,000
14.	Appropriation to Funds	1618,33,33,000
15.	Dividend to General Revenues, Repayment of loans Taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalisation	3,85,33,000
16.	Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement Revenue	5,00,00,000
Other Expenditure		
	Capital	3062,76,80,000

1	2	3
	Railway Funds	538,96,67,000
	Railway Safety Fund	72,16,66,000
	Special Railway Safety Fund	458,22,67,000
	Total	13425,62,21,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

That the respective supplementary sum not exceeding the amount shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defraying the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2003, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16."

*Demand for Supplementary Grants (Railways)
for 2002-03 submitted to the Vote of
the Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Supplementary grant for submitted to the Vote of the House Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)
16	Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	
	Other Expenditure	
	Special Railway Safety Fund	146,03,33,000
	Total	146,03,33,000

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to take part in the discussion on the Railway Budget. On behalf of the Congress Party

we are very sorry and it gives me really a very painful feeling to express our opinion collectively from the Party that the NDA Government headed by the hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is giving a very casual attention to the security and safety of the people who travel in the railway network right from the day the Government has been installed either in the name of NDA or in other form in 1998.

Why am I saying so? The present hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar had the privilege to place the first Vote on Account Budget in this Parliament in 1998-99. I brought all the Budget speeches of the Railway Ministers. I will first highlight the safety angle and how this Government took it so casually.

In 1998-99, of course, it was a Vote on Account. The hon. Minister did not even use the word 'safety' at all in his speech. I do not take him to task for that. But I will start to submit about the seriousness of the NDA Government on the security and safety network.

In the Budget presented by the hon. Minister in 1999-2000, on page 5 in paragraph 7 on safety aspect the hon. Minister has said and I quote :

It is :

"Whenever we talk about passenger services on Indian Railways, the safety of passengers is our foremost concern."

Shri Nitish Kumar, you are so unfortunate. I do not know what happens to you. Whenever you present the

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Budget, all the big accidents are to be informed and recorded only by your speech. It further reads :

"The disastrous and unprecedented accident at Khanna is still deeply etched in my mind and continues to move and unnerve me. This tragedy has raised questions regarding several aspects of railway safety. It is imperative that we find early solutions to them. This matter has been given serious thought by the Railway Ministry and a Plan has been drawn up for improving safety."

What plan was drawn up? Nothing has been explained in successive Budgets.

In 2000-2001, the Railway Budget was presented by Kumari Mamata Banerjee. She narrated her safety concerns, following the footsteps of Shri Nitish Kumar. It reads :

"Since the biggest challenge that Indian Railways face today is ensuring safe transit of passengers and freight traffic, I would like to assure the Members of this august House that safety in rail operations would be accorded the highest priority and maximum possible investments. The Railway Safety Review Committee headed by Justice H.R. Khanna has assessed the requirement of Rs. 15,000 crore for rehabilitation of over-aged assets and for providing adequate technology back up to operational staff connected with train running.

Within the constraint of resources, I am proposing enhanced investment in these areas to the extent possible. I am thankful to the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance for enhanced budgetary support for the next year. However, our requirement of a specific safety related grant, as recommended by the Railway Safety Review Committee, could not be met. Moreover, we are yet to receive compensation for the social service obligations continuously being carried out by the Railways."

A confession was made in the House. I quote:

"However, our requirement of a specific safety related grant, as recommended by the Railway Safety Review Committee, could not be met."

It means that though the NDA Government narrated, cried and shed their crocodile tears, they could not meet the safety requirements till that date. The Budget was presented by Kurnari Mamata Banerjee.

Now, I come back to the Railway Budget of 2002-2003 presented by Shri Nitish Kumar. I think, the same paragraph is prepared by the Railway Board and every Minister just puts it in his speech. Sir, safety has been a matter of concern as it was in 2000, as it was in 1999 and as it was in 1998. It reads:

"Safety has been a matter of concern to each and every Member of this House and Railway considers this as a subject of paramount importance. The tragic accident on the Kadalundi bridge in June, 2001 has brought this issue into even greater focus."

Earlier, he felt for safety after the tragic accident at Khanna. Now, the tragic accident on Kadalundi bridge in June, 2001—the Minister is crying—has brought the issue into even greater focus. At that time, he had said that he was unnerved. His nervous system really broke down at that time. Now he feels that the tragic accident on Kadalundi bridge in June, 2001 has brought this issue into greater focus. The Railway Safety Review Committee headed by Justice Khanna in its Report had recommended that over-aged safety related assets of Indian Railways needed to be replaced or renewed speedily. This is what was said by Kumari Mamata Banerjee in her speech.

It is said here :

"This year, with the directions of the hon. Prime Minister and the support of the hon. Finance Minister, a special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000 crore has been set up including due allowance for inflation, for clearing the backlog of replacement of over-aged assets over the next six years. This Fund is being credited by a budgetary support of Rs. 12,000 crore

over a six year period and the balance of Rs. 5,000 crore is being raised by the Railway through a safety surcharge levied."

It means that he proposed a plan that these Rs. 17,000 crore would be augmented in the following manner. Khanna accident broke his nerve. Kadalundi gave him a plan. After the Rajdhani Express accident, the Minister is saying :

"I am aware of the concern expressed both inside and outside Parliament on the vital issue of safety. In pursuance of the commitment made by me during the Winter Session of Parliament, a White Paper covering the entire spectrum of the issues involved in safety in train operations would be presented during the course of this session."

Sir, what I am trying to say is that since 1998-99, you are presenting the Railway Budget, and the NDA Government is playing an old tune on the piano. Despite the Khanna Committee's recommendations, due to the Planning Commission's refusal, the Government could not make any provision. The Minister lost his nerve then, and he comes to the conclusion now that a 'White Paper' should be presented, which is now being prepared. This is what I call a total casual, lacklustre approach to the problems being faced by the commuters of this country, who are a vital link and related to the railway system of our country. I charge the NDA Government's deliberate casual approach resulted in accidents after accidents, endangering the lives of the people. At the end, he now wants to come out with a 'White Paper', and we will wait for that 'White Paper'.

Now, I come to a very serious point. The Minister's confession has not ended here, and you will be shocked to know the reason given here. The Minister says,

"One of the major contributing factors for accidents has been found to be human failure.

And how that human failure will be taken care of - look at the confession. He will be presenting a 'White Paper' on this.

In this context, the filling up of vacancies in safety category, in Group D, has assumed importance."

It means, if the Group D safety category posts had been filled up earlier, then the human failure could have been prevented. Who prevented you from filling up those vacancies?

Mr. Minister, you have said in your earlier Budget Speech that you are doing the Group D category recruitment in a transparent manner and that you are doing it in a phased manner, very quickly, through the Railway Recruitment Board. You have said this in your Budget Speech in 1999-2000. Who prevented you from filling up those vacancies in the safety category?

Being a Minister of the NDA Government, from your own observation, you have understood that the people who are required to be recruited under the safety category have not been recruited thus far, and now you realise that it has resulted in human failure. I think, the Minister has no right to continue in the Ministry, if this is his confession. This is how you are treating the railway sector, and this is how you are treating the safety aspect.

All the Budget Speeches that I have quoted and the facts that I have narrated give me the correct information and message that this Government handled the issue of safety very carelessly and callously throughout the country thereby causing disastrous accidents: for example, Ghaisal and Rajdhani accidents. This is how, Mr. Minister, your Railways are now being placed.

Never in this Parliament, till date, anybody dealt with the Railways on political grounds. Whatever budgetary support you asked for, the Parliament stood by you; whatever budgetary support you asked for, the Standing Committee gave its unanimous recommendation. The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Railways is sitting on that side. Whatever budgetary support you wanted, you got our cooperation, but you never cared to understand as to how the things could be improved. You went on presenting Budgets in this House and, technically, just to maintain a paragraph on safety aspect, you have used

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

certain phrases. What has happened today? A new revelation came today. The result of the casual approach of the NDA Government has been revealed by the Minister in his Part-I Speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Sengupta, please do not read newspaper in the House.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The Minister, in his Budget Speech of 2003-04, has candidly confessed—I thank you for your confession—that the passenger traffic has gone down after a long time. I can present to you all the seven Budget documents. It is the first time that the passenger traffic in the Indian Railways had gone down. We are one-billion people in this country, and every year, 10-20 new trains are being introduced. The easiest way of travelling in India is the railway train and there, the railway traffic had fallen, and fallen disastrously, to the extent that there is a shortfall of Rs. 750 crore. Why? It is because of panic, uncertainty, and anxiety of the people as to whether they should or should not travel or they should or should not travel in groups.

The Minister has to understand things from his own statement. How has this crisis come about? The Members of Parliament keep crying for new trains, people give representations asking for new trains and the Minister states that passengers do not move. This is a serious revelation. I do not know whether the Prime Minister has discussed this with the Railway Minister or vice versa. If the Railway Minister of the country confesses before the Parliament in his own Budget Speech that passenger traffic is falling, that too in a country like India, what does it indicate? Is it that they cannot afford to go by train? Is it that they feel uncertain about the trains? Is it that they feel insecure to travel by the train? There must be some reason for that. The Minister has got to answer to this point while replying to the debate.

Our Party's most important concern in this Railway Budget is passenger safety, and not merely the number of trains being provided, and the number of trains being

modernised. If the NDA Government claims to have a quadrilateral corridor pooling money from the cess on petrol and diesel, why does it not give serious thought to providing enough support for the railway on the safety network? Is it a correct analysis on your part that filling 20 thousand Group D posts would ensure safety net and to cover up the human failure? Is there no technical aspect? Is there no signal aspect? Is there no cabin aspect? Is there no aspect of modernising the bridges? I feel very strongly that this entire Budget approach is very casual, routine, without perspective planning, thinking, without any foresight and treating Railways as a very routine vehicle of Indian people. It is like saying, 'Go as you like. If you die, pray to God. If you survive, it is your good luck'. This is not the way to run the Railway system in our country.

I remember Lal Bahadur Shastriji, the former Prime Minister walking up to the Railway Board one day and saying that he was resigning since he had no moral right to continue in his post after an accident took place. I am not asking that this Minister should follow that. Yes, he did once resign from the post when the Ghaisal accident took place. But why does he not fix the accountability at the floor level? When the disaster at Ghaisal accident took place—you were there, I was there, it was in the border of my constituency—the Railway people found and all the countrymen found the reason within a month. Instead of fixing a-countability on the General Manager of the North-East Frontier Railways, the Government sent him on promotion as General Manager of Western Railways. What message did the Government give at that time? The message was that either the Government did not have a control on the Railway Board, or the Railway Board dominates the Government, or the Government takes it as a routine matter.

On the accident matters the Ministry has published a book. I am coming back to that. I hope the Minister does not take it personally. He is a good man and a good friend of everybody. I am talking about this in his Ministerial capacity. The Minister has provided the details of money given in the form of compensation to accident victims for

injuries and casualties. In the entire list of accidents, I trust he has included the unfortunate sad tale of Godhra also where railway coaches were burnt and reportedly people have been burnt alive. I demand in this House that the Minister, in his reply, inform the House as to how many coaches had been burnt, who were the passengers in those coaches, were their names published in the newspapers in order to claim compensation, who did the post-mortem, how many relatives or guardians took the bodies in their custody, and who travelled from where.

Information in these three categories is required: (a) How many people were travelling in those reserved bogies when it was burnt? Who were those passengers? I am not talking in terms of religion. (b) How many of them were alive and how many of them got burnt? Who received the compensation after the post-mortem and (c) When the people who were burnt were taken to the morgue in Ahmedabad, did Railway officials supervise things to see that all such bodies were handed over to their nearest kith and kin? This report must be tabled in the House during the reply to the debate.

There is a total confusion for the last one year now. I also consider it as an accident. It may be a sabotage; it may be an accident; it may be a deliberate plan of some gangsters to do it. But they were the railway passengers in the reserved compartment. Their responsibility lies with the Railway authorities, at least, to send their bodies to their kith and kin; at least, to review the names as to who and how many passengers travelled in that train. The Report should give all the details. The Report would say that so and so person travelled. But in this regard, if the post-mortem report does not tally with this Report, then there is a suspicion.

It was not the people at the platform who were burnt alive; it was the people in the bogie who were burnt alive. Therefore, I think, the Railway Minister owes a responsibility to the House, while disposing the Railway Budget, to submit all this information very transparently and correctly.

Sir, I was told in some interactions that he has deputed somebody to enquire the matter. I think, the very first day when the coaches were burnt, the DRM of that jurisdiction should have been sent there. Did he go there on that day to enquire as to what amount of railway property had been destroyed and how many passengers had been burnt alive? Did he lodge any complaint with the local police station? Sir, the answers to all these questions are very important. Did he complain to the State IG that this much property of the railways had been destroyed and this was the number of persons who were there as the railway passengers, who had been burnt? Did he lodge any FIR? So far as my knowledge goes—if I am wrong, he may correct me—the Railway authorities did not lodge any official complaint to the police station.

This is how the Government is functioning. It is functioning in a disjointed manner. That is why it is causing accidents in every sphere of life. This is where I hope that Shri Nitish Kumarji, a man who is highly appreciated in his public life for his integrity, commitment and transparency, shall not oblige any shadow of the saffron brigade to present the truth in Parliament. I demand it. While replying to the debate, he must present the truth with all the facts.

Sir, I am now coming to issue of Railway health. The present health of the Railways is very weak. I do not blame the hon. Minister for it. That is why I started by saying as to what their perspective plan is.

In the entire railway network, the first category or priority of money that goes is on the 'staff payment'. Their second priority is 'fuel payment'. Their third largest bulk of money goes to 'pension'. Their fourth priority is 'depreciation'. Their fifth priority—their own graph says—is 'miscellaneous'. Their sixth priority or their sixth largest bulk of money goes to 'safety'. Sir, their seventh priority is 'development'. It means that in the overall perception of the Railways, 'safety' is their sixth priority, and 'development' is their seventh priority. Development is their seventh priority! I do not say that the staff should not be the priority of the Railways. Of course, they are the employees of the

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Railways. But can you not think, Mr. Minister, of avenues and revenues to improve the priority of development to get the height, so that we can say one day in Parliament that 'now out of the total of the net share of money of the Railways, this is the priority of development; and this is the priority of safety'? Safety is your sixth priority! Your own graph says it.

Therefore, Sir, I desire and I demand that the hon. Railway Minister may present us, along with the White Paper, his own perspective planning of internal resources generated; his priority for development and safety.

While presenting the White Paper, Mr. Minister, please do come forward and get prepared. To implement the White Paper recommendation whether the NDA Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is ensuring you the total fund. I am not asking for six years. Six years implementation means escalation in. An accident will continue and continue. It must be on a war-footing. Why do you not take it as a challenge that by two years time, you will make a leak-proof safety network in the whole country? It do not say that it should be cent per cent correct because nobody can be cent per cent correct.

Sir, I had the privilege to study the functioning of the TGV of France which is the fastest train in the whole world. They have said that they do safety evaluation every fortnight. Every fifteen days they do the total safety evaluation; they evaluate the total number of commuters travelling; they do the evaluation of their track management; and its speed.

Every 15 days, it is done there. But in India, safety evaluation is not done even once in every quarter; it is done once a year or once when a Board meeting is there. Ours is a huge country. I am not here talking about the terrorist attacks. I am not questioning you about those sabotages. You are helpless in such cases. But the time has come that the entire security forces in the Railway need to be modernised. If necessary you may bring in a legislation where you can overtake the State Governments

in some cases. Suppose a State Government—I am not referring to any particular State—is deliberately encouraging a group of extremists to plan a sabotage on the railway track, they cannot protect; their police also suffer. How do you protect your property? How do you protect the lives? You have to think about it. It is a new situation in the country. In a situation where you need to modernise your own security networks, can the present RPF protect you, forget about the railway property? Can they protect you? They cannot protect you; how can they protect the railway property? I know this: a few of them do not like to go to those areas where there is no money. Therefore, you have got to modernise it. You can increase their salaries, we do not mind. But you make them professionals; you make them modernised and give them some status. You can train them in the new methods by which these challenges could be met, especially in the North Eastern States. You are spending a huge money in Jammu and Kashmir for the railway network. But at the same time, you have got to see that the railway network that you like to build is enough protected. For this, what is your contingency plan? What is your long-term plan? Nothing is explained.

These are the issues and areas where we like you to ponder over. The Congress Party is very much concerned about the security and safety network of the Indian Railways in the present juncture of the country. I am sorry; I tried to quote the old Budget speeches and conclude. But you have taken the whole matter very seriously, and at the end of the day, you find that nothing could be done without bringing a White Paper. Fair enough, it is a good idea. You can bring a White Paper and get it debated in the Parliament. But you must ensure that sufficient fund is given by the Government.

In Defence sector, 40 per cent of the amount is unspent. The Finance Minister has confessed that 40 per cent of the amount of the Defence Budget is unspent. Every time, the Government led by the BJP is playing havoc. You ask for any amount for Defence sector, we will give support. Are we against Defence? No. Whatever amount you need, we will support you in giving that amount. But at the end

of the day you confess that you could not utilise 40 per cent of the amount.

The answer given by the Finance Minister in TV was very shocking. He said that because of CBI and because of CVC, because of this scrutiny and that scrutiny, they could not utilise, etc. Does it mean that the Parliament will keep quiet and they will loot the whole thing? No. That is not. If 40 per cent of that money cannot be spent, why do you not talk to the Prime Minister? Why do you not talk to the Cabinet? The Railways have spent; give more to the Railways, to ensure safety. The Ministry of Railways is also equally important. They are carrying army men in the train to the far-flung areas like Kashmir or the North East. Do you not think that safety and security is important? It is co-related.

So, for safety and security network, the money allocated cannot be a constant one, if the Government desires to give it a priority. The Parliament will never object to it and at least, we will not object; we will support. We will not support where you have failed and the NDA Government has failed. Today under the leadership of the NDA Government, if the final revelation of the hon. Railway Minister is that more number of passengers are not travelling in the train than it desired, then it is a mere confession to the people that they had failed, and failed to ensure security and give confidence among the commuters. That is where your failure is. It is not important to get the support in the Parliament; the Budget will be passed. But you have lost to the people. You could not ensure confidence among them. Therefore, I feel that this Government is lacking there.

Let me now come to freight. I do not like to discuss this matter in detail because it may take much more time. But it is unfortunate to see the figures of the last five years Budget. In the case of freight movement, you are moving something like 410-540 million tonnes. Why is it so when the private operators can do better? I happen to be the President of a Trade Union in Calcutta which is the union of truck operators. My dear colleague, Shri Sudip Bhandyopadhyay is also associated with that. I had to

attend one of its meetings; I found that their volume of traffic had gone up by 75 per cent. The freight traffic of the Eastern India Truck Operators had gone up by 75 per cent; and the Railway, which is the largest network of the country having all infrastructure is varying between 410 and 540 million tonnes. 540 million tonnes is the target for this year.

You could achieve only 515 million tonnes. This year's target was 540 million tonnes, but it has not been achieved. Why is it so? It is because you do not have the computerised terminals at every location of trade and commerce. The PR department of the Railways is not treating freight as a modern marketing method. They think that somebody will come and give them the material which they will just load and ship. While initiating the discussion on your second Railway Budget, Shri Nitish Kumar, I did say, and repeat again, that more freight is not coming to Railways. I gave you one example. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you will also be glad to know the conspiracy behind it.

I had represented Howrah constituency two times in this House. One night, along with two of my colleagues, I went to stop wagon breaking. I saw two persons were seriously injured. One of them had died. I told the Minister in the House as to what they used to do. In the name of *ghee, dalda*, kerosene, tea, sugar and molasses, they used to load and ship water by train. From Howrah the train used to go to Shalimar where their gang would come. The gang would stop the train and break the wagons between Shalimar and Sankrail. Breaking wagons did not mean that they were looting the train. They would just be taking out what they had poured and then they would claim demurrage and theft. Railways had been paying such demurrages year after year. All this is done in collusion with the staff and the gangsters. This is the state of affairs in the goods movement. There is connivance between the RPF staff and the gangsters. If this is the state of affairs, how will the Railway freight improve? Cement, steel and fertilisers are the key areas where Railways earn freight. Wagon-breaking is being organised by these gangsters at every spot but nothing happens. Nitish Kumarji will agree with me.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

I will talk about the railway contract. There is a place called Katihar. I hope my Bihar friends do not mind my saying so. We also have Malda in West Bengal. Do you think that the railway tenders are being given to the people to do good for the country? Gangsters decide as to who will get the contract in Gorakhpur, Malda or Calcutta and they will do just 50 per cent of the quotation and will share 50 per cent inflated bills among the staff of the Railways. The poor Minister, who holds public life just comes and goes and cannot do anything. These people rule for ever. When will you stop it?

People of Liluah have been crying hoarse for a long time. You had even visited Belur and you know about the Belur scrap yard. I went to Bellur to inaugurate a *Kali pooja* function. I was horrified to see that the entire *pandal* was decorated with the Indian Railways' air-conditioners. Later on, I came to know that the main patron of *pooja* was a man who was employed in the scrap yard of Railways. He used to take all the new things by simply declaring them as scrap and then selling them. Year after year this racket was going on. I am not blaming Shri Nitish Kumar. No Railway Minister could stop it. This is how your own internal resource is getting destroyed year after year. When will you stop it? The time has come. In my experience of working in the Standing Committee since 1996, I can say that such things hardly happen in South. They are happening only in UP, Bihar or in Eastern Railways. The area is ruled by mafia *raji*. I thought that being from Bihar, Nitish Kumar Ji knows it all and will fight it out. I know that you are taking some steps but they are not enough. Nothing significant has happened. If one-fourth of internal resource mobilisation is shared by these goons. how will you improve the health of the Railways? It is just not possible.

I will conclude by mentioning two or three points. My first suggestion is that your target in the freight earning is not substantial. If the road traffic can go up by 75 per cent, why not the railway traffic go up by at least 25 per cent?

The freight movement was around 410 to 540 million tonnes right from the days when you and Kumari Mamata Banerjee presented the Budget. It has not increased in comparison to the rate of growth of passenger movement. Therefore, you have got to modernise it, make it market-oriented, and make it professional.

My second suggestion to the Minister of Railways is that he should make two categories. One category should consist of long pending development projects and the second category should consist of projects which are of immediate importance. Now, as regards long pending projects, I do agree that unless you get money, you cannot complete them. But you could privatise the backward areas which could connect the immediate junctions. You could privatise the areas where no Railway track has yet been laid.

As regards projects of immediate importance, wherever you feel that new trade and economic opportunities are coming up—especially keeping in mind the agro industry and farming sector—you could have 30 kilometres or 10 kilometres connection of the broad-gauge which could generate new economic activities, especially in the North India and NEFR.

The most neglected Zone is North East Frontier Railway. Hardly anything is being done there. I went to Kumarghat when, Tripura elections were there. The progress of work is very slow there. It was initiated during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's time but it is still going on and I do not know when it will be completed and when you would give priority to this sector of Tripura, namely, Dharmnagar to Agartala. I would not like to take much of your time but I would only request the Minister of Railways to consider all those States where Railways alone can contribute immensely in the economic activity.

I do not want to debate here on your bifurcation proposal. It will create unnecessary bickering among different parties. When we protested it, we did not protest it on the tune of chauvinist approach of Bengal and Bihar. We protested it only on the concept of economic viability.

Now, what does your own economy say about the distance from Dhanbad to Hajipur and Dhanbad to Kolkata? If your own economy says that it is correct or incorrect, I would accept your verdict. If a man who operates from Dhanbad under the umbrella of Kolkata is compelled to operate from Dhanbad under Hajipur, then I think it may lead to some political gains, but your Railway economy would suffer one day. So, this was our consideration. That is why Shri Rajiv Gandhi deferred this bifurcation twice. One day when somebody talked to him about this, he did say that in spite of Committee's recommendation, unless the economy of the Railways justifies it, there is no point in doing this. This matter created a lot of things. That is why, I would not like to go into it but I would appeal to you to please justify the railway economy. While replying, you should justify the viability of the entire bifurcation that you have done.

At the end, I would say something about the zone I have represented many times, namely, the northern part of Bengal. The work on the Radhikapur-Barsoi Junction is going on in a slow manner. Please ensure that by 2004, this project is completed. You have made a commitment and I trust that the Minister will comply with his commitment. As regards projects of Bengal, Orissa, and North-Eastern States, I would request you to convene a meeting of the Members of Parliament of this Zone in your office to find out from them what is going on there as they have the practical experience. The Balurghat-Eklakhi project was conceived by Shrimati Indira Gandhi which you are doing now. It came up to Buniyadpur. I may inform the House that when the first part was inaugurated, neither the Members of Parliament from Balurghat nor Shri Abdul Ghani Khan Chowdhury nor myself were attached with this project. None of us were informed about it. The officials did everything. I would request the Minister that when the work completes in Buniyadpur, the Members from that area should also be invited. It is because we built up the mass movement there. Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi went there and then it started. Now, you are doing it I congratulate you for taking it up to Buniyadpur. But please advise the Railway officials not to ignore the public

representatives of that area who are very much involved with this project.

Lastly, I would request you that if possible, please initiate one Rajdhani Express touching Malda. It is because the people who are in the north side of Bengal, cannot catch Rajdhani Express because it goes to Guwahati, Katihar, and Dalkhela. But no Rajdhani Express goes via Malda even once a week. The entire zone of Northern Bengal is totally isolated.

Please ensure this. If it is not possible to be done, then at least a Shatabdi train should be run between Malda and Jalpaiguri. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, of course, has many more things to say.

I would just like to tell the hon. Railway Minister that you should think in totality. I would like to repeat that the projects meant for the States of West Bengal, Orissa and the North-Eastern States are languishing. Last week I took some notes from a Book and found out that the projects of all other States are going ahead well, but the projects meant for the States of West Bengal, Orissa and the North-Eastern States are languishing. If this be the case, then people one day would revolt against this. This Government owes a responsibility to the nation in regard to negligence in matters of safety in the Railways.

Finally, I would once again repeat that the Railway Minister must furnish to this House the details of the queries that I have made on Godhra courageously and without any influence and pressure from the Saffron people sitting behind him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) I would like to request for a Rajdhani touching Malda via Bolpur.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget presented in the House on 26th February by hon. Minister of Railways for the development of the country. I extend

[Shri Prahlad Singh Patel]

my thanks to the hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and hon. Minister of Railways Shri Nitish Kumar for presenting the Railway Budget.

Sir, I would start my speech with a sentence relating to policy which was uttered by my reverable guru "Shri Babashri". He has said—if a policy has to be made and those who make policy are present in the House, and if the policies are made only for trade and transaction then justice cannot be done. The Railway Budget presented is the result of some policies, due care has been taken to provide justice instead of trade and transaction. If we see from practical point of view, we would find that even after 50 years of independence, there are many places in the country where demands for railway lines are raised from time to time. We have always accorded priority to practical approach and those raising their demand strongly have got the benefit of it. If the policies have been formulated from commercial point of view then as per the definition of trade, it is only for earning profits but the Government can never make polices form trade point of view. If it comes about then the people cannot get financial benefit and justice can not be done. I have gone through the Railway Budget speech of the hon. Minister of Railways and also heard him that day. He has proved that the Government do not make policies for trade and transaction, rather they provide justice. He has proved as to what can be the definition of justice. I have listened to the speech of Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. He is a senior MP and has also been in the Government. Had he said something with regard to the politics, it would have been better, I think it might have been first instance in his life when he stood to criticise but he had no facts. He was speaking merely for the sake of speaking. I would like to give an example. I am MP from Balaghat constituency. Project of gauge conversion from Gondia to Balaghat is going on and its first phase is likely to be completed by the year 2003. I emphasise that this rail line was constucted on 14th January, 1904 that is, during British period. It was discontinued on 14th January, 2003. This line is 99 years old. If we talk of criticism and critical appreciation of

Shri Dasmunsi then we would find that only one year was left in the completion of hundred years of this rail line, why was this rail line not dismantled one year back. I would like to say to Shri Dasmunsi that many things have to be ignored while making efforts for the development of the country.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : Kindly tell whether justice or injustice has been done to Madhya Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : I feel that after presentation of Budget, he should have left the House and it would have been better, had he given advice to his Chief Minister. No progress was made in the project during his tenure. I have been elected MP from that area recently. He knows very well that I represent that area...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Prahlad Singh Patel is not yielding to you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Prahlad Singh Patel's speech.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : It would be selfish of me if the discussion is started with Madhya Pradesh and as such I can not discharge my responsibility which I should do in the beginning of Railway Budget. I would talk about Madhya Pradesh in the end that what did Madhya Pradesh get.

First of all, I would like to extend my thanks to the hon'ble Minister of Railways for starting National Railway Development Scheme on 20th December, 2002. Which was announced by hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th August, 2002. It would have been good if the Congress people had

*Not recorded.

started any scheme in a such short period of its declaration and then they would have compared, I would have felt that they are discharging their duties of opposition honestly. We should extend thanks that a scheme was announced on 15th August and got started on 20th December. It involves a heavy cost of rupees 15 thousand crore. Hon. Minister of Railways has mentioned about the work to be taken up to strengthen Golden Quadrangle Scheme, connection of ports with superfast trains and for big bridges and I feel that the House should extend thanks to him. It is not for the benefit of individuals but all these schemes have been formulated keeping in view the interest of the entire nation. Government and the Minister of Railways deserve congratulations. It does not have any scope for criticism. As per my opinion I have never seen such efficient management in the Railways I do not need Bhuria ji's support in this matter. I have seen many Railway Budgets earlier. I had been elected in the Lok Sabha in 1989 at a very young age. I have never seen such efficient management in the past. The Railway Budget also mentions about transfer of technology. It also mentions about strong will power to compete and accept prospective challenges. This Budget does not have merely figures. It is also described as to how shall we face the future challenges with far-sighted policies.

So far as revised estimates of freight transportation in the year 2001-2002 is concerned, it is very clear in budget that the Railway Ministry has undertaken freight transportation of 492.5 million tonnes which is more than the revised estimate of 489 million tonnes. This proves that our management is efficient and better results are being achieved thereby and in terms of money, we have got substantial benefit also. The Railway has earned an extra income of Rs. 235.4 crore through the transportation. I feel that its on a very few occasions that we find figures showing profit in the House. We should think how did we get this profit. Increase in revenue earning through coaching and other sources is another thing, but what I call justice is that the Railway suffered a loss of Rs. 204 crore from Passenger transportation, despite that hon. Minister of Railways did not increase the fare. He has

presented the Railway Budget with proper rationalisation which is really justified. It is right that we did not get profit from passengers but it is our duty to provide facilities to the common people. Hon. Minister of Railways, in his speech said that the Railways is completing its 150 years and that is why he wishes to give facilities to the passengers and also wishes to celebrate it as the passenger facilities year. Since the fares have not been increased, the Government and the hon. Minister deserve congratulation.

As far as the question of Preventing extravagance is concerned, I feel that the entire House agrees to the fact that extravagance should be stopped. Many orators here and myself also may have seen many lacunae that we should bring to the notice of the Ministry and the Government, but we should also keep in mind the figures shown here.

15.00 hrs.

Government should be appreciated for saving Rs. 397 crore by reducing extravagance. I would congratulate the Minister for this. So far as depreciation and pension fund is concerned, Shri Dasmunsi has mentioned about it. All these are very logical demands and we shall have to fulfill them. Despite fulfilling all these demands, there has been an increase of Rs. 197 crore in the net revenue for which we should congratulate the Government. So far as operation quality is concerned, the target in revised estimates was 96.6 percent out of which 96 percent target has been achieved. There should be no doubt about it and we should congratulate the Government for this that we are touching the figures which we could not touch earlier. We should think how can we improve quality under the prevalent circumstances. If any suggestion or opinion is given in this regard then the discussion would be meaningful else would be no use of it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister of Railways has announced "Passenger facilities year", I would congratulate him on behalf of my party. All kinds of persons senior citizens, cancer patients, patients of Thalassaemia major or

[Shri Prahlad Singh Patel]

heart surgery or kidney patients etc., were given 75 percent concession. Whether they traveled alone or with attendant but they were into allowed in third ACC. Now this facility has been provided to them. A person willing to travel in AC I or II class can do so by paying 50 percent of the ticket charges. Accredited journalists have also been given this facility.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today energy source is a major problem. 25-26 percent of the railway track is electrified for which power supply is made by various States. Keeping in view of his far sightedness and administration, hon'ble Minister of Railways wishes to set up a corporation with the collaboration of NTPC so as to increase the capacity. I, very well know that Madhya Pradesh State has to make payment at exorbitant rates for power. Which is maximum as compared to other States. This situation cannot come up, after all passengers also share this burden. Shri Bhuria is quiet on this point as we would come in the dock. Minister of Railways should be given congratulations for this. Governments would come and go but the future power crises should be dealt with some concrete solution. Efforts to be made in this regard have been reflected in this budget.

Efforts made by the hon. Minister of Railways for encouraging the use of bio-diesel, are such which have not been made by any of his predecessors. Bio-plants (Rattanjot plants) should be planted on the railway land it would not only encourage bio-diesel but would also be beneficial to the environment and we would be able to deal with future problems. Hon. Minister of Railways deserve praise for this too.

Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, new Railway Zones have been set up, lots of hue and cry has been raised and movements have been launched against it. Its rights that demand is raised. Hon. Railway Minister should be congratulated for setting up Jabalpur Railway Zone as I come from that area. Bilaspur was also declared a railway zone. Sir, through you, I would make a request

that the railway zone has been set up on geographical ground but there are certain anomalies in it, a committee can be constituted to remove these anomalies which can make re-assessment on geographical ground. If, gauge conversion of entire track towards Nagpur is going on and Nagpur Zone falls there under then I feel that there are anomalies in it. I feel that there is a need to remove these anomalies. I believe that required changes would be made in this matter without any pressure as such.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I feel that for the first time, a project has been started in srinagar valley by the Railways from Strategic point of view. A sum of Rs. 500 crore has been given for this railway project. Hon. Minister of Railways has not only given money for the scheme in order to complete the project in Kashmir valley but has also fixed date for its operation, that is, it would start from 15th August, 2007. I personally feel that unless we fix any target, we cannot achieve the aim. We should accept the importance of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramula project. A target has been fixed to get it completed by 2003-2004. There were Governments at the centre earliet too. Discussion is being held with regard to Jammu and Kashmir. It is also being said that we are making demands. This opportunity was before him too. Perhaps Dasmunsiji sitting in the opposition would have told about those assessment. While making comparison it would have been kept in mind that why did the successive Governments for the last 50 years in Kashmir not give priority to it. Whether it was not important from national point of view or was it not important from the strategic angle? Had the transportation been started before, we would not have seen this challenge so seriously. It should be considered. The present Government deserves congratulations. The House should, atleast be honest in extending congratulations to the Government and Hon. Railways Minister that they have done a historical act. I did not hear any such words of praise in the House. Opposition does not mean mere criticism. These measures will not benefit the Ministry of Railways of the Government of India but

the Government cannot formulate policies with a businessman like attitude. It will have to take welfare measures. The non-availability of adequate number of passengers a freight carriage does not mean that the Government should not provide facility on that route. The businessmen like approach compels us to invest only in benefit yielding venture and include it in schemes. The facilities are provided to those areas which may yield electoral success. The Government did not think so. The Government also kept the interest of strategically significant Jammu and Kashmir in view while formulating schemes. All know that the project is not economically viable but it will add to the national integrity and the people's faith will be reposed in the sense of justice of the Government ruling from the centre. Hence it is important.

As far other Railway lines of strategic importance are concerned whether it be the gauge conversion of Luni-Manabab rail line, the Government has done a commendable job in allocating adequate funds for all these schemes. The hon. Minister deserves kudos for it. The target of laying new rail lines of 225 km. set under the year 2003-2004 will certainly prove a milestone on the path of our development. We had set a target of 791 km of gauge conversion last year but we exceeded our target in gauge conversion of 900 kilometres long rail line. Hence the effort of railway employees should be lavishly praised for the gauge conversion has exceeded the target. If we do not congratulate the staff and officers of railways it would not be proper. I feel that there should not be any dearth of enthusiasm while congratulating them. The Members might shudder to praise hon. Minister thinking that it would add to the prestige of Nitishji. However jealousy should not impede the spirit of encouragement because one who accomplishes will certainly be glorified. I would certainly express a point about this gauge conversion. The voting in my constituency took place on 25th September when I was elected from Balaghat. The hon. Minister has given a gift to us that the gauge conversion from Balaghat to Gondia will be completed this year. When hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee had visited Balaghat, he had addressed the

gathering assuring that a railway line would be laid. If the train runs between Gondia to Balaghat on 25th September, 2003 then it will prove as a great achievement not only for Balaghat but for the entire country. It will be a matter of pride for all of us. I was not the one to decide about the day of voting, it was decided by the election Commission but 25th September is the birth anniversary of our source of inspiration Pt. Deendayal Upadhyayaji. It will be an unforgettable day for us and also provide as a milestone for BJP. Hence, I would say that if a broad gauge rail line is laid between Gondia to Balaghat and is inaugurated by Nitish himself on 25th September, 2003, it would be a matter of pride for us and the dream of humanism as envisaged by hon. Deendayal Upadhyaya will be realised. He used to maintain that the service of poor people is the real service of the overlord. The step would certainly shower success for the region which is naxalite stricken but rich in natural bounty and I hope that my wish would be realised during the tenure of Shri Nitishji.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of our hon. Members was talking about Madhya Pradesh. I feel that he was really at sea while going through the Budget but being in the habit of criticising comments were bound to come from his side. What has not been given to Madhya Pradesh in the Budget? If I talk about my region, a new train was introduced between Jabalpur to Kota and Jabalpur to Nagpur even without making a demand for it. The fares of Janashatabdi was also reduced as was expected by the people. If we talk about the railway lines between Jabalpur to Gondia, Jabalpur to Singrauli, Satana to Reewa...*(Interruptions)*. We have reached till the expanse of your territories. If we talk about Bind-Guna, Itawa-Mandsaur...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Sir, my name has been referred.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, are you yielding to him?

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : I am not yielding to him.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Bhurijaji be seated please. He is not yielding.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Nitishji deserves Kudos. Nothing could be accomplished during Congress regime. First time so much work has been done during tenure of Shri Nitishji. There should be no economy of words in thanking him on it. Bhurijaji, you should be thankful to the hon. Minister for giving sometimes to us...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he was mentioning my name. Hence I request you to give me time to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Bhurijaji, you resume your seat. He is not yielding.

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have regularly written letters to the hon. Ministers to immediately lay the Dohad-Maksi railway line. I wrote to the hon. Prime Minister but nothing came out.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me complete.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a clear cut case of frustration. Hon. Member is now referring to letters he has written to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Patilji, you address the Chair.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Till date nothing has been done by the Minister in any constituency. 300 kilometre long railway line exist in my region and the entire belt is adivasi dominated belt. It seems that the hon. Minister does not have a liking for Adivasis. Nothing has been done by the hon. Minister in my constituency. What are its reasons?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Kantilal Bhuria, will you please resume your seat now? When you get your chance, you can speak. You cannot speak like this now.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Bhurijaji, you must speak when you get a chance to speak. Now please resume your seat.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not criticise the hon. Member. Arrangement was initiated by him. I was only saying that Madhya Pradesh is a very big State. When the issue of golden quadrilateral was raised, I had urged upon Nitishji that if we want to reduce the distance from North or South, we will have to consider golden quadrilateral. When golden quadrilateral is constructed, Madhya Pradesh cannot be neglected in any way.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the House that all the surveys in Madhya Pradesh since Independence have been conducted during Nitishji's tenure. It is during the regime of this Government that the survey of line between district Narsingpur and Ramtek in Lalitpur-Damoh-Jabalpur has been conducted. Similarly the survey of line between Ramtek and Goregaon has also taken place during Nitishji's tenure. The beginning was made during Mamtaji's tenure. Small gauge railway line exist between Gondia and Balaghat junction and this area is rich in mines. It could be reached via Nagpur, Maharashtra. The people of that area would be greatly benefited due to it but nobody's attention was drawn towards constructing the 12 kilometre stretch. Broad gauge

*Not recorded.

line goes up to Tirodi. What will happen to further of Tirodi if train goes up to it only? Nitishji resolved this problem. A survey has been done for 12 kilometre rail line between Katangi and Tirodi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it does not involve the question of hon. Nitishji being Minister and I being M.P. The question is of one's attitude.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Patilji, I am taking your side. You please listen to me. The Singourli-Jabalpur line was laid during Nitishji's term in office. The good work done by hon. Minister should be lauded.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : I am reminding Shri Bhurajji. Look at the Katani to Itarsi. Itarsi is a junction. Katani is a junction...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would suggest Shri Chaturvediji to keep on talking to his neighbour Kantilal Bhurajji so that he may come to know as to what progress has been made in Madhya Pradesh during tenure of Nitishji as far railway is concerned.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Rudiji, will you too be interrupting. Please do not do that.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, many days have passed since I spoke...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can give me directions and not the hon. Member. I am myself an aware Member what will he teach me. Nobody is ready to hear my grievances. Hon. Railway Minister is not ready to listen in regard to the 150 km long railway line passing through Dahod, Jhabua, Dhar and Indore in my constituency. Prime Minister has given in writing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will get a chance to speak if your name is in the list, then you can express your view point.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Hon. Nitish Kumarji, hon. Prime Minister has given written instructions to make provision for it in the budget but the provision was not made because Dhar Jhabua is an adivasi area. I demand that a railway line be laid there. It is my grievance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You should express your view when your turn comes. You will also be given a chance. Now you please listen to him as he is speaking. Ramdasji, why are you interrupting.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister of Railways towards Madhya Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Did you give your name to participate in debate or not?

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of Railway Minister towards a very serious issue. I have raised it in the House also. Katani and Itarsi which are junctions fall under Jabalpur zone. Through it passes the shortest route between Mumbai and Calcutta and it includes Katani to Itarsi sections but the route is yet to be electrified. The bridge over Bhagra-Taba river between two stations Ghatpinger and Valkhera is hundred year old and it was renovated during the last two years. I had raised a demand for it. The reply which is received from the Ministry mentions that this section is not commercially viable. I do not believe it because the entire Jabalpur division has a huge grain market from where the pink gram of district Narsinghpur is sent to Kolkata. It has a huge market for wheat also besides having ordinance factories at Itarsi and Jabalpur. Coal and fruits are also transported from there, hence it cannot be an unviable route from any angle. Hence it should be electrified on priority basis. The fast trains are never made available for this route because several sections along it do not have double line and also there are several old bridges. I hope that all these things will be taken care of during your tenure.

[Shri Prahlad Singh Patel]

I would also like to submit that the Guna-Itawa-Bhind railway line mentioned by you in your speech should be immediately completed. As far the gauge conversion of Saharsa is concerned, a commendable job has been performed and I would like to congratulate you for it. However, the gauge conversion of Neemuchi-Rattlam scheduled to be completed in 2003 is yet to be completed. It is not your fault but tenders have not been floated and an intentional delay has been caused. I would like to request you to take care that the project is completed on time. My constituency is covered with forests and there are two national reserve forests here, it is hard to undertake the development project here. The gauge conversion of the railway line since Britishers is yet to take place...*(Interruptions)* Similarly the narrow gauge railway line between Nainpur junction to Nagpur via Sivani Chindhara is also due for gauge conversion. It should be completed on priority basis. The demand for providing a direct railway service from Jabalpur to Jammu is also an important one. I hope that you will immediately fulfill this demand of Sikh pilgrims as well as Hindu devotees of Mother Goddess.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now you conclude, 18 Members of your party are to speak.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: I would take five minutes more. I would like to submit that its survey has been done. The survey between Gotegaon and Ramtek has been done and I would like to request you to consider it. Dalli-Rajhara Tine in Chhattisgarh is important from strategic point of view and also in view of prevailing terrorism. But this ambitious scheme linking Bastar is not starting due to the lack of interest on the part of the State Government. I request you to consider Dalli-Rajhara railway line and I am sure that you will do it as you have given several new trains for Chhattisgarh. Lastly, I would like to state that you would certainly consider over my demand for doubling and the construction of the two bridges about which I have mentioned earlier.

Recruitment Board as regards to filling the vacancies of sports quota. Your proposal for providing employment to 20 thousand persons through Railway Recruitment Board is the direct response to this challenge and a pet reply to any query raised in the House. But as far the information I have a slight change has been made in the policy of selection in railway security force made on the basis of regional composition.

Every person wants regional representation whether he be people's representative or from any class or region. I would like that the regional representation in recruitment to the Railway Security Force be restored and all the delegations which had been levelled in the past should be disshelved. I will hesitate to say that the people from a particular State should not be chosen for appointments. We would not like to hear such allegations during your tenure because we have a feeling of respect for you and also have this conviction that your sense of justice will not allow any such allegation to be levelled that the people of a particular State have been given preference in jobs during your tenure.

As far as sports are concerned, Railways has set new records. A sports person came to me. It is not a question confined to a particular person. He said to me that the switched from one to another department on sports basis as better salary was offered. 22 years passed this way. He has bagged a gold medal recently. But as he does not have the record of 22 years of service he would not be accorded any seniority. He will have to face an odd situation at retirement. As I have served as D.G. for sometime, I know about rules etc. and I feel that these are faulty. I feel that this issue be raised before the Railway Board so that the Minister may himself consider it. This will certainly provide relief to those persons who do not have adequate knowledge of rules. The persons who have got jobs on the basis of their renowned and outstanding achievement and have previously served in the Central Government should be given the benefits of their previous service. It will give justice to all the talented persons adding to the prestige of the country.

... I would conclude by citing the role of Railway

Lastly, I would conclude by adding one thing more. Justice Khanna has submitted his report on railway safety and perhaps Dasmunsiji did not read it. This budget has been drafted keeping in view the recommendations on safety provision made in the report. Several of my friends will speak on these safety reasons. I conclude by thanking you. The budget speech given by the hon. Minister of Railways does not cover the practical and business interest of Railways but also covers the aspect of justice. With these words I conclude.

[*Englisih*]

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (Murshidabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to express my views regarding the Railway Budget presented by the Minister of Railways on 26th February. Firstly, I would like to say about the Budget which has been placed by him before this House. My feeling is that the Budget presented by him is out of focus. Secondly, it is lacking in direction.

15.23 hrs.

✓ [DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*]

I would like to say that there need not be an experts comment about the overall situation of the Railways. Everybody knows the present dismal financial situation of the Railways. Secondly, lot of the projects that had already been announced are still pending. Thirdly, there is token allotment or insignificant allotment of funds for different projects. Fourthly, as has already been stated, the word 'safety' is not fit for the Railways any more, especially after the Rafiqganj incident. So far as security is concerned, the same thing has happened. In this perspective, the hon. Minister of Railways has placed the Budget for the year 2003-2004.

I would like to mention about the financial health of the Railways. It is ver much unsatisfactory. The Minister has tried his best to dress it up in two ways, that is, by National Rail Vikas Yojana and Special Railway Safety Fund. But I would like to say that one of the important indicators regarding the overall financial health of the Railways is

the operating ratio. The Minister has mentioned that during 2002-2003, at the time of 'RE', the operating ratio is 92.5 per cent. But what about 2003 -2004? Its projected figure is 94.1 per cent. The improvement is very insignificant. Where are the resources for technological upgradation and replacement of the old effects?

So far as the net revenue is concerned, I am not going into the absolute terms. But it is 10.8 per cent. But in the previous year, it was 36.4 per cent. It is said that bankruptcy is going on in the Railways financial subject.

Thirdly, so far as passenger traffic is concerned, it is a set back and it has been mentioned in the Budget Speech that it is three per cent less than the previous year. The revenue losses are to the tune of Rs.720 crore. It is for the first time in the Railways that passengers have lost faith in the Indian Railways. Railways do not have attractive proposals for the passengers than the other modes of transport.

Fourthly, if you go through the financial situation of the Railways, you can see that the internal generation expected for the year 2003-04 is Rs.2630 crore- market borrowing is Rs.3,000 crore; and from the Government exchequer it is more than Rs.6,000 crore. Really, the Railways will shut down one day if the market lender and Government stop throwing funds to them. I would like to say that Railways have no direction, actually it is in a debt trap and it should be mentioned when the hon. Railway Minister replies to this debate.

So far as the outlay is concerned, there is 20 per cent increase, it is to the tune of Rs. 12,901 crore. As far as investment is concerned, there is nothing and only 5 per cent increase to the previous year's Budget. I would like to prove as to what is the financial position of the Railways. Here we are talking about the technological upgradation, we are talking about old resources replacement, we are talking about the advancement and increase in traffic facilities, but where are the resources for these things? Actually the financial situation of the Railways is very bad.

[Shri Moinul Hassan]

One more thing I would like to say at this juncture that there is no new imposition of charge as far as freight is concerned and it is a fact. But I would say that there is no scope to impose more freight charge at this time because there are two factors for this. One is that already it is the highest, so far as freight is concerned, if you compare it with the other big Railways of the world. Secondly, road transport is a big competitor to the Railways so the Railways are not in a position to dictate its own terms at present.

There is an increase in the freight traffic of some sectors. Coal is one of those sectors. It is a prime sector and there is an increase of two per cent. In the iron sector it is reducing. As far as petroleum is concerned, it is reducing. In the foodgrain sector there is an increase of 45 per cent because there is a big transportation of foodgrain due to the drought situation in certain parts of the country. But this drought may not be there every year.

Sir, I support the restructuring system in different tires. It is very good but more attractive proposals should have been given on behalf of the Railways.

As far as the physical performance of the Railways is concerned, there was a big talk in the Budget Speech, but the prime need of the time is electrification. This year it is 375 kms, coming year it is 350 kms. It is reducing. So far as new lines are concerned, this year it is 190 kms, next year it is 225 kms. It is not appropriate according to the demand. As far as locomotive engines are concerned, so far it is 69 for Chittaranjan Locomotive Work and again 69 for the next year. It is absolutely not in the interest of CLW and W.B.

So far as rolling stock is concerned, in the case of diesel it is 100, in the coming year it is 85. In the case of electric, it is the same. In the case of coaches, EMU and others, this year it is 294, coming year it is 227. My point in this respect is that capacity creation deserves better attention so far as Railways is concerned, which is very much absent in the Budget.

Another point on which I would like to say is the speed of the trains, It is a very vulnerable point now. What is the average speed of the trains? It is a major factor as far as improvement in the Railways is concerned. So far as goods trains are concerned, it is only 26 kms. per hour; passenger trains, it is only 52 kms. per hour. The average speed of the trains should be increased by 10 kms. per hour and it will change the fate of Indian Railways to some extent.

But how have we to do it? Track renewal is one of the major factors to be dealt with. So far as track renewal is concerned, in the year 2002-03, it was 3,300 kilometres. In the year 2003-04, it is the same figure which has been kept in the Budget. Who will save the Indian Railways? That perspective, as I have told is out of focus.

So far as safety is concerned, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi and other hon. Members have said in a big way. I would like to express that it is a vital subject which has been ignored. I suppose, the pride of the Indian Railways has been fractured after the Rajiganj incident. Actually, everybody is saying that it is the Ministry of Accidents. I am very much sorry to say this. There is no attention and no alertness. In this year, the allocation is only Rs. 2,311 crore. What we are saying is that railway lines are hundred years old; railway bridges are hundred years old; the signalling system is very bad and outdated; and the number of unmanned railway gates is in thousands numbers. Passenger traffic is reducing because passengers have actually no faith on the Railway. They are not feeling safe on the Railway journey. How casually has this subject been treated in the Railway Budget? Out of 26 pages, only 16 lines have been earmarked for safety and security. It is very much unfortunate. The new achievement is only the White Paper. Yes, White Paper is very important. I would like to point out to our hon. Minister what we require is safety and security and not the White Paper. We can discuss the White Paper. The first one is safety and security. Only there is a good sentence or good word, which has been innovated by the Railway, and that is 'sabotage'. In all the accidents, they are telling about the sabotage.

The hon. Railway Minister, in his Budget speech, has said :

"One of the major contributing factors for accident has been found to be human failure. In this context, the filling up of vacancy in safety categories in Group D has been important. It has been decided to fill up 20,000 more such vacancies through Railway Recruitment."

Why do you say that Group D employees alone are liable for these accidents? The Indian Railways have tried to make the common employees as the scapegoat. How long will it continue? You must try your best to fix up the responsibility.

So far as Zonal bifurcation is concerned, two new Zonal Railways are operating. One is North-West and the other is East Central. From the Budget, I would like to quote : "functioning with improved efficiency." I suppose, it is very much a half-truth. What about the two old Zones? I would like to mention to our hon. Railway Minister that your attitude and your expression are that the new ones are doing better. What about the old Zones? You just express it here. I am not in a position to discuss the bifurcation issue here. But I would like to say that it should be mentioned properly. What about the old Zones?

Sir, I now come to my constituency from where I am representing. I would like to say something on the railway projects in my State. The one thing is that the Railway Minister has mentioned about the third terminal in Chitpur. But I remind my hon. and beloved Railway Minister as to what is happening in Belur, what is happening in Calcutta. He has said about Shalimar project. Shalimar project is Rs. 600 crore project, and Chitpur project is nearly Rs. 100 crore project—Rs. 98.7 crore project. Why is it not Shalimar project and why Chitpur project only?

We are very much astonished over the fact that the Railway Minister himself, in his own mouth, told about Shalimar. But we do not know what happened in between. We are very much astonished.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North-West) : Possibly, the State Government did not include it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, he is not yielding.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : You are absolutely incorrect. The Railway Minister knows better...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Just because the State Government has not recommended, should I withdraw Chitpur? You just tell me this. If the State Government has not recommended Chitpur, should I withdraw it?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : No, never.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What are you talking? Based on your State Government's recommendation, we have included Chitpur this year. Shalimar or Padmapukur would be a project of Rs.500 to Rs.600 crore. It needs the Planning Commission's appraisal for that. So, you should congratulate me for Chitpur. That is also done based on your State Government's recommendation.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Yes, what is wrong in this?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You are blaming that I am not doing anything Should I withdraw Chitpur?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : I am not blaming you.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : You are misinterpreting. Both the things are there...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Why are you unnecessarily criticising me that I told this thing and that thing? I told in Calcutta that I had instructed both the General Managers of South-Eastern Railway and the Eastern Railway that they should meet the State Government and take their recommendations. Wherever they would like, we will put up mega terminal and for that, I have processed. Meanwhile, they have recommended that first of all you should do something for Chitpur. I have included it this year itself because that was within my power...*(interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : The point is that you should be encouraged.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : I am not in a position to criticise the Railway Minister. We are congratulating him for Chitpur, but we are demanding Shalimar again. I am very much happy that he has again told here and assured us that processing is going on so far as Shalimar is concerned. I am in favour of you. Let me complete my version. Then, you raise your voice of protest. It is not a fact that I am not favouring you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay is provoking you.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Railway Minister has already answered his question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : There is no question of withdrawal at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, three or four trains are provided for West Bengal.

I suppose there is one for West Bengal. There are three other trains connecting West Bengal. They have allotted only Rs. 15 crore for 15 projects of West Bengal.

I would like to request the Railway Minister to note this. This is my first point.

Secondly, NGP-Jogighopa is Rs.730 crore project. There was a lot of discussion with the Minister. This year, an amount of only Rs. 25 crore is allotted to this. I would like to say that under Balastholi, there was a rail service earlier. It was an important service. It should be restored again. Electrification of Lalgola-Sealdah is pending.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Moinul Hassan, there are four Members to speak from your Party. Please conclude.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, I just need one minute. I would like to know from the hon. Minister only on two subjects. Once upon a time, on behalf of the Railway Ministry, it was told that the unmanned level crossing would be repaired or managed from the MPLAD fund. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many unmanned level crossings have been done under the MPLAD fund. How many proposals are pending in connection with this?

I am again bringing another thing to the notice of the Railway Minister for his consideration. Earlier we have discussed the matter with him many times. We want seven days Rajdhani from Howrah to Delhi via Goya. We had discussed this matter with him earlier. It should be made seven days. There are many Rajdhanis. One Rajdhani has already been withdrawn from Howrah. So it will be better again to start Rajdhani all seven days from Howrah to Delhi via Goya. It should be started there. Again, I would like to congratulate Shri Nitish Kumar for that.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Several hon. Members have requested that they be allowed to lay their speeches on the Table of the House as they could not speak due to time constraint. They could lay their speeches on the Table with the permission of the Chair.

[English]

SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU (Anantapur) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the debate on the Railway Budget. I may please be allowed to speak in Telugu.

*Mr. Chairman Sir, in the Annual Railway Budget proposed by the hon. Railway Minister for this year, though not imposed any additional burden on the nation or traffic, we, the hon. Members belonging to Telugu Desam Party, and the party as such, feel that it has not done justice to our State of Andhra Pradesh. We are of the opinion that we have been let down by this Budget.

*Original in Telugu.

Last year the allocation was Rs 770 crore while this year it has gone up by only marginally to Rs 820 crore. Many of the important and essential projects involving gauge conversions and doubling have not been allocated sufficient funds that they deserved. It is evident from the Budget papers. Under the able and dynamic leadership of Shri Chandrababu Naidu, the State has been making rapid strides. The State has been witnessing an unprecedented progress in all spheres. Yet ignoring the progress that has been taking place in the State, the Railways have not come out with adequate allocations. It is unfortunate. It is not commensurate with the development that is taking place. Railways have made only nominal allocations. We hoped that Railways would take steps to boost our economy. But that has not taken place. Sir, great injustice has been meted out to Rayalaseema region which happens to be the most backward area in our State. Guntakal Railway Division is in Rayalaseema. In 1997, nearly Rs. 400 crore were allocated for doubling and electrification of Hospet-Renigunta line. Not only that amount was not spent, what is more, in this present Budget funds required for its speedy completion were not provided. Similarly Sir, for Kallur-Guntakal gauge conversion Rs 40 crore were allocated some years back. But unfortunately the allocation for this year, like the previous year, is only Rs 1 lakh. It is ridiculous. The Railway Minister Shri Bandar Dattatreya had assured the people in Rayalaseema region. when he was on a visit to Anantapur and Puttaparthi that Pakala-Dharmavaram gauge conversion would be taken up soon. This Budget has ignored their own Minister's assurance. Rs. 1 crore which has been allocated for this purpose, will hardly be sufficient to meet the expenditure of survey and wages of the employees. I request the hon. Minister to tell us how this one crore rupees would be sufficient to meet the cost of gauge conversion between Pakala and Dharmavaram which has a stretch of 227 kms. I would also like to know from him as to how far it is justified to allocate a mere Rs. 1 lakh this year and similar provision last year for the gauge conversion work pertaining to Kallur-Dharmavaram line with a stretch of 76 kms. For Balapalli-Pullampet Phase I work, Rs. 40 crore have been allocated for this year. For

Hospet-Guntakal line Rs. 35 crore have been allocated for the current year. For Gutti-Renugunta, the allocation is Rs 40 crore for patch doubling work. Similarly proposals were sent regarding Nandyal-Yarraguntla project costing Rs. 165 crore 5 years ago. But it is quite unfortunate that this project has got allocation of a meagre Rs. 5 crore this year also. It is a very important and essential work, yet the allocation continues to be nominal.

Sir, we welcome the introduction of 5 new trains to Andhra Pradesh. Four other new trains also pass through Andhra Pradesh. We are glad about it. But the constant demand of linking Tirupathi with Shirdi *via* Puttaparthi has not been conceded to this year also by the Railway Ministry. The proposal has been pending for the last many years. But no decision was taken in this regard. Similarly there has been a constant demand for a train between Guntakal and Mysore. This demand has also been ignored this time too. I hope and trust that at least now these popular demands would be taken note of.

There used to be at least 10 trains running *via* Guntakal in a week. But with Konkan Railway coming into existence there is hardly any train which passes through Guntakal. Thousands of Keralites who are working in this area have been demanding since a long time that there should be at least one train which passes through Guntakal. The Railway Ministry has not been conceding to this demand since a long time. I request that at least now, a train should be provided to Kerala from this Division. This is my request to the hon. Minister. Sir, Guntakal Railway Division has been totally ignored in this year's Railway Budget. I am one of those staunch believers that Indian Railways unite and integrate the whole nation. It unites the people and integrates the nation. Such an organisation should function in an exemplary manner. The organisation should rise above linguistic and regional considerations. For administrative convenience and better administration and efficient management the Railways have been divided into various zones. Unfortunately the orders issued recently do not reflect this approach. Sir rivers and Railways which link different States should carry the message of harmony and goodwill to different States

[Shri Kalava Srinivasulu]

which they pass through. But unfortunately, what we see today is quite contrary to this noble idea. River water disputes between various States are becoming the order of the day. The orders issued on 14th of last month, unfortunately, make us feel that Railways are also creating disharmony and divisions in the country. The Railways should link the States and should not do anything which creates ill will or bad blood among the States. Its actions should not lead to any feud among the States. Guntakal Railway Division is one of the oldest in the country. Since 1966 it has been in the South Central Railways. It is the symbol of age old relations, culture and affection that existed between Karnataka and Andhra.

At a time when the region started witnessing progress with the cooperation of all concerned, the sudden orders from the Railways merging 65 kms stretch of Hospet-Bellari line, 23 kms of Dornakal and Ranjitpura. 54 kms of Bellari and Rayadurga and 49 kms of Guntakal and Bellari with Hubli Division. The people are vehemently opposing the merger. People are in the agitating mood. Already they have resorted to *rail roko* agitation 4 times. Even yesterday people belonging to various political affiliations have come together to oppose the merger. Even today there was a *rail roko* opposing the merger. The Railway Ministry has not been taking decision to promote camaraderie between States and on the other hand they are taking decision which will lead to rivalry and ill will among the neighbouring States. If you don't create harmony alright, at least don't sow the seeds of disharmony among the States. This order merging certain parts of Guntakal Division with Hubli Division will lead to bitter tension between the States. The relationship between the States will be very badly affected. The Railway Ministry will be held responsible for this unfortunate situation. This is my warning to the Ministry and I earnestly appeal to the hon. Minister to withdraw the order of merger at once.

Sir, Waltair Division was neglected this year also by the policy makers of Railway Ministry. Visakhapatnam is the second biggest city in Andhra Pradesh. The progress

has been hampered as there are no sufficient Railway facilities. Even in revenue earnings it occupies the second position. I appeal to the hon. Minister to develop this station as terminal railway station. I also request the hon. Minister to run Visakhapatnam-Chennai overnight express at least 4 times a week. More facilities have to be provided in the economically backward Rayalaseema region. Modernisation has already been taken place between Adilabad and Nagpur. A passenger train should be introduced in this route as early as possible. Hon. Minister once assured that it would be done. He should keep his promise. I also appeal to the hon. Minister to construct railway over-bridges at Gutti and Adilabad.

Sir, once again, before I conclude, fervently appeal to the hon. Minister to correct the injustice meted out to Guntakal Division. I hope and trust he will at once initiate steps to do justice to this division and also Rayalaseema. Otherwise, I am afraid the situation there would go out of hand and the Ministry would be held responsible for that.

I earnestly hope that the hon. Minister would attend to the problems that I have mentioned.

With these words, Sir, thanking you for giving me this opportunity I conclude.

*SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : Thanks for providing Rs. 7.94 crores for the development and beautification of the circular railway of Kolkota which mainly includes the area from Baghbazar Railway Station to Princepghat Railway Station. Extension of circular railway be implemented up to Majerhat at the earliest possible time.

All the six circular Railway Stations be renovated as modern Railway Station with its proper beautification. Metro Railway of Kolkota is one of the most prestigious railway systems in the whole world. But circular railway is just opposite. It has no infrastructure, no revenue income along with no fascination of the passengers.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Circular railway operates just parallel along with the river Ganges in Kolkata. Proposals for beautification of the banks of the river Ganges are on process. If circular railway authority can rise to the occasion of its beautification programme, then from the point of view of the attraction of tourism and also to attract tourists, will emerge as a milestone from the above point of view also. I hope beautification proposal for circular railway will start immediately and necessary instructions to be communicated to the appropriate authority.

Railway Minister may visit this route from Baghbaraz to Princepghat and supervise the beautification project. All pending railway projects of West Bengal be completed soon with required amount of Budgetary support.

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farukhabad):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you so much. I rise to speak on the Railway Budget on behalf of the Samajwadi Party. Nitishji introduced a very good railway budget and no party is against it. Besides I would also like to say that Nitishji has given a number of concessions in the budget including the concession in fare to the persons over 60 years in age and the persons who are ill. Similarly, concession has also been given to the journalists. Freight rates of several items including petroleum have not been increased besides introducing many new trains and extending the existing ones. The hon. Minister has also provided relief to the journalists by decreasing the freight carriage rates of the newspapers.

Sir, the most important thing which I perceive is the announcement by the Minister of Railways in the Budget regarding connecting Jammu and Kashmir to railway line. I congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways for it. I would also like to extend my kudos to him on his decision to construct four major bridges to connect the posts. Besides, I would also like to say that these steps might have been taken in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections due to take place in five large States in the month of October and November. Hence such a populist railway budget has been introduced. I would like to know whether all these concessions given in the supplementary budget

might be withdrawn once the elections are over in these five States. I also have an apprehension that the next supplementary budget might be presented by some other Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister has talked of mobilising new resources in the Railway budget but I fail to understand as to how these resources would be mobilised and from where the arrangement for them could be made. Everybody knows that there is a pressing need for modernisation of Railways. Several of the bridges have become old and many railway line are 100 to 150 years old and many a wagon are also very old and still under operation. These lead to accidents such as the one involving Syaldah Express recently.

Sir, I have carefully read the entire budget. The proposals like the renovating the wagons have not been mentioned in the Budget even though these areas should be given priority. The safety being provided to the railway passengers is also not foolproof. How can the trains be safe when the passengers are not safe? We have been witnessing accidents taking place frequently during the last two years. This has raised the question mark over the performance quality of the Ministry of Railways besides financial losses to it. Safety should be our top most priority and the Government have also made efforts in this direction. You have mentioned in your budgetary proposals that 3500 new constables would be recruited. Hon. Prime Minister has also mentioned about making available funds for this purpose. Secondly provisions for indigenously producing anti-collision device to avoid the accidents has also been made but there are many other things and areas which should be modernised. In view of the increasing shortfall of diesel in country it has become imperative to accelerate electrification and revamp the signalling system which would curtail the expenditure and result in lesser number of accidents. Through you, I would like to convey to the hon. Minister of Railways that he should accord top priority to these small things.

Railways have entrusted the catering and sleeping car facilities in several good express trains to the private sector.

[Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh]

The measure has certainly improved the quality and the people have also perceived it as a step in the right direction. I submit that if sanitation job is also handed over to private sector then our platforms and trains will remain more neat and clean.

Along with it I also feel that there is no proper arrangement for drinking water on railway platform and especially so when summer is approaching. The water taps are broken and whatever little water is available is also contaminated. People carry the risk of suffering from contagious disease after drinking such water. I would urge upon the Government to take step to make clean drinking water available to the people.

As far as railway fares are concerned, it is certainly a good step to reduce the fares of AC first class, second class and AC three tiers in Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains. You would have earned more praise from the people if you had increased the fare in above mentioned categories and further decreased the second class fares and then you would have been in a position to from the Government again. The fare increase by 10-15 per cent in AC first class would not have affected anybody because those who travel in first class do not mind spending money. It would have been much better if you had increased the fares of first class by four to five per cent and reduced that of the second class. This would have been a very good step for the poor and you would have also earned adoration of the people.

Second thing which I would like to say clearly is that the management of the railway land earlier was much better and now the encroachments are increasing on valuable railway land day by day but the Government are paying scant attention in this regard. I remember that the hon. Minister had in the last budget talked of for commercial utilisation of the railway land by building commercial complexes on it. I do not know as to what has been done but this Budget does not reflect anything on the fact as to which railway land in which metropolis has been utilised commercially. It is very clear that encroachment

would increase with increasing population but the Government would make full arrangements to check the encroachments. As far the recommendations of various Committees regarding modernisation of railways are concerned, there is no mention of the same in this entire budget and now I would like to know as to what provisions would he make for modernisation of railway? Perhaps this Budget has been introduced keeping in view the assurances of the hon. Prime Minister and the Finance Minister given to the Minister of Railways for financial back up in case of budgetary constraints. It is a good thing and people must be provided relief.

I would also like to bring one more thing in the notice of the Minister of Railways. It is the plight of hardworking coolies for which no provision has been made in the Budget. It would be a good step if the passes of coolies are made valid for the entire year which presently is available only for two months.

16.00 hrs.

They are forced to frequent office for getting their licences renewed every two months. Hence, I urge upon you to extend the pass period of coolies for one year.

I would also like to mention that the new zones are being created and I belong to zone Bareilly which was bifurcated. I would like to know as to why my zone is incurring losses now. The number of officers there in are hundred as was in the past while the strength of the employees (staff) has decreased from the earlier figures of one and half thousand. How can a zone reap benefit when it has the same number of officers and staff? There is a need to ponder over it. My submission is that there is a need to retain the earlier proportion of the number of staff and officers.

I would draw your attention towards some of the problems of my constituency which comes under the North-Central Railway zone. The gauge conversion work between Kanpur and Farrukhabad has been going on for the last four years and a very little sum of 26 crore is allotted for it every year even though the estimated cost

of the project is Rs.1330 crore. It can be easily estimated as how long it would take to complete the project if a meagre sum of Rs.26 crore is allotted for it every year. It would also result in the escalation of the project cost from the present Rs.330 crore to one thousand crore. All options are blocked.

One reaches Lucknow after changing the trains twice. I would like to submit to the hon. Ministers of Railways to increase the annual allocation from Rs. 26 crore to Rs.50 crore. I am not demanding for much. It has been pointed out during the meeting with the officers that if an allocation of Rs.50 crore is made, the gauge conversion work of Kanpur and Farrukhabad line would be completed by December, 2004.

Secondly, I would like to mention that there is a big problem of mosquitoes and bugs in Kalandhari Express running between Farrukhabad and Delhi which has no AC compartment. I am thankful to the hon. Minister for favouring us by introducing at least one express train for covering 5 to 6 districts. Even if you provide goods train coaches in it, then also we will travel, because we have got no other option. I have repeatedly told you to provide good coaches, but you have not done it. Please look into the improvement that has taken place. At the time of military movement, Kalandhari Express is discontinued. At the time of any crisis like flood in Yamuna river, Kalandhari Express is discontinued, as if the bridge will get damaged if Kalandhari Express passes through it, this is so because nobody bothers about this train. Nobody wants to listen about it. It is the only train from there. There is no other train besides it. I would like to submit that this is the only train which covers those eight districts under special circumstances, you can definitely discontinue the train. But when there are no extraordinary circumstances then please do not discontinue this train.

The biggest problem is that, earlier this train used to depart from there at 10 O' clock in the night and arrived at Delhi at 6 in the morning. Now as per the new time table its departure has been delayed by two hours from there, now it departs at 11.30 p.m. and arrives at 10 a.m.

in Delhi. Due to it, the businessmen from there are facing much inconvenience. I would like to submit that this is the only train. Please reschedule its earlier time table, so that it may leave at 10.55 from Delhi for Farrukhabad, so that it may arrive at 7 a.m. at Delhi.

I would also like to make one more submission. The work relating to gauge conversion between Shikohabad and Farrukhabad is pending. This track at least 150 years old. Today, the train having speed of more than 35 km. per hour can not pass through it. You can imagine that Kalandhari Express covers distance of 300 kilometre and it covers a distance of 95 kilometers between Shikohabad and Farrukhabad in the same time. The work relating to changing of sleepers and rail track has been started on this route. I would like to submit that if you expedite the work, the passengers would benefitted.

In the last budget, Kumari Mamata Banerjee had done favour to our leader, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. She sanctioned construction of new rail line between Etawah and Mainpuri. Doubling of Mainpuri-Shikohabad railway line was also approved. As per my information, survey has been done and its estimate has also been submitted. I want that the Government may please give orders to take up and complete this work at the earliest.

[English]

*DR. RANJIT KUMAR PANJA (Barasat) : I thank the Hon. Minister of Railways for kindly sanctioning of a sum of Rs. 2 crores for Habra-Chandpara doubling and Rs. 1 crore for Chandpara-Bongaton doubling though the amounts sanctioned are too meager for completion of the project in required and expected time.

I would like to suggest that the formula of sanction of budget for a particular project should be the total estimated budget divided by the expected time of completion. This will ensure completion of the project or else the project are likely to remain incomplete for a long time and ultimately may have to be shelved as has been done for many of the incomplete projects in the past.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja]

I thank the Hon. Minister for sanctioning Budget for Madhyamgram Railway flyover in my Constituency. I request that the State Government should be asked to provide the necessary matching grant to complete the project. I am sorry to bring to your notice that the foundation stone of the project laid two years ago at the Madhyamgram Station has been missing for some time. This cowardly act should be investigated, the culprit should be found out and the stone be restored in the proper place.

Bongaon being the border town and gateway to Bangladesh, the station should be upgraded as a model station as requested by me on several occasions earlier. I appeal to the Hon. Railway Minister again for making a grant in the supplementary budget.

[Translation]

*SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL (Daman and Diu) : Sir, the Minister of Railways has presented an attractive but directionless budget, it is as per the election arithmetics. The passenger fares and freight charges have not been increased, which is definitely commendable, if the Hon. Minister of Railways intends to provide relief to the rail passengers. But, the rail fares were also 'not increased in the budget of year 2001-2002, but after a few months rail fares were increased. I hope that this time the same will not happen and rail budget will not be taken just a formality.

In this budget, no efforts have been made for all round and balanced development of railways. In this regard, I would like to make a mention about my parliamentary constituency, Daman and Diu. Daman Diu and Dadra, Nagar Haveli are union territories and both these areas are the main industrial centres of the country, lakhs of people from other states go there for employment. But, the saddest aspect of it is that even today, the Union Territory, Daman and Diu continues to be backward from the rail

connectivity point of view. This area does not have rail connectivity. Vapi is the nearest station for people of Union territories of Daman, Diu and Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Vapi is a prominent station of Southern Gujarat. In regard to income of the Surat, this station earns the highest income for railways. This station earns revenue of about 7 lakh rupees day. Due to this, the station has been declared as A grade super station. But, so far as the stoppage of Express train is concerned, the condition of this station is very bad, though this station occupies important position due to its nearness to important places. Daman is 7 kms, Silsava is 11 kms and Maharashtra border is 10 kms away from this station. Apart from it, this station is also surrounded by four parliamentary constituencies (Balsad, Danu, Silvas and Daman). I have requested the Minister for Railways many times to provide stoppage of some trains at Vapi to benefit the lakhs of workers working in the industries of these four parliamentary constituencies, but my request has been partially accepted, due to which the problem of these workers, particularly of southern States continues to be as it is. A few months back, I had requested the Hon'ble minister of Railways to provide facility to South Indian people living in Daman and Dadra Nagar Haveli by providing stoppage to some trains going towards South at Vapi : (1) Nagarkoyal-Gandhidham Express 6335 Up and 6336 Dn. (2) Trivendrum-Happa Express 6333 Up and 6334 Dn. (3) Erankulam-Oreda Express 6337 Up and 6338 Dn (4) Eranakulam-Jaipur(Bhrusagar Express 2977 Up and 2978 Dn. Out of these trains, only Ernakulam-Jaipur (2977 Up and 2978 Dn) has been provided stoppage at Vapi and as a result, the problem of the people of Southern States remains as it is, because this train goes upto Cochin only and reaches Vapi at 11 p.m. Besides, all these trains run only once a week and their stoppage at Vapi for 3-4 minutes will not create any problem in their running and on the other hand problems of lakhs of passengers travelling towards Southern States will be solved. Similarly some trains stop on Up routes, but not on down routes due to which passengers face inconvenience. Therefore (5 Down and 6 Up) Saurashtra Mail and (17 Dn and 18 Up) Saurashtra

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Janata Express should be provide stoppage at Vapi on both Up and Down routes. The people of Uttar Pradesh too face a lot of inconvenience while travelling from Vapi Station 5064 Awadh Express running between Mumbai (Bandra) and Lucknow (Faizabad) should be provided stoppage at Vapi with a view to provide facility to such people. Gujarat Queen and inter- city running between Balsad and Ahmedabad should be extended upto Vapi.

Sir, as I said in the beginning, attention towards balanced development of railways has not been paid in this budget. Special attention has not been paid towards backward States and Union Territories from rail network point of view. Despite being a main industrial centre. Daman and Diu do not have rail connectivity. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to conduct survey for laying rail line between Vapi and Daman.

I am not only hopeful, but fully confident that Hon. Minister of Railways will sympathetically consider my request at the earliest so that the problems of lakhs of workers coming from other States could be resolved.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE (Nasik) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Railway Budget on behalf of Shiv Sena. I congratulate the Railway Minister for presenting this budget in the interest of the people.

I want to go into the shortcomings of this budget and how far it is beneficial to common people. I am of the view that the people and Parliamentarians of the States which have got some benefits would be happy but not others. I am neither happy nor disappointed with this budget. However, I am worried about railways. The reason is that I have been elected from Nasik Parliamentary Constituency. Nasik is a prominent city of our country which is progressing day by day. It is a centrally situated city in Maharashtra and is 200 kms. away from Mumbai and Pune and 100 Kms. away from Gujarat. Therefore, in the ancient period it was known as "Dakshin Kashi" and now a days it is famous as an industrial city. Besides, ' Ram Temple' and 'Tapovan' is also situated there 'Kumbh Mela' is going

to be organised in this city from 31st July, 2003 to 27th August, 2003- Lakhs of saint and seers would participate in it. 2.5-3 crore pilgrims are likely to visit this Mela. Therefore, I would express my worries in this regard. I have inspected all the railway stations situated in Nasik city. I talked to the people there about their problems. I found that there is no improvement in the Nasik road for which I have mentioned here. I was corporator of this city 35 years ago. I was mayor of this city when I was 27 years of age. I wrote several letters in this matter but got disappointment only. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit to the Government that my first demand is that the Nasik road should be improved and extended. At a distance of 4 km. From this road there is a place called Odha. It should be repaired and some changes should also be carried out there. I am saying this because in terms of population Nasik holds 4th position in Maharashtra and at 26 position in the entire country. The population of this city is increasing day by day. Therefore, keeping in view the coming Kumbh Mela, Railway Department should pay attention to provide facilities at Nasik road, Odha, Nifadh and Lassal villages.

Secondly, people have to travel from Nasik to Mumbai in connection with business and jobs. I travel in IInd class instead of 1st class so that I can understand the problems of the people travel in IInd class. I come to know their problems during discussions with them. They say that they hardly get the time to intract with their family and children within a week as they leave for their jobs at 6 O' clock in the morning and return by 10-12 O' clock at night. At both the time they find their children sleeping. Therefore, my demand is that a superfast train should be introduced from Nasik to Mumbai so that thousands of people could get relief of this problem.

The third point is that the department has conducted a survey from Puna to Nasik and Nasik to Surat. I want that Railway Ministry Should make budgetary provision for that railway line. I believe that this area would certainly develop with the Construction of this railway line. Sir, Nasik is also known as 'Dakshin Kashi'. This area is rich with a view to the production of sugarcane grapes, and Onion.

[Shri Uttamrao Dhikale]

However, farmers face the problems in transportation of these crops as bogies are not make available for this purpose. I thank you for not increasing the freight rates. However, I would like to request you that in view of bumper crop of onion, Government should consider to provide more transport facilities to the farmers. Farmers feel that it is better to use trucks for the transportation of the crops as railway freight rates are very high. Therefore, there is a need to ponder over it.

So far as Janata Shatabdies are concerned, my suggestion is that Government should consider to introduce Janata express trains for Aurangabad, Dhulia and Ahemad Nagar.

I would like to mention that the Members of Parliament from Maharashtra have placed these demands cutting across the party lines. They have demanded that Manmar-Dhulia, Shivpur-Indore, Dehnnasik-Mudukher, Nizanabad-Purna and Khandwa-Nander divisions should be connected with Central Railways. Their demand should be considered.

32 long distance superfast express trains pass from Nasik via Bhusaval-Manmar. However, only 10 out of these 32 train have halt at Nasik. Remaining 22 trains do not stop there. I would like to thank you for providing stoppage to Geetanjali and Mangla Express trains at Nasik but reservation facility has not been provided there. Passengers have to go to Delhi and Mumbai to avail this facility. Therefore reservation facility should be provided at Nasik itself. I request that the demands which I have placed before you should be fulfilled immediately.

Lastly, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wonder why the hon. Minister of Railways is not present here. This is an important discussion; the

Cabinet Minister should have been present here...
(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : We are taking notes. He is in the Rajya Sabha.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : All right, thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : They are taking down notes.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Thank you, Sir.

I wanted him because he is from my State and probably I would get the messages across a little better; and most of the things were pointed at him, either for his compliment or for his rejection, whichever way it is.

The Railways is a very vast subject and compressing the views on the Railway Budget within a time-frame of exactly 10-20 minutes would not be doing justice to the subject nor to the problems of the Railways that are there at the ground level.

To begin with, I feel that this Budget did have a thing like elections in mind—that we have had in a few States last week and also the elections which are stated to be held later in the year. Therefore, I would call it a populist Budget. There is nothing really great about it because it is antiquated method of having presented the Budget to the House. I felt that year in and year out, instead of giving out the whole galaxy of the achievements of the Railways, and of micro-reviews of the Railways, it would be far better if the Ministry of Railways gave us certain solutions to the problems that beset the Railways and also how they will mobilise long-term solutions for these problems. At one stroke, we have been told by Shri Nitish Kumar—rather we had not been told, but we came to know—that there has been no hike in passenger or freight charges.

Having complimented him on this issue of not increasing the charges, I would like to know one important question from the Minister. I would like to know how he

intends to mobilise the internal resources for funding the development projects of the Tenth Plan, which is from 2002-2007. He should give us the details and analysis of the problem and also its long-term solution. I would like the Minister to elaborate it.

During 1985, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister and Shri Madhavrao Scindia was heading the Railway Ministry, we had something known as the Corporate Plan which gave vision for the Railways for the next 15 years, starting from his tenure in 1985 and coming down to next 15 years. Would the Government think of reviving the Corporate Plan for the Railways in order for it to get a better vision?

We have been hearing beautiful announcement of *Yatri Suvidha Varsh*. Has the plan been made for this programme? If it has been, what is the plan? Would the Parliament also get to know it? Could the Paper be laid on the Table of the House so that we are aware of the suvidhas that the common man is going to get access to? Or, is it that the Government is going to make a plan now after having made the announcement? Is it 11 months that have gone by or that are coming in? This is another important point which I would like the Minister to tell.

I do not want to go into the details of the financial resources of this Budget because it is definitely in the red. The Railways is now in the category of red. For instance, there has been a mention of maintenance of the passengers fare, tremendous hike in the freight charges and so many other things. How the two things are synonymous? In fact, Shri Nitish Kumar, in his speech, has made a very-very derogatory statement about the passenger fares being made up by the freight charges. To begin with, the figure was 515 million tonnes and the expected rise was to 540 million tonnes. How are you going to make up this huge deficit gap in one calendar year?

Sir, I have a number of meaningful suggestions for the Minister and I would have loved to go into them, but due

to time constraint, I would ask one particular thing only. There is a thing known as Depreciation Reserve Fund. I believe that this Fund is meant for financing ageing projects or for managing crises, but I am told that they are making up the Railway Budget deficit through this Depreciation Fund. This is not the right thing to do. This Fund is meant entirely for ageing projects and if we neglect this sector, how can we expect to have passengers' safety? Both are correlated.

I will now come to certain suggestions which are positive. I do not want to take the Government on mat for everything. In fact, I wanted to compliment and congratulate the hon. Minister for having finally agreeing to the repeated suggestion in order to make Bihar potentially rich in thermal power. A long pending project of 1989, which was there during the time of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has finally seen the light of the day. Railways has been very gracious and kind to buy 1000 MW from the Super Thermal Power Station likely to be formed in my constituency and, therefore, my heartiest congratulations to the hon. Minister and the Ministry for this.

Finally, I have some positive suggestions and I think the hon. Minister would be slightly benefited if he looked into it. The Railways have to bear expenditure on certain social obligations like running uneconomic branch lines, suburban services, welfare activities of the Railway people, securities, etc. This is steadily rising from Rs.2800 crore in 1993-94 to almost Rs.5 120 crore in 2000-01. Besides, to keep passenger fares down, the cost inputs have risen in the last eight years by 15 per cent while the fare increase is only nine per cent. Therefore, Railways are raising the freight steadily. The result is that in the near future, the cost of importing steel from Germany to Mumbai will be far less than bringing steel from Tatanagar. Therefore, people are not going to use railway lines for freight. They would probably use the Golden Quadrilateral which the hon. Prime Minister has been very gracious enough to establish. Now, the Golden Quadrilateral is going to do the work for short and long distances which the Railways were supposed to do. So, this is a serious matter. Now, when you are thinking of banking on your

[Shrimati Shyama Singh]

freight charges by decreasing the passenger fare, how will you make up the gap? As you say, the passengers are also going down in their numbers because of security reasons. If your freight is also going down, then how are you going to make the two things move? Therefore, it needs a bit of serious application by the Minister and the Department of Railways if they want the Railways to survive as a viable alternative in this country.

16.26 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Apart from this, the funding by the Government has also gone down. The earlier allocation of the Plan Budget out of the total Budget was almost 15 per cent and it has now gone down to almost 8 per cent—one digit figure—in the Tenth Plan. Therefore, the Government should consider giving better support system to the Railways. We could all demand for this. We are having other paraphernalia which is eating into the vitals of the Railways. So, why can we not demand better allocation of funds? I can support you on this issue.

The Railways have to consider taking some serious steps to augment their revenues. As mentioned earlier, can the Government think of making an attempt to privatise core sectors like running of Railway Catering Department, Metro Railway, manufacturing coaches and engines, etc. They can also involve private sector in running private trains, creation of warehouses, and suburban services. These are the sectors which can be privatised. If they are privatised, they will run better. Shri Prabhunath Singh would agree with me that the quality of kitchen items that we are getting is not good. The things like food, unadulterated water and even the toilet facilities are not the best that we can hope for. If it is privatised, we can be assured of a better deal. The common passengers will be, in fact, benefited. As you know, certain rich class of people in any case is taking air route for going one country to another.

Now taking the World Bank loan is also not a very desirable thing because you are already in a debt trap and the World Bank is also going to hamper you with their interest. There is an Indian Railway Finance Corporation. Now money is being pumped out of it. But how much money can you take out of it? It is meant for funding important things like tragedies and for giving compensation, etc. This is also not a very feasible proposition and I suggest that privatisation could be given a thought. To that extent, suggestions have been given for wagon scheme—built-own-lease-transfer—but the Railways have not responded to these foreign companies. When we oppose disinvestment, it is not that disinvestment is totally bad. When we talk of disinvestment in the House and put down some of the disinvestment which you all have been doing, we are also a party to it by putting it down. In the case of Railways, there has to be disinvestment in certain core areas.

Sir, the Railways are the owners of huge—this is a very important point and I would like all of you to raise it in the Parliament and also present a Paper after all of you have made detailed studies on it—prime land all across the country. Around 25,000 acres of land is owned by the Railways in this country. Now, if the Railways are going to lease this land for a period of ten years, then the Railways would get huge amounts of money that could be utilised for modernising the Railway services. We have a few acres of Railway land lying idle just behind the Taj hotel in Delhi and also a few acres of Railway land are lying idle, with all garbage, around the New Delhi Railway Station. Why can the Railway not use this land for raising their revenues by constructing multi-storeyed buildings and rent that out to the passengers who wish to stay overnight, or use it for office purposes. Therefore, these lands can be utilised. At the moment they are underutilised, rather unutilised. So, I think, it is a very good and practical suggestion. It is because I had been travelling in the trains since my student days and now also, once in a while I travel by trains and I find that the railway tracks are not being maintained and the Railways are not using these lands effectively. So, I would like to suggest that the

Railways should look into this aspect and specially try and make use of the land that is available in front of the Taj hotel in Delhi and also the land in and around the New Delhi railway station. They are very prime lands and the Railways could utilise them.

Sir, the Railways have been incurring losses to the tune of some thousand crores of rupees because of the Electricity Boards. The Government must step into this dispute and see to it that the money that is not being utilised by them is given back to the Railways. I am speaking for the Railways and I am speaking for the Railway Budget. Similarly, there is requirement of oil and requirement of energy. The oil that is required for Railways costs around 43 paise per litre or whatever it is, but the Government charges the Railways about 53 paise extra. So, is it not possible for the Railways to have their own method or system of generating more electricity and having more power supply rather than depending on oil that the Railways buys from the Government at double the amount and suffer a loss on that account? This aspect can also be considered by the Railways.

Sir, my next point is about down-sizing of the Railways. The Railways have around 16 lakhs of employees and a sum of Rs. 12,000 crore is spent as salaries to the employees. Now, down-sizing would mean that the Railways are going to cut down—as has been suggested by one of the Reports of the Railways—its employees from 16 lakhs to 12 lakhs. But the hon. Minister has proposed to recruit around 20,000 people in the 'D' category, as they call it. Now, of these 16 lakh employees, forty per cent are not doing any productive work. They just sit idle. The Railways can utilise this 40 per cent people to fill up the vacancies in the seven zones that have been created by the Railways. The 'D' category employees have to have specialised training. Why can the Railways not use the 'C' category employees to do the work of the specialised trainers and use these 'D' category employees for some other purpose so that they could be productively engaged and the money that the Railways is spending could be used in a more productive manner?

Sir, finally, I come to the last point of railway safety.

The hon. Minister has repeatedly talked about safety and security of the Railways and about how he is going to put in place the anti-collision measures, I do not think in any country of the world this safety device has worked. It has not worked at all. It has already been tried out. Therefore, I feel that the commitment that the hon. Minister has made in his Budget Speech is far from reality because he would not be able to repair 5,180 bridges across the country in a short duration of one year. Therefore, let the Minister tell us exactly when he is going to finish the game plan. I would like to know whether this is going to be a time-bound programme because passengers cannot go on dying everyday. We have had eight major accidents in which 850 people have lost their lives along with their innumerable properties. Therefore, I would suggest that the Minister might please tell us categorically how he would meet the expenses of repairing these more than five thousand bridges across the country. Secondly, what is the staff that is being recruited? Why can he not take them from his internal old railway employees of 16 lakh persons, instead of recruiting fresh people?

Thirdly, the last very major accident that took place in this country was in my Parliamentary constituency, in a place called Aurangabad. The Rajdhani Express crashed at 12 midnight. I must pay a glowing tribute to my villagers in the constituency, who, despite being beaten by the Railway staff and being shooed away from the spot saying that they were coming to pilfer the goods of the passengers, did yeomen work and pioneer work in extricating all the dead bodies from the Rajdhani Express and dumping them outside and taking the live bodies and putting them in the hospital. This was a tribute to the villagers of that constituency, which happens to be my own Parliamentary constituency. I would have expected the hon. Minister to say a word of praise for those brave villagers, which he must put on record. Also, if he had been just kind enough to have announced even a small developmental work in that village—leave alone paying salaries or giving them work; if he had just made an announcement about their village being developed—I should have been very grateful to him.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

[*Translation*]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon'ble Prime Minister NDA Government and the Minister concerned for presenting a budget which is the best budget of the last 50 years, it is a budget which would lead each and every section of the society and the country to the path of development and would connect Kanya Kumari to Kashmir...(*Interruptions*) This historic development is going to be taken place for the first time.

This budget would provide relief to the common man and promote the industrial development. Whenever a good budget is presented and opposition states that it is an election oriented budget which has been prepared in view of the coming Assembly elections in 4-5 States. it proves that Opposition is of the view that it is an excellent budget which would provide relief to the people and lead the country to the path of development and they also support it. The discussion which is going on...(*Interruption*)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : We are also saying that it is a good budget, it is commendable budget but we are pointing out the shortcomings of the budget only.

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : This is for the first time that the budget is being discussed and Opposition is taking positive stand on it. Opposition, is saying that it is a good budget but also suggesting to add something more. We are also giving the same suggestions. But they are accepting that it is a good budget. The important thing is that Opposition has adopted a Positive attitude and appreciated the right things. It is praise worthy. I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for it.

Now I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister on behalf of the people of Rajasthan for making budgetary provisions for gauge conversion, for introducing new trains and increasing the number of trains. I am hopeful that the hon'ble Minister would definitely inaugurate all these broad gauge conversions trains would run on it, before the

next railway budget for which the funds have been provided.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : By when the Ajmer-Udeypur line is likely to be completed?

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : I am hopeful that we will get it inaugurated before the next budget. We will invite Hon'ble Minister there and get more grants in next budget.

For the welfare of common man, Hon. Minister has taken measures to make petrol, cooking gas, CNG, steel, cement, pig iron cheaper that would encourage construction work in the country and people would be encouraged to construct houses and when rail budget would not induce price rise, then people would get relief. With the aim of bringing about reforms in railways, he set up new zones and divisions.

In his budget, Hon. Railway Minister has kept in view the interest of all sections. He also protected the interests of journalists, patients and senior citizens. It is an appreciable step, but I would like to give a suggestion in this regard. Severely ill persons are obliged to travel at low cost but persons suffering from diseases such as AIDs, Leprosy and Tuberculosis also suffer great difficulties. I would like that they should also be included in the list.

People of poor families have to travel to apply for jobs of clerk and peon. They may also be given some concession if they are called for interview. It will help them. They can go for interview. Many people do not have money to buy tickets, they have to travel without... (*interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I think the system exists today.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Whether those people also get concession in railway ticket who are called for appointment?

[English]

Will the Minister be able to tell me about the concession given to those who are called for interview?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : No. Sir, it is not given.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Can the Railway Minister tell me the present practice?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Some companies are giving it. What do you want to say about it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Senior citizen have been given due respect...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (Calicut) : Sir, what about the Cabinet Minister for Railways? The Cabinet Minister is not here.

MR. SPEAKER : The State Minister for Railways is here.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : But he is not able to answer, your question...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask the cabinet Minister when he comes...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : You have sought some information and so I would like the hon'ble Minister to give reply...(interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Railway Minister should be directed from the Chair to provide free railway tickets to those going for interview. It will be done if the hon'ble Speakr gives direction... (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask Shri Nitish Kumar when he comes.

[English]

You may please continue, Shri Yadav.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, concession in railway ticket has been given to persons of the age of sixty years or more. I would like to know whether a person is supposed to go to the ticket window to say that he is 60 years old? If that is so, people less than that old would also try to take advantage. What yardstick Government will adopt then? It should also be clarified as to the kind of certificate, the thalassemia, cancer and kidney patients will have to produce to get the concession. My submission is that its advantage would be appropriated by those who are operating ticket rackets. My submission is that such yardsticks may be fixed for those facilities as those indulging in black of tickets do not get benefit. I would like to congratulate Hon. Minister of Railways for taking a historic decision to introduce 50 new trains. It was need of the hour and it shows the will power of the Hon. Minister that he recognised that for the progress of the country new trains need to be run. I request the Hon. Minister to arrange the running of new trains so that the whole country is benefitted. Several trains have been introduced in Rajasthan, but Jaipur is on the map of the world and foreign tourists arrive there in highest numbers. But there is no day train between Delhi and Jaipur. If a foreign tourist wishes to go from Delhi to Joipur in day time, there is no train for that. Therefore, one such train between Delhi and Jaipur via Alwar needs to be run keeping in view the interests of both domestic and foreign tourists.

[Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav]

Similarly, there are several super fast trains between Delhi and Jaipur but there is no passenger train via Alwar. Poors also have right to go to Jaipur from Delhi by train. It will be better if trains are run for them also. My constituency falls within national capital territory project. The rules applying in Delhi also apply in Alwar. Housing laws are same at the two places. When the adjoining districts were merged in national capital territory, it was said that various facilities including local trains would be provided but this facility is yet to be provided to Alwar. Therefore, this aspect should also be looked into.

Hon. Minister has a revolutionary outlook and he recognises that railways is the backbone of nation's development. Country would develop only if railways develop. Therefore, my submission is that as a part of the development process that is going on all over the country, the track between Delhi and Jaipur should be electrified.

I would also like to draw your attention towards a few small anomalies. Hon. Minister announced that on both sides of railway lines, the plant of 'Ratna Jyoti' would be grown which would increase the income of railways. A small change should be made in that. If the farmer, who is having his fields contiguous with the railway line, wishes to take the land on payment of rent, he should be provided that for a fixed period. This measure will not only help increase the income of the railways as the farmers would pay rent but it would also increase the income of farmers.

I would like to draw your attention towards another anomaly. It is regarding MST. Between Mumbai and Pune there is the facility of monthly season ticket. Similar facility exists between Churchgate and Surat also which are 263 Kms. apart. Whereas people of my area...
(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Kolkata did not change, but Mumbai did. It was done by a Chief Minister, who was from Vadodara...(Interruptions)

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : I thank the then Chief Minister. MST ticket is issued from Alwar to Delhi Cantt. which is 150 kms. while the distance upto Delhi is 161 Km. The MST ticket holders who have to travel till Delhi Cantt. had to go between Delhi and Delhi Cantt. without ticket. It causes loss to railways also. A passenger has a valid ticket only till Delhi and between Delhi and Delhi Caritt. he has to travel without ticket. Similarly if any passenger goes from Alwar to Jaipur, he is issued MST only upto Gandhi Nagar. Between Gandhi Nagar and Jaipur he has to travel without ticket.. It causes loss to the railways. Thus two yardsticks should not be applied in one country.

He is arranging for security in railways and providing jobs to 20000 people is a historic step. Cleanliness in the railways has also been attended. Accident at railway crossing are most common in the villages located along railway lines. I have seen in my constituency that the guard at the crossing closes the gate and leaves. In this condition, the crossing becomes bane for the villagers because it comes in the way of taking pregnant women and heart patients etc. to hospital. Necessary action needs to be taken in this regard. The Government is being commended by all. Poor villagers will get relief if some facilities such as arranging toilets for women at the railway station, constructing waiting room and providing the facility of boarding and water are provided. I thank you, the NDA Government and also the Prime Minister and request that more funds be released for these works and by the end of next year these works should be completed.

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA (Salumber) : Please also speak for changing Ajmer Chittaurgarh into broad gauge.

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Now he does not have that seat therefore he should not speak.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this budget has been hailed by all. I also agree. The circumstances in which hon. Minister has been caught, he

had no other option but to present such a budget. About 5-6 years ago hon'ble Minister of Railways had decided to divide railways into several zones and divisions. Such a decision implied huge financial burden on it. The decision was taken without arranging for financial resources. I had written a letter to the then Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda that on account of this decision which has been taken to gain cheap popularity and will cause constraint to both railways departments and railway budget for many years to come. All the reforms of Railway Ministry which ought to have accelerated have now been put on hold.

In many ways, Railways are moving backwards. Major obstacle is the lack of resources. We also see that conflicts relating to railways are finding their echo in the House as well as among public. Its benefit is most accrued to the place where headquarter is located otherwise only railways officials are benefited and this is the reason why development and progress of railways have been stalled. I would like to draw your attention towards gauge conversion projects. For four-five years the projects relating to gauge conversion have been taken up on paper but they remain incomplete as sufficient funds are not available. The scheme for gauge conversion between Kanpur and Farrukhabad was approved five-six years ago but work is progressing very slowly because of lack of resources. Consequently the cost is also increasing. There are many such cases. Similar situation exists with regard to electrification and doubling of lines. Schemes are lying stalled due to lack of funds. The appointment of new Rail Minister also work as an obstacle. Their main desire is to get popularity in the country and in the House. Announcements for new trains are made but none suggests for improvement of facilities in existing trains. A Rail Minister belonging to Congress Party had started Tulasi Express between Mumbai and Allahabad. Its name was taken from the author of 'Ramcharitmanas' - Tulasidas. Initially it used to run twice a week and the aim was to make it a daily train. The train used to go to Mumbai from Allahabad via Bhopal, Jhansi, Banda, Chitrakut. But even today the train runs only twice a week...*(Interruptions)* I

am not talking either of BJP or Congress, the fact is all Ministers try to gain popularity and they all ignore existing trains. I write letters to run the train daily but no action was taken. Sir, I represent Bundelkhand region. The people there agitate daily. I have been writing letters in this regard for five years. But nobody listens to me or the people"and so the passengers of existing trains continue to suffer.

17.00 hrs.

Such a policy is dangerous and wrong.

When late Madhavrao Scindhia was the Railway Minister, he had started Chambal Express between Howrah Agra and Gwalior about five-six years ago. It used to run via Manikpur, Chitrakut and Jhansi. The train was run thrice in the first week. Later on it was run four days a week. And from that day till today it has been running for four days a week. Demands are being made to run that train daily. When I write letters, the officials give a beautiful reply. They say that it is not needed as there are number of trains on that line. Hon'ble Minister does not have time. He launches new trains and is commended for that. But how department would improve when old wrongs are not corrected. Chambal Express runs for four days - two days it goes to Agra and on other two days it goes to Gwalior. I demand that the train be extended till Nizamuddin. It will facilitate people coming to Delhi as well as the passengers bound for Agra and Gwalior. The difference is only of 100 odd kilometers. I have written a lot letters in this regard and have also intimated hon'ble Minister on numerous occasions but the matter is always referred to the Railway Board. And they say that it is impossible. Why it is not possible? Is it because there is lack of track and platforms between Mathura Junction and Nizamuddin. When they can't construct a new platform or railway line for a distance of 50 kms., then what was the pressing need for new zones and divisions?

Just now hon'ble Minister has been appreciated much. I also appreciate him. A decision to introduce a train between Reva - a famous place of backward area of Bundelkhand in Madhya Pradesh and Delhi has been

[Shri Ram Sajivan]

taken and an announcement in this regard was made in this very House during the Railway Budget. I do not know whether the hon'ble Minister has introduced this train using his own discretion or on the advice of the officers. It was stated that the train will run from Reva and pass from Allahabad via Satna...*(Interruptions)* but what about Bundelkhand? There are so many trains if one wants to go to Allahabad and Reva. Therefore, the newly introduced train should pass through Bundelkhand...*(Interruptions)* please speak on your turn. Injustice is being done to the people of Budelkhand just because of the vested interests of some people. This train should pass from Bundelkhand via Satna and Manikpur. It should reach Delhi via Satna, Manikpur, Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Khajuraho and Jhansi. But they have announced that the train will pass through Allahabad though there are several other trains for Allahabad.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Reva) : It would be better to introduce a new train for them but the route of that rain from Reva to Delhi via Allahabad is appropriate. It is an appropriate decision.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : There are several trains from Allahabad to Delhi.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : That train has been introduced from Reva to Delhi via Allahabad. Earlier there was no train for Allahabad.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put forth your views at the time of your turn.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : His father is Speaker. It seems hon'ble Minister has accepted this proposal under his pressure and his father. It is totally inappropriate. Injustice has been done do the people of Bundelkhand. I want to say...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should not say such petty things. He is an hon'ble Member It is not good on his part.

MR. SPEAKER : You need not to indulge in cross-taking. Shri Ram Sajivan, please conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has wasted my time. please extend my time.

MR SPEAKER : I am giving 10 minutes to each Member. You will also be given the same time.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : You please extend my time and cut short his time. Mr. Speaker, Sir, Budelkhand is a backward area. The train introduced by the hon'ble Minister should have been passed through Bundelkhand. A train had been introduced for this area during the regime of congress party but BJP Government has not provided any train for this area. I am not criticising rather I am placing the facts. Through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that this train should pass through our area otherwise people would launch an agitation against it. If this train will not pass through Bundelkhand, this area would definitely remain ignored. This train should pass via Manikpur-Chitrakoot-Mahooba. There is no need to pass through Allahabad.

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down now.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has introduced a very good train. The route is good—Reva-Allahabad-Delhi I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for it. There should not be any change in this route.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : Mr. Minister, please do not come under pressure of his father. Keep in mind the pressure of the people...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would feel oblized if you give me one more minute.

Mr. Speaker, Sir. hon'ble Minister has come. I would like to tell him that there is a need to pay more attention towards the platforms, electrification, gauge conversion and to increase the length of platform and railway tracks as they have not been given due attention. Bundelkhand is a very backward area. It has been ignored. This area has different problems. Congress Government did not take

any steps for the development of this area. Hon'ble Railway Minister may please do something for this area.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this subject.

Sir, I thank the hon. Minister of Railways for sanctioning very good projects for the State of Tamil Nadu this year. Even though he has sanctioned several projects, we are not satisfied and we need more from our hon. Railway Minister. I also thank the hon. Railway Minister for allowing the examination to be conducted in regional languages for the Group 'D' staff, as far as Railway recruitment is concerned. Since Independence we have been writing the examination in either Hindi or English, but this time he has given a good opportunity to the people who do not speak either Hindi or English. We are very happy about this announcement.

I also thank the hon. Minister for sanctioning a sum of Rs.35 crore for the fourth track between Pattabirarn and Thiruvallur and third track between Thiruvallur and Arakkonam in my constituency and Rs. 30 crore for extra track between Athiapattu-Beach and Beach-Korukkupet. I have to separately thank the hon. Minister today because this Railway Budget is a very good Railway Budget without any hike in the fares and freights.

Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned that this is a Basic Amenities Year as far as passengers are concerned. But we find that many Railway stations are without any basic amenities.

In important railway stations and in important railway junctions only, we get all these basic amenities. There are no drinking water, toilets, platform stalls, public announcement system and timetable boards. Rakes are not cleaned properly. The passengers are suffering without

these basic amenities. These things should be taken into consideration. The Government has to allot more amount this year for providing these basic amenities.

Sir, I have gone through the Budget speech of the Railway Minister. He has said that he is going to constitute RVNL project, Golden Quadrilateral project for about Rs. 50,000 crore; construct major railway projects and also mega projects. He is also trying to get loans from the World Bank. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges (ROBs and RUBs) are the long pending projects. Most of the bridges are pending in Tamil Nadu. Will the Minister constitute a separate body to construct these bridges? In the year 2001-02, the then Railway Minister had announced that the State Government of Tamil Nadu headed by Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi cooperated with the Government of India in the participation of construction of bridges and also in sharing the amount with the Government of India.

But day before yesterday, I read the speech of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri A.K. Moorthy delivered in the function of running ACDC train from the Central Station to Avadi, which benefits my constituency and also the constituency of North Madras MP. Even though he has not called us for the function, we are very happy that he has given this new train. In that speech, he has said that ROBs and RUBs are pending in Tamil Nadu without the State Government's cooperation, and most of the fund, which had been allotted to the State Government, had come back to the Government of India due to non cooperation of the State Government. I would like to know from the hon. Railway Minister as to how much amount had come back to the Government of India, which was already allotted for the construction of ROBs and RUBs. The Government has to have a new idea for construction of these bridges...
(Interruptions)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is misleading the House. The hon. Minister is also available here. Let him clarify whether he

[Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi]]

has made such a speech at all. I have also gone through the report. I have also gone through the speech of the Minister. It is available in the records...(Interruptions) The hon. Minister is here, he can clarify whether he has made such a statement that the State Government has not co-operated. Sir, the hon. Member cannot mislead the House. He cannot throw any allegation on the State Government which has no substance. Absolutely there is full co-operation from the State Government. Now, our only concern is that the whole State of Tamil Nadu has been totally ignored in this present Railway Budget. There is a Minister representing the State of Tamil Nadu...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. When your turn comes, you can make your observations.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Sir, the Minister is here. The hon. Member is misleading the House. The Minister has never made such a statement. I also read the report...(Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : Sir, if the Minister says that the hon. Member is misleading the House, then we will rectify our mistake...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Sir, I request the concerned Minister to clarify. He is also keeping quiet...(Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM : Sir, I request the concerned Minister to clarify the statement made by the hon. Minister. Let the Minister clarify it...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If he desires so.

Shri A. Krishnaswamy, please go ahead.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Sir, regarding the commercial lands, which are nearby railway stations, most of them were not utilised, and they were encroached upon by several people. I request the hon. Minister to utilise those lands and get revenue for the Railway Department.

The then Railway Minister, Kumari Mamata Banerjee had announced that the lands, which are nearby railway stations, would be utilised for commercial purposes and the revenue that would be made out of those lands would be useful to the Railways. I would like to know from the Minister as to the development that had taken place from the speech of the then Railway Minister, Kumari Mamata Banerjee. Also, is there any idea to use those lands for commercial purposes?

Sir, I have several grievances regarding my State. There was a sanction given for quadrupling the rail line between Attipattu and Minjur. I request the Railway Minister to extend it till Gumudipoondi. Also, there was an Express train stoppage, which was already announced by the then hon. Minister for Railways, Shri O. Rajagopal, to stop at Avadi. It is not stopping till now. It should be made to stop at Thiruvallur, which is a district headquarters, and at Thiruttani, which is a temple town, and also at Gumudipoondi, which is a taluk headquarters. I also urge upon the Government to sanction new road-over-bridges at Villivakkam, Kadambattur, Attipattu, Minjur and Gumudipoondi in the State of Tamil Nadu. Also there was a sanction order to construct ROBs at Thiruvallur, Thiruninravur, Pattabiram and Jolarpet. They are not constructed till now. I urge upon the Government to construct road-under-bridges at Ambattur, Avadi, Villivakkam and near Stanley Hospital.

There was a survey sanctioned for new lines between Avadi-Poonamalle-Sriperumpudur-Kanchipuram, and PTMS to Gumudipoondi, Thirukoilur to Salem, Kumbakonam to Namakkal, Vandalur to Minjur, Thiruvallur, Sriperumpudur and Minjur to Attipattu. I want to know from the hon. Minister when this work will start. I also urge upon the Government to extend Thirumylai MRTS network beyond Velachery to Mahabalipuram. It is for tourist patronage and for boosting the revenue of the Railways.

The Railways should also provide isolation of suburban tracks between Basin Bridge and Chennai-Moore Market Complex to avoid detention to EMU trains. The Railways should implement a new suburban time-

table with alternative services from Chennai only to Thiruvallur, Arakkonam and Gummudipoondi, replacing direct services to the long distance places like Thiruttani and Sulurpettai with shuttles from Arakkonam and Gummudipoondi respectively.

The Railways should introduce a separate establishment in Chennai headquarters for planning and monitoring 1000 suburban services daily in Chennai.

The Railways should allocate funds for linking Chennai Central and Egmore station for providing two-way transport. This work was announced by the hon. Railway Minister. We are very thankful for this announcement. This work should be done in a very speedy manner.

The Railways should allocate sufficient funds for providing passenger amenities in Chennai-Arakkonam-Gummudipoondi section, Chennai Beach Tambaram-Chengalpattu-Kanchipuram section and in MRTS section.

I also urge upon the hon. Minister to appoint more sportsmen in the Railways to encourage sports in Railways, besides conducting a special recruitment drive to appoint Group-D staff in the Railways and clearing appointments of Act Apprentices who have completed training in ICF in the Southern Railway. Out of the 20,000 jobs, the priority should be given to those people who come on compassionate grounds and those who are physically handicapped.

The Railways should sanction survey for a new MRTS project over the congested Chennai Annasalai for providing rail transport between Chennai Guindy-Poonamalle and Sriperumbudur.

The Railways should conduct SRUCC/DRUCC/ZRUCC and the meeting of hon. MPs every three months.

Sir, I put one question before our hon. Railway Minister regarding the coach which is manufactured in the ICF. The ICF is one of the very oldest coach factories. It manufactures several coaches and they are sent to all over the country. About two or three months back, some coaches

manufactured in ICF were sent to Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and other State Ministers inspected those coaches and they returned the coaches because of poor quality in manufacturing. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fault of the coaches, which were manufactured, or whether it is a fault of inspection.

The BG conversion of Trichy-Tanjore-Nagore was announced by the then Railway Minister, Shri Jaffer Sharief, in the year 1993. Till today, this scheme was not implemented. This year also, Rs. 12 crore has been allotted which is not sufficient. Hence, I urge upon the Government to speed up the work and complete 50 kilometers this year.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this debate. The hon. Railway Minister has made his prompt efforts to give financial assistance to the ongoing projects. He has tried but he could not reach up to the mark.

The Railway Budget for the year 2003-04 presented by the hon. Minister of Railways is not a progressive, prospective one without any new lines and gauge conversion. This Budget lacks any progressive aspects concerning relief to railway users and totally overlooking many ongoing projects for which no allocation has been made.

The Budget fails to enthuse even the most cynical as it has proved to be a *status quo* attempt by the Government to revamp the biggest transportation system in the whole world.

The Indian railway system, the biggest network in the world, runs like the nervous system in the human body. Directly and indirectly, more than 75 percent of the population is benefited from the railways. In times of war, peace, rains, drought, cold winters and hot summers, the Railways is contributing its share to the nation. Therefore, it has to be our prime concern to develop a safe railway network.

[Shri K.H. Muniyappa]

For Karnataka, the hon. Minister has given some new trains. In respect of gauge conversion, doubling and new line construction, he has given a few projects but the amount he has allocated is very meagre. For example, where Rs. 62 crore is the requirement, he has provided for only Rs. 35 crore. For the Yashwantpur-Tumkur line, the allocation required is Rs. 62 crore but he has provided only for Rs. 19 crore. I know that he has tried his best and also that there is fund constraint but by giving small amounts you cannot achieve any progress. I do not know how the hon. Minister is going to solve this problem. If he were going to give small amounts like this, it would take another ten years to complete the projects. I hope, when before he gives the reply to the debate, the hon. Minister would think over this aspect. He has to try and find out how to solve the problem and how to give a new thrust to the Railways.

I have got many important points to make but I would only mention a few more points and lay the rest of my speech on the Table of the House because I do not want to take much time of the House. The Bharat Earth Movers Limited has been right from its inception manufacturing coaches. There is one unit of BEML at Bangalore with 5,000 skilled workers. Right from the beginning, they have been engaged in the construction of coaches. That has been stopped now because now the orders are given to the Kapurthala unit and the Integral Coach Factory at Chennai. I do not say that these units should not be given these jobs. They are the own units of the Railways. The BEML unit at Bangalore has been used by the Railways right from the beginning for building coaches but they have now stopped giving orders and so the workers are suffering. Only the workers of the profit-making unit which manufactures defence equipment are being paid salaries. On the last occasion, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief and I had mentioned that the Ministry of Railways should give orders for at least 250 coaches for sustaining this unit, which has particularly right from inception, over the last 50 years, been engaged in building of coaches. This has been stopped for the last two years and it has to be resumed

Shri R.L. Jalappa and I represent the Kolar district. The former Minister had represented to Shri Nitish Kumar two or three times over the gauge conversion project. The Railways has completed 50 per cent of the work. They have spent Rs.80 crore and another Rs.90 crore are to be spent. If you put in half the amount and leave the job incomplete, the amount that you have already spent would not serve any purpose and it would not be useful. This requirement of Rs.90 crore has also not been included in this Budget but only Rs. 1 crore have been allocated for this.

On earlier occasions also, whenever you have presented the Budget, I had mentioned about linking Madanapalli and the coastal areas up to Bhubaneswar, Kolkata and Guwahati. We produce thousands of tonnes of vegetables and fruits. We produce one-third of the total number of mangoes produced in Karnataka. All these produce go to the North-East, Mumbai, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar and Kolkata. In the absence of a proper rail link, we cannot sustain the marketing of all these produce. The farmers are not getting good profits because the transportation charges are more. The pilgrims who are travelling from these areas are also facing difficulties and are suffering. That is why, in 1994, the then Government included this in the Budget. The Government has spent Rs.90 crore out of it.

As far as remaining Rs. 90 crore is concerned, if you sanction this amount, it will be very useful. This will benefit Lakhs of people. These are the two things I wanted to place before the House.

Sir, I want to lay my remaining speech on the Table of the House as I do not want to take much time of the House. I want to give the chance to my other colleagues.

The hon. Minister of Railways has already tried his best. He has included so many proposals. Our hon. Chief Minister also represented twice in this regard. The hon. Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Shri Ananth Kumar, had also represented in this matter.

The hon. Minister of Railways has given some proposals, but sufficient money is not given to complete these proposals. I hope the hon. Minister will sanction some more money to complete these proposals.

*Railways have got more than 100 years history and it has seen ups and downs during this period. During the role of Government, our Hon'ble Railway Minister tried to strengthen Indian Railways and are successful from 1991 to 1996 our Government had taken up massive gauge conversion and approximately more than 10,000 Kilometers of narrow gauge~ was converted into Broad gauge. Approximately 5000 Kilometers of New Railway lines were brought up and minimum accidents were reported during that period, but nowadays so many accidents are reported and lot of innocent people are bothered, but to our surprise Hon'ble Minister for Railways were not even ready to accept their failure.

Many ambitious gauge conversion projects undertaken all over India by the erstwhile Congress Government are in a stand still despite the passage of more than 708 years. I would like to point out one of the important sector in the Southern Railways because of projected growth of traffic the BangaloreJewallarpet gauge conversion was conceived of top most priority but the present Budget is silent on any allocation for this vital segment in Southern Railway. The gauge conversion between Yelahanka-Chikkaballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet project was approved in the year 1994 by the then Hon'ble Minister for Railways and work also completed and the trains are operating. Thanks to the Hon'ble Minister for extended Bangalore-Bagarpet upto Jawallarpet.

Since Railways are moving through a firmed crunch this is high time for the Hon'ble Minister to think seriously to improve the system for that I would like to give some suggestion.

I would like to appreciate the Government of Karnataka for particularly in the development of Railways. Government of Karnataka has ventured with an MOV with

Ministry of Railways through "Kamataka Rail infrastructure Development Company Ltd." "K-RIDE", the subscription to equity of K-RIDE by the parties are—Government of Karnataka : 26%. Government of India : 26% and financial institution : 48%. This is a welcome step. And with this step the responsibility and participation of the local people will be more and their most participation with railways will be there.

Sir, to exploit the commercial viability of the railways wasteland in cities wherever fund is feasible.

Railways have enormous capacity to handle the goods but because of the complex procedure and non-cooperation of Railway Staff these goods are moving through the trucks, therefore, identify the field staff to the purpose and part and the Franchise be given to Private agents on commission basis on a trial run. Railways should try to transport perishable goods also. Because of high production of the products and low transportation possibility farmers are facing many difficulties. This can be tried and it is not an impossible task.

The then Railway Minister Km. Mamta Beneiji had given direction to conduct a survey for construction of new Broad gauge line from Bisanattam to Marikuppam. Sir, the said project of 12.5 kms with a cost of Rs. 31.71 crores (as per survey) has been noted for construction by the Hon'ble Minister for Railways. I would like to urge upon the Government to start the construction of this new Broad gauge line form Bisanattanm to Marikuppam. The revised combined cost of construction of Cable stayed Bridge with approaches (321 Kms near K.R. Puram) Madras-Kolar-Bangalore section NH-4 is Rs.47.42 crore. So far Rs.22 crore has been paid to Railways as most share. This is very vital link and observed that there is too much conjunction in K.R. Puram and all the lines towards Tamil Nadu and other States pass through this line so the roads are jam-packed and the intensity of the traffic is vely high and number of accidents took place on this route. The people of this area are demanding for the completion of this work for the last two decades. Hence the urgency in this project may be observed and I humbly request the

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri K.H. Muniyappa]

Hon'ble Minister to allocate and release an early Rs. 21 crore towards the balance share of this project.

Sir, Bangarpet-Yelahanka Railway line is one of the most important railway segments in my Parliamentary constituency which was laid by the Britishers about 100 years back. At that time it was only a narrow gauge. This route links 'South' with 'North' and Eastern parts of our country. I am happy that out of total sanctioned stretch of 147 Kms., work has been completed for more than 50%. I had already raised this issue in this august House for many a time. If this project were not completed earlier, a whole lot of investment of Rs. 50 crores so far spent would go waste. This area which is very rich in vegetables, fruits and other agriculture products can be transported and this would enable the export of these items to foreign countries like Malaysia, Singapore etc. So I request the Hon'ble Minister to allot more funds and complete the rest of the project at the earliest.

Sir, my next point is about M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML). This company had been receiving orders for construction of railway coaches since 1947. But now the orders from the Railways to this public sector undertaking have dried up. This undertaking, under the directions from the Railway Ministry, has diversified their operations. They are now ready to carry out the construction of the coaches. But they have not given orders for a single coach. This is a Central Government public sector undertaking like Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala and the Integrated Coach Factory, Chennai. The orders for construction of coaches would have to be shared between these three companies. They have requested for orders to construct 250 coaches only. Otherwise, not only 5000 workers of this company would be in trouble, but this company would be losing Rs. 70 crore annually.

Sir, the pending projects under the Ministry of Railways may be considered keeping in view with the understanding between Ministry of Railways and

Government of Karnataka. The said project may be discussed by the Hon'ble Minister with the State Government with regard to availability of funds and other constraints. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar, for his sincere efforts in developing railway infrastructure in 'Karnataka' State and I request him to fasten the pending projects by allocating substantial funds. Finally by thanking the Chair, I am concluding my speech.

Sir, our Chief Minister Mr. SM. Krishna has expressed shock about the Railway Budget 2003-04. Karnataka has been completely neglected in this pro-election budget. The Centre has not responded to the urgent railway needs of the State. Some of the long pending projects which have been ignored by the Centre are (i) Kottur-Harihara, (ii) Bidar-Gulbarga, (iii) Talaguppa-Shivamogga, (iv) Hubballi-Ankola and (v) Yelahanka-Bangarpet and many others.

Many Hon. Members including Basavana Godwa have criticised the Railway Budget saying that it has disappointed the entire population of Karnataka.

For conversion of gauge, we need at least Rs.2518 crores and what we got is a meager Rs. 252 crores. More than a dozen ongoing projects have come to a standstill. Hence the Hon. Railway Ministers has no other alternative but to increase the allocation immediately. Otherwise, there will be agitations throughout Karnataka including Rail Roko agitation.

We have made many other genuine demands to the Railway Ministry. Some of them are (i) introduction of Shatabdi Express between Bangalore and New Delhi, (ii) introduction of a new daily train between Bangalore and New Delhi (iii) running Rajdhani Express between Nizamuddin and Bangalore daily instead of the present four days a week. I have a long list of Railway demands before Railway Minister.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Nitish to wake up and do something for the development of Railways in Karnataka before it is too late.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, during each Budget Session, two Budgets are presented in the House. One is Railway Budget and the other is General Budget. Both the Budgets have been presented in the House. Media showed the reactions of the people belonging to ruling party and opposition on the same day when the Budgets were presented in the House. However, reactions on both the Budgets were not same. Members of opposition reacted to the Railway Budget as an election Budget. However, this reaction of the opposition members shows that Railway Budget is too good to oppose. Therefore, they called it election budget for self satisfaction.

I congratulate the hon'ble Railway Minister Shri Nitish Kumar who has formulated this Budget. He has given a new message to the country through this Budget. He has depicted the pace of development in this Budget. Besides, he has shown administrative capability also. He has paved a new way for improvement in the Railway passengers security which has been a moot issue for the years together. Some hon'ble members are worried about the arrangements of funds for this and about the pace of development. While giving their speeches several members expressed their concern that development works would be affected in the absence of funds. I would like to tell them that more than 55 years have been passed since we got freedom. Development keeps on taking place though the pace of development can be more or less under the leadership of different Governments. However, the pace of development of railways has been very good in the last 4-5 years and it is really praiseworthy.

Keeping in view the different parts of the country and administrative facilities, 7 new zones have been created on the demand of the people and to reform the railway administration. People of the country have congratulated the Railway Minister for it. Though one zone came under a little dispute also. Detailed discussion took place in the House between Ruling Party and Opposition on this issue. The matter was taken from High Court to Supreme Court.

Supreme Court also give verdict in favour of Railway Minister's decision. Then it was proved that the steps taken to create new zones and divisions in Railways was an appropriate decision of the hon'ble Railway Minister from administrative point of view.

In Railway budget, the Hon'ble Minister of Railways has proposed the extension of rail lines. construction of new rail lines and introduction of many new trains which will connect many farlung areas of country to the capital, today, the representative of any State can not say in the House that new trains have not been introduced in his State.

Everybody whether he is a Member of Parliament or a villager or common man is praising the Minister of railways, the Prime Minister and NDA Government for presentinc this rail budget.

MR. SPEAKER : What is left in your speech?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I am not delivering speech rather I am appreciating it...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I think that nothing has left to speak in your speech.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker. Sir. I would like to tell that in particular Bihar which I represent... (*Interruptions*) You may also feel a need to please the Minister. If I need aivthing then I can give him order. You should not worry about it. I would like to say that Bihar is the most backward State...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : You are congratulating them. It is a good thing...(*Interruption*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : You will he sent to Ranchi and beds are also lying vacant in hospital there... (*Interruptions*) Sit down.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : If you are congratulating then it is a good thing...(*Interruptions*) If I would he sent. I will take you also along with me...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Ramdasji, there is a possibility that you will get chance, in this way you may lose it therefore, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Bihar is the most backward State of the country where the pace of development is very slow. We do not expect anything from the State Government. Despite, rail development in Bihar has taken place speedily. After taking over the charge of the Minister of Railways by a person belonging to Bihar four schemes have been formulated. If we go through the list of former Rail Ministers, we find that the number of Ministers from Bihar is the highest therein. Many Rail Ministers came, late Lalit Narayan Mishra ji was one of them who held this portfolio during the regime of Congress. We were young at that time. We used to listen that he fights for the cause of Bihar in Delhi and takes interest in the development of Bihar and after him the persons who took the charge of Rail Ministry remained confined to the newspapers only and some Minister of Railways offered appointments by taking bribe but today, the people of Bihar feel proud that today in Railways employment is provided on the basis of merit and people who want to get job by giving bribe or by recommendation are still unemployed.

I would like to draw the attention of Minister of Railways towards one more thing. Various types of incidents take place in railways every day. Recently a strange incident took place in Bihar and I think that incident took place in Hon'ble Minister's constituency. The passengers were travelling in train. GRP personnel entered the train. It seems to me that police personnel enter the trains from security point of view. But those police personnel asked the passengers to show their certificates. Passengers replied that they are having tickets only, what kind of certificate they want. Then the police personnel demanded three thousand rupees if they did not have that certificate. Passengers asked again what kind of certificate they require. Police personnel said that if they will make noise, the rates may get double that is they will have to pay 6000

rupees. Then hot exchange of words took place. They molested a lady passenger also. Therefore there was much uproar in the train. FIR was registered and all those police personnel are still in jail. I would like to say that if police will behave in this way in the train then I do not think that anybody's honour dignity or prestige can be protected. The Ministry of Railways have police force. State police personnel are deployed in the entire country, I have no objection to it but railway passengers in Bihar should be spared from police. We do not assume that the State Government can be behind this incident, but State Government is responsible for many such incidents. This is because of conspiracy of the State Government. Incidents of theft and looting that take place in trains of Bihar. You should strengthen the railway police. If there is shortage of police forces, recruitment should be made. The safety of trains should be entrusted to railway police, instead of GRP. This is my submission.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of Bihar will remember the Minister of Railways, for four things. You will be remembered as a Minister of Railways. Even after you cease this office. You will be appreciated for setting up Hazipur zone, constructing bridge on Ganea river in Patna, bridge on Ganga river in Monghyre and sanction given recently for bridge in Madhubani.

The Minister of Railways has announced to provide employment for 20 thousand people. It is really praiseworthy. The Minister of Railways has done commendable task by announcing 20 thousand jobs under such scenario when 10% retrenchment is being done in some departments. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister to publish the vacancies at the earliest otherwise it would be a follow announcement of railways budget and the appointment should also be made at earliest, and if there is any scope. We too be heard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister that commando police personnel are deployed in railways. According to them, railway officers deduct their TA/DA. I had written a letter to the hon'ble Minister of Railways

in this regard. You have assigned them the task of safety of Rajdhani Express and other important trains. Therefore, their problems should also be considered.

Besides, some doctors have also been appointed under your Ministry. They are forced to work at Rs. 2000 per month for a long time. The Standing Committee on Railways have submitted a report in this regard. Since they are working for a long time, approximately the number of such doctors is 150. These doctors should be made permanent and facilities like other doctors should also be made available to them.

Further more, I would like to mention about the problem of my constituency. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is related to you and me, that is, it is related to Maharashtra and Bihar. The people of Bihar go to Maharashtra in search of employment. They have to face many difficulties in travelling. There is a shortage of trains. Godan Express runs from Chhapra only once a week.

MR. SPEAKER : A train has been introduced from Ranchi to Mumbai.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : The route that you are referring is different one. It is Chhapra-Mumbai route. The Samta train is running in Bihar since long. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please introduce new Samta train from Chhapra to Mumbai so that your State and our State may remain connected.

MR. SPEAKER : I also associate myself with it, however it is not an order.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Since the Chair has also supported it so the hon'ble Minister of Railway will also announce for the same. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a planning Commission in the country which is called "Yojana Ayog" in Hindi. It would have been better had it been called "Yojana Awarudh Ayog". I am saying this because the work of my area is obstructed by it. You can please see the works undertaken in my area. They say that the files have been sent to the Planning Commission. When we approach the concerned hon'ble Minister and

request for any road he also says that the Planning Commission has refused to take up any new road this year. The Planning Commission is composed of those politicians who get retired from the politics and they do not have anything to do, however they dominate over everything. Similarly there are bureaucrats who have been given extension in service. That is why we say the work of the Planning Commission is only to create obstacle in planning. So, there is no need of any Planning Commission in the country. I have requested the hon'ble Minister of Railways for the extension of rail line from Maharajganj to Masrak. We are not asking for laying new rail line. This distance is only 30-32 kilometre, however, the file regarding this is lying pending with the Planning Commission for the last six-eight months. When I approached the Planning Commission in this regard they said that they would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Railways, from where will he mobilise the funds. It seems that the entire funds are being given by the members of the Planning Commission while the fact is that the entire funds are allocated by the Ministry of Finance. That is why my submission is that the Planning Commission should be dismantled by way of making consensus in the House so that there may not be any obstruction in the way of development.

Sir, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister of Railways that he also has discretionary power to grant Rs 50 crore so he should visit my constituency and lay foundation stone of the said project. Along with this I would also like to extend my thanks to the Minister that he has prepared an excellent railway budget. The people of the other departments should take lesson from him. They should learn from Shri Nitish Kumar for running the country and give good message to the country.

With these words, I conclude.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir congratulating the hon'ble Minister of Railways for presenting a good budget, I lay on the table my speech with your permission.

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

*Sir, the railway budget for the year 2003-04 presented by Shri Nitish Kumar is well thought, balanced and a planned budget. The budget is extremely practical and have been prepared after taking into consideration the public interests from the point of view of its social responsibility all those things have been incorporated in the budget which are essential for the convenience of public travelling. On the one hand while keeping in mind the passengers convenience year, the announcement for certain new trains have been made, on the other hand the destination of the certain trains have also been extended. In the last years budget the announcements were made for introducing Jan Shtabadi Express on certain routes, and fulfilling those promises the announcement of increasing the number of trains is commendable. From the point of view of transportation railway is a reliable and convenient means of transportation in which lakhs of officials and officers are employed. At the same time hon'ble Minister of Railways is also making efforts to make the railway journey more passenger friendly and convenient. I would also like to mention that hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee ji has also extended his full support for strengthening this important means of transportation. The announcement of Rs. 17 thousand crores by the Prime Minister for the safety and security of railways is a burning proof to it.

It is also evident from the commending remarks of the experts and media persons that the budget is extremely practical. On the one hand while keeping in view the sentiments of public the train fare has not been increased while on the other hand making increase in freight have been looked upon as favourable by the entrepreneur, traders or industrialists in view of the industrial development of the country. In some cases anomaly has been redressed and in some cases it has been removed.

Keeping in view the regional development and regional balance the efforts have been made to provide better railways services to almost every region.

Keeping in view the importance of unigauge system in the country the priority has been given to it and the funds have been allocated for the early completion of the gauge conversion work going on at various places. It has been mentioned to approve and launch work in those areas where rail line is required and where survey in this regard have already been conducted. On the one hand while railway concession has been given to the media persons on the other hand concession has also been given to the senior citizens, physically handicapped persons and the persons suffering from non-curable diseases, along with attendants which shows the humanistic gesture of the hon'ble Minister of Railways.

While in Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh the extension of railway has been taken into account, Madhya Pradesh is also not left out. Rs. 30 crore have been sanctioned for gauge conversion work between Nimach-Ratlam falling in my Parliamentary constituency Nimach, Madsaur. I would like to extend my thanks to him however my submission is that this work scheduled was to be completed by the year 2002-2003. I would like to request that it should be taken on priority basis and Rs. 75 crore should be sanctioned for this purpose so that the said work could be completed and an alternative route may be constructed between Mumbai-Delhi via Nimach-Chittor-Kota. It is on account of this that the revenue of the railway will increase and will provide communication facility to the region and will also lead to the development of that area. Though two bogies of Dehradun-Haridwar earlier connected in Kota are now linked in Nimach and it would provide direct connectivity to Delhi and Dehradun to the passengers boarding at Nimach however the years long demand for the introduction of a new passenger train between Kota-Ratlam has not been fulfilled. So an additional local train or MEMU between Kota and Ratlam should be introduced. Similarly unless the gauge conversion work of Nimach-Ratlam line is not taken up, it will be inconvenient for the people visiting Singhasht Mela at Ujjain as lakhs of pilgrims are expected to pay visit to the Mela. In order to facilitate their journey a new train from

Ujjain to Udaipur via Fatehbad-Ratlam, Mandsaur and Chittorgarh should be introduced which should be named as Pashupatinath Express. I would also like to mention about the stoppage of some of the trains. There is need to provide stoppage of Durg-Jaipur passenger train and Jammu Tawi superfast at Shamgarh railway station of Western railway. It is also essential to provide stoppage of Durg-Jaipur train at Suvasra, intercity (Indore-Nizamuddin) at Maroth and Dehradun Express at Kurlasi.

In view of the number of bogies in the trains, it is essential to make extension of the platform at various railway stations to avoid frequent accidents on the platforms. It is also essential to repair roads near railway stations and extend platform shade at several stations like Jawara, Mandsuar, Nimach etc. The over bridges are also required at Nimach, Mandsaur and Jawara.

Though the facilities of the railways staffs has also been taken into account in the budget however I would like to say that their health facilities should be extended. In view of the education to the Children it is essential to provide higher education facility to them at some places. Retired railway officials who are getting pension have been provided with medical and travelling facilities but still there is a need to increase these facilities.

I have placed my views in brief I am of the view that the hon'ble Minister is not only making full efforts for the extension and development of railways but also has an endeavour to provide more facilities to the railway staff and officers. The much needed foot over-bridge in Mandsaur and Javra should be constructed immediately. Hon'ble State Minister of Railways Shri Digvijay Singh has announced the same when he had visited Mandsaur.

Railways is a major industry where ample employment opportunities are available. Railways is providing employment to thousands of people every year. Hon'ble Railways Minister has strengthened this fact by announcing that large number of jobs would be generated next year

also. For promoting sports. Railway generate employment opportunities for sports persons and also encourage them by giving promotions. Such facilities should be increased to encourage the young sports persons. Sports persons employed in Railways have performed well in various sports events and have won several medals. I hope they would be given the same encouragement in future also.

Several steps have been taken/proposed to be taken for the safety and security of the railway passengers on the basis of the reports of various committees. I hope railway journey would be more safer now and passengers would enjoy their journey. Efforts have been made to make it more joyful by providing entertainment facilities, good catering facility, sleepers facility in all categories, i.e. from General class to high and different newspapers and magazines and communication facilities. I would like to thank the hon'ble Railway Minister as well as staff/officers of railways for this.

Finally, I would request the hon'ble Railway Minister not to forget Madhya Pradesh and my Parliamentary Constituency and continue to provide facilities to the people according to their needs. I have put forth my views in brief due to paucity to time.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to pay my gratitudes to the hon'ble Prime Minister and Minister of Railways as Railway Minister has presented the Railway Budget for the year 2003-2004 keeping in view the sentiments of the people and have expressed his faith in NDA Government.

I believe that since independence it is for the first time that a Railway Minister has presented a budget for which people of the country are congratulating him. In the current Railway Budget, hon'ble Railway Minister has tried to attract more and more people towards a simple, easy and cheap railway journey by providing a number of concessions such as no increase in passengers fare and freight charges, concessions in fare to the male passengers

[Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey]

above 60 years of age, decrease in the fare of Shatabdi Express and concessions to patients travelling in air-conditioned coaches. Simultaneously steps like announcement of introducing some new trains, extending the routes of some trains, recommendation for establishing 1000 MW Power Station at Navinagar and several gauge conversions are really commendable and practical also. Through you, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Railway Minister that although Rs. 2630 crores have been proposed under plan expenditure in this Railway Budget, the rest of the financial requirement under this head would be met through other budgetary sources. Under which a loan of Rs. 2970 would be taken from Indian Railway Finance Corporation and Rs. 30 crores from some other resources. Through you, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Railway Minister towards a fact that Railway officers and Railway Board fulfilling their duty by providing figures regarding loading only. My suggestion is that effective arrangements should be made for the safety of railway passengers as number of crime cases in trains are increasing day by day. Railway shirks from its duty by saying that the case should be lodged at such and such place and when the case becomes complicated, they say that it pertains to State Government. Members of Parliament do not get the reply to their letters even after 6 months of their complaint. I want to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards it and submit that reply to the members should be given in time.

Sir, I hail from Giridih constituency in Jharkhand. The matter regarding opening of City Booking Office in my area Katras is pending since long. Applications were given for allotment, of telephone booths and stalls but no steps were taken in this regard. It generates employment opportunities for the unemployed and railways would get revenue also but the matter is still long pending. Catering facilities are not good in railways. We have complained about it for several times but in vain. Regarding cancellation of ticket, hon'ble Minister has mentioned in his speech that the fare money is refunded immediately on cancellation of the ticket. However, I have come to know that in Northern

Railways the fare money has not been refunded even after the lapse of more than one year.

I would like to make two three submission regarding my constituency. After independence a train Shaktipunj was introduced from my constituency. It was started only 8-9 years ago. No new train has been introduced between the period of 50 years. There is a power plant in Barom Sub-division of Bokaro district. The new train Bhopal-Howrah Express is running twice a week, it should be given halt at Phusro station. Earlier also I had requested the hon'ble Minister for introducing EMU train between Dhanbad and Barkhakhana. The most important is that there is no train or bus on this route. Hon'ble Minister had given assurance in this regard.

People of minority community travel in Howrah-Jodhpur Express running from Howrah to go to Ajmer. This train halts there during Haj period. This train should be given permanent halt at Gomo. During his visit to Gomo, people had requested the hon'ble Minister for the same. Gomo is a junction. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had stayed there. I thank the hon'ble Minister for he has given assurance for extending Allepy train upto Dhanbad. It should be given halt at Chandrapur also. A Thermal Power station is situated there and it is a junction also. Besides, the Shatabdi Express which runs from Ranchi should also be given stoppage here. Earlier also we had requested for computerization of Chandrapur and Katras stations. Ganga-Damodar Express which runs between Dhanbad and Patna should be extended upto Buxar as people of Bihar frequently visit there. This train arrives at 5 O'clock in the morning but leaves at 10.30 PM night from Indra Nagar. People of this area would get some relief if this time period is extended.

Old boggies should be renovated. Hon'ble Minister should come out with a statement on these problems. With these words, I support the Railway Budget.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Before I announce the next name, Shri Bhartruhari Mahatab will lay his speech on the Table of the House.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack) : *Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to speak a few words on Railway Budget. I stand here to support the Budget proposals.

A heartening feature of the Railway Budget 2003-04 is that it is based on the achievement of the targets set in the path-breaking Budget of the culTent year, yielding an improved operating ratio, the proportion of earnings used for expenses, of 92.5 per cent against the budgeted 94.4 per cent. By this not only the Railways will meet the full dividend liability, but also marginally reduce the deferred dividend liability of Rs. 50 crore. This would justified a more 'aggressive' budget than the one presented, with an operating ratio of 94.1 percent.

The good features that point to the right direction that the Railways is taking are :

- (a) the compacting and reduction of the number of classes for freight rates from 37 to 27;
- (b) reduction of ratio of freight rates of the highest and lowest classes from 3.3 to 2.8;
- (c) reduction of classified for certain commodities;
- (d) introduction of uniform classification for certain groups of commodities;
- (e) graded relief for traffic booked up to 90 km;
- (f) reduction of 'To Pay' surcharge from 15 to 10 percent for coal and 10 to 5 percent for other commodities;
- (g) willingness to enter into longterm agreements with oil companies;
- (h) delegation of more powers to Zonal managers to offer reduction in station-in-station rates.

On the passenger side, cleanliness, safety and so on have been emphasised. The year has been dedicated as a 'customer satisfaction year'. Fixing of the basic fares of

Rajadhani and Shatabdi Expresses at 15 per cent higher than the corresponding fares for corresponding classes in the superfast Mail/Express trains, reducing the mark-up in the Jan-Shatabdi Express from 10 to 5 per cent and the proposal to offer 10 per cent reduced fares in AC-I and AC-II classes in Rajadhani Express between July 15 and September 15, 2003, as an experimental measure, are intended to meet the growing competition from other modes of traffic, especially airways.

The promise to revamp the accounting and costing arrangements is quite welcome.

The rationalisation proposals bring about reductions on freight rates ranging between 10.7 percent for petrol and 3.7 per cent for clinker, for a distance of 700 kms. Rajadhani fares have come down by a high 19 per cent between Thiruvananthpuram and Hazrat Nizamuddin and a low of 4 per cent between Hazart Nizamuddin and Jammu Tawi.

In Shatabdi Expresss, the reductions vaiy 13 percent and 6 percent and in Jan Shatabdi Express trains between 16 per cent and 10 per cent. The reduction in parcel rates vary between 8 percent and 64 percent.

These can be expected to bring in additional traffic and revenues.

One can safely say, Nitishji has put people before profit. This year's Railway Budget has been designed to attract passenger traffic, which witnessed a drop of three per cent by December 2002 mainly due to the development of roads and airfare cuts. Having lost premier class travellers to airlines in the last few months, it was a right decision to rationalize the fare structure and bring them under ordinaiy trains' tariff structure. Following successful examples of certain other nations, the Indian Railways has finally woken up to an alternate pattern of fare structure by announcing reduced rates in selected trains.

I am glad to state here the reactions of some leading industry bodies and trade associations who have not only welcomed the Rail Budget but have categorically stated

[Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab]

the steps like freight rate rationalisation tariff reclassification and reduced 'to pay' surcharge would improve traffic volume, freight earnings and increase price efficiency of the Railways.

FICCI has stated that, an attempt has been made to make the Railways market oriented.

CII has described the Railway Budget as a rational and balanced. It is positive and certain visionary steps been taken, particularly by focussing on safety and rationalisation of freight structure, reclassification of categories and introduction of New trains.

ASSOCAM though cautioned against excessive borrowing through Indian Railway Finance corporation to meet the growing demand for investment in rolling stock and replacement of over-aged assets, has however stated that reclassification of freight categories, focus on customer service, safety and introduction of new trains as positive steps.

The Indian Chamber of Commerce has said that Railway budget has rightly emphasised on safety and capacity expansion while addressing the freight rationalisation

The Federation of Association of Small Industries of India (FASII) has said that efforts been made to simplify the producer's for booking carriage, delivery and refund.

Concerned about the continued loss of traffic to the road sector, the Railways did not increase the freight rates for any commodity. In fact, the rationalisation of freight structure would bring down the rates. With the rationalism, the Railways hope to increase the freight traffic from 515 million tonne this year to 540 million tonne during 2003-04, envisaging a five per cent growth.

The target for 2002-03 was 510 million tonnes.

One can say that the Railways' performance in terms

of meeting freight targets has been good, but it is unclear if this can be repeated. A good part of the increase in traffic this year has been on account of sharply increased foodgrain movement, probably on account of the export thrust, and this cannot be an annual feature. And though freight charges for moving petroleum have been slashed, the extension of the pipeline network means the Railways are on a losing wicket here. But the current freight buoyancy has helped the Railways improve their operating ratio (percentage of earnings consumed by expenses) to 92.5 per cent—substantially better than the 94.4 per cent projected in the Budget estimates. Seeing the signs of the economic recovery, Nitishjee has projected growth in both freight tonnage and earnings in the coming year. If luck holds for him and the economy, everyone will be happy. If not, the decision to spare passengers a fare hike will be seen to have been a mistake—especially since no fare hike can be expected next year, before the general election.

The Minister is himself aware of the consequences of not trying to keep improving the basic health of the Railways. His Budget for next year projects the operating ratio climbing back to 94.1 per cent after improving to 92.5 per cent this year. Also worrying is the proposed funding pattern for investment. For the coming year, a meager rise of 4.6 per cent is proposed on plan outlay and the level of allocation from internal resources remains the same. Nitishjee seems to be leaving the investment to be done mainly through the National Rail Vikas Yojana which has an ambitious plan for the Golden Quadrilateral and more. But it is not clear where most of the money for the Rail Vikas Nigam, set up to execute the Yojana, will come from. The answer seems to be loan funding, but loans have to be serviced and it is hard to see the Railways earning a return that is greater than the cost of borrowed money. Debt servicing could become an issue in the future, as it already has for the Konkan Railway Corporation.

Fortunately, Nitishjee has realised that he has to cut his coat to suit the cloth and refrained from including any new major projects. Even then he has announced nine sections, totaling 225 km of new lines.

There is no doubt that the Indian Railways is at a critical juncture. It has to make a choice between being a vibrant business entity ready to leverage opportunities or resign itself to a threatened irrelevance.

It is indeed ironical that in a country like India, with a large population and growing economy, the relevance of the Railways should be a matter of question. Facts reveal that atleast 1 per cent of the population is on trains every day and the Railways carries 1.5 million tonnes of cargo daily.

Notwithstanding these, what is threatening the Railways is the variance in the rate of growth in earning vis-à-vis that of expenses. The expenses in most railway units outstrip revenue growth by more than 3 percentage points. There lies the danger.

Therefore, Railways have to reinvent itself. Railways may not get train loads of traffic in its sidings. The days of the big load seem to be drawing to a close. An now, every kg. of transportable material has to be sought after and levied after. Therefore, Railways has to make a paradigm shift. Railways has to focus on container transpiration business. This will bring rich returns.

I am personally happy that Orissa's interest has been adequately looked after. Though Orissa Government had submitted a memorandum for Rs. 510 crore allocation, it has received more than Rs. 220 crore and specially Rs. 118 crores been allotted for new lines such as Dairari-Bansapani, Khurdha Road—Bolangir, Haridaspur-Paradeep, Lanjigarh Road—Junagarh and Anugul-Sukinda Road.

Cuttack being the commercial capital of the State is being by passed by a number superfast Express trains because of congestion. With the coming of second Railway bridge over Birupa and Mahandi river, the Nirgundi-Cuttack line will be decongested but there was a necessity to have a double line from Cuttack to Barang. Thankfully Nitishjee has placed funds for the doubling of Cuttack Barang line and also for second bridge for Kathajodi and Kaukhai

river. Cuttack is a expanding city. A second opening to Cuttack Station had became a necessity. I am thankful to Nitishjee that funds have been placed for this project in the 100th year of Cuttack Railway Station, too.

I would also request the Railway Minister to consider upgrading Naraj-Marthapur-Station and provide ticket facility for Express and Superfast Express trains from that Station. This Station would cater to the needs of Cuttack passengers who travel in the Barang-Raj Athagarh line as a number of superfast train ply on this route.

I am looking forward to the day in April, when East Coast Zone will become fully operational. An high ranking officer been already posted. East Coast Zone, though now will be operating with three Divisions, namely Khurdha Road, Waltaire and Sambalpur. Rourkela-area should also be part of this zone and be made a new Division for proper functioning of the rail traffic. I welcome the idea of bifurcation of old zones. Small new zones will definitely be more vibrant and commercially innovative. Persons who still carry the colonial baggage suffer from short-sightedness and even today speak against creation of new Zones. They should make themselves free from the time capsule.

Nitishjee, hailing from humble background is a ground to earth man. He is innovative, imaginative and courageous. That is why the Opposition Members were at a loss of words to criticise this Railway Budget other than saying that elections are round the corner. A people friendly budget should be supported. I support the Railway Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumarji has presented the Railway Budget. This budget is slightly better but there is no drinking water facility at Railway stations. Catering facilities are also not adequate. If the hon. Minister of Railways means business, then there is a need to seriously consider how to make improvements and implement different policies.

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

Nitish Kumarji Agar Desh Chalana Hoga,
Kabhi-Kabhi Aapko Hamein Rail Mein Bulana Hoga,
Rail Passengers Ko Acchi Achhi Chai Pilana Hoga,
Jo Adhikari Theek Kam Nahin Kar Rahe ham,
Unhein Apni Jagah Se Hilana Hoga.

If action is not taken against the erring officials the Railways cannot run properly. It is true that the Railway administration is rendering great service to the poor. The Railway Department should run Super Fast trains. Mumbai-Rajdhani Express reaches Mumbai from Delhi within 17 hours, it should reach within 12 hours. The hon. Minister of Railways has given substantial funds for Mumbai. Last time I was elected from Mumbai. Trains coming from outstations have to face great problem due to local trains. We had written for construction of two tracks for this purpose, but it has not been considered till date. There is a need for two new tracks from Kalyan to Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal. Besides, local trains in Mumbai remain very over-crowded. There is a need to increase their number. Mr. Speaker, Sir when we go abroad we find that no one is standing in trains, but in Mumbai, trains are so over crowded that we can not see persons sitting there. And, therefore, this aspect should also be considered.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Pandharpur is my constituency. There is a narrow gauge workshop which is now going to be converted into broad gauge, as it is necessary to do so. Rupees 30 crore have been given for Latur-Kurduwadi rail line although rupees 300 crore are required for it. Work can get completed if rupees 100 crore are given every year. Similarly one more train is required to be started from Pandharpur to Mumbai, Nagpur and Varanasi. I had suggested that the Bombay Central station should be named after Baba Saheb Ambedkar and had written to Kumari Mamta Ji in this regard, when she was the Minister of Railways. Consideration should be given to this proposal also. Kolhapur Railway station should be named after Chhatrapati Sahu ji Maharaj. I am not aware whether

your department is the competent authority for it or it is the State Government? I have also written to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in this regard. I suppose it is in his hands, he should make an announcement in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways is a socialist leader, he is a good leader. He is sitting on that side but is a follower of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. So, he should make an announcement in this regard. There is need for a Metro train in Mumbai. This matter should be considered. Shatabdi Express runs from Mumbai to Puna. A similar Shatabdi train should be run upto Goa via Sholapur-Kolhapur-Akola. This should also be considered by the hon. Minister. The Government have to make their best efforts to improve the railways. Nitishji has, of course, made improvements in the Railways with this Rail Budget but it has created differences between the MPs. MPs. have differences with regard to the routes of various trains. So, it is a good job done by our hon. Railway Minister. With regard to the demand made by the M.Ps., I would like to say that not even a single constituency should be left in the next one-two years. Where people do not have access to the Railways. There is a need for the Government to ponder over it.

Rajdhani Express met with an accident. It was caused due to the failure of his department and then he gave a very clever answer to us and to Mamta Banerjee. He is apt in giving evasive and elusive replies. And at that time he said that there was ISI's hand behind it. We were thinking how come ISI get involved in it, railways is in our country, how can they come here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I just joked, but I have never said that there was ISI's involvement in it. But jokes sometimes take a serious turn.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : The first statement was given by you or perhaps by Ranaji who is the Chairman of the Railway Board. Whosoever might have his hand behind a train accident, we have to be fully prepared to crush that hand with a heavy hand so that this may not

recur in future. We need to chalk out a strategy for this. We should introduce such a new technology whereby the driver can have prior information about a railway track that has developed some defects. People are of the view that traveling by railways is safe. They are uncertain about road journeys, as accidents can occur anytime, but they feel secured in journey by train. That is why we should try to strengthen this positive feeling of people by checking train accidents. Therefore, there is more need to give consideration towards railway safety.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as elections are round the corner, so their Railway Budget is good. Anyway there should be welfare of the people and the Railways. If this Budget has been drafted. Keeping an eye on elections, then we all will see as to what is going to happen in these elections. Their train is not going to run in the ensuing elections, but our train would run. And if their train runs, we all are there to derail it and then we would takeover the Railway Department.

The hon. Minister's Railway Budget is good but it should be properly implemented, still I cannot support it since I am occupying the opposition benches.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member, while speaking,

had mentioned about the free travel pass to be given to the candidates coming for interviews and had asked the hon. Minister of State for Railways to respond.

Now, the hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar has given me the information which I would like to give to the House. He has said that Second Class free passes are given to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates appearing for Railway Recruitment Board's written tests and interviews. This is number one.

Secondly, he has said that 50 per cent concession is given to all unemployed youth in Second Class or Sleeper Class, who are appearing for interviews, for jobs in public sector undertakings including Central and State Governments, Universities, Municipal Corporations and Statutory Boards. This is for the information of the House.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 5th March 2003 at 11 a.m.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Wednesday, March 5, 2003/
Phalguna 14, 1924 (Saka)*

© 2003 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
(Tenth Edition) and Printed by The Indian Press, G.T. Karnal Road, Delhi-110033.
